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A neighbourhood guide to Singapore

Neat-and-tidy Singapore may be small, but it packs a cultural punch. Its neighbourhoods are where centuries of pan-Asian immigration mixes with some of the region's best places to eat.

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By Shaney Hudson

Photographs By Shaney Hudson



Aaron Paul in *Westworld* season three. Photo: HBO

Westworld's deceptively human protagonists are creatures with sleek façades that sometimes peel back to reveal the machinery that makes the whole system work. In the show's architecture, too, steel and nature intertwine. In the camera's jaunt through Singapore, tropical greenery climbs up and spills from high-rise hotels like the [Parkroyal on Pickering](#) and the [Oasia Hotel](#). The show has commandeered the [School of the Arts](#) for use as a hospital, where the antiseptic shine of the interiors contrasts with an exterior furred with creepers. Among the Ingels designs that make a background cameo is [CapitaSpring](#), a "spiraling vertical park in the middle that bursts out of the façade," in Ingels's description. These garden-skyscrapers are partly the result of climate-conscious fashion, popularized by the [Milan-based architect Stefano Boeri](#), and partly the result of [Singapore's idiosyncratic zoning regulations](#), which promote high-rise greenery. But here they act as a kind of inanimate Greek chorus, commenting on the parade of beautiful people and the primal, unthinking energy that lurks inside the wrapping.