

JTC and Tiny Pod to introduce Singapore's first co-living train hotel in LaunchPad @ one-north



Tiny Pod's co-living train hotel at LaunchPad @ one-north (Image credit: Tiny Pod)

Singapore, 11 April 2024 – LaunchPad @ one-north, an innovator's playground for new solutions, is set to host Singapore's first-ever co-living train hotel, featuring the adaptive reuse of a decommissioned SMRT's train carriage into a boutique co-living hotel. Developed by local startup Tiny Pod, this new hospitality concept will be piloted with the support of JTC.

2. The co-living train hotel will incorporate a total of 8 rooms, each equipped with an attached bathroom. Additionally, LCD panels mounted inside the driver's compartment will depict real-life footage of the train's earlier journey through the tunnel, creating an immersive experience for guests.

3. The train hotel will be located at the car park next to Block 69 Ayer Rajah Crescent. A public recreational green space will be developed beside the co-living train hotel. Integrated with food and beverage vending machines and bicycle racks, this new amenity node will also incorporate repurposed train chairs as outdoor public benches. Renovation works have commenced in March 2024, with the co-living train hotel anticipated to be operational in September 2024.

4. Recognising the value of being in an ecosystem of like-minded startups within LaunchPad @ one-north, Tiny Pod has leveraged this opportunity to partner with local start-up-Igloo Home for the hotel's smart lock system to enhance the co-living train.
5. Tiny Pod's co-living train hotel project is an extension to their pop-up shipping container hotel at LaunchPad @ one-north, which was launched in 2020. Since then, Tiny Pod's shipping containers have expanded to urban and public spaces at Gardens by the Bay and Haw Par Villa.
6. "In today's market, where consumers prioritise eco-conscious choices, pop-up hotels are swiftly emerging as a lucrative niche. Our endeavour taps into this trend and exemplifies a fusion of profitability and sustainability. By transforming underutilised spaces into unique accommodation experiences, we unlock new revenue streams and minimise our environmental footprint. This endeavour aligns seamlessly with evolving consumer preferences, where conscientious travellers seek authentic and eco-friendly alternatives. With the support of our partners JTC, LTA, MTI and STB, and the growing momentum of eco-conscious tourism, this project demonstrates our commitment to catalyse positive change within the industry while delivering memorable experiences for our guests," said Tiny Pod Pte Ltd Founder & CEO Mr. Seah Liang Chiang.
7. Besides Tiny Pod, JTC also supports many other startups in LaunchPad, across various stages of their business journey through collaboration and trials in JTC estates, including one-north.
8. Local incubator MDesign has an ongoing trial with JTC to conduct a Proof of Concept for a smart cooling shelter powered by solar panels and battery packs. This sustainable self-contained solution will tap on passive and active heat management technologies to enhance comfort in the outdoor environment.
9. Medistation is setting up its Wellness Pod in LaunchPad @ one-north as a plug-and-play zen sanctuary for fuss-free quick meditation therapy sessions. The pod will be complemented with an app for automated access and the integration of other wellness services.
10. Ms Yap Eai-Sy, JTC's Director for New Estates Business Development and Marketing Division said, "At LaunchPad, we have curated an ecosystem of players for startups like Tiny Pod to collaborate, co-create as well as validate new concepts and business models. Building on the success of its shipping container hotel testbed, Tiny Pod's co-living train is a natural progression for sustainable hospitality solutions through adaptive reuse. It is also an innovative option to cater to the demand for short-term accommodation in one-north."

=====

About LaunchPad @ one-north

Located in the heart of Singapore's technology corridor - one-north, LaunchPad @ one-north offers a variety of spaces in close proximity to knowledge-based companies, institutes of higher learning and research institutes that are at the forefront of innovation. Since 2015, LaunchPad has supported more than 2,000 startups, 40 enablers and comprises seven blocks that offer modular units of varying sizes to suit the requirements of early-stage startups and enablers.

About JTC

Since its inception in 1968, JTC has played a strategic role in ensuring Singapore stays innovative and dynamic amid global manufacturing trends.

As a government agency under Singapore's Ministry of Trade and Industry, JTC is paving the way forward for Singapore's industrial landscape with sustainable, green and smart estate masterplans such as one-north, Seletar Aerospace Park, Jurong Innovation District, and Punggol Digital District. Our estates attract new investment and foster collaborative ecosystems that strengthen Singapore's position as an advanced manufacturing hub. We also drive innovation in the Built Environment sector by piloting new construction technologies. For more information on JTC, visit www.jtc.gov.sg

About Tiny Pod

Tiny Pod is a dynamic local start-up that spearheaded Singapore's pioneering venture into shipping container hotels. With invaluable support from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, we embarked on our journey, transforming conventional shipping containers into innovative and eco-friendly accommodations. In January 2020, we initiated our groundbreaking initiative by test bedding two shipping container hotels at JTC LaunchPad @ one-north, marking the inception of a revolutionary concept in hospitality. Fuelled by our commitment to innovation and sustainability, Tiny Pod swiftly garnered recognition from the Singapore Tourism Board. This support enabled us to expand our footprint, introducing three new shipping container hotel concepts at JTC LaunchPad @ one-north, Haw Par Villa, and even a four-duplex hotel nestled within the iconic Gardens by the Bay. At the core of Tiny Pod's mission lies a bold vision to redefine the hospitality industry's conventional norms. By up-cycling used shipping containers and envisioning the repurposing of decommissioned trains into hotels, we're not only creating unique and memorable experiences but also pioneering a new sustainable business model. Our approach resonates deeply with prevailing market trends, where pop-up hotels are gaining traction as a dynamic and profitable niche within the hospitality landscape. The flexibility to move our container hotels around the island every few years not only ensures novelty and excitement for guests but also optimizes operational efficiency and revenue potential. Moreover, sustainability serves

as the cornerstone of our narrative. By breathing new life into discarded shipping containers and decommissioned trains, we're significantly reducing waste and minimizing our environmental impact. This ethos aligns seamlessly with evolving consumer preferences, as eco-conscious travellers increasingly seek out experiences that prioritize environmental responsibility. As we continue to pioneer innovative solutions and expand our reach, Tiny Pod remains steadfast in its commitment to sustainability, profitability, and unparalleled guest experiences. Visit our website to learn more about our transformative journey and join us in shaping the future of hospitality at www.tinypod.com

For media queries, please contact:

Claire Lim

Manager, Communications Division

JTC

Tel: +65 6883 3109; Mobile: +65 98375639

Email: Claire_lim@jtc.gov.sg

Website: www.jtc.gov.sg

Ms Nur Harni Binte Jabar

Marketing Communications Executive

Tiny Pod Pte Ltd

Mobile: +65 6665 7500

Email: marcom@tinypod.com

Website: www.tinypod.com

Annex A: Tiny Pod's co-living train hotel in LaunchPad @ one-north



Location of Tiny Pod's co-living train hotel (Image credit: Tiny Pod)



New amenity node at LaunchPad @ one-north (Image credit: Tiny Pod)



Tiny Pod's co-living train hotel (Image credit: Tiny Pod)

Annex B: Other testbeds in LaunchPad @ one-north



MDesign's smart cooling shelter (Photo credit: MDesign)



Medistation's wellness pod design (Image credit: Medistation)