

Lonely Planet Travel News

Editor's Pick

Asia & the Pacific

This new hostel in Singapore has a database that connects like-minded guests online

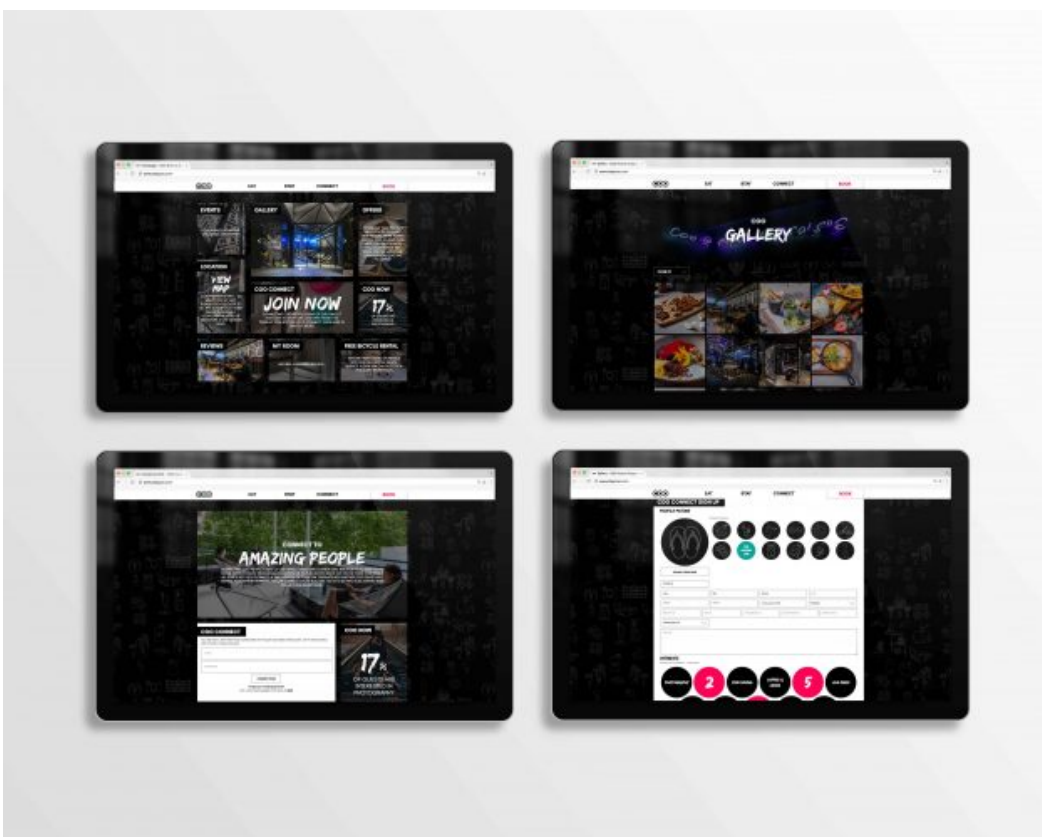
Created by James Martin September 28, 2016 at 4:55 pm

A new hostel has opened in Singapore that specialises in creating a societal experience for guests by connecting like-minded visitors through a digital interest matching tool.



The COO Connect tool on the hostel's website allows guests to log on to the database and chat to other visitors with similar interests. Image by COO

COO Hostel in Tiong Bahru aims to create a more social stay for visitors by allowing them to use a database accessed through the hostel's website. From the time a guest books their stay, they will be able to create a personalised profile based on key interests and log in to the COO Connect platform. The tool allows visitors to chat to other guests staying at the property during the same time period.



The connect tool also features a Breakfast Club and Supper Club aimed at connecting guest over food. Image by COO

The platform also has two programmes, a Breakfast Club and Supper Club that offers guests that have never met before the opportunity to connect over a meal at the bistro.

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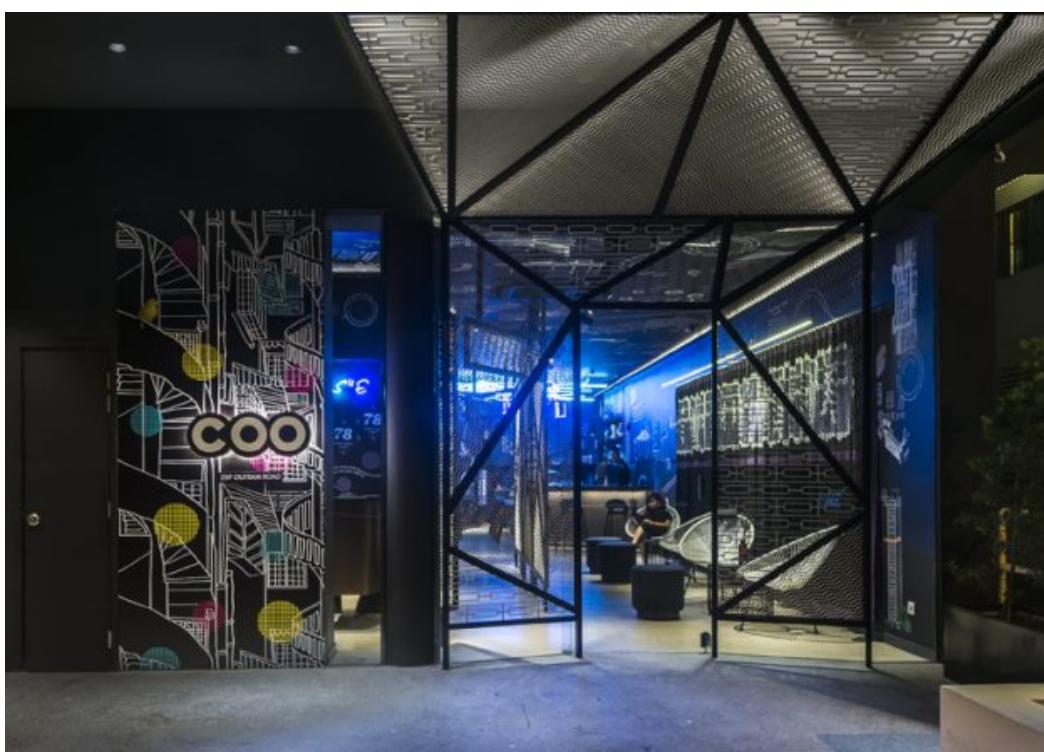


The lift lobby at Coo. Image by COO



Guests are encouraged to meet with others staying at the hostel for food through the Connect tool on the website. Image by COO

“The inspiration behind COO is the prevalence of millennial travellers who are willing to take the road less travelled. To them, travelling and leisure are no longer a passive pursuit, but an opportunity to gain local insights and garner authentic experiences,” said COO founder Silas Lee.



The interior of COO is designed with inspiration from the surrounding neighbourhood. Image by COO

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Some of the sleeping areas at COO. Image by COO



The front facade of the hostel. Image by COO

The hostel's design also reflects its modern philosophy while also taking inspiration from the culture of the surrounding neighbourhood. The entrance is framed by a metal mesh with a nod to the gates of the old housing estates around the area, while graphic prints depicting the art and character of the area can be seen throughout the building. Accessible to hostel guests only, the upper levels in the four-story space feature 11 newly furnished rooms with bunk beds, holding up to 68 guests.

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The guest terrace at COO. Image by COO

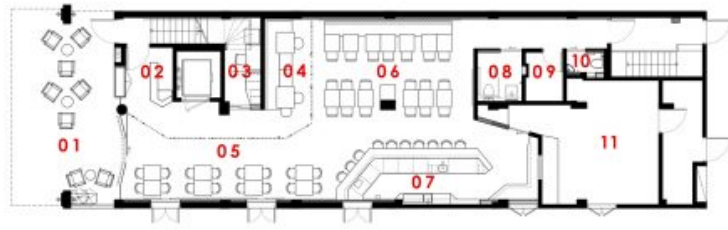


Burnt banana waffles from the Bistro. Image by COO

The hostel also houses a 60-seater bistro, serving food that merges local and international cuisines. There is private corner where guests can eat, set up work stations or gather throughout the day. The layout of the area creates an interaction between hostel and bistro guests by opening up the barrier between the two spaces.



Pork Cheek Cappellini from Coo Bistro. Image by COO



- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 01 OUTDOOR SEATING AREA | 07 BAR |
| 02 RECEPTION | 08 HANDICAP TOILET |
| 03 LUGGAGE ROOM | 09 STORAGE |
| 04 GUEST ALCOVE | 10 WC |
| 05 BAR HEIGHT DINING AREA | 11 KITCHEN |
| 06 DINING AREA | |

COO | LEVEL ONE PLAN



The floor plan for level one showing the different space available to guests. Image by COO

More information about COO is available on their [website](#).

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