



**SINGAPORE
2019**

THE ARCHITECTURE EXPERIENCE

Gardens by the Bay

**AN EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING COURSE ON
URBAN HOUSING, DEVELOPMENT AND
SUSTAINABILITY IN SINGAPORE**



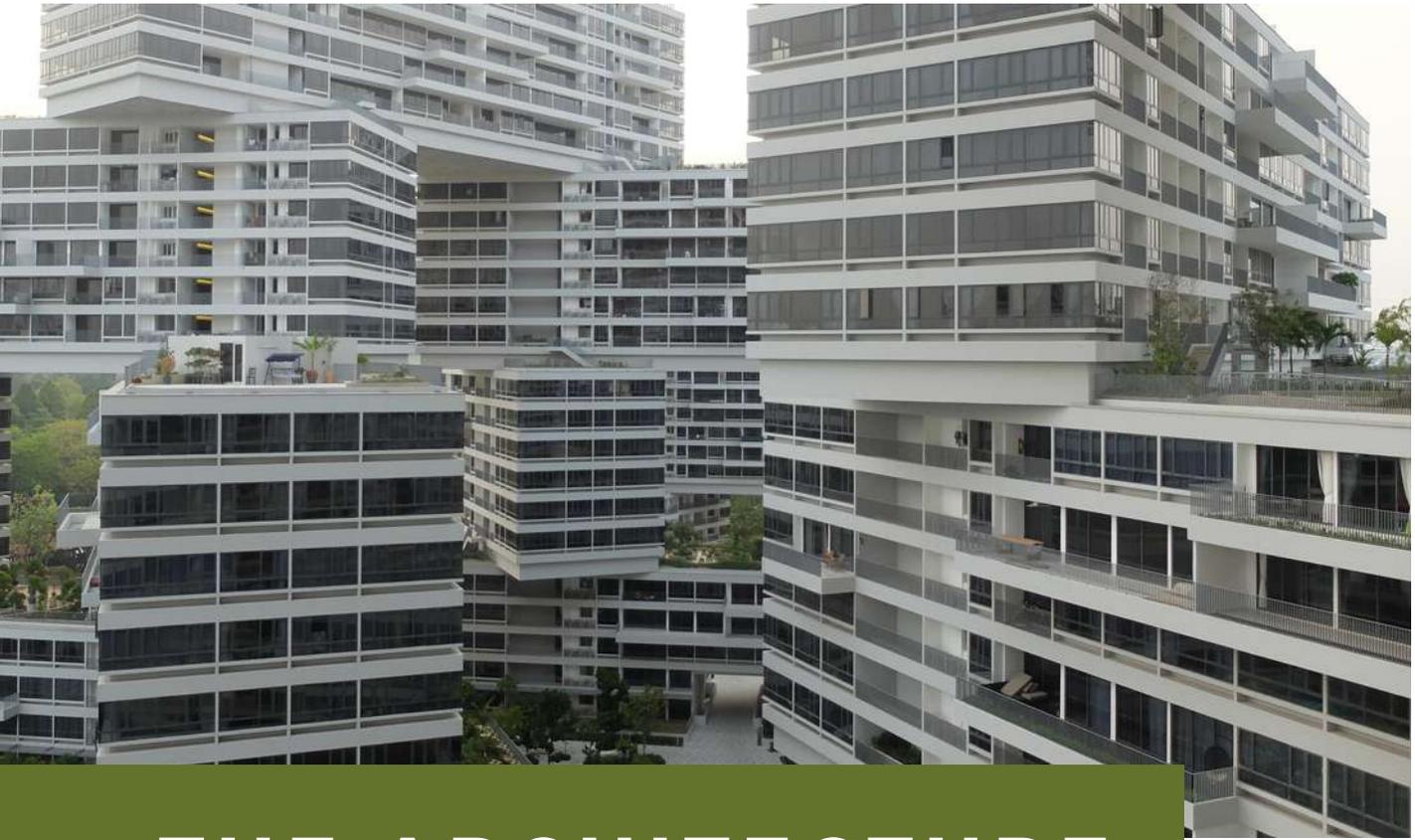
Pagoda Street, Chinatown

URBAN HOUSING, DEVELOPMENT

Seeing a confluence of various cultures and ethnicities, the architecture in this city-state is shaping its own identity through advancements in urban housing, development and innovation. The participants will get to study agencies and their holistic approach (policies and implementation) towards a focus of providing housing for all, evolution of public housing, transformation of urban areas, planning models used to create a sustainable environment with a high quality of life, and the change in course towards green architecture, be it through incorporation of vertical gardens or vegetative landscapes or innovation in urban planning.

Why Singapore?

Young architects from India could benefit exponentially from observing architecture in a country which shares our colonial past, thereby looking at similar starting points for nation-building post-independence with an intent to provide housing for all. Also observed is Singapore's rapid success in overcoming its spatial and resource constraints and transforming itself from a third world to a highly liveable first world city-state today. Participants also get to observe newly rejuvenated housing districts in Singapore which retain the distinctive qualities of local identity areas through setting of design guidelines for existing and new developments and retaining key elements.



THE ARCHITECTURE EXPERIENCE

The Interlace.
Photo by Jérémy
Binard

The best approach to growing as an architect is to learn from experiencing and observing. **The Architecture Experience** aims to do just that. Participants get to observe the evolution of urban housing and innovations in the field through site visits and interactions with agencies, and document the learning in a themed narrative for later referencing.

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**10 DAYS,
20 PARTICIPANTS**

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These visits will focus on evolution of public housing through the years and the current focus based on current needs of creating a sustainable environment with a high quality of life, involving the community as stakeholders. All the while looking at sustainability as an underlying theme from the macro to the micro level. The visits also include observations of local-identity areas that are also being rejuvenated with new public spaces, upgraded streetscapes, or sensitive injection of new homes and amenities.

EXPERIENCE OVERVIEW

DAY 1

Arrival in Singapore.

Orientation on the structure of the tour visits and project. Finalisation of teams, and the participants' individual roles and responsibilities within the team will be defined.

Places to visit:

Curated city walk of Singapore City.

DAY 2

Topics of discussion: Understanding the historic context, heritage, and urban planning.

Places to visit: URA, Chinatown.

DAY 3

Topics of discussion: Environmental sustainability, HDB's approach to urban planning and public housing.

Places to visit: HDB, Tiong Bahru, The Pinnacle, Gardens by the Bay.

DAY 4

Topics of discussion: Design and implementation of the building of a previously colonised nation's identity, urban renewal.

Places to visit: National museum, Singapore river walk.

DAY 5

Topics of discussion: Planning of private housing estates.

Places to visit: Alexandra, Harbour Front, Henderson wave, The Interlace.

DAY 6

Topics of discussion: Planning with sustainability integration at a micro and macro level.

Places to visit: Tampines Hub, Changi.

DAY 7

Topics of discussion: Living heritage, urban renewal and rejuvenation.

Places to visit: Clarke Quay, Indian Heritage Centre.

DAY 8

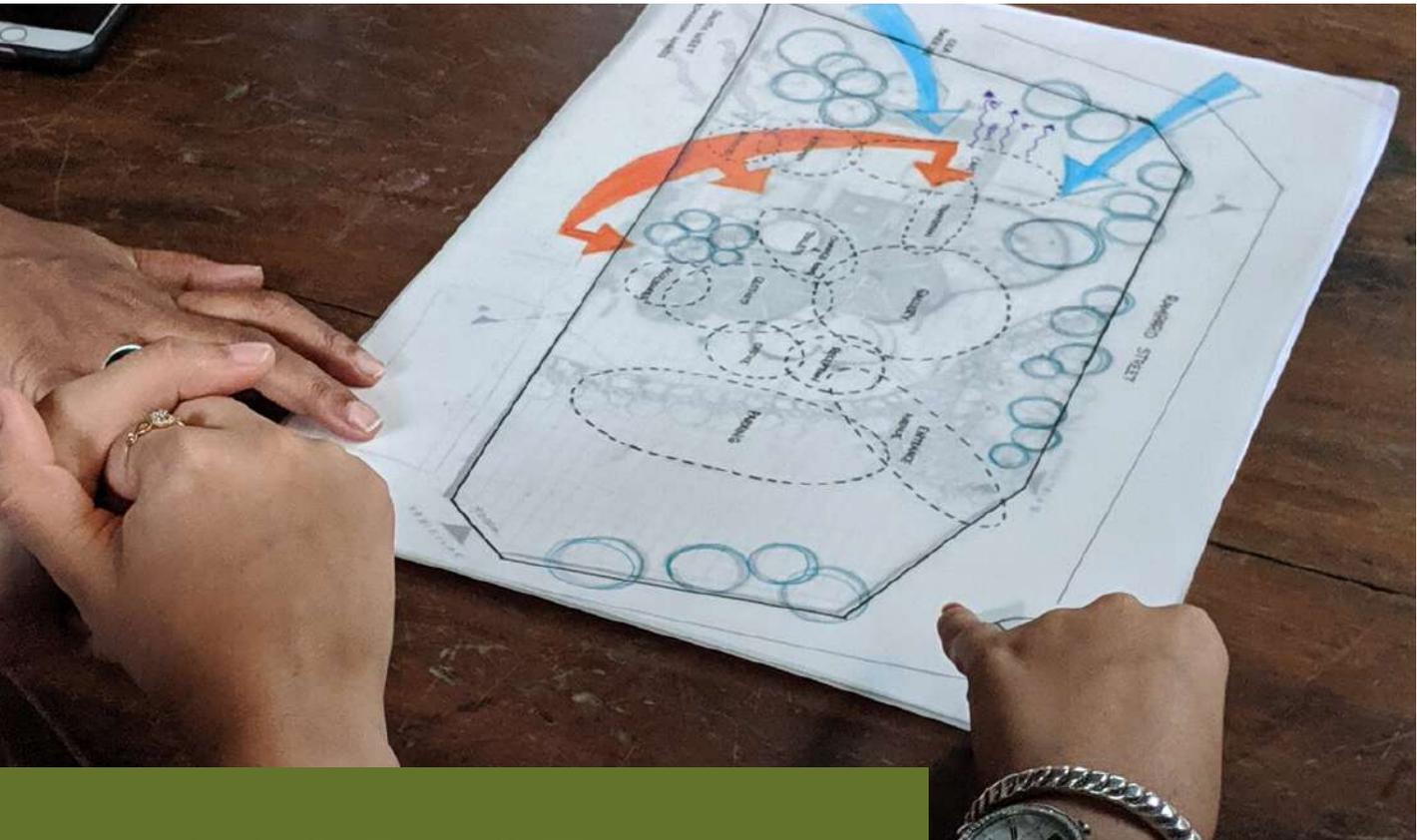
Topics of discussion: Protected landscape of the city.

Places to visit: Botanic gardens, Dempsey Hill, architecture studio visit.

DAY 9/10

Project showcase, culmination of the tour, free days.

Departure to India.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project work by the Sri Lanka
October batch - A pop up pavilion
design

The experience is designed with the intent of enhancing architectural understanding, by creating a hands on and interactive learning layer on top of a curated travel plan. Throughout the trip, participants will visit architecturally relevant sites, both historic and modern.

**“ ON TOUR
DISCUSSIONS,
ON SITE
OBSERVATIONS,
ASSIGNMENTS AND
FEEDBACK ”**

They will explore methods of observation and documentation while focusing on urban housing and its development. The project will start with a pre tour assignment and session for the participants to get to know each other and the context of this architecture experience in Singapore. Participants will engage with the curator in daily sessions and discussions. Participants will also get to engage in dialogue with professionals from local agencies and draw parallels with their design approach back home in India.

For the participants who desire to, there would be an option to extend the project where they get to work on a concept plan to develop and rejuvenate an existing housing area by addressing specific urban challenges they face in their home cities.



Clarke Quay

WHAT IS IN IT FOR ME?

Participants get to understand urban housing as a concept, and how to draw parallels with the Indian geographic. Participants will document and consolidate their observations, engage in critical thinking and design exercises, and build a repository of knowledge created over the experience.

Post the trip, this work may be published and exhibited with collaborating organisations and media outlets.

From a learning perspective, participants get to understand how their domain of interest approaches sustainability, and how they can work towards Sustainable Development Goals in their projects.

At the end of the Experience, participants will have an improved practical understanding of what they study in college and learn how to implement these strategies into their own project, enhancing their portfolios.

Participants also get internship opportunities from our partners.

“ RELEVANT PROJECTS, INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, UNDERSTANDING OF VERNACULAR SUSTAINABILITY ”

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Curator -
Ar. Reena Rao
(B.Arch, M.Arch)

The Architecture Experience is curated by **Reena Rao**, who will also be accompanying the participants on the tour. She is an architect and designer. After completing her master's in architecture, Reena worked for a few years in Delhi, and then subsequently moved to Singapore. Having lived there for the past 15 years and seeing it transform during the time, Reena has also watched first hand the cohesion of the system to work towards a common goal of nation building with a clear identity.

Reena has also dabbled in Jewellery Design, pottery and ceramic design in recent years.

CURATOR & TOUR LEADER

Timeline

- 1989-1993 B.Arch, BMSCE, Bangalore
- 1996-1998 M.Arch Conservation, SPA New Delhi
- 1995-1996 Prem Chaudhary and Associates, New Delhi
- 1998-2000 RMDK Associates, New Delhi
- 2002-2004 Ceramic Art, KLCA , Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 2005-2008 Jewellery Design Diploma & Specialisation, JDMIS (formerly known as JusTanja)
- 2015-present Ceramic Art Studio at the Tanjong Pagar Community Centre

ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS



OWEENA FERNANDES

5th Year, Goa College of Architecture, Goa

Participant - The Architecture Experience Vietnam (July 2019)

In terms of learning, The Architecture Experience Vietnam helped me a lot as I'm also doing my dissertation in this area of study (sustainable architecture), so it helped me save a lot of time and also to mention a different point of view from other participants. Planning wise, it was very well planned and organised which lessened the worries about travelling and helped us concentrate more on the architectural experience. I look forward to another tour with The Happy Llamas in the future.



PAURAS NARVEKAR

3rd Year, Goa College of Architecture, Goa

Participant - The Architecture Experience Vietnam (June 2019)

The Architecture Experience was a great experience as I got to know what analysis actually was. Sustainability refers to solving existing problems, and not just installing solar panels! The stay and visits were planned well. Mohor shared a lot of her own experiences as a student which also helped. I also got many of my architecture related doubts cleared which I couldn't solve before, along with an understanding of functionality and aesthetic. Overall I got many questions answered and I'm satisfied.



SAGARIKA KAUSHIK

4th Year, Vastu Kala Academy, Delhi

Participant - The Architecture Experience Vietnam (July 2019)

The Architecture Experience Vietnam was a great experience for me since before this, I felt a little out of place and wanted motivation to move ahead - so this trip really helped me with that and helped me understand my profession better. It was good to see sustainable architecture in real life, and see real life interpretation of subjects like building construction and architectural design. I also loved interactions with fellow participants.



SAPTARSHI GHOSH

3rd Year, Sathyabhama University, Chennai

Participant - The Architecture Experience Vietnam (July 2019)

The Architecture Experience Vietnam was a very good trip which was extremely informative. I loved our interaction with Takashi Niwa - he explained everything and answered all our questions. I also got to understand concepts like ventilation, rooftop vegetation, differentiating spaces, which I can use in my college project too. The usage of bricks in Cuckoo House, Terra Cotta Studio was very interesting. I also got to understand other students' approach to architecture, and am even making a presentation of what I learnt on this trip, for my college. With all the places I've been to and all the people I've met, it's definitely a trip I would always remember!



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

All our Experiences are aimed at implementing and solving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set by the UN.

Goal no. 17, Partnerships for the Goals, is key to our Experiences, since we work with a global team of experts to be able to add value to the learning of the participants.

The Architecture Experience focuses on 3 of the Goals primarily -



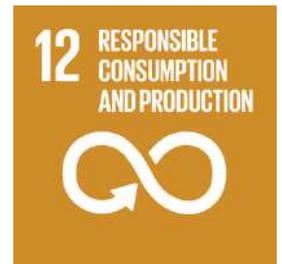
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

- Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being



Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing
- By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement
- By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters



Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

- By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
- Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production



THE HAPPY LLAMAS

At **The Happy Llamas**, we curate Experiences for participants to show them how their domains work in the real world, and how they approach sustainability. Why?

We believe that the world has a lot to offer, and only on going out and engaging with different cultures in different corners of the world can one get a holistic view of life, and evolve personally and professionally. We also feel strongly about the need to make this planet, the only one that we have, more sustainable.

Keeping these two thoughts in mind, we work with domain and subject matter experts to co-curate Experiences where we inspire today's youth on how to make this world a better place to live for themselves and their peers, and creating positive global impact in their domains of interest.

We invite you to join us in this journey, and be a part of an inclusive and global community of changemakers!

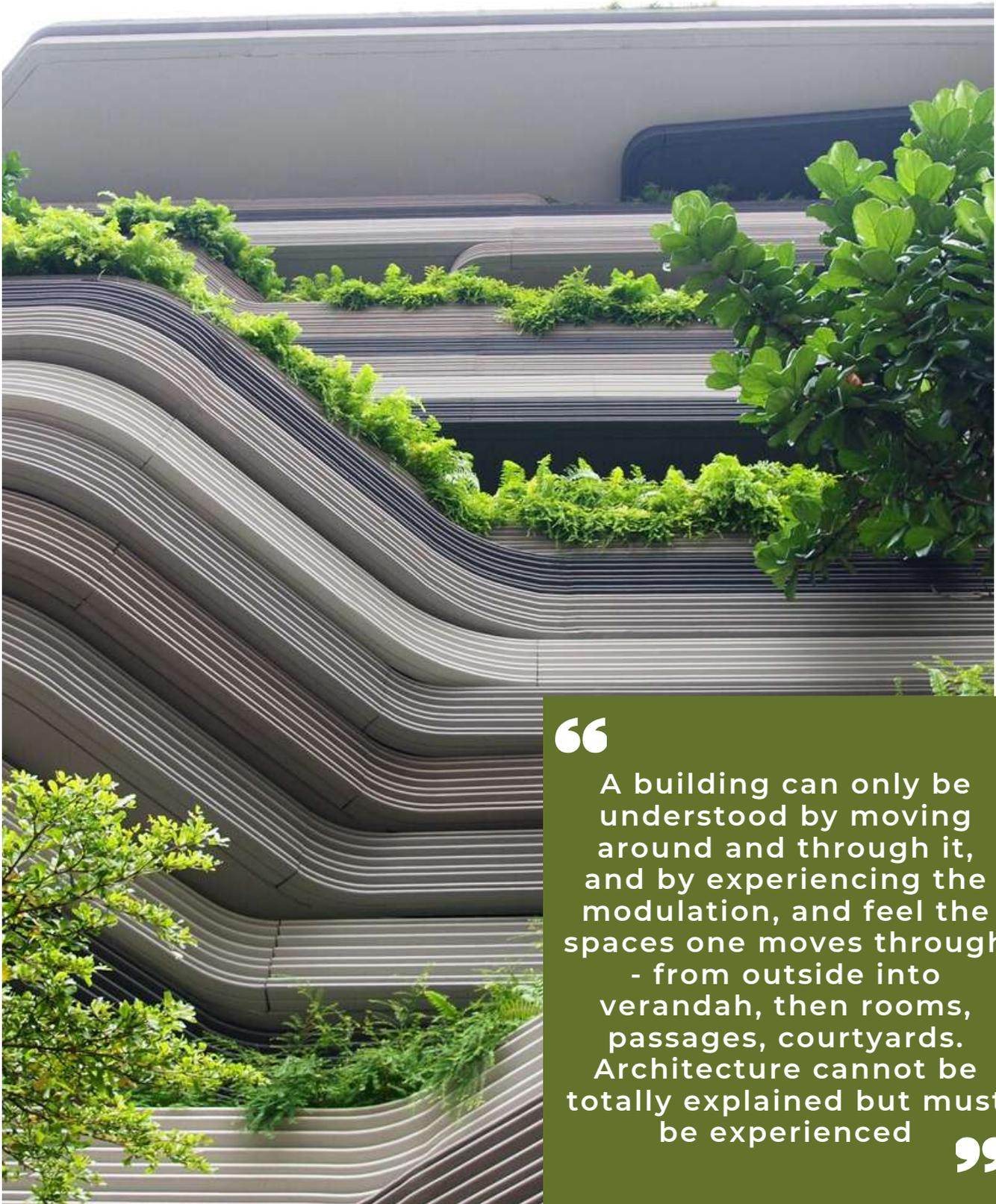
Contact Us

ankit@thehappyllamas.com
+91 8310 58 5352
www.thehappyllamas.com





WE ADHERE TO WORK TOWARDS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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A building can only be understood by moving around and through it, and by experiencing the modulation, and feel the spaces one moves through - from outside into verandah, then rooms, passages, courtyards. Architecture cannot be totally explained but must be experienced

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GEOFFREY BAWA

ParkROYAL Hotel on Pickering by WOHA architects. Photo by William