

UOL CHANNEL



A PUBLICATION OF UOL GROUP LIMITED. MCI (P) 154/04/2015. VOL.01.2015



**BOTANIQUE AT
BARTLEY SEES
STRONG SALES
DURING LAUNCH**

> BOTANIQUE AT BARTLEY DRAWS BUYERS WITH GOOD LOCATION AND STRONG PRODUCT OFFERINGS

A strong crowd of buyers looking for a high-quality property at an affordable price in the city-fringe packed into the showflat of Botanique at Bartley over the weekend of 4 April 2015. UOL sold more than 150 units at an average price of \$1,290 per square foot. About 300 units were released over the two days.

UOL's latest residential development comprises nine blocks of 17-storey apartments with 797 units. Botanique at Bartley has strong locational attributes, given the potential growth in the Paya Lebar area and the government's long-term plan to relocate the Paya Lebar Airbase which will free up 800 hectares of land for alternative use. The development, a three-minute walk from Bartley MRT station, also has an array of reputable mainstream and international schools in the vicinity, including Paya Lebar Methodist Girl's School (Secondary), Maris Stella High School, Cedar Girl's Secondary School, Nanyang Junior College, Saint Andrew's Village, Stamford American International School, Australian International School and Lycee Francais de Singapour. Nex shopping mall and OneKM are also nearby.

More than 70% of the units are priced below \$1 million, starting from approximately \$598,000 for a one-bedroom unit and \$798,000 for a two-bedroom unit, while a three-bedroom unit will start from \$1.16 million.

UOL General Manager (Marketing) Anthony Wong said that there is good interest across all unit types for Botanique at Bartley, particularly for the two-bedroom units. "We believe the positive response is due to the development's high-quality specifications and design, proximity to MRT station and realistic pricing," he said.

Botanique at Bartley offers 200 one-bedroom, 382 two-bedroom and 215 three-bedroom units. Unit sizes for a one-bedroom ranges from 495 sq ft to 689 sq ft, a two-bedroom ranges from 657 sq ft to 958 sq ft and a three-bedroom ranges from 926 sq ft to 1,356 sq ft.

As part of UOL's corporate social responsibility efforts, it has commissioned six paintings by artists with disabilities from Very Special Arts Singapore, and they are displayed at the showflat. The paintings will eventually be displayed at the condominium upon completion, which is expected to be in 2019.



> Botanique at Bartley (artist's impression) won three awards at the International Property Awards 2015-2016 for its architectural excellence.

> UOL SHARES VALUE OF DESIGN AT SINGAPORE DESIGN BUSINESS SUMMIT 2015

For its success in using good design to drive innovations and create value for its products, UOL was invited to speak at the distinguished Singapore Design Business Summit 2015 held on 12 March 2015 at the LASALLE College of the Arts.

Mr Liam Wee Sin, UOL's President (Property), shared how design value creation can contribute to business success, citing UOL's multiple-award winning hotel PARKROYAL on Pickering. The talk was well attended by design professionals and students.

Held from 11 to 13 March 2015, the Design Business Summit is the single platform in Singapore that brings design and business thought leaders together to share, discuss and inspire one another to make the world a better place to live in.



> Mr Liam (second from left) shared his knowledge of design value creation at the panel discussion with design professionals Prof Dr Peter Zec, President of Red Dot Award; Mr Low Cheaw Hwei, Global Creative Director for Consumer Lifestyle of Philips Design; and Mr Mark Wee, Director, Architecture of ONG&ONG.

> UOL RECORDS HIGHER EARNINGS FOR ALL BUSINESS SEGMENTS

UOL reported higher earnings for all business segments for the financial year ended 31 December 2014 (FY2014) despite a 13% drop in net attributable profit to \$686.0 million that was mostly due to lower fair value gains. A briefing to the media and analysts on UOL's FY2014 results was held at Pan Pacific Singapore on 26 February 2015 to respond promptly to their queries.

Excluding fair value and other gains, Group pre-tax profit rose 21% to \$515.2 million from \$427.3 million a year ago. The increase was helped by a one-time pre-tax gain of \$98.9 million from the sale of the development project at Jalan Conlay in Malaysia, lower finance expenses, as well as higher share of profits from associated and joint venture companies.

Mr Gwee Lian Kheng, Group Chief Executive of UOL, said: "Despite the challenging global economic environment and soft patches in Singapore's residential market last year, we continued to record reasonable growth across all our business segments.

"We expect the office rental market to remain buoyant given the limited new supply in 2015 but retail rents will stay soft with rising occupancy costs and competition from online retail. On the hospitality front, we have already taken steps to upgrade and renovate our hotels to stay competitive in the face of new challenges."

Mr Gwee added: "Though the residential property market is expected to remain soft, we believe projects with strong value propositions and in sought-after locations should continue to attract buyers."

A first and final dividend of \$0.15 a share has been proposed.



> From left: Mr Neo Soon Hup, Chief Financial Officer of Pan Pacific Hotels Group Limited (PPHG); Mr Bernold Olaf Schroeder, Chief Executive Officer (Hotels) of PPHG; Mr Gwee Lian Kheng, Group Chief Executive of UOL; Mr Liam Wee Sin, President (Property) of UOL; and Mr Wellington Foo, Chief Financial Officer of UOL.

> HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN



> UOL volunteers and AWWA's Senior Community Home residents had a whale of a time singing, dancing and enjoying a boat ride together.

Who says old people are forgetful? Most of the residents at the AWWA's Senior Community Home could recognise some of the UOL volunteers who celebrated Chinese New Year with them last year when UOL organised the festive luncheon the second time on 2 March 2015. The Senior Community Home supports senior citizens who are on public assistance or have no family or means of financial support.

This year's gathering was even more lively, with the numbers doubled to about 130 Senior Community Home residents and 24 UOL volunteers. After enjoying a sumptuous nine-course buffet, the volunteers belted out Chinese New Year songs to entertain the elderly, who then reciprocated with a rendition of the classic oldies. The programme continued for 40 residents who were still energetic after the luncheon, where they were chaperoned by UOL volunteers to take a boat ride along the Singapore River.

"I didn't know Singapore has changed so much. I wish to thank UOL and the volunteers for arranging this cruise tour for the experience," said Mr Tan Sein Kiew, a resident of the Senior Community Home.

The smiles on the faces of the seniors simply made the volunteers' efforts in preparing the event all worthwhile.

> FUN COMES FIRST AT UNITED SQUARE AND ONEKM

During the March school holidays, United Square hosted a series of first-time events which brought fun and excitement to shoppers.

Cartoon Network brought ToonFest to United Square on 14 and 15 March 2015 for families to meet characters from the hit series Adventure Time and The Amazing World of Gumball. Another first in Singapore, Peppa and her little brother George from Peppa Pig descended into the mall from 17 to 25 March 2015, where children had fun participating in sand art, card making and designing a Peppa House.

On the other hand, OneKM hosted its first breakdance competition – 9th Annual Singapore BBoy Championships 2015 – on 14 and 15 March 2015. The competition took centre stage at the mall’s atrium with over 40 teams and over 50 individual contestants from around the world.



> The popular pre-school television show character Peppa Pig made its first appearance in Singapore at United Square.



> Battling their way to top glory at the breakdance competition at OneKM.

>



> Heart-stopping bike trial demonstration by BikeTrail Singapore prior to the race.

RED BULL ‘CHARGES’ AT VELOCITY@NOVENA SQUARE

The heart-stopping, free-ride mountain biking competition Red Bull Downmall Challenge 2015 returned to Velocity@Novena Square on 21 and 22 March 2015 after one year.

Over 175 riders, some as young as 13 years old, raced against the clock and manoeuvred through obstacles starting from level three of the mall, putting their skills and guts to a test. Not for the faint-hearted, riders also had to overcome the one-metre drop obstacle before reaching the finish point at the outdoor basketball court. The exhilarating race was well-received by both bike enthusiasts and shoppers.

>

PPHG CELEBRATES SINGAPORE’S GOLDEN JUBILEE WITH HOTEL PROMOTIONS

Pan Pacific Hotels Group Limited (PPHG) is running two celebratory promotions from now until 30 December 2015 at its two “Pan Pacific” and three PARKROYAL hotels across the country to celebrate Singapore’s 50 years of independence.

With every room booking via the brands’ websites, the SG50 Staycation promotion offers Singapore citizens and residents complimentary daily breakfast for two persons and a \$50 daily accumulative in-house credit. Meanwhile, the Singapore’s Golden Jubilee Special offers travel agents registered under the International Air Transport Association (IATA) a saving of 50% off the Best Available Rate and a complimentary upgrade to the next room category.