

Finding something about your City to Love? Here's 3 easy ways!

Ms Jewel Tai, 17 October 2020

Sometimes you might find yourself at either end of the spectrum - overwhelmed by the things you love about your city, or underwhelmed by it too. Especially with the COVID-19 challenge that no one can dodge, the situation might even have caused you to now dislike what you once loved. But fear not - this can be reversed!

Here's 3 easy ways to help you see what you (could) really love about it:

1. What's the first good thing about your city that you would want to tell a friend visiting from overseas?

Perhaps it would be the must-go places? Or the must-try food? Or even the secret local spots? It might even be time for you to be a Local Tourist. It gets really funny when we end up asking our international friends for suggestions on local spots to check out, isn't it?

Whether you're an architect, a musician, a gardener, or a teacher, you could use that lens to look beyond your workplace and admire your city. If you feel too saturated in that already, take a weekend to look through the lens of another? The beauty of the city is not just to be seen from afar. Take a look around and see how others in your field have expressed themselves. Immerse yourself in it and embrace it - hear its tones, see its patterns, smell its fragrance, feel its excitement. The combination is subtly sweet, maybe peculiar, and definitely irreplaceable.

2. What's one thing outside your home that you really missed during Circuit Breaker/lockdown?

Could it be the social hangouts with friends, extended family ... or even work colleagues that we missed seeing in person? Communities play a key role in forming our cities, and they bring life! For these communities to exist, you are an important member as much as the others are.

Maybe you've even missed that love-hate relationship of catching that one bus that gets you to work on time. Why not even slow down to appreciate the ones driving that bus on schedule? Or the ones that cleared and smoothed that road that you may zoom straight out? Perhaps this could be an excellent inspiration point for starting a 'Thank You' movement. In due time, send it in for a Cities of Love Award! We can't wait to hear about it!

3. What's one area in the city that you would really like to see change?

Maybe you've found it difficult to like your city for the longest time. But here's an alternative perspective we'll offer you - frustrations can be the best to give you a starting point to invest your love in it! Perhaps the longest issue could be right at your doorstep, where it may have repeatedly given you a bad start to your days. How about changing that? Just imagine how many more good days you'll get instead. You could be the one to bring that phenomenal change, and do not belittle any of it! You'll be surprised - your neighbour might even see that change and want it for himself, and then the domino effect has started.

Remember - what you love, you will sustain!

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