

FOR ARTSY KIDS ▶

"There is no science without fancy and no art without fact," claimed the late novelist Vladimir Nabokov. Braiding art, science, technology and culture is Singapore's **ArtScience Museum** that comprises 21 thoughtful galleries. Anime junkies should not miss its *Disney: Magic of Animation* exhibit that provides behind-the-scenes glimpses into children's classics like *Moana* and *Frozen*. Younger visitors will love *Future World*, a digital paradise where the artwork is rendered by a computer programme that creates the work in real time. Expect cascading waterfalls, butterflies and even cherry blossoms in bloom. Marinabaysands.com



YOU MAY ALSO LIKE:
OliOli Museum in Dubai
or Musée des Arts
Forains in Paris

The ArtScience Museum is a decade-old institution housed in Singapore's iconic Marina Bay Sands

Family forays

From the Middle East's splashiest water park to a spectacular tornado lab in Japan, **Aarti Virani** scouts the world's most child-friendly corners

Surviving 2020 is reason enough for a holiday. Whether you're vacation-ready or cautiously waiting to plan your next family getaway, we've got you covered. Broken down by interests, our child-friendly suggestions spanning the globe cater to just about everyone, including the high-octane toddler and the surly teen. Whether it's now or later, go forth and explore. Because the clan that gets away together, stays together.



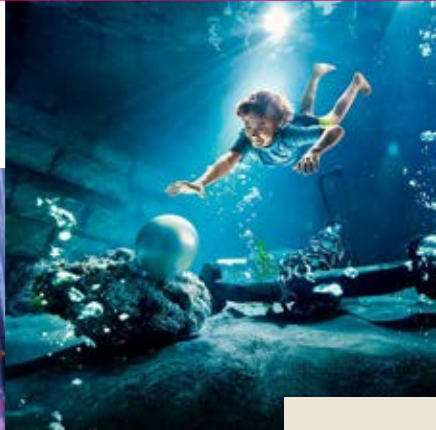
Efteling is located about an hour's drive from Amsterdam

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE:
Lotte World in Seoul or Toy Story Land with outposts in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Florida

◀ FOR FANTASY FANS

With attractions based on Brothers Grimm stories, **Efteling** is a folklore-flavoured park near Amsterdam. Its lush grounds are best explored via a gondoletta, but also recommended is a walk through its Fairytale Forest, a living picture book adorned with statues of Pinocchio, Hansel and Gretel, and more. For a dizzying ride, take a spin on the rotating cauldrons of Monsieur Cannibale or reserve your spot on the leisurely pedal train that chugs past barns and windmills. Efteling.com

COURTESY TEAMLAB; SHUTTERSTOCK.COM



Besides pearl diving, Yas also has a diverse list of underwater VR experiences to try

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE:
Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens or LEGOLAND in Johor, Malaysia

◀ FOR YOUNG EXPLORERS

Inspired by the pearl diving heritage of the Arabian Gulf, **Yas Waterworld** in Abu Dhabi offers visitors the chance to collect (and shuck) oysters, along with 40 rollicking rides and slides. Choose from aquatic adventures like the Bandit Bomber, a roller coaster that lets riders spray water on unsuspecting visitors—though be warned, the targets can also grab one of the many cannons spread across the park's footpaths and retaliate. For tots, there's an infant paddle pool and the Marah Fortress, the ultimate water playground, equipped with dumping buckets and a spouting geyser. The park's latest offering is the Underwater VR experience with simulated excursions, such as a flight above waterfalls or a swim through a shipwreck. Yaswaterworld.com

FOR SCIENCE BUFFS ▶

Home to one of the world's largest planetariums, Japan's **Nagoya City Science Museum**, which reopens in April, features a striking 35-metre dome, built to replicate the starriest sky. Soak in the celestial magic at its 350-seat theatre or experience the museum's cutting-edge Tornado Lab, where guests can witness a nine-metre twister, in addition to artificial versions of typhoons that typically tear through Japan. Budding space enthusiasts can check out a 4.5 billion-year-old rock, left over from a meteorite that crash-landed in nearby Komaki in 2018. Ncsm.city.nagoya.jp



At Nagoya City Science Museum, archaeologists-in-waiting can peer and paw at amber fossils

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE:
Amsterdam's NEMO Science Museum or Florida's Kennedy Space Center

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE:

Yala National Park in Sri Lanka or Iceland's Ring Road



Mkombe's House is specifically designed with children in mind

▲ FOR NATURE LOVERS

The first private residence in Serengeti National Park, **Mkombe's House** in Lamai, Tanzania, is a cavernous riverside refuge, tailor-made for families (it can accommodate up to 10 guests), courtesy of two master suites with adjoining children's rooms; cots, high-chairs and car seats are readily available. It's also furnished with a pair of private pools, an attentive staff (read: babysitting), and a safari vehicle. Rock climbing and game-watching—catch a seasonal wildebeest river crossing—are the primary pursuits here, though lounging by the fireplace is also encouraged. Nomad-tanzania.com ■

FLIGHT PLAN

Blogger couple AJ Ratani and Natasha Sandhir share a handy, screen-free guide to calm pre-flight jitters while travelling with toddlers



STICK TO THE SCHED:

"Babies and toddlers shouldn't stray from established bedtime routines, even on a flight. Pack pyjamas, sleep sacks, pacifiers and other items they typically associate with snoozing, and opt for overnight flights whenever possible," advises Ratani.

HIGH-ALTITUDE ATTITUDE:

"I do well when I'm expecting things to go wrong," admits Sandhir. For kindergartners, she recommends parents tote bite-sized treats and toys (wrap each goodie in foil, so the kids can engage in unwrapping) as pick-me-ups, in addition to other inventive diversions. "It can be something as simple as counting all the lights or seats on board," she adds.

OFFER A PREVIEW:

Get older children amped up by planning an in-flight primer on your destination: familiarise them with the nation's flag (Sandhir suggests printing one out and having your child colour it en route), zoom in to the interactive flight map and discuss the attractions you will visit upon arrival.

CONSULT THE CABIN CREW:

"Don't hesitate to check in with flight attendants, whether it's to politely ask for extra spoons, cups and ice, which are excellent impromptu toddler toys, or make special requests," says Ratani.

How to Travel With Kids (Without Losing Your Mind) was published in April 2019