



Takeaways

A newsletter by RICE



Time to take out the *nice* tablecloths

Can you believe that around 30 million people arrive at Changi Airport every year?

This past week alone, Singapore welcomed Pope Francis and Andras “Hide The Pain Harold” Istvan Arato with overwhelming fanfare. And this weekend, Singapore eagerly anticipates the (probable) arrival of livestreaming phenom IShowSpeed, along with hundreds of thousands of Formula One fans.

Stressed and overworked Singaporeans might wonder *why* people want to come here. Meanwhile, hot-blooded patriots will wax lyrical about Singapore’s cuisine, safety, cleanliness, efficiency and low taxes, and wonder why anyone would leave.

If you apply Singaporean logic, however, the long queues to get into Singapore means that there must be something good at the end.

*P.S. We've also learnt some of you found your way here through your friends. If you haven't already, **subscribe** to our weekly newsletter today!*

*If you like our content and our vibes, consider being a **RICE Media patron** to support the work we do.*

Wake me up when September ends



For many, the F1 Night Race is just annoying road closures and glitzy networking. Here's why we need to start looking at it differently.

**A Crash Course in Loving the
Singapore Grand Prix**

The good life



Just like Christmas calls to mind Jesus and Santa, we can't help but think about S Iswaran during the Singapore Grand Prix weekend (and the 116 Green Room tickets he was said to have obtained).

According to His Corruption Charges, Iswaran Was Living the High School Musical Life

Race to the top



18-year-old Singaporean-Korean Christian Ho has raced in Formula 4 and the Eurocup-3. Now, his crosshairs are firmly set on Formula 1.

**Meet Christian Ho, the
Singaporean Teen Chasing His F1
Dream in the UK**

I build speed



Meet Gautham Ramesh, a math and physics geek who fine-tunes the performance of some of the fastest cars in the world. Knowing full well he wouldn't be able to be a racecar driver, he became Singapore's first F1 engineer.

Short Grains, or *piping-hot topics by the spoonful.*

- The FBI arrested a 20-year-old Singaporean for laundering over US\$230m in cryptocurrency. (via *CNA*)
 - Taiwan is investigating a firm for its possible involvement in detonating explosive pagers in Lebanon, which killed and wounded hundreds. (via *CNA*)
 - The police were called when an attendee of MP Tan Kiat How's meet-the-people session turned violent. (via *CNA*)
 - Epigram will be closing its final bookstore in January 2025 (via *Straits Times*)
 - Miss Universe Singapore's first transgender finalist opened up about her uphill battles. (via *Today*)
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What's Cooking



After years of hearing from our readers—whether through online comments, DMs, or emails you’ve sent us with sometimes passionate and sometimes thoughtful thoughts on our stories—we want to do more to engage you offline. And so we’ve decided to pilot a series of community events, starting with a very casual journaling workshop.

DATE NIGHTS with Rice Media
**#1: Stop Doomscrolling,
Start Journaling**



What do we really need in our toughest times?

As Alayna and Belinda grappled with their struggles, their reassuring confidantes were vital sources of solace and support. Experience the power of empathy as it unfolds through thoughtful gestures, compassionate words, and unwavering sincerity.

**The Power Of Empathy | Alt Ctrl
Health**

We like to go out! We also hate our weather.

But as much as our team is full of contradictions, we simply can't go by our weekend without checking out some things. If you're still deciding on where to go, let us highlight some unmissable events for you:

- Even if you aren't into motor racing, you might be interested in catching music sensations like [Honne](#), [Kylie Minogue](#), [OneRepublic](#) and [Thirty Seconds To Mars](#) who will be performing at the Marina Bay Street Circuit this weekend.
- Enjoy thought-provoking drawings and installations when you visit Yogyakarta-based Anagard's solo exhibition, [From nasi padang to the world](#).
- Hip-hop rave [.WAV\(Y\)](#) returns to Cherry Discotheque with special guest Artan.
- Join the [National Museum of Singapore's 137th anniversary celebrations!](#) Enjoy kid-friendly activities, bathe in multisensory installations themed on nature and admire William Farquhar's postcard collection.
- Take your pick from a bevy of Singaporean products, from custom sneakers to quirky homeware, at [Creators Marketplace](#) happening at Aliwal Arts Centre.

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