

# The Haven, For Real

Text : Ivan Tan Images: The Haven Web: [www.thehaven.com.my](http://www.thehaven.com.my)



It must have been like almost two years since I last stepped foot here. At that time, construction of the three towers had just begun, potential buyers still visiting the gallery and its marketing collaterals were everywhere from the papers to the billboards and even expos overseas. Units were still available for sale and prices had already inched up with confirmed satisfied buyers from France, Singapore and Hong Kong.

I remember seeing the construction, undertaken by local giant Bina Puri Holdings Bhd and Beijing Construction Engineering Ltd of China, it was actually enough to say that this project meant business. But I couldn't help but wonder why Ipoh? Why The Haven? Why such a highly priced development here?

In that journey of piecing The Haven's puzzle together, my friendship with Peter Chan, CEO and the man behind this project grew. Like The Haven, I must confess that I too was puzzled about Peter, a man who has helmed many corporate giants and MNCs from banking to bereavement, stretching from Singapore, Hong Kong, New York and London. You can't help but wonder if God must really be crazy to plant this man right here in Ipoh.

Above  
Believe it or not  
it's an actual  
photograph of The  
Haven.

Below  
You could literally  
exercise by the  
pool and be next to  
nature.



Peter and I first met in Beijing, at one of the largest property exhibitions in China. He was among the few Malaysian flag bearers that had landed at this expo with nothing more than an ambition to market and sell three towers of condominium-hotel or condotel facing a lake, a big rock and a well preserved natural hill. But Peter had more than a story to tell, he had a dream investment to share.

To him, The Haven offers the best there is. But so would other developments to their own makers. The Haven however would go the distance to match and even surpass those in the metropolis of KL and the seaside properties of Kota Kinabalu, he reckons this piece of The Haven is the best because of all the blessed components within its confines, so blessed is this project with God's creation that Peter himself felt justified to create something out of its tropical surroundings. And with that, he drove himself into the hearts of his passionate team, contractors, suppliers, consultants, buyers and investors.

Two years on the story continues and I've visited this once tin-mining capital of Malaysia again. As I drove in with my family, I could see the three towers standing tall fronting the lake, the rock and the naturally preserved hill. The view from my 21st floor unit, more magnificent than I had imagined with the fig trees and forest standing alongside its cousins of the lake, the



rock, the clouds, the sun...my God, *The Haven is now for real!*

To get closer to this marvel, we headed to the pool for an evening dip. As we walked and as the lobby opens up to both man and God made, the picturesque landscape had us awestruck, it was like *The Beach of DiCaprio* said my wife or for me, it's one of 007's rare resort sanctuaries. No prize for guessing who's Bond, James Bond.

The dip was heavenly. The water, beautiful; the size, adequate; the slide, enough for our daughter to go mad but not overboard to have us worried. The jacuzzi, you must try even if you're ill, it's complete with the hot water section too. Your highly strung metropolitan bodies could do with some hydrotherapy here, I know mine did.

Our breath was taken away yet again when we went up to shower and change for the evening. It's as if we were on the first day of our long vacation, refreshing experience greets us



Above  
You could see this from your very own eyes when you swim to the edge of the pool.

Below  
Part of the walking path to take you around.

Bottom  
Its fresh air will surprise you here.

everywhere we turned. Right from our balcony and the setting sun, it is simply immaculate, inspiring and peaceful. There's something about this place that makes you want to dream and aspire, recalling ambitions and calibrating your soul together.

It dawned on me that life as we know it sometimes require that bit of a challenge to make things better, for that matter to make us better. And to most, you'd need to stretch your limits to uncover your potential. To have come this far for *The Haven*, it's certainly more than "all in a day's job". This has not been an easy feat to achieve and mind boggling too to see *The Haven* paraded from the word go in Ipoh and to places like Singapore, Hong Kong and Beijing. All this because creator Peter Chan knew from the very beginning that there was more than just brick and mortar to offer here, it's one of those one in a million chances of owning something you'd never forget and living in a place you'd never regret.

What has been the key to this success my wife queried Peter over breakfast, he succinctly put it, "When you put your heart in it, you will achieve success in anything."

*The Haven*, conceptualized, designed, marketed and constantly improved from the heart to be the icon of Ipoh and the only kind in Malaysia, is already today a great masterpiece of its own. The price it commands now is enough to suggest *The Haven* has arrived. But Peter is not stopping just there, he's putting together the final pieces to this marvelous piece of development. And when it is finished, Ipoh would inherit a historic grand prize honored by a daredevil's own vision to give the best there was in this part of the world to those who dared to dream like him.

Left Top  
It's difficult to get out of this hot water jacuzzi.

Left  
A mini amphitheater for the sopranos, tenors, jazz, mimes and their friends.

