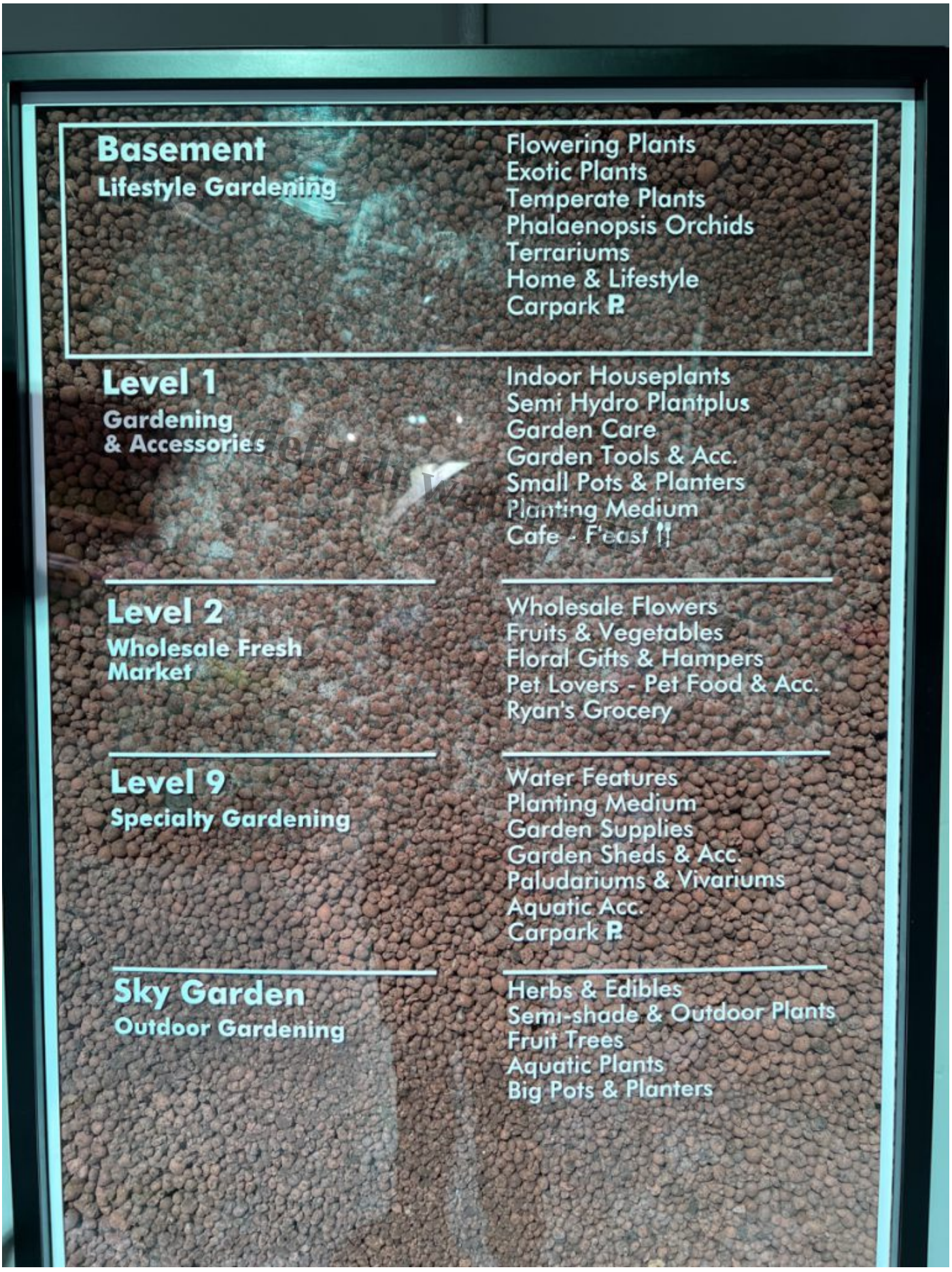


A visit to Far East Floraâ??s 11-storey flower and gardening mall

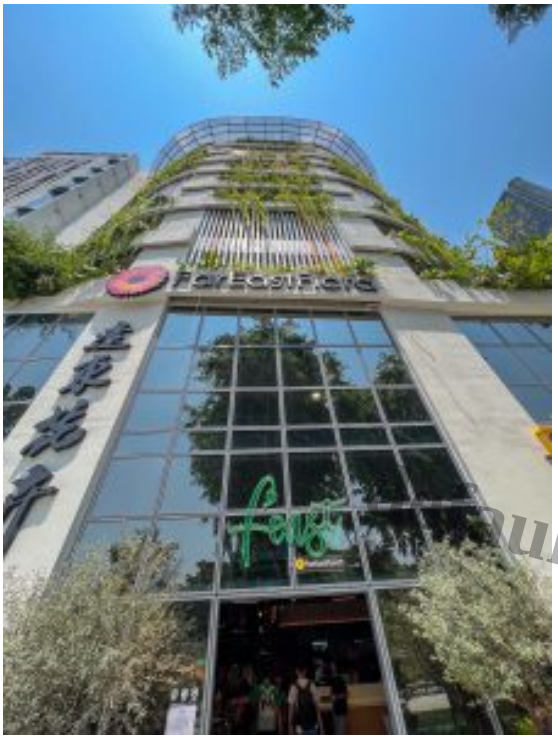
Description

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Far East Flora is redefining how we shop for floral and gardening items. Gone are the days of parking indiscriminately along Thomson Road and navigating the multiple florists and gardening stalls. At times it was hot and uncomfortable and hence it was usually packed in the evenings when patrons would find it cooler to visit. If it was raining, a visit would be difficult. Cue Far East Flora. They have built an 11-storey mall along Clementi Road right next to the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS). Although I counted 10 storeys as the Sky Garden was one level above the Speciality Gardeningâ?¦ I am assuming they considered basement as a level.


Basement
Lifestyle Gardening
Flowering Plants
Exotic Plants
Temperate Plants
Phalaenopsis Orchids
Terrariums
Home & Lifestyle
Carpark P
Level 1
Gardening
& Accessories
Indoor Houseplants
Semi Hydro Plantplus
Garden Care
Garden Tools & Acc.
Small Pots & Planters
Planting Medium
Cafe - Feast !!
Level 2
Wholesale Fresh
Market
Wholesale Flowers
Fruits & Vegetables
Floral Gifts & Hampers
Pet Lovers - Pet Food & Acc.
Ryan's Grocery
Level 9
Specialty Gardening
Water Features
Planting Medium
Garden Supplies
Garden Sheds & Acc.
Paludariums & Vivariums
Aquatic Acc.
Carpark P
Sky Garden
Outdoor Gardening
Herbs & Edibles
Semi-shade & Outdoor Plants
Fruit Trees
Aquatic Plants
Big Pots & Planters

This is a big change. Sheltered, air-conditioned, with ample parking and a cafe to boot. Although the cafe Fâ??east is really a huge letdown. Ok, letâ??s first deal with what is NOT GOOD at Far East Flora.



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The creative name of the cafe, a play on Far Eastâ??s name, serves run-of-the-mill items which you would most likely find at any cafe if you were dining at an airport and waiting for your flight. You do not remember the restaurant or cafe which you patronised at the airport because that is not what you are there for. Perhaps this was the thinking behind Fâ??east. You visit the cafe to eat but please do not remember this as the reason you visited Far East Floraâ??s Mall. If this was their goal, they successfully achieved it.

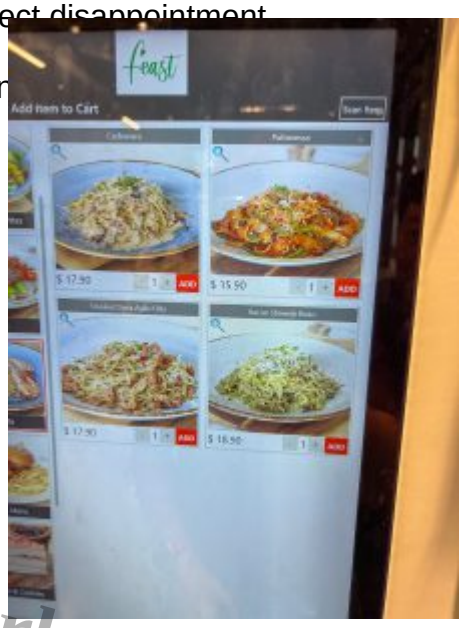

NO SMOKING
NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINKS
NO PETS EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS
BUSINESS HOURS: 8AM - 9PM DAILY
feast
For our dear Customers!
Our hot food kitchen operating hours will be
8am – 2pm (Last order 130pm)
5pm – 9pm (Last order 830pm)
Do drop by and have a meal, See you all!!
Thank you!

Well here are their timings. There is a gap in the afternoon when the kitchen is closed so please take note.

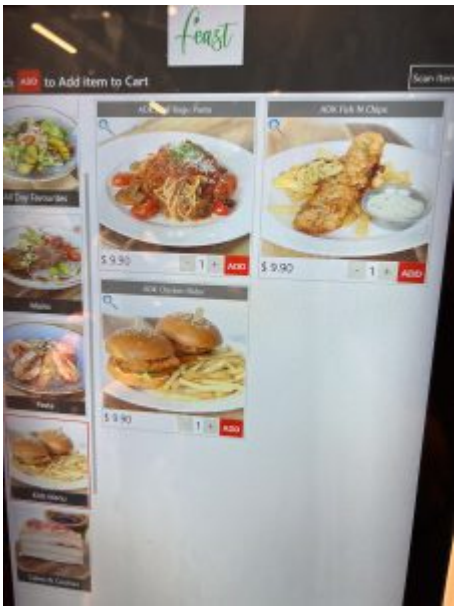
In conclusion before getting into the details, this cafe is not good. I fail to find an alternate adjective to describe the cafe as plain words are sufficient to express my abject disappointment.







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I am vegetarian and the only option for me that was not sold out was the mushroom soup which costs $8 before GST.

Our creative director Wilber went for the Fish and Chips while we ordered 2 cakes.

Total damage? $38.56.







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s Wilber, this was not the cheapest
d.

If I had to use one word to describe these cakes, it would be edible. Adding GST into their individual $8.90 price and you get very close to $10 per slice of cake. Do note that there is a Starbucks outlet right next door at SUSS where you can get cheaper and most probably better cakes.



Aesthetically this looks fine. Price: Almost $20 after GST.



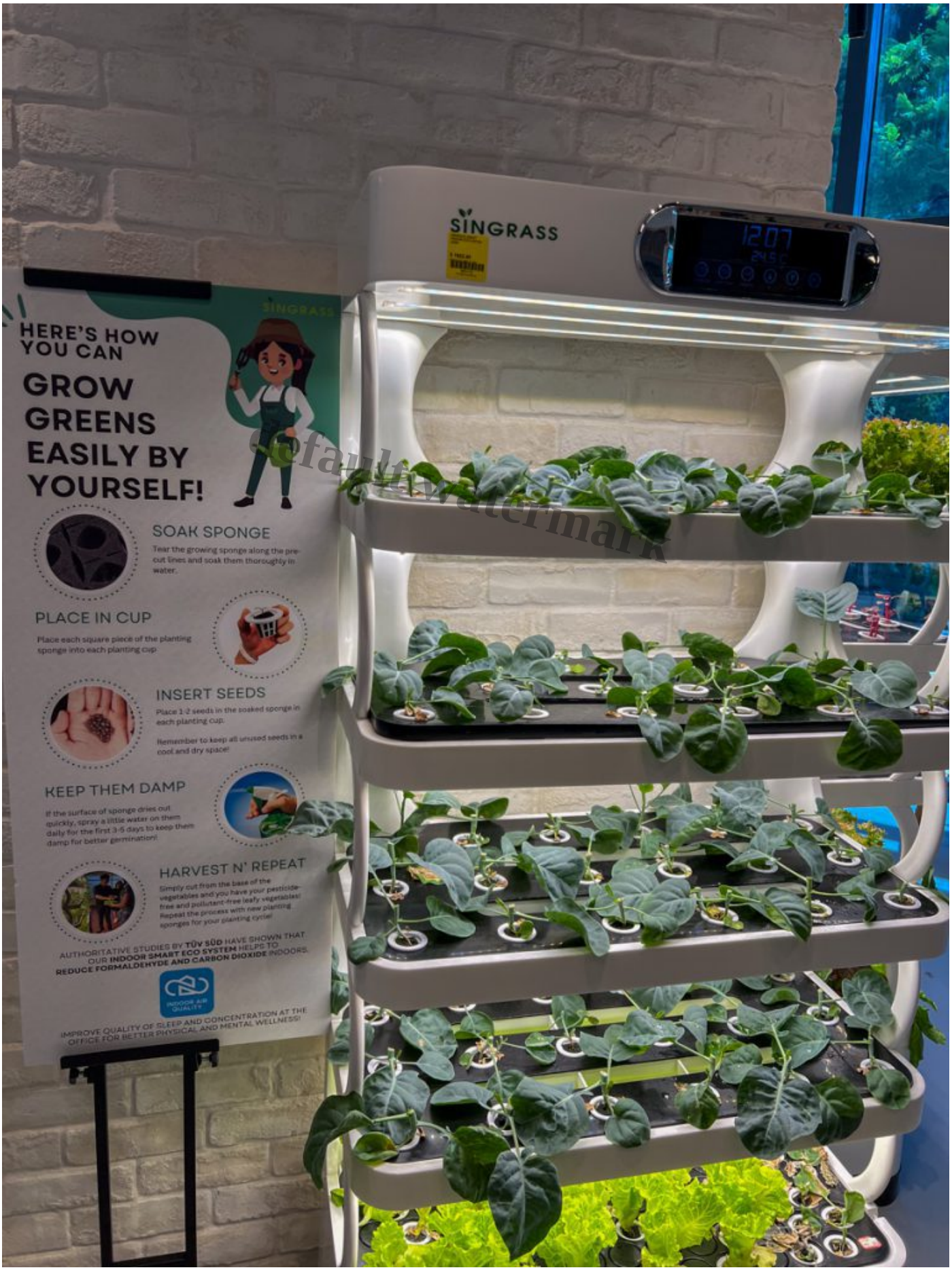




I think the small saving grace was perhaps the ambience. It was clean and bright although I personally think that this looked more like a cafe that you will find at a local university or polytechnic.



And to be frank, I spent more time looking at this than the food on displayâ?¦


SINGRASS
HERE'S HOW YOU CAN
GROW GREENS EASILY BY YOURSELF!
SOAK SPONGE
Tear the growing sponge along the pre-cut lines and soak them thoroughly in water.
PLACE IN CUP
Place each square piece of the planting sponge into each planting cup.
INSERT SEEDS
Place 1-2 seeds in the soaked sponge in each planting cup.
Remember to keep all unused seeds in a cool and dry space!
KEEP THEM DAMP
If the surface of sponge dries out quickly, spray a little water on them daily for the first 3-5 days to keep them damp for better germination!
HARVEST N' REPEAT
Simply cut from the base of the vegetables and you have your pesticide-free and pollutant-free leafy vegetables! Repeat the process with new planting sponges for your planting cycle!
AUTHORITATIVE STUDIES BY TÜV SÜD HAVE SHOWN THAT OUR INDOOR SMART ECO SYSTEM HELPS TO REDUCE FORMALDEHYDE AND CARBON DIOXIDE INDOORS.
IMPROVE QUALITY OF SLEEP AND CONCENTRATION AT THE OFFICE FOR BETTER PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLNESS!

Ok now to move on to the good stuff.

This place is such a huge change to how I used to shop for floral and gardening items. I have always wondered why such large set ups could not operate out of a huge shopping mall rather than have clients cramp under what looks like makeshift tents. As someone who is always reminiscing about past architecture and lamenting how waves of en bloc have taken away parts of Singapore history, I do think that there is nothing historical to keep about the makeshift tents. This is the way I want to shop for floral and gardening items.







Here you can find plants like orchids and roses. I believe these should be more sensitive plants and hence they are displayed indoors under a very cool and controlled environment. The place was not very crowded on a Friday afternoon but there were patrons roaming around making purchases.

Level 1 was labeled â??Gardening and Accessoriesâ?•. It still had plants on offer.







Cactus never looked this prettyâ?¦



All this was in a comfortable, air-conditioned setting.

Level 2 houses the wholesale market.





re in a cold room.







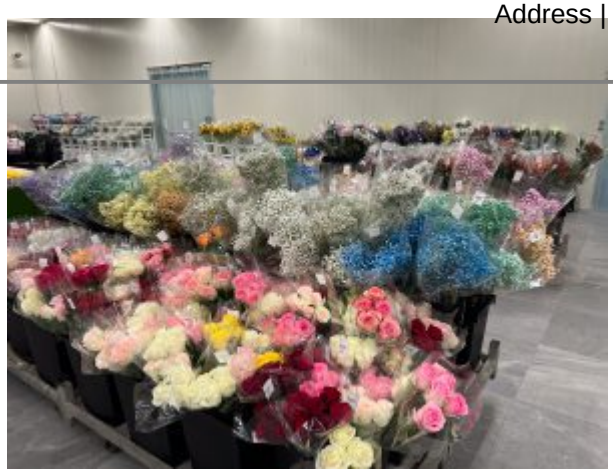
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Wholesale flowers were similarly affordably priced.





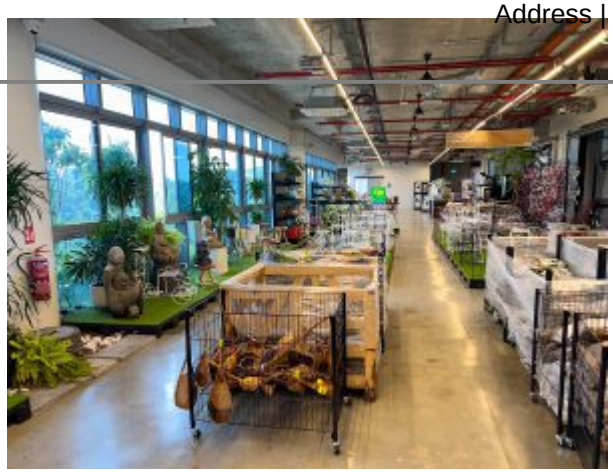






Level 3 to 8 are offices and car parks.

Level 9 is titled â??Speciality Gardeningâ?•

This area is not airconditioned and you can find things like outdoor landscaping items, barbeque sets and aquarium sets.








Here you can find outdoor plants and trees.

In conclusion, this place replaces all other nurseries for me. If I am looking for floral and gardening items I will visit Far East Flora Mall. I just need to remember to have my meal before heading down.

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Yours sincerely,

Daryl

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