

Immerse yourself in Originalo

By JANIS SEET

—janis@mmail.com.my—

WHEN one first meets Tengku Zatahah Idris, the Sultan of Selangor's daughter, the first impression would be that the well spoken, well dressed royalty does not have any airs about her. Down to earth and personable, she is friendly to every-

a treatment voucher for a family member or friend, the Originalo gift box sells a booklet and a voucher and the recipient of the gift can choose directly from the booklet one of the experiences they would like to go for.

"It is affordable and also makes for great corporate rewards and incentives. As it is multi-choice with

translates to the way that they are working on the business as the interview consisted of laughs and of them completing each other's sentences.

"Malaysia is a gem and it is great to be able to work, settle as well as actively promote the country," said Aubry.

Tengku Zatahah also added that they had spent a lot of time doing research together on the project



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— Tengku Zatahah on the affordability of each gift box



spas and hotels located all over Malaysia, the one who receives the gift can choose to go to the one nearest to them or one that they have always wanted to try," said Tengku Zatahah.

Aubry on the other hand, mused that it is a hassle-free gift.

After meeting and falling in love in France, this is the first time that the loving couple are working together. The obvious synergy that they have as friends and husband and wife,

and have tried out all the spas and hotels which they have selected to include in the gift boxes.

They had even called up the providers and asked questions to test their customer service.

"I put on a really heavy French accent when I called up!" laughed Aubry.

The Originalo gift boxes start from

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— Aubry Menneson on starting Originalo with his wife



one, from this interviewer to the hotel staff.

We met up with her and Aubry Rahim Menneson recently to talk about their new business venture as well as a little on how it is like to work together as husband and wife.

Having recently launched the Originalo Travel and Leisure gift boxes for the first time in Malaysia, they are set to change and improve the gifting trend that so many Malaysians hold close to their hearts.

The 'gift boxes' come in a choice of hotel or spa voucher. But unlike the norm where one walks into a random spa and buys



RM180 and goes up to RM1,800. Choose from Spa Beauty, Spa Indulgence, Spa Relaxation, KL City Breaks, Charming Retreats, Beach Getaways and Luxury Getaways.

Aubry added that what came as a surprise was that many Malaysians were buying into the KL City Breaks as a sort of short getaway from their daily lives.

"We have the right balance for mid to high income groups as it should be affordable. This is also good to market regionally, especially to people from Hong Kong and Singapore who would like to spend time in Malaysia," said Tengku Zatahah, who started planning out the business with her husband since their time in France, when she was working with L'oreal and Aubry was a producer.

"We wanted to get off the plane and start working. Especially for an expat like me, I didn't want to feel like I was in holiday mood which a lot of my friends experience when they come to Malaysia as an expat!" said Aubry.

They would also be looking at expanding into dining, among other plans in the pipeline.

"The challenges that we faced when starting this up was mainly explaining to our partners and convincing them to work with us. We started with a long list of spas and hotels but after filtering and testing, we are now left with a much shorter list!" laughed Tengku Zatahah.

For additional information on the gift boxes, one can check out www.originalo.com. You can also sign up and stand a chance to win an Originalo gift.

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YIN AND YANG: The couple's synergy translates to the way that they are working on the business