



PHOTOS: JOYCE FANG

Get Box seats at the refurbished Altivo Bar where you can eat, drink and get your fill of greenery and scenery.

Crown Jewel

The cable car station at Mount Faber is now all dressed up as Jewel Box

IT USED to be a utilitarian building, but the cable car station at Mount Faber, now renamed the Jewel Box, has turned into a destination in itself instead of just a place to board the cable car to Sentosa.

Seen from afar, the building has a box-like structure, and when design director Warinaya Pintongkam of The Lightbox surrounded it with lights, it resembled a giant trinket box.

Unveiled last month, the 31-year-old building was revamped over four months at a cost of \$4 million.

As the building sits amid lush greenery, architect Jeremy Tan of DP Architects dressed it up with tree-like motif structures.

Jewel Box, owned by the Mount Faber Leisure Group (formerly Singapore Cable Car), consists of the cable car station and four themed food and beverage outlets.

The Altivo Bar which was opened in 2000, but was refurbished in June, is an outdoor lounge in what can best be described as rustic chic.

Also on the same level is the new Glass Bar. Once a dimly lit lounge, it is now air-conditioned and offers visitors an unob-

structed harbour view as it is clad entirely in floor-to-ceiling glass windows.

On the left of the cable car station is the new bar and restaurant Faber Rock, an outdoor venue for drinks and fusion cuisine dining with views of the harbour.

And about 100m downhill is Faber Hill Bistro, an outdoor western dining venue which offers views of the city.

But it is not only the restaurants that boast great views.

The public loos in the Jewel Box come with floor-to-ceiling glass windows offering amazing views of the harbour and Sentosa while you do your business.

"We could have turned the two toilets on the ground floor into meeting rooms, but decided to turn them into distinctive attractions," says Ms Susan Teh, chief executive officer of the Mount Faber Leisure Group.

Each toilet has an aquarium, marble washbasins and cocoon-like silk pendant lamps. The egg-shaped commodes are from Italian designer brand Alessi and cost \$5,000 each.

Just be warned, though, views are two-way: Passengers in passing cable cars can see you primping yourself in the mirror. So you are advised to keep the zipping of pants, tucking in of shirts and adjustments to bras and skirts within the cubicles.

Tay Suan Chiang