

CELEBRITY TRAVEL

Qisha eyes headlining concert at Red Rocks

By Jae-Ha Kim
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Born in Malaysia, Chloe Qisha moved to the United Kingdom at age 16, thinking that she would pursue a career as a therapist or psychologist.

But instead, the London-based artist became one of Gen Z's most exciting alternative pop stars, with songs that are fresh while conveying a retro vibe that pays homage to '80s pop. Her latest single "YDH" is her answer to a stressful 2025.

"I wanted a song that captured the feeling of letting your hair down and having the best time," Qisha said. "YDH" is a good summation of that. I wanted to capture the raw, instinctual feeling of having a crush (when) there's no rhyme or reason to it. That first initial pang of a crush can be all-consuming, and I like capturing that kind of raw emotion in a song."

This interview with Qisha has been edited for clarity and length.

Q: Are there things you'd like to achieve on your 2026 tour that you didn't get to do during your earlier shows?

A: There's a lot I want to improve on. It's been nice having a big gap between the last tour in October and this next one. Even though I'm touring a similar set, I feel like I've grown a lot in the last six months. I've been through a lot of ups and downs with music and I've also written a bunch of new songs that resonate really deeply with what I'm currently feeling. It's going to be nice to add in some new bits for an audience I've never actually performed for before.



Singer-songwriter Chloe Qisha says she would be lost travelling without her headphones. **LILLIE EIGER**

Q: Do you have any free time built into your tours to go sightseeing or just enjoy the city you're in?

A: At this stage, touring has to be quite snappy and efficient to make everything work. I think we have maybe one day in New York and then a day in Los Angeles for press at the end of the trip. I've been to LA more because I go there to write, so I don't really feel like I need to sightsee as much. As long as I hit up Erewhon for a smoothie, I'm good. New York, though — I've only visited once for about two days and I've always wanted to spend more time there.

Q: What is your future bucket-list venue?

A: I've always said my ultimate dream would be a headline show at Red Rocks in Colorado. There's something about that amphitheater that's really legendary. At night, especially with how it's lit, it looks beautiful.

Q: What are your five favorite cities?

A: London, Tokyo, Singapore, Penang (Malaysia) and New York.

Q: What is your favorite vacation destination?

A: I really love Japan. Being from Malaysia, traveling there used to be quite easy, so we visited a lot and I spent quite a few Christmas holidays there growing up. Japan in the winter is one of my favorite places in

the world. Every time I go, it feels like there's more to discover. I'm also a big food person and Japan has some of my favorite food.

Q: Where would you like to go that you have never been to before?

A: Brazil! Mainly because a lot of my listeners are there. I've heard amazing things. Either that or just anywhere sunny and beachy.

Q: When you go away, what are some of your must-have items?

A: My journal and my headphones. Traveling without my headphones is torture to me. (Laughs)

Q: What is your guilty pleasure when you're on the road?

A: Honestly it's just having some time to myself. I can be quite introspective, and I do my best music listening when I'm able to sit with good headphones and listen to something on repeat without distractions. Usually it's when I'm traveling from one place to another or looking out of a window. I like being able to listen to music and daydream.

Q: Do you have a knack for picking up new languages?

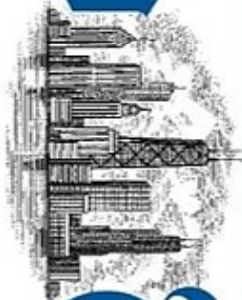
A: No, I'm actually terrible. I only really speak English, which I'm a bit ashamed about.

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