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Our new brand for Singapore, **Passion Made Possible**, celebrates the story of our island-state’s ingenuity. It encapsulates the spirit of Singapore, where people with vision and drive forge new possibilities and bring about meaningful change.

With the concerted efforts of our people, Singapore has transformed from a humble trading port to a first-world country in a short span of 52 years. Today, it is known on the global tourism stage for its world-class attractions, rich heritage, exciting food scene and advanced infrastructure.
Our founding fathers exemplify our passion. Despite the competing priorities in the early days, they held firmly to their passion for greenery. As they developed a young, independent country with limited natural resources, they also planned for green sanctuaries to be created for Singaporeans and the community, laying the foundations for a City in a Garden. Today, Singapore continues to grow and nurture lush, green spaces, such as the upcoming 150km park connector network across the island.

This same fire in the belly has spurred other innovations, including transforming wastewater into high-quality drinking water – putting us on the right track to achieving water self-sufficiency by 2060. And we remain driven by our passion and tenacity to create a better Singapore for all, and turn dreams into reality for both Singaporeans and visitors.

These stories wouldn’t have been possible without one thing – passion. It is passion that has grown gardens into Supertrees, preserved our distinctive hawker recipes and culture, and taken our designers from local to global. It is passion that has made our vision and dreams possible.

This is the same spirit that inspires our new brand, **Passion Made Possible**. It celebrates the values of Singaporeans and, at the same time, is an invitation for visitors to come and ignite their passions. Singapore is a rich and multi-dimensional city – and it is where passions truly come alive.

What does this mean to you, our valued partner? **Passion Made Possible** is a brand that we are truly proud of and believe represents Singapore in its truest and most authentic form.

We at Singapore Tourism Board would like to invite you to join us in telling the Singapore story to the world, through sharing our **Passion Made Possible** stories with your clients.

Just look around and you’ll find many such stories, perhaps even your own. Share not just these stories, but also the promise that Singapore makes – we are more than a destination; we are where passion is made possible.
WELCOME TO SINGAPORE!

A gateway to Asia and beyond, Singapore is a young, dynamic nation and a cosmopolitan city of possibilities. We are home to a bustling Central Business District, the famed shopping belt Orchard Road, a vibrant arts and entertainment scene, lively dining and drinking spots, and various must-see attractions. We are inspired by our rich culture and heritage, yet geared for the future.

But what makes Singapore truly a great city? Passionate Singaporeans. Our can-do spirit and drive for excellence push us to chase our dreams and make Singapore a better place. We have been put on the world map by the likes of para-swimmer Yip Pin Xiu, who broke the world record to win gold in the 2016 Rio Paralympics, and director Anthony Chen, who bagged a series of international awards for his debut film, Ilo Ilo. If anything, these people are living examples that any dream can become a reality with passion and determination.

We are proud of these achievements, but even prouder of our sense of community, diverse cultures, rich heritage, and all the quirks that make us who we are. Most of all, we love being Singaporean, and we’re excited to share our passion for Singapore with our visitors.

OLD MEETS NEW — IN SURPRISING WAYS

In Singapore, history is alive and well; through an active conservation programme, we have found a way to grow as a modern city while continuing to honour the work of early immigrants who designed and erected our colonial architecture. Heritage enclaves exist alongside skyscrapers, and the iconic Marina Bay area (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p77) evokes a city of the future with landmarks like the Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, Gardens by the Bay, Marina Bay Sands® and the Singapore Flyer.

A GREEN HAVEN

Our founding fathers had a vision – to transform Singapore into a garden city, with recreational spaces, world-class attractions and skyscrapers set amid lush greenery. Despite the challenges and competing priorities in the early days, they held firmly to this passion, which continues to inspire our evolution as a famed City in a Garden.

An example of our passion for nature and sharing our heritage with the world is the 150-year-old Singapore Botanic Gardens – our first and only UNESCO World Heritage Site, located just five minutes away from the city centre.

Our network of parks, park connectors linking major green areas, and nature reserves add natural beauty to our living environments, while providing a backdrop for our leisure pursuits and family activities.
Aside from its Chinese, Malay and Indian heritage, Singapore is also home to other ethnic groups such as Eurasians and Peranakans and a growing expatriate population. All of these diverse cultures with their unique characteristics have contributed to making Singapore a vibrant and harmonious place to live.

Food
Food is one of our greatest passions. Where to find the best eats is a common topic among Singaporeans, and we are even known to discuss what to have for dinner as we’re enjoying lunch!

Our strategic position as a shipping port and merging of cultures have produced a vibrant culinary scene. This scene continues to flourish as famed chefs establish restaurants here, young adults form the new generation of hawkers, and our palates grow more sophisticated. Our openness for different cuisines and culinary trends is evident in the number of food establishments across the island, and hawker centres (open-air food courts offering Chinese, Malay, Indian and Peranakan cuisines, among others; see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p120) provide a delicious crash course in our multiculturalism. Our humble hawkers dedicate their lives to their craft, dishing up tasty fare in the way their fathers or grandfathers taught them. In fact, some of them – like Hill Street Tai Hwa Bak Chor Mee and Lim’s Fried Oyster – have found their way into the Top 50 World Street Food Masters list.

Food connoisseurs will be spoilt for choice in Singapore: from hip and trendy spots like indie cafés and craft beer bars, to Michelin-starred restaurants and celebrity chef establishments, our dynamic dining scene has it all.

SINGLES FOR BEGINNERS
Chope: A term used to reserve or call dibs on something.
Other common Singlish expressions
Relax lah: “Lah” gives stronger emphasis to a sentence. “Relax lah” is said to someone who is upset, angry or nervous.
Got lobang?: lobang is a Malay word that means “hole” or “gap”. In this context, it means opportunity or connections.
Kiasu: This word refers to “one who is afraid to lose out to someone else”.
Steady lah!: “Steady lah!” describes someone who is calm and easy-going, or who agrees to your plans.
Bo jio?: Translated from Hokkien, it means not inviting someone along to an event or activity.
Huat ah!: Huat means to prosper while “ah” is used for emphasis. “Huat ah!” is usually shouted out for luck.

SINGAPORE IS A MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY WITH FOUR MAIN ETHNIC GROUPS. THE COUNTRY HAS FOUR OFFICIAL LANGUAGES – BAHASA MELAYU, MANDARIN, TAMIL AND ENGLISH, WITH ENGLISH BEING THE MAIN LANGUAGE FOR EDUCATION AND BUSINESS. RESIDENTS OF SINGAPORE ARE ALSO BOUND TOGETHER BY ONE COMMON LANGUAGE, SINGLISH (SINGAPOREAN ENGLISH) – AN INTRIGUING BLEND OF WORDS, PHRASES AND GRAMMAR RULES OF THE FOUR OFFICIAL LANGUAGES.
A SHOPPING PARADISE

We dare say whatever visitors are looking to buy, chances are they will find it here in Singapore. From luxury brands and up-and-coming local designs, cultural souvenirs, cutting-edge fashion and precious jewellery to homeware, quirky accessories and children’s toys, there is something for everyone (see Shopping, p131). Visitors will score unique and reasonably priced finds in hip shopping enclaves such as Bugis Street, Haji Lane and Tiong Bahru, as well as in the island’s many flea markets and pasar malams (night markets).

TALES & LEGENDS

According to legend, Singapore got its name when Sang Nila Utama, a prince from Palembang, Indonesia, caught sight of a lion while out hunting.

He established a settlement on the island where he saw the animal and named it “The Lion City” or Singapura, from the Sanskrit words simha (lion) and pura (city).

Did you know?

Modern Singapore was founded in the 19th century by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, who negotiated a treaty with the local rulers and established Singapore as an entrepôt for trade.

In 1959, Lee Kuan Yew became the first prime minister of Singapore. A nature lover, he introduced the “garden city” vision in May 1967 and earned himself the unofficial title of “Chief Gardener” as he encouraged tree-planting and the creation of parks and green spaces all over the island. Today, we are home to more than 300 parks, four nature reserves and the award-winning super park Gardens by the Bay.

THAT’S ENTERTAINMENT

There is never a dull moment in Singapore, with exciting events happening all year round (see Events & Festivals, p21). There are plenty of family-friendly events for visitors with children, while music lovers can enjoy concerts and music festivals featuring the world’s top artistes. For art aficionados, Singapore hosts several major art fairs yearly. On top of these, the Formula 1 Singapore Grand Prix, BNP Paribas Women’s Tennis Association Finals Singapore and other big-name sporting events are sure to satisfy sports fans of any age.
From cosy rooms to spacious suites, great accommodation can enhance a Singapore stay. Look out for amenities such as free Wi-Fi, a business centre and family rooms. Some hotels provide guests with smartphones that can be used freely while exploring the island. Also available are shuttle services to the airport, city centre or places of interest. For all other destinations, visitors can get there by taxi or the convenient public transportation network, which includes the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) train system. With this in mind, there is no need to limit lodging options to tried-and-tested districts in the city-state. Staying in a cultural enclave or local neighbourhood may unveil experiences for travellers that are not mentioned in guidebooks. The hotels listed in this manual provide a good starting point as they were gazetted between January 2015 and September 2016. For details of other hotels in Singapore, download the Singapore Hotel Guide at https://tinyurl.com/haj7len
### Aqueen Hotel Paya Lebar

With meeting and event facilities, Aqueen Hotel Paya Lebar appeals to those visiting for business or leisure. Its 162 contemporary rooms are furnished with Quintessential by Aqueen™ mattresses, the first of its kind in the hospitality industry. Guests staying for at least two nights will receive a prepaid mobile card with credit, local data and free calls to 19 destinations worldwide. Travel trade receive 5% off Best Available Rate.

**Room rate:** S$101–S$200

**Number of rooms:** 162

**Lead-in room size:** 14sqm

**Chain/Group:** Aqueen Hotels and Resorts

**Location:**
Aqueen Hotel Paya Lebar is located in the historic Jalan Besar neighbourhood.

**Event spaces:**
- 2 Meeting Rooms

**Website:**
aqueenhotels.com
Email: fohjc@aqueenhotels.com / sales@aqueenhotels.com (Trade Contact)

**Nearest MRT:** Paya Lebar Station

**Amenities:**
- Service:

**Room rate:** S$101–S$200

**Number of rooms:** 162

**Lead-in room size:** 14sqm

**Location:**
This hotel is located in the historic Jalan Besar neighbourhood. The hotel’s premises are within walking distance of the Singapore Flyer and Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (see Lifestyle Precincts, p77) and Haji Lane (see and Shopping, Ethnic Districts, p136) are less than 10 minutes away by car. Free parking is available on the hotel’s premises. Travel trade receive 5% off Best Available Rate.

**Event spaces:**
- 2 Meeting Rooms

**Website:**
aqueenhotels.com
Email: fohjc@aqueenhotels.com / sales@aqueenhotels.com (Trade Contact)

**Nearest MRT:** Paya Lebar Station

**Amenities:**
- Service:
Guests are just three MRT stations away from Singapore’s Central Business District. They can also embark on the 8km Jubilee Walk, starting from the National Museum of Singapore to attractions such as the Peranakan Museum, National Gallery Singapore and Merlion Park. The rooftop terrace of this boutique hotel, where guests will find a Jacuzzi and the Trellis Café, is great for unwinding after a long day.

Travel trade receive rates of S$118.35 nett for a Superior Single, S$129.47 nett for a Superior Queen and S$188.32 nett for an Arcadia Family room, which comes with a king-sized bed and a single bed.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 36
Lead-in room size: 40sqm
Chain/Group: Arcadia Hotel Management Pte Ltd

Destination Singapore Beach Road

Destination Singapore Beach Road has large family rooms that can accommodate up to two adults and two kids each. All rooms are furnished with the hotel’s signature Hypnos queen-sized beds that offer guests a good night’s rest. Dining, shopping and recreational activities within walking distance from the property include Singapore Sports Hub, Bugis Junction and Arab Street.

From the hotel, the Merlion Park, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay and Marina Bay (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32 respectively), making it a good choice for families. Guests can unwind on communal massage chairs and use the Internet kiosk and gymnasium, while daily essentials and snacks are available for purchase from vending machines.

From western Singapore, the hotel offers direct access to city sights. Guests can also take a free 24-hour shuttle bus to Resorts World® Sentosa and visit attractions such as Universal Studios Singapore®, Adventure Cove Waterpark™ and the S.E.A. Aquarium®. A morning shuttle service ferries visitors to the International Business Park.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 360
Lead-in room size: 40sqm
Chain/Group: Park Hotel Group

Genting Hotel Jurong

Sky terraces, rooftop gardens and bright rooms – designed based on the concept of “hotel in a garden” – set the tone for a relaxing stay at Genting Hotel Jurong. The first hotel in the Jurong Lake District, it is located close to shopping malls and recreation and entertainment facilities, such as Singapore Discovery Centre and Jurong Bird Park (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p42 and Adventure & Nature, p52 respectively), making it a good choice for families. Guests can unwind on communal massage chairs and use the Internet kiosk and gymnasium, while daily essentials and snacks are available for purchase from vending machines.

From western Singapore, the hotel offers direct access to city sights. Guests can also take a free 24-hour shuttle bus to Resorts World® Sentosa and visit attractions such as Universal Studios Singapore®, Adventure Cove Waterpark™ and the S.E.A. Aquarium®. A morning shuttle service ferries visitors to the International Business Park.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 800
Lead-in room size: 18sqm
Chain/Group: Park Hotel Group

Holiday Inn Express Singapore Katong

With 461 rooms, Holiday Inn Express Singapore Katong is the largest hotel to be opened by the multinational Holiday Inn chain in Singapore. It is a 15-minute drive from Singapore Changi Airport and an affordable accommodation option for savvy business and leisure travelers. Look forward to getting restful sleep in clean, contemporary rooms with a choice of pillows. The property is nestled in the heart of Katong (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p61), which offers a selection of local food haunts. Corporate guests will also appreciate the hotel’s self-service business centre, Internet stations and Grab & Go option at breakfast. Group deals may be available upon request.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 45
Lead-in room size: 19sqm
Chain/Group: InterContinental Hotels Group

Hotel Bencoolen @ Hong Kong Street

Hotel Bencoolen @ Hong Kong Street is a four-star urban boutique hotel with an excellent location – it is within walking distance to restaurants and nightlife in Boat Quay and Clarke Quay (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p90 and p91 respectively). All 33 rooms are spacious and feature modern furnishings. It is a good option for single travelers, business groups and families looking for affordable accommodation without sacrificing service. Complimentary refreshments are available all day in the hotel lobby. To help guests feel more at home, there is a dedicated area for food preparation on Level 2 with a stove, microwave oven, tableware and other essentials for cooking simple meals. Guests can have light meals at the hotel’s outdoor garden terrace, where meetings and gatherings can also be held, and enjoy a relaxing soak in the outdoor Jacuzzi with views of the city skyline. Travel trade receive corporate rates of S$180++ for a Deluxe Twin/Queen, S$377++ for an Executive Twin/King, S$215++ for a Premier
Stay

Queen, and S$315++ for a Loft, which comes with a queen-sized bed and a sofa bed.

**Hotel Boss**

With 1,500 rooms spread across 11 room types, Hotel Boss caters to every traveller’s needs. The 19-storey hotel boasts a business centre, outdoor pool, shopping alley and eateries such as halal restaurant Jubilicious. It is next to Masjid Sultan Mosque, and Sultan Mosque is a seven-minute walk away, convenient for Muslim travellers who wish to pray. Art galleries, high-end shopping outlets and quirky local boutiques are nearby. Travellers can walk to Kampong Glam and Little India to learn more about Singapore’s rich heritage (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p60 and p64 respectively).

**Hotel Chancellor @ Orchard**

Hotel Chancellor @ Orchard is surrounded by a host of dining, entertainment and lifestyle options in the Orchard Road precinct (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p79). Guests on business travel can make use of the hotel’s business centre, conference rooms and a boardroom. Conference rooms can be configured to seat up to 150 pax, while the boardroom can accommodate 16 pax. All event spaces are equipped with high-speed Internet access, projector and professional sound system. Other hotel facilities include a 28m lap pool on the rooftop and self-service laundry. The building is Green Mark Certified and its eco-friendly features include double-glazed windows, light-emitting diode (LED) lighting and energy-saving filtered water dispensers in every room. To minimise the use of paper, guests can access an electronic concierge system on the TV to check bill status or read messages. The Singapore Attractions Express Service that goes to key sights such as Night Safari makes a stop every evening at the taxi stand on Kramat Lane, which is opposite the hotel. This service is not provided by the hotel and is at the visitors’ own cost. The airport shuttle stops at its sister hotel, Hotel Grand Central, which is just next door.

**Hotel Clover 7**

This no-frills boutique hotel is within walking distance to Chinatown, Clarke Quay and Raffles Place MRT stations, and is also easily accessible to major attractions within the city. A galaxy-themed lobby inspired by sci-fi movies greets visitors, while murals depicting a forest and giant butterflies line the corridors to 27 cosy rooms. Guests can also request for complimentary local calls, as well as an iron with ironing board. Dining options are plenty – popular restaurants and bars can be found on the same street and in the surrounding area. Travel agents can book superior and deluxe rooms at a nett price of S$300, except during the festive seasons and on blackout dates when surcharges apply (contact hotel for details). Breakfast is available at additional cost.

**Hotel Grand Central**

Having reopened in October 2015 after some three years of redevelopment, Hotel Grand Central offers comfortable accommodation just steps away from Orchard Road. Guests have the option of a soft or firm pillow and can also unwind at the fitness room or rooftop swimming pool. The building is Green Mark Certified and uses LED lighting, sensor lighting and fittings that are green-ticked. The hotel is near MRT stations, mega malls and the idyllic Istana Park, home to the Istana Heritage Gallery (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p40), where visitors can learn about The Istana, the official residence of the president of Singapore. Travel agents can book single or twin rooms (breakfast included) from S$130 before taxes.

**Hotel Indigo Singapore Katong**

With 262 rooms, Hotel Indigo Singapore Katong is conveniently located near the East Coast Parkway, providing easy access to the city. The hotel is near MRT stations, malls and the idyllic Istana Park, home to the Istana Heritage Gallery (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p40), where visitors can learn about The Istana, the official residence of the president of Singapore. Travel agents can book single or twin rooms (breakfast included) from S$130 before taxes.
Stay

Event spaces: Boardroom 2 Function Rooms
Address: 22 Cavenagh Road Tel: +65 6777 9944 / +65 6801 6865 (Trade Contact: Steven Tang) Fax: +65 6733 375 Website: grandcentral.com.sg Email: accommodations@grandcentral.com.sg / steven.tang@greathotels.com.sg (Trade Contact: Steven Tang)
Nearest MRT: Dhoby Ghaut Station / Somerset Station

Hotel Indigo Singapore Katong
Hotel Indigo Singapore Katong pays tribute to the rich culture of Peranakans (Strait-born people of Chinese and Malay/Indonesian heritage) with design elements such as a collage of traditional Peranakan ceramic patterns and a pop-art installation of water jars in traditional Peranakan ceramic patterns in their rooms and enjoy free unlimited data and calls to local and select overseas destinations. Sights such as the Sultan Mosque and Malay Heritage Centre (see Attractions, Places of Worship, p48 and History & Heritage, p41 respectively) are nearby. Contact the hotel to enquire about group bookings.

Room rate: S$201–S$300
Number of rooms: 41
Lead-in room size: 20sqm
Chain/Group: InterContinental Hotels Group

Event spaces: 2 Meeting Rooms
Address: 56 East Coast Road Tel: +65 6723 7001 / +65 6723 7021 (Trade Contact: Shin Min Wong)
Website: hotelindigo.com/singapore Email: info.singapore@ihg.com / shinmin.wong@ihg.com (Trade Contact: Shin Min Wong)
Nearest MRT: Dakota Station

hôtel vagabond Singapore
The first hotel in Asia designed by world-renowned French designer Jacques Garcia is a work of art and has a residency programme for local and international artists. Housed in a 1950s Art Deco building, its 41 rooms are luxuriously appointed with 400-thread-count Egyptian cotton sheets. Turkish towels, goose down pillows and Italian marble in the bathrooms. Meetings can be held at the hotel’s access-only club lounge. Guests can use smartphones provided in their rooms and enjoy free unlimited data and calls to local and select overseas destinations. Sights such as the Sultan Mosque and Malay Heritage Centre (see Attractions, Places of Worship, p48 and History & Heritage, p41 respectively) are nearby. Contact the hotel to enquire about group bookings.

Room rate: S$201–S$300
Number of rooms: 41
Lead-in room size: 20sqm
Chain/Group: Starwood Hotels & Resorts

Event spaces:

- Vagabond Salon (up to 250 guests)

Address: 19 Syed Alwi Road Tel: +65 6291 6677 Website: hotelvagabondsingapore.com Email: info@hotelvagabondsingapore.com / ekuehn@hotelvagabondsingapore.com (Trade Contact: Elisabeth Kuehn)
Nearest MRT: Lalamour Station

Hotel YAN
Hotel YAN’s edictic lobby, inspired by the industrial establishments within the Jalan Besar neighbourhood, comes with washed concrete walls and offbeat furnishings such as bar stools created from bicycle wheels. On top of amenities such as rain showers, the ceilings of its 69 rooms are painted red, blue, yellow or green, providing a chic home-away-from-home for couples and solo travellers. For a treat, opt for the 28sqm YAN Suite that comes with a bathtub and seating area. The property is within walking distance of City Square Mall and Mustafa Centre. Guests can swim in the freeform pool, hit the gym, have meals at casual restaurant Chat & Chow and enjoy snacks at the pool bar. Each family room comfortably fits up to three adults and one child. While there is no designated business centre, the property has a fax machine, meeting rooms and safe deposit boxes, which are located in rooms and at the reception. The hotel is just 20 minutes by car from Singapore Changi Airport, and a free shuttle service takes guests to Ta Siang MRT station, next mall in Sarangpin and Orchard Road.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 69
Lead-in room size: 20sqm
Chain/Group: AccorHotels

Amenities: Services:

- WiFi
- Freeform pool
- Fitness centre
- Meeting rooms
- Spa
- Free shuttle service

Website: hotel-yan.com
Email: reservations@hotel-yan.com / info@hotel-yan.com
Tel: +65 6805 1955 / +65 9662 2606 (Trade Contact: Eileen Lim)
Fax: +65 6622 6024

Address: 39 Syed Alwi Road
Nearest MRT: Lavender Station (No group deals)

City Hall and Singapore’s financial district as its backdrop. Guests can swim in the freeform pool, hit the gym, and enjoy snacks at the pool bar. Each family room comfortably fits up to three adults and one child. While there is no designated business centre, the property has a fax machine, meeting rooms and safe deposit boxes, which are located in rooms and at the reception. The hotel is just 20 minutes by car from Singapore Changi Airport, and a free shuttle service takes guests to Ta Seng MRT station, next mall in Sarangpin and Orchard Road.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 200
Lead-in room size: 16sqm
Chain/Group: AccorHotels

Amenities: Services:

- WiFi
- Freeform pool
- Fitness centre
- Meeting rooms
- Spa
- Free shuttle service

Website: hotelvagabondsingapore.com
Email: ekuehn@hotelvagabondsingapore.com
Tel: +65 6291 6677
Fax: +65 6622 6000 / +65 6622 6024 (Trade Contact)

Address: 401 MacPherson Road, #01-16
Tel: +65 6622 6000 / +65 6622 6024 (Trade Contact)
Fax: +65 6805 1966
Website: hotel-yan.com
Email: reservations@hotel-yan.com / info@hotel-yan.com
Tel: +65 6805 1955 / +65 9662 2606 (Trade Contact: Eileen Lim)
Fax: +65 6622 6000 / +65 6622 6024 (Trade Contact)

Address: 162 Tyrwhitt Road
Tel: +65 6805 1955 / +65 9662 2606 (Trade Contact: Eileen Lim)
Fax: +65 6805 1966
Website: hotel-yan.com
Email: reservations@hotel-yan.com / info@hotel-yan.com
Tel: +65 6805 1955 / +65 9662 2606 (Trade Contact: Eileen Lim)
Fax: +65 6622 6000 / +65 6622 6024 (Trade Contact)

Address: 86 East Coast Road
Tel: +65 6737 9944 / +65 6801 6865 (Trade Contact: Steven Tang)
Fax: +65 6733 375
Website: grandcentral.com.sg
Email: accommodations@grandcentral.com.sg / steven.tang@greathotels.com.sg (Trade Contact: Steven Tang)

Nearest MRT: Dhoby Ghaut Station / Somerset Station

Hotel YAN
Hotel YAN’s edictic lobby, inspired by the industrial establishments within the Jalan Besar neighbourhood, comes with washed concrete walls and offbeat furnishings such as bar stools created from bicycle wheels. On top of amenities such as rain showers, the ceilings of its 69 rooms are painted red, blue, yellow or green, providing a chic home-away-from-home for couples and solo travellers. For a treat, opt for the 28sqm YAN Suite that comes with a bathtub and seating area. The property is within walking distance of City Square Mall and Mustafa Centre. Guests can swim in the freeform pool, hit the gym, have meals at casual restaurant Chat & Chow and enjoy snacks at the pool bar. Each family room comfortably fits up to three adults and one child. While there is no designated business centre, the property has a fax machine, meeting rooms and safe deposit boxes, which are located in rooms and at the reception. The hotel is just 20 minutes by car from Singapore Changi Airport, and a free shuttle service takes guests to Ta Siang MRT station, next mall in Sarangpin and Orchard Road.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 69
Lead-in room size: 20sqm
Chain/Group: Hotel Yan Pte Ltd

Amenities: Services:

- WiFi
- Freeform pool
- Fitness centre
- Meeting rooms
- Spa
- Free shuttle service

Website: hotel-yan.com
Email: reservations@hotel-yan.com / info@hotel-yan.com
Tel: +65 6805 1955 / +65 9662 2606 (Trade Contact: Eileen Lim)
Fax: +65 6622 6000 / +65 6622 6024 (Trade Contact)

Address: 39 Syed Alwi Road
Nearest MRT: Lavender Station / Farrer Park Station (No group deals)

Jayleen Clarke Quay Hotel
With the hotel’s location in the heart of Clarke Quay, guests will be close to trendy dining and nightlife establishments, as well as the Clarke Quay Central shopping centre. Basic comforts aside, Jayleen Clarke Quay’s standard, deluxe and family rooms come with an LED TV, rain shower and aromatherapy shower gels. With the hotel’s location in the heart of Clarke Quay, guests will be close to trendy dining and nightlife establishments, as well as the Clarke Quay Central shopping centre. Basic comforts aside, Jayleen Clarke Quay’s standard, deluxe and family rooms come with an LED TV, rain shower and aromatherapy shower gels. With the hotel’s location in the heart of Clarke Quay, guests will be close to trendy dining and nightlife establishments, as well as the Clarke Quay Central shopping centre. Basic comforts aside, Jayleen Clarke Quay’s standard, deluxe and family rooms come with an LED TV, rain shower and aromatherapy shower gels. With the hotel’s location in the heart of Clarke Quay, guests will be close to trendy dining and nightlife establishments, as well as the Clarke Quay Central shopping centre. Basic comforts aside, Jayleen Clarke Quay’s standard, deluxe and family rooms come with an LED TV, rain shower and aromatherapy shower gels.
Stay

A pick-up point for the Singapore Attractions Express Service is 150m away from the hotel, offering convenient access to key sights such as Singapore Zoo and Sentosa Island. This service is not provided by the hotel and is at visitors’ own cost. Travel trade receive 15% off Best Available Rates. If the hotel is fully booked, its sister hotel Jayleen 1918 (jayleen1918.com.sg) is just around the corner.

**Jayleen Hotels**

**JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach**

Close to the Central Business District and Marina Bay precinct, JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach has emerged as one of the city-state’s most iconic lifestyle destinations. Business and leisure travellers can relax in luxury in the hotel’s 634 sleek and stylish rooms adorned with artwork. There is a 24-hour fitness centre and an outdoor infinity pool, which has a commanding view of the city’s skyscrapers. Guests can also choose from a host of dining options within the hotel, including a restaurant by celebrity chef Akira Back, and Tonic, a cocktail bar specialising in gin-based cocktails.

More restaurants and eateries are a short walk away at Suntec City mall and Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay. Travel trade receive rates of S$500 nett on weekdays and S$470 nett on weekends, breakfast included.

**M Social Singapore**

The communal spaces at M Social Singapore allow guests to mingle. These include the property’s 33m infinity pool and the striking Beast & Butterflies restaurant (Asian and Western cuisine), which is furnished with chandeliers, lava lamps and video projections.

Big on comfort and customisation, the hotel offers room service provided by a robot named AURA, and guests will find a smartphone that comes with free data in every room. Local calls and calls to 15 other countries using the smartphone are also complimentary.

The hotel is located in Robertson Quay, where guests can rest, play, work and dine (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p94). A daily shuttle service takes guests to Paragon, a luxury mall along Orchard Road shopping belt, amongst other destinations. Flexible rates are available for bookings of 10 rooms or more.

**Mercure Singapore Bugis**

Stay in one of the chic, heritage-inspired rooms of Mercure Singapore Bugis and enjoy closer proximity to the city-state’s sights and sounds. The Bras Basah.Bugis precinct is home to a myriad of restaurants, cafes and local boutiques (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p75). Bugis MRT station, which offers easy access to the Central Business District, is just five minutes away on foot. Guests can also walk to landmarks like St Joseph’s Church (see Attractions, Places of Worship, p47), the Singapore Art Museum and Arab Street.

While the hotel does not have rooms specifically for families, its Loft room can comfortably accommodate two adults and a young child. Babysitting services are subject to availability, so visitors are encouraged to book in advance. Dining options within the hotel include Royale, a Western-style bistro that also has gluten-free and vegetarian menus. Group deals may be available upon request.

**AccorHotels**

**JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach**

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**Event spaces:**

- 20 Event Rooms
- Grand Ballroom
- 17 Meeting Rooms
- 2 Sky Gardens

**Address:** 80 Beach Road
Tel: +65 6818 1868 / +65 6818 1864
(Trade Contact: Audrey Seow)
Fax: +65 6822 2620
Website: jw.marriott.com
Email: jw.singw.contactus@marriott.com / jw.marriott.singapore.com
Nearst MRT: Esplanade Station

**M Social Singapore**

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**Event spaces:**

- 3 Meeting Rooms
- 20 Meeting Rooms

**Address:** 122 Middle Road
Tel: +65 6206 1888 / +65 8183 3473
(Trade Contact: Anne Chong)
Fax: +65 6521 6013
Website: msocial.com.sg
Email: reservations.mss@millenniumhotels.com / anne.chong@millenniumhotels.com
Nearst MRT: Clarke Quay Station

**Mercure Singapore Bugis**

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**Event spaces:**

- 2 Meeting Rooms

**Address:** 90 Robertson Quay
Tel: +65 6206 1888 / +65 8833 3473
(Trade Contact: Arvin Chong)
Website: msocial.com.sg
Email: reservations.mss@millenniumhotels.com / arvin.chong@millenniumhotels.com
Nearst MRT: Clarke Quay Station

**Mercure Singapore Bugis**

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**Event spaces:**

- 3 Meeting Rooms

**Address:** 322 Middle Road
Tel: +65 6521 6013
(Trade Contact: Seri Lee)
Fax: +65 6822 8901
Stay

Oasia Hotel Downtown

Located in the Central Business District, Oasia Hotel Downtown has a distinct red facade framed by a 30m-tall vertical garden. Natural elements such as copper and wood are featured in the open-air lobby, which is located on the 12th floor. Guests will also find an open lawn area that can be used for activities like yoga and meditation.

The property has two pools and club guests have exclusive access to a third – an infinity pool with views of the city. On the first floor, guests can refuel with gin-inspired cocktails at Cin Cin Bar and modern bistro fare at The Marmalade Pantry.

Every room comes with a smart TV and smartphone that provides 3G connectivity and free calls to selected destinations. The hotel is open to group enquiries.

Room rate: S$201–S$300
Number of rooms: 314

Lead-in room size: 23sqm
Chain/Group: Far East Hospitality Management

Amenities:  Services:

FREE

Event spaces:
2 Meeting Rooms
Skyline Pavilion

Address: 100 Peck Seah Street
Tel: +65 6812 6900 / +65 6830 6651
(Trade Contact: Candice Chua)
Website: stayfareast.com/oasiadowntown
Email: info.ohd@fareast.com.sg / candicechua@fareast.com.sg
(Trade Contact: Candice Chua)
Nearest MRT: Tanjong Pagar Station

Park Hotel Alexandra

Park Hotel Alexandra is a tranquil escape from urban living. Dine at The Carvery restaurant with a view of The Southern Ridges, or sip a drink at Aqua Luna, a swim-up poolside bar. Rooms are equipped with a smartphone, which contains a city guide and provides unlimited complimentary data and calls within Singapore and to 11 other countries. The hotel’s hourly shuttle service takes guests to HarbourFront MRT station, which is within walking distance of Sentosa Island. Other stops include Orchard Road and the Mapletree Business City District, making it an ideal choice for both business and leisure travellers. Group deals are available upon request.

Room rate: S$101–S$200
Number of rooms: 442
Lead-in room size: 24sqm
Chain/Group: Park Hotel Group

Amenities:  Services:

FREE

Event spaces:
4 Meeting Rooms

Address: 323 Alexandra Road
Tel: +65 6828 8888 / +65 9662 3399
(Trade Contact: Hawk Tan)
Fax: +65 6828 8899
Website: parkhotelgroup.com/alexandra
Email: info.phal@parkhotelgroup.com / hawk.tan@parkhotelgroup.com
(Trade Contact: Hawk Tan)
Nearest MRT: Queenstown Station
JAN
01

● New Year’s Day
New Year’s Day is a public holiday in Singapore. Most attractions, shopping malls, restaurants and bars are open on public holidays, but it’s advisable for visitors to check with smaller establishments on their opening hours. Many restaurants and bars also offer deals to celebrate the New Year.

Date: 1 Jan 2018

● Pongal Festival
Originating in South India to celebrate a good harvest, Pongal is about new beginnings, thanksgiving and paying respects to elders. In Singapore, Little India comes alive with cultural rituals, ethnic performances and a festive light-up, which coincides with Thaipusam (see below). Campbell Lane usually turns into a mini festival village, with street stalls selling everything from Indian outfits and jewellery to festival snacks.

Dates: TBC in Jan 2018
Venue: Little India
Website: littleindia.com.sg

JAN 17

● Singapore Art Week (SAW)
Singapore Art Week kick-starts the local arts calendar with a stellar line-up of 100 arts events happening around the island. These include art fairs, gallery and museum exhibitions, talks and public art festivals – such as ARTWALK Little India, where public installations are displayed in the Little India ethnic district. Anchored by Art Stage Singapore (see below), SAW attracts international art collectors and industry professionals, underlining Singapore’s reputation as a vibrant arts hub.

Dates: 17–28 Jan 2018
Venues: Islandwide
Cost: Varies depending on event
Website: www.artweek.sg
Email: artweek@nac.gov.sg

JAN 25

● Art Stage Singapore
Part of SAW (see above), Art Stage Singapore is the region’s leading contemporary art fair, which showcases contemporary art presented by over 100 exhibitors from more than 20 countries. Its SEA Forum’s lectures and panel discussions bring together speakers from the art community, including curators and critics.

Dates: 25–28 Jan 2018
Venue: 1 Bayfront Avenue, Sands Expo* and Convention Centre
Cost: TBC
To book: entertainment.marinabaysands.com; sistic.com.sg
Website: artstage.com
Email: info@artstagesingapore.com

JAN 31

● Thaipusam
For Hindus, Thaipusam is the culmination of a month spent in spiritual preparation involving abstinence. Visitors can witness the procession of devotees fulfilling their vows along a 4.5km route from Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple to Sri Thendayuthapani Temple. Many devotees carry a heavy kavadi – a semi-circular steel or wooden frame – on their shoulders, sometimes with spikes that pierce the body.

A WALK OF FAITH
It is believed that only when the mind is free of material wants and the body free from physical pleasures that a Thaipusam devotee can undertake the sacred task of bearing kavadi without experiencing any pain.

Date: 31 Jan 2018
Venues: Dhoby Ghaut, Serangoon Road, Tank Road
Cost: Free
Website: thaipusam.sg
**Chinese New Year (CNY)**

Chinese New Year is a great time to visit Chinatown (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p52) to admire the colourful decorations and check out the sheer variety of goods on display. When night falls, the streets come alive with the sounds of traditional Chinese music and street vendors hawking their wares, while the aroma from food stalls entices visitors and locals alike to sample delicious traditional delicacies. Part of Singapore’s CNY celebrations includes the River Hongbao and Chingay Parade (see below).

**Dates:** 16–17 Feb 2018  
**Venue:** Chinatown

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**River Hongbao**

This event is an eye-opener for visitors who wish to get a taste of Chinese culture and heritage. The big draw for families is the huge lanterns depicting Chinese mythical figures such as the God of Fortune and the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. Fireworks are also an integral part of the CNY celebrations (see above), and visitors can enjoy nightly firework displays. Artisans give demonstrations of Chinese calligraphy and traditional paper cutting, and stunning pyrotechnics and fireworks displays. The People’s Association – a local grassroots organisation – also brings the parade to some of Singapore’s heartland neighbourhoods (see Neighbourhoods, Heartlands, p67) on subsequent weekends after the main parade.

**Dates:** 16–20 Feb 2018  
**Venue:** Marina Bay

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**Chingay Parade**

The Chingay Parade usually signifies the end of the CNY celebrations (see above) in Singapore. The event brings together colourful floats and performances that celebrate the country’s diverse cultures – Chinese, Malay, Indian and Eurasian. Every year, Chingay promises exciting highlights, including water, fire, snow and lighting effects; ethnic performances by local talents and international acts; fabulous floats; and stunning pyrotechnics and fireworks displays. The People’s Association – a local grassroots organisation – also brings the parade to some of Singapore’s heartland neighbourhoods (see Neighbourhoods, Heartlands, p67) on subsequent weekends after the main parade.

**Dates:** 23–24 Feb 2018  
**Venue:** Marina Bay  
**Cost:** TBC  
**Website:** riverhongbao.sg  
**Email:** info@riverhongbao.sg

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**World Gourmet Summit (WGS)**

Visitors can look forward to exquisite gourmet experiences across a myriad of cuisines as Singapore’s most celebrated restaurants whip up special WGS menus. Visitors can also expect winetasting and themed dinners, talks and workshops by some of the top international and Singaporean chefs.

**Dates:** TBC in Mar 2018  
**Venue:** Various locations  
**Cost:** S$50–S$500++  
**Website:** worldgourmetsummit.com

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**I Light Marina Bay**

Asia’s only sustainable arts festival returns for a sixth edition. For a few weeks, Marina Bay’s public spaces are illuminated with innovative and sustainable light art installations designed by local and international artists. Festival-goers can also look forward to fringe events such as an outdoor trampoline park, giant ball pit, retail and F&B stalls, and live performances.

**Dates:** TBC in Mar 2018  
**Venue:** Marina Bay Waterfront  
**Cost:** Free admission  
**Website:** lightmarinabay.sg  
**Email:** light@marina-bay.sg

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**Singapore International Jazz Festival**

One of Southeast Asia’s most vibrant music festivals, the Singapore International Jazz Festival – better known as Sing Jazz – not only features the world’s top jazz artists, but also showcases acts from the soul, R&B, funk and pop genres. It is a free-seating / free-standing event.

**Dates:** TBC in Mar/Apr 2018  
**Venue:** 10 Bayfront Avenue, Marina Bay Sands®  
**Website:** jazfection.com (Trade Contact: David Smith)  
**Email:** info@sing-jazz.com / david.smith@sing-jazz.com

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**OSIM Sundown Marathon**

The Sundown Marathon injected a jolt of energy into Singapore’s running scene when it became the nation’s first night marathon in 2008, and the event hasn’t looked back since. From the Slim Fun Run (for kids, youth or adults) to the 10km Challenge (for individuals or teams of four), half-marathon and full marathon, there’s a distance for every race level.

**Dates:** TBC in Mar 2018  
**Venue:** 1 Republic Boulevard, F1 Pit Building  
**Website:** sundownmarathon.com/singapore  
**Email:** info@hivelocity.com.sg

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**HSBC Women’s Champions**

The 11th edition promises to be an exciting day on the green. The 2017 champion Inbee Park will defend her title against other golfing greats. Aside from some exciting golf, visitors can enjoy live music performances and other fringe events.

**Dates:** TBC in Mar 2018  
**Website:** hsbcgoof.com  
**Email:** tom.benbow@img.com

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**Good Friday**

For Christians, Good Friday commemorates the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. It is part of Holy Week, with believers spending the day in quiet contemplation and prayer, reflecting on the life of Jesus Christ. Devotees in Singapore usually attend afternoon service at church, participate in a candlelit procession and, as is tradition, kiss the feet of Christ on the cross. See Attractions, Places of Worship, p44 for more information on some of Singapore’s churches.

**Date:** 30 Mar 2018
The Singapore round will be held at the National Stadium. From tight scrums to exhilarating tries, rugby fans can witness the world’s top powerhouse teams battle it out for the title. The Singapore round will be held at the National Stadium.

**Events & Festivals**

**APR 28**

- **HSBC Singapore Rugby 7s**
  - From tight scrums to exhilarating tries, rugby fans can witness the world’s top powerhouse teams battle it out for the title. The Singapore round will be held at the National Stadium.
  - **Dates:** 28–29 Apr 2018
  - **Venue:** 1 Stadium Drive, National Stadium
  - **Cost:** TBC
  - **To book:** singapore7s.sg; Tel: +65 3158 7888
  - **Email:** sevens@singapore7s.sg

**MAY 01**

- **Labour Day**
  - Labour Day or May Day is marked to honour workers for their contribution to the country. In recent years, many activities on Labour Day have been planned for the enjoyment of workers and their families, such as the NTUC May Day Fiesta, which was held at Wild Wild Wet, xplorERkid and Orchid Bowl in 2017.
  - **Date:** 1 May 2018
  - **Venue:** Various locations
  - **Website:** www.singapore7s.sg
  - **Email:** esu@ntuc.org.sg

**MAY 29**

- **Vesak Day**
  - Buddhists all over the world commemorate the birth, enlightenment and death of Buddha on this day. In Singapore, Buddhists visit temples for ceremonies that include prayers and offerings of candles and flowers. Watching the ritual bathing of Buddha statues, listening to the teachings of the monks and sharing vegetarian meals are also part of the celebrations.
  - **Date:** 29 May 2018

**JUN 15**

- **Hari Raya Aidilfitri**
  - The period leading up to this day is a good time for visitors to experience Malay culture. A stretch of Gayang Serai (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p59) is filled with lights, and it comes alive with a huge pasar malam (night market) selling everything from traditional ethnic wear and home decor to a wide variety of snacks and drinks. Markets are also set up in Kampung Glam (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p60), and visitors can try delicacies such as putu piring (steamed rice cake served with coconut shavings) and ondeh-ondeh (rice cakes with palm sugar filling).
  - **Dates:** Mid-May to mid-Jun. Hari Raya Puasa falls on 15 Jun 2018
  - **Website:** greatsingaporefestival.com.sg

- **Did You Know?**
  - For Muslims, Hari Raya Aidilfitri or Hari Raya Puasa marks the end of Ramadan, a month of deep worship, dawn-to-dusk fasting, and doing charitable deeds and acts of compassion.

**JUL 29**

- **Singapore Food Festival**
  - The Singapore Food Festival is an annual celebration of Singapore’s rich culinary traditions. Proudly organised by the Singapore Tourism Board, the festival showcases the diverse flavours of the different cuisines in Singapore, as well as the amazing talents of its homegrown chefs.
  - **Dates:** TBC in Jul 2018
  - **Venue:** Various locations
  - **Website:** www.singaporefoodfestival.com.sg
  - **Email:** enquiries@singaporefoodfestival.com.sg

- **Dragon Boat Festival**
  - This popular and fun festival is associated with races involving long narrow wooden boats (decorated with dragons, which explains the name of the festival) and eating zongzi (sticky rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves). Visitors can catch teams from the Singapore Dragon Boat Association (sdba.org.sg) in action at the festival. In 2017, the 22-member crews displayed their rowing skills at Gardens by the Bay.
  - **Dates:** TBC in Jul 2018
  - **Venue:** TBC
  - **Cost:** Free

**SHOPPING-MAD NATION**

- **Great Singapore Sale (GSS)**
  - During the Great Singapore Sale, visitors can find great deals on clothing, electronics, jewellery and much more. Hotels, spas, restaurants and bars also offer special promotions during this annual shopping extravaganza.
  - **Dates:** Jun–Aug 2018
  - **Venue:** Islandwide
  - **Website:** greatsingaporefestival.com.sg

**JUN 09**

- **Ultra Singapore**
  - The world’s premier electronic music festival returns to Singapore in June. This all-encompassing, outdoor, three-stage musical extravaganza will bring in some of this year’s top music acts. Past performers include Nicky Romero, Steve Aoki, Pendulum and Tiesto.
  - **Dates:** TBC in Jun 2018
  - **Venue:** 1 Bayfront Avenue, Ultra Park
  - **Cost:** TBC
  - **To book:** Early registration for ticketing information and early bird prices available at ultrasingapore.com
  - **Email:** ticketing@UltraSingapore.com

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  - **Date:** 29 May 2018

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  - **Dates:** Mid-May to mid-Jun. Hari Raya Puasa falls on 15 Jun 2018
  - **Website:** greatsingaporefestival.com.sg

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  - For Muslims, Hari Raya Aidilfitri or Hari Raya Puasa marks the end of Ramadan, a month of deep worship, dawn-to-dusk fasting, and doing charitable deeds and acts of compassion.

**JUL 29**

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  - The Singapore Food Festival is an annual celebration of Singapore’s rich culinary traditions. Proudly organised by the Singapore Tourism Board, the festival showcases the diverse flavours of the different cuisines in Singapore, as well as the amazing talents of its homegrown chefs.
  - **Dates:** TBC in Jul 2018
  - **Venue:** Various locations
  - **Website:** www.singaporefoodfestival.com.sg
  - **Email:** enquiries@singaporefoodfestival.com.sg

- **Dragon Boat Festival**
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  - **Dates:** TBC in Jul 2018
  - **Venue:** TBC
  - **Cost:** Free
Events & Festivals

**AUG 01**

**Singapore International Festival of Arts**
Lovers of art – in all its glorious forms – will enjoy this festival. Locals and visitors are treated to a series of performances by international artists in dance, theatre and music. Shows are held at various venues, including the Malay Heritage Centre and National Gallery Singapore.

- **Dates**: 1 Aug–9 Sep 2017
- **Venue**: Various locations
- **Cost**: Varies depending on event. Look out for student and group booking discounts for 25 tickets or more.
- **To book**: sifa.com.sg; Tel: +65 6348 5555
- **Website**: sifa.sg
- **Email**: sifa@artshouse.sg

**AUG 09**

**National Day**
Singapore certainly knows how to host a birthday party – especially its own! Since Singapore gained its independence in 1965, The Float@ Marina Bay has played host to the National Day Parade (NDP) seven times. With the platform’s unobstructed view of the sky and water, visitors can expect the NDP to be a grand affair. Crowd favourites include the Red Lions skydivers and spectacular fireworks. Visitors can catch the festivities on television or watch the parade and fireworks at various locations such as Gardens by the Bay.

- **Date**: 9 Aug 2017

**AUG 18**

**Singapore Night Festival**
 Held over two weekends every August in the Bras Basah.Bugis heritage district (see Neighbourhoods: Lifestyle Pioneers, p70), the festival encourages travellers to visit many local arts institutions to view interactive light installations. Visitors can also enjoy street performances and live music acts.

- **Dates**: 18–26 Aug 2017
- **Venue**: Various locations
- **Cost/Fees**: Free
- **Website**: nightfestival.singapore.gov.sg
- **Email**: info@singaporegov.sg

**AUG 22**

**Hungry Ghost Festival**
During this festival, the gates of hell are believed to be open for spirits to roam the world of the living. The Chinese make offerings – from food to hell money and paper offerings symbolising possessions – that are believed to take care of the deceased’s material needs in their afterlives. Chinese operas and getai (loud and boisterous stage shows) are also performed during this period for both the living and dead.

- **Dates**: 22 Aug–19 Sep 2017

**SEP 01**

**Hari Raya Haji**
Also called the Festival of Sacrifice, Hari Raya Haji commemorates Ibrahim’s (Abraham) complete obedience and faith in God when he was asked to sacrifice his son, Ismail. On this day, Muslims all over the world attend sermons at mosques and offer prayers. To commemorate the sacrifice, Muslims observe the korban, or the ritual slaughter of lambs, goats and sheep. According to tradition, the meat is then distributed to the person who contributed the animal, his family and friends, with a third going to the poor and needy.

- **Date**: 1 Sep 2017

**SEP 09**

**Singapore Toy, Game & Comic Convention**
Featuring an eclectic mix of pop culture from the East and the West, this event celebrates toys, games, anime and collectibles. Highlights include exclusive pop culture releases and non-stop stage entertainment.

- **Dates**: 9–10 Sep 2017
- **Venue**: 1 Bayfront Avenue, Sands Expo® and Convention Centre
- **Cost**: From $59–$585
- **To book**: singaportgc.com
- **Website**: singaportgc.com
- **Email**: info@singaportgc.com

**SEP 15**

**2017 Formula 1 Singapore Airlines Singapore Grand Prix**
For one weekend, downtown Singapore is transformed into a magnificently illuminated racetrack. This year is the 10th Singapore night race, so expect it to be better than ever. Tourists and locals alike can enjoy exciting entertainment highlights not seen in the rest of the F1 calendar.

- **Dates**: 16–17 Sep 2017
- **Venue**: Marina Bay Street Circuit
- **Cost**: From $848. Three-day Bundle, Group Buys, Hospitality and Executive Packages are also available.
- **To book**: singaporegp.sg; sticket.com.sg; For group or corporate bookings above 12 tickets, contact corporatebookings@singaporegp.sg, Tel: +65 6731 4987
- **Website**: singaporegp.sg
- **Email**: info@singaporegp.sg

**SEP 21**

**The Great Food Festival**
RWS and Savour present a specially curated food fair, which brings Michelin-starred chefs, award-winning restaurants and hundreds of delectable dishes in one exclusive venue.

- **Dates**: 21–24 Sep 2017
- **Venue**: Resorts World™ Sentosa (RWS)
- **Cost**: Certain experiences require a ticket
- **To book**: rws.com.sg
- **Website**: rws.com.sg
- **Email**: info@rws.com.sg

**SEP 22**

**Singapore Coffee Festival**
This festival showcases specialty coffees and Singapore’s local kopitiam (coffee) and cafes. From 2016, the event had more than 100 exhibitors, and visitors – whether die-hard java junkies or casual latte sippers – will find something to enjoy.

- **Dates**: 3–6 Aug 2017 (3 Aug open to Trade & Media only)
- **Venue**: 61 Marina Coastal Drive, Marina Bay Cruise Centre Singapore
- **Cost**: $39 (three-day pass)
- **Website**: sgcoffeefestival.com.s gm
- **Email**: sgcoffeefestival@rph.com.sg

**SEP 25**

**Mid-Autumn Festival**
This festival centres around the worship of Chang’s, Chinese Goddess of the Moon. Moon-viewing parties are held, as the moon is at its fullest and brightest during this period. It is a good opportunity for visitors to immerse in the festive atmosphere. The streets of Chinatown, in particular, are decked out in colourful lanterns, and travellers can sample mooncakes – a delicacy of this festival – and fine teas at street-side stalls while watching nightly stage performances.

- **Dates**: Mid-Sep – 4 Oct 2017
- **Venue**: Islandwide

**SEP 27**

**Singapore Night Festival**
For one weekend, downtown Singapore is transformed into a magnificently illuminated racetrack. This year is the 10th Singapore night race, so expect it to be better than ever. Tourists and locals alike can enjoy exciting entertainment highlights not seen in the rest of the F1 calendar.

- **Dates**: 16–17 Sep 2017
- **Venue**: Marina Bay Street Circuit
- **Cost**: From $848. Three-day Bundle, Group Buys, Hospitality and Executive Packages are also available.
- **To book**: singaporegp.sg; sticket.com.sg; For group or corporate bookings above 12 tickets, contact corporatebookings@singaporegp.sg, Tel: +65 6731 4987
- **Website**: singaporegp.sg
- **Email**: info@singaporegp.sg
**OCT 18**  
**Deepavali**  
Also called Diwali or the Festival of Lights, Deepavali is celebrated by Hindus to mark the triumph of good over evil. In Singapore, the streets of Little India (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p64) become a colourful wonderland with the annual Deepavali Light-Up and bazaar. Visitors can shop for vibrant ethnic clothing, traditional sweets, delicacies and ornamental decorations.  
**Dates:** 18 Oct is the first day of Deepavali and a public holiday  
**Venue:** Little India

**OCT 08**  
**Theemithi**  
This Hindu festival involves devotees making a religious vow to walk on fire in exchange for a blessing. On the eve of the festival, devotees prepare a bed of embers that is kept hot during festival day, when those who have taken the vow perform the fire walk.  
**Date:** 8 Oct 2017  
**Venue:** 244 South Bridge Road, Sri Mariamman Temple  
**Cost:** Free  
**Website:** hub.org.sg  
**Email:** admin@hub.org.sg

**OCT 22**  
**BNP Paribas WTA (Women’s Tennis Association) Finals Singapore**  
The flagship season finale of the WTA features the world’s top eight singles players and doubles teams who compete for the most coveted titles in women’s tennis.  
**Dates:** 22-29 Oct 2017  
**Venue:** Singapore Sports Hub  
**Cost:** Single-session ticket from S$27. Discounts apply for all stadia and above  
**To book:** wtafinals.com  
**Email:** admin@wtafinals.com

**OCT 27**  
**Singapore Wine Fiesta**  
This is one of Singapore’s highly anticipated wine events of the year. Organised by The Straits Wine Company, Singapore’s largest outdoor wine fiesta includes four days of tastings, masterclasses, live performances and talks by international winemakers.  
**Dates:** 27-29 Oct 2017  
**Venue:** 60 Cullerley Quay, Clifford Square  
**Cost:** S$45  
**To book:** winefiesta.com.sg  
**Website:** winefiesta.com.sg  
**Email:** winefiesta@swc.com.sg

**NOV 17**  
**Singapore Golden Week**  
A week of shopping and lifestyle privileges await visitors during the second Singapore Golden Week. Organised by the Singapore Retailers Association, this event promises exciting retail offers, exquisite dining experiences and pampering deals by Singapore’s top retail and lifestyle brands.  
**Dates:** 29 Sep-15 Oct 2017  
**Venue:** Various locations TBC  
**Website:** singaporegoldenweek.com.sg

**NOV 19**  
**C3 AFA**  
Held over three days, C3 AFA – formerly Anime Festival Asia – is a showcase of all things anime and Japanese pop culture at their finest. Fans and visitors have been coming to Singapore to attend this festival since it was first held in 2008, and it has since expanded to Thailand and Indonesia, making it one of the biggest events of its kind in the region.  
**Dates:** 24-26 Nov 2017  
**Venue:** 1 Republic Boulevard, Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre  
**Cost:** TBC  
**Website:** animefestival.asia  
**Email:** afa@sozo.sg

**DEC 03**  
**Standard Chartered Marathon**  
First held in 2002, the Singapore edition of the Standard Chartered Marathon has now become one of the world’s most attended marathons. Held on the first Sunday of December, the marathon typically starts on Orchard Road and takes runners past many of Singapore’s famous landmarks such as Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay and Marina Bay Sands. The race has categories for different age groups and fitness levels.  
**Date:** 2 Dec 2017  
**Venue:** Various junctions around Orchard Road and Marina Bay  
**Cost:** From S$20–S$125; Ekiden participants (42.195km split among six runners): S$460; Standard Chartered cardholders receive a 10% discount during the entire registration period  
**To book:** marathonsingapore.com  
**Website:** marathonsingapore.com  
**Email:** info@marathonsingapore.com

**28**  
**DESTINATION SINGAPORE**  
*Events & Festivals*

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**29**  
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Events & Festivals

**Christmas on a Great Street**
Christmas in Singapore is an experience not to be missed. The Christmas season truly begins when Orchard Road, the country’s premier shopping and lifestyle destination, gets all decked out in intricate holiday displays for the yearly tradition of Christmas on a Great Street. For eight weeks, beginning mid-November until the first week of January, tourists and locals alike are mesmerised by an impressive 2.88km stretch (from Tanglin Mall to Plaza Singapura shopping mall) in full Christmas display. Visitors will have lots of fun snapping photos while marvelling at the festive lights, décor and glittering mall displays. Aside from the lovely decorations, visitors can look forward to nights of roving performances and enjoy exciting in-mall or in-store promotions.

**Dates**: Mid-Nov 2017 to early Jan 2018. Mon, 25 Dec is a public holiday
**Venue**: Orchard Road
**Website**: orchardroad.org/christmas

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**Marina Bay Singapore Countdown**
Visitors can welcome the new year in spectacular style during the country’s biggest year-end party. Aside from the fantastic eight-minute fireworks display, there will also be a laser and fire show set against the beautiful Marina Bay skyline at the stroke of midnight. Many hotels and restaurants in the vicinity organise New Year’s Eve parties, special menus and promotions. Alternatively, catch the fireworks for free at the Merlion Park or The Promontory@Marina Bay.

**Date**: 31 Dec 2017
**Venue**: Marina Bay Waterfront
**Cost**: Free, though normal cover charges apply at bars and clubs in the area
**Website**: marinabaycountdown.sg
**Email**: mbcountdown@marina-bay.sg

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**ZoukOut**
One of Southeast Asia’s biggest dusk-to-dawn dance music festivals, ZoukOut has been drawing crowds since its first edition in 2000. Every December, an exciting line-up of the world’s top DJs and musicians wow the crowd with awesome dance beats and hypnotic tunes. For party-going travellers, hotel and travel packages are available.

**Date**: 8–9 Dec 2017
**Venue**: Sentosa Island, Siloso Beach
**Cost**: From S$138. VIP packages are available.
**To book**: ticketing.zoukclub.com
**Website**: zoukout.com
**Email**: reservations@zoukclub.com
ATTRACTIONS
Visitors to Singapore will find world-class attractions to suit a variety of interests, whether they want to take in the stunning city skyline or discover off-the-beaten-track attractions. Budget travellers can find fabulous photo opportunities at picturesque places all around Singapore with no admission fees, while art lovers are spoilt for choice with many museums and galleries featuring local and international artists representing a wide range of genres and media. For history and culture buffs, there are buildings, places of worship and attractions that commemorate significant historical periods and milestones in Singapore's past, while celebrating the nation's rich multi-ethnic society. The country’s “City in a Garden” vision also means that there is an impressive network of gardens, parks and nature reserves for travellers to explore.

10 FREE ATTRACTIONS FOR GREAT PHOTOS

Vacations can be expensive. Luckily for visitors travelling to Singapore, popular spots that do not require entrance fees can be found across the island. Travellers can pack a camera or their smartphones when visiting these attractions as photo opportunities abound – and capture memories of their visit to the Lion City.

**Bukit Timah Nature Reserve**

Bukit Timah Nature Reserve (see Adventure & Nature, p49) is the second ASEAN Heritage Park here after Sungei Buloh Nature Reserve. One of the largest patches of primary forest in Singapore, it is home to 840 species of flowering plants and over 500 species of fauna, including thorny rattans, the Singapore freshwater crab and Sunda pangolin. The reserve is also where visitors can climb Singapore's tallest hill, which stands at 163m – and commemorate reaching its peak with a group shot by the summit stone.

Also not to be missed is the spectacular quarry views from the lookout point at the far end of the trail. The reserve's ASEAN Heritage Park status was conferred by Ministers of Environment of ASEAN member states, recognising its regional importance and conservational value.

**Location:** End of Hindhede Drive  
**Website:** nparks.gov.sg  
**Nearest MRT:** Beauty World Station

**East Coast Park**

Unparalleled sunrise and sunset views are good enough reasons to head to East Coast Park (see Adventure & Nature, p51) – a scenic beach park stretching over 15km from Marine Parade to Bedok in the southeastern part of Singapore. Bedok Jetty in Area F, which extends into the sea, is a good spot to capture spectacular sky and sea views. Visitors can also rent bicycles (try CycleMax, facebook.com/cyclemax.sg; opening hours: Mon–Sun, 24 hours) and ride on the cycling path along the picturesque coastline. The sandcastles at Area E, embellished with intricate staircases, bridges and fortifications, are Instagram-worthy.

**Location:** Along East Coast Parkway and East Coast Park Service Road  
**Website:** nparks.gov.sg  
**Nearest MRT:** Bedok Station
Gardens by the Bay

Gardens by the Bay (see Adventure & Nature, p56), a multi-award-winning horticultural destination comprising three waterfront gardens – Bay South Garden, Bay East Garden and Bay Central Garden – offers visitors breathtaking views of the Marina Bay skyline. The Bay South Garden’s iconic Supertrees, measuring up to 50m tall, sparkle with colourful solar-powered lights at night, providing a stunning photo backdrop. There are also two cooled conservatories – the Flower Dome and the Cloud Forest – situated along the edge of Marina Reservoir. The Bay East Garden offers unobstructed views of the city while the For East Organization Children’s Garden is the perfect setting for families to capture memorable moments in this Garden City. Admission to the Bay South Garden, Bay East Garden and Children’s Garden is free.

Location: 18 Marina Gardens Drive
Website: gardensbythebay.com.sg
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

Katong heritage shophouses

Panamakans are the locally born descendants of Chinese and Indian immigrants who married indigenous people from the Malay Archipelago in the 15th century, and their legacy is best witnessed in the Katong/Joo Chiat heritage precinct (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p6). Katong’s pre-war architecture – including heritage terrace houses and shophouses with intricate motifs, ceramic tiles, ornate façades and wooden shutters – provides visitors with plenty of Instagram-worthy photo opportunities. Such heritage gems and historical buildings, which can be found at almost every turn in the area, make Katong and Joo Chiat an ideal place for visitors to explore on foot.

Location: East Coast Road, Koon Seng Road, Joo Chiat Road
Nearest MRT: Dakota Station / Eunos Station

Marina Bay skyline

Marina Bay (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p27) offers some of the best panoramic views of the city skyline in Singapore – the 3.5km-long Waterfront Promenade that encircles the Marina Bay area is a good spot to capture a sweeping shot. Great photo spots along the boardwalk include the Helix Bridge, which is lit by thousands of LED lights at night, and the letter-shaped ArtScience Museum™ (see Arts & Design, p54). The Merlion Park, just a short walk away at One Fullerton (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p53), offers opportunities for creative photography. A popular pose with visitors is to pretend to hold the Merlion with their thumb and index finger. Travellers can also head to the nearby Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, affectionately known as “The Durian” for its spiky roofs, as it offers a unique photo backdrop.

Location: Bayfront Avenue (Marina Bay area) / 1 Fullerton Road (Merlion Park) / 1 Esplanade Drive (Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay)
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station / Raffles Place Station

Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve

The Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (see Adventure & Nature, p56), Singapore’s first ASEAN Heritage Park, is a sanctuary for mangroves, mudflats and wildlife. Travellers who venture out to the coastal boardwalk are in for a panoramic treat. Young children can stop for pictures at the Kranji Marshes, visitors can head to the top of Raptor Tower and Swamphen Hide (located just behind Raptor Tower) for scenic shots of the marshes and green, lush meadows. Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve manages the number of visitors to minimise disturbances to the natural environment. If the group size is 120 pax or more, please call +65 6794 1401 or email nparks_shrm@nparks.gov.sg in advance.

Location: 301 Neo Tiew Crescent
Website: nparks.gov.sg
Nearest MRT: Kranji Station

Raffles Place

Visitors looking to photograph a historical Singapore icon should head to the Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall, where a dark bronze statue of Sir Stamford Raffles – the founder of modern Singapore – stands guard. A white replica of the statue is located just a short walk away at the Raffles Landing Site, which marks where the British official first set foot on the island in 1819.

Location: 9 Empress Place (Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall) / 59 Boat Quay (Raffles Landing Site)
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station / Raffles Place Station

Sengkang

Suni Bubbles Wetland Reserve and Kranji Marshes

The Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (see Adventure & Nature, p56), Singapore’s first ASEAN Heritage Park, is a sanctuary for mangroves, mudflats and wildlife. Travellers who venture out to the coastal boardwalk are in for a panoramic treat. Young children can stop for pictures at the Kranji Marshes, visitors can head to the top of Raptor Tower and Swamphen Hide (located just behind Raptor Tower) for scenic shots of the marshes and green, lush meadows. Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve manages the number of visitors to minimise disturbances to the natural environment. If the group size is 120 pax or more, please call +65 6794 1401 or email nparks_shrm@nparks.gov.sg in advance.

Location: 301 Neo Tiew Crescent
Website: nparks.gov.sg
Nearest MRT: Kranji Station
Singapore was named a UNESCO Creative City of Design in 2015, joining cities such as Berlin, Helsinki and Seoul. This is no surprise for a country brimming with talented designers and artists, as well as galleries and museums that cater to diverse interests and backgrounds. At these creative spaces, visitors can take their time to contemplate and appreciate a variety of local, regional and international artworks.

**Arts & Design**

ArtScience Museum™

Since its opening in 2011, the ArtScience Museum™ – with its eye-catching lotus-shaped structure, designed by world-renowned architect Moshe Safdie, has been called the “welcoming hand of Singapore” as its design comprises 10 “fingers” – the tallest is 165m tall – each representing a different culture that contributes to Singapore’s heritage. The neoclassical building has over 2,800sqm of gallery space, a museum shop and dining options.

**Asian Civilisations Museum**

The Asian Civilisations Museum, located in the historic Empress Place building close to Boat Quay (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p77), the iconic island’s colonial past. It was built in 1936 for the British 1st Battalion and was named after General Sir Webb Gillman. During World War II, it was one of the final battle sites before Singapore fell into the hands of the Japanese troops. After the country’s independence in 1965, the site became prime training ground for Singapore national servicemen.

**Goodman Arts Centre**

Established in 2011, Goodman Arts Centre, located in the culturally rich Mountbatten district in the east, is a hub for theatre, dance, literary and visual arts. This estate is set within old school buildings and houses 46 arts and creative groups. It has 35 shared facilities, such as a music studio and an amphitheatre, which are available for rent to the arts community. It regularly hosts exhibitions, performances and workshops, where visitors can learn different skills such as perfume-making and batik wax technique, or Mandarin speech and drama for children. Participants must register for workshops and charges apply. Visitors can enjoy a meal at casual dining restaurant Café Melba (cafemelba.com.sg) or have Tuscan dishes at La Barca Ristorante & Wine Bar (labarca-sg.com), both of which are set amidst lush greenery.

**Asian Civilisations Museum**

Exhibition at Asian Civilisations Museum

**Gillman Barracks**

The history of Gillman Barracks (see Shopping, Art Galleries, p17) is tied to the island’s colonial past. It was built in 1936 for the British 1st Battalion and was named after General Sir Webb Gillman. During World War II, it was one of the final battle sites before Singapore fell into the hands of the Japanese troops. After the country’s independence in 1965, the site became prime training ground for Singapore national servicemen.

Only in 2012 was the area transformed into an enclave of contemporary art. Visitors will find 12 international galleries and special exhibitions showcase relics from museums and institutions across the globe. Travel trade receives 50% off entrance fees, except for some special exhibitions. Guided tours are available in English, French, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin and Spanish.

**MINT Museum of Toys**

Located in the Bras Basah Bugis district (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p74), the MINT (Moment of Imagination and Nostalgia with Toys) Museum of Toys is the world’s first museum dedicated to toys and has Asia’s largest collection of over 65,000 pieces of vintage playthings and items, originating from more than 40 countries. Its key collections include Batman, Dan Dare and Japanese character toys. Walking through four themed floors – namely Outspenders, Characters, Childhood Favourites and Collectabiles – visitors will be fascinated by confectionary tin cans, enamel advertising signs, the largest teddy bear collection in Southeast Asia and the only existing Phoebe${}^{90}$Me record signed by all members of The Beatles.

It has a 1920s-inspired restaurant in the basement, and its rooftop bar offers views of iconic buildings such as Raffles Hotel and the National Library. A free guided tour for a minimum of four people is held every Wednesday at 3:30pm. Requests for guided tours for more than eight people should be sent to the museum at least two days in advance. Special rates for travel agents and groups are available upon request.
National Gallery Singapore
Spanning 64,000sqm, National Gallery Singapore in the heart of the Civic District is a state-of-the-art facility with an impressive collection of local and Southeast Asian artists. Two national monuments – the City Hall and former Supreme Court – were remodelled to create this stunning gallery.

The biggest visual arts venue in Singapore housing the world’s largest public collection of modern Southeast Asian art from the 19th century to the present. Visitors can see works by Singaporean artists such as Geoffrey Chan, known as one of the pioneers of the Nanyang school of painting, and Cheong Soo Pieng, whose best-known piece, Drying Salted Fish appears on the back of S$50 bills. Its esteemed Southeast Asian catalogue carries names such as Asian catalogue carries names such as

 decades later, the redevelopment of this neoclassical structure incorporated a modern glass and metal extension, thus expanding the area to 18,400sqm. Visitors can immerse themselves in exhibitions that detail national history and culture. A great starting point is the Singapore History Gallery, which maps the country’s growth from 700 years ago to the modern city-state it is today. We Built A Nation, also a permanent exhibition, contains more than 12,000 stamps and objects related to the country’s postal system. With beginnings dating back to the 1830s, the collection here was acquired in Singapore and overseas. Look out for the world’s first stamp and the museum’s crown jewel – the only complete set of 1854 Indian stamps, which were used in the Straits Settlements. Visitors can buy stamps or get personalised ones made and drop their letters as well – Singapore’s only operating colonial postbox is found outside the museum. Groups receive a 15% discount for purchases of at least 16 tickets, or 20% discount for 100 tickets or more. Guided group tours are available at extra cost.

Address: 23-B Coleman Street
Tel: +65 6337 3888 / +65 6013 7347
(Trade Contact: Lily Samuel)
Fax: +65 6337 8958
Website: spm.org.sg
Email: Lily_Samuel@nhb.gov.sg (Trade Contact: Lily Samuel)
Cost: Adult $56, Senior Citizen $53; Free admission for children; Free entry on Fri, from 6pm-9pm
Opening Hours: Sat-Thu, 10am–7pm; Fri, 10am–9pm
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station

National Museum of Singapore
Fully constructed in 1817 and located within the Bras Basah Bugis cultural precinct (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p57), the National Museum is the country’s oldest museum. Decades later, the redevelopment of this neoclassical structure incorporated a modern glass and metal extension, thus expanding the area to 18,400sqm. Visitors can immerse themselves in exhibitions that detail national history and culture. A great starting point is the Singapore History Gallery, which maps the country’s growth from 700 years ago to the modern city-state it is today. We Built A Nation, also a permanent exhibition, contains more than 12,000 never-before-seen artefacts that chronicle Singapore’s first 10 years after its independence. The museum also hosts performances, film screenings and events such as the annual Singapore Night Festival (see Events & Festivals, p26).

Complimentary guided tours are held daily. Groups of eight or more have to give the museum a month’s notice.

Address: 93 Stamford Road
Tel: +65 6332 3659 / +65 6332 5642
Website: nationalmuseum.sg
Email: nhbэм_hospitality@nhb.gov.sg
Cost: Adult $55, Senior Citizen $30; Free admission for children
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 10am–7pm
Nearest MRT: Bras Basah Station / Dhoby Ghaut Station

Red Dot Design Museum
Formerly located in the Red Dot Traffic Building (now known as the Maxwell Chamber Suites), the museum closed temporarily in April 2017 to make way for Singapore’s Ministry of Law to redevelop the site. Since 2005, the Red Dot Design Museum has displayed outstanding designs, such as winners of the Red Dot Award (product design category), including a prototype of Google’s self-driving car. The museum also organises a Market of Artists and Designers (MAAD) for aspiring artists to sell items such as stationary, handicrafts and accessories (see Shopping, Flea Markets & Weekend Bazaars, p138).

Visitors can look forward to new displays and programmes when the museum relaunches in the last quarter of 2017 at Marina Bay City Gallery along the Marina Bay Waterfront Promenade, and are advised to check its website for the latest updates. For other design-centric creations, visitors can explore the National Design Centre (designsingapore.org) and the Marina Bay Sands (designsingapore.org/national-design-centre), which showcases exhibitions such as Fifty Years of Singapore Design.

Address: 11 Marina Boulevard
Website: museum.red-dot.sg
Email: museum.red-dot.sg
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station / Downtown Station

Singapore Art Museum and SAM at 8Q
Housed in a national monument that was once St Joseph’s Institution, a boys’ mission school, the Singapore Art Museum (SAM) specialises in contemporary art from Singapore and Southeast Asia. Since its opening in 1996, it has showcased a variety of paintings, sculptures and art installations by local and international artists.

SAM’s main building is temporarily closed to the public for renovation works, but regular programming continues at SAM at 8Q, a wing of the museum located across the road. Besides exhibitions, storytelling sessions and arts workshops, SAM at 8Q plays host to film screenings at its Moving Image Gallery, as well as activities for the Singapore Night Festival (see Events & Festivals, p26). Guided tours for up to 20 participants are conducted in English, Japanese and Mandarin, with other languages available upon request. A 20% discount on adult admission is extended to groups of 20 pax or more. Group deals available upon request.

Address: 71 Bras Basah Road (SAM) / 8 Queen Street (SAM at 8Q)
Tel: +65 6589 9550
Website: sam.org.sg
Email: enquiries@singaporeartmuseum.sg
Cost: Adult $8, Child $6, Senior Citizen $6
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 10am–7pm; Fri, 10am–9pm
Nearest MRT: Bras Basah Station / Dhoby Ghaut Station

At the Singapore Philatelic Museum, which is housed in a century-old colonial building in the Civic District, visitors will find an enchanting collection of more than 12,000 stamps and objects related to the country’s postal system. With beginnings dating back to the 1830s, the collection here was acquired in Singapore and overseas. Look out for the world’s first stamp and the museum’s crown jewel – the only complete set of 1854 Indian stamps, which were used in the Straits Settlements. Visitors can buy stamps or get personalised ones made and drop their letters as well – Singapore’s only operating colonial postbox is found outside the museum. Groups receive a 15% discount for purchases of at least 16 tickets, or 20% discount for 100 tickets or more. Guided group tours are available at extra cost.

Address: 71 Bras Basah Road (SAM) / 8 Queen Street (SAM at 8Q)
Tel: +65 6589 9550
Website: sam.org.sg
Email: enquiries@singaporeartmuseum.sg
Cost: Adult $8, Child $6, Senior Citizen $6
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 10am–7pm; Fri, 10am–9pm
Nearest MRT: Bras Basah Station / Dhoby Ghaut Station

Attracting millions of visitors every year, the National Gallery Singapore is the largest visual arts venue in Asia. Its esteemed Southeast Asian catalogue carries names such as

 Address: 1 St Andrew’s Road
Tel: +65 6271 7000 / +65 6697 9445
(Trade Contact: Kelvin Ng)
Website: nationalgallery.sg
Email: kelvin.ng@nationalgallery.sg
(Trade Contact: Kelvin Ng)
Cost: Adult $20, Child $15, Senior Citizen $15
Opening Hours: Sun–Thu, Public Holidays, 10am–7pm; Fri–Sat, Eve of Public Holidays, 10am–10pm
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station

Red Dot Design Museum will reopen at Marina Bay City Gallery in the last quarter of 2017.

National Design Centre
Housed in a national monument that was once St Joseph’s Institution, a boys’ mission school, the Singapore Art Museum (SAM) specialises in contemporary art from Singapore and Southeast Asia. Since its opening in 1996, it has showcased a variety of paintings, sculptures and art installations by local and international artists. SAM’s main building is temporarily closed to the public for renovation works, but regular programming continues at SAM at 8Q, a wing of the museum located across the road. Besides exhibitions, storytelling sessions and arts workshops, SAM at 8Q plays host to film screenings at its Moving Image Gallery, as well as activities for the Singapore Night Festival (see Events & Festivals, p26). Guided tours for up to 20 participants are conducted in English, Japanese and Mandarin, with other languages available upon request. A 20% discount on adult admission is extended to groups of 20 pax or more. Group deals available upon request.

Address: 71 Bras Basah Road (SAM) / 8 Queen Street (SAM at 8Q)
Tel: +65 6589 9550
Website: sam.org.sg
Email: enquiries@singaporeartmuseum.sg
Cost: Adult $8, Child $6, Senior Citizen $6
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 10am–7pm; Fri, 10am–9pm
Nearest MRT: Bras Basah Station / Dhoby Ghaut Station

Art Playscape at National Museum of Singapore
Attractions

### HISTORY & HERITAGE

**Singapore**

Singapore is a country with a rich history – and it has the attractions to prove it. From heritage centres that celebrate Singapore’s multi-ethnic culture, to Reflections at Bukit Chandu, which relives one of the fiercest battles fought in Singapore during World War II, visitors will find that there is more to this city-state than its skyscrapers, shopping malls and restaurants.

**Battlebox**

Located inside Fort Canning Hill, the Battlebox was once a top-secret bunker that was built to be bombproof and self-sufficient. Construction was completed between 1936 and 1941. During World War II, it served as an underground command centre for British-led troops in Singapore. It was also inside the Battlebox that the British made the momentous decision on 15 February 1942 to surrender Singapore to the Japanese forces.

Visitors can join The Battlebox Tour, which is held three to five times a day. Guides will take participants through the bunker’s historical functions and the events that led to the fall of Malaya and Singapore to the Japanese. Group deals are available.

**Chinatown Heritage Centre**

Chinatown Heritage Centre is where visitors can trace the footsteps of Singapore’s early pioneers and discover the personal stories of people who made Chinatown their home. Housed in three adjacent restored shophouses along Pagoda Street, the Chinatown Heritage Centre is a museum that offers insights into the lives of early migrants from China, who left their villages and travelled to Singapore in hopes of a better life. Visitors can step into the shoes of these pioneers who settled in the Chinatown district (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p57) and experience how they lived by exploring the authentic recreations of the cramped “eight by eight” living quarters and a tailor shop that once existed in the area. Guided tours are conducted three times a day. Email to enquire about group deals.

**Chinese Heritage Centre**

Located within Nanyang Technological University (NTU), the Chinese Heritage Centre studies Chinese communities around the world and explores questions about ethnic identity. This is the only university research centre outside China specialising in this discipline. The building blends elements of traditional Chinese architecture with modern design and was gazetted as a national monument in 1993.

One of the centre’s highlights is the permanent exhibition titled, Chinese More or Less: An Exhibition on Overseas Chinese Identity, which encourages reflection on what being Chinese means. The centre also houses the Wang Gunghwa Library and a museum shop where visitors can purchase books on Chinese culture and heritage. Guided group tours (max 20 pax) led by NTU students are available for a fee upon prior booking.

**Civilian War Memorial**

Located at the War Memorial Park along Beach Road, the Civilian War Memorial commemorates civilian victims of the Japanese Occupation in Singapore from 1942 to 1945. It was unveiled by Singapore’s first prime minister, the late Lee Kuan Yew, on 15 February 1967, exactly 25 years after Singapore fell to Japanese forces. The memorial is built over a burial chamber that contains exhumed remains of civilian war victims.

Today, the memorial is an important landmark in Singapore’s Civic District and walking tours often make a stop here. Locals and visitors alike enjoy taking photos in this beautifully landscaped park, which also offers a quiet spot for reflection amidst the city’s hustle and bustle. Memorial services are held here on 15 February every year to remember the victims of the war. Admission is free.

**Haw Par Villa**

Built in 1937 by the brothers who made Tiger Balm famous, Haw Par Villa is the only Chinese mythological theme park in the world. On display are more than 1,000 colourful statues and tableaux that include animals, massive deity heads and scenes from Chinese legends like Journey to the West and Madame White Snake. Haw Par Villa is also famous for its gruesome depictions of Chinese folklore’s 10 Courts of Hell. The historical park has been recently refurbished with upcoming plans for a new museum, food outlets, retail shops and events. Admission to the park is free, but paid guided tours are available every Friday (cost: Adult $38, Child $18).

**Images of Singapore LIVE**

Images of Singapore LIVE employs actors and special effects to construct a narrative of Singapore’s history from 1819 to the present day. During the 45-minute character-guided tour, visitors can interact with the guide and gain insights into Singapore’s history through 15 interactive areas. The tour ends with the Spirit of Singapore Boat Ride, during which iconic landmarks and the founder of modern Singapore, Sir Stamford Raffles, make an appearance. Photography is not allowed. Tickets include admission to Madame Tussauds Singapore, which houses 60 life-sized wax figures, including Singapore’s first prime minister, the late Lee Kuan Yew, who is depicted with his
Indian Heritage Centre

The four-storey Indian Heritage Centre fuses traditional and modern architectural elements. Inspired by stepwells in India, the unique glass facade is a large mirror by day and turns transparent at night to reveal a “glowing lantern” of the facade’s colourful mural. The centre, which has five permanent galleries, showcases Indian culture and history. Through the displays and the help of audio guides and augmented reality technology, visitors will discover connections between South Asia and Southeast Asia, and gain a better understanding of the Indian community in Singapore.

Free guided tours (min 15 pax) are available in English, Tamil and Mandarin on selected days. Prior booking of at least four weeks is required for tour groups larger than 15 pax. A 20% discount on adult admission is extended to groups of 20 pax or more.

Address: 35 Orchard Road, Istana Park
Website: istana.gov.sg/the-istana/istana-heritage-galleries/visitors-information
Email: gallery_enquiry@istana.gov.sg
Opening Hours: Thu-Tue, 10am-6pm
Nearst MRT: Dhoby Ghaut Station

Istana Heritage Gallery

The Istana Heritage Gallery offers visitors the opportunity to learn about the history of The Istana, the official residence of Singapore’s president, and the role of the president. It was officially opened in October 2016 by President Tony Tan, and its curated collection includes artefacts, artwork and state gifts, as well as a replica of a signing-in table used during state visits by foreign leaders. Also on display is a marble bust of Singapore’s late first president, Yusof Ishak, whose portrait is featured on the country’s currency notes.

The gallery is located in Istana Park, which is across the road from The Istana, and has a maximum capacity of 45 pax. Admission is free, but an advance notice of two weeks is required for group visits.

Address: 35 Orchard Road, Istana Park
Website: istana.gov.sg/the-istana/istana-heritage-galleries/visitors-information
Email: gallery_enquiry@istana.gov.sg
Opening Hours: Thu-Tue, 10am-6pm
Nearst MRT: Dhoby Ghaut Station

Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum

Opened in 2015, the public gallery at the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum is divided into 16 themed zones, with interactive displays and exhibits of mammal, amphibian and plant specimens spread over two floors. The star exhibit, found on the main floor, is the trio of real and near-complete skeletons of giant sauropod dinosaurs, nicknamed Prince, Apollonia and Twinky. Visitors can also learn about the efforts made by Singapore to preserve its natural environment and view specimens that date as far back as 1849.

There is no fee to access the outdoor gardens surrounding the museum, which include the Phylodendron Garden featuring a variety of native plants. For the museum, visitors must choose a preferred admission time when purchasing tickets. Group discounts are available.

Address: 2 Conservatory Drive, National University of Singapore
Tel: +65 6622 3333
Fax: +65 6774 8031
Website: nhuspace.nus.edu.sg
Email: nhmvisit@nus.edu.sg
Cost: Adult $22, Child $13, Senior Citizen $13
Opening Hours: Tue-Sun, Public Holidays, 10am-7pm; Closed on Mon
Nearst MRT: Clementi Station

Malay Heritage Centre

Visitors to the Malay Heritage Centre can find out what the Kampung Glam district (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p60) was like before the British arrived in Singapore in 1819. Visitors will also learn about the rich heritage and culture of Singapore's Malay community through artefacts and interactive displays. The centre occupies the grounds of the original Istana Kampung Glam - “Istana” is Malay for “palace” – which was built in 1819 by Sultan Hussein Mohamed Shah (the then Sultan of Johor), and home to Malay royalty for more than 50 years. The centre organises a variety of programmes such as curators’ workshops for children and public lectures throughout the year. Free guided tours of the centre’s museum are offered in English, and Mandarin on selected days. Purchase 20 or more adult tickets to receive 20% off the admission fee.

Address: 85 Sultan Gate
Tel: +65 6391 0450
Fax: +65 6299 4316
Website: babahouse@nus.edu.sg
Email: babahouse@nus.edu.sg
Cost: Adult $6.30, Senior Citizen $4.80
Opening Hours: Mon-Wed, Sat-Sun, 10am-5pm; Tue, 2pm-3pm; 6.30pm-7.30pm; Thu, 10am-11am; Sat, 11am-12pm; Closed on Wed, Fri, Sun & Public Holidays
Nearst MRT: Outram Park Station

Ngee Ann Cultural Centre

Set up in 2003, the Ngee Ann Cultural Centre contains the Ngee Ann Kongsi Heritage Hall and Collections Gallery. The former commemorates the entrepreneurial spirit of pioneers from the Ngee Ann Kongsi, a Teochew charitable welfare organisation founded in 1845. Its displays of archives and artefacts, such as a section on the books from the 1920s, elaborate on the Kongsi’s history and its contributions to the development of Singapore. The Collections Gallery exhibits artworks acquired and supported by the charity. Exhibitions and cultural events featuring local artists are held several times a year. Admission is free. Guided tours of the Heritage Hall are also free, but need to be booked one to two weeks in advance.

Address: 97 Tank Road, Teochew Building
Tel: +65 7680 8055
Fax: +65 6733 3165
Email: nacc@ngeeann.com.sg
Cost: Adult $6, Senior Citizen $5, Student $4.50
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 10am-5pm; (Compounded) Mon-Sun, 10am-6pm; Thu-Sun, 10am-11am; Tue-Sat, 11am-12pm; Closed on Wed, Fri, Sun & Public Holidays
Nearst MRT: Outram Park Station

Peranakan Museum

The Peranakan Museum has 10 permanent galleries spread over three floors and houses the world’s most comprehensive collection of Peranakan artefacts, such as jewellery, textiles and furniture. The museum also reveals the rich heritage practices and traditions of the Peranakan community. Special exhibitions highlighting various aspects of Peranakan culture are held periodically. The museum building was constructed in 1912 and previously housed Tao Nan School, one of the region’s first modern Hokkien (Chinese dialect group) schools set up in the Straits Settlements. Free one-hour guided tours of the permanent galleries are held in English, Mandarin, Japanese and French on selected days. Private tours can be arranged at a fee. Groups larger than 20 pax must book in advance. They also enjoy discounted admission fees (Adult $8, Senior Citizen & Student $4.80).

Address: 85 Sultan Gate
Tel: +65 6391 0450
Fax: +65 6299 4316
Website: malayheritage.org.sg
Email: nhm_museum@nus.edu.sg
Cost: Adult $6, Senior Citizen $5
Opening Hours: Mon-Wed, Sat-Sun, 10am-5pm; Thu, 2pm-3pm; Fri, 10am-11am; Sat, 11am-12pm; Closed on Wed, Fri, Sun & Public Holidays
Nearst MRT: Outram Park Station

Images of Singapore live exhibit of children playing the traditional game of chapteh, which involves keeping a feathery shuttlecock in the air for as long as possible by kicking it with your instep.
Three. From here, it is less than a five-minute walk to the Army Museum of Singapore (minddef.gov.sg/armymuseum), where visitors can learn about the history of the Singapore Army.

**Address:** 5D Upper Jurong Road
**Tel:** +65 6792 6188 / +65 6668 0345
**Trade Contact:** Koh Tee Kai

**Opening Hours:** Tue-Sun, Public Holidays, 9am-6pm; Closed on Mon
**Nearest MRT:** Joo Koon Station
**Cost:** Adult S$5, Child S$3, Senior Citizen S$3
**Free admission for children under six**

**Charges apply for special exhibitions; enquire for other promotions.**

**Address:** 39 Armenian Street
**Tel:** +65 6557 2590
**Email:** info@sdc.com.sg
**Website:** thefullertonheritage.com
**Fax:** +65 6256 7377

**Opening Hours:** Varies by establishment, see website for more details
**Nearest MRT:** Raffles Place Station
**Cost:** Free admission, but private guided tours can also be arranged for a fee.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Before a modern road system was established in Singapore, people used stove markers that were placed a mile (about 1 km) apart to find their way around the island. All roads led to The Fullerton Building (now The Fullerton Hotel), the designated “Mile Zero.”

**The Fullerton Heritage District**

Located along the Marina Bay waterfront, the Fullerton Heritage District (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p33) comprises The Fullerton Hotel Singapore and The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore, as well as lifestyle and dining destinations The Fullerton Waterboat House, One Fullerton, The Fullerton Pavilion, The Clifford Pier and Customs House. On the lobby level of the Fullerton Hotel is The Fullerton Heritage Gallery, which displays decades-old photographs, maps, stamps and philatelic materials that showcase the precinct’s rich history. The precinct is within walking distance of Merlion Park (see 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32) and is also a popular spot to watch the Marina Bay fireworks display on occasions like National Day and New Year’s Eve.

**Address:** 1 Fullerton Road
**Tel:** +65 6557 2590
**Email:** thefullertonheritage.com
**Fax:** +65 6256 7377
**Website:** thefullertonheritage.com

**Nearest MRT:** Raffles Place Station  
**Cost:** Free admission, but private guided tours can also be arranged for a fee.

**The Fullerton Heritage Singapore**

The Sun Yet Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall is dedicated to Dr Sun Yet Sen, who headed the 1911 Chinese Revolution, and Mandarin are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Discounted family package of five tickets is also available.

**Address:** 1 Tai Gin Road
**Tel:** +65 6256 7377
**Fax:** +65 6256 7677
**Website:** sunyatsen.org.sg
**Email:** nhb_WQY@nhb.gov.sg
**Cost:** Adult S$5, Child S$3, Senior Citizen S$3
**Free admission for children under six**

**Participants will meet at The Fullerton Hotel’s concierge. Admission is free, but private guided tours can also be arranged for a fee.**

**Address:** 1 Fullerton Road
**Tel:** +65 6557 2590
**Email:** thefullertonheritage.com
**Fax:** +65 6256 7377
**Website:** thefullertonheritage.com

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**Fax:** +65 6256 7677
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**Address:** 1 Fullerton Road
**Tel:** +65 6557 2590
**Email:** thefullertonheritage.com
**Fax:** +65 6256 7377
**Website:** thefullertonheritage.com

**Nearest MRT:** Raffles Place Station
**Abdul Gafoor Mosque**

Completed in 1910, the Abdul Gafoor Mosque – also known as Masjid Abdul Gafoor – took over the site and religious functions of the former Al-Abtar Mosque. The area was a lively business hub, so the old mosque largely catered to South Indian merchants. One of its trustees, Abdul Gafoor, a Muslim Tamil chief clerk at a law firm back then, had built shophouses around it and collected enough income to construct a new mosque. He passed away in 1999 as the sole trustee of the mosque and its related properties. Today, Majlis Uagma Islam Singapura (MUIS) – also known as the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore – owns the mosque. Visitors may notice its unconventional symmetry and the inclusion of classic Western designs alongside Moorish details, which set it apart from other mosques. Besides being gazetted as a national monument in July 1979, it was also awarded the Architectural Heritage Award from Singapore’s Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) in October 2003 to recognize its efforts in innovative restoration and conservation works.

**Address:** 600 Upper Changi Road

**Tel:** +65 6241 9767

**Fax:** +65 6241 9058

**Website:** asa.org.sg

**Email:** info@asa.org.sg

**Nearest MRT:** Tanah Merah Station

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**Armenian Church**

Built in 1833, the Armenian Church is Singapore’s oldest Christian church and is dedicated to St Gregory the Illuminator, the first Armenian monk. In 1973, the building was gazetted as a national monument and restored two decades later. Renowned Irish architect George D. Coleman included a dome roof and bell turret in its original design, but these were subsequently removed for safety reasons. Today, the building has a pitched roof and spire. Still, visitors may recognize the church’s traditional interior – its vaulted ceiling, cupola and porticoes – as features central to what is regarded as a Coleman masterpiece. Visitors should leave time for a stroll through the serene Memorial Garden, where a commemorative tombstone of Agnes Joaquim stands. She crossed the iconic Vanda “Miss Joaquim” orchid, Singapore’s national flower.

**Address:** 60 Hill Street

**Tel:** +65 6346 0144

**Website:** armenian sinaia.org

**Email:** singapore@armeniansinaia.org

**Opening Hours:** Mon–Sun, 9am–6pm

**Nearest MRT:** City Hall Station

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**Bethel Presbyterian Church**

Established in 1892, the church was built on premises allocated by the colonial government. Formerly known as Hougang Church, it was renamed in 1948. It adopts the practice of a Reformed Church, associated with prominent French theologian and pastor John Calvin. The building, comprising a main sanctuary and annex hall, was extended as the congregation grew. The church has also established homes for the elderly, a memorial chapel and a columbarium in the city-state. It currently holds services in English, Mandarin and the Teochew dialect. English worship services are held on Saturdays at 4pm and Sundays at 8.30am, while bilingual services are held on Sundays at 11.30am.

**Address:** 12 Jalan Latih

**Tel:** +65 6363 5700

**Fax:** +65 6363 5708

**Website:** bethelpres.org.sg

**Email:** besadmin@bethelpres.org.sg

**Nearest MRT:** Serangoon Station

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**Cathedral of the Good Shepherd**

Located in central downtown of Singapore, this Roman Catholic Church is the oldest in Singapore and is the seat of the current archbishop. Built in 1847, it was closed in 2013 to undergo a major restoration and reopened in November 2016. Architecture buffs will love its neoclassical look, complete with matching wooden pews, stained glass panels and 14 paintings of the Stations of the Cross. It also houses Singapore’s oldest working pipe organ, a restored Bevington and Sons organ from 1912. Located in the church are the remains of Singapore’s first two archbishops, Michel Ocampo and Gregory Yong, and a crypt located in the cathedral’s basement will house the remains of other
Attractions

Kong Meng San Phor Kark See Monastery
Founded in 1921 by the Venerable Sik Zuan Doo from China, the Buddhist monastery originally built amidst a rubber plantation is Singapore’s largest, at 17,470 sqm or the equivalent of 10.7 football fields. In Mandarin, “Kong Meng San” means “Bright Hill”, representative of Guanyin Bodhisattva’s Pureland. Apart from being a place of worship, it has traditionally served as lodging for visiting monks. The compound has multiple halls, a bell tower and the Pagoda of 10,000 Buddhas – capped with a bell-shaped stupa. While the stupa’s exterior is decorated with gold-coloured mosaic tiles, its interior features 10,917 Buddha statuettes. Visitors can end their visit by reflecting under a Bodhi tree (the tree is supposedly a descendant of the sacred Bodhi tree at Bodh Gaya). Non-vegetarian food and pets are not allowed inside the temple.

Maghain Aboth Synagogue
Built in 1878 and subsequently gazetted as a national monument in February 1998, Maghain Aboth Synagogue – which translates to “Shield of our Fathers” – is established as Southeast Asia’s oldest surviving synagogue, and visits are by appointment only (call or email for more information). The two-storey Jewish house of worship is easily distinguished from its neighbours by the three blue Stars of David emblazoned on the cream-coloured façade, along with its name in Hebrew. Unlike other places of worship, the prayer hall does not bear any images of gods or prophets, as this is forbidden in Judaism. A tour of the interior reveals a mix of neoclassical and colonial architecture. Remember to drop by the Jacob Ballas Centre that was constructed in 2007 next door. There, travellers will find a women’s mikvah (“a ritual bath”), an area where kosher chickens are slaughtered, a kosher shop, a restaurant, and a social hall where events and functions are held. Daily Shabbat services are held at the synagogue.

Sri Mariamman Temple
With roots dating back to 1827, Singapore’s oldest Hindu temple was formerly known as “Mariamman Kovil” or “King Street Temple”. It was later rebuilt as Sri Mariamman Temple, dedicated to goddess Mariamman, who is believed to be able to heal the sick. During the colonial period, it was a first refuge for new immigrants, a dispute mediation venue and where marriage ceremonies were held for Hindus. Today, weddings are still held at the temple, and travellers who visit in October or November may get to observe the temple’s fire-walking ceremony (“Terra’s fire-walking ceremony”), which is the main festival observed here annually. Visitors can marvel at the temple’s six-tiered gopuram, or grand tower entrance, decorated with sculptures in the image of Hindu deities and mythological creatures. The visual treat continues with the temple’s elaborate interiors, featuring shrines with statuses of different deities.

Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple
It’s hard to miss this temple with its ornate gopuram, packed with statues of Hindu gods and bringing a pop of colour to Serangoon Road in Little India (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p64). Dedicated to goddess Sri Veeramakaliamman (or Kali), the temple was once known as “Soonam Ba Kambom Kovil” or “temple at the lime village” in Tamil. At that time, most of its faithful worked at lime kilns in the vicinity. During World War II, many people hid here when Japanese air raids took place. Remarkably, the temple and all its statues were unaffected by the bombings. Its latest renovation, completed in 2014, included the addition of a six-storey building with staff quarters, a multipurpose hall and a wedding hall.

International Baptist Church
True to its name, attendees of International Baptist Church come from 51 different countries. It is a member of the Singapore Baptist Convention. While members have diverse racial backgrounds, the church hopes to spiritually unite them in Christ. In addition to having services in English and Mandarin, the church has Bible study and prayer services for the Filipino congregation. English services are held on Saturdays at 5pm and on Sundays at 9am and 11.30am.

St Joseph’s Church
Bishops. The cathedral was gazetted as a national monument in 1973.

St Andrew’s Cathedral
After the original chapel on the site of the present building was destroyed by two lightening strikes in 1852, it was torn down. In its place, a cathedral with early English Gothic influences was built. Designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, it was completed in 1856. St Andrew’s Cathedral is Singapore’s largest cathedral and the most established Anglican place of worship. Located at the bustling Civic District, where modern Singapore began, its design pays fitting tribute to key historical figures. Stained-glass windows on the apse honour Singapore’s founder, Sir Stamford Raffles, and other British officials. In 1942 during World War II, there were frequent Japanese air raids and the cathedral was used as an emergency hospital. It was gazetted as a national monument in 1973. Free guided tours are available, but do call the cathedral beforehand to arrange for your group or party. The recently opened Cathedral Café, which also acts as a welcome centre, is open daily from 9am-5pm.

St Joseph’s Church
Built in 1912 by the Portuguese Mission, St Joseph’s Church was gazetted for conservation in 2011. Having survived World War II and three generations, the Roman Catholic church has been around for more than a century. The main church building takes the form of a Latin cross, and in 2004, it completed a restoration of 72 stained glass windows depicting a magnificent host of saints, originally made by artisans from Italy. On major feast days, it is common to see more than 1,000 devotees attending mass. Its Parochial House is also a worthy stop. The church is most noted for its annual Good Friday procession. It is closed for renovation from August 2017; check website for updates.

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The Sultan Mosque, built in 1824, is a landmark of the Kampong Glam district, which attracts many who are keen to discover the culture and history of Malays, one of Singapore’s main ethnic groups. Also known as Masjid Sultan, the mosque’s name pays homage to Sultan Hussein Mohamed Shah, the first Sultan of Singapore and 18th ruler of Johor. In 1975, it was gazetted as a national monument. The mosque’s mass prayer hall can host up to 5,000 visitors. While its two giant golden domes make for an impressive sight, their bases are adorned with glass bottle ends, which were donated by poor Muslims during its construction, so that all Muslims, not just the rich, could contribute. Guided tours are given by multilingual docents in English, Malay, Japanese and Chinese, but it is suggested for visitors to call ahead to check if their preferred language is available.

**Address:** 3 Muscat Street
**Tel:** +65 6293 4405 / +65 6293 4043
**Website:** sultanmosque.sg
**info@sultan.mosque.org.sg**
**sultanmosque.sg**
**Tel:** +65 6293 4405 / +65 6293 4043

**Telok Ayer Chinese Methodist Church**

The church was founded in 1889 by Dr Benjamin West, a Methodist missionary and medical doctor who preached from a shophouse in Chinatown. He delivered sermons in Malay to a humble crowd of around 50 people. His sermons were then translated into Hokkien, a local dialect. Anglican services are held on Sundays at 8.30am, followed by Hokkien and Bahasa Indonesia services at 1.30pm and 4pm respectively.

**Address:** 235 Telok Ayer Street
**Tel:** +65 6324 4001
**Fax:** +65 6324 4002
**Website:** www.tacmc.org.sg
**Email:** admin@tacmc.org.sg
**Nearest MRT:** Tanjong Pagar Station / Telok Ayer Station

**Wesley Methodist Church**

The origins of Methodism in Singapore can be traced back to the arrival of Reverend William F. Oldham in 1885, who was the nation’s first resident Methodist missionary. Services were held at the Town Hall (today’s Victoria Memorial Hall) until the first chapel opened a year later. In recognition of the church’s contribution to mission work and education, Singapore’s then-governor Sir John Anderson granted it a piece of land in 1907. This is the exact piece of land at Fort Canning (today’s site) of Wesley Methodist Church. It was styled after English Gothic buildings, featuring exposed brickwork. First known as Methodist Episcopal Church, it was renamed after John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, in 1910. Membership has soared since then, and the church has undergone several renovations to extend its premises.

**Address:** 5 Fort Canning Road
**Tel:** +65 6336 1433
**Fax:** +65 6336 7550
**Website:** wesleymc.org
**Email:** mailbag@wesleymc.org

**Nearest MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut Station / Telok Ayer Station

**ADVENTURE & NATURE**

With its vision of being a “City in a Garden”, Singapore is proactive in preserving its natural environment. In addition to green spaces dotted around neighbourhoods and attractions across the island, travellers can also explore world-class gardens, nature reserves and parks. Most of these are managed by the National Parks Board (NParks), which is responsible for maintaining more than 300 parks and four nature reserves in Singapore, and frequently organises guided walks, events and workshops.

NParks’ Park Connector Network links visitors to many natural, cultural, historical and recreational sites all around Singapore. Covering 300km, the network offers cyclist-friendly routes around the heartlands and city. At larger parks, visitors will find toilet facilities, rest stops and children’s playgrounds. A few things visitors should keep in mind:

- Groups of 30 or more who wish to visit the nature reserves should apply for a group hiking permit at least one month prior to their visit.
- Many parks have trails with varying levels of difficulty, as well as wheelchair accessibility; visit NParks’ website for more information.
- Feeding or provoking wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- A bottle of water and mosquito repellent may come in handy on longer treks.
- All parks managed by NParks share the same contact details below.

**National Parks Board (NParks)**

**Headquarters**

**Address:** 1 Cluny Road
**Tel:** 1 800 471 7300 (toll-free)
**Fax:** +65 6472 3033
**Website:** www.nparks.gov.sg
**nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg**

**Bukit Timah Nature Reserve**

Only 12km away from the city centre, the 163ha reserve is home to about 40% of Singapore’s native flora and fauna, as well as the country’s tallest hill, Bukit Timah Hill. The ascent to the summit – a 165m climb – may be a challenge for those who are not physically fit. The easy trail to the summit takes 45 minutes to an hour, while fitness buffs can opt for the difficult loop, which takes many past the summit and deeper into the reserve toward Dairy Farm Nature Park.

Learn about the biodiversity of the area through interactive displays at the Exhibition Hall on the second storey of the Visitor Centre (opening hours: Mon-Sun, 8am–5.30pm). Those travelling with children or the elderly may want to check out Hindhede Nature Park instead, which is located next to the reserve. It is only a short walk in before visitors can picnic,
boundaries of the forest. Visitors can enjoy the views of the forest, including a beautiful waterfall and river. The nature reserve is also home to a bird-watching station, where visitors can observe a variety of bird species.

Coney Island Park

Located on a low-lying island off Singapore, Coney Island Park is a popular recreational area. Visitors can enjoy a variety of activities, including a playground, picnic areas, and a beach. The park also features a nature trail, where visitors can observe the diverse flora and fauna of the area.

East Coast Park

East Coast Park is a linear park along the eastern coast of Singapore. Visitors can enjoy a variety of activities, including cycling, jogging, and picnicking. The park also features a swimming pool, a children's playground, and a beach. Visitors can also enjoy the views of the Singapore Strait and the nearby islands.

Fort Canning Park

Fort Canning Park is a historic site located on a hilltop in the heart of Singapore. Visitors can enjoy the views of the city, including the Singapore River and the nearby islands. The park also features a museum, a monument, and a garden.

Gardens by the Bay

Gardens by the Bay is a large park located in the heart of Singapore. Visitors can enjoy a variety of gardens, including the Flower Dome, the Cloud Forest, and the Bayfront. The park also features a long, elevated walkway called the Henderson Wave Bridge, which offers stunning views of the city.

The TreeTop Walk (opening hours: Tue–Fri, 9am–6pm; Sat–Sun, 8am–7pm) is also near the Nee Soon Swamp. This observation tower offers panoramic views of the surrounding area. A seven-deck observation tower with glass floors, the reserve is the Jelutong Tower, a seven-deck observation tower with glass floors, the reserve is the Jelutong Tower, a

Nature Reserve is the island's largest nature reserve, covering more than 200ha of forest cover. The reserve is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna, including over 150 species of birds, 20 species of mammals, and over 40 species of reptiles and amphibians. Visitors can enjoy guided tours of the reserve, which include bird-watching and nature walks.

Nearest MRT: Beauty World Station

Central Catchment Nature Reserve and MacRitchie Reservoir Park

Central Catchment Nature Reserve

This 3km linear park that stretches from Changi Beach Park to East Coast Park Terminal (3.3km) from which visitors can enjoy expansive views of the forest canopy. Visitors are advised to hike towards the bridge for 4.4km from the Ranger Station at the gate closest to 5pm. Water sports enthusiasts can choose to rent canoes and kayaks instead. The park has an amenities centre with lockers, showering facilities, drinking water points and food kiosks.

Central Catchment Nature Reserve

Address: 601 Island Club Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/central-catchment-nature-reserve
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 7am–7pm
Nearest MRT: Marymount Station

MacRitchie Reservoir Park

Address: Along Lorong Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/macritchie-reservoir-park
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 24 hours
Nearest MRT: Cableswood Station / Marymount Station

Changi Beach Park

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Nearest MRT: Beauty World Station

DISAPPEARING FORESTS

The species-rich dipterocarp forests of Singapore were once abundant prior to human settlement. Today, less than 0.5% of the original lowland forest cover remains, and patches of it can be found in the Central Catchment Nature Reserve and the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve.

Coney Island Park

Coney Island is connected to Singapore by two bridges. Originally measuring just 1.1ha, the island has since been expanded after reclamation to 100ha. Half of the island has been set aside as a 50ha rustic park, which is frequented by families and bird-watchers. It is home to more than 80 species of birds, including the changeable hawk eagle, blue-throated bee-eater and the collared kingfisher. The park also has five beach areas. Children will love the nature-themed playground, Casuarina Exploration, which includes wooden structures constructed from uprooted casuarina trees and other recycled materials. Visitors can also rent bicycles at The Punggol Settlement (punggolsettlement.com) before making their way to the park’s Punggol entrance. Visitors are encouraged to wear long pants and covered shoes for protection against insects such as sandflies.

Address: Beside Punggol Promenade Nature Walk
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/coney-island-park
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 7am–7pm
Nearest MRT: Punggol Station

East Coast Park

Offering spaces for recreational cycling, rollerblading, fishing, skating and dining, East Coast Park is indeed “Recreation for All” with leisure activities for every type of visitor. The 8km stretch of beach is usually filled with people taking a stroll or jogging. At the Singapore Wake Park (singaporewakepark.com), onlookers gather to watch cable-ski tricks, and the more adventurous can try knee-boarding, wakeboarding and wakekiting. Visitors can pack a picnic basket or eat at nearby dining establishments. Families with children will enjoy Marine Cove, a recreational zone that houses a 3,500m playground with wheelchair-accessible equipment and an 8m-tall “lighthouse” structure, as well as five family-friendly restaurants.

Address: Along East Coast Parkway and East Coast Park Service Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/east-coast-park
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 24 hours
Nearest MRT: Eastक Station / Changi Airport Station

Fort Canning Park

Set on a hilltop, Fort Canning Park is a respite from the surrounding urban landscape. The 17ha park is steeped in history; Sir Stamford Raffles, the founder of modern Singapore, built a bungalow on Fort Canning Hill, and it became the home of subsequent colonial governors. Fort Canning Hill was a major communication centre, and key historic events took place here. Fort Gate, the remnants of a 19th-century fortress, can also be found in the park. Visitors will stumble upon these sites and more, as well as interesting flora and fauna on a self-guided 45-minute Colonial History Trail. Visitors can also take a ticketed tour of the Battlebox (battlebox.com.sg; see History & Heritage, p38), the British nerve centre for operations during World War II.

Address: Bounded by Hill Street, Canning Rise, Clemenceau Avenue and River Valley Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/fort-canning-park
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 24 hours
Nearest MRT: Dhoby Ghaut Station / Clarke Quay Station

Gardens by the Bay

In the heart of a bustling Garden City, the gardens’ conservatories are a tranquil oasis. The Flower Dome contains a diverse range of plants from the Mediterranean and semi-arid subtropical regions, as well as a large indoor forest. The Cloud Forest is a tropical rainforest recreated indoors, complete with a waterfall, a replica of a tropical cloud forest, and a treetop walkway. Gardens by the Bay is a must-visit for nature enthusiasts and families alike.
as seasonal flower displays. The Cloud Forest conservatory is a popular spot for photographers – its cascading 35m-tall indoor waterfall is the world’s largest. From there, visitors can embark on a biodiverse walk featuring plants from the tropical highlands, along with those that thrive in habitats of up to 2,000m above sea level.

Its Outdoor Gardens, including the SuperTree Grove, have free admission and are open till late. Visitors can get close to the gardens’ iconic SuperTree structures on the 22m-tall OCBC Skyway (see admission fees below). Families with children should pack a change of clothes and swimwear to enjoy the Far East Organization Children’s Garden, which has rainforest tree houses, an amphitheatre and a water play zone. Bicycles, tricycles, roller skates, skateboards and scooters are prohibited in the Gardens.

Address: 18 Marina Gardens Drive
Tel: +65 6420 6448 / +65 6420 6481
Website: gardensbythebay.com.sg
Email: feedback@gardensbythebay.com.sg

HortPark
Part of the network of linked green spaces known as ‘The Southern Ridges’ (see p56), HortPark is popular with joggers in the early mornings and evenings. Known as a one-stop gardening resource centre, it frequently brings together horticulture-related recreational, educational and retail activities under one green canopy. There are eight themed gardens, including Singapore’s first therapeutic garden in a public park – the Edible Garden – where visitors can learn about the culinary and medicinal uses of various plants – and the Pitter Pitter Potter Garden, which is specially designed for children aged five to 10.

HortPark’s signature event is Gardeners’ Day Out – held on the third Saturday of every month – and features a garden market, food bazaar, talks, workshops, fun activities for children and free walking tours. Visitors can enjoy an idyllic meal with verdant views at Vineyard restaurant (vineyardhortpark.com.sg), which also welcomes corporate events (for other unique MICE venues, see Venues, p188).

Address: 53 Hyderabad Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/hortpark
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 9am-9pm
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

Jurong Bird Park
The award-winning Jurong Bird Park is Asia’s largest bird park at 20.2ha and home to more than 5,000 birds across 400 species. The park has gained international acclaim for breeding threatened species, and its large zen-corner displays mimic the birds’ naturalistic habitats. Four free-flight aviaries house birds such as the endangered sun conure, a strikingly coloured parrot. Other highlights include the Pelican Cove, and families with young children should drop by Bintz of Play, a themed playground with a wet play zone. The park also organises ‘Living Classroom’ camps for kids and families to get a behind-the-scenes taste of the bird-keeping experience (the next camps are scheduled for November 2017; enquire for more details). Travel trade discounts on tickets are available. The Singapore Attractions Express bus service (saxm.com.sg) can take visitors directly to Jurong Bird Park from various hotels and locations within the city.

Address: 2 Jurong Hill
Tel: +65 6369 3481 / +65 6369 8561
(Trade Contact: Sue Dass)
Fax: +65 6369 3751
Website: birdpark.com.sg
Email: enquiry@birdpark.com.sg / sales.sg@birdpark.com.sg
Cost: Adult S$32, Child S$18
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 9am-5pm
Nearest MRT: Labrador Park

Labrador Nature Reserve
Part of The Southern Ridges (see p56), Labrador Nature Reserve is just the place for nature lovers and history buffs. A former British military base, its beginnings date back to the 19th century. Visitors can examine World War II relics like a machine gun post and artillery pieces. As visitors take in the views of the sea and cliff-side vegetation, they can look out for 70 species of birds, such as the oriental magpie-robin and black-rumped oriole. Home to the only coastal cliff in the country, the reserve has many picturesque spots for nature photographers to hone their skills (for more locations with great photo opportunities, see p31). Besides self-guided nature walks, travellers can book a private heritage walking tour (max 20 pax per group).

Address: Along Labrador Villa Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/labrador-nature-reserve
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 24 hours
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station / Beach Station (Sentosa Express)

Mega Adventure Park - Singapore
Located in the lush jungle setting of Sentosa, Mega Adventure Park - Singapore offers visitors a host of adrenaline-pumping attractions; the 75m-high, 450m-long three-wire MegaZip zip line; the 15m MegaJump leap, a thrilling parachute jump – without the plane ride – with a custom-made safety wire; a 5m-high climbing wall, a treetop obstacle ropes course; and MegaBounce, four bungee-assisted trampolines on the beach. Visitors can opt for combined attraction tickets, get 10% discount on bundle tickets when purchasing online or enquire about special offers. Attraction fees are the same for adults and children, but visitors should take note of height and weight requirements. Team building programmes and group bookings can be arranged.

Address: Sentosa Island, Imbiah Hill Road
Tel: +65 6722 3785 / +65 6884 5602
Website: sg.megaadventure.com
Email: info@sg.megaadventure.com / corporate@sg.megaadventure.com
Cost: (MegaZip, MegaClimb) S$45, (MegaJump) S$35, (MegaWall, MegaBounce) S$35
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 11am-7pm
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station / Beach Station (Sentosa Express)

Night Safari
Opened in 1994, the Night Safari is the world’s first nocturnal wildlife park. On a 40-minute tram ride, guests can catch a glimpse of animal life in habitats ranging from the Himalayan foothills to Southeast Asian jungles. The park’s four interlinked walking trails feature threatened and endangered species, such as the pangolin and clouded leopard. Visitors can encounter free-ranging wallabies – smaller cousins of the kangaroo – on the new Wallaby Trail. Crawling through a man-made cave, visitors can also get close to Ridley’s beauty snakes, tooth cave spiders and Asian black forest scorpions.

Groups can start the evening with dinner at Bongo Burgers restaurant while enjoying a fire show by Thumbsucker tribal dancers. The Creatures of the Night Show, which showcases the survival instincts of nocturnal creatures, is another must-watch. Call or email to enquire about travel trade discounts. To get there, the Singapore Attractions Express bus service (saxm.com.sg) can take visitors directly to Night Safari from various hotels and locations within the city.

Address: 80 Mandai Lake Road
Tel: +65 6360 3491 / +65 6360 8563
(Trade Contact: Sue Dass)
Fax: +65 6360 2351
Website: nightsafari.com.sg
Email: enquiry@nightsafari.com.sg / sales.sg@nightsafari.com.sg
Cost: Adult S$45, Child S$30
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 7.30pm-12am
Nearest MRT: Ang Mo Kio Station / Choa Chu Kang Station / Marsiling Station / Woodlands Station

Attractions
Did you know?
Not only does the Rail Corridor offer attractions annually from around the world. For non-English speakers, tour commentaries in Japanese or Mandarin are available for an additional fee and with advanced booking.

Rail Corridor
Rich in history, the Rail Corridor is testimony to Singapore’s longstanding relationship with its neighbouring country of Malaysia. Trains used to shuttle cargo, with farmyard animals.

River Safari Singapore
River Safari Singapore is the latest addition to Wildlife Reserves Singapore’s line of leading attractions (see Jurong Bird Park, p52, Night Safari, p53 and Singapore Zoo, p55). It holds one of the world’s biggest repositories of freshwater animals, housed in iconic habitats modelled after the Amazon River, Ganges River, the Nile and more. At the Mekong River exhibit, visitors will see the critically endangered Mekong giant catfish. Land animals such as the Brazilian tapir, jaguar and giant anteater can be spotted from the Amazon River Quest boat ride. Giant pandas Kai Kai and Jia Jia, on loan with a 10-year loan from China, dwell in the Mekong Core with its extensive collection of freshwater animals and giant anteater. Travel trade discounts are available upon request. The Singapore Attractions Express bus service (see cor.com.sg) can take visitors directly to River Safari from various hotels and locations within the city.

Singapore Botanic Gardens
The Singapore Botanic Gardens (SBG), with its 87ha of lush landscapes, photogenic pavilions and sculptural landmarks, is split into three main areas: the Tanglin Core, Central Core and Bukit Timah Core. The Tanglin Core – the oldest part of the gardens – includes a Botany Centre and the SBG Heritage Museum (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 9am–6pm), where visitors can learn about SBG’s rich heritage. The Nassim Gate Visitor Centre is located in the Central Core tourist belt, as well as the popular National Orchid Garden, which carries more than 60,000 plants and orchids across 1,000 species. Besides exploring the park’s open spaces, travellers can visit numerous specialised gardens like the Rosa Garden with 48 specimens or the Foliage Garden in the Bukit Timah Core with its extensive collection of terrestrial and aquatic plants. Young visitors can cultivate a love for nature and the environment at the Jacob Ballas Children’s Garden, which includes interactive play areas. After exploring the gardens, visitors can opt for plenty of dining options in and around the area, including the one-Michelin-starred Corner House (cornerhouse.com.sg).

For special behind-the-scenes tours like Animals in the Pink, which takes guests through the zoo’s Wildlife Healthcare & Research Centre and Wildlife Nutrition Centre. Contact the sales team for travel trade discounts. The Singapore Attractions Express bus service (see.com.sg) can take visitors directly to the zoo from various hotels and locations within the city.

Singapore Zoo
Since its opening in 1973, the award-winning Singapore Zoo has established itself as a world-class wildlife park that houses more than 2,800 animals, many of which roam freely in naturalistic habitats. A popular programme for first-time visitors is the “Jungle BreakFast with Wildlife”, where the zoo’s iconic orangutan, Ah Meng, makes a regular appearance. Afterwards, guests can see more of these charismatic apes at the world’s first free-ranging orangutan habitat, where a raised boardwalk allows for almost-360-degree views of the creatures swinging, climbing and playing amongst the trees and vegetation. The park’s Fragile Forest zone and Elephants of Asia exhibits are great educational experiences for visitors of all ages, while Rainforest Kidworld allows children to spend time with farmyard animals.

For group bookings, visitors can sign up for group tours to explore Singapore’s Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), which manages the Rail Corridor, has a detailed walking map on its website that visitors can consider.

Address: Tanjong Pagar Railway Station to Woodslands Train Checkpoint
Tel: +65 6269 3411 / +65 6360 8563
Website: www.ur.gov.sg/ls/railcorridor
Email: ura_email@ura.gov.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 24 hours
Nearest MRT: Tanjong Pagar Station / Pagar Railway Station and the Woodlands Corridor. Contact the sales team for travel trade discounts. The Singapore Attractions Express bus service (see.com.sg) can take visitors directly to the zoo from various hotels and locations within the city.

Address: 80 Mandai Lake Road
Tel: +65 6471 7138 / +65 6471 9937
Website: saex.com.sg
Email: enquiry@wsrz.com.sg / sales.sp@wsrz.com.sg
Cost: Adult S$33, Child S$22
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 8.30am–6pm
Nearest MRT: Ang Mo Kio Station / Choa Chu Kang Station / Mandai Station / Woodlands Station
Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve

Singapore’s first ASEAN Heritage Park, Sungei Buloh is home to rich biodiversity. There are numerous walking trails and wheelchair-accessible paths throughout the 130ha nature reserve, and visitors can discover its native inhabitants such as otters, crabs, water snakes and monitor lizards. Bird-watchers can take the Migratory Bird Trail that goes around the Buloh Tidal Ponds and admire resident birds like herons, kingfishers and sunbirds. Children will enjoy the Junior Adventure Trail – minutes from the Visitor Centre – where they can mirror the movements of a crab or mudskipper among the mangroves.

Free guided walks (max 20 pax) are conducted in English by certified attendants on Saturday mornings. Registration is mandatory, so travellers should check out the website’s activity listings for more information. A 10-minute drive from Sungei Buloh is Kranji Marshes (www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/kranji-marshes), which also supports a rich biodiversity of flora and fauna.

Address: (Visitor Centre) 60 Kranji Way, #01-00; (Wetland Centre) 301 Neo Tiew Crescent
Tel: +65 6794 1401
Fax: +65 6793 7271
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/sbwr
Email: nparks_sbwr@nparks.gov.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 7am–7pm
Nearest MRT: Kranji Station

The Southern Ridges

Spread over 10km of green and open spaces, a hike through The Southern Ridges takes visitors to five local parks, namely Mount Faber Park, Telok Blangah Hill Park, HortPark (see p52), Kent Ridge Park and the Labrador Nature Reserve (see p53), which are linked by park connectors. As part of the journey, travellers cross bridges through the Adinandra Belukar, a distinct secondary forest, and can observe a variety of bird species. Henderson Waves – a picturesque bridge with wave-like arcs – is another highlight of the walk. Set 36m above ground level, Singapore’s highest pedestrian bridge is a marvel even at nightfall – it is illuminated with LED lighting from 7pm to 7am nightly. From many of the bridges and walkways, trekkers can enjoy panoramic views of lush greenery, as well as the sights and sounds of wildlife such as cicadas, straw-headed bulbuls, kingfishers and even migratory birds of prey.

Go to the NParks website (www.nparks.gov.sg) for self-guided walking tours. For the suggested routes, the difficulty level is moderate to challenging, and the walking time is three to five hours.

Address: Southern Singapore (Bukit Merah, Henderson Road and Mount Faber Park)
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/the-southern-ridges
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 24 hours
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

IDYLLIC ISLANDS

Accessible by a 10- to 40-minute boat ride (islandcruise.com.sg), islands such as Kusu Island, Pulau Ubin, Sisters’ Islands and other Southern Islands make an idyllic getaway for visitors to Singapore.

For a slower pace of life, visit the offshore island of Pulau Ubin. Travellers can rent a bicycle to explore the 1,020ha island, which is also home to the Chek Jawa Wetlands. Pulau Ubin and the Wetlands host numerous quarries and boast lush greenery and extensive wildlife. Animal sightings include the endangered songbird straw-headed bulbul and the occasional wild boar.

The much smaller 40ha Sisters’ Islands Marine Park was set aside for education, conservation and research concerning marine life. The location boasts coral reefs, sandy shores and seagrass areas, and visitors can sign up as volunteers for marine biodiversity programmes, go snorkelling or sign up for free guided intertidal walks.

When visiting these islands, it is advisable to pack lunch – most of them do not have F&B stalls. Visit www.nparks.gov.sg for more information (see p49).
NEIGHBOURHOODS
There is plenty to see and do in Singapore’s many neighbourhoods. From well-known precincts – such as the iconic shopping belt of Orchard Road and the sparkling waterfront of Marina Bay – to quaint suburbs and ethnic enclaves, each neighbourhood has its own distinct charm and points of interest. Singapore’s vibrant ethnic districts celebrate and showcase the city-state’s multicultural heritage, where visitors can immerse in the cultures of the main ethnic groups who call Singapore home: Chinese, Malay, Indian, Eurasian and Peranakan. For a slice of suburban life, travellers can explore “the heartlands” beyond the city centre, where most local residents live and work. Lifestyle precincts all around the island offer thriving hubs of activities for everyone in the family – they can shop, dine and explore to their hearts’ content.

Night activity

ETHNIC DISTRICTS

CHINATOWN

A walk down Chinatown’s narrow streets with their picturesque shophouses, now repurposed as shops, hipster joints, restaurants and offices, reveals Singapore’s rich Chinese heritage, as well as the country’s journey from a small fishing village to one of the world’s most progressive economies and trading ports. Visitors can stop by a stretch of shophouses that has been converted into the Chinatown Heritage Centre (chinatownheritagecentre.com.sg; see Attractions, History & Heritage, p38) to get a glimpse into the lives of Singapore’s early Chinese migrants. Chinatown offers visitors an interesting and harmonious mix of cultures, where the Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum is just a two-minute walk away from the Hindu temple Sri Mariamman (see Attractions, Places of Worship, p45 and p47 respectively). Visitors will appreciate the melting pot of religions and cultures evident within the area. Travellers can easily spend a few days exploring shops and family-run businesses, selling everything from tasselled trinkets to Chinese teas and medicinal concoctions to the latest electronic gadgets and local independent designs (see Shopping, Ethnic Districts, p136). The precinct – which encompasses the Telok Ayer, Bukit Pasoh, Tanjong Pagar, Kreta Ayer and Ann Siang Hill neighbourhoods – is also home to some of the best food on the island, from hipster cafés to established hawker stalls and restaurants. Visitors can sign up for a variety of ticketed or free tours in the area (see Tours, Business Travellers, p157).

Website: chinatown.sg
Nearest MRT: Chinatown Station / Outram Park Station

Points of Interest

Ann Siang Hill

Now lined with colourful and elegantly restored shophouses, Ann Siang Hill was once a nutmeg and clove plantation. Shophouses in the area – mostly constructed between 1903 and 1941 – are now a quirky mix of shops, cafés and drinking spots – making it a popular post-work and weekend stomping ground for the millennial crowd (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p89).
In the 1800s and 1900s, the street—lined to upscale Chinese clubs and associations—was known for its vibrant nightlife. On the fringe of Chinatown, once home to more than 20 hawker stalls, shophouse restaurants and pop-up kiosks, the street offers dishes that represent the main Chinese dialects as well as the different races in Singapore. The high-ceiling glass shelter with an in-built cooling system allows for more comfortable and fuss-free alfresco dining from 11am to 11pm daily. Visitors who want an introductory workshop on tea should try the Tea Appreciation Package (min 2 pax), an hour-long session that allows participants to taste different kinds of Chinese teas and learn from a tea master about the historical and philosophical significance of tea in Chinese culture.

**Fuk Tak Chi Museum**

Once the oldest Chinese temple in Singapore and built by Singapore’s early Cantonese and Hakka immigrants, the building is now part museum—displaying artefacts and dioramas showing life in the district during its heyday—part hotel, as it adjoins the boutique hotel, AMOY.

**Address:** 9 & 11 Neil Road  
**Tel:** +65 6221 0604  
**Fax:** +65 6222 1954  
**Website:** teacapther.com  
**Email:** inquiry@teacapther.com

**Pagoda Street**

The name draws inspiration from Sri Mariamman Temple’s (smt.org.sg), gopuram—the word for pagoda in Tamil—over the main gate of the temple. Jamae Mosque (masjidjamaechulia.sg), also known as Masjid Chulia, stands Pagoda Street on the other side. Both places of worship are gazetted as national monuments.

**Chinatown Food Street**

Located on Smith Street in the heart of Chinatown, the Chinatown Food Street is a must-visit on the itinerary to have a taste of Singapore’s hawker scene. With more than 20 hawker stalls, shophouse restaurants and pop-up kiosks, the street offers dishes that represent the main Chinese dialects as well as the different races in Singapore. The high-ceiling glass shelter with an in-built cooling system allows for more comfortable and fuss-free alfresco dining from 11am to 11pm daily. Visitors who want an introductory workshop on tea should try the Tea Appreciation Package (min 2 pax), an hour-long session that allows participants to taste different kinds of Chinese teas and learn from a tea master about the historical and philosophical significance of tea in Chinese culture.

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**Fax:** +65 6222 1954  
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**Email:** inquiry@teacapther.com

**Tea Chapter**

Housed in a restored 19th-century shophouse, Singapore’s biggest tea house sells everything from tea leaves to tea wares and even books. Visitors who want an introductory workshop on tea should try the Tea Appreciation Package (min 2 pax), an hour-long session that allows participants to taste different kinds of Chinese teas and learn from a tea master about the historical and philosophical significance of tea in Chinese culture.

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**Website:** teacapther.com  
**Email:** inquiry@teacapther.com

**Trengganu Street**

Trengganu Street connects four popular streets of Chinatown—Pagoda, Temple, Smith and Sago streets. Besides exploring the shophouses converted into shops and food stalls, one notable building on the street is the Chinaman School’s Gallery (148 Trengganu Street; Tel: +65 6222 9554), a typical middle-class Chinese home of the early 20th century. The mini museum is complete with a kitchen, bedroom, dining room and living areas, all laid out with the furniture and fittings of the period.

**One of the many stalls at Geylang Serai Market**

**Geylang Serai Market and Food Centre**

Located just a 10-minute drive from the city centre, the iconic Geylang Serai Market and Food Centre is the only halal wet market and food centre in Singapore. It is one of the best places to shop for ingredients for Malay and Indian cuisines. The ground floor, where the wet market is located, sells all sorts of day-to-day kitchen needs, including fresh produce and meat, and a variety of fabrics and decorative materials. The second-storey food court offers a wide variety of dishes such as nasi lemak (fragrant coconut rice), beef rendang (braised meat cooked in coconut milk and spices), asam pedas stingray (spicy stingray), ikan niah and pisang goreng (fried banana fritters), among others.

**Address:** 1 Geylang Serai  
**Tel:** +65 6599 8494  
**Website:** tanjongkatongcomplex.com/gaylang-serai-market

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Some of the street names in Geylang Serai such as Jalan Ath, Jalan Alagoff and Jalan Eunos were named after prominent community leaders.

**Khadijah Mosque**

Now gazetted for conservation by Singapore’s Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), this mosque was named after its principal benefactor, Madam Khadijah Binte Mohamed, who donated $50,000 in 1915 to have it built. It was finally built in 1921, four years after she died. In 2003, a new auditorium building was added to the original structure.
Points of Interest

**Kampung Glam**

*Alivart Arts Centre*

In Malay, kampung means “village or settlement” and gelam is the name of a particular tree that grew in abundance in the area in early Singapore. The area is well known for two major landmarks: the impressive Sultan Mosque (see Attractions, Places of Worship, p48) and the Istana Kampong Gelam (Gelam), which used to be a sultan’s palace but has now been restored as the Malay Heritage Centre (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p41). Home to Malays, the area was once populated by Arab, Bruneian, Bugis and Javanese people.

Today, the area has an eclectic blend of history, culture and a super-trendy lifestyle scene. Shopaholics should head to colourful Haji Lane for its quirky boutiques, hip bars and cafés, where they can pick up traditional wares from Arab Street and Bugis Street.

Address: 28 Alivart Street, Tel: +65 6435 0131
Website: alivartartcentre.com.sg
Email: ssc@artshouse.sg

**Arab Street**

Rather than just one road, Arab Street usually refers to the area including Bugis Street, Haji Lane, Bal Lane and Muscat Street. Flanked by Victoria Street and Beach Road, the street is home to trendy hangouts and shops selling brightly coloured fabrics, textiles, batik, hand-knotted Persian rugs, aromatic Arab teas, as well as other traditional wares such as Persian carpets, kedaya dresses and handmade perfumes (see Shopping, Ethnic Districts, p136). The area also has many halal eateries featuring Malay and Middle Eastern cuisine (see Eat & Drink, Halal Restaurants, p113).

Address: Arab Street, Tel: +65 6747 5607
Website: khadijahmosque.org
Fax: +65 6444 7311
Email: info@sultan.com.sg
Website: thesultan.com.sg
Tel: +65 6723 7101
Fax: +65 6723 7110
Address: 85 Sultan Gate
Website: gedungkuning.com
Fax: +65 6299 4316
Email: info@sultan.com.sg
Website: thesultan.com.sg
Tel: +65 6391 0450
Fax: +65 6299 4316
Website: malayheritage.org.sg

**Malay Heritage Centre**

Next to the Malay Heritage Centre (see right) is Gedung Kuning or Yellow House, so-called because of its distinctive colour. It was built around the 1840s for Tengku Mahmud, younger son of Sultan Ali of Johor. It features a pair of eagles above each gabletop and a unique pavilion that used to be a dovecote. Today, it is home to Mamanda (mamanda.com.sg), a restaurant that serves authentic Malay cuisine.

Address: 73 Sultan Gate
Website: gedungkuning.com

**Kandahar Street**

Along this stretch are some of the most beautifully restored shophouses. The street is also known for restaurants serving nas-paada (steamed rice accompanied by various pre-cooked dishes) and the Rich and Good Cake Shop (facebook.com/richandgoodcakesshop), an old-school bakery famous for its Swiss rolls that come in local flavours like kaya (a traditional jam made from coconut and eggs), durian and mango.

Building, along with the shophouses beside it, is beautifully preserved as part of the boutique hotel, The Sultan. The 64-room hotel displays many of the architectural features of the past such as shuttered windows, tall columns and wide arches. Guests can choose from eight room types, with no two the same. Jazz lovers and those who enjoy live music performances can check out Singapore Jazz Club (facebook.com/thesingaporejazzclub) – also known as Sing Jazz – located on the second storey.

Address: 101 Jalan Sultan, Tel: +65 6723 7101
Fax: +65 6723 7110
Website: thesultan.com.sg
Email: info@thesultan.com.sg

**Katong & Joo Chiat**

The eastern region of Singapore is steeped in a different set of history and culinary heritage. The residential neighbourhoods of Katong and Joo Chiat, in particular, are known for their rich Peranakan heritage and culture. This area traces its roots to the early 19th century, when wealthy English, Portuguese, French and Chinese settlers established coconut, cotton and gambier plantations here. In the early 20th century, many locals started building homes in the eastern region, which resulted in the varied styles of bungalows, shophouses and places of worship in the area. Now, the area is...
Points of Interest

Church of the Holy Family
Built before World War II, this church was the first Roman Catholic Church built along the eastern coastline of Singapore and is a gathering place for the Eurasian residents in the area, serving the local Catholic community till today. Affectionately known as the “Katong Church” or “Katong Catholic Church” by older generations, the building went through a major renovation in 1999 – the front sculptures have been kept from the original church structure, while a 16-panel stained glass was imported from Italy and installed at the back of the new building. This is the only Catholic church in Singapore that celebrates Peranakan masses on the eve of Chinese New Year.

Address: 6 Chapel Road
Tel: +65 6344 0046
Fax: +65 6348 0552
Website: holyfamily.org.sg
Email: secretariat@holyfamily.org.sg

Eurasian Heritage Centre
Based within the Eurasian Community House, the centre’s three heritage galleries allow visitors to learn more about the Eurasian community of Singapore, their heritage, as well as their contributions to the nation. Admission is free for non-guided tours with fewer than 10 people (opening hours: Tue–Sun, 9am–6pm), however for groups of 10 or more who wish to visit with their own guide/tour leader, there is an admission fee of $33 per pax. Special Eurasian Experience Tours or Eurasian Heritage Programmes can be arranged for groups (min 20 pax). Tour packages range from $15 to $140 per pax.

Address: 189 Cayan Road
Tel: +65 6447 1578 / +65 6447 1578 ext 202
(Trade Contact: Jacqueline)
Fax: +65 6447 3189
Website: eurasians.org.sg/eurasians-in-singapore/eurasian-heritage-centre
Email: jacqueline@eurasians.org

Katong Antique House
Furnished with Peranakan artefacts, family heirlooms and antiques, this two-storey shophouse provides visitors a glimpse into the lives of Peranakans in the early days. The owner, Peter Wee – a fourth-generation Baba Peranakan and the president of the Peranakan Association Singapore – takes guests on a tour around the house, regaling them with stories from his grandfather’s days. Guided tours are by appointment only ($315 per pax; min 8 pax, max 15 pax).

Address: 208 East Coast Road
Tel: +65 6345 8544

Masjid Khalid
The neighbourhood’s distinct Malay cultural influence is evident in this mosque, which rises amidst shophouses. The site used to be where peddlers sold Malay food. The mosque was built in 1917 and used to be a place of worship for Indian Muslims, but is now one of the places where the Malay community of Joo Chiat gathers.

Address: 136 Joo Chiat Road
Tel: +65 6345 2694
Fax: +65 6346 1279
Website: masjidkhalid.sg

Rumah Bebe
A must-visit for its cool cafés, shopping and old-world coffee shops selling famous local delicacies such as Katong laksa (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p99) and nonya cakes (nonya is a term for Peranakan women, while baba refers to Peranakan men; see sidebar above for more information). Visitors and locals alike enjoy taking photos of and with the many restored heritage buildings along East Coast Road, Koon Seng Road and streets such as Joo Chiat Terrace and Joo Chiat Place. Visitors can opt to book a walking or food tour of this area (see Tours, Couples, p154).

Address: 113 East Coast Road
Tel: +65 6247 8781
Website: rumahbebe.com
Email: contact@rumahbebe.com

Eurasians refer to those who are descendants of mixed European and Asian heritage. Most Eurasians in Singapore have traceable European ancestry to the British, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish, their Asian ancestry is from the Chinese, Malays or Indians.

Destinations

Sri Senpaga Vinayagar Temple
Dedicated to the Elephant God, Ganesh or Lord Vinayagar, this temple – established by the Ceylonese Tamils from Sri Lanka – dates back to the 1850s and is the second-oldest Hindu temple in Singapore. Aside from its 21m-high Rajagopuram (main tower at the entrance of the temple), making it one of the tallest Indian temples in Singapore, Sri Senpaga Vinayagar is remarkable for its unique features such as the over 1.5m-tall statue of Lord Vinayagar, the gold-covered rajagopuram of Lord Vinayagar, this temple – established by the Ceylonese Tamils from Sri Lanka – dates back to the 1850s and is the second-oldest Hindu temple in Singapore. Aside from its 21m-high Rajagopuram (main tower at the entrance of the temple), making it one of the tallest Indian temples in Singapore, Sri Senpaga Vinayagar is remarkable for its unique features such as the over 1.5m-tall statue of Lord Vinayagar, the gold-covered rajagopuram and four main granite pillars with the Elephant God’s 32 forms.

Address: 19 Ceylon Road
Tel: +65 6345 8176
Website: senpaga.org.sg/history.asp

Former Joo Chiat Police Station
Joo Chiat Police Station was built in 1928 to serve the needs of the community, and the building was gazetted for conservation in 1993. Today, Katong Square (katongsquare.com.sg) – a lifestyle and retail space – is located in the conserved building. Part of the same complex has been converted into the 113-room Peranakan-themed boutique hotel, Hotel Indigo Singapore Katong (see Stay, p13). Next door, the Holiday Inn Express Singapore Katong (see Stay, p13) also retains the Peranakan charm of the neighbourhood.

Address: 88-90 East Coast Road

Ruma Bebe
For a dose of Peranakan culture, visitors can head to the 90-year-old shop – built in 1928 and restored in 2003 – which serves as a true testimony to authentic Peranakan heritage and architecture. Through its boutique shophouse, it showcases the ethnic group’s exquisite embroidery, beadwork, jewellery and textiles. Visitors can try Peranakan delicacies such as pineapple tarts and branded sugarcane-almond cake at its on-site café-bake shop. It also offers Peranakan cooking and beading classes. Private in-house tours (min 2 pax, max 20 pax) can be booked in advance.

Address: 133 East Coast Road
Tel: +65 6247 8781
Website: rumahbebe.com
Email: contact@rumahbebe.com

A Lesson in Names
Katzuk is a fourth-generation Peranakan family name, which stems from the word ‘katzuk’ in Malay, a type of sea turtle, while Joo Chiat is a name of Chinese ancestry. Though the term is known as the “King of Katong”, who was named after Chew Joo Chiat, a philanthropist and plantation owner in Malacca, Jawi Peranakans in Malacca, Jawi Peranakans (Jawi is a term for Peranakan families with Malay ancestry), and Eurasian Peranakans (Kristang or Christians of Portuguese and Chinese ancestry).

The term Peranakan (Indo-Malay word meaning “local born”) generally refers to Straits-born people of Chinese and Malay/Indonesian heritage. Many Peranakan families originated in Malacca and Penang where their ancestors who were Chinese traders married into the local community. Though the term is now used to refer to Peranakan Chinese, there are also Peranakan Indians (Chitty Malacca), Jawi Peranakans (Straits-born Muslims of mixed Indian and Malay ancestry), and Eurasian Peranakans (Kristang or Christians of Portuguese and Chinese ancestry).

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LITTLE INDIA

One of the most vibrant and charismatic ethnic districts in Singapore, Little India attracts visitors with its sheer exuberance of life on the streets. Here, with the air smelling of spices, incense and jasmine, it is not uncommon to see Indian women in their colourful sari browse through boutiques, while loud Indian pop music blares from shops. Gaily painted shophouses along the streets around it have become a hip enclave with a growing number of trendy cafes, restaurants and shops, designer boutique hotels and designer boutique hotels

Neighbourhoods

The Intan

Owned by antique collector Alvin Yap, this private home-museum celebrates the rich culture and heritage of the Peranakans. At The Intan (Malay for “rose-cut diamond”), visitors can find Peranakan artefacts from Malaysia, Indonesia, India, China and England within a modern home setting, then go on a guided tour of the house (by appointment only and admission fee applies; see Tours, Business Traveller, p.16). The heritage space can accommodate up to 40 guests and can be booked as a venue for wedding and private photo shoots, corporate meetings and events.

Address: 69 Joo Chiat Terrace
Tel: +65 6440 1148
Website: the-intan.com
Email: contactus@the-intan.com

Little India

This ultra-modern museum is the first in Southeast Asia to focus on the heritage of the Indian community, exploring the links between the Indian subcontinent and the rest of the region, including Singapore. The museum gives visitors cost: Adult S$6,

Points of Interest

Indian Heritage Centre

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DID YOU KNOW?
The original inhabitants of Little India were Europeans and Eurasians, and many of the narrow streets – such as Durian, Dicker and Cuff – were named after the families who used to live in the area. It was only when cattle trading, a predominantly Indian trade, boomed that the community started to evolve and Indians moved into the district.

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Points of Interest

Little India Fabric Shop

Little India fabric shop

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Jalan Besar

Parallel to Serangoon Road (see p.66), Jalan Besar is one of the oldest roads in Singapore. In recent years, Jalan Besar and the streets around it have become a hip enclave with a growing number of trendy boutiques, cafes and restaurants. Coffee lovers can check out Chye Seng Huat Hardware (chshcoffee.com), while foodies will love the baked goodies at The Butter Studio (thebutterstudio.com). Crafters and hobbyists will find much to occupy them at The Refinery (therefinery.sg), which houses a yakitori restaurant on the first floor, a bespoke cocktail bar on the second floor and a craft workshop on the third floor.

DID YOU KNOW?
Jalan Besar formally means “large road” or “main road” in Malay, and in the 1880s, it was cut through a betel nut and fruit orchard owned by the Harris brothers, sons of an East India Company officer.

Little India Arcade

At this two-storey building dating back to the 1920s, shoppers will find handicrafts, costumes jewellery, souvenirs, Indian clothing, silks and so much more. Should visitors get hungry from all that shopping, they can head over to the Banana Leaf Apollo (thebanaanaleafapo.com) on the first floor for delicious specialties such as fish curry, chicken masala, mutton curry and tandoori chicken. Travellers can also opt to get a henna tattoo done in one of the many shops within the building.

Address: 48 Serangoon Road
Tel: +65 6295 5998
Website: littleindiaarcade.com.sg

Mustafa Centre

Open 24 hours, this one-stop mega-shopping mall sells everything – a paradise for bargain hunters. Mustafa Centre is housed on six floors over a 373,613sqm area. The sheer variety of items on sale is dizzying – from perfumes, to wheelchairs to leather jackets, food items, sports shoes and everything else in between. There are six entrances: visitors are recommended to enter through Entrance 1 (on Syed Alwi Road), so they only have one direction to go. For more information, see Shopping, Ethnic Districts, p.157.

Address: 145 Syed Alwi Road
Tel: +65 6295 5855
Fax: +65 6295 5866
Website: www.mustafa.com.sg
Email: mms786@mustafa.com.sg

Sakya Muni Buddha Gaya Temple

Also known as the Temple of a Thousand Lights, it is famous for its 15m-high statue of the reclining Buddha weighing 300 tonnes, lined with light bulbs, giving the statue an aura of light. During the annual Vesak Day (see Events & Festivals, p.24) – celebrating the birth and enlightenment of the Buddha – devotees who donate are allowed to place a gold leaf onto a small Buddha statue, which will be almost covered in a fresh layer of gold leaves as the day goes on. Admission is free.

Address: 366 Race Course Road
Tel: +65 6294 0714

Photos by: The Intan

Mustafa Centre

Contact us @ the-intan.com
Website:
+65 6440 1148
Tel:
69 Joo Chiat Terrace
Address:
Nearest MRT: Little India Station / Farrer Park
Website:
littleindia.com.sg
Website:
indianheritage.org.sg
Website:
thebutterstudio.com
Website:
littleindiaarcade.com.sg
Website:
bananaleafapo.com
Website:
cshhcoffee.com
Website:
mms786@mustafa.com.sg
Website:
Fax: +65 6295 5855
Tel: +65 6294 0714
366 Race Course Road
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Website: www.mustafa.com.sg
Email: mms786@mustafa.com.sg

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
Visitors can’t miss the house of Tan Teng Niah located about a minute’s walk from the Little India MRT station. The house is a popular photo spot, with its psychedelic colours making it a stand out among neighbouring buildings. It is also the only Chinese villa located in Little India, it was built in 1900 and won the Singapore Institute of Architects Honourable Mention Award in 1999 after restoration works were completed.
Neighbourhoods

**Serangoon Road**

Dating from 1822, this is the backbone of Little India and is one of Singapore’s oldest roads. The road is packed with restaurants and shops selling everything from gold jewellery and trinkets to traditional Indian clothing, incense and spices. Visitors who want cheap but good Indian curry should try vegetarian restaurant Komala Vilas (komalavilas.com.sg).

**Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple**

Towards the middle of Serangoon Road stands this imposing temple dedicated to Kali, Hindu goddess of destruction. The temple was established in 1865, making it one of Singapore’s oldest houses of worship. Built by the Indian pioneers who came to live and work here, this Hindu temple was the first in the Serangoon area. Visitors are welcome to witness the pooja (daily prayer ceremony). Photography is allowed, though visitors must bear in mind that this is a working temple, so basic respect and care is necessary so as not to disturb worshippers.

Address: 141 Serangoon Road
Tel: +65 6295 4538 / +65 6293 4634
Fax: +65 6392 4249
Website: sriveeramakaliamman.com
Email: info@sriveeramakaliamman.com

**Tekka Centre**

Located at the junction of Serangoon Road and Bukit Timah Road, this is a multi-use building complex where visitors can find a wet market, food centre and shopping complex all rolled into one. Built on the site of the old Tekka Market, Tekka Centre is a good place to try out some great Indian food, such as briyani (an Indian spiced rice dish with meat or vegetables), piping-hot naans (flatbread), and Indian rojak (sweet and savoury Asian salad). Shoppers can also head to Little India Arcade (see p65) in the vicinity.

Address: 665 Buffalo Road

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong once took Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi for supper at the Serangoon Road branch of Komala Vilas.

HEARTLANDS

Visitors who wish to experience the local way of life should explore the “heartlands” – the suburbs outside the city centre and Central Business District (CBD) – where most locals live and work. Singapore’s heartlands came about with the push to provide Singaporeans with mass housing in the late 1960s. Along with flats, the Housing & Development Board (HDB) also built a community infrastructure – from hawker centres that housed once-itinerant street food sellers to minimarts, community hospitals and other amenities. The idea was that each HDB town would be self-sufficient, and these neighbourhoods soon developed distinct characteristics, largely shaped by their shared history.

**ANG MO KIO & BISHAN**

These two towns are next to each other and as such, share an almost similar history. Once a rubber plantation, Ang Mo Kio started out as a hub for car repair shops in the 1970s and soon grew into a well-planned housing estate that won the Singapore Institute of Architects’ Outstanding Buildings Award in 1983. Ang Mo Kio Town Centre in Ang Mo Kio Avenue 3 is the town’s main commercial and community hub.

Like Ang Mo Kio, Bishan is a peaceful yet buzzing town in central Singapore. Located on the site of a former Chinese cemetery, Bishan usually refers to Bishan New Town, a self-contained estate built in the mid-1980s to 1990s. Besides a town centre, Bishan has schools, public parks and communal facilities.

**Points of Interest**

**AMK Hub**

At 48,250sqm spread over four storeys and three basement levels, AMK Hub (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 10am–10pm) has more than 200 shops, an eight-screen cineplex, restaurants and a games arcade. It is easily accessible via Ang Mo Kio MRT station, which is integrated with the mall.

Address: 53 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 3
Tel: +65 6753 9000
Website: amkhub.com.sg

**Ang Mo Kio Town Garden East and West**

These two public gardens serve as Ang Mo Kio’s “green lungs”. The Sha Ang Mo Kio Town Garden East, built in the late 1970s and early 1980s, is home to several rubber trees and giant rubber seed sculptures – a tribute to Ang Mo
Kio’s past as a rubber plantation. It is also one of the few public spaces in Singapore to retain red brick paths – a garden design element popular in the 1970s. Within Ang Mo Kio Town Garden East, which connects to Bishan Park, are several cafés and restaurants – including Cornerstone (cornerstone.com.sg) and GRUB (gnub.com.sg), and even an award-winning spa, Aramsa (aramsaspa.com) – set amidst the greenery for the ultimate tranquil getaway from the city’s hustle and bustle.

The 2.9ha Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West was the HDB’s biggest town garden project in the 1980s. A large portion of the park is covered by secondary forest and tropical plants. Visitors can climb a 120-step staircase to the plaza area for a panoramic view of Ang Mo Kio Town Garden West, or relax at the landscaped pond near the park’s entrance.

Address: Junction of Ang Mo Kio Avenues 3 and 8 (East); along Ang Mo Kio Avenue 6 (West)
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg

Lower and Upper Peirce Reservoir

What is now known as Lower Peirce Reservoir was opened in 1912 after water reserves in the first, Thomson Road Reservoir (now MacRitchie Reservoir), could not meet the needs of Singapore’s growing population. Formerly known as the Kallang River Reservoir, it was renamed Peirce Reservoir 10 years later, after Robert Peirce, the municipal engineer of Singapore from 1901 to 1916. The Upper Peirce Reservoir was built in 1935. Today, both reservoirs and the parks around them are popular spots amongst nature lovers. In particular, visitors should come to catch the sunset, and may also get a glimpse of the local wild boar population in the park. As the animals’ behaviour is unpredictable, visitors are advised to stay away and avoid attracting their attention.

Address: Along Old Upper Thomson Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg

Melben Seafood (Ang Mo Kio)

Singaporeans are enthusiastic foodies who will traverse the island to eat. Melben (opening hours: Mon-Sun, 4.30pm–11.30pm) is one of these “destination dining” eateries. Located in a coffee shop with alfresco seating, everyone is here for one thing: crab. The crustacean is cooked in 15 ways, from classic chilli crab to butter crab, but almost everyone will order the flavourful crab bee hoon (rice vermicelli) in a milky broth. Visitors, especially large groups, should be prepared to wait. Reservations are not usually taken, but special requests may be considered.

Address: 232 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 3, #01-1222
Tel: +65 6286 6762
Email: info@originalmelben.com

Raffles Institution Archives and Museum

The oldest school in Singapore, Raffles Institution was established in 1823 by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, founder of modern Singapore. The school, which has been in its current location in Bishan since 1990, has a heritage centre (opening hours: Mon–Fri, 8.30am–4.30pm) behind its atrium where visitors can discover the Raffles legacy in Singapore, and see a replica of the 1960s classrooms on its original Bras Basah campus, plus other interesting artifacts.

Address: 1 Raffles Institution Lane (off Bishan Street 21)
Tel: +65 6462 6428 / +65 6469 9042
Website: facebook.com/RIMuseum
Email: comms@r.i.edu.sg

Bedok Reservoir Park

This park, which surrounds the 88ha Bedok Reservoir, is a popular spot for sports enthusiasts, weekend anglers and picnicking families. There are plenty of benches for people to relax on, while visitors keen to try dragonboat racing, kayaking and other water sports can join the different activity groups that gather at the reservoir. Bedok Reservoir Park is also a good bird-watching location to spot swallows, herons and kingfishers. Those who prefer a different kind of adrenaline rush can try the newly re-opened Forest Adventure (forestadventure.com.sg), which offers aerial obstacle courses suitable for different age groups and skill levels.

Address: Bedok Reservoir Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/bedok-reservoir-park
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg

Borobudur Snacks Shop

Borobudur (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 7.30am–10pm) has been selling aueh, delicious bite-sized snacks or desserts, for decades. Visitors should try its vast array of local goodies, especially its specialty, the red tortoise-shell-shaped ang ku kueh, a glutinous rice flour cake stuffed with sweetened peanut or mung bean paste.

Address: 37 Bedok North Street 3
Tel: +65 6442 7637

DID YOU KNOW?

Singaporean designer Wang Shijia created a cartoon character – Ang Ku Kueh Girl (angkukgirl.com.sg) – inspired by her love of the local snack. It became a hit when her cartoon character was turned into a popular comic book, and her Ang Ku Kueh Girl is now a cartoon character for another children’s book series.

Address: 462 Upper East Coast Road
Tel: +65 6442 9333

Neighbourhoods

Hua Yu Wee Seafood Restaurant

Housed in a sprawling bungalow on Upper East Coast Road, the always-bustling and long-standing seafood restaurant Hua Yu Wee (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 4pm–11:30pm) offers authentic chilli crab, poppa crab and other seafood dishes with a heavy dose of nostalgic nostalgia. For alfresco dining, the restaurant has an open-air courtyard at the back, which faced the sea before Singapore’s land reclamation project was completed in 1970.

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Address: 462 Upper East Coast Road
Tel: +65 6442 9333
The Bedok Marketplace

A revamp of the traditional foodie haunt Simpang Bedok, this is essentially a hawker centre (see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p120) championing modern food concepts, with stalls helmed by young Singaporeans. From upmarket hawker fare to yakitori, specialty meatballs and even a wine bar, this “hipster hawker” place will appeal to everyone from families to millennials (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 11.30am–12am).

Address: 548 Bedok Road, #02-00
Phone: +65 6694 8480 / +65 9999 3885
Website: facebook.com/thebedokmarketplace

JURONG

Shortly after independence in 1965, Singapore was in a crisis with a growing population and no viable means of supporting itself. The solution: leverage the country’s biggest resource - its people – to drive the budding manufacturing sector. But where to build these factories?

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Neighbourhoods

Tampines Round Market and Food Centre

This hawker centre (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 8am–9pm) is located within the Tampines Round Market and Nature Reserve (Block 28) features a concrete Dragon Light Pagoda, with its Buddhist motifs and carvings—a hard-to-miss landmark in the area—and the imposing Hall of the Celestial Kings. You can also visit the Lorong 4 bird-singing pavilion.

Points of Interest

Dinosaur and Dragon Playgrounds

Located along Lorong 6 are two iconic playgrounds. The Dragon Playground (Block 27) features a concrete dragon, a motif that was part of the HDB’s design brief in the late 1970s to feature objects and concepts easily identifiable with local culture. This playground is one of two in Singapore with this design; the other is located in Ang Mo Kio (Block 571, Avenue 5). The Dinosaur Playground at Block 27 was built in 2000. Besides the dinosaur-shaped playground equipment, there are sculptures of a towering T-rex and its young guarding a clutch of eggs. With the HDB block in the background, it certainly makes a charming photo opportunity after more photo opportunity ideas, see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p31).

Address: Block 27 & 28, Lorong 6 Toa Payoh

Lian Shan Shuang Lin Monastery

Singapore’s oldest monastery (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 8.30am–5pm) is the only Buddhist monastery to be gazetted as a national monument. Interestingly, it was constructed without the use of any nails, but with a unique structural element of interlocking wooden brackets, an important element in traditional Chinese architecture. The temple (its name literally means “Twin Grove of the Lotus Mountain Temple”) was built in 1902 in the style of ancient cities in Fujian and Guangdong with the traditional Chinese courtyard layout. The temple showcases many structures, notably the seven-storey Dragon Light Pagoda, with its Buddhist motifs and carvings—a hard-to-miss landmark in the area—and the imposing Hall of the Celestial Kings.

Address: 184 Jalan Toa Payoh
Tel: +65 6295 6904
Website: shuanglin.sg
Email: enquiry@shuanglin.sg

Masjid Muhajirin

The first to be built with the help of the country’s Mosque Building Fund, the Muhajirin mosque (opening hours: Mon–Fri, 9am–6pm; Sat, 9am–1pm; Closed on Sun) is an example of how community action is advanced through the joint efforts of the government and locals, particularly residents of Toa Payoh. Work on the mosque started in 1975 and it was opened two years later. The original mosque featured the traditional onion-shaped dome of the Persian-Indian architectural style, atop a minaret. Today, the mosque features a floral arabesque motif on the exterior and incorporates architectural styles from across the Islamic world such as arches, geometric designs and double-tiered roof with ogee tiles, a traditional Malay style.

Address: 275 Braddell Road
Tel: +65 6256 1166
Website: masjidmuhajirin.org
Email: btm@muhajirin.mosque.org.sg

TOA PAYOH

TOA PAYOH

Toa Payoh has the distinction of being the first town designed and developed entirely by the HDB. This is the quintessential modern Singapore town and boasts a list of firsts, such as the first Residents’ Association, neighbourhood police post, supermarket and MRT station, among others. The town gets its name from the word “toa” (Hokkien and Teochew for “big”) and “payoh” (derived from the Malay word for swamp, “payoh”). Its literal name, Big Swamp, is a tribute to the hard work and vision of its early settlers—plantation owners and workers in the 19th century who cleared swaths of swampland to settle here. Later on, Kampung (“villages” in Malay) sprouted up in the area before finally evolving into the town visitors see today.

Nearest MRT: Braddell Station / Caldecott Station / Toa Payoh Station

Websites:
- www.toa-payoh.sg

Points of Interest

DINOSAUR AND DRAGON PLAYGROUNDS

TOA PAYOH TOWN PARK

This 4.8ha park has picturesque stone arch bridges and gazebos, man-made ponds, trellises, pathways and pavilions, as well as kuch and plants and trees—a perfect place for a morning walk. A highlight is the Observation Tower, which was built in the 1970s and features prominently in many wedding photos of Singaporean couples in the 1970s and 1980s. Today, visitors will see many residents using the park for tai chi (ancient Chinese martial art using slow, rhythmic, meditative movements) and other exercises.

Address: Junction of Toa Payoh Lorong 2 and Toa Payoh Lorong 6
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg

YISHUN & SEMBAWANG

The once-rural Yishun and Sembawang areas were home to gambier and pepper plantations in the 1800s, before rubber and pineapple plantations took over in the early 1900s. It was finally urbanised in the mid-1970s with the inception of Yishun New Town, which was completed a decade later. Milestones such as the opening of Yishun MRT station, Yishun 10 (Asia’s first cinoplexes with 10 movie theatres); and Northpoint, Yishun’s first shopping mall, propelled the precinct toward modernity.

Nearest MRT: Khatib Station / Sembawang Station / Yishun Station

Points of Interest

Chong Pang Market and Food Centre

This bustling food market and hawker centre (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 6am–10pm) has about 60 stalls serving local favourites. From popular breakfast dish kway chow (steamed rice cakes topped with diced preserved radish) to braised duck rice and nasi lemak (fragrant coconut rice; see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p99), hungry visitors will be spoilt for choice. On a hot day, nothing refreshes like a glass of cold soya bean milk from Lian Yin Hot & Cold Drinks (801-148). Chong Pang heartland itself

Available bicycle stands at the main entrance of the park before entering.

Address: Tampines Avenue 9 and Tampines Avenue 12
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg
Neighbourhoods

**DID YOU KNOW?**

• Yishun was named after community leader and philanthropist Lim Hwee Soon, known as the Rubber and Philanthrop King because he made his fortune with these crops. His plantations were then located in Yishun and Sembawang and some rubber trees from Lim’s former plantations can still be found in the northeast end of Yishun Park.

• The only natural hot spring in Singapore is located in Sembawang. Discovered in 1901 by a Chinese merchant, the area became known as Kampung Ayer Panas (“hot water village”) in Malay. The hot springs, near the junction of Sembawang Road and Gambier Avenue, is off the Sembawang Airbase grounds. However, it’s not a hot spring where one can enjoy a soak; it’s just a small concrete base with a standpipe channeling the water and is free to the public. Anyone can bring his/her buckets and basins to fill with spring water from 7am to 7pm.

The Heritage Bridge at Lower Seletar Reservoir Park is a popular photography spot.

is popular among foodies seeking out value-for-money durians (a spicy tropical fruit that is popular among locals).

**Address:** 104 Yishun Ring Road

**Lower Seletar Reservoir Park**

Singapore’s Lower Seletar Reservoir was created when a dam was built across the mouth of the Seletar River in 1983. The reservoir is one of the most recent water sources developed in the country. What can visitors experience in the 3.3ha park? Aside from the scenic reservoir, there is a fishing jetty, kayaks for rent and a water park.

**Address:** Yishun Ave 1 and Lander Avenue
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/lower-seletar-reservoir-park
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg

**Sembawang Park**

Popular with families, Sembawang Park has one of the last natural beaches in Singapore. It’s also a favourite spot for birdwatchers to view eagles, kites, kingfishers and orioles. Once part of the Singapore Naval Base, Sembawang Park is intricately linked to the country’s history. At the end of the park is the Sembawang Jetty, which was built by the British in the 1940s and shut down by the Japanese during the Japanese Occupation. The walkways today follow the paths laid by the British.

At the edge of the park stands a beautiful bungalow with Victorian-style ironwork and neoclassical plaster details called Beauville House (opening hours: Mon-Sat, 11am–2.30pm, 6pm–11pm; Sun & Public Holidays, 11am–11pm), which was built as a seaside retreat in the 19th C. Today, visitors can enjoy Chinese seafood, Western cuisine and local delights with lovely sea views at Beauville House Restaurant.

**Address:** Sembawang Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/sembawang-park
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg

**Masjid Assyafaah**

Designed by local firm Forum Architects, the mosque (opening hours: Mon–Fri, 8am–6pm; Sat–Sun, 8am–1pm) integrates traditional Islamic symbols with a modern aesthetic. The 10-storey minaret is made of rusted metal plates that “disappear” at night, leaving the lit crescent and star to hover over the mosque. Arabic script screens are used to create a play of light and shadow while ensuring air flow within the building. The mosque itself dates back to the 1920s, and is a fusion of two older mosques in Sembawang – the Masjid Jamaah Sembawang and Masjid Najibul Naceh Base.

**Address:** Admiralty Lane
Tel: +65 6756 3008
Website: assyafaahmosque.sg
Email: info@assyafaahmosque.org.sg

**The Galleria at Capitol Singapore**

Located within a restored 1920s-era Galleria, the hotel is a six-star luxury retreat that is a study in classic elegance, often housed in converted conservation buildings and heritage shophouses to lend nostalgic charm to modern restaurants and retail destinations.

Website: brasbasahholic.sg
Nearest MRT: Bugis Station / Beach Station / City Hall Station

**Points of Interest**

**BRAS BASAH.BUGIS**

Straddling Singapore’s Civic District and Kampong Glam (see Ethnic Districts, p60), the Bugis district was named after the Buginese people, seafarers from South Sulawesi in Indonesia, who settled in the area in the early 19th century before the British arrived. Now, the bustling Bras Basah Bugis neighbourhood is a hotbed for transvestites and gawking tourists to hover over the mosque. Arabesque ironwork and neoclassical plaster details called Beauville House (opening hours: Mon-Sat, 11am–2.30pm, 6pm–11pm; Sun & Public Holidays, 11am–11pm), which was built as a seaside retreat in the 19th C. Today, visitors can enjoy Chinese seafood, Western cuisine and local delights with lovely sea views at Beauville House Restaurant.

**Address:** Sembawang Road
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/parks-and-nature/parks-and-nature-reserves/sembawang-park
Email: nparks_public_affairs@nparks.gov.sg

**Beauville House**

**Address:** 117 Beauville Road
Tel: +65 6257 9234
Fax: +65 6185 7638
Website: beauvillehouse.com.sg
Email: enquiries@beauvillehouse.com.sg

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Visitors to Sembawang Park can see the ships berthed at Sembawang Jetty, which used to be part of the Singapore Naval Base built by the British in the 1920s. Today, it is one of the premier shipyards in the region, specialising in upgrading and converting passenger ships and repairing naval ships.

**LIFESTYLE PRECINCTS**

With multiple offerings that span the island, Singapore has no shortage of places to shop, dine and explore. Whether visitors are looking for family-friendly locations or nightlife hubs, established tourist enclaves or off-the-beaten-track neighbourhoods, luxury shopping or quirky independent boutiques, these eclectic lifestyle districts will keep visitors occupied and entertained throughout their stay.

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Website: brasbasahholic.sg
Nearest MRT: Bugis Station / Beach Station / City Hall Station

Points of Interest

**Bugis Street**

Said to contain more than 600 shops and stalls across three levels peddling clothes, food and beauty services, this vibrant shopping destination immerses visitors in the lively atmosphere of a bustling pasar malam (night market) within a covered marketplace. The street itself was once a hotbed for transvestites and gawking sailors, but it is now teeming with local youths and bargain-hunters shopping for affordable fashion, accessories and trinkets. The two upper storeys are fully air-conditioned.

**Address:** 3 New Bugis Street
Tel: +65 6338 9513
Fax: +65 6339 3776
Website: bugisstreet.com.sg
Email: enquiries@bugisstreet.com.sg

**CHIJMES**

This 19th-century complex, gazetted as a national monument in 1990, began life in Caldwell House as the Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus, from which it derived its name. It then became a Catholic girls’ school, adding a magnificent Gothic chapel featuring intricate plasterwork, stonework archways and Belgian stained glass windows. In 1996, after extensive restoration work, the CHIJMES complex was reopened as a converted enclave of restaurants, wine bars and sports pubs (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p90). The chapel, now named CHIJMES Hall, is a popular venue for weddings and events.

**Address:** 30 Victoria Street
Tel: +65 6338 7801
Website: chijmes.com.sg
Email: chijmes@perfectmilealicedept.com.sg

**DID YOU KNOW?**

In the old days, the CHIJMES complex included an orphanage, and unwanted babies were left at a side gate on Victoria Street called the Gate of Hope. Though the practice has discontinued, the gate still stands today.

 capita! The Patali (patalihotels.com/singapore) and the city’s first integrated luxury lifestyle complex. Capitol Piazza encompasses designer boutiques, galleries and eateries in a picturesque sheltered promenade beside Capitol Theatre (see Venues, Performance Venues p88). The Arcade and Newton sections (opening hours: Mon-Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm) contain lifestyle, accessories and fashion retailers, while the Galleria (opening hours: Sun-Thu, 10.30am–7pm; Fri & Sat, 10.30–8am) is an oasis of bars, cafés and restaurants. Look out for the Capitol Building’s distinctive architectural feature: the concave curved corner facing the junction of Stamford Road and North Bridge Road.

**Address:** 18 Stamford Road
Tel: +65 6499 5168
Website: capitalisma.com
Email: enquiry@capitalsingapore.com
Raffles Hotel Singapore

Opened in 1887 by the Sarkies brothers, this iconic landmark is a monument of colonial architecture and luxury, steeped in history and lore. Visitors can enjoy the building’s old-world charm while strolling the corridors and courtyards of the hotel grounds – including the Raffles Hotel Shopping Arcade – before settling into Bar & Billiard Room to try the popular cocktail Singapore Sling, which was created at the hotel’s legendary Long Bar.

Note: Raffles Hotel Singapore is undergoing extensive restoration works and is slated to fully reopen by mid-2018. Refer to the website or call in advance to check the affected facilities.

Address: Beach Road
Tel: +65 6337 8186 / +65 6412 1180 / +65 6412 2687 (Trade Contact)
Fax: +65 6339 7650
Website: raffles.com/singapore
Email: concierge.singapore@raffles.com

Points of Interest

HOLLAND VILLAGE & ONE-NORTH

A short bus ride from Orchard Road and the Singapore Botanic Gardens (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p.54), the eateries and bars of Holland Village (affectionately referred to as Holland V by local residents) have long been popular, while its hawkers centres and kopitiams (traditional coffee shops) offer plenty of local flavours. This quaint area plays host to an abundance of live music (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p.92). Just a stone’s throw away from Holland V is the district of one-north, which is a cluster of research and development technology centres. Here, visitors will find green expanses, as well as fine dining restaurant Garibaldi (garibaldi.com.sg), which was awarded the first Michelin Star in Singapore.

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The Substation

As Singapore’s first independent venue for experimental contemporary arts, this is where local art lovers come for edgy performances and alternative art shows, from dance, theatre and music to literature and visual arts. Founded in 1990, it was a small music venue and bar that grew into a vibrant cultural organisation

Note: The Substation is undergoing extensive restoration works and is slated to fully reopen by mid-2018. Refer to the website or call in advance to check the affected facilities.

Address: 1 Beach Road
Tel: +65 6337 8186 / +65 6412 1180 / +65 6412 2687 (Trade Contact)
Fax: +65 6339 7650
Website: thesubstation.org
Email: admin@thesubstation.org

3am:dessertbar

Fronted by one of Singapore’s culinary stars, 3am:dessertbar showcases pastry chef Janice Wong’s creative and luxurious creations. So named because its closing time is 3am, the dessert bar caters to night owls and diners with a sweet tooth. Visitors can expect delicious classics – such as chocolate tart and tiramisu – alongside Wong’s signature one-of-a-kind creations, like Shades of Green comprising pistachio sponge, cocoa mousse and pandan ice cream, that have earned her global accolades. A limited savoury menu is also available.

Address: 21A Lorong Liput, Holland Village
Tel: +65 6219 7227
Website: 3amdessertbar.com
Email: 3amdessertbar@gmail.com

Timbre+

Timbre+ brings together a wide range of food offerings in the one-north area together with a weekly entertainment roster of live local music acts (Mon-Thu 7.45pm–11pm; Fri, 8.30pm-12.30am; Sat, 8pm–12am). Visitors will find permanent food trucks, casual eats and restaurant-grade fare at reasonable prices. The Bottle Shop (timbregroup.asia/bottle-shop) has a rotating cider and beer menu of close to 200 different types of drinks from around the world plus a limited range of spirits.

Address: 73A Ayer Rajah Crescent, JTC LaunchPad @ one-north
Tel: +65 6252 2545
Website: timbregroup.asia
Email: info@timbregroup.asia

Ghim Moh Market

Similarly bustling under its old-world charm while strolling the corridors and courtyards of the hotel grounds – including the Raffles Hotel Shopping Arcade – before settling into Bar & Billiard Room to try the popular cocktail Singapore Sling, which was created at the hotel’s legendary Long Bar.

Address: Jalan Emas 73A Ayer Rajah Crescent,
Tel: +65 6252 2545
Website: timbregroup.asia
Email: info@timbregroup.asia

Neighbourhoods

EAT STREETS

Swat Street and Purvis Street next to the Raffles Hotel are parallel streets packed with eateries, including famous Apam Balik (traditional coffee shop) Chin Chin Eating House (19 Purvis Street), hip watering hole The Bar A Kitchen (thebarakitchen.com) or autocratic French cribeurs Entre-Nous (enrous.sg). Bib Gourmand awardee Yhingthai Palace (yhingthai.com.sg), as well as fine dining restaurant Garibaldi (garibaldi.com.sg), which was awarded its first Michelin Star in Singapore.

Visitors can stop by the MINT Museum of Toys (mintmuseumoftoys.sg), which was awarded Bib Gourmand (2017–2018), by the family-owned Da Paolo Group (dapaologroup.com.sg), to relative newcomers Original Sin (originalsin.com.sg) and the Italian deli and pizza bar both managed by the family-owned Da Paolo Group (dapaologroup.com.sg), to relative newcomers like bakery Baker & Cook (bakersandcook.biz) and dessert café Sunday Folks (sundayfolks.com), all visitors will find something to satisfy their taste buds here. To beat the heat, visitors can head to ice cream parlour The Daily Scoop (thedailyscoop.com.sg), which is known for its creative and local flavours (brave souls can try the Moo Shei Wang durian flavour, while others can opt for chendol or lychee martinis).

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Points of Interest

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay
Nicknamed “The Durian” for its spiky, glass-covered construction that resembles the king of fruits, this is the hub of Singapore’s art scene, playing a key role in the city’s performing arts landscape. The Esplanade district and the Bayfront area, linked by the Helix Bridge, form a cultural and scenic hub of the city. The Esplanade is one of the world’s largest performing arts venues, offering a range of events from music and drama to dance and international performances. The Esplanade also plays host to the Singapore International Arts Festival, one of the largest annual cultural events in Asia. The Bayfront area features a newly developed promenade, with a pedestrian walkway alongside the bay. It offers some of the city’s most-loved food stalls (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p.93), art festivals. There are free events and performances throughout the year. The Esplanade district and the Bayfront area, linked by the Helix Bridge, form a cultural and scenic hub of the city.

Fullerton Heritage Precinct
This cluster of redeveloped heritage properties – named after the first governor of the Straits Settlements, Robert Fullerton – has become a luxury hospitality and dining destination. One Fullerton, Customs House, Clifford Pier, The Fullerton Pavillion and Waterboat House consist of upscale restaurants and cocktail bars, while the renowned The Fullerton Hotel Singapore and The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore (Fullertonhotels.com) serve as symbolic landmarks of the precinct’s blending of heritage with modern luxury. Visitors can also take a scenic stroll to the nearby Merlion Park for a good photo opportunity.

Marina Barrage
Built across the Marina Channel, the Marina Barrage creates Singapore’s 15th reservoir. It also acts as a flood control measure for low-lying parts of the city centre by keeping out the tidal influence. Its stable water surface makes it an ideal venue for water and recreational activities, set against the stunning city skyline.

Marina Bay Sands

Neighbourhoods

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Points of Interest

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Nicknamed “The Durian” for its spiky, glass-covered construction that resembles the king of fruits, this is the hub of Singapore’s art scene, playing host to music, theatre, dance and art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to art festivals. There are free events every day, from dance performances to...
and exciting entertainment – a far cry from its humble origins as a lane of nutmeg, pepper and fruit orchards that gave it its name. When people began moving into the district in the 1850s, the street became lined with outdoor hawkers centres, wet markets, temples and cemeteries.

In 1903, shops started to spring up – including Singapore’s first supermarket, Fraser’s Centrepoint (frasercentrepointmall.com) currently stands – and the boulevard’s reputation as a shopping destination continued to grow. Today, Orchard Road is not only a paradise for shoppers seeking to grow. Today, Orchard Road is not

**TANGS at Tang Plaza**

Orchard Road’s first department store, opened by entrepreneur Tang Choon Keng in 1958, is a local treasure and iconic landmark (see Shopping, Malls, p134). The retail stalwart (opening hours: Mon-Sat, 10.30am–9.30pm; Sun, 11am–8.30pm) is lauded for championing independent local and regional fashion designers alongside international brands, and also boasts SEVIN at TANGS, a premium beauty oasis of spas on its top floor.

Address: 310 Orchard Road
Tel: +65 6377 5500
Website: tangs.com

**The Istana**

As the official residence and office of the president of Singapore, the Istana was gazetted as a national monument in 1992. While the Istana Grounds are only open to the public on certain public holidays, visitors can get a glimpse of its history at the newly opened Istana Heritage Gallery (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p40) at Istana Park across the street.

Address: 35 Orchard Road
Tel: +65 6737 5522
Fax: +65 6735 3135
Website: istana.gov.sg
Email: gallery_enquiry@istana.gov.sg

**ION Orchard**

Since opening in 2009, this iconic mall (opening hours: Mon-Sun, 10am–10pm) has been dubbed the jewel of Orchard Road – as much for its futuristic glass and metal architecture as for its impressive line-up of retail and F&B options (see Shopping, Malls, p132). Visitors will find luxury brands, high-street fashion and lifestyle stores spread across eight levels, plus an extensive food hall and an art gallery. The 360-degree views from ION Sky on the 56th floor – the highest point on Orchard Road – are a must-see. ION Sky is undergoing renovation and will reopen in October 2017.

Address: 2 Orchard Turn
Tel: +65 6238 8228
Website: ionorchard.com
Email: customercare@ionorchard.com.sg

**PUNGGOL Waterway coastal walk and Lorong Halus bridge in the background**

Open to the public, the pay-as-you-use country club has a boardwalk by the Straits of Johor that makes it a perfect place to enjoy the sea breeze during sunset. Travellers can relax landside with a drink and quiet dinner of chargrilled seafood at the Waterfront Restaurant, or rent a boat for a deep-sea fishing excursion. The country club also has 45 wakeboarding boats, making it Singapore’s largest operator for this watersport.

Address: 11 Northshore Drive
Tel: +65 6385 6166
Fax: +65 6387 6166
Website: marina_countryclub.com.sg
Email: enquiries@marina_countryclub.com.sg

**Lorong Halus Wetland**

One of Punggol’s most underrated attractions, this former landfill along the eastern bank of Punggol Serangoon Reservoir was opened to the public in 2011. It’s a bird-watching haven for viewing the likes of white-bellied sea-eagles and great egrets in their natural habitat.

Address: Opposite Punggol Promenade Riverside Walk
Website: pub.gov.sg/abcwaters/explore/loronghaluswetland

**Marina Country Club**

Points of Interest

**DESTINATION SINGAPORE**

**Neighbourhoods**
Neighbourhoods

Punggol Waterway / Waterway Point

Hailed as the Venice of Punggol and winding through Punggol Town, this is Singapore’s longest man-made waterway at 4.2km. Visitors can survey more than 22 mangrove varieties, go cycling or inline skating, and watch the sunset at several vantage points, including Jewel Bridge and Sunset Stret. Along the breezy waterbed, Waterway Point is a recently opened shopping mall that caters to the entire family. Adults will find a variety of shopping and dining options, while children will gravitate to the massive play zones on level 2, such as Happy Park, a wet and dry outdoor playground with slides, and the experimental indoor Kids’ Wonderland, where they can play among fairy-tale characters.

Punggol Waterway
Address: Along Sentul Crescent
Website: www.nparks.gov.sg/gardens-parks-punggolwaterwaypark
Waterway Point
Address: 83 Punggol Central
Tel: +65 6812 7300
Website: waterwaypoint.fraserscentrepointmalls.com

The Punggol Settlement

This one-stop seafront destination at Punggol Point overlooks the Straits of Johor. Travellers who would like to go cycling can rent a bike at Komodo Adventures & Recreation, while the Punggol Ranch Resort nearby offers horseback riding activities. Those who prefer to eat out can savour delectable dishes at notable eateries including casual French restaurant Horizon Bosconnomy and Punggol Seafood Restaurant (Hook Kee) (zonggolseafood.com.sg). The latter was founded in 1969 and remains famous to this day for its chilli crabs and signature mee goreng (fried Malay noodles).

Address: 3 Punggol Point Road
Website: punggolsettlement.com
Email: admin@punggolsettlement.com

Aerial view of Resorts World™ Sentosa Singapore Cable Car

DID YOU KNOW?

About 1% of Sentosa is home to wildlife such as monitor lizards, peacocks and monkeys. The Butterfly Park and Insect Kingdom house more than 15,000 live butterflies and over 3,000 species of insects respectively.

Parks

GO SOUTH

A short bridge walk from Sentosa is a small lake called Palawan Island. It is referred to as the southernmost point of continental Asia. These, visitors can climb one of two watchtowers for views of the ocean on one side and Sentosa on the other.

Points of Interest

Faber Peak Singapore / Singapore Cable Car Sky Network

Formerly known as The Jewel Box, this vibrant cluster of dining and entertainment is situated 105m above sea level and away from the hustle and bustle of the city. With vibrant views of the HarbourFront precinct, the city skyline and the Southern Islands (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p56), visitors can take in the picturesque views over a meal at Spuds & Aprons or Faber Bistro, then walk on the wooden walkways of Henderson Waves (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32) or view Faber Point’s carved murals, which depict key moments of Singapore’s history. For a truly scenic experience, visitors should ride the Singapore Cable Car Sky Network, which takes visitors over green wilderness, land and sea, from Faber Peak Singapore and across the harbour to Sentosa.

For set-dining options, which include Cable Car Sky Pass combos, visitors can check out Spuds & Aprons. Visitors can also choose to dine in the cable car: for groups of friends or families, Singapore Delights serves the best local dishes while couples can indulge in an elaborate meal for two with Dining on Cloud 9. Visitors can touch and step on (and into) them. For groups of over 20 people, call to enquire about group deals. Bundle tickets to Madame Tussauds Singapore are also available with entry to Trick Eye Museum Singapore (opening hours: Mon- Sun, 10am–9pm), where paintings and installations on the walls, ceilings and ground appear three-dimensional thanks to optical illusions. Visitors are encouraged to touch and step on (and into) them. For groups of over 20 people, call to enquire about group deals. Team bonding and corporate packages are also available.

Madame Tussauds Singapore
Address: Sentosa Island, 41 Imbiah Road, Imbiah Lookout (Sentosa Express: Imbiah Station)
Tel: +65 6765 4000
Website: madametussauds.com/singapore
Email: enquiries@madametussauds.com / jeffreylim@madametussauds.com (Trade Contact: Jeffrey Lim)

Trick Eye Museum Singapore
Address: Sentosa Island, 26 Sentosa Gateway, Waterfront @ Resorts World™ Sentosa, #01-14/15 (Sentosa Express: Waterfront Station)
Tel: +65 6765 2370 / +65 6765 2371 / +65 6765 2486 (Trade Contact: Sharon Loh)
Fax: +65 6765 2964
Website: trickeyes.com/singapore
Email: enquiries@trickeye.com / sales@trickeye.com (Trade Contact)

DESTINATION SINGAPORE
Neighbourhoods

Quayside Isle

Along with The Residences at W Singapore and the W Singapore – Sentosa Cove (wsingaporesentosacove.com), Quayside Isle is part of the integrated luxury enclave of Sentosa Cove. As the first and only dining and retail destination within this waterfront precinct, it brings together more than 20 exciting dining experiences that include Asian, Belgian, French, Italian, Mediterranean and Spanish cuisines. The picturesque boardwalk offers panoramic views, and the laidback setting is great for couples looking for a romantic getaway or for families celebrating a special occasion. To get here, visitors can take a complimentary shuttle bus at the Sentosa Express Beach Station, which runs daily from 8am to 10.30pm at 30-minute intervals, and alight at the W Singapore less than a minute’s walk away.

Address: Sentosa Island, 31 Ocean Way, Sentosa Cove
Tel: +65 6577 8888 / +65 6577 9900
Sales@rwsentosa.com / Travelagents@rwsentosa.com (Trade Contact) / sales@rwsentosa.com
Website: wsingaporesentosacove.com
Fax: +65 6887 3502 / +65 6694 3410
Tel: +65 6577 8888 / +65 6577 9900
Website: rwsentosa.com

Resorts World™ Sentosa

As a popular one-stop destination and massive lifestyle destination resort spanning 49ha, Resorts World™ Sentosa comprises world-class attractions – including Universal Studios Singapore® – a spa, casino, six unique hotels, the most number of Michelin stars in one destination (see Eat & Drink, Celebrity Fine Dining, p109), and luxury retail boutiques. Its Resorts World™ Theatre (see Venues, Performance Venues, p132) hosts original productions and concerts, while the Resorts World™ Convention Centre caters to events ranging from large-scale exhibitions to corporate meetings (see Venues, Exhibition & Conference Venues, p136). Visitors can opt for attraction bundle tickets. Enquire about the latest promotions (spanning attractions, hotels, restaurants, and shows and events) and group deals.

Address: Sentosa Island, 8 Sentosa Gateway
Tel: +65 6577 8888 / +65 6577 9900
(Trade Contact)
Fax: +65 6577 8895
Website: resortsworld.com
Email: inquiries@resortsworld.com / travelagents@resortsworld.com (Trade Contact) / sales@resortsworld.com

SERANGOON GARDENS

Visitors may take the lush, residential neighbourhood of Serangoon Gardens for a romantic stroll, going by its many roads named after British locales (Cardiff, Kensington and Worthing). It was established in the 1950s for British officers and their families to live in. Members of the older Singaporean Chinese generations fondly alude to Serangoon Gardens by its Hokkien moniker of “ang sar lee”, referring to the distinctive red zinc roofs of shophouses that once dotted the area. With its mix of well-loved hawker fare (like at Chomp Chomp Food Centre; see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p121) and hip hangouts, it is now a foodie’s paradise that draws many discerning locals and travellers looking to sate their hard-to-please tastebuds.

Nearest MRT: Serangoon Station / Lorong Chuan Station

Points of Interest

Chong Hoe Chinese Medical Store

A family-run business that started in 1957, this is the neighbourhood’s oldest traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) store (opening hours: Mon–Sat, 8am–8pm; Sun & Public Holidays, 8am–1pm) and still boosts a loyal clientele. Travellers can pick up a bottle of Chong Hoe Herbal Health Tonic, an in-house concoction said to have numerous health-boosting effects, such as improved sleep and better complexion.

Address: 61 Serangoon Garden Way
Tel: +65 6288 4652
Fax: +65 6288 4652
Website: chonghoe61@yahoo.com.sg
Email: chonghoe61@yahoo.com.sg

Did You Know?
The name Serangoon is said to have originated from the portmanteau of ‘satu’, the Malay word for “one”, and barang, a Malay word for the bridge-like march bird that used to flock the swamps of Serangoon River.

Address: 1 Maju Avenue
Tel: +65 6634 2288
Website: myvillage.sg
Email: hello.there@myvillage.com.sg

Serangoon Garden Bakery & Confectionery

This bakery is known for its soft bread and cakes, which are freshly made every day. Visitors are advised to go in the mornings and brave long queues, as hot favourites such as curry buns and bread with otah (spicy grilled fish paste) are usually sold out by noon.

Address: 49A Serangoon Garden Way, Serangoon Garden Market, J2-45

SINGAPORE RIVER

For more than a century, the Singapore River was the island’s centre of trade and commerce. Today, the areas that straddle it are bustling nightlife and dining hubs known as the Quays. Closest to the mouth of the river on the southern bank is Boat Quay, followed by Clarke Quay upriver on the northern bank, and Robertson Quay stretching along the same bank even further upstream (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p90, p91 and p94 respectively). While the waterfront warehouses and godowns that once stored cargo brought in by bumboats have been refashioned into trendy restaurants, nightclubs and drinking dens, the colonial façades and colourful five-foot-way shophouses remain charming reminders of Singapore’s historical past.

Enjoying a movie screening at the open-air rooftop deck at myVillage shopping mall

An aerial view of Clarke Quay and the colourful shophouses that line the river

Little Wimbly Lu at myVillage

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Neighbourhoods

Points of Interest

Alkaff Bridge
Built in 1997 in the shape of a tongkang – a light boat that shipped goods along the river – this 55m-long pedestrian bridge was named after a prominent family who lived in Singapore in the early 20th century. It is also known as the Singapore Art Bridge, and it is easy to see why – in 2004, Filipino artist Pacita Abad painted it with whimsical patterns using 55 colours.

Address: 1 Havelock Road

Liang Court
Locals and residents mainly flock to this shopping mall (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 10am–10pm) for its Japanese retailers – including anchor tenants Books Kinokuniya, Meidi-Ya supermarket and fast-fashion chain Uniqlo – as well as its authentic Japanese restaurants. The speciality eateries range from popular ramen and udon to less-typical fare like Okinawan cuisine, butadon (grilled pork on rice) and Japanese-style crepes.

Address: 187 River Valley Road
Tel: +65 6336 7184
Website: liangcourt.com.sg

Old Hill Street Police Station
Instantly recognisable for its 927 windows in rainbow hues, the Old Hill Street Police Station is currently home to the Ministry of Communications and Information and the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, as well as art galleries. Constructed in 1934, it also housed living quarters for police personnel and their families. The building was gazetted as a national monument in 1998.

Address: 140 Hill Street

Robertson Quay
A former wharf in the late 19th century, this neighbourhood is now an eclectic mix of retail shops, residential apartments, hotels, art galleries, bars and restaurants, boasting a low-key and family-friendly ambience. Visitors can take leisurely strolls across its pedestrian bridges or dine alfresco at one of the many riverside eateries, both day and night (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p94).

Address: Robertson Quay

Streets

Mohamed Sultan Road
The shophouses that line this road were once used as warehouses to store goods taken from harbouring ships for redistribution, as well as homes for local residents during pre-war Singapore. In the early 1990s, they were rejuvenated as clubs and pubs, transforming the area into a nightlife hub. Today, the shophouses are mostly occupied by restaurants and design retailers.

Address: Mohamed Sultan Road between Valley Road and River Valley Road

Tiong Bahru
It may be one of the oldest housing estates in Singapore, but this once-sleepy residential district is now a cultural hotbed for the island’s young and hip. Built in the 1930s, the neighbourhood has a look that sets it apart: low-rise buildings in the Streamline Moderne architectural style of clean lines and minimalist forms. Amidst this throwback architecture lies the district’s modern appeal, distinctively blending old and new Singapore: pre-war apartments with Art Deco façades now house quirky fashion boutiques, while decades-old kopitams (traditional coffee shops) rub shoulders with trendy cocktail bars and cool cafés. Travellers can experience Singapore’s famous hawker culture at Tiong Bahru Market and Food Centre (see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p122). With its unique heritage-meets-hipster vibe, Tiong Bahru is a neighbourhood worth exploring on foot.

Address: Robertson Quay Station / Clarke Quay Station / Raffles Place Station

Points of Interest

Block 78 Moh Guan Terrace
Affectionately known as “the horse-shoe block” for its iconic U-shape, this five-storey apartment building, completed in 1940, is the largest single block of flats in the area. One section of the building also houses a civilian air raid shelter, making it the only public housing estate at the time that was built with a shelter as part of its design.

Address: Block 78 Moh Guan Terrace

Did You Know?
One of Tiong Bahru’s oldest surviving kopitams, located at Block 78 Moh Guan Terrace, has been around since the 1940s. Hui Bee Restaurant served as the set for prominent Singapore filmmaker Eric Khoo’s 1995 movie, Mee Pok Man. In a fitting metaphor for the old meets new appeal of Tiong Bahru, a trendy yakitori eatery takes over the space at night.

Address: Block 78 Moh Guan Terrace

* Romans refer to places in Rome.

Nearest MRT: Clarke Quay Station / Raffles Place Station
Neighbourhoods

Dancing Girl Sculpture

The district’s first piece of public art is located in Seng Poh Garden. Sculpted by Sarawak-born artist, Lim Nang Sang, who also created the iconic Merlion statue, the concrete 1.2m-high Dancing Girl sculpture was commissioned to be the centrepiece of the landscaped garden in 1972.

Address: Seng Poh Road near Moh Guan Terrace

Qi Tian Gong Temple

A neighbourhood fixture since the 1920s, this temple (opening hours: Mon–Sun, 7am–5pm) is nicknamed the Monkey God Temple since it is dedicated to the Taoist deity from the Chinese literary classic Journey to the West. More than 10 statues of the Monkey God – including one that is almost a century old – can be found within.

Address: 44 Eng Hoon Street
Tel: +65 6220 2469
Fax: +65 6222 0352
Website: qitiangong.com
Email: qitian@singnet.com.sg

Seng Poh Road

Located just opposite Tiong Bahru Market and Food Centre, a cluster of small streets between Seng Poh Road and Tiong Poh Road is home to murals and many local establishments that embody the district’s hipster appeal. Pop into Tiong Bahru Bakery (tiongbahrubakery.com) or Drips Bakery Café (drips.com.sg/dripsbakery) for a cuppa, then browse bespoke bouquets and small gifts at One Olive (oneolive.net), which sometimes hosts flower arranging and craft workshops.

Address: Eng Hoon Street, Seng Poh Lane and Eng Watt Street

Tan Boon Liat Building

This 15-storey commercial building on Outram Road, a few minutes’ walk from Tiong Bahru Market and Food Centre, is a treasure trove for furniture hunters. Showrooms and retail spaces offer all kinds of unique home décor – from Asian antiques (fairpriceantique.com) and industrial furniture (journeyeast.com) to contemporary lamps (theshophouse.com) and plush carpets (jehangallery.com).

Address: 315 Outram Road

Yong Siak Street

Many of the pioneering stores and eateries that elevated Tiong Bahru to hip status are situated side-by-side on this jam-packed street. Independent bookshop BooksActually (booksactuallyshop.com) champions local authors; Forty Hands café (40handscoffee.com) kick-started the speciality coffee scene in Singapore; nana & bird (nanaandbird.com) stocks quirky and colourful womenswear and accessories; and Plain Vanilla (plainvanillabakery.com) makes some of the best cupcakes on the island.

Address: Yong Siak Street
Boasting a lively nightlife scene, Singapore is one of the best cities in Asia for staying out late and after-dark escapades. The city-state is home to 13 of Asia’s 50 best bars (according to Drinks International magazine), 38 Michelin-starred restaurants and one of the top dance clubs in Asia (according to DJ Mag). Singapore’s nightlife scene caters to just about every type of visitor: from sophisticated foodies, seasoned clubbers and partygoers, jazz and live music aficionados, headbangers and karaoke lovers, to art connoisseurs, history buffs, trendy hipsters and families with kids. There are festivals throughout the year with many offering evening and night cultural experiences, and there is a wide range of other after-dark activities happening in the following popular nightlife precincts, from top theatre performances and live music to comedy shows, cruises and tours.

Ann Siang Hill, Club Street, Cross Street & Telok Ayer Street

This part of Chinatown (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p57) is where the old meets the new. Temples stand alongside lively restaurants and bars, while historical buildings, once the home to trading shophouses and clan associations, have been converted into hip fashion and antique stores. The area offers a bit of everything – arts, culture, history and entertainment – and these nearby streets – Ann Siang Hill, Club Street, Cross Street and Telok Ayer Street – serve as a good guide on where visitors can go.

Eat and drink
Visitors can consider the many bars along Telok Ayer for a pre-dinner tipple. Jigger & Pony (see Eat & Drink, Bars & Clubs, p128) along Amoy Street specialises in negronis and other classic cocktails, while Sum Yi Tai (see Eat & Drink, Unique Dining Concepts, p103) on Boon Tat Street offers Cantonese tapas in a modern Chinoiserie setting, complete with an eclectic soundtrack of Cantopop and hip-hop tunes. Favourite dinner options here include Ka Soh (ka-soh.com.sg) for authentic Chinese stir-fry dishes and No Menu (osvaldo.sg) for robust northern Italian fare in a homey setting.

A short walk away from Telok Ayer are Ann Siang Hill and Club Street, two adjoining streets that are closed to vehicular traffic on weekend evenings, making for a relaxed alfresco evening under the stars. Popular bars here include Beaujolais Club (beaujolais.com.sg) for its comprehensive wine selection; American bistro-bar Club Street Social (clubstreetsocial.com) for bold cocktails with hearty comfort food; hidden gem Operation Dagger (see Eat & Drink, Bars & Clubs, p130) for its unique concoctions, and basement bar Catchfly (facebook.com/catchfly.sg), which features contemporary twists on classic cocktails.

Dining options at Ann Siang Hill and Club Street are varied. Visitors can sample Mediterranean-inspired small plates at Lola (lolla.com.sg), steak frites at cosy Les Bouchons (lesbouchons.sg), and New England-style fare such as lobster rolls and clam chowder at Luke’s (lukes.com.sg/gemmil).

There’s no shortage of F&B options over at Cross Street. Some recommended eats include &SONS (sons.com.sg), which offers Italian small plates and cheese platters, as well as a selection of grilled mains, along with live music, starting at 7.30pm. For Thai food, Folks Collective (folkscollective.com) serves a menu of authentic favourites like curries and salads to modern Thai fare.
Nightlife & Entertainment

**Boat Quay & Circular Road**

Once the busiest part of Singapore, this former port located on the southern bank of the Singapore River near the Raffles Place Central Business District (CBD) remains busy round the clock. It’s a popular place among visitors and locals who come here after work to unwind at the many watering holes, as well as soak in the dazzling CBD night skyline and ambience along the Singapore River.

**Cruise**

Singapore River Cruise (rivercruise.com.sg) is a popular night attraction. With two pick-up and drop-off points (Fullerton Jetty or Boat Quay Jetty), both located along Boat Quay, this 40-minute cruise (last trip at 10:30pm) is a convenient and scenic way to take in all the sights and sounds of the Singapore River – from Marina Bay Sands down south to Clarke Quay further inland. The Laser Shoe Cruise departs daily at 7.30pm and 8.30pm to coincide with Spectra, the cutting-edge light and water show at Marina Bay Sands (see Shopping, p35).

**Pubs and entertainment**

After a cruise, visitors can enjoy a cold pint, hearty pub food and live entertainment at numerous bars in the area, such as Harry’s (harrys.com.sg) and neighbouring Circular Road’s Molly Malone’s Irish Pub (molly-malone.com), where live music performances are a regular feature. For a night of laughs, Comedy Masala Singapore (comedymasala.com) on Circular Road offers open-mic sessions (every Tue, 8pm) featuring an international roster of stand-up comedians.

**Culture by night**

Open till 9pm on Fridays is the Asian Civilisations Museum (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p41) explores the culture and practices of the Peranakans (Straits-born people of Chinese and Malay/Indonesian heritage) in the region across 10 permanent galleries featuring artefacts such as jewellery, furniture and textiles. Built in 1912, the museum building itself was home to Tao Nan School, one of the region’s first modern Hakka (Chinese dialect group) schools set up in the Straits Settlements. For a sense of Southeast Asian contemporary art, visitors can head to SAM at 8Q – the annex of the Singapore Art Museum (SAM; see Attractions, Arts & Design, p37) on Queen Street – which has extended opening hours till 7pm daily.

**Bras Basah & CHIJMES**

Bras Basah derived its name from the Malay term for “wet rice”, which was once laid out on the banks of Bras Basah River (known as the Stamford Canal today). Starting at the tail end of Orchard Road and Handy Road, the Bras Basah area is part of Singapore’s Museum and Downtown Core, and the main precinct for the annual Singapore Night Festival (see Events & Festivals, p26).

**Arts and film**

Open till 9pm on Fridays, the Peranakan Museum (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p41) explores the culture and practices of the Peranakans (Straits-born people of Chinese and Malay/Indonesian heritage) in the region across 10 permanent galleries featuring artefacts such as jewellery, furniture and textiles. Built in 1912, the museum building itself was home to Tao Nan School, one of the region’s first modern Hakka (Chinese dialect group) schools set up in the Straits Settlements. For a sense of Southeast Asian contemporary art, visitors can head to SAM at 8Q – the annex of the Singapore Art Museum (SAM; see Attractions, Arts & Design, p37) on Queen Street – which has extended opening hours till 7pm daily.

**Eat and drink**

Further down the road is CHIJMES (chijmes.com.sg) - the former 1860s-era Catholic convent is now a dining and entertainment hub of restaurants, bars and cafes that get especially lively at night. Try café favourites like pizzas, burgers and pancakes at Privé (theprivegroup.com.sg/privé), modern Australian fare at one-Michelin-starred Whitegrass (whitegrass.com.sg), classic Chinese cuisine at Cantonese restaurant, Lai Garden (chijmes.com.sg/er/garden-restaurant), and contemporary Asian fare at Coriander Leaf (corianderleaf.com). Coriander Leaf also has a cooking studio that runs cooking classes on Asian fare, such as Singaporean, Thai and Chinese cuisines.

For drink options, visitors who love whisky can sample fine whiskies at The Single Cask (thessinglecask.sg), while sports lovers can catch live screenings of matches at pubs such as The Irish Times (irishtimeschijmes.com).

**Clarke Quay**

This historic, eye-catching riverside enclave, situated upstream from the mouth of the Singapore River and Boat Quay, was named after Sir Andrew Clarke, governor of the Straits Settlements from 1873 to 1875. While nearby Boat Quay was the commercial centre during the colonial era, the barge lighters would transport goods upstream to warehouses at Clarke Quay. Today, the warehouses have been converted into a colourful, lively area with a futuristic red central fountain and huge fans to keep the area sheltered yet cool.

**Live music and dance**

Clarke Quay is best experienced at night, when locals and visitors flock to its popular waterfront drinking and dining spots. It’s also home to live music venues. The iconic Crazy Elephant (crazyelephant.sg) is a popular live blues and rock ‘n’ roll spot for visiting international musicians such as REM, Robbie Williams and Deep Purple. The venue is also known for its Sunday jam sessions (from 10pm) where both professional and amateur musicians can show off their skills. The Pump Room (pumproomasia.com.sg) is a microbrewery
and bistro with live music Tuesdays to Sundays, from 10pm. For Latino grooves, Cuba Libre Cafe & Bar (cubablack.com.sg) pairs potent mojitos (traditional Cuban cocktail of white rum, sugar, lime juice, mint and soda water) and caipiharrin (a Brazilian cocktail made of cachaca, sugar and lime) with live Latin music sets (Mon–Sat) and impromptu salsa sessions. No visit to Singapore would be complete for the avid club goer without a night out at Zouk – the super-club was deemed one of Asia’s top dance clubs by DJ Mag. Other popular clubbing venues in Clarke Quay include Attica and VUL Club Lounge (see Eat & Drink, Bars & Clubs, p126 and p130 respectively).

Dempsey Hill

Once home to an 1850s-era nutmeg plantation called Mount Harriet and then the Tanglin Barracks in the late 1800s, Dempsey Hill was redeveloped in 2007 into a one-stop dining, entertainment and lifestyle venue. The newest is COMO Dempsey (comoempsey.sg) where visitors can enjoy dinner at one-Michelin-starred restaurant Candlenut (see Eat & Drink, Modern Singapore Cuisine, p118) – the first Peranakan restaurant to receive a star – dine at the casual Ippoh Tempura Bar (comoempsey.sg/restaurant/ippoh-tempura-bar-by-ginza-ippon), an outpost of Osaka’s oldest premium tempura restaurant, or savour the menu and cocktails at The Dempsey Cookhouse and Bar by Jean-Georges Vongerichten (comoempsey.sg/restaurant/the-dempsey-cookhouse-and-bar). For Indian fare, Sam’s Curry (25 Dempsey Road) has been dishing up homey South Indian cuisine served on banana leaves since the 1970s. The fish head curry here (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p128) is a must-try. Close by, RedDot Brewhouse (reddotbrewhouse.com.sg) is a former army barracks building hosting a weekly Speed Drinking Competition on Friday and Saturday nights from about 9pm. Of its eight brews, the unique Monster Green Lager Beer brewed with spirulina is well worth a try. The Rabbit Hole (see Eat & Drink, Unique Dining Concepts, p103), located in the backyard of a former Eberenezer Chapel built in the 1940s for the British troops in Singapore, is a charming alfresco bar serving specialty gin cocktails with house-made tonics in a lush botanical setting.

Holland Village

Once occupied by plantations and nurseries, Holland Village (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p76) was named in honour of Hugh Holland, a respected Dutch architect and actor in 1907. Popular among locals and expatriates, this laidback neighbourhood has a lively night atmosphere, thanks to the bars and restaurants lining Lorong Mambong. Part of this street is closed to vehicles in the evenings and turned into a pedestrian street, which adds to the buzz in the area.

Food galore

Good food is plentiful here. Visitors can dine on burgers at Fatboy’s The Burger Bar (fatboys.sg), hearty Indian at Kinara (thekinaranegroos.com), or vegetarian with a Mediterranean twist at Original Sin (see Eat & Drink, Vegetarian, p124). Visitors with a sweet tooth must not miss 2am dessertbar - owned by award-winning Singapore pastry chef Janice Wong – which is open Tuesdays to Fridays from 3pm to 2am (Sat-Sun, 2pm-3am).

Live performances

Visitors looking for a livelier night out should head to the iconic Wala Wala Cafe Bar (walawala.sg) where they can catch a sports match (screened at Level 1) or enjoy some live music (Level 2). Wala Wala is known for being a platform for up-and-coming local music talent, with many of Singapore’s established acts getting their start there.

One Fullerton & Esplanade

Situated across the former General Post Office – now the Fullerton Hotel – this waterfront promenade area (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p78) offers a stunning view of the Marina Bay skyline including iconic Marina Bay Sands®, the Singapore Flyer, Merlion Park (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Major Holidays, p31), home to the iconic half-fish, half-lion Merlion. A walk across the 261m-long Esplanade Bridge lets visitors capture the Marina South and Marina Bay night skyline. This is also a prime fireworks-watching spot during major holidays like Chinese New Year and New Year’s Eve (see Events & Festivals, p22 and p30 respectively). The area is also part of the Formula 1 Singapore Grand Prix night race circuit (see Events & Festivals, p27).

Concerts and performances

Just down the bridge is the Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (see Venues, Cocktails with a view

There are numerous drink venues in the area. Among them is Monti (monti.sg) with a marble-and-copper-top bar looking out onto Marina Bay from where visitors can enjoy its signature Monti Sour made with amaretto, or order two drinks for S$20++ during happy hour (Mon–Fri, 5pm–10pm). For couples, glamorous rooftop bar Lantern (see Eat & Drink, Bars & Clubs, p129) offers a romantic ambiance.

Capture the glittering skyline and iconic landmarks

Not-to-be-missed is the Merlion Park (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Major Holidays, p31) home to the iconic half-fish, half-lion Merlion. A walk across the 261m-long Esplanade Bridge lets visitors capture the Marina South and Marina Bay night skyline. This is also a prime fireworks-watching spot during major holidays like Chinese New Year and New Year’s Eve (see Events & Festivals, p22 and p30 respectively). The area is also part of the Formula 1 Singapore Grand Prix night race circuit (see Events & Festivals, p27).

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Concerts and performances

Just down the bridge is the Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (see Venues, Nightlife & Entertainment

Nightlife & Entertainment
Peranakan merchants and families at the turn of the 20th century. Today, many of its traditional Peranakan-style shophouses have been transformed into F&B venues.

**Catch a festive light-up**
Adding to the nocturnal buzz is the annual Orchard Road Christmas Light-Up (see Events & Festivals, p30). During this time, locals and visitors throng Orchard Road to admire and take pictures of the creative festive décor and lights that transform the streets, malls and hotel fronts into a glittering wonderland.

**Tipples and nibbles**
Visitors looking to relax with a drink will find no shortage of watering holes here. Martini Bar at Mezza9 at the Grand Hyatt Singapore (singapore.grand.hyattrestaurants.com/baratmezza9) is a choice spot for arguably the best martinis in town. During happy hour (Mon–Sat, 4pm–9pm), customers can enjoy house pours, cocktails and martinis at 50% off.

Over at Emerald Hill, its stretch of bars offers a broad range of drink and pub food options. Visitors can enjoy tapas and wine at Que Pasa (www.quepasa.com.sg), a selection of cold beers from around the world at Ice-Cold Beer (ice-cold-beer.com), and the juiciest chicken wings in town washed down with martinis at No. 5 Emerald Hill Cocktail Bar (emerald-hill.com).

**A glimpse into Peranakan legacy**
For a lesson on heritage, visitors can get a glimpse of Singapore’s rich Peranakan heritage by exploring Emerald Hill’s cluster of beautifully restored residential Peranakan terraced houses built between 1901 and 1925. Even as the sun sets, the ornate architecture is no less eye-catching.

**Robertson Quay**
What was once the site of warehouses and boatyards in the 1880s is now home to residential apartments, hip hotels and a string of food and drink options.

**Eat and drink**
The city’s newest after-hours dining hot spot is Po. A collaboration between chef Willin Low (see Eat & Drink, Modern Singapore Cuisine, p119) and hospitality firm Lo & Behold Group, this restaurant is located in the equally new Warehouse Hotel (thewarehousehotel.com). Red House Seafood restaurant (redhouseseafood.com), established in 1976, remains one of the better spots for a dinner of chilli crab (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p98) with a view of the Singapore River. The always lively Super Loco (super-loco.com) is a great pre-party venue for groups to fuel up on Mexican street food and potent tequila drinks in a casual setting. Robertson Quay is also home to one of Singapore’s top whisky bars, La Maison du Whisky (whisky.sg).

**Stroll along an art bridge**
Visitors to Robertson Quay (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p94), which is within walking distance of Clarke Quay, will notice a number of bridges. One highlight is the colourful, whimsically painted Alkaff Bridge (also known as the Singapore Art Bridge) that stands out as a focal point as it’s well-lit by night.

**Watch a theatrical performance**
Visitors who enjoy theatre should consider a night at the Singapore Repertory Theatre (srt.com.sg), known for staging highly popular, big-budget productions headlined by award-winning actors like Kevin Spacey and other local and regional actors. Nightly performances (tickets and fees apply) run from Tuesday to Saturday at 8pm and on Sundays at 6pm.
Travellers to Singapore have countless options when it comes to eating. From the humble local favourites served in hawker centres to refined plates at celebrity chef restaurants, the country’s culinary landscape has it all. The influences of the Chinese, Malay and Indian cultures have created a unique variety of flavourful dishes.

There are also unusual dining experiences waiting to be discovered, be it having a meal in complete darkness, dining on a bus or in a wonderland-themed setting, or having a drink while taking in the breathtaking views of the stunning skyline after dark. Those who would like to have halal, vegan or vegetarian food are also spoilt for choice, thanks to eateries catering to diverse dietary preferences.

With the latest MICHELIN guide Singapore 2017, there is no better time to discover the country’s exciting food offerings.

CULINARY TRENDS FOR 2017

The food and drinks scene in Singapore has never been more exciting. The country has a wide variety of award-winning restaurants, trendy dining concepts and homegrown culinary talents. Visitors will never run out of options to enjoy a memorable meal in Singapore.

More award-winning restaurants

The gourmet visitor will be delighted at the number of award-winning eateries in Singapore. In the MICHELIN guide Singapore 2017, 38 eateries were awarded Michelin stars and 38 establishments received the Bib Gourmand award. Of note are restaurants helmed by local chefs such as Corner House by chef Jason Tan (see Celebrity Fine Dining, p110), Candlenut by chef Malcolm Lee and Restaurant Labyrinth by chef-owner Han Li Guang (see Modern Singapore Cuisine, p118), and hot restaurants such as The Kitchen at Bacchanalia, JAAN and Waku Ghin (see Celebrity Fine Dining, p111 and p113 respectively). Hawkers were also honoured: Liao Fan Hong Kong Soya Sauce Chicken Rice & Noodle retained its one Michelin star. Others like Bismillah Biryani (see Halal Restaurants, p113) and Tian Tian Hainanese Chicken Rice (see Local Favourites, p98) – a favourite stop for celebrity chef and travel show host, Anthony Bourdain – were recognised with Bib Gourmand awards.

At the Asia’s 50 Best Restaurants awards ceremony held early in 2017, three Singapore-based restaurants made it to the top 10. Restaurant André (see Celebrity Fine Dining, p112) – which also got two Michelin stars – was named second-best restaurant in Asia, while Odette and Burnt Ends (see Celebrity Fine Dining, p109) were listed as ninth and 10th best restaurants respectively.

More dining pop-ups

Food enthusiasts who relish unconventional dining experiences may want to try one of the many dining pop-up events that happen across Singapore. Unique dining experiences include the Pokémon pop-up café at Bugis Junction (see Shopping, Malls, p131). This café is dedicated to the popular Japanese game and serves dishes shaped like Pikachu and sauces resembling Pokéballs.
Another noteworthy event is the 15-day MasterChef Dining & Bar pop-up, which brought Michelin-starred chef Marco Pierre White and MasterChef personalities from the United States, Asia and Australia to Ash & Elm modern European restaurant at the InterContinental Singapore. Meanwhile, international gems such as ANDSOFORTH (see Unique Dining Concepts, p100) held themed nights such as an Alice in Wonderland dinner show.

Chefs collaborations

Chefs collaborations, in which visiting chefs “guest-cook” in a local restaurant’s kitchen, are gaining popularity in Singapore. In 2016, 100Gourmet (100gourmet.sg) hosted 14 chefs collaborations with 11 award-winning visiting chefs, in a series of unique pop-up dinners; its 2017 calendar is one visitor should keep an eye on. For local tapas restaurant Equina (equina.com.sg) celebrates its fifth birthday this year with a collaborative dinner series, pairing head chef Carlos Montobbio with Restaurant Lavinby’s chef-owner Han Li Guang, chef Sun Kim (Meta), chef Diego Jacquet (chef patron of boChINche and ZDILIO) and chef Julien Royer (Odette; see Celebrity Fine Dining, p112).

Modernisation of local desserts

Some local establishments are taking desserts to a new level. One-Michelin-starred Corner House (cornerhouse.me) elevates the humble kaya toast (see Local Favourites, p39) to a fine-dining dessert. Chef Jason Tan’s rendition includes the basic flavours – pandan, coconut and gula melaka – combined with the more experimental touch of pineapple. Instead of the usual toast, he uses musselcavado biscuits sandwich a kaya parfait, finished off with garnishes such as gula melaka foam, kaya coulis, pandan snow and pineapple sorbet.

Meanwhile, Non-Entrée Desserts plays tricks with the diner’s mind in the way it plates its desserts. For instance, what appears like local dish bak chor mee (minced pork noodles) is actually a mix of mango pudding, mango shaped like noodles, sesame snow that mimics minced meat, a raspberry reduction resembling chilli, and a coconut parfait in the shape of a flower.

Farm-to-table dining

The global farm-to-table movement is gaining popularity in Singapore. Already, restaurants like Open Farm Community (openfarmcommunity.com) and The Space House (thespacehouse.com) offer a cuisine in which local produce and flavours are the stars. Beyond growing their ingredients on-site, these restaurants also source produce from farms locally and around the region. Driving the charge for more farms and pop-up events is Edible Gardens (ediblegardencity.com), which champions a Grow Your Own Food movement by designing, building and maintaining food gardens all around Singapore. Farmer’s markets have also become more popular in Singapore with regular events such as Krangi Countryside Farmer’s Market (kroknycountryside.com), Farmers’ Market at Loewen Gardens (see Shopping, Flea Markets & Weekend Bazaars, p118) and The Common Man Green Project.

Cheers to local microbreweries

White Tiger Beer (see Shopping, Local Products, p105) is a must-try, visitors may be interested to sample a cold brew from a local microbrewery. Blue Ball Brewhouse (blueball.sg) at the Singapore Botanic Gardens (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54) combines European microbrews with a menu featuring Indonesian, Indian and Chinese cuisines. Visitors should order Bali Gold, an easy-to-drink pumpkin pale ale. At 1925 Micro Brewery and Restaurant (1925com.sg), four proprietary microbrews sit in vats. Crafted by an aeronautical engineer, the Manuka Stout is refreshing with its honeyed flavours. LeVel13 (level13.com.sg) is another must-visit. Located in the penthouse of the Marina Bay Financial Centre, it is billed as the highest urban craft brewery in the world, and offers five delicious brews on tap along with panoramic views of the Marina Bay skyline.

Healthy eating gets bigger

Healthy eating in Singapore extends beyond salad bars. Besides vegetarian and vegan eateries (see Vegetarian, p122), there are also fast-dining concepts like The Daily Cut (thedailycut.sg) and Grain Traders (graintraders.com) where visitors can pick and choose their grilled meats, vegetables (fresh and cooked) and toppings. Other places like Open Door Policy (odopenair.com) offer a menu of 100% gluten- and dairy-free foods, including gluten-free pasta dishes (like a vegan mac and cheese) and sin-free treats such as a soy and palm sugar pecan pie. A popular concept is the1925 Micro Brewery and Restaurant, founded by a third-generation handcrafted daily by a third-generation family member.

Nose-to-tail dining

As diners become more adventurous, the concept of nose-to-tail dining – a philosophy of sustainable eating that involves using every possible part of an animal – has taken off. Restaurants such as contemporary Australian eatery Salted & Hung (saltedandhung.com.sg) focuses on traditional curing and grilling methods applied to lesser-known cuts of meats and seafood. Specialties include a fish & (and its surrounding meat) presented as Snapper Wings, and beef tongue with onion and wasabi for a winning combination. At Dehesa (dehesa.com.sg), visitors can dine on a platter of cold meats comprising bits of pig’s head, pig’s ear, frittata (made from pork belly, liver and pig’s heart) and dry, cured sausage or sautéed duck heart, soaked in vinegar for 24 hours and served on toast.

More renowned establishments

In 2016, restaurants and eateries from the region came to set up shop in Singapore. Balinese institution Naughty Nuri’s and its finger-licking ribs were finally available in Singapore. BAKE Cheesetarts (bakecheesetart.com) from Japan saw daily snaking queues at ION Orchard, while Kam’s Roast Singapore created quite a stir for its succulent Hong Kong-style roast ducks. In early 2017, Greyhound Café (greyhoundcafe.com.co) opened at Paragon mall. The chic Thai eatery, with its fried chicken wings and sticky rice mango parfait, attracts visitors who love a Thai meal with a twist. Guenpin restaurant, another Japanese chain, is now serving torafugu (tiger puffer fish) and snow crab dishes in Singapore.

Bar bites get serious

Drinking and eating take on a new focus in 2017, with many bars shifting their attention to their bar bites menus. Moving away from standard fare such as mini-siders and chicken wings, Boat Quay (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p90) shophouse bar Bee Bee’s (facebook.com/beebese.sg) rolls out Peranakan-inspired drinks and snacks such as Babi Braised – tender pork served with Japanese short-grain rice, spicy achar and a 63-degree egg – and Tuna Tartare Bruschetta spiced with ginger flower and basil. At Manhattan Bar (see Bars & Clubs, p129), sophisticated bites such as an ar/h tuna tata or a Maine lobster roll are paired alongside the elaborate cocktails.

Revising the classic drink

With a growing cocktail scene, each bar is shaking things up by creating a new spin on classic cocktails. At Tippling Club (tipplingclub.com), the negroni has been reinvented with a Sonic Prep, a machine which uses ultrasonic sound waves to change the flavour profile of the drink, which is barrie-aged for a year. Using its own homegrown botanics, The Rabbit Hole’s (see Unique Dining Concepts, p109) gin and tonic is created with a twist – its Brooklyn is a gin and tonic elevated with lemon zest and grapefruit. Jigger & Pony (see Bars & Clubs, p129) turns out an excellent Old Fashioned made with artisanal spirits, house-made infusions and syrups, served with ice that’s hand-carved for every glass. Eat & Drink
Eat & Drink

LOCAL FAVOURITES

The country’s reputation as a food lover’s paradise is not without good reason. Thanks to its multi-ethnic makeup and key culinary influences from Chinese, Malay and Indian cultures, Singapore offers a variety of food and flavours. While chicken rice is often called the national dish, others would argue that chilli crab, which was concocted in Singapore in the 1950s, also deserves that label. Regardless of dietary or religious preferences, visitors to Singapore will have plenty of dishes to try and meals to remember.

Chicken Rice

One of Singapore’s most famous dishes, chicken rice can be found everywhere, from hawker centres and food courts to casual eateries and high-end restaurants. Visitors can sample different versions of the traditional Hainanese dish, where the chicken is blanched and soaked in cold water to keep the meat tender. There’s also a roasted or braised style; each has a distinct taste. Pay attention to the quality of rice and chilli sauce served – the rice should be lightly oiled and fragrant, while the sauce should have a zing of ginger to it. From S$3 per serving.

Chilli Crab

What started as a dish purportedly sold from hawker centres and food courts to casual eateries and high-end restaurants, has become a star in the global food scene. One of Singapore’s most famous dishes, chilli crab – mud crabs stir-fried with tomato and chilli sauce – is the rice vermicelli (bee hoon) – is slathered between slabs of cold toast is also eaten as a snack – one of pure satisfaction. "A big contributor to the overall taste lies in the skill of the hawker imparting wok hei for a fuller, bolder flavour. Some places add fried pork lard as a crunchy topping. From S$3 per serving.

Fish Head Curry

One of the country’s most iconic dishes, it aptly represents Singapore’s multicultural tradition. There are Chinese, Malay, Indian and Peranakan versions, with each ethnic group making subtle variations to the curry sauce. Some mix in tamarind for a touch of sweetness, others add coconut milk for a creamier texture, and pineapple is sometimes added for a dash of fruitiness to the gravy. The one similarity though is the use of the head of a red snapper, along with a mix of vegetables, such as okra (lady’s fingers) and eggplant. From S$25 per serving.

Hokkien Prawn Mee

The yellow noodles and thick bee hoon (rice vermicelli) are stir-fried with succulent prawns, squid, pork belly strips and egg in a rich stock made from pork bones and prawn heads. This dish is often served with sambal (spicy chilli paste) and a squeeze of fresh lime for extra zest. A big contributor to the overall taste lies in the skill of the hawker imparting wok hei for a fuller, bolder flavour. Some places add fried pork lard as a crunchy topping. From S$3 per serving.

Laksa

This spicy comfort food is made of vermicelli noodles flavoured with coconut milk and dried shrimp, and topped with prawns, cockles, eggs, fishcake and freshly julienne Brigade’s laksa. Hawkers across the island whip up different types of this dish. Visitors should try the Katong laksa, which has short noodles swimming in coconut broth. Other versions include the curry-like Sarawak laksa and the tamarind-infused Penang laksa. Regardless of which version, the result will be the same – one of pure satisfaction. From S$3 per serving.

Kaya Toast

Kaya toast. A popular breakfast item amongst locals, kaya toast is also eaten as a snack during teatime. The rich kaya spread – a traditional jam made from coconut, eggs and pandan leaves (which results in green kaya) or palm sugar (which makes brown kaya) – is slathered between slabs of cold butter and crusty bread. Pair it with a local kopi (coffee) or teh tarik, and the sugar rush is complete. Many locals also eat it with two soft-boiled eggs mixed with dark soy sauce and a dash of pepper. Heritage coffee shop chains are popular spots to try this local delight, which is credited to the Hainanese. From $13.50 per serving.

Nasi Lemak

Visiting foodies can expect a mix of flavours and textures from nasi lemak (fragrant coconut rice), a popular breakfast meal with the locals. It comprises rice cooked in coconut milk – some cook the rice in coconut milk before giving it extra fragrance and a green colour – with side servings of deep-fried fish or chicken which are dipped in spicy grilled fish paste), fried ikan bilis (anchovies) with peanuts, eggs, and the sugar rush is complete. Many locals also eat it with two soft-boiled eggs mixed with dark soy sauce and a dash of pepper. Heritage coffee shop chains are popular spots to try this local delight, which is credited to the Hainanese. From $13.50 per serving.

Where to have it:
 Killiney Kopitiam
 Address: 67 Killiney Road and other locations
 Tel: +65 6734 9648
 Website: killiney-kopitiam.com
 Email: info@yakun.com
 Fax: +65 6734 3910

JUMBO SEAFOOD
 Address: 138 Race Course Road, #01-01
 Tel: +65 6392 1722
 Website: jumboseafood.com.sg

ROLLAND RESTAURANT
 Address: Block 89 Marine Parade Central, #05-33 and other locations
 Tel: +65 6884 5373
 Website: rollandrestaurant.com

KOPITIAM
 Address: 1 Kadayanallur Street, Maxwell Food Centre, #01-10/11
 Tel: +65 9691 4852

KAYUN KAYA TOAST
 Address: 91 Orchard Road, Orchard Central, #05-33 and other locations
 Tel: +65 6800 9552
 Website: kayunkayatoast.com
 Email: info@kayukay.com

DESTINATION SINGAPORE

Visit the site to discover more food options and maps.
**Eat & Drink**

**Cucumber Slices and Sambal (Spicy Chilli Paste)**
Cucumber slices and sambal (spicy chilli paste) is a simple and refreshing combination to start with. Cucumber slices are marinated in a mixture of chilli paste, vinegar, and sugar. This dish is a perfect starter for any meal, offering a fresh and slightly spicy taste.

**Where to have it:**
Nasi Lemak Kukus
Address: 239 Telok Ayer Street
Tel: +65 6222 9517
Website: nasilemakkukus.com

**Roti Prata**
Roti prata is a popular Indian flatbread, usually made with a mix of wheat flour and spices, grilled until it is golden brown and crispy on the outside and soft on the inside. It is served with a variety of toppings such as curries, dips, or chutneys.

**Where to have it:**
Mr and Mrs Mohgan’s Super Crispy Roti Prata
Address: 7 Crane Road
Tel: +65 9794 3124

**The Roti Prata House**
Address: 246 Upper Thomson Road
Tel: +65 6459 5260

**UNIQUE DINING CONCEPTS**

**ANDSOFORTH**
ANDSOFORTH is a unique dining concept located in Gillman Barracks. It offers an immersive, multi-sensory dining experience which includes food, sightseeing, and sightseeing bus tours. Visitors can enjoy a four-course dinner, including dishes like crab, mee goreng, and pork ribs, all in a setting that is designed to provide a complete sensory experience. ANDSOFORTH also has a rotating menu and a specialty sambal spiced with lychee and pineapple.

**Where to have it:**
Address: Secret location
Tel: +65 9129 7845
Website: andsoforth.com.sg
Opening Hours: (Dinner shows) From 7.30pm or 8pm; (Kids’ shows) From 5pm

**Handlebar Singapore**
Located in the heritage-rich Tiong Bahru enclave, Handlebar Singapore is a biker-themed American-style restaurant. It offers a unique dining experience where diners can enjoy dishes like crab, mee goreng, and pork ribs, all in a setting that is designed to provide a complete sensory experience. The menu includes dishes like crab, mee goreng, and pork ribs, all in a setting that is designed to provide a complete sensory experience.

**Where to have it:**
Address: 9008 Williams Drive, Whampoa Food Centre, #01-06
Tel: +65 6438 4567
Website: handlebarsingapore.com
Email: support@handlebarsingapore.com
Opening Hours: (Dinner shows) From 7.30pm or 8pm; (Kids’ shows) From 5pm

**Hua Bee / Bincho**
Hua Bee / Bincho is a Yakitori (grilled meat on skewers) restaurant located in the heritage-rich Tiong Bahru enclave. It offers a variety of dishes, including grilled chicken, beef, and pork, as well as a selection of sides and sauces. The restaurant has a laid-back atmosphere and offers a variety of options for those looking for a unique dining experience.

**Where to have it:**
Address: 78 Moh Guan Terrace, #01-19
Tel: +65 6268 5550
Website: bincho.com.sg
Email: info@bincho.com.sg
Opening Hours: Lunch: 12pm–12am; Dinner: 5pm–1am; Closed on Mon
Nearest MRT: Labrador Park Station

**Kombi Rocks**
Kombi Rocks is a vintage-inspired restaurant located in the heritage-rich Tiong Bahru enclave. It offers a variety of dishes, including a selection of vintage-inspired cocktails, as well as a variety of sides and sauces. The restaurant has a laid-back atmosphere and offers a variety of options for those looking for a unique dining experience.

**Where to have it:**
Address: 78 Moh Guan Terrace, #01-19
Tel: +65 6268 5550
Website: bincho.com.sg
Email: info@bincho.com.sg
Opening Hours: Lunch: 12pm–12am; Dinner: 5pm–1am; Closed on Mon
Nearest MRT: Labrador Park Station

**NOX – Dine in the Dark**
Visitors take a leap of faith at NOX – Dine in the Dark, where they enjoy the entire meal in complete darkness. They will embark on a unique multi-sensory dining experience, having to find cutlery through touch, savour and identify the food through smell and taste, and move around with the help of visually impaired waiters and waitresses. It offers a 3D-box experience. For S$88++, diners are served a mystery three-course, 12-course menu that changes regularly. Wine (S$30+ to S$40+), cocktails (S$50+), and mocktails (S$30+) are available upon request.

**WHERE TO EAT & DRINK**

**Roti Prata**
Roti prata is a fluffy Indian flatbread. It is crispy on the outside but soft on the inside, and it is best eaten plain or with an egg cracked onto it. It is often served with a savoury, spicy curry (fish and mutton are popular options). Some locals also eat it with sugar, or sweet toppings such as bananas, chocolate sauce or ice cream. Different stall owners prepare pratas with different textures, but the technique is always the same: a skilful twirl of the dough till it is paper-thin before folding it in and cooking it on a greased griddle. From S$3.80 per serving.

**Where to have it:**
Mr and Mrs Mohgan’s Super Crispy Roti Prata
Address: 7 Crane Road
Tel: +65 9794 3124

**The Roti Prata House**
Address: 246 Upper Thomson Road
Tel: +65 6459 5260

**Dining in Singapore can be an exciting experience (S$98++ to S$108++) based on a designated theme such as Alice in Wonderland or 1960s Singapore. The location is kept secret until the day of the dinner show. Diners are then given clues to locate the venue and after the feast, they are sworn to secrecy about their experience. ANDSOFORTH also organises a similar roll music after exploring the nearby Henderson Waves (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32).**

**Address:**
78 Moh Guan Terrace, #01-19
Tel: +65 6438 4567
Website: handlebarsingapore.com
Email: support@handlebarsingapore.com
Opening Hours: (Dinner shows) From 7.30pm or 8pm; (Kids’ shows) From 5pm

**ANDSOFORTH**
Weaving together art, theatre and gastronomy, ANDSOFORTH is a pop-up restaurant that treats visitors to an immersive, interactive four-course dining experience. Visitors take a leap of faith at NOX – Dine in the Dark, where they enjoy the entire meal in complete darkness. They will embark on a unique multi-sensory dining experience, having to find cutlery through touch, savour and identify the food through smell and taste, and move around with the help of visually impaired waiters and waitresses. For S$88++, diners are served a mystery three-course, 12-dish menu that changes regularly. Wine (S$30+ to S$40+), cocktail (S$50+), and mocktail (S$30+) are available upon request.
Eat & Drink

Sanrio’s cartoon cafés

Sanrio’s cartoon cafés such as the Hello Kitty Café, Gudetama Café and POMPOMPURIN Café are popular, family-friendly and Instagram-worthy experiences. The characters are the main attraction and everything in these cafés – from the food and drinks to the décor and retail items – is planned around them. For example, Gudetama Café offers the signature bow, and there is a wide variety of merchandise for fans to browse and purchase. Group deals may be available upon request at POMPOMPURIN Café.

Hello Kitty Café
Address: 65 Airport Boulevard, Changi Airport Terminal 3, #01-22
Tel: +65 6241 6267
Website: hello@hellokittyorchidgarden.com
Email: hello@hellokittyorchidgarden.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Changi Airport Station

Gudetama Café
Address: 3 Temasek Boulevard, Suntec City, #01-361
Tel: +65 6637 6995
Website: gudetamacafe.sg
Email: hello@gudetamacafe.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Thu, 9am–10pm; Fri–Sun, 8am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Promenade Station / Esplanade Station

POMPOMPURIN Café
Address: 1 Orchard Road, Orchard Central, #04-08
Tel: +65 6309 8672
Fax: +65 6221 2697
Website: facebook.com/Pompompurincs
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 11am–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Somerset Station

Singapore GOURMETbus
The only one of its kind in Asia, the Singapore GOURMETbus offers a novel dining experience on the move. The four-course Dim Sum Lunch ($37++) is prepared by Soup Restaurant, while the Indochine Group serves the five-course Indo-Chinese Dinner ($39++) on the double-decker bus.

Singapore GOURMETbus is prepared by Soup Restaurant, while the Indochine Group serves the five-course Indo-Chinese Dinner ($39++) on the double-decker bus. While diners are enjoying their meals, the bus will take them on a tour of the city centre and drive past popular landmarks such as the Singapore Flyer, Merlion Park and Suntec City’s Fountain of Wealth. There is even an opportunity to get a close-up look of Gardens by the Bay’s unique Supertrees (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p51) during a scheduled 20- to 30-minute stop.

The bus is wheelchair-accessible and can accommodate up to 34 guests.

Address: 3 Temasek Boulevard, Suntec City, #01-330 (Tour check-in)
Tel: +65 6659 6124
Website: souprestaurant.com.sg
Email: sales@souprestaurant.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 11.30am–2.30pm, 5pm–7pm; Sat, 7pm–11pm

Nearest MRT: Sengkang Station / Punggol Station

The Plant Story

Located close to Setera Airport in northeastern Singapore, this retro bicycle-themed café, which has over 20 vintage Pinarello and Bianchi bikes mounted on the walls, takes visitors on a trip back in time. Diners can watch the occasional private plane take off or land while enjoying a range of Asian and Western dishes. These include fish and chips ($31.80++), lamb chop ($37.80++), beef rendang (braised beef cooked in coconut milk and spices; $30.80++), and katsudon, which is a bowl of rice with fried pork cutlet, egg and vegetables ($37.80++). The allure of high-rise buildings around the café makes this a prime spot for catching the sunset and perfectly for a family outing.

Address: 25 Boon Tat Street
Tel: +65 6221 3665
Website: sumyitai.com
Email: dragons@sumyitai.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 11.30am–2.30pm, 5pm–7pm; Sat, 7pm–11pm
Nearest MRT: Telok Ayer Station

The White Rabbit

Visitors keen on these workshops must email ahead to make an appointment and purchase a S$10 workshop voucher to secure the booking.

Address: II Rhu Cross, Paxion Walk @ Marina Bay, #02-03
Tel: +65 9712 0439 / +65 6348 8040
Website: thewhiterabbit.com
Email: info@thewhiterabbit.com
Opening Hours: Thu–Tue, 11am–7pm. Closed on Wed.

 DESTINATION SINGAPORE
Eat & Drink

Sanrio’s cartoon cafés

Sanrio’s cartoon cafés such as the Hello Kitty Café, Gudetama Café and POMPOMPURIN Café are popular, family-friendly and Instagram-worthy experiences. The characters are the main attraction and everything in these cafés – from the food and drinks to the décor and retail items – is planned around them. For example, Gudetama Café offers the signature bow, and there is a wide variety of merchandise for fans to browse and purchase. Group deals may be available upon request at POMPOMPURIN Café.

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Website: gudetamacafe.sg
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Nearest MRT: Promenade Station / Esplanade Station

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Address: 1 Orchard Road, Orchard Central, #04-08
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Fax: +65 6221 2697
Website: facebook.com/Pompompurincs
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 11am–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Somerset Station

Singapore GOURMETbus
The only one of its kind in Asia, the Singapore GOURMETbus offers a novel dining experience on the move. The four-course Dim Sum Lunch ($37++) is prepared by Soup Restaurant, while the Indochine Group serves the five-course Indo-Chinese Dinner ($39++) on the double-decker bus. While diners are enjoying their meals, the bus will take them on a tour of the city centre and drive past popular landmarks such as the Singapore Flyer, Merlion Park and Suntec City’s Fountain of Wealth. There is even an opportunity to get a close-up look of Gardens by the Bay’s unique Supertrees (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p51) during a scheduled 20- to 30-minute stop.

The bus is wheelchair-accessible and can accommodate up to 34 guests.

Address: 80 Seletar Aerospace View, MAI Aviation Building, #01-01
Tel: +65 6659 6124
Website: souprestaurant.com.sg
Email: sales@souprestaurant.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 11.30am–2.30pm, 5pm–7pm; Sat, 7pm–11pm

Nearest MRT: Sengkang Station / Punggol Station

The Plant Story

Located close to Setera Airport in northeastern Singapore, this retro bicycle-themed café, which has over 20 vintage Pinarello and Bianchi bikes mounted on the walls, takes visitors on a trip back in time. Diners can watch the occasional private plane take off or land while enjoying a range of Asian and Western dishes. These include fish and chips ($31.80++), lamb chop ($37.80++), beef rendang (braised beef cooked in coconut milk and spices; $30.80++), and katsudon, which is a bowl of rice with fried pork cutlet, egg and vegetables ($37.80++). The allure of high-rise buildings around the café makes this a prime spot for catching the sunset and perfectly for a family outing.

Address: 25 Boon Tat Street
Tel: +65 6221 3665
Website: sumyitai.com
Email: dragons@sumyitai.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 11.30am–2.30pm, 5pm–7pm; Sat, 7pm–11pm

Nearest MRT: Telok Ayer Station

The White Rabbit

Visitors keen on these workshops must email ahead to make an appointment and purchase a S$10 workshop voucher to secure the booking.

Address: II Rhu Cross, Paxion Walk @ Marina Bay, #02-03
Tel: +65 9712 0439 / +65 6348 8040
Website: thewhiterabbit.com
Email: info@thewhiterabbit.com
Opening Hours: Thu–Tue, 11am–7pm. Closed on Wed.

 Nearest MRT: Stadium Station
and hearty bar snacks like the truffle grilled cheese toast ($16++). 

**Timbre+**
Gastro park Timbre+ at one-north (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p76) offers visitors traditional hawker food at stalls such as Roxy Laksa and 2018 Bib Gourmand awardee The Fishball Story alongside more contemporary eateries (some operating in hipster food trucks), such as Vatos Express and Teppii Daidikorin, as well as the Bottle Shop that serves 120 craft beers, wines, and spirits, and is well known for dishing out the island’s best dum bryani (an Indian spiced rice dish with meat or vegetables). Visitors can choose between the restaurant’s two concepts – the Free and Easy self-service restaurant concept and a Singapore Takeout Corner. Notable figures such as Singapore’s first prime minister, the late Lee Kuan Yew, and the late President S. R. Nathan have patronised this heritage restaurant. Main courses from $31.50.

**Ananda Bhavan Restaurant**
Established in 1924, Ananda Bhavan Restaurant is the oldest Indian vegetarian restaurant in Singapore. Its popular set meals include vegetarian bryani, but the real draw lies in four-free items like the biryani (sweet lentil flatbread) and pani puri (crispy shells stuffed with tamarind chutney). It prides itself on the fact that no MSG, preservatives or additives are used, keeping the wellness of guests in mind. Main courses from $35.

**Fatty Weng**
Once a roadside stall, this heritage Cantonese zi char-style (a term used to describe home-style dishes in a casual setting) restaurant is known for its affordably priced Cantonese dishes starting from just $30+. Such as a deep-fried sook hock fish. While they have now relocated to Chinatown – adding new private dining rooms that can be reserved for 40 to 120 guests – the restaurant retains its stellar standards with iconic dishes such as the pan-fried vermicelli “bowl” with seafood, and honey pork ribs that are cooked to tender perfection. Visitors should take the opportunity to try their version of an iconic Singapore dish: chilli crab with thick and spicy sauce. Main courses from $31.

**Prima Tower Revolving Restaurant**
Established in 1977, this is the only revolving restaurant in Singapore and was built for diners to enjoy the panoramic view of the sea. It specialises in Beijing cuisine led by a Hong Kong master chef. The Peking duck is superbly done with crispy duck skin on a wafer-thin pancake, and their dim sum (bite-sized portions of food served in steamer baskets or small plates) remains highly rated. The goldfish-shaped dumplings of crabmeat, prawn paste and fish roe are perfect for Instagram shots. Main courses from $22.

**Islamic Restaurant**
Serving halal Asian heritage food in Kampong Glam (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p60), this restaurant was founded in 1921 by M. Abdul Rahman and is well known for dishing out the island’s best dum bryani (an Indian spiced rice dish with meat or vegetables). Visitors can choose between the restaurant’s two concepts – the Free and Easy self-service restaurant concept and a Singapore Takeout Corner. Notable figures such as Singapore’s first prime minister, the late Lee Kuan Yew, and the late President S. R. Nathan have patronised this heritage restaurant. Main courses from $31.50.
Red Star Restaurant

This is one of Singapore's most fabled dim sum restaurants that still serves some of the best dim sum from old-school pushcarts. Must-orders include the char siew bao (roasted pork buns), century egg congee (rice porridge) and juicy roast meats, while mains start from S$20. Located in the heart of Chinatown (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p57), the restaurant has a seating capacity for 65 diners and an atmosphere that will bring diners back to the past. Reservations are recommended and must be made by phone.

Address: 54 Chin Swee Road, #01-07 Tel: +65 6535 6609 Fax: +65 6834 3733 Website: redstarrestaurant.com.sg Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 11am-3pm, 6pm-6am Nearest MRT: Chinatown Station / Clark Quay Station

Shashlik Restaurant

Since the 1980s, this Russo-Hainanese restaurant has been a fine dining institution in Singapore. Its interiors bear nostalgic details and its dishes are wheeled out on trolleys. The main courses start from S$20 and include eye-catching dishes such as the osyia (steamed rice accompanied by salted egg. For birthday celebrations, such as fried crab and chicken liver rolls and fermented soya bean cake stir-fried with salted egg. The dish is presented with a calligraphy performance and birthday song by a member of staff. Festive sets and group dining deals are available. Main courses start from S$20.

Address: 52–56 Upper Cross Street Tel: +65 6449 0300 Fax: +65 6355 6609 Website: springcourt.com.sg Email: reservations@springcourt.com.sg Opening Hours: Mon-Sat, 11am-3pm, 6pm-10.30pm Nearest MRT: Chinatown Station

Spring Court Restaurant

Dating back to 1929, Spring Court Restaurant remains a family-run establishment and one of the oldest restaurants in Singapore. It is known for its signature Peking duck and a wide selection of dim sum. The restaurant's rich legacy shines through its unbeatable Padang-style dishes (a cuisine of the Minangkabau people of West Sumatra, Indonesia). The flavours here are uncompromising, strong and authentic. Their mains start from S$5 and include sambal goreng (green beans and fermented soya bean cake stir-fried with chilli paste), dry-style beef rendang (braised beef cooked in coconut milk and spices) and ayam bakar (charcoal-grilled chicken).

Address: 1 Scotts Road, Shaw Centre, #03-16/17 (Shaw Centre branch) / 23 Serangoon Central, #01-05/06 (nex branch) Tel: +65 6355 2335 (Shaw Centre branch) / +65 6834 3733 (nex branch) Fax: +65 6848 9951 (Shaw Centre branch) / +65 6364 4366 (nex branch) Website: springcourt.com.sg Email: enquiries@springcourt.com.sg Opening Hours: Mon-Thu, 11am-3pm, 5.30pm-9.30pm; Fri-Sun, 11am-3pm, 5.30pm-10pm (nex branch) Mon-Sun, 11am-10pm Nearest MRT: Orchard Station (Shaw Centre Branch) / Serangoon Station (nex branch)

The Ship Restaurant & Bar

An institution of Singapore's dining scene, this charming Hainanese steakhouse is designed like the interior of a ship with numerous nautical details that add to a fun dining experience. The affordable set menus are popular, as are the nostalgic Western dishes such as Ship Steak (flamed broiled with brandy) and Chinese Maryland. Diners can end their meal with the Ship's version of crêpes suzette (for purchase of gift vouchers)

Address: 52–56 Upper Cross Street Tel: +65 6449 0300 Fax: +65 6355 6609 Website: springcourt.com.sg Email: reservations@springcourt.com.sg Opening Hours: Mon-Sat, 11am-3pm, 6pm-10.30pm Nearest MRT: Chinatown Station

Warong Nasi Pariaman

Established in 1948, Warong Nasi Pariaman is one of the oldest eateries for Padang food. The restaurant's in-house garden. The service runs every five minutes from 11.30am.

Address: 333A Orchard Road, Mandarin Gallery, #04-14/15, and one other location Tel: +65 6235 8370 Website: arteastiq.com Cost: (Deluxe Teasery) From S$88++ per pax; (Signature Teasery) S$48++ for two pax

Arteastiq Boutique Tea House

Arteastiq Boutique Tea House offers two afternoon tea sets daily. Besides regular tea, alcoholic teas are also served. The Deluxe Teasery set features four savoury and four sweet bites such as foie gras scallop skewers and a Ferrero Rocher tart, with the choice of one non-alcoholic tea from Arteastiq's comprehensive tea menu. The Signature Teasery set also comes with four sweet and four savoury nibbles such as the vol au vent with mushroom capers pâté and caterers for two pax with a choice of two non-alcoholic teas. Visitors can also get creative at Art Jam sessions (S$46++ per session) in Arteastiq's social painting studio before or after afternoon tea.

Address: 333A Orchard Road, Mandarin Gallery, #04-14/15, and one other location Tel: +65 6235 8370 Website: arteastiq.com Cost: (Deluxe Teasery) From S$88++ per pax; (Signature Teasery) S$48++ for two pax

National Kitchen by Violet Oon

Housed in the National Gallery Singapore (see Attractions, Arts & Design, p36), National Kitchen by Violet Oon offers a high tea set for two daily. Each three-tiered stand holds six Peranakan-style savouries and six nonya-style sweets. These include crostini topped with buah keluak (a type of black nut indigenous to Southeast Asia) and otah (spicy grilled fish pâté), roti jala (nonya-style lace pancake) with gula melaka (palm sugar) and banana sauce, and kueh lapis (spiced layered cake) sago. Travellers are recommended to try the restaurant's signature dry laksa (see Local Favourites, p96) for S$36++ (for two pax). A private room for up to 12 pax is available by reservation only. Diners with dietary preferences may request for the special set menu or order from the a la carte menu.

Address: 1 St Andrew's Road, National Gallery Singapore (City Hall Wing), #02-01 Tel: +65 9834 9935 Website: violetoon.com Email: eat@violetoon.com Cost: From S$56++ for two pax

Pollen

Located within Gardens by the Bay’s Flower Dome (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p50), Pollen serves afternoon tea at the Pollen Terrace on Level 2 of the restaurant every day except Wednesdays. Visitors can also get complimentary entry to the Flower Dome. Each set comes with five sweet and five savoury nibbles such as cured salmon tart with beetroot yoghurt and fruit scones with creme fraîche (French-style sour cream) and jam. These nibbles are made using fresh herbs and vegetables from the restaurant's in-house garden. Note that items are available on a seasonal and rotational basis. Free buggy rides from Gardens by the Bay’s Arrival Square to Pollen are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The service runs every five minutes from 11.30am.

Address: 18 Marina Gardens Drive, Gardens by the Bay, Flower Dome Tel: +65 6606 9988 Website: pollen.com.sg Email: info@pollen.com.sg Cost: From S$38++ per pax
**PS.Cafe**

Any of PS.Cafe’s centrally located five branches, with their elegant interiors and relaxed ambiance, is an ideal spot for visitors to enjoy an afternoon pit stop in between shopping and sightseeing in Singapore. PS.Cafe does not offer afternoon tea sets, but diners can create their own tea set by pairing coffee or tea with a selection of light bites, signature cakes, steamed puddings, pies and tarts from the dessert menu. Popular options include the Chocolate Nut Doorstop (chocolate cake with caramelised nuts and chocolate mousse; $36++) and sticky date puddings ($34.90++). Complete the meal with the signature truffle shoestring fries ($15++).

**Address:** 2 Orchard Turn,ION Orchard, #05-01

**Tel:** +65 6592 5338

**Website:** pscafe.com

**Email:** info@pscafe.com

**Cost:** From $33++ per pax

**Salt grill & Sky bar**

Located on the 55th and 56th floors of the Ion Orchard tower (see Shopping, Malls, 108 109), Salt grill & Sky bar offers diners the chance to tuck into afternoon tea on Friday to Sunday and public holidays while enjoying sweeping views of Orchard Road. Each set of 10 sweet and savoury bite-sized treats includes smoked salmon and cream cheese rye sandwiches, scones and a chocolate and jam lamington. Alternatively, order from the tapas menu, which features items such as oysters with coconut dressing and Tasmanian salmon sashimi. Dress code is smart casual – no slippers, flip-flops, singlets or tank tops (for men) allowed.

**Address:** 2 Orchard Turn,ION Orchard, #55-01

**Tel:** +65 6597 5266

**Website:** fullertonhotels.com

**Email:** info@fullertonhotels.com

**Cost:** $54++ per pax

**The Clifford Pier**

The Clifford Pier is located in The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore, a heritage hotel, and diners can enjoy a luxurious afternoon tea experience in a chic setting. The Singapore Heritage Afternoon Tea set is offered daily and features eight savoury and eight sweet items inspired by Singapore’s culinary history and current trends. For example, chilli crab (see Local Favourites, p98), an iconic Singaporean dish, is served in a stuffed fried mantou (a type of Chinese bun), while oak kwa (barbecued meat) is made into a jam and served in an egg tart. On the sweet side, highlights include bandung (rose syrup drink) macarons, pillow-soft pandan swiss rolls and kaya ambon, a “honeycomb” pandan-flavoured kueh (bite-sized snacks or desserts). Aside from classic coffee and tea, the drinks menu also features lepo-D (local black coffee without sugar), teh tank (frothy milk tea) and bandung.

**Address:** 2 Orchard Turn,ION Orchard, #55-01

**Tel:** +65 6592 5338

**Website:** saltgrill.com

**Email:** info@saltgrill.com

**Cost:** From $33++ per pax

**The Rose Veranda**

One of Singapore’s best-known and most popular spots for afternoon tea, The Rose Veranda has been serving high tea buffets since 1991. Diners can choose from 164 savouries for a touch of local flavour, including barbecued meat (in 16 different ways), such as oysters with coconut dressing and Tasmanian salmon sashimi. Dress code is smart casual – no slippers, flip-flops, singlets or tank tops (for men) allowed. The tearooms are dine-in areas for guests who want more flexibility, while stalls offer more informal seating and allow for takeaways. Diners can choose from four Tea Time sets or from the à la carte menu.

**Address:** 80 Collyer Quay,The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore

**Tel:** +65 6597 5266

**Website:** fullertonhotels.com

**Email:** info@fullertonhotels.com

**Cost:** $54++ per pax

**Tiffin Room**

Tiffin Room at the historic Raffles Hotel Singapore offers high tea daily. Assorted finger sandwiches and an array of English cakes – including banana crumble, strawberry pistachio tartlet and orange ginger cake – are served on a three-tiered stand. There is also a buffet spread of dumplings, buns (babs) and Asian savouries for a touch of local flavour, plus five types of scones with jam and clotted cream. Dairy-, nut- and gluten-free diets can be catered for ($349++ per person) with two days’ advance notice. Dress code is smart casual and men are required to wear collared shirts, long trousers and closed-toe shoes.

**Address:** 16 Beach Road

**Tel:** +65 6412 1896

**Website:** raffles.com/Singapore

**Email:** dining.singapore@raffles.com

**Cost:** $562++ per adult, $502++ per child

**Note:** Tiffin Room will be closed until mid-2018 as part of restoration works at Raffles Hotel Singapore.

**CLUSTERenery FINE DINING**

Singapore’s fine-dining scene is peppered with award-winning and celebrity chef restaurants serving a range of cuisines, from Japanese to Italian and French – making it perfect for visitors who wish to indulge in quality gourmet food. Many of these restaurants serve only set menus, so no a la carte choices.

Most of these establishments have a dress code. Generally, smart casual (no shorts, slippers or sandals) is recommended but some restaurants, like CURATE and JAAN, have a smart elegant dress code.

**CELEBRITY FINE DINING**

Established in Singapore in 2008, TWG Tea offers more than 1,000 types of tea, and has tea rooms and retail outlets in various locations around the island. The tea rooms are dine-in areas for guests to sit and enjoy afternoon tea in a chic setting featuring objects d’art, ornate mirrors and brass counters. Diners can choose from four Tea Time sets or from the à la carte menu.

**Address:** 2 Bayfront Avenue, The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands, B2-65/68A, and other locations

**Tel:** +65 6307 2607

**Website:** twgtea.com

**Cost:** From $59++ per pax for Tea Time sets

**Burnt Ends**

This Australian barbecue restaurant has been listed on Asia’s 50 Best Restaurants. The menu changes daily, but what doesn’t change is the intense flavours that come out of its wood-fired oven. In 2017, the restaurant is bringing in 12 chefs from around the world to explore distinct barbecue styles as part of a collaboration series. Everything from meat and fish to pineapple and quail eggs are smoked, slow roasted, hot roasted, baked, grilled or cooked directly over hot coals. The open kitchen offers visitors an opportunity to be in the thick of this action. Visitors who book the Chef’s Table will enjoy a personally curated menu. Must-tries include the smoked quail eggs and pulled pork shoulder in brioche bun. The Chef’s Table is available for up to eight people and requires a minimum of eight people and requires a minimum
**Eat & Drink**

spend of $3150 per person or $7570 per table (on food only).

**Ocean Restaurant by Cat Cora**

Enjoy a meal at Ocean Restaurant by Cat Cora while watching over 100,000 marine animals swimming about behind floor-to-ceiling glass panels. The restaurant, which serves Mediterranean-Californian cuisine with an Asian flair, is housed within S.E.A. Aquarium™ and helmed by Cat Cora – the first female iron Chef in Singapore. Her sustainable approach to food shines through her signature dishes, such as the charred grilled wagyu prime cuts and sous-vide salmon. Menus change seasonally, but visitors can expect enticing dishes such as mango and pomelo soup, crisp brick duck foie gras, braised-seared crisp brick duck breast.

**Corner House**

At Corner House, chef Jason Tan’s culinary philosophy takes vegetables to a whole new level. This one-Michelin-starred restaurant is located in a two-storey colonial black and white bungalow in Singapore Botanic Gardens (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Destinations, Lifestyle Precincts, p84) and Asia’s first Michelin chef showcase restaurant – hosts up to four guest chefs from Michelin-starred restaurants from around the world for a series of dining events called Art at CURATE. For each series, the guest chefs work with an in-house chef to create a line-up of dishes to be served in between the events. Menu items include the célébré “cappuccino” cooked in its ink and oxtail black truffles.

**CURATE**

Every year, CURATE – a 62-seater restaurant at Resorts World™ Sentosa (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p88) and Asia’s first Michelin chef showcase restaurant – hosts up to four guest chefs from Michelin-starred restaurants from around the world for a series of dining events called Art at CURATE. For each series, the guest chefs work with an in-house chef to create a line-up of dishes to be served in between the events. Menu items include the célébré “cappuccino” cooked in its ink and oxtail black truffles.

**ART AT CURATE**

- Series One: 4–11 Feb 2017
  - Series Two: 28 Apr–6 May 2017
  - Series Three: 16–23 Aug 2017
  - Series Four: 5–12 Oct 2017

**Les Amis**

Found by award-winning sommelier and restaurateur Ignatius Chan, Iggy’s at the Hilton Singapore is well-known for its modern European cuisine with Asian elements, such as the “ebi two ways” snack and Bomba mellow rice – a tasty rice dish cooked with seafood stock and served with baby squid and lobster. Another must-try dish is the Carabinero rissotto, which is inspired by the rich broth of Singapore’s prawn noodles. This one-Michelin-starred restaurant sources its ingredients from as far as France, Italy and Japan to preserve the authenticity and quality of its food. Its two private rooms can accommodate 14 guests.

**Jaan**

Aawarded one Michelin star in 2016 and 2017, JAAN sits on the 70th floor of Swissotel The Stamford and serves modern French cuisine with influences from award-winning executive chef Kirk Westaway’s Devon roots. What sets the 40-seater restaurant apart is its menu, which is rotated according to seasonal produce to ensure that dishes are always fresh and tasty. A must-try for visitors is the soft organic hen’s egg, “forest” ginger and brie de meaux truffé (a dish of black truffle ice cream, salad and bread).

**Jöel Robuchon Restaurant**

Offering visitors classic French cuisine and a selection of over 1,000 premium wines from all over the world, Jöel Robuchon Restaurant has been awarded the most coveted three Michelin stars in 2016 and 2017. It has one of the most beautiful dining rooms in Singapore, with captivating flower arrangements, a stunning chandelier and an inner garden-themed room. The 16-course degustation menu offers diners the best of Robuchon’s repertoire in one sitting. Visitors can also choose from three- to seven-course meals. Highlights include the beef chateaubriand with foie gras and potato soufflés, and Le King Crabe (seasoned king crab meat served with avocado, crunchy vegetables and tomato coulis). The restaurant sits up to 50 people.

**Les Amis**

Known as one of Asia’s best French restaurants, two-Michelin-starred Les Amis has created its own brand of French cuisine. Helming the kitchen is chef Sebastian Lepinoy, who combines French techniques with elements of Japanese produce to create palate-pleasing dishes, such as the camus artichoke and white tuna belly in bêche-épique salad, and homework soufflés and bâbés sauce. Exquisite desserts by chef Chiyoko Koh, crowned Asia’s Best Pastry Chef in 2016, will give visitors something to remember. Three private rooms on the mezzanine level can seat up to 36 guests, or be partitioned off to accommodate smaller groups. The private room on the first level, where the Chef’s Table is located, is available for up to six diners with a full view of the kitchen through a glass window.

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**Osteria Mozza**

The first international restaurant set up by Mario Batali – one of the most respected and recognised chefs worldwide – Osteria Mozza at Marina Bay Sands. (See Shopping, Malls, p133) offers an authentic twist to Italian cuisine. At the heart of the award-winning restaurant is a freestanding mozzarella bar, serving dishes made with all kinds of imported cheese – perfect for cheese-loving visitors. The best way to experience Batali’s interpretation of good Italian food is through his three-course dinner menu, which offers favourites such as char-grilled octopus, ricotta gnocchi and Ibérico pork chop. The restaurant’s private dining room can seat up to 16 diners, while its larger Primo Mestrosso room can accommodate up to 32 guests, or 50 people for a luxury cocktail party.

**Address:** 2 Bayfront Avenue, The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands, Level 11, Singapore 01-04

**Website:** osteriamozza.com

**Tel:** +65 6688 8522

**Opening Hours:** Mon–Fri, 12pm–3pm, 7pm–11pm; Closed on Sat & Sun

**Nearest MRT:** Bayfront Station

**Waku Ghin**

Shinji by Kanesaka – a one-Michelin-starred restaurant in Tokyo, its wood-and-paper dining room offers visitors a serene space for unwinding and enjoying a luxurious meal. Sushi lovers can choose to have either a nine-, 12- or 15-piece sushi meal. Visitors should splurge on the Omakase Shin experience, where chef Koichiro Oshino will offer the day’s freshest catch, degustation-style. The five-hour staked Hokkaido abalone is another must-try. The restaurant has two private dining rooms, which can accommodate eight guests.

**Address:** 29 Tanglin Road, St Regis, Lobby Floor

**Website:** shinjiyokanesaka.com

**Tel:** +65 6884 8239 (St Regis) / +65 6338 6311 (Carlton Hotel)

**Opening Hours:** Mon–Sat, 12pm–6pm; Closed on Sun

**Nearest MRT:** City Hall Station

**Wakumi**

Japanese-born chef Tetsuya Wakuda – one of the most prolific and respected chefs in Australia – offers sumptuous culinary creations using premium seasonal produce from Japan and Australia at his two-Michelin-starred restaurant. The 15-course degustation menu includes unique dishes such as marinated Botan shrimp with sea urchin and caviar, and wagyu with wabasi and citrus soy. The spacious restaurant features an intimate bar, a main dining room and three private dining rooms. The four dining rooms can accommodate up to 25 guests. Each private dining room is helmed by a different chef. After dinner, visitors will be escorted to the main dining room – which overlooks the Marina Bay skyline – for coffee and desserts.

**Address:** 41 Bukit Pasoh Road

**Website:** restaurantandre.com

**Tel:** +65 6534 8880

**Opening Hours:** Wed & Fri, 12pm–3pm, 7pm–11pm; Closed on Sat & Sun

**Nearest MRT:** Outram Park Station
Carousel
This chic and casual bistro, run by Tasneem Noor and her Swedish husband, offers quality Swedish fare, such as Swedish meatballs ($8.19), pickled herring ($3.49) and risotto soup ($5.80) using fresh ingredients and without any MSG or preservatives. Fika also caters to visitors with dietary restrictions such as gluten or lactose intolerance. Visitors should save room for the much-raved-about kladdkaka ($5.25), a Swedish-style brownie served with berries and whipped cream.

Address: 57 Beach Road / 11 Telok Ayer Street, OneKM Mall, #02-K5
Tel: +65 6396 9036 / +65 6702 2456
Website: fikacafe.com
Email: info@fikacafe.com
Opening Hours: Sun-Thu, Public Holidays, 11am-10pm; Fri-Sat, 11am-11pm
Nearest MRT: Beach Road / Paya Lebar Station (OneKM branch)

Fika Swedish Café and Bistro
This restaurant at Royal Plaza on Scotts, situated near the Orchard Road shopping belt, is famous for its extensive buffets (lunch: S$56++ to S$65++; dinner: S$76++ to S$85++). Child rates available.

Website: carouselbuffet.com.sg
Email: carousel@royalplaza.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 6.30am–9.30pm (high tea); 12pm–2pm (lunch); 3.30pm–5.30pm (high tea); 6.30pm–9.30pm (dinner)
Nearest MRT: Orchard Station

Fix
A place to grab Mexican cuisine-inspired comfort food, this poolside café offers fajitas (grilled meat in a tortilla) with a side of Korean kimchi (spicy pickled cabbage; S$19), as well as bunless burgers (S$8), which are fried tortillas covered in cinnamon sugar and served with ice cream. Western dishes such as lamb shank (S$25), and fish and chips (S$34) are particularly popular among diners, while visitors who love salted egg yolk may want to try the doughnuts with salted egg dip (S$6). Set menus (S$48) for two to three people are also available.

Address: 37 Alt Hood Road, HomeTeamNS – JOM Clubhouse, #01-06
Tel: +65 6556 1484
Website: facebook.com/Fixsg
Email: info@fix.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 6.30am–10am
Nearest MRT: Toa Payoh Station

Hyde & Co.
Located in Kampong Glam, this English tearoom-style café serves Western fare with a local flair. Visitors can enjoy classic English crumpets and tea, as well as more substantial dishes, such as the Har cheong gai (prawn paste chicken) waffles ($18), Hyde’s chilli crab pasta ($26) or the popular ondeh-ondeh French toast ($15), which uses palm melaka (palm sugar) and grated pandan coconut. For drinks, guests may choose from the café’s menu of 45 types of tea, or try its cold-brewed tea specials ($7.50).

Address: 75 North Bridge Road
Tel: +65 6635 5785
Website: hydeandco.com.sg
Email: hello@hydeandco.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon, 12pm-6pm; Wed-Fri, 12pm-10pm; Sat, 11am-10pm; Sun, 11am-6pm
Closed on Tue
Nearest MRT: Bugis Station

I am...
Established in 2013, this café on Haji Lane is the brainchild of owner Muhamad Jamuri Busori and his love for the Dutch culture after a trip to Amsterdam. The name I...am... comes from the city’s campaign tagline “I amsterdam”. While its juicy charcoal-grilled burgers ($16.30–$17.90) are a favourite among visitors, those who would like some Dutch-inspired dishes should sample the thick-cut Dutch fries with mayo ($7.50), and Bitterballen ($5.90) – crispy meatballs served with mustard sauce. This restaurant also serves cocktails, such as virgin mojito and the citrus-based Bushmamit (both $36.90).

Address: 64 North Bridge Road, #01-01
Tel: +65 6295 5509
Website: i-am.com.sg
Email: enquiry@i-am.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon-Thur, 11am-11pm; Fri-Sat, 11am-1am; Sun, 11am-10pm
Nearest MRT: Bugis Station

Kaw Kaw SG by Makan State
Tucked away in a quiet spot at Alivel Arts Centre is Kaw Kaw SG by Makan State, a franchise of the street kiosk-turned-burger restaurant from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Visitors should try the smoky beef bacon burger ($16.30), which includes a 175g beef patty topped with bacon and jalapeños. Also available are pastas and steaks, as well as a children’s menu. The restaurant also showcases fortnightly live music performances by local talents.

Address: 28 Aliwal Street, Alivel Arts Centre, #01-01
Tel: +65 6493 2154
Website: facebook.com/kucinaitalianrestaurant
Email: gero@kucinaitaliansg.com
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 11.30am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Paya Lebar Station

Kucina Italian Restaurant
This 60-seater Muslim-owned Italian restaurant serves quality, authentic Italian cuisine. Kucina’s menu features a range of popular Italian fare, such as hand-stretched pizzas, antipasti and creamy carbonara served with turkey bacon. The dessert pizzas are a must-try, particularly the Cannella ($30.80), which is served with cinnamon sugar, mascarpone and raisins as toppings. Visitors may also opt for budget-friendly options, such as the lunch sets ($55), consisting of a main (pizza, pasta or a meat dish), soup and dessert.

Address: 11 Tanjong Katong Road, OneKM Mall, #B1-09/10
Tel: +65 6493 2154
Website: facebook.com/kucinaitalianrestaurant
Email: gero@kucinaitaliansg.com
Opening Hours: Mon-Sun, 11.30am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Paya Lebar Station

Oasis Spice Café
Offering the amusement park-goer an array of Middle-Eastern specialties is this Egyptian-themed cafeteria, located in Ancient Egypt – one of the seven themed
zones in Universal Studios Singapore®. Its combo sets are popular, such as the butter chicken briyani set and the vegetarian briyani set (set menus start from $31.40 and include a dessert). Entry to this restaurant will require an admission ticket to Universal Studios Singapore®.

Address: Sentosa Island, 8 Sentosa Gateway, Universal Studios Singapore®
Tel: +65 6577 8888
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 11am–11pm
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

Rouz et Vouz

With two outlets to choose from, visitors who love coffee will appreciate the café’s excellent cold-brewed java ($8) made from single-origin beans. Visitors can enjoy a meal with their coffee – the café’s menu features Western fare such as wagyu beef burger ($38.90), eggs Benedict ($38.90), and chicken wings tossed in spicy buffalo sauce with a side of sour cream ($34.90). Another drink not to be missed is the hot chocolate mint ($6), made using cocoa beans from West Africa.

Address: 57 Telok Ayer Street, #01-01 / 701 Chai Chee Road, #10-16
Tel: +65 6203 0270 / +65 6638 3537
Website: rouzetvous.com.sg
Email: info@rouzetvous.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Thu, 11am–10pm; Fri, 11am–11pm; Sat–Sun, 12pm–6am (River Valley) / +65 6337 7493 (Rifle Range Road)
Address: 137 Telok Ayer Street, #01-01 / 409 River Valley Road /
Website: spize.sg
Tel: +65 6732 1234
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 12pm–2.30pm, 6.30pm–10.30pm; Sat–Sun, 12pm–2pm, 6.30pm–10.30pm; Sat–Sun, 12pm–6am (River Valley) / +65 6337 7493 (Rifle Range Road)
Nearest MRT: Orchard Station (River Valley branch) / Bedok Station (Chai Chee branch)

Spize

A go-to establishment among Singaporeans looking for a hearty, late-night supper, Spize is not only known for its local fare, but also its extensive international menu, which includes Western, Indian, Thai and Mediterranean dishes. Items to order include mee goreng pattat (spicy fried noodles within an omelette; $37.50 to $38.90) and crispy tissue prata (flatbread; $33.90 to $34.20). Visitors craving for something less conventional can try its newer and unusual offerings, such as the steak and cheese murtabak ($56.90). Items and prices vary between outlets.

Address: 409 River Valley Road / 336 Bedok Road / 311 Rifle Range Road, #03-04
Tel: +65 6337 7493 (River Valley) / +65 6732 1994 (Bedok) / +65 6337 7493 (Rifle Range Road)
Website: spize.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 12pm–2.30pm, 6.30pm–10.30pm; Sat–Sun, 12pm–2pm; Sat–Sun, 6.30pm–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Orchard Station (River Valley branch) / Tanah Merah Station (Bedok branch) / Beauty World Station (Rifle Range Road branch)

Steva’s Asian Café

This café in Resorts World™ Sentosa serves street food from all over Asia. Its menu features more than 100 popular dishes, such as dim sum (bite-sized portions of food served in steamer baskets or small plates), ikan penyet (Indonesian-style fried fish; $12.90), sate maduro (Indonesian skewered meat; $39.50), spicy olio spaghetti with chicken ham ($31.80), and chicken chop ($31.80) to cater to the diverse tastes of travellers.

Address: Sentosa Island, 26 Sentosa Gateway, Resorts World™ Sentosa, The Forum, #01-205, and other outlets
Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Beach Road Station

Spiza

Orchard Station (River Valley) / Bedok Station (Chai Chee branch)

Streets Asian Café

This café in Resorts World™ Sentosa serves street food from all over Asia. Its menu features more than 100 popular dishes, such as dim sum (bite-sized portions of food served in steamer baskets or small plates), ikan penyet (Indonesian-style fried fish; $12.90), sate maduro (Indonesian skewered meat; $39.50), spicy olio spaghetti with chicken ham ($31.80), and chicken chop ($31.80) to cater to the diverse tastes of travellers.

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Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Beach Road Station

The Mad Sailors

Owned by the folks behind Afterwit – Burger Bar

Stretches Asian Café

This café in Resorts World™ Sentosa serves street food from all over Asia. Its menu features more than 100 popular dishes, such as dim sum (bite-sized portions of food served in steamer baskets or small plates), ikan penyet (Indonesian-style fried fish; $12.90), sate maduro (Indonesian skewered meat; $39.50), spicy olio spaghetti with chicken ham ($31.80), and chicken chop ($31.80) to cater to the diverse tastes of travellers.

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Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
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Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
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Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Beach Road Station

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Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
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Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
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Tel: +65 6700 0400
Website: stevas.com.sg
Email: marketing@ksubwayandspize.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10.30am–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Beach Road Station

The Mad Sailors

Owned by the folks behind Afterwit – Burger Bar
MODERN SINGAPORE CUISINE

Over the years, Singapore’s cuisine has evolved beyond its traditional hawker dishes such as chili crab and chicken rice. Innovative chefs have reworked the rich nuances and diverse textures of these dishes in their modern-day interpretations, making their mark on the local culinary landscape. The result is a plethora of dining options offering flavours that are best described as Modern Singapore.

Candlenut

This 92-seat restaurant on Dempsey Hill is the world’s first Michelin-starred Peranakan restaurant. Owner and head chef Malcolm Lee honed his cooking skills under the tutelage of his grandmother and mother, both nonyas (women of Peranakan descent, whose lineage dates back to Chinese immigrants who came to the Malay archipelago between the 15th and 17th centuries). Candlenut makes all its rempah (spice paste) from scratch, without using the flavour enhancer monosodium glutamate (MSG) or preservatives. Menu highlights include the homemade kueh pie tee (deep-fried pastry cups filled with shredded tumis ($3.50++), wagyu beef short ribs ($36++), and braised pork jowl, oven-grilled with a wasabi mayonnaise with prawns in a dish while working at TungLok Seafood in 1997. Festive and vegetarian menus are available in this 106-seater restaurant, which also has three private rooms that can seat eight to 18 for groups who prefer private dining. Diners can expect to pay about $560 per person for lunch and $810 per person for dinner.

Address: 52 Amoy Street
Tel: +65 6221 1336
Email: shih@wantonsg.com
Website: wantonsg.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Thu, 11.30am–2.30pm, 6pm–10pm; Fri, 11.30am–2.30pm, 6pm–10pm; Sat, 10am–2pm, 6pm–10pm; Sun, 10am–6pm

The Quarters

This casual eatery in Tanjong Pagar serves hawker-style food that combines the best of local flavours with traditional Asian and modern Western cooking techniques. The café’s signature satay burger ($37+++) incorporates all the tastes and textures of satay (grilled meat on skewers) into a well-marinated burger patty. It is then sandwiched between two rice “buns” chargrilled until crispy to give that all-important smoky flavour, and served with peanut sauce. For dessert, the Duriancamboloh ($58.50++) – a créme brûlée flavoured with durian (a thorny, pungent fruit with flesh the texture of rich custard) – is worth a try. Bigger groups can opt for the Quarters Experience set menu ($68++ per pax) of dishes such as Shok Bak, roast pork belly with cracking and spicy rempah (spice paste), and “Nai You” lobster that is poached in butter and then grilled.

Address: 16 Emporium Street, Icon Village, #01-03
Tel: +65 6834 4178
Website: thequarters.sg
Email: info@thequarters.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 8am–10pm; Sat, 10am–12pm; Sun, 10am–6pm
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

TungLok Heen

Formerly known as Chinois, this Chinese fine dining restaurant at Hotel Michael celebrates celebrity chef Susur Lee’s signature contemporary Chinese dishes sharing the spotlight with senior executive chef Ken Ling’s fiery Hunanese and Teochew delights. The signature roast Irish duck, with its crispy aromatic skin and succulent duck meat, is a must-order. Visitors should also try the restaurant’s Singapore Slaw, chef Susur’s twist on the local jushung salad that is traditionally eaten during Chinese New Year. The restaurant also offers The Pinnacle of Singapore Street Food – gourmet interpretations of local favourites. Dishes include satay (grilled skewered meat) using Spanish kurobuta pork cheek, oven-grilled with a satay paste mix and served with rich peanut sauce, and oyster omelette filled with large, plump Irish oysters, fresh green onions and parsley, and fried in fish oil. Chef Susur Lee was the first chef in Singapore to fuse wasabi mayonnaise with prawns in a dish while working at TungLok Seafood in 1997.

Address: Sentosa Island, 26 Sentosa Gateway, Hotel Michael, #01-14/15
Tel: +65 6864 7888
Website: tunglokheen.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 8am–4pm, 6.30pm–12.30pm; Sat, 10am–12pm; Sun, 10am–6pm
Nearest MRT: Telok Ayer Station / Tanjong Pagar Station

EAT & DRINK

Restaurant Labyrinth

Restaurant Labyrinth, which received one Michelin star in 2017, serves innovative dishes created by chef-owner Leong Han, who uses a range of culinary techniques to reinvent traditional local recipes. An example is Lardo, a “chicken rice ball” that takes three days to prepare. Made using chicken fat and soy sauce, and served with soy sauce and minced ginger, the dish is a modern interpretation of one of Singapore’s most iconic dishes – chicken rice (see Local Favourites, p96). The restaurant offers lunch and dinner set menus, an à la carte menu at dinner from Sunday to Thursday, as well as a pre-theatre set menu for guests attending performances at the Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (see Neighbours, Lifestyle Precincts, p78). The menus change from time to time, so check the restaurant’s website or call for updated menus and prices. Visitors may also inform the restaurant of any dietary restrictions.

Address: 8 Raffles Avenue, Esplanade Mall, #02-23
Tel: +65 6223 4098
Website: labyrinth.com.sg
Email: reservations@labyrinth.com.sg
Opening Hours: Tue–Fri, 12pm–2.30pm; Tue–Sun, 6.30pm–10pm; Thu–Sat, 6pm (Pre-theatre); Closed for lunch on Public Holidays
Nearest Station: Esplanade Station

Wild Rocket

Chef Willin Low coined the term “Mod Sin” (“Modern Singaporean”) in 2005 when he opened Wild Rocket. The restaurant is known for its menu of quintessentially Singaporean flavours, but chef Low’s revamped version of wonton mee with five-flowery pork lard and broth. For lunch, there are six bowls ($37) to choose from, along with add-ons like a five-minute egg ($32) and fried wontons ($32 for three). At dinner, guests can customise their basic bowl of plain noodles ($38) with sides (from $3.50) such as Japanese-style braised pork belly, char siew (barbecued pork), shrimp dumplings and slow-cooked pork knuckles. There are also small bites like Bata Liong Egg, a hard-boiled egg wrapped with char siew and dipped in spicy mayonnaise ($3.50), and creative cocktails such as Ju Hua, chrysanthemum tea spiked with vodka. There’s a $8 discount for takeaway orders. Reservations are only for dinner.

Address: 8 Raffles Avenue, Esplanade Mall, #02-23
Tel: +65 6834 4178
Website: thequarters.sg
Email: info@thequarters.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 8am–10pm; Sat, 10am–12pm; Sun, 10am–6pm
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

Wanton, Seng’s Noodle Bar

Wanton, Seng’s Noodle Bar is a collaboration between hawker stall Seng’s Wanton Mee and restaurant group The Establishment Group. This eatery, which comfortably sits 28 pax, serves a
culinary skill is best demonstrated in his omakase tasting menu – for lunch, it’s a seven- to nine-course menu ($390++ to $820++ per person); dinner is a nine- to eleven-course menu ($500++ to $1,300++ per person), both served at the 12-seater chef counter. Advanced reservations are highly recommended for visitors who wish to order from this menu. Besides the omakase menu, visitors can try the two- to three-course ($328++) or three-course set lunch ($328++), as well as a four-course set dinner ($373++). Wild Rock has added new items to its menu – with some dishes changing every few months – such as har jo (dried shrimp rice) spaghetti with bottarga (salted, cured fish roe), prawns and kaffir (S$10) and 48hr beef short rib with green curry (S$37). For large groups, there is a private room for up to 18 pax, with a minimum spend of $1,100++ for lunch and $3,500++ for dinner.

Address: 1A Upper Wilkie Road, hangleat@emily.com Tel: +65 6339 9448
Website: wildrockiet.com.sg

Eat & Drink

HAWKER CENTRES

A visit to a hawker centre is a must in Singapore. It is where visitors can find Singaporeans from all walks of life tucking into affordable local food in a casual atmosphere. At these open-air food courts, the best local dishes can be sampled for under S$10. This includes delicious meals from different ethnic groups – Chinese, Indian, Malay and Eurasian – and halal and vegetarian options (see Halal Restaurants, p113 and Vegetarian, p122). From the hustle and bustle to the sights and smells, visiting a lively hawker centre is a sensory experience not to be missed. Though stalls may operate at different timings, hawker centres generally open from 6am to 11pm.

Chinatown Complex Food Centre & Chinatown Food Street

Travellers can take a break while exploring Chinatown (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p57) to enjoy local food at these two spots. At Chinatown Complex Food Centre, seek out one-Michelin-starred Liao Fan Hong Kong Soya Sauce Chicken Rice & Noodle Stall (Stall #02-15), where there is always a queue. Starting at S$3 per plate, it is one of the world’s cheapest Michelin-starred meals. At Lau Hee Bei's Claypot Rice (#02-198), visitors can try slightly charred sweet soy sauce rice studded with chunks of meat. Over at Chinatown Food Street, the area has been converted into an alfresco food trail. Visitors should try Katong Kueh Rice Fried Oysters (Stall 5) and Newton Circus Ahmad Ibrar Samat (Stall 19) among the 24 street hawkers stalls and six shophouse restaurants here.

Chinatown Complex Food Centre
Address: 33 Smith Street
Chinatown Food Street
Address: 7 Smith Street
Nearest MRT: Chinatown Station

Lau Pa Sat

Built in the 19th century with distinctive colonial architecture, Lau Pa Sat was declared a national monument in 1973. Located in the heart of the financial district, this open-air food court offers local dishes as well as international cuisine such as Costa Rican, Filipino, Indian and Vietnamese. At 7pm, an outdoor dining area is transformed into a mini satay street. Stalls, 7 and 8 are popular for their tasty skewers of chicken, lamb, beef and pork. Some satay stalls are halal-certified. Lau Pa Sat opens 24 hours a day, so visitors can drop by any time to enjoy the wide array of local hawker food within an elegant old-world setting.

Address: 18 Raffles Quay
Nearest MRT: Raffles Place Station

Newton Food Centre

This famous hawker centre located near Orchard Road remains a favourite of locals and visitors. With numerous barbecue seafood stalls to choose from, visitors should compare prices from different vendors before ordering. Iconic hawkers serving non-seafood local fare include Kway Heng (#01-13), known for dry duck noodles with a distinct star anise and vinegar sauce; Bee Heng Popiah (#01-12), which makes Hakkinen-style popiah (fresh spring roll); and Hup Kee Oyster Omelette (#01-07), which uses plump and fragrant oysters. For dessert, try the cheng tng (a light, sweet soup with longan, barley and white fungus) from 88 Shan Ren Cold and Hot Dessert (#01-05).

Address: 51 Old Airport Road
Nearest MRT: Dakota Station

Maxwell Food Centre

What was once a wet market in the 1950s has become the popular Maxwell Food Centre today. One of its biggest draws is Tian Tian Hainanese Chicken Rice (#01-10/7) – whose world-famous chicken rice chef Gordon Ramsay’s version in the Hawker Heroes Challenge. Also popular is Zhen Zhen Porridge (#01-05) for its comforting bowls of thick porridge cooked with chicken or fish, while the crispy, deep-fried oyster cake snack at Maxwell Fuzhou Oyster Cake (#01-05) has become a rare speciality. For dessert, visitors should try the freshly fried pancang goreng (fried banana fritters) from Lim Kee Banana Fritters (#01-61).

Address: 10A Upper Wilkinson Road, hangout@mt.emily.com Tel: +65 6339 9448
Website: maxwellfoodcentre.singapore

ALL IN THE MIX

The Malay word ‘khas khas’ means ‘eclectic mix’, and is also the name of a local fruit and vegetable salad dish.

Chomp Chomp Food Centre & Serangoon Gardens Market and Food Centre

Serangoon Gardens’ residents are envied for the variety of good hawker fare available at their doorstep (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p84). As one of two major food centres in this heartland area, Chomp Chomp is small in size but its quality food offerings are numerous. Seek out Ah Hock Fried Hokkien Noodles (#01-27) where the fried noodle dish is moist and flavoursome, and Good Luck Chicken Wings and Satay (#01-29), which serves chicken wings in a tasty marinade with piquant chilli sauce. At Serangoon Gardens Market, the big draw is Original Botanical Garden Famous Fish Ball Noodles (#01-14) for its addictive fish cakes and springy fish balls, and Garden Street Kway Chap (#01-21), well loved for its robust broth and silky-smooth rice noodles. The popular AIP Nasi Lemak (#01-27) uses basmati rice for its signature coconut rice dish and is halal-certified.

Get to Serangoon Garden Bakey & Confectionery (#01-45) early to try fresh, delicious pastries.
**Eat & Drink**

**HAWKER CENTRE SURVIVAL GUIDE**
Tips for first-timers in a Singapore hawker centre and how to find the best eats

**Seating:** During peak lunch and dinner hours, large groups may need to split up. Sharing tables, which typically seat four to five, is common. Empty seats or tables are not necessarily available – check first if a packet of tissue or an umbrella has been left on it. This signals that the table has been "choped" (local slang for "reserved").

**Ordering Food:** Singaporeans commonly address elderly hawkers as Auntie or Uncle, even though they’re not blood-related, as a sign of respect. When in doubt on what to order, just point at the pictures provided or to another customer’s order.

**What to Eat:** Ask for specific stall recommendations from locals, or simply find the longest queues (usually an indication of a popular stall) and order the signature dish.

**What to Drink:** Local favourites to try include Andersen’s lime syrup drink, teh tarik (spiced tea) and Teh Tarik (milk tea with grass jelly) and teh pung (milk tea served with ice).

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**Tiong Bahru Market and Food Centre**
Indicative of Tiong Bahru’s old-meets-new appeal, this establishment was built on the site of the old Tiong Poh Road Market and reopened in 2006 as a two-storey market and food centre. The first floor lets visitors experience a typical Singapore wet market before heading upstairs to enjoy delicious local dishes. With over 80 stalls housed in an art deco-style building, the hawker centre’s more famous stalls include Jian Bo Shi Kueh (#02-05), serving traditional handmade cheese-kueh (steamed rice cakes topped with diced preserved radish), and Tiong Bahru Ice Mac (#02-07), which sells lor mee (thick rice noodle in a rich gravy) with generous toppings such as braised pork belly, ngoh hiang (five-spice meat rolls) and fried wanton, all for S$3 per bowl. Dessert stall Tian Yuan Dessert House (#02-15) has over 80 iced and hot desserts to choose from. Under the S$2 ice kachang (sweet shaved ice with toppings) for a refreshing treat.

**Address:** #01 Tiong Bahru Road
**Nearest MRT:** Tiong Bahru Station

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**VEGETARIAN**
A good food can be found everywhere in Singapore, and this is true not only for meat-lovers. Visitors will also find meat-free stalls offering a variety of meals and desserts to suit a range of budgets, cuisine types and dietary preferences, whether vegetarian, vegan or Jain-friendly. In fact, Singapore came in No. 2 on the Top 10 Vegan-Friendly Cities in Asia list unveiled by international animal rights group PETA in December 2016.

**Annalakshmi**
Vegetarian-friendly, Jain-friendly
This social enterprise is the culinary branch of the Temple of Fine Arts Singapore and run mostly by volunteers. The menu changes regularly, but there are always chickpea and aaloo (Indian dish of cooked lentils) among the range of vegetarian dishes on offer. The restaurant’s name is derived from the Hindu goddess of abundance and is a compound word made up of “anna”, which means “food”, and Lakshmi, the name of the goddess. Annalakshmi has a longstanding practice of offering diners the option to pay any amount they want for their meal. As a form of courtesy, visitors should ideally not offer anything less than S$5 per person. The restaurant’s other location at 104 Amoy Street is only open for lunch from Monday to Saturday (11am-3pm).

**Address:** 20 Havelock Road, Village Residence Clarke Quay, #01-04
**Tel:** +65 6339 9993
**Fax:** +65 6332 7462
**Website:** annalakshmi.info
**Opening Hours:** Mon–Sun, 11.30am–3.30pm, 6.30pm–9.30pm. Closed on Mon evenings
**Nearest MRT:** Clarke Quay Station

**Brownie Italian Vegan Ice Cream & Kitchen**
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly, Jain-friendly
Well-loved for its vegan-approved ice creams ($3.50 per scoop), this Italian vegan bistro also offers lasagne ($37), pizzas ($54 to $59), risottos ($38) and desserts that are all made without animal products, eggs, dairy or preservatives. No onions are used in all dishes and garlic can be omitted upon request. Brownie Italian Vegan Ice Cream Café in Sin Ming Centre is run by the same people and focuses on serving ice cream.

**Address:** 53 East Coast Road
**Tel:** +65 6348 2295
**Website:** browniecafe.com

**Herbivore Japanese & Western Vegetarian Restaurant**
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly, Jain-friendly
For a Japanese meal beyond the usual vegetable-based ramen, avocado and cucumber sushi rolls, Herbivore’s vegan menu offers mock sushi (tuna, salmon, unagi (freshwater eel)) and other dishes like natto soba (traditional Japanese noodles with fermented soybeans) and vegetarian tonkatsu (breaded, deep-fried vegetables). Located in Fortune Centre – a haven for vegetarian dining in Singapore due to the large number of meat-free eateries under one roof – the restaurant is also Jain-friendly and does not use garlic and onion in its cooking.

**Address:** 190 Middle Road, Fortune Centre, #01-04
**Tel:** +65 6333 1612
**Website:** herbivorereorr.com
**Email:** info@herbivorereorr.com
**Opening Hours:** Mon–Thu, 11.30am–3pm, 5pm–10pm; Fri–Sat, 11.30am–10pm; Sun 11am–9pm
**Nearest MRT:** Raffles Place Station
Joie Restaurant by DOZO
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly

This rooftop meat-free dining spot is popular for its elaborate yet affordable six-course lunch ($53.80++) and seven-course dinner ($68.60++). Influenced by dining trends in Europe, Japan and Taiwan, the dishes are created with the artful use of everyday ingredients such as root vegetables and mushrooms in a contemporary fashion. The mock austerity dishes and eye-catching grilled mushrooms, chestnuts, carrots, tofu and French beans (S$10.50 for eight). A selection of organic and vegan-friendly groceries, such as teas and pasta sauces, is also available for sale.

Address: 181 Orchard Road, Orchard Central, #12-01
Tel: +65 6377 9396 (Orchard Central branch)
Website: realfoodgrocer.com
info@realfoodgrocer.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sat, 11.30am–3pm, 6pm–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Somerset Station

Madras New Woodlands Restaurant
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly, Jain-friendly

Madras New Woodlands Restaurant has been in business since 1983 and is known for its curries, chutneys, full-flavoured dhals (Indian dish of cooked lentils) and the mock mutton vegetable soup. Another popular option that will satisfy larger appetites is the VIP Thali set ($39.50). Each comes with more than 10 small metal pots filled with two types of rice, assorted curries and vegetable dishes, and a choice of Indian roti (bread) or dosa (pancake made from fermented rice and lentil batter), all served atop a large banana leaf-lined platter. The restaurant can omit garlic and onion upon request.

Address: Block 43 Jalan Mesah Saga, Chip Bee Gardens, #01-62
Tel: +65 6475 5605
Fax: +65 6475 4416
Website: originalsin.com.sg
Email: info@originalsin.com.sg

Komalavilas
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly, Jain-friendly

Komalavilas opened in 1947 and has become a household name for its delicious Indian vegetarian fare. It serves both South and North Indian vegetarian specialities, including 40 types of dosa (pancake made from fermented rice and lentil batter). The chair vadar set ($4.50) – a lentil and onion doughnut, served with yoghurt – makes a great breakfast meal, while the rice meal is a value-for-money deal for lunch and dinner, with unlimited refills of rice and dishes if one rice meal is ordered per person. Jain dishes are available only at Komalavilas’ Race Course Road branch.

Address: 76–78 Serangoon Road, and other locations
Tel: +65 6295 6980
Website: komalavilas.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 7am–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Little India Station

Original Sin
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly, Jain-friendly

One of the pioneers of Western vegetarian restaurants in Singapore, Original Sin is located near the lively neighbourhood of Holland Village (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p176) and features a menu of Mediterranean dishes that includes fresh salads, pastas and pizzas. Its popular Magic Mushroom ($20) – baked portobello mushroom with pesto, cheese and tomato basil sauce – is comfort food at its best. The restaurant can omit garlic and onion for selected dishes upon request.

Address: 181 Orchard Road, Orchard Central, #02-16, and other locations
Tel: +65 6377 9396 (Orchard Central branch)
Website: realfoodgrocer.com
Email: enquiries@realfoodgrocer.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sat, 11am–10pm; Sun, 11am–9pm
Nearest MRT: Somerset Station

Real Food
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly, Jain-friendly

This organic café is known for serving an array of pocket-friendly vegan and vegetarian fare, which can be customised to suit specific dietary needs. Garlic, onion and root vegetables can be omitted for selected dishes upon request. No processed, pre-cut or pre-packed ingredients are used and sauces are made from scratch. The slow-pressed juices and smoothies are highly recommended, as are the signature full-flavoured, hearty dumplings made with finely chopped mushrooms, chestnuts, carrots, tofu and French beans ($10.50 for eight).

Address: 44 Jalan Euro
Tel: +65 6444 6868
Fax: +65 6444 3301
Website: veganburger.com
Email: hello@veganburger.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 11.30am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Pasir Panjang Station

VeganBurg
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly, Jain-friendly

Billied as “the world’s first vegan burger fast food joint”, VeganBurg features a 100% plant-based menu at both its Singapore and San Francisco outlets. It serves some of the best vegan burgers in town. Recommended items include the Smoky BBQ burger ($8.93) made with minced mushrooms and the Creamy Shrooms burger ($7.92) with tofu and mushrooms. Also popular are sides like the Spinach Pops ($4.92) and seaweed fries ($3.91). Garlic and onion can be omitted from certain items on the menu upon request.

Address: 76 Pek Ciah Street
Tel: +65 6223 3301
Website: wholeearth.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 11.30am–3pm, 5.30pm–10pm
Nearest MRT: Tanjong Pagar Station

Real Foof
Whole Earth
Vegetarian-friendly, Vegan-friendly

This Michelin guide Singapore 2017 Bib Gourmand awardee is popular for its Penang-Thai vegetarian dishes. Highlights include sambal kang kang (water spinach with spicy chilli paste; $13.90), “honey ribs” made with monkey head mushrooms ($32.70), and its version of Penang rendang (braised meat cooked in coconut milk and spices) made with pan-fried mushrooms instead of meat ($30.90). All dishes here do not contain garlic and onion, but mushrooms and root vegetables are used.

Address: 111 Orchard Road, Orchard Central, #10-01
Tel: +65 6838 6966
Fax: +65 6838 6967
Website: joierestaurant.com.sg
Email: reservation@joierestaurant.com.sg
Tel: +65 6838 6966
Address: 181 Orchard Road, Orchard Central, #12-01
Tel: +65 6377 9396
Website: realfoodgrocer.com
Email: enquiries@realfoodgrocer.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 11.30am–3pm, 6pm–10.30pm
Nearest MRT: Holland Village Station

BARS & CLUBS

As the sun sets, another side of Singapore comes alive. With bustling nightspots helmed by big-name DJs, rooftop bars, underground clubs and waterfront cocktail lounges, there is an array of options for visitors to let their hair down and enjoy the city after dark.
1-Altitude
Located in the heart of Singapore’s Central Business District (CBD) at One Raffles Place, 1-Altitude is a “multi-concept lifestyle destination” that encompasses a viewing gallery, rooftop gallery and bar, fine-dining restaurant Stellar, Attamite nightclub, and ALT café and bar across three levels. Perched 250m above sea level, 1-Altitude Gallery Bar is the world’s highest alfresco bar. With 360-degree views of the CBD, the venue is best enjoyed for its Sundown Affair (daily from 6pm–8pm) where visitors can enjoy a cocktail in hand and relax to laidback DJ spin beats, while admiring the stunning city skyline. On Wednesday nights, ladies enjoy free entry and S$30 martinis all night. At Attamite, the view of the skyline is an impressive backdrop for visitors to party the night away. With seven elevated booths, this club impresses partygoers with state-of-the-art audiovisuals and a premium cocktail and liquor list. Signature cocktails start from S$320. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged at 1-Altitude and Attamite. Events packages are available upon request.

Address: 1 Raffles Place, One Raffles Place (formerly Club Centre), Level 61 & 63
Tel: +65 6438 0440 / +65 6376 0242
(Trade Contact: Angelina Low)
Fax: +65 6438 070
Website: 1-altitude.com
Email: info@1-altitude.com
/ AngelinaLow@1-altitude.com or
immex@1-altitude.com (Trade Contacts)
Opening Hours: (1-Altitude) Sun-Tue, 6pm–2am; Thu, 6pm–2am; Wed, Fri & Sat and eve of Public Holidays, 6pm –4am; (Attamite) Fri–Sat, 6pm–4am
Cover Charge: (1-Altitude) S$30 (6pm–9pm, inclusive of one drink); S$35 (after 9pm, inclusive of one drink); (Attamite) S$30 (inclusive of one house pour)
Nearest MRT: Raffles Place Station

28 Hong Kong Street
Located on the ground floor of an old shophouse behind a nondescript door is 28 Hong Kong Street, one of the best cocktail bars in Singapore and ranked first on the inaugural Asia’s 50 Best Bars list in 2016. This “scented” bar is famed for its shot drinks, which are larger than the usual serving size, and a wide variety of award-winning cocktails (from S$18++). Groups can order one of their punch bowls to share – the Presidential Punch, (S$250, minimum five people), is a potent mix of cognac, rum, apricot brandy, peach tea and a whole bottle of champagne. Reservations are a must to secure a spot.

Address: 28 Hong Kong Street
Tel: +65 6333 2001
Website: 28hk.com
Email: finds2@8hk.com
Opening Hours: Mon-Thur, 6pm-2am; Fri-Sat, 6pm-3am; Closed on Sun
No Cover Charge
Nearest MRT: Clarke Quay Station

Attica
Established in 2004, this club is popular for its Wednesday Ladies Night and late-night parties helmed by visiting DJs from around the world. Refurbished in 2014 to celebrate its 10th anniversary, the space is split into four areas: Bar Rose, an outdoor cocktail and champagne bar overlooking the Singapore River (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p85); R&B and Top 40s on the space is split into four areas: Bar Rose, an outdoor cocktail and champagne bar overlooking the Singapore River (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p85); R&B and Top 40s on
Opening Hours: (Bar Rose) Tue–Sat, 6pm till late
Cover Charge: $350 (Wed, men only); inclusive of three drinks and free entry for women, inclusive of six drinks and bar treats). $350 (Thu, men only); inclusive of four drinks and free entry for ladies before lam, inclusive of three drinks); $30 (Fri & Sat, inclusive of three drinks)
Nearest MRT: Clarke Quay Station

Bang Bang
This cheekily named nightclub, which can house 400 partygoers in its intimate setting, is all about bottle service (bottles of champagne from S$188++), club anthems and electronic dance music (EDM), as well as sexy go-go dancers and hostesses. The club’s mid-week Wild Wednesdays are extremely popular, as are its special event nights. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 7 Raffles Boulevard, Pan Pacific Singapore
Tel: +65 8177 2694
Website: bangbangclub.sg
Email: info@bangbangclub.sg
Opening Hours: Wed, 10pm–Sat; Fri & Sat, 10pm–6am
Cover Charge: S$35, inclusive of one drink
Nearest MRT: Promenade Station

Blu Jaz Cafe
Around the corner from hip Haji Lane (see Shopping, Ethnic Districts, p136) is this restaurant-cum-nightspot offering a variety of music from live jazz to hip-hop and jungle bass beats. Visitors may even chance upon an improv jazz or live music set. Every Thursday, ladies enjoy complimentary vodka cranberry cocktails (till midnight). Visitors should order the whisky sour (S$14++), a tower of Tiger Beer (S$70++) or the signature Waterfall (S$130++), a flaming concoction

Address: 11 Bali Lane
Tel: +65 6292 3800
Website: blujazcafe.net
Tel: +65 6292 3800
Email: wendy@blujazcafe.net
No Cover Charge; from S$10 on special event nights
Nearest MRT: Bugis Station / Nicoll Highway Station

CÉ LA VI Singapore
Inspired by legendary New York club The Factory, Canvas is a creative space by day and an underground nightclub by night. Catering to young indie clubbers, the eclectic music here spans Afro-Latin, swing, nu-discos, hip-hop and techno. This quirky art-meets-music club also hosts a comedy night every alternate Tuesday (from 8.30pm) with a famous Singaporean comedian. There is a Belvedere Vodka promotion (S$150 nett, inclusive of mixer) available Thursday to Saturday, 10pm to 11pm. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 20 Upper Circular Road, The Boonauw, #01-01/02
Tel: +65 9693 3815
Website: cleavisings.com
Tel: +65 9693 3815
Email: sales@cleavisings.com
Nearest MRT: Clarke Quay Station

DESTINATION SINGAPORE
Eat & Drink
of the track and series of entertainment events. The Diamond Life hall offers free entry to ladies and extends a premium house pours, plus the chance to win prizes. Previous prizes include premium champagne, luxurious makeovers and facial treatments. Big spenders can order the Champagne Trains and receive five bottles for the price of four. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 1 Bayfront Avenue, SkyPark at Marina Bay Sands’ Tower 3, 9757 Floor
Tel: +65 6508 2988
Fax: +65 6294 7890
Website: sg.fullerton.com
Email: reservation-sg@fullerton.com / club-sg@fullerton.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 12pm till late; Sat & Sun, 11am till late
Cover Charge: Varies from S$20–S$38, inclusive of one premium house pour drink
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

Jigger & Pony

Taking advantage of its 45°-floor penthouse, Empire boasts a spacious outdoor seating area and avant-garde interiors with a statement skull seat and an eclectic collection of paintings. With happy hour specials running from Monday to Friday (3-for-1 house spirits, S$34++ per glass), a late-night party series, and Elevation Fridays where old-school and hip-hop music take centre stage, this spot is always buzzing with its mix of Top 40s, hip-hop and electro tunes. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 50 Raffles Place, Singapore Land Towner, Level 45
Tel: +65 9336 1443
Website: hiddenconceptsg.com
Email: bird@hiddenconceptsg.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Thu, 5pm–1am; Fri, 5pm–3am; Sat, 6pm–3am
No Cover Charge
Nearest MRT: Raffles Place Station

Headquarters by The Council

Perhaps the hippest club in Singapore with a reputation for throwing some of the best rave nights, Headquarters by The Council along the Singapore River (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p85) prefers to keep it low-key. Visitors who love a good party can expect house and techno music with acid and tribal tunes, and should follow the club’s social media pages for updates on themed pop-up nights. The drink to order: Club-Mate ($15), a sparkling, non-alcoholic mate-extract bottle drink, which comes with a choice of mixer (vodka, gin, whisky or Jäger). Mate is a traditional South American caffeinated beverage.

Address: 66 Boat Quay, Level 2
Tel: +65 8225 8880 (Trade Contact)
Website: facebook.com/ThaCouncil.SG
Opening Hours: Wed–Fri, 10pm–3am; Sat, 10pm–4am; Closed on Mon. Tue & Sun
Cover Charge: From S$15 (Fri & Sat, inclusive of first drink); no cover charge on Wed & Thu
Nearest MRT: Clarke Quay Station

Jigger & Pony

Bringing back the art of classic cocktails, this award-winning bar on Amoy Street is a go-to spot for off-duty bankers and young professionals. Sleekly designed with distinct Japanese décor accents, the club has a reputation for playing hip, edgy tunes courtesy of its roster of visiting DJs. The bar is well-stocked with Japanese sake (from S$50++ per bottle) and whisky (Nikka Black, Nikka Special, Miyagikyo 12 Years and more cost from S$280++ per bottle). kyö’s Ladies Night on Thursdays sees the place packed, and complimentary vodka cranberry drinks are given out to ladies from 10pm to 2am. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 80 Collyer Quay
Tel: +65 6977 5299
Website: fullertonhotels.com
Email: lantern@fullertonbayhotel.com

Lantern

The gem of the Fullerton Bay Hotel, this rooftop bar – with a covered canopy and stunning circular bar – looks out onto the Marina Bay area (see Neighbourhoods). Guests can order the Singapura Special, Miyagikyo 12 Years and more cost from S$200++ (serves 15–20). Travel agents can order the customised punch bowls from S$220++ (serves 15–20). Travel agents can write in for group bookings.

Address: 133 Cecil Road, Keck Seng Tower, #B1-01
Tel: +65 8299 8735
Website: clubkyo.com
Email: info@clubkyo.com
Opening Hours: Wed–Fri, 10pm–3am; Sat, 10pm–4am
Cover Charge: S$25 (Thu, men only, inclusive of one drink), S$28 Fri & Sat (inclusive of two drinks)
Nearest MRT: Raffles Place Station

Manhattan Bar

Award-winning Manhattan Bar has its own rooftop with 106 American oak barrels that are used for ageing spirits and bitters. This sophisticated watering hole is known for its selection of whisky and experimental cocktails with ingredients such as wild cherry bark and schisandra berries. Guests can order the Singapore National (S$23++), made with apricot brandy and St George Botanivore, which was created to mark Singapore’s 50th birthday in 2015 and won first prize in the SG50 A Toast to the Nation competition. There are three private rooms for larger groups (12, 16 and 30 pa). Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 133 Cecil Road, Keck Seng Tower, #B1-01
Opening Hours: Sun–Thu, 8am–1am; Fri & Sat, 6pm to eve of Public Holidays, 8am–2am
Nearest MRT: Promenade Station

Millian

Located near Sentosa Gateway, this mega club and live music spot can accommodate 1,000 revellers. Set within the iconic St James Power Station complex, this new club with a mega sound system has big DJ names backing it, from Egyptian trance duo Aly & Fila to residents from iconic Ibiza club Pacha. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 3 Sentosa Gateway, St James Power Station, 09-09
Tel: +65 6298 0815
Website: millian.sg
Opening Hours: Wed, Fri & Sat, 10pm till late; Sun, 4pm till late
Cover Charge: Free
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

Neighbourhoods

Eat & Drink

Jigger & Pony

Taking advantage of its 45°-floor penthouse, Empire boasts a spacious outdoor seating area and avant-garde interiors with a statement skull seat and an eclectic collection of paintings. With happy hour specials running from Monday to Friday (3-for-1 house spirits, S$34++ per glass), a late-night party series, and Elevation Fridays where old-school and hip-hop music take centre stage, this spot is always buzzing with its mix of Top 40s, hip-hop and electro tunes. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 50 Raffles Place, Singapore Land Towner, Level 45
Tel: +65 9336 1443
Website: hiddenconceptsg.com
Email: bird@hiddenconceptsg.com
Opening Hours: Mon–Thu, 5pm–1am; Fri, 5pm–3am; Sat, 6pm–3am
No Cover Charge
Nearest MRT: Raffles Place Station

Jigger & Pony

Bringing back the art of classic cocktails, this award-winning bar on Amoy Street is a favourite amongst...
New Asia

This club on the 71st floor of Swissôtel The Stamford along the Bras Basah-City Hall civic district boasts a gorgeous panorama. With a calendar of different themes – such as Industry Night Out and Precious Ladies Night – the party at New Asia kicks into high gear every last Friday of the month with the Sky Night Party, and every last Thursday of the month when an international DJ takes charge of the decks. Visitors can party to popular house music, Motown and Top 40s tunes. The drink to order is the SG50 Singapore Merlion (S$22++) made with gin, Galliano, pineapple and orange. Table and packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 2 Stamford Road, Swissôtel The Stamford, Equinox Complex, Level 71
Tel: +65 9177 7307
Website: swissotel.com
Email: newasiabar@equinoxcomplex.com
Opening Hours: Tue, 7pm–1am; Wed & Thu, 7pm–2am; Fri, Sat & eve of Public Holidays, 7pm–3am; Sun, 2pm–1am
Cover Charge: From S$35 (inclusive of one drink)
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station

Operation Dagger

Hidden along a back alley at the junction of Club Street and Ann Siang Hill, this basement bar, like its name, shrouds itself in an air of secrecy. With minimalist décor and an eye-catching chandelier, its cocktail concoctions allow visitors to select drinks based on flavour preferences. For a locally inspired cocktail, guests can order The Egg (S$25++) made with salted egg yolk, caramel, star anise and torched hay.

Address: 7 Ann Siang Hill, BI-07
Tel: +65 6438 4057
Website: operationdagger.com
Email: info@operationdagger.com
Opening Hours: Tue–Sat, 6pm till late; Closed on Sun & Mon
No Cover Charge
Nearest MRT: Telok Ayer Station

VLV Club Lounge

Housed in a historic 1880s building in the heart of Clarke Quay, this lifestyle venue (restaurant, club lounge, alfresco courtyard bar) promises clubbers a memorable night out. It is fitted with state-of-the-art visuals and a stellar sound system and stage. Its lavish parties, helmed by creative director Mass Ramli (formerly from Armani/Privé Dubai) are fast gaining a reputation. Visitors may want to check the website’s programme page for its weekend events. This monthly affair starts with a Saturday Night theme club night in the VLV Lounge and moves onto a brunch party in the VLV Restaurant on Sunday afternoon. Guests can order Fire Court (S$19++), a vodka-based cocktail made with fresh raspberries, lime juice and ginger beer. Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 3A River Valley Road, Merchant’s Court, Clarke Quay, #01-02
Tel: +65 6661 0197
Fax: +65 6385 1130
Website: vlv.life
Email: reservation@vlv.life

Zouk

The club that cemented Singapore’s global super-club status – and brought avid clubbers the annual ZoukOut dance music festival (see Events & Festivals, p30) – moved to Clarke Quay at the end of 2016. Its new main Zouk room, with an eye-catching LEDSCONTROL light structure above the dance floor, accommodates 1,500 revellers. The Phuture room, with its graffiti artwork, caters to hip-hop and R&B fans. Also part of the complex is Red Tail, a restaurant and bar serving cocktails and East-meets-West bar bites. For the complete Zouk experience, order the signature Long Island Tea (S$19++). Table and drink packages for groups can be arranged.

Address: 3C River Valley Road
Tel: +65 6738 2988
Fax: +65 6738 3988
Website: zoukclub.com
Email: zoukclub@zoukclub.com
Opening Hours: (Zouk) Wed & Fri, 9pm–3am; Sat & eve of Public Holidays, 9pm–4am; (Phuture) Wed & Fri, 9pm–3am; Thu 9pm–2am; Sat & eve of Public Holidays, 9pm–4am; (Red Tail) Sun–Tue, 6pm–11pm; Wed, 6pm–3am; Thu, 6pm–2am; Fri, 6pm–4am; Sat & eve of Public Holidays, 6pm–4am
Cover Charge: S$25 (Wed, men only); S$35 (Fri, Sat & eve of Public Holidays, men); S$30 (Fri, Sat & eve of Public Holidays, women); S$45 (Special & A-List events); No cover charge on Thu
Nearest MRT: Clarke Quay Station
From glitzy malls to indie boutiques, flea markets and niche pop-up stores, Singapore’s retail scene caters to all budgets and preferences. The best place to start is Orchard Road. Spanning 2.2km, this famous shopping belt fuses the best of both local and international fashion, alongside excellent options for food, drinks and entertainment. Beyond Orchard Road, there are many malls within walking distance of MRT stations. As most malls close at 10pm, visitors have ample time to shop late into the evening. A good day of window-shopping can be done anywhere from Marina Bay Sands® to the heart of the Central Business District, as well as in ethnic districts. Local creative talent is booming, and works by Singaporean designers are available in the city. Art galleries and boutiques also showcase one-of-a-kind designs and products – a tangible reminder of how truly unique Singapore is.

**MALLS**

With countless homegrown labels and international brands across the island, Singapore is undeniably a shopping paradise. Retail outlets also offer a range of irresistible tourist privileges and discounts. Travellers simply have to approach the Information Counter or Concierge at shopping malls to know more about these privileges.

**Bugis Junction**

This mall draws shoppers in with its youthful tenant mix (including menswear brand Black Brown 1826 and Casio’s G-Factory) and fast-fashion retail stores such as ALDO, Topshop and local footwear brand Charles & Keith. Opened in 1995, Bugis Junction is one of the first malls in Singapore to have air-conditioned “indoor streets” inside the complex, which has pushcarts selling everything from electronics to fashion accessories. The mall is also popular with families because of its outdoor water fountain where children can play amid spraying water. Tourist discounts are available at participating outlets.

Across the road, Bugis Street is an indoor market popular for souvenirs and affordable clothes and shoes.

**Address:** 200 Victoria Street  
**Tel:** +65 6557 6557  
**Website:** bugisjunction-mall.com.sg  
**Opening Hours:** Mon–Sun, 10am–10pm  
**Nearest MRT:** Bugis Station
called the “jewel of Orchard Road” thanks to its spectacular glass facade. ION Orchard has an array of big-name designers, such as Louis Vuitton, Pat McGrath Labs, and Dior, within its 66,000sqm of retail space. Travellers looking for fine jewellery can visit Japanese pearl specialist Mikimoto and the diamond boutique of homegrown brand Lee Hwa Jewellery. The world’s leading watch manufacturers, including IWC Schaffhausen, A. Lange & Söhne, TAG Heuer and Vacheron Constantin, also have stores in this eight-level mall. Those who would like to take a break from shopping can view the exhibitions of established and emerging artists at ION Art gallery or visit TWG Tea Salon & Boutique. Travellers can redeem the ION Orchard Tourist Wallet (one redemption per shopper per day, while stocks last) – vouchers for shopping and dining discounts in participating outlets – at the Singapore Visitor Centre on Level 1. There is also a Free Food and Heritage Trail held from Monday to Friday at 10am. This tour brings travellers to the mall’s heritage stalls for a taste of local dishes (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p598). Registration required at least three days in advance. Maximum 10 people per session.

**ION Orchard**

**Orchard Central**

It’s hard to miss this mall’s eye-catching multi-million-dollar art pieces, including sculptures such as TAN Girl, which is four storeys tall, and the stainless steel Hutong Grove outside the main entrance. But the retail offerings here, such as arty clothing line Desigual and Japanese lifestyle store Tokyu Hands, aren’t to be ignored either. There are plenty of food options too; try irresistible mille crêpes from Lady M, and kawaii-styled food at POMPOMPURIN Café (see Eat & Drink, Unique Dining Concepts, p102). Those looking for substantial meals can visit the Dancing Crab restaurant for seafood, or Eighteen Chefs – a restaurant that employs ex-convicts to help them reintegrate into society – which is known for its fried rice cooked with different ingredients.

Travellers can redeem a S$10 shopping voucher (while stocks last) at the Information Counter (Level 4) will receive a S$20 voucher (while stocks last), which they can use at any participating outlet (minimum spend of S$100 to use the voucher). Nearby, 313@somerset (313somerset.com.sg) shopping mall has 177 retail outlets, including global fashion labels Zara, Forever 21 and Cotton On, and tech brands Sony and Samsung.

**Paragon**

Shoppaholics will adore this upmarket mall with its array of high-end labels, such as Prada, Salvatore Ferragamo and Givenchy. Quick beauty fixes can be had at Spa Esprit (see Local Products, p149), while there are Toys “R” Us and children’s boutique Kids 21 for families with young children. Those looking for high-quality accessories and gemstones can visit Larry Jewelry and H. Sena Jewellers, or browse the latest watch designs at Cortina Watch and Watches of Switzerland. Art enthusiasts can drop by White Space Art Asia or LUMAS Photo Art Gallery. The mall’s Music En Vogue, a series of mini concerts happening from Monday to Saturday, features soothing jazz tunes from local and international musicians. Visitors who present their passport at participating shops can get up to 10% off regular-priced items. Travellers who want to consult a medical specialist or learn more about medical tourism can visit Paragon Medical (paragonmedical.com.sg) in the same building, or Mount Elizabeth Hospital (mountelizabeth.com.sg) nearby.

**Did You Know?**

ION Orchard, the 5th level of the mall, offers panoramic views of the city. It is currently undergoing a makeover and will reopen in October 2017. Check its website for updates.

**Orchard Central**

**Orchard Central**

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Travellers can redeem a S$10 shopping voucher (while stocks last) at the Information Counter (Level 4) will receive a S$20 voucher (while stocks last), which they can use at any participating outlet (minimum spend of S$100 to use the voucher). Nearby, 313@somerset (313somerset.com.sg) shopping mall has 177 retail outlets, including global fashion labels Zara, Forever 21 and Cotton On, and tech brands Sony and Samsung.

**Paragon**

Shoppaholics will adore this upmarket mall with its array of high-end labels, such as Prada, Salvatore Ferragamo and Givenchy. Quick beauty fixes can be had at Spa Esprit (see Local Products, p149), while there are Toys “R” Us and children’s boutique Kids 21 for families with young children. Those looking for high-quality accessories and gemstones can visit Larry Jewelry and H. Sena Jewellers, or browse the latest watch designs at Cortina Watch and Watches of Switzerland. Art enthusiasts can drop by White Space Art Asia or LUMAS Photo Art Gallery. The mall’s Music En Vogue, a series of mini concerts happening from Monday to Saturday, features soothing jazz tunes from local and international musicians. Visitors who present their passport at participating shops can get up to 10% off regular-priced items. Travellers who want to consult a medical specialist or learn more about medical tourism can visit Paragon Medical (paragonmedical.com.sg) in the same building, or Mount Elizabeth Hospital (mountelizabeth.com.sg) nearby.

**Did You Know?**

ION Orchard, the 5th level of the mall, offers panoramic views of the city. It is currently undergoing a makeover and will reopen in October 2017. Check its website for updates.

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Raffles City

This iconic structure designed by I.M. Pei is flanked by two hotels and has a five-storey retail mall. Home to Robinsons Department Store and Raffles City Market Place (a gourmet supermarket), the mall houses more than 200 specialty shops, including luxury fashion label Shanghai Tang, Australian skincare brand Aesop, Godiva Chocolatier and Din Tai Fung restaurant.

Travellers can get up to 15% off regular-priced items at participating stores. Those who spend at least $300 ($325 for American Express cardholders) can claim a $320 Capital/Voucher (while stocks last), which can be used in participating outlets.

Address: 260 Orchard Road
Tel: +65 6735 8838
Website: heeren.robinsons.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Orchard Station

Suntec City

With over 120 retail stores spread across four zones, Suntec City is a one-stop shopping mall for all visitors. Travellers can visit branches of high-street labels such as H&M and Uniqlo, and get modern menswear at Kent & Curwen or versatile womenswear at Germain. Food concepts such as the 600-seater Eat at Seven, as well as In Good Company, Aijek and Carrie K. (see Local Designers, p143), a dedicated

Address: 2 Temasek Boulevard
Tel: +65 682 9338
Website: sunteccity.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Esplanade Station / Promenade Station

DID YOU KNOW?
The Fountain of Wealth’s circular structure symbolises unity and completeness. Every day at 10am–12am, 2pm–4pm and 6pm–7.30pm, travellers can walk around the fountain and touch the water for good luck.

The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands

No trip to Singapore is complete without a visit to Marina Bay Sands®, the pinnacle of luxury shopping. There are 170 premium

Address: 310 Orchard Road
Tel: +65 6737 6888
Website: vivocity.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sat, 10.30am–11pm; Fri–Sat and Eve of Public Holidays, 10.30am–11.30pm
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

VivoCity

Singapore’s largest mall is not short on attractions. Catering to all ages and budgets, it houses outlets of well-loved brands such as SuperDry, American Eagle Outfitters, Kate Spade New York and Weekends. With plenty of open-air spaces and a stroller-friendly promenade, this is a possible all-day venue for travelling families. Food Republic offers a wide selection of hawker and local favourites in a comfortable food court setting. Just outside, the Sky Park spans four Olympic pools, and the kids can play in the shallow waters or ride paddleboards. It also has eye-catching art pieces, and hosts regular music performances at the rooftop amphitheatre.

Visitors can register at the Customer Service Counter for the Harbourfront Centre (a three-level shopping mall next door) and VivoCity Experience (HAVE) Privilege Card to enjoy a range of free treats and discounts, including a $55 Candylicious voucher (limited to 200 redemptions per month). Shoppers who spend $5200 may redeem a $510 Mapletree voucher (limited to 100 redemptions per month).

Address: 1 HarbourFront Walk
Tel: +65 6377 6870 / +65 6377 6860
Website: vivocity.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Sun, 10am–10pm
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

DID YOU KNOW?
Travelers can purchase a ticket for the Sentosa Express at VivoCity, Level 3, and hop on the monorail to reach Sentosa Island. A more scenic alternative is traveling on foot via the Sentosa Boardwalk, a canopy-covered walkway connecting VivoCity to the island.
ETHNIC DISTRICTS

Shopping in Singapore extends beyond the malls, and visitors who make time to explore the city’s ethnic quarters will find a treasure trove of retail buys, unique souvenirs, local fashion labels and niche home décor pieces.

Arab Street and Haji Lane

The historic Arab Street (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p60), which lies between Victoria Street and Beach Road in Singapore’s Kampong Glam district, is known for its well-preserved shophouses selling all manner of textiles and carpets. Local dressmakers still come here to pick up lace, silk and batik (traditional Indonesian fabric) sold by the yard or metre from shops like Molkan Fabrics (molkanfabrics.com) and Coliszione La Primavera. Today, an assortment of cafés and niche stores, such as All Things Delicious (allthingsdelicious.sg), Scene Shang (shop.sceneshang.com) and bespoke perfume-maker Sifr Aromatics (sifr.sg), can also be found alongside the textile and carpet shops. Just off Arab Street is Haji Lane, a narrow alley with colourful street art covering the exterior walls of shophouses. Visitors will find vintage thrift shops such as Dulcetfig (dulcetfig.com) and bespoke jeweller On Cheong Jewellery (oncheong.com) for gold jewellery that feature not only traditional Chinese motifs, but also contemporary designs. Chinatown Street Market, which spreads across Pagoda, Sago, Smith and Serangoon streets, is where visitors can find Merlion keychains, Singapore-themed T-shirts, woven hand fans and handcrafted wooden chopsticks.

Visitors who are interested to learn about traditional Chinese medicine should stop by the Eu Yan Sang (see Local Products, p148) flagship store on South Bridge Road. It stocks a variety of health and wellness products, including medicinal herbs, herbal teas, pre-mixed soup packets and medicated ointments.

Chinatown

Singapore’s cultural precinct of Chinatown (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p57) is a hive of activity day and night, with shops selling everything from medicinal herbs, religious amulets and antiques to souvenirs and artwork. Visitors can head to On Cheong Jewellery (oncheong.com) for gold jewellery that feature not only traditional Chinese motifs, but also contemporary designs. Chinatown Street Market, which spreads across Pagoda, Sago, Smith and Serangoon streets, is where visitors can find Merlion keychains, Singapore-themed T-shirts, woven hand fans and handcrafted wooden chopsticks.

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Serangoon Road and Mustafa Centre

A wide variety of shops can be found along Serangoon Road, the main thoroughfare of Singapore’s Little India district (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p64), including goldsmiths and traditional Indian beauty parlours. On the corner of Serangoon Road and Bukit Timah Road is Tekka Centre, which has retail shops on the upper floor selling traditional Indian clothing, textiles and footwear. Across the road is Little India Arcade (littleindiaarcade.com.sg) and its winding alleys where visitors can pick up books, handcrafts, aromatic perfume and traditional sweets.

Located off busy Serangoon Road is one of Singapore’s most famous shopping centres: Mustafa Centre (mustafa.com.sg; see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p65). Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, this emporium sells an incredibly wide range of products – from sportswear, electronics and gadgets to groceries, beauty products and jewellery – plus it has a 24-hour pharmacy. Visitors should travel light as they are expected to leave large bags at the security desk outside each entrance.
Shopping

FLEA MARKETS & WEEKEND BAZAARS

With a variety of shopping options to suit all interests and budgets, Singapore is a shopper’s paradise. Besides the sprawling shopping malls flanking Orchard Road with big-name designer flagship stores and up-and-coming concept stores, the city is also rife with flea markets and weekend bazaars. Find anything from handicrafts, apparel, toys, souvenirs, local snacks and more at these markets, which often host pop-up events and festivals that are fun for the whole family. Admission is free, unless otherwise indicated.

Boutique Fairs Singapore

Founded in 2002, design-led curation is key to the ongoing success of the Boutiques, which is held twice a year – in March and November. This upmarket fair – which showcases creations from the small, independent community of Singapore-based, design-focused labels – offers visitors an eclectic collection of homeware, décor, designer apparel, jewellery and all things kiddy-chic, making it the go-to bazaar for creative gifts and niche labels.

To complete visitors’ shopping experience, there are lounge areas, a dedicated bar, café spaces and children’s play areas. The next edition of the fair is 10–12 November 2017.

Venue: 1 Republic Boulevard, F1 Pit Building
Website: boutiquefairs.com.sg
Email: boutique.singapore@gmail.com

China Square Central Weekend Flea Market

One of the pioneers of flea markets in Singapore, this air-conditioned indoor market pops up every Sunday from 11am–6pm. With over 60 vendors congregating weekly, this is the spot to score comics, vintage toys, antiques and collectibles for a bargain.

Venue: 18 Cross Street
Website: chinasureQtCorel.com

Farmers’ Market at Loewen Gardens

Held once a month on a Saturday (9am–2pm) next to The Pantry at Loewen Gardens, this produce-led market is the go-to spot for visitors who enjoy shopping for quality wholesome food. From locally produced spreads and cold-pressed oils, to gourmet meats, wines, cheeses, homemade baked goods and even handicrafts, visitors are bound to find something that appeals to them.

Venue: 75 Loewen Road
Tel: +65 6474 0441
Website: thepantry.com.sg/farmers-market
Email: events@thepantry.com.sg

Fleawhere

Thanks to Fleawhere, there are flea markets happening somewhere in Singapore on an almost daily basis. Its regular events – sometimes rotating around a certain theme – attract a younger millennial crowd eager to shop for affordable pre-loved attire, lifestyle products and blogshop fashion. Look out for pop-ups at shopping malls and public spaces like Tanjong Pagar Railway Station – visitors never know what they will discover.

Venue: Various locations across the island
Tel: +65 6354 7194
Website: museum.red-dot.sg
Email: hello@fleawhere.com

MAAD

Market of Artists and Designers (MAAD), organised by the Red Dot Design Museum, is known for its roster of established and up-and-coming artists and designers selling their original creations. Visitors can sift through an assortment of notebooks, accessories, paintings and handicrafts, usually to the backdrop of music by local bands or DJs. The museum is relocating to a new site at Marina Bay Waterfront Promenade and is expected to relaunch in Q4 2017. Check its website for updates.

Venue: Various locations across the island
Website: museum.red-dot.sg
Email: srim@maad.sg

Public Garden

A flea market with flair, Public Garden’s unique finds are not limited to Singapore; its line-up of retailers from all around Asia sell everything from customised beauty products to quirky souvenirs and cool Instagram-worthy accessories. Started in 2011, this flea market has been held around the island – including at School of the Arts Singapore (SOTA), The White Rabbit (a restaurant in Dempsey) and National Museum of Singapore. It is also great for bookworms as there are often indie magazines and books for sale.

Venue: Various locations across the island
Website: public-garden.com
Email: info@public-garden.com

*SCAPE Marketplace

Visitors can immerse in the ambience of this newly revamped weekend market where youths usually gather, while enjoying a marketplace filled with hip, indie brands. A welcome break along the Orchard Road sprawl, this weekend market is ideal for visitors looking for vintage threads, niche beauty brands, blogshop clothes, handmade items and statement accessories. The outdoor market is open Friday–Sunday and on Public Holidays from 10pm–10pm.

Venue: 2 Orchard Link, *SCAPE, #04-01
Website: dukesbazaars.com
Email: info@dukesbazaars.com

Dukes Bazaars

A outdoor market held once a month on a Saturday (9am–2pm) on the ground floor of Dukes Hotel, Dukes Bazaars is just down the street from Orchard Road and is set against the backdrop of music by local bands or DJs. The outdoor market has a unique finds by established and up-and-coming artists and designers, making it the go-to bazaar for quirky souvenirs and cool Instagram-worthy accessories. Started in 2011, this flea market has been held around the island – including at School of the Arts Singapore (SOTA), The White Rabbit (a restaurant in Dempsey) and National Museum of Singapore. It is also great for bookworms as there are often indie magazines and books for sale.

Venue: Various locations across the island
Website: dukesbazaars.com
Email: info@dukesbazaars.com

PUBLIC GARDEN
This monthly pop-up flea market promotes vintage clothing and various other one-off items. The club’s signature laidback tunes bring together products made or selected by Singaporean designers and artists from all walks of life. Held at unusual spots such as alleys and parking lots, the markets are enlivened by DJ sets, live music and tasty food offerings like meat sliders, Thai milk tea and iced fruit lollies, drawing the hip, millennial crowd. The Local People also has an online store, where visitors can shop for items like pins and T-shirts.

**Venue:** Various locations across the island
**Website:** thelocalpeoplesg.com
**Email:** somebodyhelpme@gmail.com

**Vintage Flea Market by The Retro Factory**

This monthly pop-up flea market promotes music, arts and cool vintage finds. The selection is diverse; from watches to snuff boxes; antique bric-a-brac to vinyl records; mid-century furniture to antique books. Browse through its collection via its Instagram page (l/theretrofactoriesg) for a sneak peek of what’s on offer.

**Venue:** Various locations across the island
**Website:** facebook.com/theretrofactorysg

**Zouk Flea & Easy**

Not just for club kids, this quarterly Sunday event has been the flea market of choice for the local creative set for the past 15 years. The cosy flea market’s previous instalments featured more than 70 vendors selling collectibles, pre-loved vintage clothing and various other one-off items. The club’s signature loudback tunes and hip vibes added to the shopping experience, while big-name collaborations with the likes of DJ Steve Aoki and LA-based party photographer Mark “The Cobra Snake” Hunter, gave a celebrity touch to this much-loved event. With Zouk’s recent move to new premises in Clarke Quay, its flea market is currently on hiatus. Refer to the official website for updates on its flea market schedule for 2017.

**Venue:** 3C River Valley Road, The Cannery
**Tel:** +65 6738 2988
**Website:** zoukclub.com
**Email:** zoukclub@zoukclub.com

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Singapore’s first night market, known as the pasar malam, dates back to the 1950s. Pasar malam, translated from Malay, means night market or bazaar. Held weekly after sunset, it drew crowds with its eclectic offerings of food and traditional snacks to clothing, household goods, toys, handicrafts, even books and magazines. Today, pasar malams are held for up to a month at fixed locations around festive occasions like Chinese New Year, Hari Raya Puasa and Deepavali.

**Gillman Barracks**

Made up of more than 10 galleries, this visual arts enclave located in a defunct British military camp is a one-stop destination for art lovers, showcasing both local and international artists. Popular galleries include FOST (fostgallery.com) and Yes Workshop (yeoworkshop.com) of Singapore, Japan’s Mizuma Gallery (mizuma.sg), ShangHART (shanghartsingapore.com) of China and Sullivan+Strumpf (sullivansstrumpf.com) of Australia. The renowned Chan Hampe Galleries, which has been rebranded as Chan + Hori Contemporary (chanhori.com), recently moved to Gillman Barracks. It seeks to “provoke, challenge and stimulate” art collectors and the general public with engaging contemporary visual arts. Also within the complex is Playeum’s Children’s Centre for Creativity (playeum.gov.sg), a fun space for families and young children (opening hours: Tue–Sun, 10am–6pm). Year-round, visitors can enjoy dining options such as Timbre (timbregroup.asia/timbre/timbre-gillman) and Creamier (creamier.com.sg). Visitors can opt for free guided tours that run from Fridays to Sundays at varied timings to get insights into the artworks exhibited as well as the area’s rich heritage. Registration is required and tours are subject to a minimum number of participants. Alternatively, a corporate tour can be booked.

**Address:** 50 Cuscaden Road, HPL House, #01-01 Gillman Barracks
**Tel:** +65 6832 6354 / +65 6346 9400
**Website:** gillmanbarracks.com
**Email:** gillmanbarracks@gmail.com / gb.outreach@gmail.com (for corporate tours)

**iPreciation**

(iPreciation (opening hours: Mon–Fri, 10am–7pm; Sat, 11am–6pm; Sun and Public Holidays by appointment only) specialises in modern and contemporary Asian art. Its large-scale exhibitions and art monographs represent lesser-known talents alongside prominent artists such as Nobel Laureate Gao Xingjian and local contemporary art pioneer Tang Da Wu.

**Address:** 50 Cuscaden Road, HPL House, #01-01 Gillman Barracks
**Tel:** +65 6339 0678
**Fax:** +65 6438 2080
**Website:** ipreciation.com
**Email:** enquiry@ipreciation.com

**DID YOU KNOW?**

During Singapore Art Week (see Events & Festivals, p21), Gillman Barracks hosts Art After Dark, which showcases cutting-edge contemporary art at its various galleries, alongside myriad lifestyle activities like live music performances and restaurant pop-ups.

**Gillman Barracks**

**Art Galleries**

Singapore’s arts scene comprises a diverse group of local and regional artists and galleries making their mark, with renowned international players adding to the mix throughout the year. Culture vultures are in for a visual feast with numerous art galleries around the city showcasing a variety of artistic styles. Visitors who are interested in collecting art should check out these off-the-beaten-path galleries.

**Destinations**

**Shopping**

**The Local People**

An organiser of art markets, The Local People champions local design by bringing together products made or designed by Singaporean designers and artists from all walks of life. Held at unusual spots such as alleys and parking lots, the markets are enlivened by DJ sets, live music and tasty food offerings like meat sliders, Thai milk tea and iced fruit lollies, drawing the hip, millennial crowd. The Local People also has an online store, where visitors can shop for items like pins and T-shirts.

**Venue:** Various locations across the island
**Website:** thelocalpeoplesg.com
**Email:** somebodyhelpme@gmail.com

**The Retro Factory**

**Address:** 9 Lock Road
**Tel:** +65 6339 0678
**Website:** sullivanstrumpf.com
**Email:** info@sullivanstrumpf.com

**ShanghART**

**Address:** 11 Elgin Road
**Tel:** +65 6333 3366
**Website:** shanghartsingapore.com
**Email:** info@shanghartsingapore.com

**Chan + Hori Contemporary**

**Address:** 50 Cuscaden Road, HPL House, #01-01 Gillman Barracks
**Tel:** +65 6832 6354 / +65 6346 9400
**Website:** chanhori.com
**Email:** gb.outreach@gmail.com (for corporate tours)
local artists. Most of the pieces in Kult Gallery’s collection are an eclectic and unconventional mix of signed editions, original works and statement pieces. The gallery accepts submissions from up-and-coming artists, so the space is constantly evolving with new works to make each visit a unique experience. Travellers can also visit Kult Kafe (kultkafe.com) on the ground floor – the neighbourhood bar features cocktails with a local twist and live music.

Kult Gallery
Established in 2009, this gallery (opening hours: Mon–Fri, 11am–7pm; Sat, 2pm–7pm; Closed on Sun) promotes emerging talent from around the world, and is especially a platform for young street artists and illustrators. The gallery’s collection includes works by emerging artists such as Mangu Putra, Semsar Siahaan and Anri Sala. It also includes printed materials such as a flour cake) eraser, colourfully painted porcelain tiles, magnets, and a chilli crab apron. Local labels Superama (superamastore.com) and Naiise (naiise.com), stocked at many museum shops, as well as at ad-hoc pop-up events and stores, are featured at Gajah Gallery and Ikkan Art Gallery.

Visit Kult Gallery to have a first-hand experience of contemporary art in Singapore.

STPI (Singapore Tyler Print Institute)
This creative workshop and gallery (opening hours: Mon–Fri, 10am–7pm; Sat, 9am–6pm. Closed on Sun & Public Holidays) focuses on contemporary art in the print and paper media, and has showcased landmark works such as rare prints by Picasso and watercolours by French-Chinese abstract painter Zao Wou-Ki. STPI promotes artistic experimentation with print by hosting residencies for renowned international artists whose work spans the full breadth of artistic media, including sculpture and performance art. STPI kicked off its 15th anniversary in 2017 by celebrating with a solo exhibition by Singaporean artist Amanda Heng called “We Are The World – These Are Our Stories”. One of the gallery’s blockbuster exhibitions in 2017, “Exquisite Trust (Blindly Collective Collaborations)”, showcased international artists Carsten Höller, Tobias Rehberger, Anri Sala and Rinkrit Tavnit. The gallery’s collection spans the full breadth of artistic media, including sculpture and performance art. STPI has featured works by Andy Warhol, Jackson Pollock and Yayoi Kusama. Collectively, the galleries located in this contemporary art hub are some of Singapore’s most forward-thinking, making it a must-visit for contemporary art lovers.

Address: 39 Keppel Road
Tel: +65 6377 682

LOCAL DESIGNERS

Singapore’s shopping scene has evolved tremendously beyond the usual imported high-end and mass-market fashion labels. These days, uniquely Singaporean brands are also in the market. With contemporary designs tailored for the city’s humid weather, these made-in-Singapore designs that sport the occasional subtle cultural reference make chic souvenirs. Many local labels can be found along the Orchard Road shopping belt (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p79). Up-and-coming local designers can be found in trendy sub urbans malls and chic neighbourhood stores, as well as at ad-hoc pop-up events and stores (see Fl a M arke ts & Weekend Bazaars, p138).

Aliej
Started in 2010 by self-taught Singaporean designer Danielle Woo, Aliej is known for pieces that are feminine, effortless and elegant. Travellers will find timeless designs that are perfect for work and leisure. Ms Woo’s lace pieces have become the signature Aliej look, pairing modern silhouettes with high-quality, delicate fabrics sourced from South Korea, Japan, China and Italy.

Address: 39 Keppel Road
Tel: +65 6377 682

Where to buy: TANGS Orchard, TANGS VivoCity and other outlets
Website: aliej.com
Email: contact@aliej.com

Beyond The Vines
Clean lines and relaxed silhouettes define Beyond The Vines’ understated, luxe designs. This homegrown womenwear label was founded by couple Daniel Chew and Rebecca Ting in 2015. Visitors can expect to find minimalist separates such as linen culottes and midi skirts in soft shades of olive, grey and maroon, kimono tops in crisp cotton, deck shift dresses and belted shorts.

Where to buy: 111 Middle Road, National Design Centre, #02-03
Tel: +65 6332 2559
Website: carrierocks.com
Email: contact@Carrierocks.com

Bynd Artisan
More than just a personalised stationery store, Bynd Artisan has been in the book-binding business in Singapore for over 60 years. Beyond its popular leather journal covers and handbound books, made of recycled paper, Bynd Artisan has a range of fashion accessories and small leather goods, such as card holders, chic leather cases and tote bags hot-stamped with its logo. The company also hosts workshops on book-binding and leather-making, which can be customised for corporate groups.

Where to buy: 333 Orchard Road, Mandarin Gallery, #12-21
Tel: +65 8157 6577
Website: beyondthevines.com
Email: hello@beyondthevines.com

Choo Yilin
Award-winning jewellery designer Choo Yilin is well known for her modern jade pieces as well as her contemporary take on book-binding, where precious and semi-precious gems, such as watch gears, nuts and bolts rather than precious and semi-precious gems, are used. Her pieces are distributed in seven countries and have been seen on celebrities like Hong Kong actress Angelababy and tennis star Caroline Wozniacki. Carrie K. also accepts bespoke orders.

Where to buy: 111 Middle Road, National Design Centre, #02-03
Tel: +65 6332 2559
Website: carrierocks.com
Email: contact@Carrierocks.com

Carrie K. Jewellery
Launched in 2009, Carrie K. is the brainchild of local designer Carolyn Kan, who is known for her quirky approach towards jewellery. Inspired by items such as watch gears, nuts and bolts rather than precious and semi-precious gems, Ms Kan’s beautifully handcrafted accessories are avant-garde, playful and one of a kind. Besides Singapore, her pieces are distributed in seven countries and have been seen on celebrities like Hong Kong actress Angelababy and tennis star Caroline Wozniacki. Carrie K. also accepts bespoke orders.

Where to buy: 44 Jalan Mesah Saga, #01-54; Also available at TANGS Orchard, TANGS VivoCity and other outlets
Website: byndartisan.com
Email: communique@byndartisan.com

STPI (Singapore Tyler Print Institute)
on traditional Chinese and Peranakan wedding jewellery. She works with highly skilled artisans in Southeast Asia, who are known for their jade carving, silversmithing and other fine jewellery techniques. Primarily working with Type A Burmese jadeite and semi-precious stones, she often incorporates intricate metalwork details into her designs. Choo Yilin has presented her work at Paris Fashion Week numerous times, and the jeweller is available for bespoke orders.

Where to buy: 333A Orchard Road, #02-23
Tel: +65 6733 1131
Website: chooyilin.com
Email: hello@chooyilin.com

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

Singapore-based designer Sabrina Goh launched ELOHIM in 2009. Since then, she has made a name for herself in the indie fashion scene for her minimalist, androgynous apparel that plays up architectural and asymmetrical elements. The versatile designs – sometimes in collaboration with other designers and artists – are flattering for all body shapes, and include oversized dresses, long vests, asymmetrical sari and ruffled shift dresses. ELOHIM is stocked in Singapore, as well as in the US, the UK and Japan.

Where to buy: 11 Stamford Road, Capitol Plaza, #02-14; Also available at TANGS Orchard and other outlets
Tel: +65 6385 2185
Website: igoodcompany.asia
Email: info@igoodcompany.asia

**MAX.TAN**

Singapore designer Max Tan describes his design philosophy as “serious, but never severe, minimal but never simple, fragile but never weak”. Each avant-garde collection pushes the boundaries with experimental, quirky cuts that play with volume and shape. The label offers a concierge shop-at-home delivery service where clothes can be selected online and delivered free of charge within Singapore with three days’ advance notice.

Where to buy: 43 Jalan Merah Daun, #01-76
Tel: +65 6251 2621
Website: maxtan.com
Email: info@maxtan.com

**Stolen**

Known for her backless pieces, designer Elyn Wong is a self-taught talent with a background in graphic design and advertising. Her keen eye for detail is expressed through geometric designs in classic cuts. Currently stocked in Hong Kong, Malaysia, Vietnam, China, Los Angeles and New York, the brand was awarded a highly sought-after spot in the Fashion Futures 2.0 Programme in a prestigious partnership with the Council of Fashion Designers of America in 2016.

Where to buy: A limited range is available on its webstore. Also available at Kapok and other outlets
Tel: +65 9107 0430
Website: stolenstolen.com
Email: contact@stolenstolen.com

**Supermama**

Billed as a gallery shop that aims to “collect, create and curate objects”, every item sold at Supermama has a story to tell. It works closely with local designers and Japanese craftsmen to produce omiyage (contemporary gifware), and the items combine Japanese design with vibrant, Singapore cultural references. Visitors looking to pick up a unique local souvenir will find plenty to choose from here, including the signature Supermama collection of blue-and-white porcelain plates with patterns depicting icons such as the Singapore Flyer and the Merlion.

Where to buy: 265 Beach Road, #01-03 Esplanade Drive, Shop Tema Hima, #02-04; Gillman Barracks, Block 47 Malan Road, #01-26 (by appointment only)
Tel: +65 6291 9464
Website: supermama.sg
Email: info@supermama.sg

**Encore (immiscenccoler.com)**

There is also a 20-seat outlet of popular local café Plain Vanilla (plainvanillabakery.com), which serves cupcakes, ice cream and coffee along with a menu of savoury items, like aromatherapy specialist Mmerci. Encore (immiscenccoler.com) is also a Supermama pop-up store in Cathay Drive, Shop Tema Hima, #02-04; Gillman Barracks, Block 47 Malan Road, #01-26 (by appointment only).

**DID YOU KNOW?**

ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh was named after the Hebrew word, meaning “God of Creativity, creator, mighty and strong”. MAX.TAN

**LAWYER TURNED DRESSMAKER**

Hrista Shunmugan quit her legal career to spend a year in London studying dressmaking and pattern cutting, before returning home to Singapore in 2009 to pursue her love for fashion.

Where to buy: TANGS Orchard, Istana Scotts, and other outlets
Website: hrista.shunmugan.com

**Stolen**

**Supermama**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Stolen

**MAX.TAN**

**Supermama**

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

**Did You Know?**

**Supermama**

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

**Did You Know?**

**Supermama**

**Stolen**

**Supermama**

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

**Did You Know?**

**Supermama**

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

**Did You Know?**

**Supermama**

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

**Did You Know?**

**Supermama**

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

**Did You Know?**

**Supermama**

**ELOHIM by Sabrina Goh**

**Did You Know?**

**Supermama**
Kapok

Well-known for introducing emerging local designers and artists, Kapok hosts and nurtures independent brands, like a tree provides a home for other plants and animals.

BOUTIQUES

K+ BOUTIQUES

Up-and-coming designers and artists, many of whom are Singaporean, take centre stage in this former gallery space. Visitors will find jewellery, stationery, homeware, handicrafts, books, toys and more here. K+ also hosts craft-based workshops such as necklace knitting, paper pleating, floral arrangement and calligraphy. It also doubles as an exhibition space for under-the-radar local talent, as well as international creatives such as British artist Stephen Wiltshire and Russian illustrator Lisa Smirnova.

Address: 6 Scotts Road, Scotts Square, #03-11/12/13
Tel: +65 6654 8896
Website: kapok.sg
Email: enquiries@kapok.sg

DIID YOU KNOW?

Named after the kapok tree, Kapok houses and nurtures independent brands, like a tree provides a home for other plants and animals.

Kapok

Well-known for introducing emerging exclusive creatives to Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan, Hong Kong retail store Kapok has set up home at Singapore’s National Design Centre. Find local womenswear design brand In Good Company (see Local Designers, p143), KEEPERS designers, curated by local designer Carolyn Kan (see Local Designers, p145), KEEPERS has become a permanent concept store at the National Design Centre. Visitors can find everything from art, accessories, fashion and books to food, home and lifestyle products. KEEPERS changes its showcase quarterly, so shoppers are sure to discover up-and-coming talents, such as artisanal candle maker A Dose of Something Good (www.dose.sg), homeware brand Onlewo (onlewo.com) and chocolatier Demochoco (demochoco.com).

Address: Bl Middle Road, National Design Centre, #02-05; and one other location at TANGS Orchard
Tel: +65 6339 7987
Website: keepers.com.sg
Email: info@keepers.com.sg

 Naomi

A one-stop destination for quirky, design-centric items, Naomi offers more than 1,500 products from nearly 900 emerging brands from Singapore and around the world. A platform for budding designers to showcase their wares – from books and magazines to decor, fashion, lifestyle and food products – Naomi’s local collection makes unconventional souvenirs for travellers to bring back home. Shoppers will find curry puffs (a local pastry snack with curried potato stuffing) cushions; prints and postcards with illustrations of local dishes; T-shirts with Singlish phrases and words (see Know Singapore, p7) on them and more. For visitors interested in handicrafts, Naomi hosts regular workshops ranging from brush lettering and calligraphy to terrarium building and jewellery making. Group workshops can be arranged.

Address: 2 Handy Road, The Cathay, #01-18; and other locations
Tel: +65 6522 7001
Website: naivis.com
Email: wecare@naivis.com

SUPERSPACE

The brainchild of four friends – Bobby Luo of concept store NIGHTVISION, Ritz Lim of Ritz Salon, Samuel Wong of local label evenoedd, and Gilda Su of RÉVÉSAUCE – SUPERSPACE is a multi-label boutique and salon that opened in April 2014. Carrying hip local streetwear and fashion labels like MASH-UP (mashupcollective.com) and RÉVÉSAUCE alongside cult international brands such as Jeremy Scott, Patricia Field and Joyce, SUPERSPACE caters to those unafraid of making a loud fashion statement. Visitors can browse cutting-edge men’s and women’s fashion, bags, accessories, hats and eyewear, then get a cut or touch-up at Ritz Salon.

Address: 277 Orchard Road, orchardgateway, #02-18
Tel: +65 6702 6522
Website: welovesuperspace.com
Email: info@welovesuperspace.com

WHERE TO BUY: A guide to shopping in Singapore

Shopping

Shopping

Shopping

Shopping

Shopping
**Bengawan Solo**

What started out as a home-baking business in 1979 by Ms. Anastasia Tjandra-Liew has grown into a multi-million-dollar business selling some of the best traditional cookies, tarts and kueh (bite-sized snacks or desserts) in town. Made using age-old recipes and high-quality ingredients, its kueh (bite-sized snacks) are a favourite of Singaporeans.

**Where to buy:** Harvey Norman, Challenger and other electronics shops across the island

**Website:** sg.creative.com

**Creative**

Tech brand Creative is synonymous with cutting-edge speakers, headphones and amplifiers. It made a name for itself with its Sound Blaster sound cards, which now have a user base of more than 400 million around the globe. Notable products include Sound BlasterX AE-5, a lightweight Bluetooth speaker engineered for balanced audio, and Sound BlasterX H7, a gaming headset designed for an immersive surround sound experience. Its Outlier Sports are made for fitness enthusiasts, as these in-ear headphones are wireless, sweat-proof and have a battery life of 11 hours.

**Where to buy:** Harvey Norman, Challenger and other electronics shops across the island

**Website:** creative.com

**Eu Yan Sang**

A household name for high-quality Chinese medicine and herbs since 1879, Eu Yan Sang has stood the test of time. Stocking over 1,000 types of Chinese herbs, it retains more than 300 products to cater to all health and vitality needs in six countries, including China and Australia. Recommended items include Bottled Bird’s Nest for body nourishment and Lingzhi Cracked Spores capsules that support one’s immune system. Travelers can also get a box of Teasim, which makes drinking tea a hassle-free experience. This innovative “tea wand”, an alternative to tea bags, is distributed exclusively by My Life Inc, a subsidiary of Eu Yan Sang.

**Where to buy:** HarbourFront Walk, Vivocity, #B2-11/12 Orchard Turn, Ion, #B4-31/32 and other outlets

**Website:** eu yansang.com

**OSIM**

Founded by Singaporean Mr Ron Sim in 1990, this maker of health and wellness devices is known for creating innovative massage chairs. The company survived the 1997 recession and, after 30 years, it has more than 600 outlets in 32 countries. It has a line of portable products, including handheld massagers, air purifiers and light-therapy-enabled eye massagers. Its iPamper2, a super sleek handheld massager, is equipped with a retractable plate for qia shi (a kind of treatment that involves pressured strokes or “scrapping” massage), which helps in detoxifying the body.

**Where to buy:** FairPrice, Cold Storage and other supermarkets across the island

**Website:** osim.com

**Lim Chee Guan**

There’s almost always a queue outside Lim Chee Guan’s outlets in Chinatown. No surprise there as the company has been selling bak kwa (barbecued meat) since 1938. One of the first few bak kwa brands in Singapore, its products are tender and slightly sweeter compared to those sold by others. The bak kwa are barbecued on the spot and sold fresh. Visitors can skip queues by placing an order of more than S$150 and Lim Chee Guan will deliver for free (except during the month leading up to Chinese New Year).

**Where to buy:** 38 Orchard Road, Takashimaya, Ngee Ann City, Basement 1; 68 Orchard Road, Plaza Singapura, #03-09; and other outlets

**Website:** sg.limcheeguan.com

**Spa Esprit**

This homegrown apothecary spa, which is under the lifestyle and F&B company Spa Esprit Group, has been creating one-of-a-kind spa treatments and a range of customised skincare products since 1996. The group now has more than 100 beauty shops in the US, the UK and Asia. In Singapore, Spa Esprit has two branches – in Orchard and Dempsey – which can personalise moisturisers, body scrubs and shower gels from its Custom Blend ready-to-cook meal sauce kits, which makes it easy for travelers to replicate that unforgettable Singaporean meal. Handy to cart around on trips, these packets – most of which are halal-certified – do not require any refrigeration; neither are they short on taste. The detailed instructions ensure an authentic re-creation of local favourites, including laksa, bak kut teh and chilli crab (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p.98).

**Where to buy:** FarEast, Cold Storage and other supermarkets across the island

**Website:** primaestate.com.sg

**Prima Taste**

Established in 1998, Prima Taste is part of the Prima Group, whose main business is flour milling. The group’s first venture into food manufacturing focuses on ready-to-cook meal sauce kits, which makes it easy for travelers to replicate that unforgettable Singaporean meal. Handy to cart around on trips, these packets – most of which are halal-certified – do not require any refrigeration; neither are they short on taste. The detailed instructions ensure an authentic re-creation of local favourites, including laksa, bak kut teh and chilli crab (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p.98).
Shopping

range according to skin needs and infuse them with essential oils of one’s choice. Its chavutti yogic massage, exclusively available at Spa Esprit in Orchard, stimulates one’s chakra points to alleviate pain.

Where to buy: 290 Orchard Road, Paragon #05-10; 8 Dempsey Road, Beauty Emporium #01-03
Tel: +65 6836 0500 / +65 6479 0070
Website: spa-esprit.com
Email: customercare@spa-esprit.com

The Cookie Museum

Established in 2004, The Cookie Museum specialises in uniquely flavoured cookies that are made by hand. For Singapore’s 50th birthday in 2015, the brand introduced its one-of-a-kind Singapore Heritage Flavours that captured the smells and tastes of delicacies such as nasi lemak and laksa (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p99). Other popular local flavours include pandan chiffon and chilli crab (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p98), while conventional flavours include blueberries with macadamia. Visitors can bring home tin sets and festive hampers as souvenirs. The Cookie Museum also sells tea, cake and healthy snacks such as nuts and fruit chips.

Where to buy: 391 Orchard Road, Ngee Ann City, Takashimaya, #B209-3; 6 Raffles Boulevard, Marina Square Shopping Mall, #02-280; and other outlets
Tel: +65 6749 7496
Fax: +65 6749 7498
Website: thecookiemuseum.com
Email: comments@thecookiemuseum.com

Ya Kun Kaya Toast

From its humble beginnings as a modest coffee stall established by Hainanese immigrant Ah Koon in the 1940s, Ya Kun (the hanyu pinyin transliteration of the founder’s name) has become synonymous with unparalleled fragrant coffee and tea, kaya toast (see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p99). Travellers can enjoy a typical Singaporean breakfast when they return home by getting a jar of Ya Kun kaya (a traditional jam made from coconut and eggs). Toast some bread, slather on the thick jam with blocks of butter, and voilà! The shop also sells coffee powder and handmade kaya cookies.

Where to buy: 14 Scotts Road, Far East Plaza, #01-16; 230 Victoria Street, Bugis Junction, #B1-11; and other outlets
Tel: +65 6222 4567
Fax: +65 6222 9711
Website: yakun.com.sg

Yeo’s

Yeo Hiap Seng pioneered selling canned chicken curry sauces in Singapore and bottling chrysanthemum tea and soybean drinks as early as the 1950s.

These days, its products can be found in all supermarkets across the country, so travellers can easily try Yeo’s beverages including ready-to-drink teas and Asian drinks, such as bandung (rose syrup drink) and grass jelly drink, available in packet or canned packaging. Yeo’s easy-to-cook bottled sauces are also readily available and make perfect souvenirs.

Where to buy: FairPrice, Cold Storage and other supermarkets across the island
Tel: +65 6752 2122
Fax: +65 6756 5625
Website: www.yeos.com.sg
From visiting Singapore’s colonial landmarks to learning about local customs and soaking up the buzz at trendy nightlife enclaves, there’s a tour for every type of traveller and budget. Families, for instance, can take a guided tour to various farms around Singapore and learn how food is grown here. Couples can spend some quality time at the calm and serene Gardens by the Bay. Those who prefer a hassle-free way of getting around can hop on a bus tour, which makes stops at historically significant sites and other major attractions. The best way to experience Singapore’s food culture is to eat where the locals eat, and there are many food tours to choose from. For a more luxurious sightseeing experience, travellers can take a cruise around Asia while enjoying a range of entertainment and dining options on board modern ships that depart from Singapore.

**FREE INDEPENDENT TRAVELLERS**

**Insights into Singapore**

Whether visitors are in town for a long leisure holiday or have a few hours before their next flight, these tours are designed to provide them with a better understanding of what makes Singapore unique.

**The Way We Live by World Express Pte Ltd**

Visitors will begin their day with a visit to Singapore’s oldest Indian temple, Sri Mariamman, followed by a stop at Thian Hock Keng Temple, the oldest Buddhist monastery in the city-state, renowned for its historical and architectural value. Afterwards, they get to explore the heartlands – where most Singaporeans live in Housing & Development Board (HDB) flats – for a taste of the daily lives of locals. This part of the journey takes visitors to Toa Payoh, built in the 1960s, and Bishan, built in the early 1990s – where they can learn how these neighbourhoods have evolved. The final stop will be Marina Barrage (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p78), Singapore’s 15th reservoir located in the heart of the city.

**City by the Water Kick Scooter Tour by Betel Box Asia Pte Ltd**

Visitors can engage in some exercise while learning about Singapore’s history on this fun tour along the country’s waterways. They can tour the Padang, Singapore River (see Bus & Boat Tours, p159), The Fullerton Hotel Singapore (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p43), the Esplanade area (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p93), Marina Bay Sands® (see Shopping, Malls, p135), Gardens by the Bay (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p51) and Marina Barrage. Participants should be relatively
fits the tour covers about 5km on flat ground and some staircases. Meeting point is at the Canoe Club at Eastlawn Park.

Address: 200 Joo Chiat Road
Tel: +65 6247 7340
Website: betelboxtours.com
Email: travel@betelbox.com
Cost: Min 4 pax, S$88 pax. Write in to enquire about rates
Duration: 3 hours
Availability: By appointment only, 9am–1pm
Language(s) available: English

Passage of Life: Birth, Marriage & Death by Tour East Pte Ltd

This unique tour delves into the heart of traditional Chinese customs in Singapore, with visits to a wet market – a key part of local life – a shop selling paper effigies, a wedding shop and a heritage tea shop. Visitors can learn about sacred rituals from birth to death, including confinement practices such as the types of food for women after childbirth and their importance.

Address: 1 Magazine Road, Central Mall Office Tower, #07-06/07
Tel: +65 6731 1571
Website: www.toureast.com.sg
Email: info@toureast.com.sg
Cost: Min 10 pax, S$150 pax (groups of 20+ can be customised)
Duration: 2.5 hours
Availability: By appointment only, 8am–5pm
Language(s) available: English

Footsteps of Our Colonial Past by Tour East Pte Ltd

Travellers can get a glimpse of Singapore’s colonial past with this tour, which starts at the Singapore River, where early immigrants docked a living and slowly transformed Singapore into a global port. During the tour, visitors can admire beautifully restored warehouses, which have been converted into chic dining and entertainment spots, and marvel at the skyscrapers of the financial district. Travellers can also look forward to a lavish afternoon tea spread at The Ritz-Carlton Millenia Singapore after which they can drop a postcard to a friend or family member in a red pillar post box from colonial times at the Fullerton Heritage Gallery (hotel staff will help send mail out). This heritage journey ends with a bumboat cruise along the Singapore River.

Address: 18 Anson Pumipinn, M3B, #08-07
Tel: +65 6796 9543
Website: www.toureast.com.sg
Email: contactus@toureast.com.sg
Cost: S$85 for a group of 20 pax. Write in to enquire about group deals and bookings with fewer or more than 20 pax
Duration: 2 hours
Availability: By appointment only, 5pm–5pm
Language(s) available: English

FAMILIES

Close encounters with wildlife

Travelling with children can be challenging, but these fun activities involving sea creatures and all manner of wildlife are bound to keep families with kids entertained.

Ocean Dreams by S.E.A. Aquarium, Resorts World Sentosa

A sleepover with the marine creatures at the S.E.A. Aquarium™ is bound to thrill the young ones. A guide will take visitors on a 90-minute tour of the aquarium to discover more about sharks, dolphins, coral reefs and other marine animals. The highlight is, of course, bedtime. Visitors get to pick a spot in front of the Open Ocean Habitat and admire the swimming creatures before drifting off to sleep. Meals, snacks, sleeping bags and blankets are provided. Check website for schedule. Minimum 35 pax required for each sleepover.

Address: Sentosa Island, 8 Sentosa Gateway
Tel: +65 6777 7915
Fax: +65 6777 8895
Website: reservations@s.ea-aquarium.com.sg
Email: travel.aquarium@rwsentosa.com.sg
Cost: Adult S$181.90, Child S$155.15; No min pax, max 40 pax; Enjoy 10% for group bookings of more than 40 pax
Duration: 2 days, 1 night
Language(s) available: English and Chinese

Sleep with the Beasts – A Family Affair by Wildlife Reserves Singapore

For an unforgettable experience, visitors with kids should book a two-day, one-night camp under the stars surrounded by the inhabitants of the Singapore Zoo (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p55). The adventure includes an international buffet at Ulu Ulu Safari Restaurant, campfire and games, and a night walk, where visitors can spot nocturnal animals at their most active.

Address: 80 Mandai Lake Road
Tel: +65 620 3583 / +65 6269 3411
Website: zoos.com.sg
Fax: +65 6577 7515
Tel: +65 6577 7515
Fax: +65 6577 8895
Website: reservations@s.ea-aquarium.com.sg
Email: travel.aquarium@rwsentosa.com.sg
Cost: Adult S$181.90, Child S$155.15; No min pax, max 20 pax
Duration: 2 days, 1 night
Language(s) available: English and Chinese

Singapore Zoo

A taste of the Lion City

Immerse in the rich cultural tapestry and trace Singapore’s colourful past through these tours suited for the whole family.
Couples looking to create fond memories can participate in a 15km night cycling adventure around Marina Bay and enjoy the cool evening breeze. Ride along the riverfront promenade towards the Singapore Flyer and into the lush grounds of Gardens by the Bay. The route will take visitors as far as the iconic National Stadium before they head back to the starting point at High Street Centre.

Address: High Street Centre, 1 North Bridge Road, #B1-58
Tel: +65 9004 4332
Website: letsgobikesingapore.com
Email: contact@letsgobikesingapore.com
Cost: Adult S$79, S$60 per pax (2 pax or more); Min 1 pax, max 7 pax
Language(s) available: English
Sizes can be customised
Duration: 4 hours
Availability: By appointment only
Write in to enquire about rates; group sizes can be customised

Walking down memory lane

Visitors can get to know Singapore's rich past, from its founding and successful establishment as a trading outpost to the dark and tumultuous wartime years. Along the way, travellers will discover some of Singapore's rich culture by exploring the city's vibrant precincts.

The tour starts at Kampong Glam (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p60) and continues through Singapore's Colonial District along the Singapore River. Find out about the founding of Singapore, the early colonial period, the contributions of the founder of modern Singapore, Sir Stamford Raffles, and the legacy that he left behind. This tour is suitable for active silvers as the ground covered is generally flat and there will be breaks in between.

Address: 200 Joo Chiat Road
Tel: +65 6247 7340
Website: betelboxtours.com
Email: travel@betelbox.com
Cost: Write in to enquire about rates; group sizes can be customised
Duration: 3 hours
Availability: By appointment only
Language(s) available: English

Kampong Glam

A Walk in the Shadow of Raffles by Betel Box Asia Pte Ltd

This four-hour walking tour will take visitors through Singapore's Colonial District along the Singapore River. Find out about the founding of Singapore, the early colonial period, the contributions of the founder of modern Singapore, Sir Stamford Raffles, and the legacy that he left behind. This tour is suitable for active silvers as the ground covered is generally flat and there will be breaks in between.

Address: 200 Joo Chiat Road
Tel: +65 6247 7340
Website: betelboxtours.com
Email: travel@betelbox.com
Cost: Write in to enquire about rates; group sizes can be customised
Duration: 3 hours
Availability: By appointment only
Language(s) available: English
Sizes can be customised
Duration: 4 hours
Availability: By appointment only
Write in to enquire about rates; group sizes can be customised

East Coast and Changi by Tour East Pte Ltd

The tour starts at Kampong Glam (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p60), once the seat of Malay royalty in Singapore, before taking visitors to The Changi Museum (see Attractions, History & Heritage, p18), dedicated to those who lived and died in Singapore during World War II. Learn more about Singapore's darkest times through five exhibition zones – Covering Life in Changi Prison to wartime artists – and the
Close up and personal

Active silverans can experience the city like a local – from taking an exclusive tour covering places of interest like Haw Par Villa, to visiting a traditional coffee roasting factory and ordering breakfast at a hawker centre.

Bugsy and Little India Trishaw Expedition by Trishaw Uncle Pte Ltd

Trishaws were once a common mode of transportation in Singapore. Visitors can relive this nostalgic period by hopping onto Trishaw Uncle’s revamped fleet of trishaws to explore Little India (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p64) and Bugis (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p65). Weave through the streets and alleys of the “infamous” districts of Chinatown and Geylang when the sun goes down? Then join us on this tour to learn about the various aspects of Peranakan culture - such as the elaborate customs of a traditional wedding ceremony – through its collections of antiques, jewellery, handmade ornate beadwork and embroidery, traditional costumes and rare furnishings.

Address: Albert Mall Trishaw Park, Queen Street
Tel: +65 6337 701
Website: trishawuncle.com.sg
Email: enquiry@trishawuncle.com.sg
Cost: Adult $53, Child $39. Enjoy 10% off for group bookings of more than 6 pax
Duration: 30 minutes
Availability: Mon-Sun, at your preferred time
Language(s) available: English

BUSINESS TRAVELLERS

The culturally soul

Business travellers who are pressed for time can still enjoy what Singapore has to offer with this short tour featuring the city’s arts and culture.

Drinks of Singapore by Tribe Pte Ltd

This tour gives visitors an understanding of Singapore’s water and local beverages such as NE Water (boiled reclaimed water), teh tarik (tasty milk tea), bandung (rose syrup drink) and Tiger Beer. The journey starts at Marina Barrage, a water catchment area that doubles as a family-friendly recreational spot, where having picnics and kite-flying are popular.

After-dark thrills

After a long day, travellers can relax and have some fun. Singapore has a vibrant nightlife and there are plenty of things to do, from checking out the trendiest clubbing streets to enjoying supper the local way.

The Intan Tea Appreciation by The Intan

On this tour, visitors get to discover rare historical Peranakan artefacts, hear personal stories and have an authentic tea experience at The Intan, a post-war terraced residence located in eastern Singapore. Here, travellers can learn more about various aspects of Peranakan culture - such as the elaborate customs of a traditional wedding ceremony – through its collections of antiques, jewellery, handmade ornate beadwork and embroidery, traditional costumes and rare furnishings.

Address: 69 Joo Chiat Terrace
Tel: +65 6440 1148
Website: the-intan.com
Email: contactus@the-intan.com
Cost: Write in to enquire about rates; Min 1 pax, no maximum group size, but it is recommended that groups do not exceed 30 pax
Duration: 1.5 hours
Availability: By appointment only
Language(s) available: English, Chinese and Spanish

Night Out Marina Bay by Tour East Pte Ltd

Travellers will get to explore Gardens by the Bay, see Singapore’s skyline from 200m up at Sands SkyPark, and watch the SuperTree Grove come alive with music and lights on this night tour of Marina Bay. Another highlight of this tour is learning about the various local and international cuisines at Lau Pa Sat, as well as sampling satay (grilled skewered meat) and kebabs (rice cakes) from the stalls that pop up in the evenings at the outdoor area of this popular hawker centre.

Address: 1 Magazine Road, Central Mall Office Tower, #07-05/06
Tel: +65 6735 1221 / +65 6738 2622 / +65 6238 2888 (after-hours answering machine)
Website: toureast.net
Email: tour@toureast.net
Cost: Adult S49; Child S29; Min 2 pax.
Write in to enquire about group deals
Duration: 3 hours
Availability: Wed, Fri, Sun, 6.30pm–10pm
Language(s) available: English

Secrets of the Red Lantern by Journeys Pte Ltd

What goes on in Chinatown (see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p120) and Geylang when the sun goes down? Visitors can experience the thrills on this three-hour guided tour, which takes them through the streets and alleys of the “infamous” districts of Chinatown and Geylang to explore a different side of Singapore. That’s not all. The tour will also get to soak up the buzz at Club Street (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p89), one of Singapore’s trendiest enclaves for nightlife, and Chinatown Food Street (chinatownfoodstreet.sg), filled with hawker stalls till late.

Address: 10 Lorong 23 Geylang O’Centennial Building, #07-01
Tel: +65 6325 1631 / +65 6238 2451
Fax: +65 6324 0316
Website: journeys.com.sg
Email: discover@journeys.com.sg / fun@SingaporeWalks.com
Cost: Adult S$60 (only those aged 18 and above are allowed on this tour); Min 1 pax.
Bookings by travel agents enjoy a special rate of S$54 per pax
Duration: 3 hours
Availability: Fri-Sat, 6.30pm–9.30pm
Language(s) available: English

Night Out Singapore by Tribe Pte Ltd

This tour is learning about the various local and international cuisines at Lau Pa Sat, as well as sampling satay (grilled skewered meat) and kebabs (rice cakes) from the stalls that pop up in the evenings at the outdoor area of this popular hawker centre.
**MILLENNIALS**

**Old-school charm**

These unique tours – designed for adventurous millennials looking beyond run-of-the-mill itineraries – give an in-depth view of local culture and heritage.

**Red Clogs Down the Five-Foot Way™ by Journeys Pte Ltd**

A five-foot way is a pedestrian walkway found along many of Singapore’s old shophouses dating back to the colonial days. This tour leads visitors through Chinatown’s conserved shophouses, where many trade stores can still be found. Enjoy the aroma of freshly baked buns and sweetmeats, search for traditional remedies at a traditional Chinese medical hall, and discover the paper houses used as part of Chinese funeral rituals. A visit to the wet market where visitors get to fully immerse themselves in the sights, smells and sounds is bound to be an unforgettable experience.

Address: 100 Lorong 23 Geylang, O’Centennial Building, #07-01
Tel: +65 6325 1631 / +65 6214 2451
Fax: +65 6244 0136
Website: journeys.com.sg
Email: discover@journeys.com.sg / fun@journeyswalks.com
Cost: Adult S$45, Child S$24; Min 1 pax.
Bookings by travel agents enjoy a special rate of S$40 per pax
Duration: 2.5 hours
Availability: Tue, 9.30am-12pm
Language(s) available: English

**A Day Out in Changi and Ubin by Tribe Pte Ltd**

Change and Pulau Ubin (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p50), both located along the eastern tip of Singapore, offer travellers an escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. This six-hour tour is packed with fun-filled activities for adventure-seekers. The tour includes a visit to The Changi Museum, where visitors will learn more about World War II. Tour participants will also find out the historical significance of sites such as the old Changi Prison as they make their way towards the Changi Point Ferry Terminal. From there, visitors can take a short boat trip to Pulau Ubin for a taste of kampung (“village” in Malay) life.

Address: 200 Jalan Sultan, Textile Centre, #03-11
Tel: +65 6463 0301 / +65 9660 0687
(Trade Contact: Jason) / +65 9188 4634
(Trade Contact: Yoko)
Website: tribe-tours.com
Email: bookings@tribe-tours.com / jak@tribe-tours.com / yoko@tribe-tours.com
(Trade Contact: Jason) / (Trade Contact: Yoko)
Cost: Adult S$30 per pax (min 2 pax) / S$24 per pax for a group of 6 pax; Min 5 pax, max 18 pax.
Duration: 6 hours
Availability: Sun, 9am-3pm
Language(s) available: English

**Sips and suppers**

Foodie travellers will not want to miss these tours, which take them to various spots around Singapore to feast on some of the city-state’s must-try food and drinks.

**Bikes and Bites Tour by Let’s Go Singapore Pte Ltd**

This nine-hour tour combines cycling and food for a more fulfilling experience. The tour involves cycling along the eastern tip of Singapore, past major riverside attractions such as Boat Quay and Clarke Quay, and towards the Changi Point Ferry Terminal. From there, visitors can take a short boat trip to Pulau Ubin for a taste of kampung (“village” in Malay) life.

Visitors will get to cycle through the streets of Singapore, and visit a residential town and market to get a glimpse of local life. The tour includes a stopover at a local coffee shop for a breakfast of toast and coffee or tea. The route also takes visitors through the business district along the scenic Singapore River. A sumptuous lunch in Little India is in store for visitors, followed by a tour of the area.

Address: High Street Centre, #B1-58
Tel: +65 9004 4332
Website: kitskobsingapore.com (all bookings must be made on the website)
Email: contact@kitskobsingapore.com
Cost: Adult S$110, S$95 (2 pax or more); Min 2 pax, max 7 pax
Duration: 9 hours
Availability: Mon-Fri, 8.30am-5.30pm
Language(s) available: English

**Twilight Snacks by Wok ’n’ Stroll Pte Ltd**

Visitors who enjoy supper can tuck into cheap and hearty meals at hawker centres dotted across the island that stay open till late. These include sambal (spicy chilli paste) sotong wrapped in banana leaf at Lau Pa Sat (see Eat & Drink, Hawker Street of Singapore, and visit a residential town and market to get a glimpse of local life. The tour includes a stopover at a local coffee shop for a breakfast of toast and coffee or tea. The route also takes visitors through the business district along the scenic Singapore River. A sumptuous lunch in Little India is in store for visitors, followed by a tour of the area.

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Tel: +65 9004 4332
Website: kitskobsingapore.com (all bookings must be made on the website)
Email: contact@kitskobsingapore.com
Cost: Adult S$110, S$95 (2 pax or more); Min 2 pax, max 7 pax
Duration: 9 hours
Availability: Mon-Fri, 8.30am-5.30pm
Language(s) available: English

**Buses & Buses Tour by Let's Go Singapore Pte Ltd**

For a different experience, travellers can book a river cruise along Singapore's main waterway.

**Singapore River Cruise (rivercruise.com.sg)**

For a different experience, travellers can book a river cruise along Singapore’s main waterway.

**Singapore River Experience: The 40-minute boat ride will take travellers past major riverside attractions such as Boat Quay and Clarke Quay, and towards Marina Bay.**

Cost: Adult S$25, Child S$15

**Loftus Hound Cruise**

Visitors will get to cycle through the streets of Singapore, and visit a residential town and market to get a glimpse of local life. The tour includes a stopover at a local coffee shop for a breakfast of toast and coffee or tea. The route also takes visitors through the business district along the scenic Singapore River. A sumptuous lunch in Little India is in store for visitors, followed by a tour of the area.

Address: High Street Centre, #B1-58
Tel: +65 9004 4332
Website: kitskobsingapore.com (all bookings must be made on the website)
Email: contact@kitskobsingapore.com
Cost: Adult S$110; Min 5 pax, max 6 pax.
Write in to enquire about group deals
Duration: 9 hours
Availability: Email to enquire
Language(s) available: English, Chinese, Greek, Hebrew and Russian

**DUCk & HiPPO (ducktours.com.sg)**

This tour operator has multiple packages for those who want to tour the city in comfort:

**SIA Hop On-Off Hop (shahepon.com)**

The SIA Hop-On tour system is a hassle-free way to enjoy Singapore. It makes strategically located stops and allows travellers to see Singapore at their own pace. Passengers can flag down the bus at a designated stop and buy tickets on board. Visitors can find maps with the bus maps on the website. Standard rate: Adult S$59, Child S$29, Free for toddlers (aged 2 and under). Special rate: Adult S$195, Child S$145, Free for toddlers (aged 2 and under) and Passenger must present their Singapore Airlines or SilkAir boarding pass to enjoy this special rate. Singapore Stopover Holiday (SIX) visitors ride for free with their SIX card.

**Bus tour highlights:**
- Stops at Boat Quay, Esplanade, Civic District, and Robertson Quay.
- Guests can upgrade their experience by purchasing a gin-based cocktail created by Raffles Hotel.
- The tour includes a special rate: Adult S$130; Min 3 pax, max 6 pax.

**Duck tour highlights:**
- The duck tour takes visitors past Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay, Boat Quay, Clarke Quay, and Robertson Quay.
- The special rate: Adult S$543, Child (aged 3-12) $333, Toddler (aged 2 and under) $85 (one-day unlimited rides).

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- Stops at Boat Quay, Esplanade, Civic District, and Robertson Quay.
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Tours: Itineraries

Fun attractions and sightseeing options, enriching experiences and workshops, tasty dining and exciting shopping – these and more can be included to make an interesting itinerary for visitors. Families can discover animals after dark at the Night Safari, build a terrarium, and go cable wakeboarding while active silvers can enjoy an art and history tour of Gillman Barracks, relax with a spa treatment or board a unique GOURMETbus tour that combines sightseeing with dinner on board. Here is a round-up of recommended itineraries on Sightseeing & Attractions, Food & Dining and Retail & Shopping as well as for active silvers and families to ensure all visitors enjoy a memorable visit to Singapore.

FOUR-DAY ITINERARY FOR ACTIVE SILVERS

DAY 1: Art and history

MORNING

Breakfast with art (Dine)

Anistry (artispace.com) – nestled in a corner of Kampong Glam (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p63) – is where food and art collide. Along with great coffee and brunch (the peanut butter and jelly French toast is a must-try), the café also showcases artworks by local and international artists.

Have a seafood lunch (Dine)

Visitors can stop by The Naked Fish (nakedfish.com.sg), located within Gillman Barracks (see Shopping, Art Galleries, p141), for delicious lobster rolls, prawn noodles and other seafood delights. For coffee and desserts, visitors should head to the Red Baron (redbaronsg.com) – which offers 360-degree views of the Marina Bay skyline. Must-try cocktails are the Coconut (Baileys milkshakes, vanilla ice cream with butterscotch and peppermint) and Butterfly Effect (a blend of honey manuka vodka, Sour apple schnapps and pineapple juice).

DAY 2: Explore the old and new

MORNING

Go on a morning food walk (Tour)

Visitors can start their morning with a visit to the Royal Malaysian District of Kampong Glam Food Walk (dotgeturboutours.com/hour-detail/544094152a89622764e064c0) – which feature works from local and international artists. For more insights into the significance of their roles in the past and their place in modern Singapore.

DAY 3: Discover Singapore’s food scene

MORNING

Indulge in halal (Dine)

Visitors can start their day with halal (fragrant coconut rice; see Eat & Drink, Local Favourites, p19) at the popular Sekera Rasa Nasi Lemak (sekerarasa.com.sg) at Adam Road Food Centre. Must-try items are the deep-fried chicken wings and otah (spicy grilled fish paste). A local favourite is the Full House, which comes with a fried egg, peanuts and ikan bilis (anchovies), deep-fried chicken wings, otah and sambal (spicy chilli paste).

Become a master chef (Experience)

This four-hour master chef class (see Tours, Peranakan-cooking-masterclass) aims to show visitors what it takes to become a Peranakan master chef. A chef from Kim Choo Kueh Chang
Day 1: Outdoor fun and adventure

MORNING
Start the day with breakfast, Singapore-style (Dine)
Enjoy soft-boiled eggs, warm kaya (a traditional jam made from coconut and eggs) toast and fragrant local kopi (coffee) at Ay Kuch Kaya Toast (ajan.com.sg) or Killiney Kopitiam Singapore (killiney-kopitiam.com). Starting out as humble coffee stalls, these long-standing local cafés are known for their traditional breakfasts, now available in numerous outlets across the island.

Day out at the Singapore Zoo (Explore)
Visitors can get a bird’s-eye view of the forest and try to spot different wildlife creatures.

AFTERNOON
Have local delights for lunch (Dine)
Visitors can enjoy a sumptuous lunch at River Safari Tea House (riverzoo.com.sg) as they take in the dazzling cityscapes and enjoy 360-degree views of Sentosa and Singapore’s night skyline, the attraction is a fun and relaxing way to end the day. From the tower, visitors may be able to catch glimpses of the daily Wings of Time (wingsoftime.com.sg) night show.

EVENING
Dine in the air (Dine)
Visitors can indulge in a four-course dinner on the Singapore Flyer (singaporeflyer.com/unique-experiences/full-butler-sky-dining/) as they take in the dazzling cityscapes and enjoy 360-degree views of various attractions, such as the Merlion Park (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32) and Marina Bay Sands (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54), as they take in the dazzling cityscapes and enjoy 360-degree views of various attractions, such as the Merlion Park (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32) and Marina Bay Sands (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54), as they take in the dazzling cityscapes and enjoy 360-degree views of various attractions.

Tours: Itineraries

Four-Day Itinerary for Families

Day 4: Time out with nature

MORNING
Enjoy a dim sum breakfast (Dine)
Visitors can start their day with dim sum (bite-sized portions of food served in steamer baskets or small plates) at Yum Cha restaurant (yumcha.com.sg) in the cultural precinct of Chinatown (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p57). Rather than choose from a menu, they can order the old-school way from a pushcart. Favourites include siew mai (steamed pork dumplings) and har gao (steamed prawn dumplings). It can get crowded on weekends, so visitors are advised to get there early. Reservations can be made via phone for a minimum of eight people.

Go on a treetop walk (Explore)
Nestled within MacRitchie Reservoir (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p50), the TreeTop Walk (parks.gov.sg) is a 250m-long freestanding suspension bridge, which connects Bukit Peirce and Bukit Kranji. From atop the bridge, visitors can get a bird’s-eye view of the forest and try to spot different wildlife creatures.

AFTERNOON
Have local delights for lunch (Dine)
Visitors can enjoy a sumptuous lunch at River Safari Tea House (riverzoo.com.sg) as they take in the dazzling cityscapes and enjoy 360-degree views of various attractions, such as the Merlion Park (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54) located next to the Singapore Zoo, has one of the world’s largest collections of freshwater animals. During the safari, visitors get to visit habitats modelled after the Congo River, Amazon River, Mekong River and more. They will also get to see giant pandas Kai Kai and Jia Jia, who dwell in the Giant Panda Forest near Yangze River, and other animals like the Brazilian tapir.

EVENING
Dine in the air (Dine)
Visitors can indulge in a four-course dinner on the Singapore Flyer (singaporeflyer.com/unique-experiences/full-butler-sky-dining/) as they take in the dazzling cityscapes and enjoy 360-degree views of various attractions, such as the Merlion Park (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32) and Marina Bay Street Circuit. Visitors have the option to choose from Western, Chinese or vegetarian dishes.

Day 1: Outdoor fun and adventure

MORNING
Start the day with breakfast, Singapore-style (Dine)
Enjoy soft-boiled eggs, warm kaya (a traditional jam made from coconut and eggs) toast and fragrant local kopi (coffee) at Ay Kuch Kaya Toast (ajan.com.sg) or Killiney Kopitiam Singapore (killiney-kopitiam.com). Starting out as humble coffee stalls, these long-standing local cafés are known for their traditional breakfasts, now available in numerous outlets across the island.

See the city on a thrilling ride (Tour)
After breakfast, both adults and kids can enjoy a fun DUCKtours (see Buses & Boat Tours, p195) ride in a remodelled World War II Vietnamese war craft that cruises on land and water as it goes by places of interest like Marina Bay (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p78) and the Civic District.

AFTERNOON
Lunch with a view (Dine)
Families can tuck into café favourites like pastas, pizzas and burgers at Faber Bistro (faberpeakingroups.com) – a cozy corner of Mount Faber Park on Faber Peak (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p83) – while enjoying a view of the city. Other recommended dishes include Climb to Faber Peak Platter (chicken wings, prawn twister and crispy calamari) – good for kids to share; FB Lovely Crab Spaghetti; Baa Baa Bold (braised Murray Ridge rendang lamb shank with achar and rice cake); and desserts like Mochi Rocker (mochi chocolate mud cake with chocolate sauce, marshmallows and chocolate pearls). There’s also a Sunday brunch menu.

Go on a nature trail (Explore)
Mount Faber Waves (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p56), Singapore’s highest pedestrian bridge connecting Mount Faber and Telok Blangah Hill Park, offers families who love the outdoors a chance to explore the area’s lush greenery and spot birds and small wildlife. From Mount Faber, visitors can hop on to a cable car ride to HarbourFront and Sentosa, and enjoy a panoramic view from above.

OR
Build a terrarium (Workshop)
Head to nearby HortPark (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p52) where the whole family can learn to create and take home their personalised terrarium (a sustainable bottled garden) at a hands-on workshop. The workshop requires a minimum of 20 participants and at least one month’s advanced booking.

EVENING/NIGHT
Experience Singapore’s largest mall and lifestyle destination (Shop/Dine/Play)
Visitors can round off the day at VivoCity (see Shopping, Malls, p35). There’s something for everyone: a cineplex (Singapore’s largest), stores such as Toys “R” Us, VivoMart and TANGS, an outdoor playground and rooftop wading pool for kids, along with a wide variety of local and international dining options, such as Jamie’s Italian, Food Republic food court, Marché Mövenpick and Sushi Tei. Later, families can step outside for a stroll along the 100m waterfront promenade and hop on the Mini Express Train (operates 10am daily) for a fun ride. Tickets are $56 per ride per person; kids under 90cm in height must be accompanied by an adult (no additional charge for accompanying adult).

Day 2: Multi-sensory experiences

MORNING
Discover a wet market and have a traditional hawkers breakfast (Explore/Dine/Play)
Families can spend the morning exploring Tiong Bahru Market and Food Centre (see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p32). On the ground floor is a bustling wet market...
selling everything from fresh produce and meat to flowers and clothing. The second floor houses food stalls selling popular traditional hawker breakfast favourites like chee cheong fun (steamed rice cake topped with diced preserved radish), sook kueh (shredded bamboo and turnip in tapioca flour skin dumpling), and char siew (barbecued pork) wonton noodles. A five-minute bus ride away is Tiong Bahru Park where the main attraction is a large sandpit and train structure good for kids five years and older, swings, a merry-go-round and a mini maze (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p87).

OR
Get an educational insight into marine life (Tour)
After breakfast, families should consider the unique S.E.A.™ VIP Tour (reswntossa.com). During the tour, a guide will give visitors an insight into the marine life at S.E.A. Aquarium™—home to more than 100,000 marine animals—as well as exclusive back-of-house access to Dolphin Island for an immersive and interactive experience. Tours are conducted in English for other languages, travel agents should write in or call to enquire. Rates start from S$88 per adult and S$58 per child (ages 4-12). Reservations must be made at least two working days in advance. The aquarium is also open to visitors who prefer to explore on their own (cost: Adult S$34, Child & Senior Citizen S$24).

AFTERNOON
Make your own pancake lunch (Dine)
Slappys Cakes (slappyscakes.com.sg), the award-winning American pancake house, serves pancakes all day and lets parents and kids have fun making their own. The choices are endless: visitors can choose their batter flavour (classic buttermilk to zucchini), fixings (strawberries, granola and mores), and toppings (lavender honey to maple syrup).

Fun at Universal Studios Singapore® (Experience)
After lunch, families can enjoy the afternoon on rides, shows and attractions based on movies and television series at Universal Studios Singapore® (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p84). They can start with Madagascar: A Crate Adventure—a gentle river boat ride through a tropical jungle setting—or Sesame Street Spaghetti Space Chase to meet Elmo and favourite Sesame Street characters. Later, families can proceed to more thrilling rides such as TRANSFORMERS The Ride: The Ultimate 3D Battle (Universal Studios Singapore® was the first to launch this ride), Battlestar Galactica: Human vs CYCLON®, and the only ride unique to Universal Studios Singapore®, Puss in Boots’ Giant Journey roller-coaster. Height limits apply for selected rides; please visit Resorts World™ Sentosa’s website (reswntossa.com/uss) for more information.

OR
Spend an adventure-filled day on Sentosa (Experience)
From Mega Adventure Park—Singapore visitors can choose from an aerial rope course or free-fall simulator; sg.megaadventure.com), the Skyline Luge (a fun downhill ride on a three-wheeled cart; skylineluge.com) to Wave House (6,500sqm beachfront venue offering exhilarating wave rides; wavehousesentosa.com), Sentosa offers an action-packed day for the family.

EVENING/NIGHT
Satay and grills (Dine)
Visitors can tuck into satay (grilled skewered meat), barbecued chicken wings and sumptuous seafood at Satay by the Bay in a dazzling spectacle. There are two nightly shows at 7.45pm and 8.45pm. Catch a stunning light and music show (Experience)
Visitors will be mesmerised by the music and lights of the daily Garden Rhapsody (gardensbythebay.com.sg) light show that transforms the Supertrees at the Supertree Grove in Gardens by the Bay into a dazzling spectacle. There are two nightly shows at 7.45pm and 8.45pm.

Day 3: An action-packed Itinerary
MORNING
Beancurd breakfast (Dine)
Families can start the day with a bowl of smooth and silky tau huay (soybean curd pudding) – a light breakfast favourite among locals. S1 Soya Bean makes theirs fresh daily and besides the traditional favourite, its tau huay also comes in flavours like almond, strawberry and mango. Visitors can head to the outlet at 313Somerset on Orchard Road.

Leaps and jumps (Play)
BOUNCE Singapore (bouncenic.com.sg), a trampoline park and adrenaline arena in Cathay Cineleisure Orchard, is filled with jumping zones and an obstacle course for family fun. Try the Free Jumping Arena, the Big Bag (a large inflated air bag that catches jumpers as they fall), or basketball with a twist at the Slam Dunk section —the bouncy surface gives jumpers shooting hoops a boost. The minimum age for entry is three years old. A family package is available Mondays through Fridays at S$75 for four jumpers (maximum of two adults).

AFTERNOON
Lunch on a farm (Dine)
Close to the Singapore Botanic Gardens is Dempsey Hill (nightlife & Entertainment, p92), where unique eatery Open Farm Community (openfarmcommunity.com) is located. With its focus on fresh, organic produce (much of it sourced from its 35,000sqft farm filled with herbs, fruits and vegetables), a menu of seasonal dishes—including a Little Diners menu for kids—two sand playgrounds and a lawn bowling alley, this is a great place that combines a relaxed lunch with fun activities for all ages.

Go cable wakeboarding at East Coast Park (Experience)
For an adrenaline-packed afternoon, visitors can learn how to wakeboard at Singapore Wake Park (singaporewakepark.com), the only cable-ski park facility in Singapore. Here, families can pick up the finer skill of knee-boarding, wakeboarding, waterskating and double-skis “cable-style”. The various wakeboarding cable systems mean that kids as young as six can join in the fun. Instructors focus on one rider at a time, so safety is assured. Older participants (10 years and above) can opt for the Full-size Cable, which allows more freedom, especially for those with wakeboarding experience.

EVENING/NIGHT
Dinner at Marine Cove (Dine/Play)
After wakeboarding, families can enjoy an early dinner at Marine Cove (parksgov.sg) at East Coast Park (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p51) – the venue has numerous dining options and family-friendly amenities. Eateries include McDonald’s restaurant, Halal-certified My Briyani House, BABAlicious Peranakan restaurant and Hill Street Coffee Shop offering local hawker favourites, among others. Kids will also enjoy playing at the 3,500sqm outdoor playground with an 8m-tall lighthouse tower.

Indulge in sweet treats (Dine)
Families can end the evening on a sweet note at popular local cake company, Chalk Farm (chalkfarm.com). An array of luscious cakes and tarts greets diners
at its outlet in Parkway Parade mall, also in the East Coast. Irresistible treats include 24Karat Browning, salted caramel macadamia candy cake, red velvet cake and cakes with Asian-inspired flavours such as pandan and aduki beans.

Day 4: Modern vs tradition

**MORNING**

Roti prata breakfast (Dine)
A popular local breakfast staple, this fluffy South Indian flatbread is crispy on the outside, but soft to the bite. It is often served with fish, chicken or mutten curry, but can also be enjoyed as a sweet treat – served with sugar or combined with fruits and sweeter ingredients like ice cream or chocolate – which kids will love. Try prata at Mr and Mrs Mohgan’s Super Crispy Roti Prata or Mr Prata (mpratra.com.sg).

See heritage sites on a trishaw (Tour)
The Bugs and Little India Trishaw Expedition (trishawuncle.com.sg) is a unique 30-minute expedition using an old-school mode of transport: trishaws. Visitors will be taken on a ride through the streets of Bugs (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p75) and Little India and see heritage sites such as Rex Cinemas, one of the country’s oldest theatres, and Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple; iconic wet market Tekka Centre; colonial-style Ellison Building, built in 1924 by Isaac Ellison, a leader in Singapore’s Jewish community; traditional Chinese temple, Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple; Fu Lu Shou Complex (famous for selling Taoist and Buddhist paraphernalia); and Bugis Village, with its conservation showrooms of stalls selling all manner of goods. Visitors will also learn the intriguing history behind Sulejoe and Serangoon roads.

**AFTERNOON**

Try modern Singapore cuisine (Dine)
Wild Rocket (see Eat & Drink, Modern Singapore Cuisine, p119) is known for its creative menu of Western favourites with a local twist. Chef-owner Willin Low remains inspired by the flavours of his childhood. Located at hangout@mt.emily, a backpacker’s hostel, it boasts a relaxed atmosphere and a menu that changes every few months. New items include har jy (dried shrimp rno) spaghetti with bottarga (salted, cured fish roe), prawns and kaffir, and 48hr beef short rib with green curry. There’s also a two- and three-course set lunch.

Play with art and science (Experience)
A permanent exhibition at the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands’, Future World: Where Art Meets Science (marinabaysands.com) offers interactive indoor fun for all ages. Showcasing 16 stunning digital art installations that respond to behaviour, current exhibit highlights include Universe of Water Particles, a 7m-tall virtual waterfall, and Crystal Universe – 170,000 LED lights arranged vertically to give the illusion of stars in space. Families can also design a hopscotch game in the Park zone, and draw marine animals as they come to life in a virtual ocean at the giant Sketch Aquarium.

**EVENING/NIGHT**

Visit the Night Safari (Experience)
No trip to Singapore is complete without a visit to Singapore’s famous Night Safari (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p53). The world’s first zoo dedicated to nocturnal animals, the safari leads visitors on an after-dark experience of the Singapore Zoo where they can observe more than 1,000 animals in their natural night habitats. Before embarking on the safari, families can dine at a range of eateries there. Options include Bongo Burgers; Ulu Ulu Safari Restaurant, which serves local dishes like chicken rice, ice kachang and Indian dishes like biriyani; and Indian spiced rice dish with meat or vegetables); and chicken tandoori, Safari Sizzlers for hot dogs and fried snacks; and Italian gelato at Casa Italia.

### Day 1: Adventure with nature

**MORNING**

Spend the morning at Gardens by the Bay (Explore)
Gardens by the Bay (see Attractions, Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32), an eco-friendly horticultural sanctuary, is an ideal place for visitors to spend a quiet morning in the middle of the bustling city centre. Start with an early morning walk around the gardens’ cooled conservatories – which run on self-sustainable cooling systems – for a breath of fresh air amid a diverse range of plants and flower displays. Visitors can pose for a “selfie” at the world’s largest indoor waterfall at Cloud Forest (gardensbythebay.com.sg/en/attractions/cloud-forest/visitor-information.html). Alternatively, they can hop on the Garden Cruiser tram (gardensbythebay.com.sg/en/plan-your-visit/tours-and-trails/outdoor-garden-cruiser-tours.html) for a 25-minute audio tour around the conservatories, themed gardens, meadow and Supertree Grove.

Have breakfast at Café Cremas (Dine)
Combining Italian and Japanese cuisine, Café Cremas (cafecremas.com.sg) serves breakfast with a view of Gardens by the Bay’s SuperTrees, which generate solar power and act as air vents for the conservatories. On top of all-day breakfast items, such as blueberry pancakes and eggs Benedict, the café also serves regional dishes like donburi (Japanese rice bowl dish with fish, meat, vegetables or other ingredients), and a selection of light bites and takeaway food.

**AFTERNOON**

Visit the world-class Singapore Zoo (Explore)
Visitors can spend their afternoon at the award-winning Singapore Zoo (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p53), where they will get to see more than 2,600 animals and over 300 species of wildlife roaming around freely in their natural habitats, including endangered creatures like the Malayan tapir. The 26ha zoo, which is divided into 11 zones, also offers educational and discovery experiences, such as the Wild Discoverer Tours – which gives visitors a behind-the-scenes look at some of the zoo’s popular exhibits – and Kidzranger Tour, where children aged between five and 12 years old get to be “zookeepers” for 45 minutes. Animal shows are also held several times a day at the Shaw Foundation Amphitheatre.

Stop for lunch at Ah Meng Restaurant (Dine)
This restaurant (200.com.sg/dining/ah-meng-restaurant.htm) at the Singapore Zoo is named after the late Ah Meng, a Sumatran orangutan who became popular for her friendly demeanour and met celebrities like Prince Philip and Michael Jackson during her tenure as the zoo’s animal ambassador. At the restaurant, visitors can indulge in local favourites such as Hainanese chicken rice, briyani (an Indian spiced rice dish with meat or vegetables) and nasi lemak (fragrant coconut rice).

Go on a river adventure (Explore)
After lunch, visitors can go on a River Safari (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54). The river-themed zoo and aquarium has one of the world’s largest collections of freshwater animals, housed in habitats modelled after the Mississippi River, River Nile, Melkor River and more. At the Congo River exhibit, visitors will get to see the world’s largest puffer fish. Then visit pandas Kai Kai and Jia Jia, on loan from China, as well as Singapore’s red panda, at the Giant Panda Forest near the Yangtze River. Visitors will be able to spot other land animals, such as the Brazilian tapir and giant anteater, during the 10-minute Amazon River Quest boat ride, available at a top-up fee of S$5 (Adult) and S$3 (Child).
Day 2: Get into a state of fun

MORNING

Kick off the day at Universal Studios Singapore® (Tour/Dine)

There’s no better way for visitors to start their morning than with a VIP Tour of Universal Studios Singapore® (rwsentosa.com Attractions/Universal Studios Singapore/VP/Tours) – a theme park with cutting-edge rides, shows and movie-themed attractions located in Resorts World™ Sentosa (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p84). Universal Studios Singapore® is Southeast Asia’s first Hollywood movie theme park, with 18 out of the 24 movie-themed rides designed just for the Singapore park such as the world’s first Puss in Boots’ Giant Journey roller-coaster. During the VIP Tour, visitors will get priority access to popular rides like TRANSFORMERS: The Ride – The Ultimate 3D Battle, and Battletastic Galacticus: HUMAN vs CYLON™. The five-hour tour also includes entry to the USJ World show, which visitors can watch from a VIP lounge. The live show is based on the 1995 film Waterworld, and features death-defying stunts and explosions of fire and water. There’s also a range of dining options at the theme park, such as Loui’s NY Pizza Parlor, Mel’s Drive-In and Oasis Spice Café, where visitors can enjoy brunch.

AFTERNOON

Get ready for a splashing time (Explore)

Visitors can get their adrenaline pumping at Wave House Sentosa (wavehousesentosa.com/wavehouse) or iFly Singapore (iflysingapore.com). Wave House Sentosa offers exhilarating wave rides, with waves as high as 3m. Those who love surfing can go on the FlowBarrel or Double FlowRider (enormous pools that generate artificial waves). Visitors who prefer not to get wet can head to Mykonos On The Bay (mykonosonthebay.com) and Greenwood Fish Market (greenwoodfishmarket.com). It’s the perfect place for visitors to relax, unwind and enjoy dinner. There are also family-friendly restaurants, such as SolaRoma Vivo Trattoria Pizzeria (solepomodoro.com), which offers a kids’ menu and has colourful little furniture and toys to keep young children occupied.

EVENING

Breakfast at Singapore Botanic Gardens (Experience/Dine)

Start the day with breakfast at the 150-year-old Singapore Botanic Gardens (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54) – a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Nestled within the kub garden of the Gardens is Casa Verde (casaverde.com.sg), a place where visitors can sit back and soak in the tranquility of the Gardens while enjoying a scrumptious breakfast. Must-try dishes are the proboscis fritatta and eggs Benedict. After breakfast, visitors can drop by the Singapore Botanic Gardens Heritage Museum, which chronicles the Gardens’ rich history from the time it was established to the time it was taken over by the British colonial government.

Stroll back in time to Singapore’s colonial days (Tour)

Visitors can learn about Singapore’s colonial legacy in just 2.5 hours with The Time of Empire™ tour (journeys.com.sg/singaporewalks/tours_timeofempire. asp). The tour traces the history of the

| Day 3: A taste of history

MORNING

Breakfast at Singapore Botanic Gardens (Experience/Dine)

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| American people in Singapore at the Armenian Church – Singapore’s oldest church. Visitors also get to explore the 1860s St Andrews Cathedral and CHIJMES (see Nightlife & Entertainment, p90), a former Catholic convent. Visitors then get to explore Coleman Street, named after George Drumgoole Coleman – the architect responsible for the design layout of Singapore Town in 1822. Other stops include Raffles Hotel, the Supreme Court of Singapore and the National Gallery Singapore.

AFTERNOON

Get a taste of Indian culture (Dine/Explore)

After the tour, visitors can indulge in some authentic North Indian food at Jagg’s North Indian Cuisine (jagg.com.sg), located along Chander Road in Little India (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p64). Dishes like naan with palak paneer (Indian cottage cheese in spinach gravy) and chicken tikka masala (marinated and grilled skewered meat) are sold along the streets. Must-visits include Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple (sriveeramakaliamman.com), one of Singapore’s oldest Hindu temples, and Mustafas Centre (see Shopping, Ethnic Districts, p137), a giant 24-hour shopping mall, where visitors will be able to get just about anything at bargain prices.

Check out Singapore’s oldest museum (Butter Fly)

After Little India, visitors can drop by the National Museum (see Attractions, Arts & Nature, p84), Singapore’s oldest museum. Visitors can immerse in the various exhibitions that detail Singapore’s history and culture. A good place to start is the Singapore History Gallery, which chronicles 700 years of Singapore’s history. The museum has a sandpit and a fishing village to the modern city-state it is today. Other permanent exhibitions include Stories of the Forest, a digital and immersive installation that brings 69 drawings from the museum’s Glass Rotunda to life, and Desire and Danger, which explores the intricate connection between man and nature.

OR

Visit a Peranakan enclave (Explore/Dine)

Visitors can discover Peranakan culture and lifestyle as they stroll past old terrace houses with intricate woodwork, traditional eateries and heritage shophouses in the Katong/Joo Chiat heritage precinct (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p64). Once the heart of Singapore’s Peranakan community, the area was gazetted as a conservation district in 1993. At Rumah Bebe (rumahbebe.com), a Peranakan bungalow, visitors can dress up in traditional outfits, or take a private in-house tour. The tour includes a beading demonstration, dressing up in nonya attire, and savouring Peranakan snacks. The tour takes about an hour, and requires a minimum of two people and a maximum of 20 (advance booking required, visit website for more details). After the tour, visitors can have an early dinner at Guan Hoe Soon Restaurant (guanhoesoon.com), which has been serving authentic Peranakan food since 1953.

EVENING

Enjoy the view from the top (Shop/Relax)

The skyline of Singapore’s Central Business District (CBD) is most beautiful at night with all the lights. One of the best places to get a shot of the skyline is from 1-Altitutde Gallery & Bar (see Eat & Drink, Bars & Clubs, p32). Located at One Raffles Place, 1-Altitutde Gallery & Bar is the world’s highest alfresco bar, offering 360-degree views of the CBD. The place is best enjoyed during its Sundown Affair (6pm–8pm daily), where visitors can also enjoy cocktails and relax to DJ-spn beats. They can also shop at the nearby Raffles City (see Shopping, Malls, p134).
Enjoy dining in Singapore, a culturally diverse city, offers a variety of food options. Here are some recommendations for your two-day itinerary:

**Day 1: Eat and drink like a local**

**Morning**
Learn about brewing an Asian lager (Tour)
One of the most recognisable local brands, Tiger Beer showcases its rich heritage and interesting brewing process at the Tiger Brewery Tour (registration required at tigerbrewerytour.com.sg; min 2 pax). Visitors can have a behind-the-scenes glimpse at how the lager is produced, and see the brand's packaging gallery and vintage memorabilia. The 90-minute tour ends with a tasting session.

**Afternoon**
Have tea in a Peranakan house (Tour/Dine)
Peranakan – Straits-born people of Chinese and Malay/Indian heritage – have a fascinating culture, and there is no better place to learn about it than at The Intan (see Business Travellers, p156), a by-appointment-only museum in a post-war shophouse. Apart from learning about the history of this ethnic group and admiring intricate Peranakan beadwork, costumes and trinkets, travellers can sit down and enjoy a high tea with owner Alvin Yapp, while enjoying an assortment of nonya keats (bite-sized snacks or desserts), created using the Yapp family’s secret recipes.

**Evening**
Taste Singapore's most famous fruit (Tour/Dine)
Travellers who would like to find out what the hype about durian is all about can join the three-hour Bequling Geylang tour (bequlitropical.com.sg/product/queuling-geylang), which takes visitors to the bustling district for an evening of sampling the durian and a variety of dim sum (bite-sized portions of food served in steamer baskets or small plates), as well as turtle soup and herbal tea.

**Day 2: A day of food explorations**

**Morning**
Join a cooking escape on an island (Tour/Dine)
Held in a 100-year-old village house in one of Singapore’s most visited islands, the Pulau Ubin Kampung Cooking Escapade (cookeymagic.com/cooking-class) organised by Cookery Magic offers both a chance to hone your culinary skills and see an off-the-beaten side of the country. The adventure starts at 8am at Changi Point Ferry Terminal, where participants hop on a bumboat to Pulau Ubin (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p156). The exciting itinerary includes a walk around the jungle to look for herbs, a cooking demonstration, and making dishes such as butter prawns and chicken curry (recipes and schedule subject to change). Minimum 20 pax.

**Afternoon**
Appreciating art and food (Shop/Explore)
The National Museum (nationalmuseum.sg) houses Janice Wong Singapore restaurant, which offers innovative desserts that look like artworks. Visitors can buy the Singapore Signature Series of confectionery, which features chocolates that look like they’ve been splattered with paint, and includes flavours such as chilli, lemongrass, salted egg and kopi (coffee). At Gallery 10, also at National Museum, travellers can admire an immersive video installation while enjoying a snack. This is the first gallery in the country that allows eating and drinking inside its premises.

**Tuck into local dishes with a twist (Dine)**
For those looking for local dishes with a unique twist, PS.Café (see Eat & Drink, Afternoon Tea, p150) in Paragon mall offers plenty of choices. The menu’s highlights include Tiger Beer-battered fish and chips; coconut, ginger and lemongrass chicken salad; and laksa (noodles in coconut milk-based curry broth) leaf pesto spaghetti, which has fettuccine and long bean camбал (spicy chilli paste). Desserts are equally innovative, with sweet offerings such as ginger brûlée and dark chocolate banana cheesecake.

**Evening**
Have a meal at a Michelin guide Singapore (guide.michelin.sg) restaurant.
The inaugural MICHELIN guide Singapore (guide.michelin.sg) was launched in 2016, and it is a testament to the rich variety of cuisines and dishes available in the Lion City. Travellers who would like to taste the key culinary influences of Chinese, Indian and Malay cuisines can visit any of the one-star award-winning restaurants Crystal Jade Golden Palace (crystaljade.com/goldenpalace) in Orchard, The Song of India (thesongofindia.com) near Newton, or Candelit (see Eat & Drink, Modern Singapore Cuisine, p148) in Demokrat. Those who like to tease their taste buds with modern Singaporean cuisine must visit the two-star awarded Restaurant André (restaurantandre.com) in Outram Park.

**Grab a drink by the bay (Drink)**
LeVeL33 (level33.com.sg) brewery boasts stunning views of the Marina Bay skyline, thanks to its location on top of the Marina Bay Financial Centre. All its beers are brewed on the premises, and signature brews include blend lager (IPA, wheat beer, stout and porter). It also has wines from artisanal wineries as well as bottles from Bordeaux and Barossa Valley.

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Tours: Itineraries

**Chinatown Food Street**

**DAY 1: Eat and drink like a local**

**Morning**
Discover local favourites in Chinatown (Explore/Dine/Shop)
Travellers can do the tour with a stroll around Chinatown (see Neighbourhoods, Ethnic Districts, p157). The quintessential kopi (coffee), Nanyang Old Coffee (nanyangoldcoffee.com) serves chee chee (steamed rice cake topped with diced preserved radish) and chee cheong fun (steamed rice roll with prawn or barbecued pork filling), while Chinatown Food Street (see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p150), which opens at 11am daily, is a great spot for breakfast. This afresco dining area on Smith Street offers many local favourites, including frog leg porridge, prawn fritters and chicken rice. After eating, travellers can shop for fresh fruits and Chinese spices at the nearby Chinatown Complex wet market, or visit Bee Cheng Hong’s (see Shopping, Local Products, p147) bak kwa (barbecued meat) store, where slices of meat are barbecued on the spot.

**Afternoon**
Learn about brewing an Asian lager (Tour)
One of the most recognisable local brands, Tiger Beer showcases its rich heritage and interesting brewing process at the Tiger Brewery Tour (registration required at tigerbrewerytour.com.sg; min 2 pax). Visitors can have a behind-the-scenes glimpse at how the lager is produced, and see the brand’s packaging gallery and vintage memorabilia. The 90-minute tour ends with a tasting session.

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Tours: Itineraries

**Chinatown Food Street**
Day 1: Shopaholics’ paradise: Orchard Road & Marina Bay Sands®

MORNING
Take a walk down Singapore’s famous shopping street (Dine/Shop/Explore)
The 2.2km Orchard Road (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p79) is lined with more than 30 shopping malls and should be the first stop on any shopping itinerary. Most malls open at 10am, so travellers have enough time for a light bite at their hotels or can go to Wild Honey (wilddelicious.com.sg) for all-day breakfast. Then, they can explore Singapore’s most iconic shopping belt, from luxury fashion brands – many with Southeast Asian flagship stores here – to international high-street brands and department stores such as Robinsons (robinsons.com.sg), as well as local designers and labels, there is something for everyone.

Shoppers looking for local designers and brands can visit TANGS department store (tangsg.com.sg) and – around the corner on Scotts Road – Scotts Square. TANGS is home to local fashion labels such as Maski (maski.com.sg) and Aijek (aijek.com), they will find many by local designers. For the design, fashion, arts, crafts, music, cosmetics, food and more for the whole family.

For fine jewellery and watches, visitors can go to IGON Orchard (see Shopping, Malls, p32), which has a dedicated Jewellery Street (thejewellerystreet.com.sg) with a glamorous diamond boutique of homegrown brand Lee Hwa Jewellery (leejewellery.com). They can also visit luxury emporium Maimaison by The Hour Glass (thehourglass.com/boutique/ toh) at Knightsbridge (knightsbridge.com.sg) and Sara Tasser Fine Jewellery (saratasser.com) at the Hilton Hotel Shopping Gallery (hiltonshoppinggallery.com).

AFTERNOON
Lunch at the food court (Dine)
For a lunch break, visitors can head to Food Republic (foodrepublic.com.sg), a local-style hawker centre with four branches on Orchard Road alone. Everyone in a group will find something to munch on, be it local dishes such as nasi kandar (sweet and savoury Asian salad), roti prata (South Indian flatbread), fried prawn noodles and nasi lemak (fragrant coconut rice) or snacks, fresh fruit, desserts and all manner of refreshing drinks.

Shopping on the Somerset and Dhoby Ghaut stretches (Shop)
After lunch, shoppers can continue down Orchard, or they can hop on the MRT for one or two stops for direct access to malls at Somerset Station and Dhoby Ghaut Station respectively. At 313@Somerset mall (313-somerset.com.sg), they will find high-street brands like Charles & Keith (charleskeith.com.sg), a Singaporean shoe and accessories label that gained international attention when Game of Thrones actress Maisie Williams was spotted carrying the brand’s handbag. The nearby Orchard Central (orchardcentral.com.sg) is home to Southeast Asia’s UNIQLO flagship store, as well as We The People (facebook.com/WeThePeopleSG), the world’s first Kickstarter-centric product store. For those looking for quality local souvenirs, head to the Naise (see Shopping, Boutiques, p46) flagship store at The Cathay (cathaybk.com.sg) – it stocks everything from books, magazines and stationery to home décor, fashion and food products, many by local designers.

OR
Shop your own art (Experience/Shopper)

EVENING
Luxury shopping at Marina Bay Sands®
(Shop/Experience)
Since The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands® (MBS; see Shopping, Malls, p35) stay open relatively late (Sun–Thu, 10.30am–11pm; Fri & Sat, 10.30am–11.30pm), it’s the ideal place to go for some evening retail therapy. The city’s largest luxury shopping mall, The Shoppes at MBS has more than 200 stores and boutiques, including high fashion labels such as Alexander McQueen, Balenciaga and Louis Vuitton, as well as Southeast Asia’s largest collection of luxury watch and jewellery brands under one roof.

Day 2: Out of the malls and off the beaten track

MORNING
Breakfast at Holland Village (Dine/Experience)
Visitors looking to experience a slice of local life can head to Holland Village (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p76), a lifestyle enclave that’s a 10- to 15-minute drive from the city centre and also easily accessible by MRT. They can have a local breakfast at the food stalls of Holland Village Food Centre (try savoury carrot cake made – rice porridge and the strong local coffee), or, head to Crystal Jade Kitchen (crystaljadekitchen.com/kitchen) for Cantonese favourites like congee (rice porridge) and dim sum (bite-sized portions of food served in steamer baskets or small plates).

Explore a local neighbourhood
(Shop/Experience)
Beside numerous beauty and wellness outlets, Holland Village is home to Holland Road Shopping Centre, where visitors can buy luxury brands, clothing, beachwear, batik (traditional Indonesian fabric) clothes and accessories, and children’s toys and clothes. Shoppers can stop by Lims Legacy (limslegacy.com) for stylish Asian homeware and chic accessories. Singaporean jewellery designer Carolyn Kao further down, travellers will arrive at Arab Street and Haji Lane between North Bridge Road and Beach Road, the heart of Kampong Glam. Here, they will find shops and boutiques selling everything from traditional textiles and cultural souvenirs to vintage fashion and collectibles, locally designed accessories and independent womenswear and menswear labels.

Lunch in Kampong Glam (Dine)
Shoppers will not go hungry with many cafes, or they can go to Wild Honey (wilddelicious.com.sg) for all-day breakfast. Then, they can explore Singapore’s most iconic shopping belt, from luxury fashion brands – many with Southeast Asian flagship stores here – to international high-street brands and department stores such as Robinsons (robinsons.com.sg), as well as local designers and labels, there is something for everyone.

Supper for late-night shoppers (Dine)
Kebabs & Curries (www.mustafa.com.sg/mkebabs) on the top level of Mustafa Centre is open till late midnight, while Swee Choon Tim Sum Restaurant (sweechoon.com.sg) in Jalan Besar is open through the night from 6pm to 6am (closed on Tuesdays). Over on Serangoon Road, Padrino Restaurant Khansama Tandoon (khanasama.net) is open till 11.30pm daily.
Azamara Club Cruises

One of the things that sets American-based Azamara Club Cruises apart from the rest is that it offers longer stays at destinations. The line’s mid-sized ships – which can accommodate up to 690 passengers – sail to a host of destinations from Singapore, as well as Goa (the beach capital of India), Da Nang in Vietnam, and even to the doorstep of Bangkok.

Website: azamaracruises.com
Email: APACres@rcclapac.com

Celebrity Cruises

American cruise line Celebrity Cruises distinguishes itself by offering modern luxury – from the contemporary décor and elegant rooms, to top-notch dining options, such as Lawn Club Grill, which features open-air grilling and dining with ocean views, and Main Restaurant for a grand dining experience. Visitors get to choose from over 270 destinations, such as Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, and Sri Lanka. Celebrity Cruises also offers exciting shore excursions (extra charges apply) for cruises departing from Singapore. For instance, visitors can explore Bangkok’s canals and visit the Temple of Dawn located along the Chao Phraya River, or enjoy a panoramic drive through Ho Chi Minh City and see various landmarks like the Notre Dame Cathedral and Municipal Theatre (also known as the Saigon Opera House).

Sample cruise itinerary:
Celebrity Millennium – 14-Night Vietnam and Philippines Cruise

This 14-night cruise will give visitors a chance to experience a range of Asian cultures. Port stops include Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang in Vietnam, Hong Kong, Manila and Boracay Island in the Philippines, and Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia. In Vietnam, travellers can visit temples, pagodas and temples located along Perhame River. According to rumours, every autumn, blossoms of Dawn located along the river, giving it a perfumed aroma.

The next stop is Hong Kong, where visitors can take in the skyscrapers as well as visit Aberdeen Fish Village and Man Ho Temple, which pays tribute to the Gods of Literature and War.

In the Philippines, you can visit at Manila’s backstreets and markets for souvenirs, and enjoy a meal along Puka Beach on Boracay Island.

Website: Celebrity Cruises
Email: APACres@rcclapac.com

Costa Cruises

An Italian cruise line, Costa Cruises offers amenities and programmes targeted at families. Several ships in the fleet offer Mini and Maxi Clubs for children aged three to 11, as well as a Teens Club for those aged 12 to 17, making Costa Cruises a preferred choice for families with children. Vacation packages include destinations in Asia, such as Singapore, India and Sri Lanka.

Website: www.costacruises.com
Email: info-pac@costacruises.com

Holland America Line

Whether visitors are looking to simply unwind or explore the rich tapestry of Asian cultures, Holland America Line – an American- and British-owned cruise line – offers a diverse range of itineraries to meet the different needs of travellers, from families to couples. Most of the fleet’s spacious rooms are ocean-facing with floor-to-ceiling windows for dining al fresco or private sunbathing, making it especially appealing to couples.

What’s more, the company’s well-crafted Journeys Ashore™ gives travellers the option of joining a guided tour of a destination or exploring on their own with a private driver at extra costs (prices vary depending on excursion).

Sample cruise itinerary:
MS Volendam – 13-Night Indonesian Discovery

Travellers can go on a cultural journey through the Indonesian archipelago on board the MS Volendam. This discovery cruise includes stops at exciting destinations like Tanjung Priok, Surabaya and Benoa. Tanjung Priok has a variety of attractions, such as Indonesia’s National Monument and the old port of Surabaya, which awards for fun or the catch of the day take place.

When the ship docks in Surabaya, visitors can travel to the Bajang Ratu Temple in East Java to see its strikingly sculptured Kala heads (masks with human and lion features), as well as visit archaeological sites that date to the Majapahit era. In Benoa, visitors can watch traditional Balinese dance performances or go on a tour of the Sangeh Monkey Forest.

Website: hollandamerica.com
Email: worldcruisesreservations@hollandamerica.com

P&O Cruises Australia

From glittering performances to top-notch dining options, such as Salt Grill by celebrity chef Luke Mangan, P&O Cruises Australia – headquartered in Sydney – covers the whole gamut of travel needs. Visitors can choose from family-friendly or adults-only cruises, as well as weekend getaways from Singapore to destinations such as Australia, Indonesia, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

Website: pocruises.com
Email: information@pocruises.com.au

Princess Cruises

Visitors can embark on a round-trip cruise from Singapore through the ports of Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam with Princess Cruises – an American- and British-owned cruise line – for an unforgettable holiday. New on board is The Come Back New Experience, which offers stargazing tours, exclusive Discovery and Animal Planet tours, dining at specialty restaurants, and award-winning Broadway musicals.

Sample cruise itineraries:
Sapphire Princess – 4-DAY Malaysia

Princess Cruises offers a short four-day round-trip Malaysia cruise. The first stop is Penang, home to the UNESCO World Heritage Site, George Town. Next stop is Langkawi, an archipelago made up of 99 islands on Malaysia’s west coast. Finally, stop in Port Klang in Kuala Lumpur. Here, visitors can marvel at iconic landmarks such as the Petronas Twin Towers.

Website: princess.com
Email: support@carnival-sg.com

Royal Caribbean Singapore

Royal Caribbean provides a seamless experience from land to sea with its first-of-its-kind, an iced-skiing rink, a luxury shopping promenade, zipline facilities and a skydiving simulator. The American company offers cruises to Phuket, Langkawi, Hong Kong and Singapore, giving travellers a perfect and hassle-free Asian getaway.

Sample cruise itineraries:
Mariner of the Seas – 11D10N Exotic Asia

This adventure takes travellers to Shanghai by sea. Port stops include Ho Chi Minh City and Nha Trang in Vietnam, Hong Kong, and Singapore. From Singapore, passengers disembark in Shanghai. Enjoy a guided tour at Shanghai’s must-see attraction, Chenghuang Temple, where travellers can shop for trinkets, and experience the city’s food and local culture.

Ovation of the Seas – 14D13N Singapore to Tianjin

Ovation of the Seas, one of the newest ships in the Royal Caribbean fleet, comes equipped with some of the best offerings, such as a skydiving simulator, a viewing capsule suspended 300ft above sea level and a roller-coaster rink. Passengers get to enjoy all of these while sailing to Ho Chi Minh City, where they will have two days to explore. Next, it’s off to Da Nang, Vietnam’s third largest city. Other stops in the itinerary include Hong Kong and Seoul before passengers disembark in Tianjin. A guided tour of Beijing, including a visit to Ju Yungguang Giant Wall of China, completes the package.
Voyage of the Seas – 4-Night Penang and Phuket
This cruise takes travellers on an adventure to the charming island of Penang and bustling Phuket city. Penang was once an important port for traders, sailing to the Far East in search of spices. Visitors can go beyond its capital, George Town, to explore the beaches, street food and Peranakan culture, which is a unique blend of Chinese, Malay and European cultures. The next and last stop is Phuket, where travellers can indulge in a range of activities – from trekking the Khao Phra Thac Bo National Park to sampling local dishes and shopping for souvenirs at Patong Beach.

Voyage of the Seas – 9D8N Singapore to Hong Kong
Sail to Hong Kong in style on board the behemoth Voyager of the Seas – 9D8N Singapore to Hong Kong. While the ship is making its way to Bangkok – the first stop – passengers can keep themselves entertained at the ice-skating rink, rock-climbing wall or the 14 bars, clubs and lounges. Next on the itinerary are stops in Ho Chi Minh City and Nha Trang, where travellers can get a taste of Vietnam through its food, culture and history. The journey ends in Hong Kong.

Seabourn Cruises
A voyage on any of the American-British Seabourn fleet of ultra-luxury ships is an intimate experience as guests enjoy personalised services, a small community with no more than 300 suites, expansive open decks and inviting social spaces. Travellers can sail into smaller ports and enjoy unique itineraries in some of the world’s most remote destinations, with stops at Singapore, Sri Lanka and India.

TUI Cruises
Based in Germany, TUI Cruises has a fleet of large contemporary-style ships offering an all-inclusive array of dining, spa and entertainment services on board. Targeted at German-speaking travellers, TUI Cruises sails to Malaysia, Vietnam and Thailand from its Southeast Asian hub in Singapore.

TUI Cruises Itinerary:
Mein Schiff 1 – 14-Day Asia
TUI Cruises combines metropolises and beaches in this 14-day adventure aboard the Mein Schiff 1. The first port of call is Langkawi, where visitors can head to the Klim Kunt GeoForest Park to explore mangroves and rock formations. Other stops in Malaysia include Penang and Port Klang. Next it’s off to Koh Samui, known for its beautiful beaches, and the city of Laem Chabang in Thailand. The last stop is Phu My in Ho Chi Minh City.

Silversea Cruises
Anyone can travel in style with Silversea Cruises, which offers all-inclusive ultra-luxury cruises to more than 800 destinations worldwide. Its fleet of small luxury ships is designed for navigating waters in some of the world’s most remote locations. Silversea offers cruises to a number of exciting destinations, such as India, Maldives, Hong Kong and Abu Dhabi, from Singapore.

Tours: Cruises

CRUISE TRANSIT ITINERARIES

General Itinerary 1: Marina Bay precinct
9am: Take a walk around Gardens by the Bay (Explore)
Start the morning by exploring the grounds of Gardens by the Bay (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p135) and admiring the view of the Marina Bay waterfall and skyline. Admission to the Outdoor Gardens, including the SuperTree Grove and World of Plants, is free.

Website: fullertonhotels.com/singapore/the-fullerton-bay-hotel/attractions/adventure/sampan-rides.html

2.30pm: Ride the sampan at Marina Bay Sands® (Shop)
Take a sampan (traditional wooden boat) ride along the canal at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands® (see Shopping, Malls, p135) – a fun family affair not to be missed. After the ride, travellers can spend some time shopping at The Shoppes, Singapore’s largest luxury mall.

Website: marinabayshops.com/entertainment/sampan-rides.html

3pm: Visit the ArtScience Museum™ (Explore)
The ArtScience Museum™ – with its iconic futurist-shaped structure – houses 21 galleries spread over three storeys. Travellers should not miss its permanent exhibition, Future World: Where Art Meets Science, which features a 1,500sqm digital front-of-house facilities, to get a glimpse of the daily workings of this world-class arts venue.

Website: esplanade.com

12pm: Lunch at The Clifford Pier (Dine)
Located within the Fullerton Heritage precinct, The Clifford Pier restaurant at The Fullerton Bay Hotel occupies the space of what was once Singapore’s main landing point for maritime traders and immigrants. The restaurant keeps the hawkier food culture of the 1933 pier alive with dishes like sop kambing (mutton soup infused with spices) and fried carrot cake with prawns and scallions.

Website: fullertonhotels.com/singapore/the-fullerton-bay-hotel/dine/the-clifford-pier

Website: esplanade.com
Travellers who prefer something local should head to the Malaysian Food Street.
Website: sentosa.com.sg/explore/dining
12:30pm: Mega Adventure Park - Singapore or Skyline Luge (Explore)
Travellers looking for a short burst of adrenaline should head to Mega Adventure Park - Singapore, located at the top of Imbiah Hill on Sentosa Island. At the adventure park, visitors can enjoy an exhilarating flying fox ride, navigate wobbly bridges or experience a simulated parachute landing. Alternatively, they can take a leisurely cruise or race down a 688m Dragon Trail or 628m Jungle Trail at Skyline Luge Sentosa. Then travellers can hop on the Skyride, a four-seater chairlift, which will take them back to the luge station.
Website: sg.megaadventure.com / skylineluges.com/en/sentosa
3pm: Madame Tussauds at Imbiah (Explore)
Visitors can save on admission charges with a “saver ticket” (visit website for details) for entries to Images of Singapore LIVE (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p39) and Madame Tussauds, a wax museum that features more than 60 wax figures of famous local personalities and international stars, such as Singapore’s first prime minister, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Singaporean football legend Fandi Ahmad, and pop star Taylor Swift. It’s an opportunity for visitors to snap a “selfie” with their favourite stars.
Website: madametussauds.com/singapore
4pm: Images of Singapore LIVE at Imbiah (Explore)
It’s time for a history lesson at the Images of Singapore LIVE, which offers visitors an interactive experience of the city-state’s past through live actors, special effects and immersive themed areas. Don’t miss the Spirit of Singapore Boat Ride – a simulated journey through the Lion City’s historical and cultural landmarks.
Website: imagesofsingaporelive.com
Suggested itinerary for Families
9am: DUCK & HIPPO Tour (Tour)
Travellers can join DUCKtours (see Bus & Boat Tours, p59) for an hour-long tour on a remodelled World War II amphibious Vietnam war craft. The unique journey on land and water will take them around the Civic District, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay and Singapore Flyer, one of the world’s largest observation wheels, from which they can catch breathtaking views of Singapore’s iconic landmarks and city skyline.
Website: ducktours.com.sg
2pm: Lunch at POMPOMPURIN Café (Dine/Shop)
This family-friendly café in Orchard (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p79) provides plenty of photo opportunities, and is one of Sanrio’s cartoon cafes. Its fixed, drinks and décor are planned around cartoon characters. For instance, the café serves its omlette rice shaped like the golden retriever with its brown beret. Children will enjoy the Pom Pom Purin Pudding and Love Marshmallow Latta. After lunch, visitors can shop at local independent stores such as Naisue, Pact and Actually along Orchard Road for souvenirs.
Website: facebook.com/pomponpurincafsing
4pm: BOUNCE Singapore (Experience)
BOUNCE Singapore, located on level nine of Cathay Cineleisure Orchard, is Singapore’s largest trampoline park. It features various activities, such as trampoline dodgeball, a free jumping arena, and Leap of Faith – a 5m-high platform jump. The indoor park also houses X-Park, Asia’s first Ninja Warrior-style obstacle course.
Website: bouncesg.com
Suggested itinerary for Active Silvers
9am: Breakfast at Killiney Kopitiam (Dine)
Start the day at Singapore’s oldest Hainanese coffee shop, Killiney Kopitiam, along Purvis Street in the Bugis precinct. Travellers should try universe with interactive art installations – something for all ages will enjoy.
Website: marinabaysands.com/museum/about
General itinerary 2: HarbourFront precinct
9am: Cable car ride (Experience)
Hop onto a cable car at Faber Peak Singapore for a bird’s-eye view of the city. The journey over jungle, sand and sea will take visitors to Sentosa Island (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p82). Visitors can pick their stop at any time from 9am to 7pm.
Website: faberpeaksingapore.com/singapore-cable-car/sky-network
11am: Brunch on Sentosa Island (Dine)
There’s an endless list of food options at Sentosa Resorts World™ Sentosa. For a laidback dining experience, there are beach restaurants like Coastes and Tanjong Beach Dining – good-old-days/135#!/
Website: store.sentosa.com.sg/main/events/ dining--good-old-days/135#!/
10am: Breakfast at Tiong Bahru Bakery (Dine)
Tiong Bahru Bakery at Raffles City Shopping Centre serves unique breakfast items, such as squid ink bun with smoked salmon and breakfast pancake burger. It also has a menu of artisanal teas, coffees and juices to choose from. Children will enjoy the breakfast snacks such as chocolate walnut cookie and coffee eclair.
Website: tiongbahrubakery.com
11.30pm: Singapore Botanic Gardens (Experience)
Singapore Botanic Gardens (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54) has something for the whole family. The Jacob Ballas Children’s Garden, for instance, is a secret garden just for kids. At the Green Pavilion, families can have fun feeding hungry fish. The Gardens’ open-lawn also make it ideal for picnics and for children to run around and play.
Website: sg-ng.org.sg
2pm: Lunch at POMPOMPURIN Café (Dine/Shop)
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Website: bouncesg.com
Suggested itinerary for Active Silvers
9am: Breakfast at Killiney Kopitiam (Dine)
Start the day at Singapore’s oldest Hainanese coffee shop, Killiney Kopitiam, along Purvis Street in the Bugis precinct. Travellers should try
classic breakfast items, such as kaya (a traditional jam made from coconut and eggs) toast, soft-boiled eggs and kopi (coffee). The restaurant also serves other local dishes like nasi lemak (fragrant coconut rice), curry chicken with bread, and bee hoon (rice vermicelli). After breakfast, travellers can spend some time exploring Bugis (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p75).

Website: killiney-kopitiam.com

10.30am: Merlion Park at One Fullerton (Relax)
With the head of a lion and body of a fish, the Merlion takes its pride of place at the Merlion Park (see Attractions, 10 Free Attractions for Great Photos, p32) at One Fullerton (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p78). It is a significant landmark and a great photo opportunity for visitors to capture their holiday moment in Singapore.

11am: Asian Civilisations Museum (Experience)
Travellers can take in some history and culture at the Asian Civilisations Museum (see Attractions, Arts & Design, p34), which is housed in a beautiful colonial building along Empress Place. The museum focuses on preserving Singapore and Asia’s cultural heritage.

Travellers can visit various galleries, such as Ancient Religions, South Asia and Islamic World, Tang Shipwreck and Chinese Ceramics, to admire the museum’s collections and get a glimpse of different cultures.

Website: acm.org.sg

1pm: Lunch at National Gallery Singapore (Dine)
Travellers can head to National Kitchen by Violet Oon at the National Gallery Singapore (see Attractions, Arts & Design, p36) to enjoy an afternoon of food and art. They can choose to either dine at the grand hall or at the verandah for views of the Central Business District.

The interior of the restaurant is a modern take on traditional Peranakan designs, with floral-patterned tiles and rattan ceiling fans. Must-try dishes are cod in creamy laksa sauce, fish head curry and sambal (spicy chilli paste) eggplant wedges.

Website: violetoon.com/national-kitchen-by-violet-oon-national-gallery-singapore/

5pm: Marina Bay Sands® SkyPark (Explore)
It’s hard to miss the unique architecture of Marina Bay Sands® as visitors gaze at the city skyline. Travellers can purchase tickets to the Sands SkyPark observation deck – located on the 57th floor of Marina Bay Sands® – where an incredible view of Singapore in all its glory awaits. There, travellers can have cocktails at CÉ LA VI Singapore (see Eat & Drink, Bars & Clubs, p127) while admiring the city skyline. After that, they can shop for luxury items and souvenirs at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands® and enjoy a tea break at TWG Tea Salon & Boutique, a local luxury tea brand, before returning to their ship.

Website: marinabaysands.com/sands-skypark
From concert halls and convention centres to more unusual locations, Singapore has a range of world-class venues to suit a variety of events. Being a regional hub for business and entertainment means the country has cutting-edge and state-of-the-art facilities.

There are centrally located venues for Meetings, Incentive Travel, Conventions & Exhibitions (MICE) and business travellers, such as the Raffles City Convention Centre and Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre. There are places rich in history and heritage such as the Victoria Concert Hall and Gillman Barracks. The Arts House and School of the Arts Singapore are great for more intimate events, while Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay and MasterCard Theatres at Marina Bay Sands® are perfect for musicals.

Visitors can also catch performances at some of these venues throughout the year.

PERFORMANCE VENUES

Capitol Theatre

Set in the heart of Singapore’s downtown Civic District, Capitol Theatre is integrated with Capitol Singapore, a luxury lifestyle development that houses a six-star hotel, residences, retail stores and dining establishments. Furnished with the latest audio and visual systems for cinema and the performing arts, it has a rotational floor system that allows for flexible seating configurations, whether the event is a film screening, musical production, dance performance or MICE event. Its single-screen cinema is the largest in Singapore, fitted with approximately 977 seats. Group deals may be available upon request.

Quick facts about Capitol Theatre:
- Beautifully restored historical building from 1929
- Ground-level theatre suitable for red carpet premieres with seating capacity of approximately 977 pax

Address: 11 Stamford Road, Capitol Piazza
Tel: +65 6499 5168
Website: capitolsingapore.com/capitol-theatre
Email: enquiry@capitolsingapore.com
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Fondly nicknamed “The Durian” by Singaporeans for its resemblance to the spiky tropical fruit unique to this part of the world, Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is one of Singapore’s most iconic and busiest performing arts venues, hosting about 3,000 performances yearly. Designed by local firm DP Architects, the structure is made up of two rounded glass domes fitted with over 7,000 triangular aluminium sunshades. It is ideal for musicals, operas, theatre and dance performances. The building also houses cafés, bars, restaurants and retail stores. A stone’s throw away is the historic Esplanade Park, which is home to landmarks such as
the Lim Bo Seng Memorial, Connaught and Tan Kim Seng Fountain. Tiered pricing is available for all venues in the Esplanade according to four categories: General Arts, Non-Profit Arts Group Incorporated in Singapore, Fundraising and Charity Events, and Private Hire.

Quick facts about Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay:
- Iconic building overlooking the Marina Bay Waterfront
- Total venue size: 60,000sqm
- Six venues for hire, excluding hospitality spaces for corporate events, with capacities ranging from 220 pax to 2000 pax

Address: Esplanade Drive
Tel: +65 6838 8366
Fax: +65 6337 3633
Email: venues@esplanade.com
Website: esplanade.com

National Stadium

The National Stadium was reopened in June 2014 after the previous structure was demolished in 2011 to make way for the Singapore Sports Hub, a state-of-the-art, fully integrated sports, entertainment and lifestyle hub. Now an iconic dome-shaped landmark with a retractable roof and an energy-efficient cooling system, the multipurpose National Stadium is able to host a variety of events – from sports tournaments to concerts and national events. Past events have included Singapore’s National Day Parade 2016, as well as concerts by international superstars Mariah Carey, Jay Chou, One Direction and Madonna. It is part of the Singapore Sports Hub, together with the OCBC Aquatic Centre (used for competitive swimming), the Water Sports Centre (used for canoeing) and the Singapore Sports Museum showcasing the country’s sporting achievements and history.

Quick facts about National Stadium:
- Part of the Singapore Sports Hub along with Singapore Indoor Stadium (see Venues, Concert Halls, p35)
- Ideal for sports, entertainment and national events
- Capacity of up to 50,000 pax

Address: 10 Bayfront Avenue
Tel: +65 6888 8888
Website: entertainment.marinabaysands.com
Email: theatres@marinabaysands.com
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

Gillman Barracks

This contemporary arts cluster (see Attractions, Arts & Design, p34) consists of art galleries such as the Mizuma Gallery (Japan), Yeo Workshop (Singapore) and of art galleries such as the Mizuma Gallery (Japan), Yeo Workshop (Singapore) and

Quick facts about Gillman Barracks:
- A contemporary arts cluster with more than 10 local and international art galleries
- Total venue size: 64,000sqm, including retail and F&B spaces
- Gallery sizes vary; contact respective galleries directly
- Retail stores, cafes, bars and restaurants are located within the compound

Address: 9 Lock Road
Website: gillmanbarracks.com
Email: gillmanbarracks@gmail.com
Nearest MRT: Labrador Park Station

MasterCard Theatres

MasterCard Theatres at Marina Bay Sands® houses two theatres side by side – the Grand Theatre and the Sands Theatre – that share an entrance, box office, retail space and foyer. The larger of the two is the Grand Theatre, which was specially designed for Broadway musicals and concerts. It also has special VIP Mezzanine seats and VIP Box seats. The proscenium-style Sands Theatre is spread over two levels and is slightly smaller. The theatres have hosted international musicals such as Phantom of the Opera, The Lion King and Wicked, as well as performers such as the Blue Man Group, Cirque du Soleil and The Rolling Stones.

Quick facts about MasterCard Theatres:
- Located at The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands® integrated resort
- Strategically situated across some of the mall’s celebrity chef restaurants
- Two theatres for hire: Grand Theatre (2375 pax) and Sands Theatre (1677 pax)

Address: 10 Bayfront Avenue
Tel: +65 6888 8888
Website: entertainment.marinabaysands.com
Email: theatres@marinabaysands.com
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

Singapore Botanic Gardens

Established in 1859, the Singapore Botanic Gardens is a venue partner of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO) Classics in the Park, a free event for park-goers to enjoy classical music while having a picnic outdoors. Performances are held at the Shaw Foundation Symphony Stage near the Nissan Gate entrance and helmed by the SSO, the nation’s flagship orchestra. In previous years, the SSO has performed music from classical favourites such as Tchaikovsky’s Swan Lake and Broadway hits like West Side Story.

Quick facts about Singapore Botanic Gardens:
- Singapore’s first UNESCO World Heritage Site with more than 10,000 species of flora
- Open to the public year-round
- Total venue size: 820,000sqm

Address: 1 Cluny Road
Tel: +65 6475 0558
Website: sbg.org.sg
Email: nparks_sbg_venues@nparks.gov.sg
Nearest MRT: Botanic Gardens Station

The Meadow

Set within the lush greenery of Gardens by the Bay (see Attractions, Arts & Design, p34) consists of art galleries such as the Mizuma Gallery (Japan), Yeo Workshop (Singapore) and of art galleries such as the Mizuma Gallery (Japan), Yeo Workshop (Singapore) and

Quick facts about The Meadow:
- Singapore’s largest outdoor garden event venue
- Located within Gardens by the Bay
- Ideal for large concerts, carnivals
and community events
- Total venue size: 22,000sqm
- Standing capacity of 15,000 pax, seated capacity of 3,600 pax (banquet-style seating) or 7,200 pax (theatre-style seating)
- Free Wi-Fi available
- Chauffeur-driven Garden Cruisers are available to take guests from the Gardens by the Bay arrival lobby or Bayfront Plaza to The Meadow.
- Fees apply
- No cooking facilities are available

**CONCERT HALLS**

**Drama Centre**
Located close to the Waterloo Street Arts Block, which encompasses Selegie Arts Centre, Jubilee Hall, Singapore Art Museum and LASALLE-SIA College of the Arts), the Drama Centre is a popular performing arts space that has hosted to world-class performances and the Republic’s best-loved productions. It occupies the second to sixth floors of the National Library Building and houses a 615-seat proscenium theatre for the National Library Building and Singapore’s best-loved productions. It offers a pre-theater performance space that has been designed to host both professional and student performances. Ideal for orchestras, choirs, piano recitals and solo performances, the auditorium is equipped with fabric banners that can be deployed from the ceiling to vary room reverberation times, as well as an 80-seater motorised choir stall that can move up and down the stage depending on crowd numbers.

**Quick facts about Drama Centre:**
- Houses a proscenium theatre, a Black Box, three multipurpose function rooms and VIP lounge
- The Drama Centre Theatre’s sound control system is designed to be “plug and play” for touring companies’t greatest ease of integration

**Address:** 8 Marina Gardens Drive, Bay South Tel: +65 6420 6684 / +65 6366 2060 (Trade Contact: Allywai Teng)
Fax: +65 6366 2004
Website: gardensbythebay.com.sg
Email: venue.hire@gardensbythebay.com.sg

**Nearest MRT:** Bayfront Station

**School of the Arts Singapore**
School of the Arts Singapore (SOTA) is a performing arts school that houses a flexible space with exceptional acoustics that is designed to host both professional and student performances. Ideal for orchestras, choirs, piano recitals and solo performances, the auditorium is equipped with fabric banners that can be deployed from the ceiling to vary room reverberation times, as well as an 80-seater motorised choir stall that can move up and down the stage depending on crowd numbers.

**Quick facts about SOTA:**
- Singapore’s first independent pre-theater performing arts school
- Total seating capacity of concert hall: 708 pax – Stalls (372 pax), Circle (250 pax), of which 68 are restricted-view seats)
- Seats: 833 pax, of which 68 are restricted-view seats

**Address:** 1 Zulfiqar Drive
Tel: +65 6594 8484
Fax: +65 6338 9763
Website: sota.edu.sg
Email: venuebooking@sota.edu.sg

**Nearest MRT:** Dhoby Ghaut Station

**Singapore Chinese Orchestra Concert Hall**
The Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) Concert Hall is located within the Singapore Conference Hall in the country’s financial district. The hall is decked out in plush carpets and high-backed seats that allow for generous legroom. It has theatre-style seating and no structural columns for an unobstructed view of the stage. There are also two premium gallery seating areas – Qing Foyer on the left of the stage and Zhong Foyer to the right. The roof and ceilings are fitted with modern soundproofing systems to ensure high-quality acoustics. Suitable for choirs, orchestras, musicals and theatrical performances, the venue has a minimum four-hour booking block.

**Quick facts about SCO Concert Hall:**
- Located in the financial district of Shenton Way
- Total seating capacity: 869 pax – Stalls (483 pax), Gallery (36 pax)

**Address:** 7 Shenton Way, Singapore Conference Hall
Tel: +65 6557 4016 / +65 6557 4500
Fax: +65 6557 2756
Website: sconcerts.com.sg
Email: sota@ica.com.sg

**Nearest MRT:** Jubilee Hall

**The Star Theatre**
The Star Theatre is a performing arts venue capable of hosting musicals, concerts, operas, choirs, orchestras and variety shows. Opened in 2012, it comes equipped with high-definition video projection, live broadcast capabilities, a comprehensive sound system for even coverage and a cavity wall system that prevents sound coming in from the lobbies. With an intimate distance of 56m from the edge of the stage to the last row of seats, Circle 2, The Star Theatre has flexible configurations and is available for tier bookings for stalls, Circle 1 and Circle 2. International performers who have held concerts here include the Backstreet Boys, Elton John, Air Supply, Jason Mraz and Il Divo.

**Quick facts about The Star Theatre:**
- Part of The Part Performing Arts Centre located in Buona Vista
- Total seating capacity: 5,142 pax – Stalls (3,063 pax), Circle 1 (1,812 pax), Circle 2 (1,457 pax)

**Address:** 1 Vista Exchange Green, #04-01
Tel: +65 6636 0005
Fax: +65 6636 0060
Website: thestar.sg
Email: info@thestar.sg

**Nearest MRT:** Buona Vista Station

**Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall**
The Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall, one of Singapore’s oldest performing arts centres, is housed in a grand neoclassical building with an elegant Victorian facade. Originally built in 1862, the building was reopened in 2014 following a four-year renovation that resulted in improved acoustics and additional rooms. The Victoria Concert Hall retains much of its old-world charm, with a coffered ceiling and a Klas pipe organ taking centre stage, while the Victoria Theatre is a black-box theatre that is suitable for dance performances, plays and musicals. Tiered pricing is available for these two venues according to three categories: Arts General, Non-Profit Arts Group and Private Hire.

**Quick facts about Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall:**
- Total seating capacity of Victoria
Venues

Theatre: 614 pax – Stalls (302 pax), Circle 1 (234 pax), Orchestra Pit 1 (31 pax), Orchestra Pit 2 (46 pax)
Total seating capacity of Victoria Concert Hall: 673 pax – Stalls (538 pax), Circle (135 pax)

Address: 9 Empress Place
Tel: +65 6968 8818
Website: vch.com
Email: enquiries@vch.com
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station / Raffles Place Station

Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music

Opened in 2006, the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music is home to classical music venues available for hire. Regular recitals by conservatory students and public concerts are held here. The Concert Hall – featuring classic maple balconies and enclosed with two Steinway D grand pianos and sound reflectors – is purpose-built for classical music performances. Chamber music and symphony orchestra concerts. The column-less Orchestra Hall is ideal for chamber music performances, solo recitals or an ensemble rehearsal venue. Discounted rates are available for non-profit organisations, arts groups and educational institutions for the Concert Hall only.

Quick facts about Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music:
- Part of National University of Singapore's (NUS) music department
- Total seating capacity of Concert Hall: 573 pax – Stalls (409 pax), Balcony (164 pax) – excluding space for four wheelchairs
- Seating capacity of Orchestra Hall ranges from 120 pax to 150 pax, with optional orchestral risers

Address: 3 Conservatory Drive
Tel: +65 6566 4272 (Trade Contact: Sindra Yang)
Fax: +65 6872 6915
Website: music.nus.edu.sg
Email: music@nus.edu.sg
Nearest MRT: Clementi Station / Kent Ridge Station

Raffles City Convention Centre

Raffles City Convention Centre is surrounded by a host of amenities, from hotels and shops to restaurants and bars. Measuring over 2,250sqm, the Fairmont Ballroom is the largest of the three ballrooms. Its features include five built-in screens, three control rooms and a 90-speaker sound system for an immersive experience. The Fairmont Executive Meeting Rooms are equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, such as a satellite conferencing system, the Visualizer presentation system and touch-screen icons to control lighting and air-conditioning.

Quick facts about Raffles City Convention Centre:
- Venue size: 300,000sqm
- 40,000sqm fully air-conditioned exhibition hall
- 60,000sqm of outdoor space
- Light functions in exhibition rooms with seating capacities of 30 pax to 250 pax

Address: 89 Marina Bay Avenue
Tel: +65 6799 7777 / +65 6341 5560 (Venue Booking)
Fax: +65 6337 3554
Website: fairmont.com/singapore
Email: conventions.singapore@fairmont.com
Nearest MRT: Changi Airport Station

Sands Expo and Convention Centre

The Sands Expo and Convention Centre at Marina Bay Sands is one of Singapore's largest exhibition venues and can accommodate 45,000 pax. It has numerous meeting rooms to select from, and one of Southeast Asia's largest ballrooms – the Sands Grand Ballroom – can accommodate up to 8,000 pax. Sands Expo® is equipped with free Wi-Fi for up to 40,000 devices and provides full support in terms of logistics, lighting, catering and audiovisual equipment. Group deals are available for first-time group customers. Marina Bay Sands® also offers all-inclusive green meeting packages to help clients reduce the carbon footprint of their events.

Quick facts about Sands Expo and Convention Centre:
- Venue size: 123,000sqm
- Convention wing of Singapore EXPO
- Size of MAX Atria Gallery: 2,646sqm
- 32 meeting rooms with seating capacities of 5 pax to 1,000 pax

Address: 1 Expo Drive, #02-01
Tel: +65 6403 290 / +65 6403 0444 (Trade Contact: Hu Xiao Xian)
Fax: +65 6822 206
Website: singaporeexpo.com.sg / maxatria.com.sg
Email: sales@singaporeexpo.com.sg / sales@maxatria.com.sg
Nearest MRT: Expo Station

Singapore EXPO Convention and Exhibition Centre

Singapore EXPO Convention and Exhibition Centre is a five-minute drive from Singapore Changi Airport and Changi Business Park. It is the largest purpose-built MICE facility in Singapore, and its versatile indoor and outdoor spaces can host a range of events, such as consumer and trade shows, product launches, galas, conferences and award ceremonies. This includes MAX Atria, the convention wing of Singapore EXPO, which offers a variety of spaces spread across two levels. For instance, MAX Atria Gallery on Level 1 – which is connected to Singapore EXPO Hall 1 – can be used as a reception area for events in the hall. Open exhibition spaces at Singapore EXPO’s atrium and car park are also available for hire. Singapore EXPO is powered by Wi-Fimax, a high-speed Flexible Wi-Fi system with scalable bandwidth. Visitors may opt to enjoy a diverse range of dining options available at Flavours East, the group of F&B outlets at Singapore EXPO.

Quick facts about Singapore EXPO Convention and Exhibition Centre:
- Venue size: 123,000sqm (including MAX Atria convention wing)
- Group exhibition halls, four conference halls and two meeting rooms with seating capacities of 50 pax to 1,000 pax

Address: 1 Expo Drive, #02-01
Tel: +65 6403 290 / +65 6403 0444
Website: singaporeexpo.com.sg / maxatria.com.sg
Email: sales@singaporeexpo.com.sg / sales@maxatria.com.sg
Nearest MRT: Expo Station

Changi Exhibition Centre

The Changi Exhibition Centre (CEC) is located just 10 minutes’ drive from the Singapore Changi Airport and 20 minutes from the Central Business District (CBD). Overlooking the sea, it offers both indoor and outdoor exhibition spaces and can accommodate anything from public events to intimate private functions. Home to the biennial Singapore Airshow, the CEC has also hosted motor shows, concerts, marathons and cycling competitions. Group deals may be available – write in to enquire.

Quick facts about Changi Exhibition Centre:
- Venue size: 6,500sqm
- Integrated with Fairmont Singapore, Swissotel The Stamford and Raffles City Shopping Centre
- Three ballrooms and up to 27 meeting rooms with seating capacities of 10 pax to 3,200 pax

Address: 80 Bras Basah Road
Tel: +65 6399 7777 / +65 6431 5560 (Venue Booking)
Fax: +65 6337 3554
Website: fairmont.com/singapore
Email: conventions.singapore@fairmont.com
Nearest MRT: Changi Airport Station

Resorts World Convention Centre

Resorts World™ Convention Centre is located on Sentosa Island (see Neighbourhoods, Lifestyle Precincts, p32), a popular island resort and tourist attraction just 15 minutes from Singapore’s CBD. Sentosa, which means “peace and tranquillity” in Malay, is home to an array of themed attractions, spa retreats, hotels, golf courses, sandy beaches and luxury residences. The Resorts World™ Convention Centre has unique event spaces catering to mega conventions, exhibitions or private business meetings. The Resorts World™ Ballroom has a ceiling height of 11m and unobstructed floor space of 6,000sqm, making it one of Asia’s largest column-free ballrooms.

Quick facts about Resorts World Convention Centre:
- Venue size: 9,000sqm
- Resorts World™ Ballroom has a capacity of up to 6,500 pax in theatre-style seating – it can also be divided into three smaller ballrooms or nine halls with retractable walls
- 21 function rooms on Level 1 with capacities of 10 pax to 480 pax
- Direct lift access from Hard Rock Hotel Singapore

Address: Sentosa Island, 8 Sentosa Gateway
Tel: +65 6771 8888 / +65 6777 9977 (Venue Booking)
Fax: +65 6577 9860
Website: resortsentosa.com
Email: micesentosa@resortsentosa.com
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE VENUES

Changi Exhibition Centre

Raffles City Convention Centre

Fairmont Ballroom is the largest of the three ballrooms. Its features include five built-in screens, three control rooms and a 90-speaker sound system for an immersive experience. The Fairmont Executive Meeting Rooms are equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, such as a satellite conferencing system, the Visualizer presentation system and touch-screen icons to control lighting and air-conditioning.

Quick facts about Raffles City Convention Centre:
- Venue size: 300,000sqm
- 40,000sqm fully air-conditioned exhibition hall
- 60,000sqm of outdoor space
- Light functions in exhibition rooms with seating capacities of 30 pax to 250 pax

Address: 89 Marina Bay Avenue
Tel: +65 6799 7777 / +65 6341 5560 (Venue Booking)
Fax: +65 6337 3554
Website: fairmont.com/singapore
Email: conventions.singapore@fairmont.com
Nearest MRT: Changi Airport Station

Sands Expo and Convention Centre

The Sands Expo and Convention Centre at Marina Bay Sands® is one of Singapore's largest exhibition venues and can accommodate 45,000 pax. It has numerous meeting rooms to select from, and one of Southeast Asia's largest ballrooms – the Sands Grand Ballroom – can accommodate up to 8,000 pax. Sands Expo® is equipped with free Wi-Fi for up to 40,000 devices and provides full support in terms of logistics, lighting, catering and audiovisual equipment. Group deals are available for first-time group customers. Marina Bay Sands® also offers all-inclusive green meeting packages to help clients reduce the carbon footprint of their events.

Quick facts about Sands Expo and Convention Centre:
- Venue size: 120,000sqm
- Spread over five levels within the Marina Bay Sands® integrated resort

Address: 8,000 sqm
Address: 10 Bayfront Avenue
Tel: +65 6688 3000
Fax: +65 6888 3014
Website: marina@baysands.com
Email: sales@marina@baysands.com
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station
Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre

Located in the heart of the city, Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre is linked to Suntec City mall (see Shopping, Malls, p134) and five office buildings. It is also within walking distance of Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay (see Performance Venues, p187). Surrounded by over 300 retail establishments, Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre is well-placed to host a wide variety of events, such as government conferences, medical summits, IT shows, contemporary art fairs and university convocations. It offers free high-speed Wi-Fi throughout its premises for up to 6,000 devices.

Quick facts about Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre:
- Venue size: 22,000sqm
- Convention Hall can accommodate up to 10,000 pax
- Meeting rooms with capacities of 5 pax to 5,000 pax
- 12,000sqm of multifunctional halls
- Auditorium with a seating capacity of 6,000 pax

Address: 1 Raffles Boulevard, Suntec City
Tel: +65 6337 2888
Website: suntecsingapore.com
Website: marinabaysands.com
Website: artsciencemuseum
Website: gardenasiaworld.com
Website: nationalgallery.sg
Head to the Night Safari (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p53) – the world’s first nocturnal wildlife park, opened in 1994 – to host a memorable event coupled with animal encounters in the dark. The unique setting makes the park perfect for functions like corporate events or team-building retreats. For a thematic experience, board a tram and enjoy a five-course meal on the Gourmet Safari Express, ending with a Creatures of the Night Show. The Cocktail Safari Express is a scaled-down experience, offering cocktails, canapés and the chance to mingle with wildlife. Meanwhile, An Evening in the Wild package offers an itinerary that includes a cocktail reception, a three-course gourmet dinner in a tipi tent and a visit to the secret lakeside camp to meet nocturnal animals. There is also the Ulu Ulu Safari Restaurant, open to park visitors for buffet or à la carte dining, which has a charming village atmosphere and can host up to 490 guests banquet-style. About 90% of the park is accessible by wheelchair, with allocated viewing areas and ramps for easy boarding and alighting on trams. Group deals may be available – write in to enquire.

Quick facts about Night Safari:
- Venue size: 35,000sqm
- Five event spaces for hire with capacities ranging from 16 pax to 490 pax
- Three thematic experiences available: Gourmet Safari Experience (15-72 pax), Cocktail Safari Express (15-72 pax) and An Evening in the Wild (min 25 pax)
- Wheelchair accessibility for 90% of the park

UNIQUE MICE VENUES

ArtScience Museum™

Located in the Kranji countryside, Gardenasia is a unique nature-based events company that provides event spaces and organises team-building and corporate events. Its large canopy-style Kranji Loft can comfortably accommodate up to 500 seated guests. The fully air-conditioned Country Roos Hall and Loft Museum are ideal for holding corporate seminars, workshops and exhibitions set within idyllic surroundings. Facilities include an indoor flower nursery, tapioca pond, bistro and three farmstay villas designed in the colonial black-and-white style. It also has a child-friendly programme called Gardenasia Kids, where young ones can learn about organic farming, environmental conservation and the natural world. Group deals may be available – write in to enquire.

Quick facts about ArtScience Museum™:
- Venue size: 2,750sqm
- Venue size: 6,800sqm
- One conference room and three galleries with capacities ranging from 60 pax to 500 pax

Address: 6 Bayfront Avenue
Tel: +65 6842 6849 / +65 6636 2060
Fax: +65 6842 6850
Website: gardenasiaworld.com
Email: info@gardenasiaworld.com
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

Gardenasia

Gardens by the Bay

Containing more than one million plants, Gardens by the Bay (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p53) was built on the principles of environmental sustainability, with great care taken to ensure efficient use of energy and water. It offers six event spaces for hire that make ideal settings for a variety of events, whether they are fashion shows, gala dinners, rock concerts or corporate seminars. For an exceptionally unique experience, the OCBC Skyway is a 121m-long aerial walkway 22m above ground – suitable for cocktail receptions where guests can admire the Garden Rhapsody light and sound show that bathes the SuperTree Grove in fantastic special effects.

Quick facts about Gardens by the Bay:
- Venue size: 101,000sqm
- Seven indoor and outdoor spaces with capacities ranging from 14 pax to 265 pax

Address: 18 Marina Gardens Drive
Tel: +65 6636 9111
Fax: +65 6636 9111
Website: gardensbythebay.com.sg
Email: tobias.earl@gardensbythebay.com.sg
Nearest MRT: Bayfront Station

National Gallery Singapore

National Gallery Singapore (see Attractions, Arts & Design, p36) consists of the restored former Supreme Court and City Hall buildings and features a neoclassical facade that is a testament to its old-world beauty. Today, it houses one of the world’s largest public collections of modern art from Southeast Asia. It is home to Michelin-starred Odette restaurant (see Eat & Drink, Celebrity Fine Dining, p37), and it has seven unique indoor and outdoor spaces for hire – suitable for a range of events, from private functions and product launches to corporate seminars and client appreciation nights. The two outdoor decks on Level 6 provide stunning views of the Padang and Marina Bay skyline. Docent-led tours for groups are available.

Quick facts about National Gallery Singapore:
- Venue size: 64,000sqm
- Seven indoor and outdoor spaces with capacities ranging from 14 pax to 30,000 pax

Address: 1 St Andrew’s Road
Tel: +65 6271 7000
Website: nationalgallery.sg
Email: venue@nationalgallery.sg
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station

Night Safari

Head to the Night Safari (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p53) – the world’s first nocturnal wildlife park, opened in 1994 – to host a memorable event

Gardens by the Bay

ArtScience Museum™

Gardenasia
S.E.A. Aquarium™

Home to more than 100,000 marine animals, the S.E.A. Aquarium™ in Resorts World™ Sentosa (RWS) is sure to impress guests. Three unique spaces are available for private events – the Ocean Gallery, Ocean Dome and Ocean Restaurant by Cat Cora (see Eat & Drink, Celebrity Fine Dining, p110) – all of which feature large glass panels showcasing panoramic views of the giant aquarium. With diverse marine life as the backdrop, the spaces can host a variety of events, from large-scale meetings and buffet lunches to private sit-down dinners and cocktail receptions. Event packages can be customised.

Quick facts about S.E.A. Aquarium™:
- Venue size: 1,310sqm
- Located within Resorts World™ Sentosa
- Three unique event venues with capacities ranging from 60 pax to 350 pax

Address: Sentosa Island, 8 Sentosa Gateway
Tel: +65 6577 8888 / +65 6577 9977 (Trade Contact)
Fax: +65 6577 8895 / +65 6577 9860 (Trade Contact)
Website: rwsentosa.com
Email: info@rwsentosa.com
Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station

Singapore Botanic Gardens

Inscribed as Singapore’s first UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2015, the Singapore Botanic Gardens (see Attractions, Adventure & Nature, p54) was established in 1859 and has an extensive collection of over 10,000 types of plants, as well as the region’s most significant collection of orchids. It is also a unique venue for a variety of functions. The restored Anglo-Malayan plantation house at Burkill Hall overlooks the National Orchid Garden and is ideal for weddings and corporate launches. Seminars and workshops can be held at the Function Hall, which is equipped with an audiovisual system. For networking and training sessions, consider booking the Function Room, which features views of the lush greenery.

Note: Burkill Hall will be closed until 30 June 2018.

Quick facts about Singapore Botanic Gardens:
- Venue size: 820,000sqm
- Singapore’s first UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Available spaces for hire are the Function Hall (capacity of 180 pax) and Function Room (50 pax)

Address: 1 Cluny Road
Tel: +65 6471 7138 / +65 6475 0558 (Trade Contact)
Fax: +65 6473 7083 / +65 6476 4832 (Trade Contact)
Website: sbg.org.sg
Email: nparks_sbg_venues@nparks.gov.sg
Nearest MRT: Botanic Gardens Station

The Arts House

Housed in a 200-year-old building that once served as Singapore’s first Parliament House, the Arts House is now a popular venue for the promotion of arts and culture in Singapore. It features nine unique spaces, such as the Screening Room, which is ideal for private film showings. The Chamber, once used by members of Singapore Parliament to gather, is now a unique setting for recitals, conferences and fashion shows. Private board meetings can be held at the Council Room, while seminars can be held at the Living Room. Group deals may be available (for arts-related events only) – write in to enquire.

Quick facts about The Arts House:
- Venue size: 1,063sqm
- Nine spaces for hire, including a screening room and multiple galleries, with capacities ranging from 35 pax to 200 pax

Address: 1 Old Parliament Lane
Tel: +65 6332 6900 / +65 6332 6892 (Trade Contact: Lucas Chiew)
Fax: +65 6336 3021 / +65 6337 1872 (Trade Contact)
Website: theartshouse.sg
Email: venues@artshouse.sg
Nearest MRT: City Hall Station
USEFUL INFORMATION FOR TRAVELLERS

Singapore is an easy city to get around. The city-state offers a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system, ensuring travellers enjoy a great holiday experience. Here is a list of frequently asked questions for travellers planning to visit Singapore.

When should I recommend travellers to visit Singapore?

Any time of the year is a good time to visit, but peak season for travel typically falls between December and June. Singapore’s calendar of events is chock-full of exciting activities all year round (see Events & Festivals, p21).

What is the weather like in Singapore?

Singapore sits one degree (137km) north of the equator, so it’s typically hot and humid all year round with average temperatures ranging from 27°C to 31°C. The wettest period falls between November and January, while the hottest months are May and June. However, be prepared for rain – which can be torrential but brief – at any time.

What advice should be given to visitors on the type of clothing to pack?

Light and comfortable outfits are essential due to Singapore’s hot and humid weather. Shorts and T-shirts are acceptable at most places, but visitors should stick to a more modest dress code when visiting places of worship (see Attractions, Places of Worship, p44). For evenings at a nice restaurant or club, smart-casual is recommended. Bring along a light sweater or shawl as some malls, restaurants and air-conditioned attractions can get chilly.

What should families with babies and young children take note of?

Almost every mall in Singapore has a dedicated play area and nursing rooms that are clean and equipped with diaper-changing stations, milk-bottle warmers and private feeding cubicles. Some malls also offer strollers for rent, which are available at the concierge or customer service/information counters. Visitors can also rent baby care equipment – such as travel cots and infant car seats – from local baby care equipment stores, some of which have websites. Public transportation is free for children under seven years of age. However, if a child under seven years old is taller than 0.9m, he or she will need a Child Concession Card (which can be obtained from any TransitLink Ticket Office) as proof of age to travel for free. Several restaurants, too, are equipped with toddler-friendly facilities, such as high chairs and play corners, so couples can enjoy a meal together while their children are at play. There’s also a range of family-friendly accommodation for visitors with children, which have amenities such as indoor play areas, children’s pools and family rooms, and activities for the whole family.

What is the age range for children and senior citizens with regard to rates for entry to attractions, experiences and dining discounts, where applicable?

It varies depending on the attraction or establishment. Rates for children generally apply to those between the ages of three and 12 (inclusive). Senior citizen rates generally apply to persons above the age of 60 or 65 (inclusive).

What can travellers do during festive holidays in Singapore?

Most shopping malls, tourist attractions
The Singapore dollar (S$) is used here. Singaporeans queue for everything, but the language close to the heart is English and local dialects. It’s a colourful slang that combines English and local dialects.

Where can I find a list of licensed Singapore travel agents?

TRUST (Travel Related Users’ System), the integrated Internet-based administration and information system, allows all licensed travel agents to refer to and update relevant corporate information online, such as the appointment and resignation of key personnel. TRUST also incorporates a public section where members of the public can get up-to-date information on licensed travel agents, access information on upcoming events and read news releases by STB.

Website: trustvisitSingapore.com

What advice should be given to visitors in relation to local practices or cultural norms?

● Singapore is a cosmopolitan city and English is widely spoken, but the language close to the heart of every Singaporean is Singlish. It’s a colourful slang that combines English and local dialects. Travellers may take some time to get used to it.

● Travellers may notice packs of tissue paper on tables at hawker centres (see Eat & Drink, Hawker Centres, p120). This is the Singaporean way of reserving a table while the patrons are away to place their food orders. Refrain from picking up the pack of tissue and simply look for another table elsewhere.

● When taking the escalator, always light up should do so only in most public places, including the toilets. Refrain from picking up the pack of tissue and simply look for another table elsewhere.

● Here, tipping is not necessary as most hotels and restaurants in Singapore levy a 10% service charge on customers’ bills. Most hotels and restaurants quote prices as “++”, which denotes 10% service charge and 7% Goods and Services Tax (GST) on top of the total bill. Some restaurants, however, quote “+++”, which means they only impose either service charge or GST.

Foreign missions in Singapore (including visa centres)

Embassy of the Republic of Angola
3 Temasek Avenue, Centennial Tower, #23-01/02
Tel: +65 6341 9360
Fax: +65 6884 4304
Website: angolaembassy.sg
Email: angolaembassy.sg
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am–5pm

Austrian Embassy
600 North Bridge Road, Parkview Square, #24-04/05
Tel: +65 6396 6350 / +65 6396 6351 / +65 6396 6352
Fax: +65 6396 6340
Website: bmeia.gv.at/en/oeb-singapur
Email: singapore@advantageaustria.org
Opening Hours: Tue & Thu, 9am–12pm; Wed, 1pm–4pm

Bangladesh High Commission
19 Keppel Road, Jlt Poh Building, #00-14 (Consular and Labour Wing), #00-10 (Diplomatic and Commercial Wing)
Tel: +65 6255 0075
Fax: +65 6255 8234
Website: bdhc.sg
Email: mission.singapore@mofa.gov.bd
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am–1pm, 2pm–5pm

Embassy of Brazil
101 Thomson Road, United Square Building, #09-01/03
Tel: +65 6256 6001

Embassy of China
2 Shenton Way, AXA Tower, #17-01
Tel: +65 6200 7677
Fax: +65 6222 6976
Website: diplomatic.mfa.gov.cn/singapore
Email: Singapore@diplobel.fed.be
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri, 8.30am–12.30pm, 1.30pm–4pm

Embassy of Fiji
70 Dunlop Street
Tel: +65 6835 4000
Fax: +65 6737 5481
Website: fijiemb.gov.au/singapore/home.html
Email: enquiries-sg@fijitourism.gov.fj
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 8.30am–4pm

Embassy of Germany
38 Shenton Way, UOB Plaza, #28–10
Tel: +65 6255 0075
Fax: +65 6255 1824
Website: bmeia.gv.at/en/oeb-singapur/
Email: bmeia.gv.at/en/oeb-singapur/
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 9am–12pm, 2pm–5pm

Embassy of India
6 Shenton Way, #14-00 (Consular Wing), #16-02 (Commercial Wing), #14-01 (Embassy Section)
Tel: +65 6255 0075
Fax: +65 6255 1824
Website: indembassysg.org
Email: indembassysg@msia.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 8.30am–12.30pm, 1.30pm–4pm

Embassy of Italy
2pm–5pm
Mon–Fri
Tel: +65 6396 6350 / +65 6396 6351
Fax: +65 6396 6352
Website: embangola@angolaembassy.sg
Email: angolaembassy.sg
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri, 8.30am–12.30pm, 1.30pm–4pm

Embassy of Japan
30 Shenton Way, #04–00 (Consular and Labour Wing), #04–01 (Commercial Wing)
Tel: +65 6222 6976
Fax: +65 6222 6976
Website: japanteleconsulat-singapore.com
Email: consular-japan@fastrack.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 9am–12pm, 2pm–5pm

Embassy of Korea
2pm–5pm
Mon–Fri
Tel: +65 6396 6350 / +65 6396 6351
Fax: +65 6396 6352
Website: embangola@angolaembassy.sg
Email: angolaembassy.sg
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri, 8.30am–12.30pm, 1.30pm–4pm

Embassy of Maldives
2pm–5pm
Mon–Fri
Tel: +65 6255 0075
Fax: +65 6255 1824
Website: embangola@angolaembassy.sg
Email: angolaembassy.sg
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri, 8.30am–12.30pm, 1.30pm–4pm

Embassy of Malaysia
30 Shenton Way, #04–00 (Consular and Labour Wing), #04–01 (Commercial Wing)
Tel: +65 6222 6976
Fax: +65 6222 6976
Website: japanteleconsulat-singapore.com
Email: consular-japan@fastrack.com.sg
Opening Hours: Mon–Fri, 9am–12pm, 2pm–5pm

Embassy of the Netherlands
2pm–5pm
Mon–Fri
Tel: +65 6396 6350 / +65 6396 6351
Fax: +65 6396 6352
Website: embangola@angolaembassy.sg
Email: angolaembassy.sg
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri, 8.30am–12.30pm, 1.30pm–4pm

Embassy of Singapore
101 Thomson Road, United Square Building, #09-01/03
Tel: +65 6256 6001

TRADE RESOURCES

This section provides useful websites and information for travel agents – including where to find travel deals and how to advise visitors in relation to local practices and contact details of foreign missions, travel visa centres and STB offices.

VisitSingapore.com/mice/en.html

This Meetings, Incentive Travel, Conventions & Exhibitions (MICE)-driven website offers practical information on planning events, industry news, pre- and post-conference tours, as well as supplier and facility listings.

Where can I find a list of halal restaurants/eateries in Singapore?

(See Eat & Drink, Halal Restaurants, p113)

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(See Eat & Drink, Halal Restaurants, p113)
Trade Resources

INDONESIA, JAKARTA
Singapore Tourism Board
Jalan Jendral Sudirman Kav 28
Maya Pada Tower 1, 19th Floor, Unit 01,
Jakarta 12920
Tel: +62 (21) 5799 2276 / 2279
Fax: +62 (21) 5799 2271
Email: STB_Indonesia@stb.gov.sg

PHILIPPINES, MANILA
Singapore Tourism Board
678 Ayala Avenue
1226 Makati City, 17th Floor, Manila
Tel: +63 (2) 813 0946 / 4968
Fax: +63 (2) 813 6585
Email: STB_Philippines@stb.gov.sg

Oceania
AUSTRALIA, SYDNEY
Singapore Tourism Board
47 York Street, AWA Building, 11th Floor
Sydney, NSW 2000
Tel: +61 (2) 9290 2888 / 2882
Fax: +61 (2) 9290 2555
Email: STB_infoaustralia@stb.gov.sg

Europe
UNITED KINGDOM, LONDON
Singapore Tourism Board
C/o Singapore Centre
11A Regent Street, Southwest House, First Floor
London, SW1Y 4LR
Tel: +44 (20) 7484 2710
Email: stb_london@stb.gov.sg

FRANCE, PARIS
Singapore Tourism Board
Marketing Representative
Interface Tourism France
16 Rue Ballu
75009 - Paris
Tel: +33 (1) 5325 1111

GERMANY, FRANKFURT
Singapore Tourism Board
C/o Singapore Centre
Bleichstrasse 45, 60313 Frankfurt
Tel: +49 (69) 920 73522
Fax: +49 (69) 920 7700
Email: stb_germany@stb.gov.sg

ITALY, MILAN
Singapore Tourism Board
Marketing Representative
PR & GO UP Communication Partners
Fabio Filzi, 27
20124 Milan
Tel: +39 335 27 6216

RUSSIA, MOSCOW
Embassy of the Republic of Singapore
Singapore Tourism Board
Pereulok Kamennaya Sloboda 5
121099, Moscow, Russian Federation
Tel: +7 (499) 241 3702 / 3913 / 3914
Fax: +7 (499) 241 7895
Email: STB_Moscow@stb.gov.sg

Greater China
CHINA, BEIJING
Singapore Tourism Board
No. 1 Jian Guo Men Wai Avenue
China World Tower 1, Unit 3101-3106
Beijing 100004
Tel: +86 (10) 6505 9393
Fax: +86 (10) 6505 6453
Email: stb.gc@stb.gov.sg

CHINA, SHANGHAI
Singapore Tourism Board
(Singapore Centre Shanghai)
333 Huai Hai Zhong Road
Shui On Plaza, Unit 1908-1912,
Shanghai 200021
Tel: +86 (21) 6385 2626
Fax: +86 (21) 6385 2383
Email: stb.gc@stb.gov.sg

CHINA, GUANGZHOU
Singapore Tourism Board
(Singapore Centre Guangzhou)
No. 233 Tianhe North Road
CITIC Plaza, Unit 6104
Guangzhou, Tianhe District
Guangdong 510613
Tel: +86 (20) 3891 1911
Fax: +86 (20) 3891 1776
Email: stb.gc@stb.gov.sg

CHINA, CHENGDU
Singapore Tourism Board
(Singapore Centre Chengdu)
No. 3, Section 4, South Renmin Road
Tower 2, Raffles City Chengdu, 2IF
Chengdu 610041
Tel: +86 (28) 8319 1127
Email: stb.gc@stb.gov.sg

CHINA, HONG KONG
Singapore Tourism Board
1 Matheson Street
Tower 1 Times Square, Unit 3011 30/F
Causway Bay
Tel: +852 2598 9290
Fax: +852 2598 1040
Email: STB_HongKong@stb.gov.sg

TAIWAN, TAIPEI
Singapore Tourism Board
Marketing Representative
PR Trends International Marketing
3F No. 29 Sec 1 An Ho Road
Taipei 106
Tel: +886 (2) 2751 5127
Fax: +886 (2) 2776 0541 #9223

North Asia
JAPAN, TOKYO
Singapore Tourism Board
2-4-1 Marunouchi, Marunouchi Building,
#1407, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-6314
Tel: +81 (3) 6269 9900
Fax: +81 (3) 6269 9910
Email: STB_InfoJapan@stb.gov.sg

SOUTH KOREA, SEOUL
Singapore Tourism Board
Kyobo Life Insurance Co. Building, 9th Floor
1, Jongno 1-ga, Jongno-gu Seoul
03154, South Korea
Tel: +82 (2) 734 5570
Fax: +82 (2) 734 5574

South Asia, Middle East & Africa
INDIA, MUMBAI
Singapore Tourism Board
Marketing Representative
TRAC Representations (I) Pvt Ltd
CHENNAI
C/B 10, 1st Floor, Gemini Parsn Complex
Nungambakkam Chennai
600006, India
Tel: +91 (44) 2822 0033 / +91 (98) 4141 1709 (Contact: Shreekala Sukumaran)
Email: stbmaa@tracrep.com

BANGALORE
348, Amar Jyothi Layout
Behind Trinity Golf Apartment Domlur
Bengaluru
560071, India
Tel: +91 (80) 2535 0322 / +91 (93) 4192 6794 (Contact: Meenakshi Gupta)
Email: stbblr@tracrep.com

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, DUBAI
Singapore Tourism Board
Bandalock, A Block
Oud Mehta Road, Unit 209
PO Box: 115804, Dubai
Tel: +971 (4) 335 3770
Fax: +971 (4) 335 3771
Email: dubai@stb.gov.sg
Before Arrival

Visas and Customs
Most international visitors do not require a visa to enter Singapore. To be sure, check with the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority of Singapore (ica.gov.sg) for visa requirements.

The period of stay is stamped on the arrival visit pass endorsement on the passport. Periods of stay may vary.

Dutiable Goods
Under Singapore laws, inbound travellers are required to declare and pay the duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) to bring in dutiable and taxable goods, if they exceed their duty-free concessions and GST relief. This is applicable whether the goods were purchased in Singapore or overseas.

There are four categories of dutiable goods in Singapore:

- Intoxicating liquors (spirits, wine, beer, ale, stout, etc). Beverages and liquors consumed for health reasons and used for cooking are dutiable if the alcoholic strength by volume exceeds 0.5% (e.g. shandy, bottled alcoholic cocktail drinks, Benedictine D.O.M., Yomeishu, Samsu and rice wine)
- Tobacco products, including cigarettes and cigars
- Motor vehicles, including motorised bicycles
- Petroleum products, including gasoline, petrol and motor fuel

Duty-Free Concessions

Liquor
Travellers arriving in Singapore may enjoy duty-free concessions of liquor only if the following conditions are met:

- He/she is 18 years old or older
- He/she has spent 48 hours or more outside Singapore immediately before arrival
- He/she did not arrive from Malaysia
- The liquors are not prohibited from import into Singapore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Spirits</th>
<th>Wine</th>
<th>Beer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 Litre</td>
<td>1 Litre</td>
<td>1 Litre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>2 Litres</td>
<td>1 Litre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1 Litre</td>
<td>2 Litres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:
- The above options also apply to liquors consumed for health reasons and used in cooking
- Duty-free concessions are granted on liquor products purchased outside Singapore as well as those purchased at DFS Singapore
- Duty-free concessions are granted on liquor products for personal consumption only. It is an offence to sell or give them away
- Travellers are required to pay taxes on liquor products exceeding their duty-free concessions and on goods carried for or on behalf of other people
- There is no GST relief or duty-free concession for cigarettes and tobacco products, or for motor spirits and diesel products in containers
GST Relief

Travellers will be given GST relief on new articles, souvenirs, gifts and food products (excluding liquor and tobacco) brought into Singapore and intended for personal use up to the following values, depending on the number of hours spent away from Singapore:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time spent away from Singapore</th>
<th>Value of goods granted GST relief</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48 hours or more</td>
<td>S$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 48 hours</td>
<td>S$150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the value of goods exceeds these limits, travellers will be required to declare and pay the GST for their goods at the Customs Tax Payment Office or at the Self-Service Tax Payment Kiosk at Singapore checkpoints. Travellers should ensure receipts and invoices are on hand and pay the GST for their goods at the counter on departure from Singapore.

WHO CONTROLS WHAT GOODS?

- Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA.gov.sg)
  - Animals, birds and their by-products
  - Plants
  - Endangered species of wildlife and their by-products
  - Ornamental fish
  - Meat and meat products
  - Fish and seafood products
  - Fruits and vegetables

- Singapore Police Force (police.gov.sg)
  - Arms and explosives
  - Bullets and pistols, revolvers
  - Weapons, knifes, scrapers, swords

- Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA.gov.sg)
  - Pre-recorded cartridges and cassettes
  - Newspapers, books, magazines
  - Films, video tapes/disks/laser discs
  - CD-ROMs and video games
  - Telecommunication and radio communication equipment

- Health Sciences Authority (hsa.gov.sg)
  - Medicines
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Poisons

Prohibited Goods

The following are not allowed into Singapore:

- Chewing gum (except for dental and medicated gum approved by Health Sciences Authority)
- Chewing tobacco and imitation tobacco products (e.g. electronic cigarettes)
- Cigarette lighters shaped as revolvers or pistols
- Controlled drugs and psychotropic substances
- Firecrackers
- Obscene articles, publications, video tapes/disks and software
- Reproductions of copyright publications, video tapes, video compact discs, laser discs, records or cassettes
- Seductive and treasonable materials

Controlled Goods

Travellers must produce authorisation or an import licence from the relevant authorities before controlled goods (see table below for examples) are allowed into Singapore.

- Travellers who need to take prescription medicine (including sleeping pills, depressants and stimulants) under Singapore laws must carry a prescription from a physician confirming that these medicines are required for their physical well-being. Severe penalties will be imposed for the illegal possession of such medicines.

- The following are not allowed into Singapore:

  - Poisons
  - Pharmaceutical products (e.g. electronic cigarettes)
  - Sleeping pills, depressants and stimulants
  - Tobacco and its by-products
  - Firecrackers
  - Arms and explosives
  - Weapons, kris, spears, swords
  - Toy guns, pistols, revolvers
  - Bulletproof clothing
  - Arms and explosives
  - Weapons, kris, spears, swords
  - Pharmaceutics
  - Medicines
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Poisons
  - Seditious and treasonable materials
  - Reproductions of copyright publications, video tapes, video compact discs, laser discs, records or cassettes
  - Obscene articles, publications, video tapes/disks and software
  - Chewing tobacco and imitation tobacco products (e.g. electronic cigarettes)
  - Cigarette lighters shaped as revolvers or pistols
  - Controlled drugs and psychotropic substances
  - Firecrackers
  - Obscene articles, publications, video tapes/disks and software
  - Reproductions of copyright publications, video tapes, video compact discs, laser discs, records or cassettes
  - Seductive and treasonable materials

Currency

Travellers entering or leaving Singapore with currency (coins and printed notes) or bearer negotiable instruments (bill of exchange, cheque, promissory note, bearer bond, money order and postal order) with a total value exceeding S$20,000 (or its equivalent in a foreign currency) are required to complete the Physical Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments (CBNI) Report (Traveller) or NP727 Form. These forms are available at Singapore checkpoints and police establishments.

- Completing forms are to be submitted at the Customs Red Channel upon arrival in Singapore and at the immigration counters on departure from Singapore.
- There are no restrictions to the type or amount of CBNI that travellers may take into or out of Singapore.
- Travellers are only required to report the amount exceeding the equivalent of S$20,000.

Climate

Singapore has a tropical climate and stays hot and humid throughout the year, with temperatures ranging from 26°C to 33°C. April and May are the hottest months, with wetter weather from November to January. However, travellers should be prepared for rain at any time – torrential downpours do occur, but are usually brief.

Getting To and Leaving Singapore

By Air

Singapore Changi Airport, or simply Changi Airport, is consistently ranked as one of the best airports in the world. It serves over 100 airlines that fly to some 380 cities in about 90 countries and territories worldwide.

Changi Airport (see Maps, Singapore Changi Airport, p215), is more than just a transit point; it’s a tourist destination in itself. There are hotels, numerous shops and restaurants, tropical gardens, a koi pond, a cinema and a swimming pool – plus other unique features in each terminal – to make traveling an enjoyable experience. Free Wi-Fi is available in both the public and transit areas of Changi Airport with Wi-Fi@Changi. Each of the airport’s four terminals includes facilities to make travelling seamless, easy and convenient. For a complete list of the airport’s facilities and services by terminal, please go to changiairport.com.

Travellers who arrive at the airport early or have long layovers need not look far for ways to pass the time. Changi Airport has plenty of activities within the transit areas that can make waiting for a flight a pleasurable experience.

Transit time: 2-3 hours

Save on shopping. At Changi Airport, travellers can purchase goods cheaper than anywhere else in Singapore. Get deals on beauty products at Cosmetics & Perfumes by The Shilla Duty Free and DFS Wines & Spirits in Terminal 3, or have long layovers need not look far for ways to pass the time. Changi Airport has plenty of activities within the transit areas that can make waiting for a flight a pleasurable experience.
**Travel Essentials**

**Spirits (Terminal 1-3), and gadgets and electronics at Sprint-Cass (Terminal 1-3).**

**Collect local souvenirs.** Terminal 2 has shops that are local favourites, such as Bee Cheng Hiang, Bengawan Solo, Fragrance Bak Kwa and TWG Tea Boutique. Take home stuffed animals from the Singapore Zoo, Night Safari and Jurong Bird Park shops.

**Transit time: 4–5 hours**

**Explore a nature trail.** Changi Airport has fabulous green spaces for travellers to connect with nature: Cactus Garden (Terminal 1), Sunflower Garden (Terminal 2) and Butterfly Garden (Terminal 3).

**Be entertained.** Catch the latest blockbusters for free at 24-hour movie theatres in Terminals 2 and 3. Or gear up for Xbox action at the gaming consoles within Terminal 2’s Entertainment Deck.

**Refresh and relax.** For travellers who want to freshen up or be pampered with a massage, head to a wellness salon or spa such as Airport Wellness Oasis (Terminal 1), TranSpa (Terminal 2) or Be Relax (Terminal 3). Travellers can also enjoy a swim at the rooftop pool (Terminal 1, transit area) or rooftop pool (Terminal 1, transit area) or go on an art appreciation tour. All three terminals at Changi Airport are filled with wonderful artworks.

**Transit time: More than 5 hours**

**Explore Singapore.** Travellers with at least six hours to spare can sign up for a free tour around Singapore. The Heritage Tour and City Sights Tour take 2.5 hours each. The Heritage Tour brings travellers around Singapore’s colourful ethnic precincts – Chinatown, Little India, Kampong Glam; while the City Sights Tour takes a look at Singapore’s modern and futuristic side with great views of the Singapore Flyer, Marina Bay Sands and Gardens by the Bay. For more information, visit changiairport.com

**BY SEA**

Singapore is one of the world’s busiest ports. Cruise operators from around the world – offering luxury, premium and contemporary excursions – dock at one of the city’s four terminals.

**Marina Bay Cruise Centre Singapore**

Marina Bay Cruise Centre Singapore (MBCCS), Singapore’s second cruise terminal, was built in deep waters with no height restrictions to accommodate new-generation mega cruise vessels. The two-berth cruise facility was built to accommodate up to 6,800 passengers at any given time. The terminal features a spacious arrival and departure hall, as well as a large ground transportation area to ensure a smooth and seamless experience for passengers.

Its waterfront location at Marina Bay makes it convenient for passengers to enjoy attractions in the area such as Gardens by the Bay and Marina Bay Sands.

**CruiseFly service:** Arriving cruise passengers flying off on the same day may avail of this first-in-the-region service. This sea-to-air baggage transfer service allows passengers to check-in, deposit their bags and collect their boarding passes at the cruise terminal, so that they can explore the city without the hassle of carrying their bags.

Other facilities within MBCCS include a ground transfer desk, left luggage counter, visitor centre, retail shops and restaurants. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the premises.

**Address:** 61 Marina Coastal Drive

**Website:** mbccs.com.sg

**Connectivity:**

- 15 min (1km) to Orchard Road
- 20 min (19km) to Changi Airport

**Transport:***

- Nearest MRT: Marina South Pier Station
- Bus 402 to Central Business District

**SCC@HarbourFront**

Singapore Cruise Centre (SCC) @ HarbourFront has two terminals: the International Passenger Terminal (IPT) and the Regional Ferry Terminal (RFT), both of which are used by more than 4.5 million cruise and ferry passengers each year.

- The IPT, serving over one million cruise passengers from over 30 cruise lines each year, was refurbished in 2011 for a more spacious and comfortable passenger experience. Located next to HarbourFront Centre and VivoCity malls, SCC@HarbourFront is well-placed for visitors to explore Sentosa island, Asia’s favourite playground, and Mount Faber, one of Singapore’s best-loved nature parks.
- There are food and beverage options at IOP, plus amenities such as left luggage services, CIP Lounge services and free Wi-Fi. Ship crew also get their own services such as an internet cafe and convenience shop within the restricted area.

The RFT has six berths to serve regional destinations in the south and west of Singapore. The destinations include:

- Batam Centre, Batam
- Harbour Bay, Batam
- Nongsa, Batam

**Address:** 50 Tanah Merah Ferry Road

**Website:** singaporecruise.com.sg

**Connectivity:**

- 15 min (7km) to Orchard Road
- 23 min (24km) to Changi Airport

**Transport:**

- Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station
- HarbourFront bus interchange for connections to various parts of Singapore

**SCC@Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal**

The Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal has four berths serving regional ferries that travel to destinations to the south and east of Singapore, including:

- Nongsa, Batam
- Pulau Lobam, Bintan
- Tanjung Pinang, Bintan
- Telok Sebong (Bintan Resorts), Bintan

**Address:** 50 Tanah Merah Ferry Road

**Website:** singaporecruise.com.sg

**BY LAND**

**Tuas Checkpoint**

Travelling to and from Malaysia through this checkpoint usually takes less time due to smoother traffic in both directions. However, during festive periods, public holidays and long weekends, the traffic is expected to be heavy.

**Address:** 501 Jalan Ahmad Ibrahim

**Woodlands Checkpoint**

The Woodlands Checkpoint is at the Singapore end of the Causeway joining Singapore and Malaysia. The 1.05km causeway links the city of Johor Bahru in Malaysia to the town of Woodlands in Singapore.

**Address:** 21 Woodlands Crossing

**Woodlands Train Checkpoint**

There is also a railway station and border checkpoint in Woodlands, Singapore. The railway is operated by Malaysian operator Keretapi Tanah Melayu (KTM). Since 2011, the Woodlands Train Checkpoint has been the southern terminus of the KTM Intercity service. Travellers who do not want to drive or take the coach to and from Singapore and Malaysia have the option of using the KTM-run shuttle train service, Shuttle Tebrau. The ride from Woodlands Train Checkpoint to Johor Bahru (JB) Sentral via the shuttle service takes just five minutes.

**Address:** 61 Lorong Belukong

**Website:** changiairport.com

**Connectivity:**

- 20 min (7km) to Orchard Road
- 25 min (24km) to Changi Airport

**Transport:**

- Nearest MRT: HarbourFront Station
- HarbourFront bus interchange for connections to various parts of Singapore

**Tuas Checkpoint**

Arriving cruise passengers flying off on the same day may avail of this first-in-the-region service. This sea-to-air baggage transfer service allows passengers to check-in, deposit their bags and collect their boarding passes at the cruise terminal, so that they can explore the city without the hassle of carrying their bags.

Other facilities within MBCCS include a ground transfer desk, left luggage counter, visitor centre, retail shops and restaurants. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the premises.

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- Telok Sebong (Bintan Resorts), Bintan

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**BY LAND**

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**Address:** 61 Lorong Belukong
Dollar (S$).

Singapore’s currency is the Singapore Dollars

11 Woodlands Crossing

Address: 11 Woodlands Crossing

Travellers need to present their passport counters and telco retail counters.

There are many foreign exchange counters all over Singapore, so exchanging foreign currency for Singapore dollars is not difficult. Similarly, travellers can opt to withdraw money using their bank cards at Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) all over Singapore. Visitors should check with their banks first if their cards can be used abroad. Bank transaction charges may apply.

Credit cards: Major credit cards are accepted almost everywhere in Singapore. To be sure, visitors should ask retailers or restaurants which cards they accept. Travellers can use cards for purchases as well as to pay for cab fares.

Pocket Wi-Fi: Pocket Wi-Fi is available for rent at Changi Recommends counters at Changi Airport. Devices can be dropped off at these counters just before departure.

Free public Wi-Fi: Most restaurants, cafés and shopping malls in Singapore have their own Wi-Fi networks. Approach the staff to obtain the network name and password, but note that some outlets may require a purchase before allowing access to their Wi-Fi network.

Wireless@SG: A free public Wi-Fi service within Singapore; hotspots can be across the island, including malls, museums, MRT stations, Changi Airport and Sentosa Island. Wherever this network is available, there will be a Wireless@SG decal on display. Travellers can look for the SSID Wireless@SG on their mobile devices. To enjoy the free Wi-Fi privilege, travellers must register for an account using their foreign mobile number at any Wireless@SG hotspot. Login details will be received through SMS. Overseas charges may apply.

Emergency Numbers

| Emergency Ambulance and Fire | 995 |
| Non-emergency Ambulance | 177 |
| Police Emergency | 999 |
| Police Hotline | 1800 225 0000 |
| Traffic Police Hotline | 1800 342 5222 |
| Building & Construction Authority (BCA; to report structural defects in condominiums and non-public housing buildings) | 1800 225 5782 |
| PUB (to report floods/ drain obstructions) | 1800 225 5782 |
| National Environment Agency (NEA; for littering in areas other than public housing estates) | 1800 125 5672 |
| Weather | +65 6542 7788 |

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Emergency Numbers

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| Police Emergency | 999 |
| Police Hotline | 1800 225 0000 |
| Traffic Police Hotline | 1800 342 5222 |
| Building & Construction Authority (BCA; to report structural defects in condominiums and non-public housing buildings) | 1800 225 5782 |
| PUB (to report floods/ drain obstructions) | 1800 225 5782 |
| National Environment Agency (NEA; for littering in areas other than public housing estates) | 1800 125 5672 |
| Weather | +65 6542 7788 |
Travel Essentials

MRT stations. All stations and trains are also accessible to families with strollers, wheelchair users and the visually impaired. Travellers can buy tickets for single trips, but it may be more cost-efficient to buy a Singapore Tourist Pass, a special stored-value card that allows unlimited travel on trains and buses for one day ($30), two days ($50) or three days ($90). Cards may be bought at the following MRT stations: Ang Mo Kio, Bayfront, Bugis, Changi Airport, Choa Road, City Hall, HarbourFront, Lavender, Orchard, and Raffles Place.

For a map of MRT lines and stations, visit transitlink.com.sg.

BY BUS

Traveling by bus may be the best and most economical way to get to know the city, as it allows travellers to enjoy the view. It is also easy to travel across the island as bus routes cover most of Singapore. Bus fares can be paid either by coins (check the distance fare board at the bus stop or ask the bus driver), an EZ-Link stored-value card; or a Singapore Tourist Pass, which is tapped on the card reader next to the driver when boarding. Travellers must tap the same card again when they alight. Buses in Singapore are air-conditioned, providing travellers with some respite from the outdoor heat.

BY TAXI

For travelling door-to-door, nothing beats a taxi. Taxis in Singapore are metered, but there are surcharges depending on when and where the journey took place, and the taxi operator used. Travellers can hail a cab from most road sides or at designated taxi stands.

Radio taxis include:

- ComfortDelGro Taxi Booking
- SMRT Book-A-Taxi
- Trans-Cab Taxi App

Taxis can also be booked through third-party booking apps:

- Grab
- MoobTaxi by Maven Lab
- Uber

Vehicle rentals: There are many vehicle rental companies in Singapore. To compare vehicles and operators, visit drive.sg.

Enjoying the Best of Singapore

From where to eat and shop, best parks to explore and how to get around, the following are some suggested mobile apps and websites to help visitors navigate Singapore better and enjoy their experience in the city.

Food

- Burpple: Find the best places to eat in Singapore. Free on Google Play and iTunes
- Chop! Food and restaurant reviews, as well as restaurant reservations. Free on Google Play and iTunes
- Your Singapore Guide: A comprehensive online guide to Singapore

Transportation

- gohere.sg: Handy app for navigating Singapore; input origin and destination, and the app will suggest the best routes to take, as well as the fare. gohere.sg lite is free on iTunes
- iChangi: All things related to Changi Airport (flights, shopping, dining). Free on BlackBerry World, Google Play and iTunes
- Iris: Tracks arrival timings, routes and operating hours of SBS Transit buses. Free on BlackBerry World, Google Play and iTunes
- MyTransport Singapore: Tracks arrival timings and routes of buses. Free on Google Play and iTunes

City Guides

- ixparks*: Info on Singapore’s parks and green spaces. Free on Google Play and iTunes

Legal Matters

Drug laws

Singapore has some of the strictest laws on drug-related offences in the world. The main legislation for drug offences – Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA) – punishes offenders for trafficking, manufacturing, importation or exportation, possession and consumption of even small amounts of illegal drugs. Under the law, the prescribed penalties for possession of small amounts range from fines of up to $320,000 to a maximum of 10 years in prison, or both.

Those holding private get-togethers in public places will need a permit if they want to drink after 10.30pm. Those who have obtained a Barbecue Permit from the National Parks Board do not require a separate Consumption Permit to consume alcohol during the validity of the Barbecue Permit.

Liquor laws

Under the Liquor Control (Supply and Consumption) Act, drinking of liquor is banned in all public spaces from 10.30pm to 7am. Shops are not allowed to sell takeaway liquor during this period. However, travellers may drink in licensed places such as restaurants, bars and cafes, in private homes and at outdoor events that have obtained the requisite permits.

Smoking

Smoking is not allowed in all air-conditioned places such as malls and eateries. Visitors who wish to smoke can look out for an area demarcated by yellow lines designated for smoking. According to the National Environment Agency (NEA), smoking is generally allowed in the following areas:

- Approved smoking rooms at entertainment outlets
- Approved smoking corners at outdoor refreshment areas of food establishments
- Beaches
- Residences
- Private vehicles, excluding private buses
- Open spaces in residential estates
- Open public spaces
- Open spaces in town centres
- Public parks
- Public areas at the top of multi-storey carparks
- Uncovered walkways
- Vacant land

Note: Facilities or buildings in these areas are not allowed to sell takeaway alcohol. Smoking ban is also prohibited in queues in any of these areas.

Tipping

While there is a 10% service charge added by most restaurants and hotels, tips are welcome and appreciated if travellers experience good service during their visit.

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In Geylang and Little India, which are designated Liquor Control Zones, public drinking is banned from 7am on Saturdays to 7am on Mondays. The ban also takes effect at 7pm on the eve of a public holiday to 7am after the holiday. Shops within these two areas are not allowed to sell takeaway alcohol from 7pm on weekends, the eve of a public holiday and on the public holiday itself. Those found guilty of drinking after 10.30pm in public places are liable to a fine of up to $5,000. A repeat offender may face a jail term of up to three months, as well as a fine of up to $10,000.

Visitors who overstay more than 90 days or are guilty of illegal entry into Singapore may face a jail term of up to six months and a fine of up to $10,000.

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Tipping

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Visitors can look out for the “i” sign of the Singapore Visitor Centre

International Associations & Clubs

Alliance Française de Singapour
Address: 1 Sarkies Road
Tel: +65 6737 8422
Website: alliancefrancaise.org.sg

American Association Of Singapore
Address: 10 Claymore Hill
Tel: +65 6738 0371
Website: aasingapore.com

American Women’s Association of Singapore
Address: 10 Claymore Hill
Tel: +65 6734 4895
Website: awasingapore.org

Australian & New Zealand Association of Singapore
Address: 47A Kampong Bahru Road
Tel: +65 6223 7992
Website: anza.org.sg

Belgian & Luxembourg Association of Singapore
Address: 309 Jalan Kampong Chantek
Tel: +65 6404 1164
Website: blas.org.sg

British Association of Singapore
Address: 19 Tanglin Road,
Tanglin Shopping Centre, #03-61
Tel: +65 6339 8229
Website: britishassociation.org.sg

Canadian Association of Singapore
Address: One Raffles Quay, North Tower,
Level 25
Tel: +65 6622 5485
Website: canadians.org.sg

German Association (Deutsches Haus)
Address: 61A Toh Tuck Road
Tel: +65 6467 8802
Website: germanclub.org.sg

Hollandse Club
Address: 22 Camden Park
Tel: +65 6464 5225
Website: hollandseclub.org.sg

Italian Cultural Institute
Address: 43A Beach Road, Evershine & Century Complex, Level 2
Tel: +65 6336 3705
Website: iic.org.sg

Korean Association in Singapore
Address: 71B Tanjong Pagar Road, #03-01
Tel: +65 6299 8966
Website: koreansingapore.org

Kowloon Club
Address: 93 Toa Payoh Central,
Toa Payoh Central Community Club Building, #05-02
Tel: +65 6440 9237
Website: kowloonclub.org.sg

Swiss Club, Singapore
Address: 36 Swiss Club Road
Tel: +65 6591 9420
Website: swissclub.org.sg

The American Club
Address: 10 Claymore Hill
Tel: +65 6737 3411
Website: amclub.org.sg

The British Club
Address: 73 Bukit Tinggi Road
Tel: +65 6410 1100
Website: britishclub.org.sg

The Japanese Association, Singapore
Address: 120 Adam Road
Tel: +65 6591 8136 / +65 6591 8137
Website: www.jas.org.sg

SINGAPORE VISITOR CENTRES

Visit the Singapore Visitor Centres (SVCs) for tourist enquiries and to enjoy free Wi-Fi. Travellers can also book tours and hotels or purchase souvenirs and attractions tickets at selected SVCs. For a complete list of services and facilities available at these SVCs, visit VisitSingapore.com

Orchard Road
216 Orchard Road (next to orchardgateway@emerald)
Opening Hours: 8.30am–9.30pm
Nearest MRT: Somerset Station

ION Orchard
ION Orchard, Level 1 Concierge
Opening Hours: 10am–10pm
Nearest MRT: Orchard Station

Chinatown Visitor Centre
@ Kreta Ayer Square
2 Banda Street (behind Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum)
Opening Hours: 9am–9pm
Nearest MRT: Chinatown Station

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