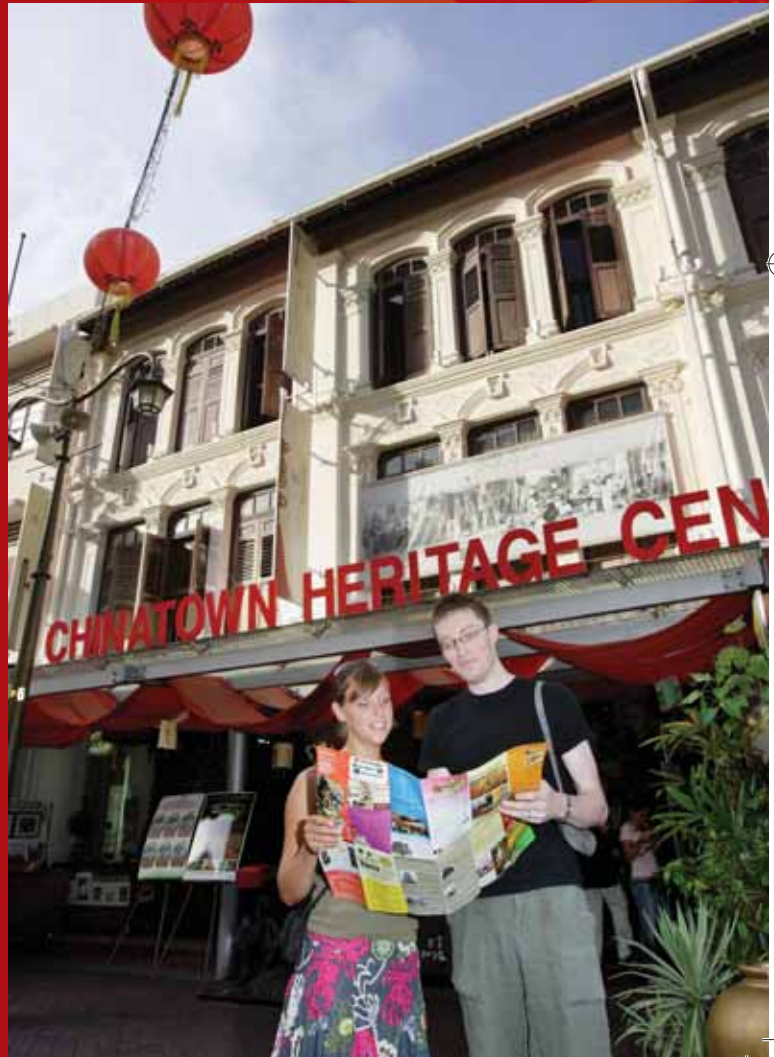




UNIQUELY
Singapore
visitsingapore.com

CHINATOWN WALKING GUIDE

Discover experiences that are fascinating
beyond words



For general enquiries, contact the Singapore Tourism Board
Tourism Court, 1 Orchard Spring Lane, Singapore 247729
Tel (65) 6736 6622 Fax: (65) 6736 9423
Touristline: 1800 736 2000 (toll-free in Singapore)
Email: stb_visitsingapore@stb.gov.sg
Website: visitsingapore.com



Every effort has been made to ensure that the information
in this brochure is accurate at the time of publication—Nov 2007.

CONTENTS

- p2 Introduction to Chinatown
- p4 Essential Chinatown
- p16 Extended Designer Trail
- p18 Oasis of Cool
- p26 Extended Walk @ Thian Hock Keng Temple
- p31 Chinatown Map
- p36 Foodie Alerts
- p38 Essential Visitors Information
- p40 Singapore Tourism Board International Offices
- p44 Singapore Visitors Centres



Bring along your zest for life, and Chinatown will reward you with a feast for the senses. It has something for everyone, from colourful sights and lively events, to ethno-heritage charm and an infinite variety of cuisine and shopping. Chinatown pulsates with a modern heart and traditional soul — a Uniquely Singapore experience.

After the founding of colonial Singapore by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1819, Chinatown flourished as the residential area for Chinese immigrants. It became a melting pot for the rich gastronomic, commercial and cultural influences that the Teochew, Cantonese, Hokkien and Hainanese (major Chinese dialect groups) brought from their provinces.

Chinatown today has moved with the times, imbibing influences along the way but keeping its roots. Its pre-war shophouses show inspiration from architectural styles both east and west, and its denizens today include hip art director types as well as old-timers like the trishaw riders. On the street, snatches of Chinese opera music mingle with mainstream Mando-pop and Asian hip-hop. Just listen. . . and watch. Chinatown will reveal its many faces to you.



INTRODUCTION TO CHINATOWN

To help you navigate this wonderful cultural precinct, we have designed a number of walking trails. The main trail, **Essential Chinatown**, aims to give you a taste of the cultural, religious and culinary heritage of Chinatown. We recommend spending three to four hours on this route.

Oasis of Cool is a radically different tour that gives a glimpse of the hip and modern aspects of Chinatown. It will take approximately two hours. If you have the time, two additional shorter routes — **Extended Designer Trail** and **Extended Walk @ Thian Hock Keng Temple** — should prove interesting. Each will take about 30 minutes.

Look out for Heritage Markers along the way to guide your experience in Chinatown!



ESSENTIAL CHINATOWN

This tour will plunge you into the bustling heart of Chinatown where there is something new to see and do at every turn. Admire the varied architecture, learn about the past, visit places of worship, and shop and eat to your heart's content in streets that teem with life and colour.



1 Chinatown MRT Station

Leave the station from the Exit A escalator and you will emerge on Pagoda Street (please refer to the map at the back of the brochure).





2 The Majestic (80 Eu Tong Sen Street)

The Majestic is an elegant art-deco style building with exterior walls clad with colourful mosaic tiles. Formerly a Chinese opera theatre and later, a cinema, it was built in 1927 by the late tycoon Eu Tong Sen for his wife, after she was turned away from an opera house.

3 Yue Hwa Chinese Products Emporium (70 Eu Tong Sen Street)

The six-storey building next to The Majestic was also built by Eu, who owned several properties on the street which bears his name. Now home to the Yue Hwa Chinese Products Emporium, it was previously a hotel notable for having Singapore's first passenger lift.

4 Bee Cheng Hiang (189 New Bridge Road) and Lim Chee Guan (203 New Bridge Road)

Follow the delicious smells wafting along the street and you will come upon these two famous purveyors of *bak kwa* (肉干), or Chinese barbecued meat. Long queues for the delicacy form here every Chinese New Year.



5 Chinatown Heritage Centre (48 Pagoda Street)

History buffs keen on delving into Chinatown's past should not miss this museum. Multi-media displays, authentic vintage items, and a replica of an old Chinatown living quarter all serve to give visitors a vivid insight into the difficult living conditions faced by the Chinese pioneer immigrants.



6 Chinatown Street Market (Pagoda Street, Trengganu Street and Sago Lane)

Get your shopping fix on these three streets lined with booths and stores selling trinkets, paintings, T-shirts, Chinese silk, lacquer ware and other souvenirs. The stalls are open from 11.00am to 11.00pm everyday.

WHERE IS THE PAGODA?

Pagoda Street was named after the tower at the entrance of Sri Mariamman Temple, which is actually a *gopuram* or sculptured tower, not a pagoda. Opium dens and coolie traders used to dominate the street. Many of the coolies, poor Chinese kidnapped from their hometowns or conned into a life of hard labour here, tried to forget their hardships in opium dens, but the addiction only caused them to sink further into despair.



7 Smith Street, Temple Street and Trengganu Street

In the late 19th century, this area was well known for **Lai Chun Yuen** (梨春园, 25 Trengganu Street), the most popular Chinese opera theatre of its time. Opera divas from China and Hong Kong would perform there nightly while patrons sipped tea. Some of its glamour and artistic legacy live on in the architecture here, such as the exquisitely constructed wooden lattice balconies wrapped around the buildings. Read more about it on the Heritage Marker. Meanwhile, you can still catch Cantonese opera here at **Chinese Theatre Circle** (5A Smith Street) which performs opera

excerpts accompanied by explanations and tea on selected days. Call (65) 6323-4862 for enquiries.





8 Chinatown Food Street (Smith Street and Trengganu Street)

Street food stalls, which were a fixture of old Chinatown, have made a comeback here. Be transported to Chinatown of yesteryear as you soak up the sights and sounds while dining on local specialties. The food stalls are open from 6.00pm to 11.00pm on Mondays to Fridays, and from 3.00pm till 11.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Check out our Foodie Alerts section for recommendations.

For those who prefer air-conditioned comfort, there are also indoor restaurants and cafés. **Ci Yan Vegetarian Health Food** (慈缘健康素食, 8 Smith Street) is a Buddhist restaurant that serves simple vegetarian set meals. Or you can make a tranquil rest stop at another Buddhist establishment, **Jing-Si Books and Café** (静思书轩, 25 Trengganu Street #01-12). Its name means 'quiet thoughts'.

9 Kreta Ayer Square

A favourite hang-out for the old folks in Chinatown, you can see them engrossed in a game of Chinese chess or just sitting on the marble benches chatting. Consider taking a trishaw tour from the Trishaw Park on the square. Or grab a snack from two famous pastry shops on Sago Street — **Tai Chong Kok** (大中国) at no. 34, which is celebrated for its mooncakes, and **Leung Sang Hong Kong Pastries** (良辰美点) at no. 18. Also check out **Hu Zhen Long** (胡振隆) at no. 12 for its specialty products like sesame oil, barbecued lobster meat and garlic shrimp, and **Foon Moon Kee** (冯满记) at no. 16, for its medicated oils and ointments.



10 Chinatown Complex, Market and Food Centre (335 Smith Street)

On one side of the square is the massive **Chinatown Complex, Market and Food Centre**, known for its huge fresh food market and dizzying array of local cooked food. The complex is currently under renovation and will open in April 2008.

STREET OF DEATH

Sago Lane used to be lined with 'death houses' and shops selling paraphernalia for funerals. The infamous 'death houses', which were banned in 1961, typically consisted of a funeral parlour on the ground floor and a living space above where the dying spent their last days. Many Chinese believe that the dead still have material needs so they burn offerings symbolising money and paper models of houses, cars and appliances, to ensure their loved ones have a comfortable after-life. This practice continues with paper replicas of present day objects-of-desire such as cellphones, credit



cards and laptops. These shops are long gone from Sago Lane but you can find an example of a store that sells offerings and prayer paraphernalia at nearby Banda Street (Yoke Lan Teng, Block 5, #01-68).

After **Chinatown Complex 10**, take a detour on the **Extended Designer Trail** (Keong Saik Road) instead of heading towards South Bridge Road (Refer to **17**). Otherwise continue the journey with the visit to the **Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum. 11**



11 Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum (288 South Bridge Road)

This glittering mega temple dedicated to Maitreya Buddha boasts Asia's largest stupa, made from 420kg of pure gold, decorated with 201 rubies and encircled by 35 statues of Buddha. The public can catch a glimpse of the breathtaking interior of the inner chamber every day at 4.30am, 10.30am and 7.30pm, when the brocade curtain is raised during ceremonies conducted by the resident monks. The temple's museum features wax and rubber figures of eminent monks as well as artefacts that detail the history of Buddhism and reflect its practices in different Asian countries. Call (65) 6220-0220 for enquiries.



12 Sri Mariamman Temple (244 South Bridge Road)

Singapore's oldest Indian temple, built in 1827, is dedicated to the Hindu mother goddess. Marvel at the elaborate tower outside featuring statues of divine beings. Similarly grandiose statuary, altars and ceilings abound in its interior. A good time to visit is early evening when you may get to witness ceremonies or watch devotees making their offerings. Read more about the temple on the Heritage Marker just round the corner.





CHINESE NEW YEAR

The best time to see Chinatown is during Chinese New Year, which marks the start of the new year on the lunar calendar. On the eve of the festival, a massive countdown celebration is held in Chinatown, but the celebratory mood pervades as early as a month before when the streets of Chinatown are festooned with decorations and gaily lighted up at night.

At the street market, you will be greeted by stalls selling auspicious Chinese pottery and plants, banners bearing classical couplets and new year wishes, ornaments in hues of red and gold, and a myriad of festive foodstuff – sweet Mandarin oranges, waxed duck, *lap cheong* (腊肠, sausages), *bak kwa* (肉干), and pastries and candies of all kinds.

On the first two to three days of Chinese New Year, the Chinese visit their relatives and present gifts of money in red packets to children. This is when Chinatown uncharacteristically quiets down as stores close for the holiday.

Over the next 12 or 13 days however, it swings back to vibrant life with lion and dragon dances and processions.



13 Masjid Jamae Mosque (218 South Bridge Road)

This tranquil mosque, built between 1830 and 1835, is designed by George Coleman, who is also responsible for the old Singapore Parliament House (now an arts centre), and the iconic Armenian Church on Armenian Street.

The fact that the architect of a church is also the designer of a mosque; and that a Muslim mosque, an Indian temple and a Buddhist temple are situated on the same street within metres of one another, all attest to the religious tolerance that is a way of life in Singapore.

14 Eu Yan Sang Medical Hall (267-271 South Bridge Road)

This store is part of an international chain of Chinese medical halls founded by Eu Tong Sen's father. In the past, such medical halls would store their herbs, dried seahorses, deer horn, and other medicinal items in the drawers of a mammoth wooden



cabinet, and weigh amounts out for customers based on the prescriptions of the Chinese physician, or *sinseh*. Now the healing powers of traditional Chinese medicine can be found hygienically packaged in modern sachets and bottles at these stores.



15 Tong Heng
(285 South Bridge Road)

This pastry shop offers you a taste of its famous egg tarts.



16 Maxwell Food Centre

This is a popular food centre, where you can rest your tired feet and tuck into excellent versions of Hainanese chicken rice and *hum chim bang* (咸煎饼), mentioned in our Foodie Alerts section.

EXTENDED DESIGNER TRAIL

A quieter side of Chinatown but no less alluring, this trail will take you through streets that have shaken off their seedy past to take on a hip, bohemian vibe.



17 Keong Saik Road

Once an infamous red light district, this street is now an eclectic enclave of designer bars, music studios and other creative enterprises. Take a rest stop at **Whatever: Yoga, Healing Space, Cafe & Bookstore** (no. 20, 29A and 31) which serves healthy food and offers yoga sessions and New Age spiritualism, or check out popular restaurant **Ember** at the hip **Hotel 1929** (no. 50).





18 New Majestic Hotel (31-37 Bukit Pasoh Road)

Owned by the same people responsible for Hotel 1929, this boutique hotel has been wowing the international design scene since it opened in 2006, with quirky rooms such as one featuring a bathtub in the sitting area, and another with mirrors covering every corner. Its acclaimed Chinese restaurant, helmed by celebrated local chef Yong Bing Ngen, is also worth a visit.



To continue your **Essential Chinatown** walk, turn into Neil Road from Bukit Pasoh Road and head back towards South Bridge Road.

OASIS OF COOL

The Ann Siang Hill area, on the eastern side of Chinatown, has earned cult status in recent years as one of local fashionistas' and trend-setters' favourite haunts.

Hip stores, stylish designer boutiques, classy wine bars, Italian and French restaurants and a world-class boutique hotel have woven themselves seamlessly into the traditional Chinese setting.



Starting from the **Maxwell Food Centre** **16**, the end-point of your Essential Chinatown walk, take a stroll along Maxwell Road.

19 Red Dot Design Museum (28 Maxwell Road)

This unmissable red building, which used to be the headquarters of the traffic police, is now home to Asia's first Red Dot Design Museum, displaying concept designs from around the world that have won the International Red Dot Award, which is regarded as the Oscar of industrial design. The place also houses a café and chic designer bars like **Artery** and **Boulevard**, and plays host to MAAD, a weekend flea market that showcases locally-designed products. Check www.maad.sg for timings.





20 The URA Centre (45 Maxwell Road)

See a fascinating architectural model of Singapore's central area and learn about the country's urban planning efforts at the Singapore City Gallery here.

21 The Scarlet (33 Erskine Road)

This 84-room designer hotel boasts thickly carpeted corridors and Moulin-Rouge like décor. It also houses a fusion restaurant, **Desire**, and a rooftop supper club bar called **Breeze**.





22 Boutiques, restaurants and bars on Ann Siang Road

This street is a treasure trove of unique designer items. Check out **Style: Nordic** (no. 39) for the best of Swedish-designed fashion, furniture and household items. **Asylum** (no. 22), a select store in the spirit of Colette in Paris, proffers gift books, magazines, limited-edition perfumes, shoes, T-shirts, and paintings curated by designer-owner Christopher Lee, while **Frontrow** (no. 5) stocks exclusive objects of desire by local designer Woods and Woods and cool design brands A.P.C and Kim Jones. There is also a gallery on the third floor showcasing Singapore pop-art.



23 Boutiques, restaurants and bars on Club Street

In the mood for Alexander McQueen sneakers? **Venue** (no. 44-46), a designer store specialising in collab Puma products, can satisfy your cravings. Next to the BBC office is luxury crystal shop, **Schott Zwiesel** (no. 40). This street also has some of the finest restaurants and bars in Singapore. Grab a drink and chill out at exotic **Indochine** (no. 49), dine at Italian restaurant **Da Paolo** (no. 80), or enjoy authentic French fare at **L'Angelus** (no. 85).





THE STREET OF CLUBS

Ann Siang Hill and Club Street used to be home to many clan associations and clubs. The oldest of these was established as early as 1822 by Cho Ah Chee, a carpenter who was on the same ship that modern Singapore's founder Sir Stamford Raffles sailed on when he arrived in Singapore for the first time. These clubs based on dialect groups, blood ties, or trades provided important emotional and social support for early Chinese immigrants.

The area has been invaded by trendy businesses in recent years but the associations that remain continue to serve a social bonding function for their elderly members. The musical shuffling of mahjong tiles, chatter in dialect tongues and snatches of Chinese opera music can still be heard occasionally, lending the place an old-world charm.





**24 Chinese Weekly Entertainment Club
(76 Club Street)**

Founded in 1891, this was an elitist gentlemen's club admitting only English-speaking Chinese. In its heyday, it staged many elaborate social events and extravagant balls at which influential businessmen and social figures hobnobbed.

**25 Goh Loo Club
(70-1 Club Street)**

This distinctive clubhouse adorned with metal grills featuring basketball players is home to a group founded by Chinese social leader and pioneering reformer Lim Boon Keng. It served as a sanctuary for Chinese activists in the 1930s.



26 Ann Siang Hill Park

An oasis of calm amid the bustle of Chinatown, where you can rest in quiet pavilions, and soothe your senses with birdsong. Follow a path that starts in front of the showroom-office of Italian lamp-maker **Flos** (7 Ann Siang Hill) to the top of the hill. Find out more about the origins of Ann Siang Hill on the Heritage Marker.



EXTENDED WALK @ THIAN HOCK KENG TEMPLE

Two very different places of worship on the same street, the elaborate Thian Hock Keng Temple will take your breath away while the quiet Al-Abrar Mosque will bring a sense of calm.





To continue with this walk after completing the Oasis of Cool tour, descend the spiral staircase at the top of Ann Siang Hill, and turn right into Amoy Street. Walk past **Sin Chor Kung Temple** (仙祖宮) and turn left into Telok Ayer Street.

27 Al-Abrar Mosque (192 Telok Ayer Street)

This mosque with Indian Islamic roots was built between 1850 and 1855 and has a simple and dignified architectural style. Read about the mosque's history on the Heritage Marker.





**28 Thian Hock Keng Temple
(158 Telok Ayer Street)**

One of the oldest and most beautiful temples in Singapore, **Thian Hock Keng Temple** was built between 1839 and 1842 without the use of a single nail. It is supported entirely by iron and wood pillars. The chief deity honoured here is the goddess of seafarers, Ma Zu. Immigrants, grateful for surviving the treacherous sea journey from China to Singapore, built the temple in tribute to the goddess. Painstakingly restored a few years ago with the help of craftsmen from China, it



won an honorary mention in the 2001 Unesco Asia-Pacific Heritage Award for Culture Heritage Conservation. Learn more about the temple from the Heritage Marker outside the temple.



MOONCAKE FESTIVAL

The Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Mooncake Festival because of the confection eaten during the celebrations, falls on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month. There are a number of stories associated with the festival. One tells of the maiden Chang Er who flew to the moon after consuming the elixir of life. She had swallowed it to keep it out of the hands of her husband, the tyrannical ruler Hou Yi. Another legend has it that during the time when China was ruled by the Mongols, the Chinese organised a rebellion by spreading word of the revolt through notes hidden in mooncakes. Today, the festival is a happy excuse to enjoy mooncakes and for children to play with lanterns of all shapes and sizes.



WALKING TOURS

What better way to uncover the little known sides of Singapore than with an informed local guide. These two tours will let you experience Chinatown by day and by night, two very different but equally fascinating sides of the same neighbourhood.



Red Clogs Down the Five-Foot-Way

You will be taken on a guided tour of a Chinese temple and an ancestral worship shop, enlightened about the *yin* and *yang* of traditional herbal medicine, and introduced to local taste sensations in this day-tour.

Every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12 noon.

Meet at Tanjong Pagar MRT station, outside Exit B (Maxwell Road).

Price: SGD25 Adult SGD15 Child

Secrets of the Red Lantern

This night tour unveils Chinatown's seedy past, when it was known as *Bu Ye Tian*, the town that never sleeps. True to the Chinese saying "Eating and love-making are human nature", the walk will end with a sampling of a local delicacy.

(Parental discretion: The tour may not be suitable for those aged 18 years and below.)

Every Friday from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Meet at Chinatown MRT station, outside Exit A (Pagoda Street)

Price: SGD25 Adult

Visit www.singaporewalks.com for other walks and details.

CHINATOWN MAP



ESSENTIAL CHINATOWN

- 1 Chinatown MRT Station
- 2 The Majestic (Shopping Mall)
- 3 Yue Hwa Chinese Products Emporium
- 4 Lim Chee Guan and Bee Cheng Hiang (barbequed meat shops)
- 5 Chinatown Heritage Centre
- 6 Chinatown Street Market
- 7 Smith Street, Temple Street & Trengganu Street
- 8 Chinatown Food Street
- 9 Kreta Ayer Square
- 10 Chinatown Complex, Market and Food Centre
- 11 Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum
- 12 Sri Mariamman Temple
- 13 Masjid Jamae Mosque
- 14 Eu Yan Sang Medical Hall
- 15 Tong Heng Pastry Shop
- 16 Maxwell Food Centre

EXTENDED DESIGNER TRAIL

- 17 Keong Saik Road
- 18 New Majestic Hotel

OASIS OF COOL

- 19 Red Dot Design Museum
- 20 The URA Centre (Singapore City Gallery)
- 21 The Scarlet Hotel
- 22 Boutiques, restaurants and bars on Ann Siang Road
- 23 Boutiques, restaurants and bars on Club Street
- 24 Chinese Weekly Entertainment Club
- 25 Goh Loo Club
- 26 Ann Siang Hill Park

EXTENDED WALK@ THIAN HOCK KENG TEMPLE

- 27 Al-Abrar Mosque
- 28 Thian Hock Keng Temple

FOODIE ALERTS

Without a doubt, Chinatown is a foodie paradise where you can sample a rich variety of Chinese cuisines originating from regions such as Guangzhou, Fujian, Hainan and Chaozhou in China. You will also be spoiled by other food choices -- organic vegetarian fare, local Malay and Indian dishes, Peranakan specialties, and even top-notch international selections. One visit will certainly not be enough. You will find yourself lured back by the delightful food, again and again.



WHAT'S COOKING IN CHINATOWN'S KITCHEN?

Ah Boling (*Tang Yuan*)*

Also known as Ah Boling, or drenched duck, because the pearly white glutinous rice balls resemble ducks with their heads in a pond, they are filled with red bean, sesame, yam or peanut paste, and served in sweet peanut or ginger soup.

Bak Kwa

Fine slices of meat barbecued with a sweet sauce to succulent perfection. It's a hot favourite during Chinese New Year, but can be enjoyed all year round. The *bak kwa* made by Lim Chee Guan and Bee Cheng Hiang are considered to be among the best.

Fried Carrot Cake*

A delectable carrot/radish cake fried with egg and chives. You have a choice of 'black' (fried with a dark sweet sauce) or 'white' (without sauce) versions.

Dim Sum*

Originating from Hong Kong, these savoury snacks are mostly steamed and are often served in little bamboo steamers. The dainty snacks can be enjoyed for brunch or high tea, or even as a meal.

Egg Tart

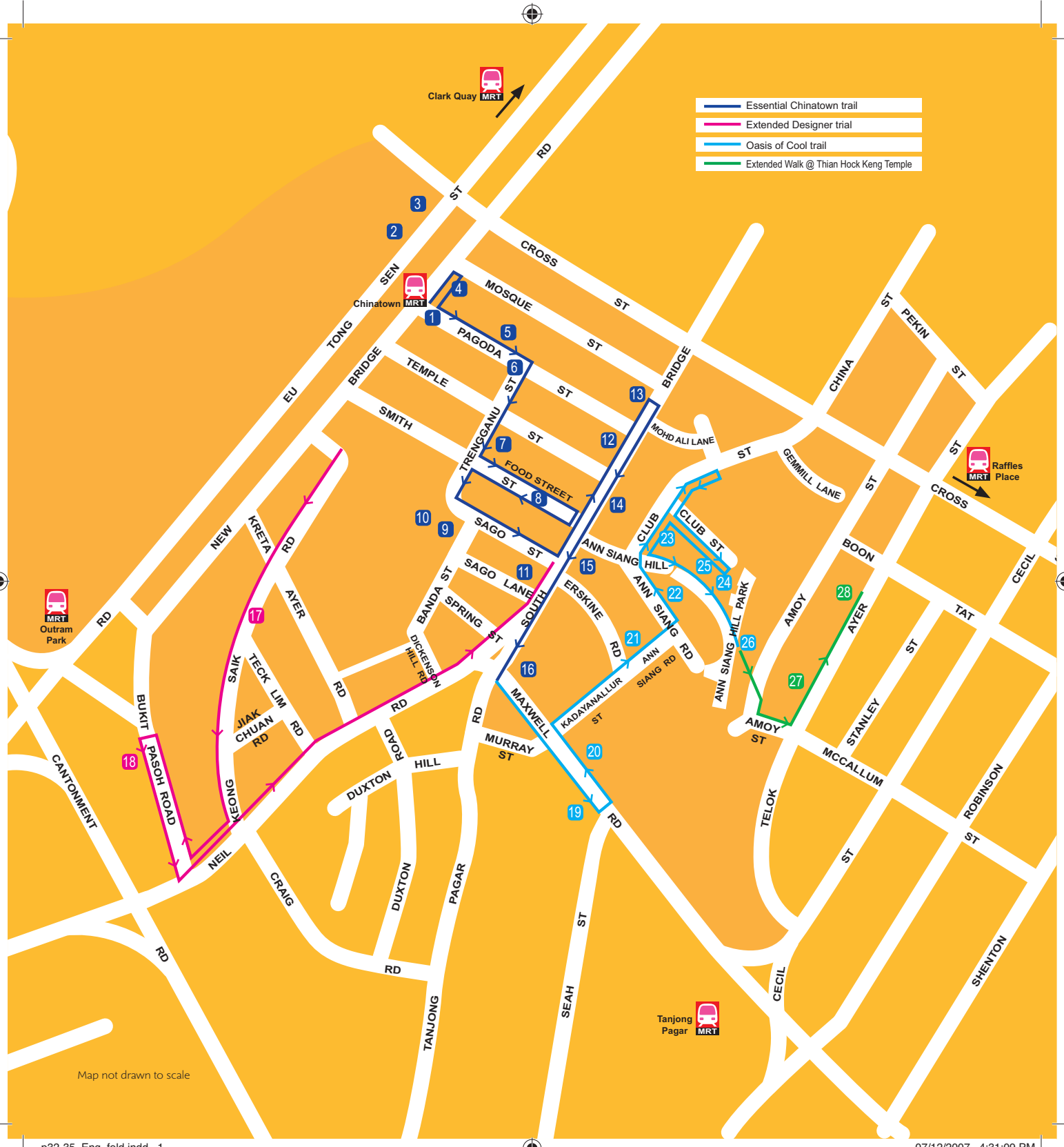
A tart with a flaky crust and rich soft egg custard filling. Try the ones at Tong Heng and Leung Sang Hong Kong Pastries .

Ginger Milk Custard

A hot steamed custard of milk blended with ginger juice.

Fried Kway Teow*

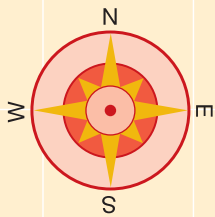
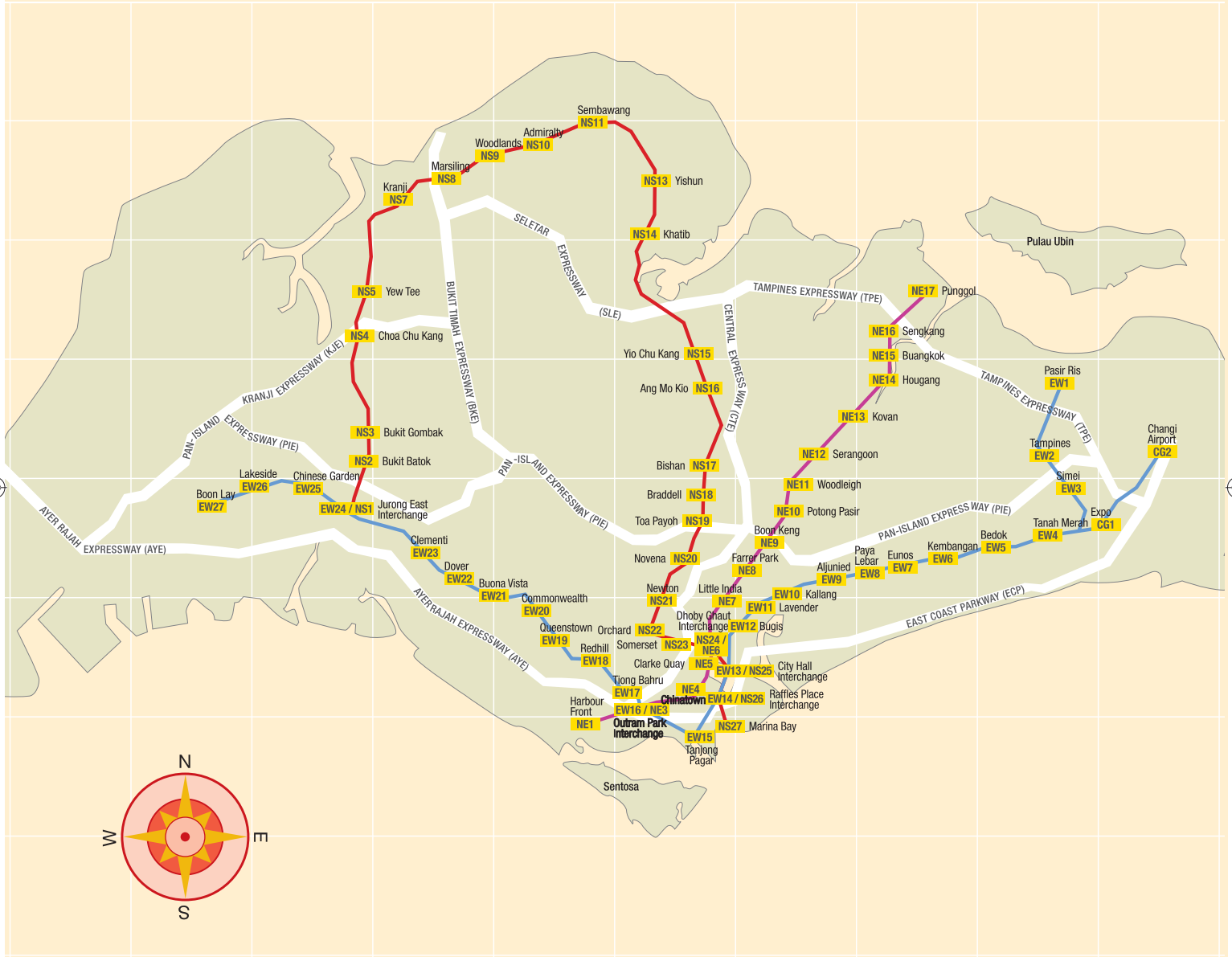
Flat rice noodles, fried with sweet soya sauce, sliced Chinese sausage, cockles and scrambled egg.



- Essential Chinatown trail
- Extended Designer trial
- Oasis of Cool trail
- Extended Walk @ Thian Hock Keng Temple

Map not drawn to scale

SINGAPORE ISLAND



Hainanese Chicken Rice

This is considered one of Singapore's signature dishes. Steamed chicken is served with flavourful rice cooked in chicken stock, accompanied by a chilli and ginger sauce.

Hum Chim Bang

Puffy fried dough that can be plain or filled with a sweet red bean paste. Check out the ones made by the stall at #01-28 Maxwell Food Centre, which is so popular that customers in the queue help fry the dough pieces to shorten their waiting time.

Laksa*

Rice noodles cooked in a savoury coconut curry with prawns, cockles and bean sprouts. It is sometimes served with shredded chicken, hard-boiled egg and *tofu*.

Mooncake

A festive Chinese pastry enjoyed during the Mid-Autumn Festival, aka Mooncake Festival. It is traditionally filled with sweet lotus seed paste or red bean paste, with salted egg yolk sometimes added for that extra taste. But these days there are all manner of new-fangled fillings, from green tea and chocolate to yam and durian, limited only by the chef's imagination.

Ngoh Hiang (Wu Xiang)*

A meat roll that is essentially minced pork and water chestnuts marinated with Chinese five spices, wrapped in *tofu* skin and fried. Stalls which sell *ngoh hiang* also offer a host of other snacks, such as yam fritters, prawn crackers and pink meat sausages.

Soya Sauce Chicken Noodle*

Chinese egg noodles topped with chicken marinated in soya sauce.

Oyster Omelette*

An omelette studded with succulent oysters, served with a tangy chilli sauce and lots of Chinese parsley.

Pau (or Bao)*

A kind of dim sum, it is a steamed bun with a wide choice of fillings, from minced pork, chicken and *char siew* (roasted pork) to red bean paste and lotus seed paste. Perfect as a quick snack at any coffeeshop or food street in Chinatown.

Porridge

Healthy rice congee cooked with your choice of lean pork, chicken, fish or preserved egg. A popular stall that sells this is Zhen Zhen at #01-54 Maxwell Food Centre.

Wan Ton Mee*

Noodles with *char siew* and *wan ton* (meat dumplings). The noodles are usually served dry, and tossed in a sauce, with a bowl of soup on the side, but you can also ask for the noodles to be served in soup.

Yong Tau Foo

A variety of vegetable and *tofu*-based morsels, stuffed with fishcake. The way to enjoy this is to pick what you like, choose a noodle type to go with it, and let the hawker cook it in soup for you. Both dry and soup versions are available.

* Available at Chinatown Food Street **8**

ESSENTIAL VISITORS INFORMATION

GETTING AROUND

Easily accessible and affordable, Singapore's efficient transport system is a breeze to comprehend and follow.

MRT

Conveniently located with stations all over the city, this air-conditioned passenger train network operates from around 5.30am till midnight daily. Train fares are inexpensive and range from SGD0.90 to SGD1.90. A stored-value card called the ez-link farecard can be purchased for SGD15 (with a SGD3 refundable travel deposit, SGD5 non-refundable card cost and a travel value of SGD7) at most MRT stations. The ez-link farecard is also valid on public buses. For more information, call the TransitLink Hotline: 1800 2255663 or visit www.smrt.com.sg.

BUSES

Most public bus services operate from around 6.00am to midnight daily. Fares can be paid with an ez-link farecard or by cash. Fares range from SGD0.80 to SGD1.50 for non-air-conditioned buses and SGD0.90 to SGD1.80 for air-conditioned buses. For more information, visit www.sbstransit.com.sg.

TAXIS

Several taxi operators ply the streets and they can be frequently found at shopping centres and hotels. The initial flag-down fare for the first kilometre starts from SGD 2.50. Different surcharges apply for each taxi company, so do check with the driver before you board the taxi.

To book a taxi:

Comfort/CityCab	(65) 6552 1111
Premier Taxis	(65) 6363 6888
SMRT	(65) 6555 8888
Smart	(65) 6485 7777
Trans Cab	(65) 6555 3333

MONEY MATTERS

Licensed money-changers usually give a better rate than most hotels and banks. Do check foreign exchange rates and use your discretion. There are licensed money-changers at Singapore Changi Airport and most shopping centres in Orchard Road and other downtown areas.

TAXES

At most food & beverage outlets and hotels, prices are quoted as nett or '++'. The '++' refers to an additional 10% service charge and 7% GST (Goods and Services Tax).

TIPPING

Tipping is prohibited at the airport and is discouraged at hotels and restaurants as a 10% service charge applies.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Local calls, from either coin- or card-operated public phones, cost SGD0.10 for three minutes. Card-operated phones are more commonly used and a phone card (from SGD5) can be purchased at post offices and some shops. Alternatively, you can use your credit card at selected phone booths. The IDD (International Direct Dialling) access code is 001.

For more information on mobile phone operators in Singapore, please contact:

SingTel	1626 (www.singtel.com)
M1	1627 (www.m1.com.sg)
Starhub	1633 (www.starhub.com)

SMOKING BAN IN ENTERTAINMENT OUTLETS

Since 1 July 2007, smoking has been prohibited in entertainment outlets such as pubs, bars, discotheques, lounges and nightclubs, including their outdoor refreshment areas. However, smokers can light up at designated smoking rooms within the outlets and/or outdoor smoking corners that are still part of the premises.

SINGAPORE TOURISM BOARD INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

HEAD OFFICE

SINGAPORE

Singapore Tourism Board
Tourism Court
1 Orchard Spring Lane
Singapore 247729
Tel: (65) 6736 6622
Fax: (65) 6736 9423
Touristline: 1800 736 2000
(toll-free in Singapore only)
Web site: www.visitsingapore.com

ASEAN (ISLANDS)

INDONESIA

Singapore Tourism Board
27th Floor - Suite 01 / 02
Menara Bank Danamon
Jln Prof. Dr Satrio Kav E IV / 6
Mega Kuningan
Jakarta 12950
Indonesia
Tel: (62-21) 5799 2276 or
(62-21) 5799 2279
Fax: (62-21) 5799 2271
Email: stb_indonesia@stb.gov.sg

Singapore Tourism Board
Grand Angkasa International Hotel
Level 1 Jl Sutomo No 1
Medan 20235
Sumatra Utara
Indonesia
Tel: (62-61) 456 6649
Fax: (62-61) 456 6650
Email: stb_indonesia@stb.gov.sg

PHILIPPINES

Singapore Tourism Board
17th Floor
6788 Ayala Avenue
1226 Makati City
Manila
Philippines
Tel: (63-2) 813 0946 or
(63-2) 813 4968
Fax: (63-2) 813 6585
Email: stbphilis@pacific.net.ph

ASEAN (MAINLAND)

MALAYSIA

Singapore Tourism Board
Ground Floor, Menara Keck Seng
203 Jalan Bukit Bintang
Kuala Lumpur 55100
Malaysia
Tel: (60-3) 2142 7133
Fax: (60-3) 2148 7133
Email: info@stb.org.my

Singapore Visitors Centre
Level 2, MK 2-05
Johor Bahru City Square
108 Jalan Wong Ah Fook
Johor Bahru 80000
Malaysia
Tel: (60-7) 222 3355
Fax: (60-7) 222 2939
Email: information@stb.org.my

THAILAND

Singapore Visitors Centre
Unit F209 - 210
2nd Floor United Center Building
323 Silom Road
Bangrak, Bangkok 10500
Thailand
Tel: (66-2) 630 4474 / 5 / 6
Fax: (66-2) 630 4773
Email: stbbkk@truemail.co.th

VIETNAM

Singapore Visitors Centre
3rd Floor Saigontourist
Department Store
35 bis - 45
Le Thanh Ton Street
District 1
Ho Chi Minh City
Vietnam
Tel: (84-8) 827 7646
Fax: (84-8) 827 7648
Email: visitsingapore@hcm.vnn.vn

GREATER CHINA

CHINA

Singapore Tourism Board
Unit 1202 - 1205
West Tower, LG Twin Towers
B-12 Jianguomenwai Avenue
Beijing 100022
People's Republic of China
Tel: (86-10) 5879 3388
Fax: (86-10) 5879 3666
Email: stb_gc@stb.gov.sg

Singapore Tourism Board
Room 1005 Shanghai Kerry Centre
1515 Nanjing Road West
Shanghai 200040
People's Republic of China
Tel: (86-21) 5298 5688
Fax: (86-21) 5298 5388
Email: stb_gc@stb.gov.sg

VisitSingapore Office
31D First City Plaza
No 308 Shuncheng Street
Chengdu
Sichuan 610017
People's Republic of China
Tel: (86-28) 8293 1213
Fax: (86-28) 8293 1114
Email: stb_gc@stb.gov.sg

VisitSingapore Office
Unit 36-03/04B CITIC Plaza
No 233 Tianhe North Road
Guangzhou, Tianhe District
Guangdong 510613
People's Republic of China
Tel: (86-20) 3891 1911
Fax: (86-20) 3891 1776
Email: stb_gc@stb.gov.sg

HONG KONG

Singapore Tourism Board
Room 2003 Central Plaza
18 Harbour Road
Wanchai
Hong Kong
Tel: (85-2) 2598 9290
Fax: (85-2) 2598 1040
Email: stbhk1@hknet.com

TAIWAN

Singapore Tourism Board
Unit H, 6th Floor, Hung Tai Center
168 Tun Hwa North Road
Taipei 105
Taiwan
Tel: (886-2) 2718 5280
Fax: (886-2) 2719 1049
Email: stbtpeinfo@seed.net.tw

NORTH ASIA

JAPAN

Singapore Tourism Board
8th Floor Chiyoda Building
1-6-4, Yuraku-cho, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-0006
Japan
Tel: (81-3) 3593 3388
Fax: (81-3) 3591 1480
Email: info@stb.or.jp

Singapore Tourism Board
4th Floor Osaka City Air Terminal
(OCAT)
1-4-1, Minato-machi, Naniwa-ku
Osaka 556-0017
Japan
Tel: (81-6) 6635 3088
Fax: (81-6) 6635 3089
Email: info@stb.or.jp

SOUTH KOREA

Singapore Tourism Board
9th Floor Young Poong Building
33 Sorin-Dong
Chongro-ku
Seoul
Republic of Korea
Tel: (82-2) 399 5570
Fax: (82-2) 399 5574
Email: info@visitsingapore.or.kr

SOUTH ASIA

INDIA

Singapore Visitors Centre
Ispahani Centre
123 / 124
Nungambakkam High Road
Chennai 600 034
India
Tel: (91-44) 4213 9995
Fax: (91-44) 4201 2200
Email: chennai@stb.gov.sg

Singapore Tourism Board
Block F Ground Floor
International Trade Tower
Nehru Place
New Delhi 110019
India
Tel: (91-11) 4168 3070/71/72
Fax: (91-11) 4168 3073
Email: delhi@stb.gov.sg

Singapore Tourism Board
1st Floor Manek Lodge
85 Hughes Road
Above HDFC Bank
Mumbai 400007
India
Tel: (91-22) 2380 2202
Fax: (91-22) 2380 2207
Email: mumbai@stb.gov.sg

MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

DUBAI

Singapore Tourism Board
Crowne Plaza Commercial Tower
Level 19 Unit 1901 / 02
Sheik Zayed Road
P.O. Box 62425
Dubai
United Arab Emirates
Tel: (971-4) 329 0898
Fax: (971-4) 331 2177
Email: dubai@stb.gov.sg

AMERICAS

NORTH AMERICA

Singapore Tourism Board
5670 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 1550
Los Angeles
CA 90036
U.S.A.
Tel: (1-323) 677 0808
Fax: (1-323) 677 0801
Email: losangeles@stb.gov.sg

Singapore Tourism Board
1156 Avenue of the Americas
Suite 702
New York
NY 10036
U.S.A.
Tel: (1-212) 302 4861
Fax: (1-212) 302 4801
Email: newyork@stb.gov.sg

EUROPE

UNITED KINGDOM

Singapore Tourism Board
Singapore Centre
Grand Buildings
1-3 The Strand
London WC2N 5HR
United Kingdom
Tel: (44-20) 7484 2710
Fax: (44-20) 7839 6162
Email: stb_london@stb.gov.sg

GERMANY

Singapore Tourism Board
Hochstrasse 35 - 37
60313 Frankfurt am Main
Germany
Tel: (49-69) 920 7700
Fax: (49-69) 297 8922
Email: info@stb-germany.de

RUSSIA

Singapore Tourism Board
Level 7
Smolensky Passage
Smolenskaya Square 3
121099
Moscow, Russia
Tel: (7-495) 981 3494
Fax: (7-495) 937 8290

OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA

Singapore Tourism Board
Level 11 AWA Building
47 York Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Australia
Tel: (61-2) 9290 2888 or
(61-2) 9290 2882
Fax: (61-2) 9290 2555
Email: stb-syd@stb-syd.org.au

NEW ZEALAND

Singapore Tourism Board
c/o Vivaldi World Limited
1340-C Glenbrook Road
RD1, Waiuku
Auckland
New Zealand
Tel: (64-9) 834 8641
Fax: (64-9) 834 8691
Email: stbnz@stb-syd.org.au

Singapore Visitors Centres

Need help getting started with sightseeing, eating and shopping your way around Singapore? Pop by any of the following Singapore Visitors Centres for advice on how to make your stay here a memorable one.



Touristline

Call 1800-736-20000 (toll-free in Singapore) or (65) 6736-2000 (from overseas)

Operating hours: 24 hours

Changi Terminal 1 Arrival and Transit Halls



Singapore Changi Airport

Opening hours:

6.00am to 2.00am daily

Nearest MRT station:

Changi Airport (CG2)



Changi Terminal 2 Arrival and Transit Halls



Singapore Changi Airport

Opening hours:

6.00am to 2.00am daily

Nearest MRT station:

Changi Airport (CG2)



Changi Terminal 3 Arrival and Transit Halls



Singapore Changi Airport

Opening hours:

6.00am to 2.00am daily

Nearest MRT station:

Changi Airport (CG2)



Orchard Road



For location, please call
Touristline 1800-736-2000

Opening hours:

9.30am to 10.30pm daily

Nearest MRT station:

Orchard (NS22)



A **unique** blend
of the best of the
modern world and
rich cultures to deliver
enriching
experiences



UNIQUELY
Singapore
visitsingapore.com

Liang Court



177 River Valley Road,
Level 1, Liang Court
Shopping Centre

Opening hours:
10.00am to 10.00pm daily

Nearest MRT station:
Clarke Quay (NE5)



Little India



73 Dunlop Street,
The InnCrowd
Backpackers' Hostel

Opening hours:
10.00am to 10.00pm daily

Nearest MRT station:
Little India (NE7)



Suntec



The Galleria at
Suntec City Mall

Opening hours:
10.00am to 6.00pm daily

Nearest MRT station:
City Hall (EW13/NS25)



LEGEND



Tourist
Enquiries



Hotel
Reservations



Booking
for Tours



Sale of
Attraction Tickets



Paid
Internet Access



Free City
Shuttle to Town

Transit passengers who have at least six hours to spare in transit can hop on the free city shuttle to town, scheduled at regular intervals, to explore Singapore's ethnic heritage at Little India, or enjoy some retail therapy at Suntec City or Bugis Street. Subject to visa requirements.



Free
Singapore Tour

Transit passengers who have at least five hours to spare in transit can choose from two free two-hour city tours: the Colonial Tour or the Cultural Tour. Subject to visa requirements.



Taxi
Tourist Guide

A personal licensed taxi tour guide will show visitors the wonders and sights in the city. Please enquire about charges at the SVCs.