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JULY · AUGUST · SEPTEMBER

# SINGAPORE INSIDER

PEOPLE · PLACES · EVENTS · DINING · NIGHTLIFE

INSIDE:

NEIGHBOURHOOD GUIDES

**HOT TABLES**

**CITY MUST-DOS**

AND MUCH MORE



# TripAdvisor Travellers Rave About the Singapore Grand Prix



**"Fantastic!"**

"One of the most stunning  
race circuits in the world."

**"很棒的周末"**

"这真的一个非常  
棒的周末。车赛和  
赛后的音乐节目都  
太精彩了。"

**"素晴らしいサーキット!"**

"今まで、F1は鈴鹿でしか  
観たことがなかったので、  
海外での観戦は初めて。行く  
前からドキドキでしたが実際  
に観てみると素晴らしい!"

**"Imperdible"**

"No te vas a olvidar nunca  
de esta experiencia."

**"Peristiwa Balapan  
Spektakuler"**

"Sebenarnya, *speechless* untuk  
menggambarkan even *race* ini.  
Sudah tiga kali berturut-turut  
menghadiri Night Racing F1GP, selain  
dapat menikmati hiruk-pikuk deru  
mesin mobil-mobil balap, spektator  
juga selalu disuguhi konser  
musik kelas satu dunia."

## Happy birthday, Singapore!

The Lion City turns 51 on 9 August, and we're feeling a little dizzy with excitement with the plethora of festivities happening around town. You couldn't have picked a more delightful time to be in Singapore!

Before the fireworks go off on National Day, celebrate Singapore's rich and diverse culinary landscape at the annual Singapore Food Festival (page 11), a 17-day feast that pays homage to our local food culture and heritage.

It gets better: the 2016 Formula 1® Singapore Airlines Singapore Grand Prix (page 10) will once again take over the city for a thrilling weekend of spectacular live performances, incredible deals and adrenaline-pumping action on and off the track.

Can't get enough? That's where we come in; this National Day issue of *Singapore Insider* packs the best and the latest in town to make sure you enjoy every minute exploring this wonderful city we call home.

Whether you have a week to deep dive or a weekend to scratch the surface, you'll be exposed to the glorious and contemporary Singapore at every turn. Inside these pages, you'll find rich cultural experiences, Southeast Asia's best shopping, stylish bars, innovative restaurants, authentic local hawkers, beautiful landscapes and so much more. These aren't just our top picks: we've also asked some of the city's tastemakers and experts to share their favourite spots (and then some).

So stuff those faces, pop that confetti and get ready to party!

Chris

CHRIS EDWARDS  
AND THE HONEYCOMBERS



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# Transport

## TAXI

Fares start from \$3.00.



SMRT Taxis  
☎ (65) 6555 8888



Premier Cabs  
☎ (65) 6363 6888



Comfort Taxis & CityCab  
☎ (65) 6552 1111



## MRT

Trains typically run from 5.30am to 12.00am. Standard tickets vary from \$1.40 to \$2.70. See page 32 for map.

☎ (65) 1800 336 8900  
🌐 [www.smrt.com.sg](http://www.smrt.com.sg)



## BUS

Fares start from as low as 79 cents. Try to have the exact fare as bus drivers do not give change.

☎ (65) 1800 336 8900  
🌐 [www.sbstransit.com.sg](http://www.sbstransit.com.sg)  
🌐 [www.smrt.com.sg](http://www.smrt.com.sg)

# Language



English is the spoken language, though Singlish – a collection of colloquial catch phrases and lingo – dominates everyday conversations among locals (see page 15). Mandarin, Malay, Tamil and various dialects are also used.

# Tipping



It is not usual practice to tip in Singapore, although it is appreciated by service staff. Most hotels and restaurants quote prices as “++,” which includes 10 per cent service charge and 7 per cent goods and services tax (GST).

# Shopping



For a pleasant shopping experience, compare prices, enquire about refund policies, and check the invoice as well as the warranty of the product before making a purchase. More information and shopping tips can be found on the Consumer Advisory section at YourSingapore.com (under “Traveller Essentials”). For assistance or to flag inappropriate retailer behaviour, call 1800 736 2000 or email [feedback@stb.gov.sg](mailto:feedback@stb.gov.sg).

# Visitor Centres

## ORCHARD

216 Orchard Road (Next to orchardgateway@emerald)  
8.30am-9.30pm daily

📍 Somerset

Don't miss “**Evolution Craftsmen: Singapore Inspired**”, the 2nd installation of the CRAFT[SINGAPORE] exhibition located at the Singapore Visitor Centre (Orchard). Learn about the evolutionary spirit of Singapore's contemporary craftsmen and see how they explore identity and sense of place in their works. Let their stories inspire you to explore and uncover hidden gems in Singapore. Admission is free.

## ION ORCHARD

Level 1 Concierge  
2 Orchard Turn  
10am-10pm daily

📍 Orchard

## CHINATOWN

2 Banda Street (Behind Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum)  
Mon-Fri 9am-9pm and  
Weekends and Public  
Holidays 9am-10pm

📍 Chinatown

## TOURIST HOTLINE

☎ (65) 1800 736 2000  
(toll-free in Singapore)  
☎ (65) 6736 2000 (overseas)

# Connectivity



Register for free public Wi-Fi service with your foreign mobile number at any Wireless@SG hotspot across Singapore, and receive your login details via an SMS message. Overseas charges may apply. Alternatively, you can rent a pocket Wi-Fi device at Singapore Visitor Centre (orchardgateway) or Changi Recommends at Changi Airport



Buy a Singapore prepaid SIM card from Singapore Visitor Centre (orchardgateway), Changi Recommends and telecommunication retail shops located at the airport, major shopping malls and convenience stores island-wide.



# July

IT'S TIME TO FEAST, FOODIES! THERE ARE LOTS OF MUNCHING TO DO AROUND THE CITY WITH THE EXCITING SINGAPORE FOOD FESTIVAL HAPPENING THIS MONTH. NEED A BREAK FROM ALL THAT NOSHING? VISIT SINGAPORE'S GARDEN FESTIVAL FOR A SPOT OF NATURE, OR CATCH A COUPLE OF PLAYS AT MI CHINESE THEATRE FESTIVAL.



## SINGAPORE SCIENCE FESTIVAL 2016

Geek out at this annual celebration of science, engineering, technology and biomedicine organised by Agency for Science, Technology & Research (A\*STAR) and the Science Centre. Look forward to a slew of engaging activities that will satisfy your curiosity.

📅 Now on  
📍 Science Centre Singapore  
🌐 [www.science.edu.sg](http://www.science.edu.sg)  
📍 Jurong East

## SHAKING IT WITH SHAKESPEARE EXHIBITION

Explore the life and works of one of the world's greatest writers at this family-friendly exhibition filled with interactive exhibits and audio-visual elements that spans stamps, books, costumes and props. The Atrium will also be transformed into amphitheatres, where you can participate in various Tudor-themed activities, craft workshops and storytelling sessions.

📅 May 14 onwards  
📍 Singapore Philatelic Museum  
🌐 [www.spm.org.sg](http://www.spm.org.sg)  
📍 Bras Basah

## MASAK MASAK 2016

Part of the Children's Season, this year's Masak Masak features interactive installations, fun-filled activities and workshops for the entire family – and not just the kids!

📅 May 28 to Jul 31  
📍 National Museum of Singapore  
🌐 <http://nationalmuseum.sg/programmes/programme-list/masak-masak-2016>  
📍 Bras Basah



## SINGAPORE FOOD FESTIVAL 2016

Experience Singapore's rich food legacy at this annual culinary fiesta that celebrates Singapore's melting pot of cultures through food. Start your gastronomical journey at the signature outdoor event STREAT, then eat your way to a happy tummy at various installations around town, including Singapore Favourite Food Village, Open Stoves by Timbre+, 1950s Street of Singapore, and more!

📅 Jul 15 to 31  
📍 Various venues  
🌐 [www.singaporefoodfestival.com](http://www.singaporefoodfestival.com)

## SOAK OUT

Have a splashing good time at Universal Studios Singapore's fantastic water party parade, featuring water pistol battles and special performances. Play 'I spy' and see if you can spot The Minions and even Sesame Street characters!

📅 Jun 13 to Aug 10  
📍 Universal Studios Singapore  
🌐 [www.rwsentosa.com/uss](http://www.rwsentosa.com/uss)  
📍 HarbourFront



## SINGAPORE FAVOURITE FOOD VILLAGE 2016

Savour the flavours of the little red dot's vast and multi-cultural culinary landscape at this ten-day Singapore Favourite Food Village, where you'll get to try traditional local food as well as modern creations.

📅 Jul 22 to 31  
📍 Raffles City Shopping Centre, and outside SMRT Headquarters  
🌐 [singaporefavouritefood.sg](http://singaporefavouritefood.sg)  
📍 City Hall

## MI CHINESE THEATRE FESTIVAL

With an emphasis on smaller and intimate theatre groups in Singapore, this festival features six exceptional works from local and regional artists that will keep families and forward-thinking cultural junkies entertained.

📅 Jul 21 to Aug 14  
📍 Practice Space, and Black Box @ Centre 42  
🌐 [www.practice.org.sg](http://www.practice.org.sg)  
📍 Bugis

## SINGAPORE GARDEN FESTIVAL 2016

Taking up nearly 10 hectares at Gardens by the Bay, this biennial garden and flower show features the stunning works of award-winning designers from the world. Feast your eyes on Asia's finest orchids, shop for your gardening needs, or simply enjoy various ethnic dishes when dining at the Gardens.

📅 Jul 23 to 31  
📍 Gardens by the Bay  
🌐 [www.singaporegardenfestival.com](http://www.singaporegardenfestival.com)  
📍 Bayfront

## HARI RAYA LIGHT-UP & CELEBRATIONS 2016

Revel in the festivities leading up to Hari Raya at Singapore's Malay enclave, Geylang Serai. Look forward to colourful street light decorations, the annual Ramadan bazaar, cultural performances, a cultural discovery race, Geylang Serai Foot & Food Heritage Trail, and an *Iftar* session (a meal at dusk to signify the end of fasting).

📅 Jun 4 to Jul 5  
📍 Geylang Serai precinct, opposite Engku Aman Road  
🌐 [www.facebook.com/ourkampungspritsg](http://www.facebook.com/ourkampungspritsg)  
📍 Paya Lebar



## SANDS FOR SINGAPORE CHARITY FESTIVAL

Do some good while having plenty of fun at this carnival that helps raise funds for local charities including Art Outreach Singapore, Association for People with Special Needs, and Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore.

📅 Jul 29 to 31  
📍 Marina Bay Sands  
🌐 [www.MarinaBaySands.com](http://www.MarinaBaySands.com)  
📍 Bayfront

# August

IT'S A SPECIAL TIME TO BE IN SINGAPORE AS THE CITY CELEBRATES ITS 51<sup>ST</sup> BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH WITH A HUGE PARADE, FIREWORKS AND, OF COURSE, LOTS OF FESTIVITIES HAPPENING AROUND TOWN. CULTURE VULTURES CAN ALSO GET THEIR FIX OF THE ARTS AT PESTA RAYA-MALAY FESTIVAL OF ARTS, SINGAPORE NIGHT FESTIVAL AND SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS. OH, DON'T FORGET TO POP INTO EPICUREAN MARKET FOR SOME GREAT EATS!



## DA:NS SERIES MATTHEW BOURNE'S SLEEPING BEAUTY A GOTHIC ROMANCE

From the award-winning choreographer of *Swan Lake* comes this modern update of classic fairytale *The Sleeping Beauty*. Be dazzled by the extravagant sets, stunning costumes, graceful dancers, and phenomenal music by Tchaikovsky as the enchanting story of mystical love between Princess Aurora and her prince unfolds.

📅 Aug 4 to 7  
📍 Esplanade Theatre  
🌐 [www.facebook.com/dansfestival](http://www.facebook.com/dansfestival)  
📱 Esplanade

## PESTA RAYA-MALAY FESTIVAL OF ARTS

This annual cultural festival, held after Hari Raya Puasa (a holiday that celebrates the end of the Ramadan month of fasting), pays tribute to the Malay arts and heritage with an array of music, dance and theatre performances.

📅 Aug 4 to 7  
📍 Esplanade Theatre  
🌐 [www.esplanade.com/pestaraya](http://www.esplanade.com/pestaraya)  
📱 Esplanade

## SINGAPORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Pack your picnic basket and wind down amid the lush surroundings of Palm Valley as the ever-versatile Singapore Symphony Orchestra soothes you with a classical performance.

📅 Aug 7  
📍 Singapore Botanic Gardens  
🌐 [www.sbg.org.sg](http://www.sbg.org.sg)  
📱 Botanic Gardens

## NATIONAL DAY PARADE 2016

Of course, the biggest highlight of the month is the National Day Parade. Expect to see crowd-pleasers such as the State Flag Flypast and fireworks display on 9 August.

📅 Aug 9  
📍 National Stadium  
🌐 [www.ndp.org.sg](http://www.ndp.org.sg)  
📱 Stadium



## SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS 2016

Embark on an artistic adventure like no other at Singapore's pinnacle arts event. Themed 'Potentialities', the festival returns with 20 exciting programmes, of which a record-breaking 15 are new creations.

📅 Aug 11 to Sep 17  
📍 Various venues  
🌐 [www.sifa.sg](http://www.sifa.sg)



## EPICUREAN MARKET 2016

Go on a gastronomical adventure at this annual food and wine fair, which features top international restaurants, wineries and leading brands. Savour signature dishes from award-winning chefs, taste exquisite wines, shop for gourmet foods and take a masterclass from top culinary talents.

📅 Aug 12 to 14  
📍 Marina Bay Sands  
🌐 [www.marinabaysands.com/epicurean-market.html](http://www.marinabaysands.com/epicurean-market.html)  
📱 Bayfront



Photo credit:  
The Fullerton Heritage

## STORIES FROM AN ISLAND CITY

A multi-disciplinary concert that incorporates video, dance and music, this contemporary production performed by local instrumentalists The TENG Ensemble consists of 10 collaborative works that draw inspiration from Singapore's heritage and Southeast Asian folk songs.

📅 Aug 12  
📍 Esplanade Concert Hall  
🌐 [www.esplanade.com](http://www.esplanade.com)  
📱 Esplanade



## WEEZER LIVE IN CONCERT

The American alternative-rock band is in town for the first time to play their hit songs including "Buddy Holly" and "Say It Ain't So" live.

📅 Aug 15  
📍 Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre  
🌐 <http://sistic.com.sg/events/wee0816>  
📱 Esplanade



## SINGAPORE NIGHT FESTIVAL

The ninth edition of this nocturnal extravaganza continues to lure the crowds with its spectacular performances, light art installations and a myriad of activities at the heart of Singapore's art district for all to enjoy for two whole weekends.

📅 Aug 19 to 27  
📍 Bras Basah-Bugis Precinct  
🌐 [www.nightfest.sg](http://www.nightfest.sg)  
📱 Bras Basah

## OCBC-NPARKS RIDE SAFE PROGRAMME MOVIE NIGHT

Go on a leisurely 11-km ride through the city's large network of park connectors, then end your cycling adventure with a outdoor movie at East Coast Park's Parkland Green. Not keen on cycling? Head straight to the final destination for the screening at 7.30pm.

📅 Aug 20  
📍 East Coast Park  
🌐 [www.nparks.gov.sg](http://www.nparks.gov.sg)  
📱 Eunos



# September

BUCKLE UP, PETROLHEADS; LIKE IT OR NOT, THE 2015 FORMULA 1® SINGAPORE AIRLINES SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX IS BACK TO TAKE OVER THE ENTIRE CITY THIS MONTH WITH A PLETHORA OF HIGH-OCTANE EXPERIENCES BOTH ON AND OFF THE TRACK. IF YOU'RE NOT INTO FAST CARS, OR WANT SOME QUIET TIME AWAY FROM THE ACTION, TREAT YOUR EYES TO STUNNING IMAGERY AT THE 5TH EDITION SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL, OR GET YOUR MIND IN A TWIST AT M.C. ESCHER'S FASCINATING EXHIBITION AT ARTSCIENCE MUSEUM™.

## BIG BANG DATA

Imagine the vast amount of data around you – from emails, selfies, and Google searches – transformed into art. Through the work of artists, designers, journalists and visionaries, this travelling exhibition explores the phenomenon of the information explosion we face in today's interconnected world, as well as its implications.

- 📅 May 21 onwards
- 📍 ArtScience Museum™
- 🌐 [www.marinabaysands.com/museum](http://www.marinabaysands.com/museum)
- 📍 Bayfront

## GUSTO ITALIANO 2016

Lovers of Italian cuisine will have heaps to feast on with the return of this gastronomic festival. Expect kitchen takeovers by highly acclaimed international chefs, exclusive dinners at award-winning restaurants, culinary workshops and dining deals for the entire month.

- 📅 Sep 1 to 30
- 📍 Various venues
- 🌐 [www.gustoitaliano.com.sg](http://www.gustoitaliano.com.sg)



## 5TH EDITION SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL (SIPF)

Held over 11 weeks and across the island, the fifth biennial Singapore International Photography Festival will be showcasing works by photographers from over 20 countries worldwide through exhibitions, film screenings, talks, and professional workshops held by Magnum Photos. Not sure where to start? Visit the Festival Village at DECK (120A Prinsep Street), which serves as an information centre throughout the festival.

- 📅 Sep 1 to Nov 13
- 📍 Various venues
- 🌐 [www.sipf.sg](http://www.sipf.sg)

## NYONYA EMBROIDERY AND BEADWORK

Discover Singapore's unrecorded history at this exhibition that celebrates traditional Peranakan embroidery. Intricately sewn on slippers, purses, bed hangings, handkerchiefs and clothing, this time-honoured art reveals Singapore's vibrant multi-culturalism in its Chinese, Indian, Portuguese, Dutch and local Malay influences.

- 📅 Sep 1 onwards
- 📍 Peranakan Museum
- 🌐 [www.peranakanmuseum.org.sg](http://www.peranakanmuseum.org.sg)
- 📍 City Hall / Bras Basah



## GRAND PRIX SEASON SINGAPORE

Get ready for ten whole days of non-stop F1® madness. Catch the biggest stars in music on stage, rub shoulders with A-listers at Amber Lounge and Podium Lounge, enjoy a slew of dining deals, and shop your heart out with promotions around town.

- 📅 Sep 9 to 18
- 📍 Various venues
- 🌐 [www.yoursingapore.com/gpss](http://www.yoursingapore.com/gpss)



## ULTRA MUSIC FESTIVAL SINGAPORE 2016

Not to be confused with Road To Ultra – essentially a mini-sized version of renowned electronic music festival – this full-scale edition, which is the first in Southeast Asia sees top DJs, underground players and local talents performing across two days and three stages.

- 📅 Sep 10 to 11
- 📍 1 Bayfront Avenue
- 🌐 [www.ultrasingapore.com](http://www.ultrasingapore.com)
- 📍 Bayfront



## 2016 FORMULA 1® SINGAPORE AIRLINES SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX

The night race continues to enthrall crowds with its unique combination of high-speed action and world-class entertainment in its ninth installation. See the world's finest drivers go wheel-to-wheel at speeds of up to 320km/h, threading the barriers around Singapore's picturesque Marina Bay and against a spectacular backdrop of iconic heritage buildings, modern architecture and a stunning skyline.

- 📅 Sep 16 to 18
- 📍 Marina Bay Street Circuit
- 🌐 [www.singaporegp.sg](http://www.singaporegp.sg)
- 📍 City Hall

## M.C. ESCHER

Enter the impossible, mind-twisting world of famed Dutch graphic artist M.C. Escher at this fascinating exhibition. The show, which features over 150 of his works, highlights how Escher viewed the world from two perspectives: artistic and scientific.

- 📅 Sep 17 onwards
- 📍 ArtScience Museum™ at Marina Bay Sands
- 🌐 [www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum](http://www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum)
- 📍 Bayfront

## THE GRUFFALO'S CHILD

Hot on the heels of sell-out West End production The Gruffalo is this award-winning sequel by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler that follows the Gruffalo's child's adventure into the snow on a wild and windy night.

- 📅 Sep 22 to 25
- 📍 Victoria Theatre
- 🌐 [www.sistic.com.sg/events/gruff0916](http://www.sistic.com.sg/events/gruff0916)
- 📍 Raffles Place

## ASICS CITY RELAY

Singapore's only night marathon relay will take running teams through iconic landmarks including Singapore Sports Hub, Gardens by the Bay, Helix Bridge and F1® Pit Building in the 42.195-km route.

- 📅 Sep 24
- 📍 National Stadium
- 🌐 [www.cityrelay.com.sg](http://www.cityrelay.com.sg)
- 📍 Stadium



## BRING ME THE HORIZON

Rock out to one of UK's most important metal bands as they perform hits like "Drown" and "Happy Song" from their latest studio album That's The Spirit at Fort Canning Park.

- 📅 Sep 27
- 📍 Fort Canning Park
- 🌐 [www.sistic.com.sg/events/cbrng0116](http://www.sistic.com.sg/events/cbrng0116)
- 📍 Dhoby Ghaut

## Don't miss 2016 Formula 1® Singapore Airlines Singapore Grand Prix

Whether or not you're into motorsports, September is an exhilarating time to be in Singapore, when the Lion City is all revved up and ready for the **2016 Formula 1® Singapore Airlines Singapore Grand Prix** (16 to 18 September). Now in its ninth year, look forward to a weekend filled with high-octane action both on and off the track.

Complementing the race is the Grand Prix Season Singapore (GPSS), an all-encompassing season of lifestyle events that includes culture, dining, retail and entertainment offerings. Festival-goers can look forward to Ultra Singapore on 10 and 11 September. This Miami-originating extravaganza – one of the biggest electronic dance music (EDM)

festivals in the world – will feature three stages, 40 artists, and a top-notch stage production with state-of-the-art visuals.

Undoubtedly, the star of the show is the thrilling race, as renowned Formula 1® drivers like Lewis Hamilton and Sebastian Vettel battle to the finish line. Some of the world's hottest musical acts will be headlining the evening's massive concert. Previous headliners include Bon Jovi, Pharrell Williams and Maroon 5, who took to the stage last year.

When the engines turn off, the city pulses with an irrepressible energy as Champagne flows from the bars around town. Those who want to rub shoulders with Formula 1® drivers, supermodels and even

royalty, head to Amber Lounge (17 to 18 September) or Podium Lounge (16 to 18 September) at The Ritz Carlton, Millenia Singapore for a glitzy evening.

This year's Grand Prix weekend coincides with Mid-Autumn Festival, so culture vultures looking to take a breather from the F1® buzz should make time to visit Chinatown to join the local community at their celebrations. Be dazzled by colourful lanterns of different shapes and sizes decked along the streets of Chinatown.

For more information, visit [www.yoursingapore.com/gpss](http://www.yoursingapore.com/gpss).



## Exposé Singapore Food Festival



You can have anything you want right here in this little red dot when it comes to food. Top-notch pizzas? Get a table at Pizzeria Mozza (#B1-42/46 The Shoppes at Marina Bay Sands). Subliminal sushi? Hashida Sushi (#02-37 Mandarin Gallery) serves one of the best in town. Fancy some modern French plates? Odette (#01-04 National Gallery Singapore) is as good as it gets.

What about Singaporean food? There are plenty of amazing local dishes to be had in this foodie utopia, and they are everywhere – in hawker centres, mom-and-pop eateries, mod-Sin (modern Singaporean) restaurants, and even in five-star hotels around the city. And if you're looking to discover the richness and diversity of Singapore culinary landscape in

the most efficient way possible, then mark your calendars for the annual **Singapore Food Festival**, happening from 15 to 31 July.

Now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, this 17-day eating festival celebrates our local food culture and heritage, and you can expect a mouthwatering smorgasbord of palate-pleasing affairs. Start noshing at the signature event STREAT, an outdoor public food experience that will take you back to old Singapore with delish street food from the past. There will also be modern renditions of local heritage dishes.

Feeling peckish? Be sure to make time for Kueh Appreciation Day, a delightful fiesta that pays tribute to kueh (local bite-sized snacks

and desserts) and their traditional methods of cooking. Look forward to sampling a range of treats from different ethnic groups like *ang ku kueh* (soft and round glutinous rice cakes with a sweet filling such as mung bean or peanut paste) and *ondeh ondeh* (boiled rice cakes with liquid *gula melaka* (palm sugar)).

Guided tours are also a great way to experience Singapore's rich food legacy. Join several CRAVE! local foods tours and explore the plethora of flavours that best represent the city's food scene.

Ready your appetite, foodies! There are heaps more to be had at the highly anticipated gastronomic festival. Check out [www.singaporefoodfestival.com](http://www.singaporefoodfestival.com) for a complete overview!





## Design Insider *Selwyn Low*

FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS, FARM HAS BEEN TRANSFORMING SINGAPORE'S LANDSCAPE THROUGH ITS ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND EVEN ART PROJECTS, INCLUDING LLOYD'S INN HOTEL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT - OUR PUNGGOL. WE SPEAK TO THE UBER-TALENTED FOUNDER ABOUT HIS STUDIO'S BEST WORKS, SINGAPORE'S ARCHITECTURAL LANDSCAPE, AND HIS FAVOURITE HANGOUTS IN THE CITY.



Pearl Bank Apartments



The Interlace



Flower Dome

### FARM is...

a practice that creates new brand experiences both visually and spatially. We're currently busy with a few new hotels in Singapore and property developments around the region.

### Our latest works include...

the Art Connector, a structure that we created with local artist Grace Tan. It links from City Hall MRT station to the National Gallery Singapore. We also initiated Project Bench – we salvaged timbers from the old National Stadium to be made into public benches. That was especially meaningful to me.

### The Farm Store...

really happened by chance. When we hosted Rojak talks (a sharing session for local creatives) in the late 2000s, we met many homegrown designers. Together, we pondered on creating more locally designed objects. Later, we were tasked by the National Museum and Singapore Art Museum to create their inaugural product range, which included now-evergreen local souvenirs such as the *tutu kueh* (steamed rice flour cakes filled with sugared ground peanuts, or a combination of palm sugar and shredded coconut) erasers, and the Made for Sam line of trinkets. That initiative spurred more shops and designers to create locally design products, and we started The Farm Store to help distribute these creative products.

### Singapore's architectural landscape is...

always evolving with newer, shinier buildings existing side-by-side with old ones. I also love how our streets are lined with trees – the greenery makes me happy!

### I admire...

The Interlace, a residential development, and the very old Pearl Bank Apartments. To me, both are innovative attempts at communal housing as they redefine urban living. I'm also drawn to buildings that work harmoniously with the tropical landscape: PARKROYAL at Pickering is a great example.

### The best places for local food are...

too many to list! But for a supercharged local food experience, my top spots are Maxwell Food Centre, Hong Lim Market & Food Centre, and Tiong Bahru Market. Nothing beats the multi-sensory experience of eating in a clean hawker centre, and that's uniquely Singapore.

### Besides The Farm Shop (of course)...

the Singapore Visitor's Centre at Orchard Gateway is a great place to grab a good, meaningful memento from Singapore. It has a great selection of items by local designers. Our museums also boast amazing retail spaces too, such as Gallery & Co. at National Gallery Singapore, Supermama at Singapore Art Museum and Museum Label at National Museum of Singapore.

### If friends from out of town are here for a visit...

I will plan a shiny-to-gritty tour of Singapore to show how eclectic we are as a city! We'll hit up Gardens by the Bay to visit the spectacular Flower Dome and marvel at the grandeur of man-made nature, and then contrast the experience with the naturally aged beauty of Singapore Botanic Gardens (it's also our first UNESCO World Heritage site). The afternoon will be spent at the museums and cultural sites, including the Singapore Art Museum and ArtScience Museum™. The latter is notable for bringing architecture, conservation and art under one big roof. In the evening, we'll make our way to Geylang for amazing local food and bustling atmosphere. After dinner, we'll do a quick zip around Mustafa Shopping Centre, then have supper in the Little India vicinity – people really don't sleep here!

### The Farm Store

📍 #04-20 Waterloo Centre  
☎ (65) 6336 0609  
🌐 [www.thefarmstore.sg](http://www.thefarmstore.sg)  
🐛 Bugs



# Unbelievable Tours

LOOKING TO EXPERIENCE A DAY TRIP WITH A DIFFERENCE? THESE BRILLIANT TOURS AROUND LOCAL HISTORIC SITES SHOW YOU THE OLD SINGAPORE.

Singapore may be only 51 years young, but the story of this little red dot actually begins much earlier, as a thriving port of call before it became a British colony in 1826. The colonial-state later fell under the Japanese occupation from 1942 to 1945 during World War II, and it was a major turning point in Singapore's history as it sparked the building of a nation.

Remnants of the war are littered throughout the city, but a good place to start your journey into the past is at Changi Museum. It serves as a memorial to the soldiers and victims of the Japanese Occupation through the documentation of the emotional events that happened during the tumultuous period. Choose to explore key historic sites including Selarang Barracks, Johore Battery, and Changi Beach on the **Changi WWII** tour or learn about the stratagems and actions that instigated the downfall



Of Graves, Guns & Battle Tour

of Singapore in WWII at the **Through Fog & Fire – The Battle for Singapore, 1942** tour.

Those keen on a broader itinerary can go on the **East Coast & Changi** tour by Tour East Singapore. This excursion, which starts with a jaunt around Malay cultural enclave Kampong Glam, will take you through the Changi Chapel and Museum, where you'll experience the tragedies and triumphs that emerged during WWII. Then, you'll be driven through the quaint and rustic Changi Village to see a more tranquil, laid-back side of modern Singapore, before making your way to Tampines New Town, a bustling heartland.

Another important landmark in Singapore's wartime history is Fort Canning, a small hill where colonial and modern Singapore was born. For a deep dive into the hill's rich history, join Journeys' **Of Graves, Guns & Battle** tour; you'll visit the graves of war victims and heroes, as well as explore a former WWII underground command centre called the Battlebox.

One of the fiercest battles that took place in Singapore during WWII is the Battle of Pasir Panjang, in which Second Lieutenant Adnan Saidi led the Malay Regiment soldiers against a 13,000-strong Japanese army. Relive this heroic clash at **Reflections at Bukit Chandu** by The National Heritage Board as you interact



East Coast & Changi Tour

with the historical artefacts and exhibits. For a more in-depth war experience, you can also embark on the **War & Peace: The Kranji Experience** tour by Singapore History Consultants, as you explore the site of Kranji Beach Battle, the second attack on Singapore by the Japanese before the Battle of Pasir Panjang.

**Changi WWII**  
☎ (65) 6214 2451  
📄 [www.changimuseum.sg](http://www.changimuseum.sg)

**Through Fog & Fire – The Battle for Singapore, 1942**  
☎ (65) 6214 2451  
📄 [www.changimuseum.sg](http://www.changimuseum.sg)

**East Coast & Changi**  
☎ (65) 6735 1221  
📄 [www.toureast.net](http://www.toureast.net)

**Of Grave, Guns & Battle**  
☎ (65) 6325 1631  
📄 [www.journeys.com.sg](http://www.journeys.com.sg)

**Reflections at Bukit Chandu**  
☎ (65) 6375 2510  
📄 [www.nhb.gov.sg/museums](http://www.nhb.gov.sg/museums)

**War & Peace: The Kranji Experience**  
☎ (65) 6221 3804  
📄 [www.shc.com.sg](http://www.shc.com.sg)

# Singlish, explained

DON'T BLAME US IF YOU GET FUNNY LOOKS WHEN USING THESE PHRASES IN FRONT OF A SINGAPOREAN!

**Lah**

A suffix used to place emphasis on the sentence; used to express certainty  
"Don't worry about it lah!"

**Chope**

To reserve a place or call dibs on something  
"Can you *chope* a seat for me?"

**Shiok**

Fantastic, or to convey feelings of satisfaction and pleasure  
"This plate of chicken rice is damn *shiok*!"

**Kiasu**

A fiercely competitive spirit  
"She *queued* for four hours to get the latest iPhone - so *kiasu*?"

**Har-nor**

The Singlish equivalent of "I agree", or, "Exactly!"  
A: "The movie is exciting!"  
B: "Har-nor!"

**Har-na**

A way of acknowledging something someone says  
A: "Don't be late for tomorrow's appointment!"  
B: "Har-na, I won't!"

## Order your local kueh (aka bite-sized snacks or dessert foods)

### TUTU KUEH

Steamed rice flour cakes filled with sugared ground peanuts, or a combination of *gula melaka* (palm sugar) and shredded coconut

### ONDEH ONDEH

Boiled rice cakes – typically round and green in colour – coated with grated coconut and filled with liquid *gula melaka* (palm sugar)

### CHWEE KUEH

Steamed rice cakes topped with diced preserved radish and chilli sauce

### KUEH LAPIS

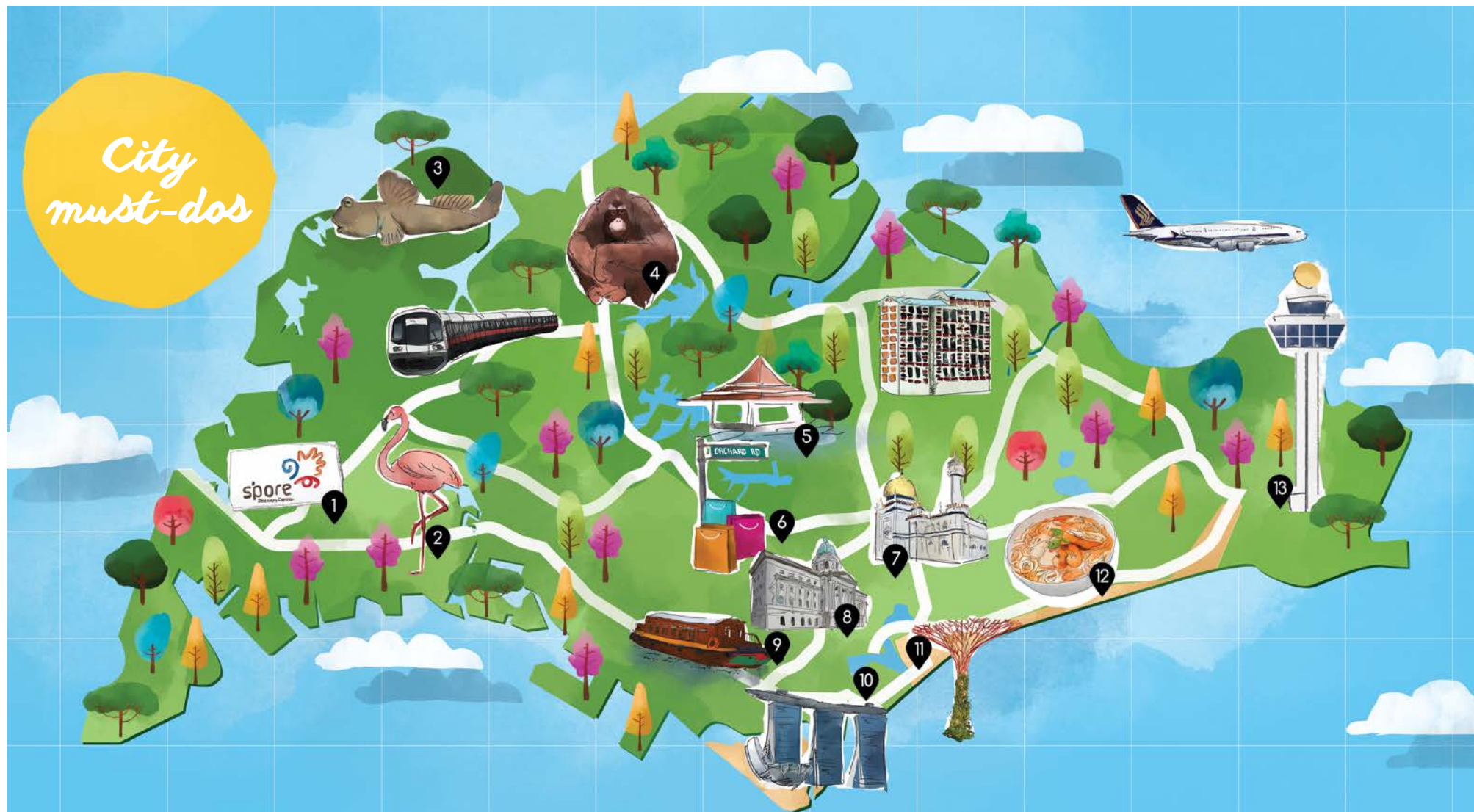
A sweet layered cake primarily made from rice flour, coconut milk, and sugar; also available in varieties like chocolate and pandan

### ANG KU KUEH

Soft and round glutinous rice cakes with a sweet filling, usually mung bean or peanut paste



# City must-dos



THIS SUN-DRENCHED ISLAND IS MANY THINGS: A VIBRANT MULTI-CULTURAL STATE, A LUSH GARDEN CITY, A RENOWNED BUSINESS HUB, A FOODIE'S PARADISE, A WORLD-CLASS SHOPPING DESTINATION, AND A NATION WITH HISTORY AND DEPTH. TO WIT, SINGAPORE IS DELIGHTFULLY COMPLEX, AND IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START, THIS MAP OF THE CITY'S FINEST SHOULD POINT YOU IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION(S).

1. Singapore Discovery Centre
2. Jurong Bird Park
3. Sungei Buloh Nature Reserve
4. Singapore Zoo
5. MacRitchie Reservoir
6. Orchard Road
7. Kampong Glam
8. National Gallery Singapore
9. Singapore River
10. Marina Bay Sands
11. Gardens by the Bay
12. Katong/Joo Chiat
13. Changi Airport



# One dish, three ways

CHOCK FULL OF FLAVOUR AND MELT-IN-THE-MOUTH TENDER, LOCAL FOOD STAR BEEF *RENDANG* (SLOW-COOKED BEEF IN A RICH LEMON GRASS AND COCONUT SAUCE) HAS INDONESIAN ORIGINS AND IS TYPICALLY ENJOYED WITH A MEDLEY OF OTHER SIDE DISHES. HERE'S WHERE TO GO FOR MODERN RENDITIONS OF THIS HOT MESS.



## SLAKE BAR + KITCHEN BEEF RENDANG NACHOS

Instead of traditional nachos, crackling, deep-fried wonton skins are smothered in flavour-packed *rendang* sauce, melt-in-your-mouth beef cubes, and creamy nacho cheese. Watch out: it'll be finished before you know it.

📍 15 Swan Lake Ave  
☎ (65) 9245 0184  
🌐 [www.slake.sg](http://www.slake.sg)  
📍 Bedok



## WILD ROCKET BEEF SHORT RIBS IN RENDANG SAUCE

Chef Willin Low of mod-Sin (modern-Singapore) restaurant Wild Rocket makes mouth-watering beef *rendang* with short ribs, which he slow-cooks for 48 hours until fork-tender in a spicy *rendang* sauce and serves it with cylindrical-shaped *ketupat*.

📍 Hangout Hotel, 10A Upper Wilkie Road  
☎ (65) 6339 9448  
🌐 [www.wildrocket.com.sg](http://www.wildrocket.com.sg)  
📍 Dhoby Ghaut

Said to originate from Minangkabau, an Indonesian ethnic group, beef *rendang* usually takes centre stage at Hari Raya feasts and weddings. Typically slow-cooked in a rich lemongrass and coconut sauce, this luscious beef stew is best eaten with rice or *ketupat* (rice cakes). **Rumah Makan Minang** (18 Kandahar Street) is said to serve the authentic version, which is drier, has less gravy but is still remarkably tender and flavoursome. The beef *rendang* dish that's commonly served today in hawker stalls resembles more of a thick curry, thanks to the addition of toasted grated coconut.

# Peter Chua

THE AWARD-WINNING LOCAL BARTENDER FROM WILDLY POPULAR SPEAKEASY 28 HONG KONG STREET (28HKS) SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON SINGAPORE'S GROWING COCKTAIL SCENE, AND WHERE TO GO FOR THE BEST DRINKING (AND EATING) EXPERIENCES IN THE CITY.



## What makes 28HKS special is...

its well-curated food and drinks menu, as well as top-notch hospitality that the hardworking staff offer to every customer that walks through the door. Most people tend to remember how much fun they had at the bar, rather than how balanced the Negroni was.

## The local bartending scene is...

the epitome of "East meets West" - just like how Singapore is as a country. Bartenders here are constantly experimenting with local and foreign ingredients, flavour profiles, as well as traditional and modern techniques. The use of local flavours really help sets us apart from bars worldwide.

## For the best drinking experiences in town, go to...

Manhattan at Regent Singapore and order a Primavera before asking head barman Philip Bischoff to give you a tour of its hidden rooms: an in-bar rickhouse and an impressive ingredients room; Operation Dagger for its Red Eye cocktail, and quiz head barman Luke "Wookie" Whearty on how they make their bottled fermented beverages, compressed fruits and drinks that come in two different temperatures; and have a chat with the multi-talented bartender Tom Hogan while he makes you a Blood of Dillinger at Anti:Dote.

## After a long hard day's work...

I'd go to the 24-hour *kopitiam* (coffee shop) at Blk 401 Hougang Avenue 10. Simply known as "401" by the residents there, it offers a wide range of local cuisines and my favourites are the chicken rice, *laksa* (noodles in coconut milk-based curry broth) and *Hokkien mee* (stir-fried prawn noodles).

## If friends from out of town are here for a visit...

I'll bring them for Singapore-style breakfast (soft boiled eggs, *kaya* (coconut jam) toast and coffee) at a local coffee shop. Then, I'd take them to the zoo just because I love animals! We'll have lunch at Bread Street Kitchen at Marina Bay Sands, before sneaking in an afternoon drink while enjoying the beautiful view of the city's skyline at Cé La Vi. Sentosa's next on the list: we'll chill out by the beach and have some vodka-fuelled Miami Vices cocktails at Tanjong Beach Club. Dinner will be at Lau Pa Sat, where we'll have more local grub to line our bellies for a night of bar-hopping around town, no doubt making a stop at 28HKS. For supper, we'll head to Geylang for a mandatory durian experience - whether they like it or not!

📍 28 HongKong Street  
☎ (65) 6533 2001  
🌐 [www.28hks.com](http://www.28hks.com)  
📍 Clarke Quay

# Hot Tables

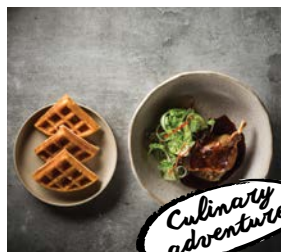


Fine dining

## WHITEGRASS

Helmed by Sam Aisbet, alumnus of Tetsuya Wakuda's acclaimed Tetsuya's in Sydney, Whitegrass aims to redefine modern Australian cuisine. Placing a focus on fresh and unique ingredients sourced everywhere from the Blue Mountains in Sydney to Tekka market in Singapore, Aisbet's offerings include tender butter-poached quail paired with diced century-egg whites and black and white garlic. If you want something with a contemporary Japanese twist, try the slow-cooked Mangalica pork. Whitegrass is tucked away in the historically rich and charming compound of CHIJMES, a former convent and chapel.

📍 #01-26/27 CHIJMES, 30 Victoria Street  
☎ (65) 6837 0402  
🌐 whitegrass.com.sg  
🚶 City Hall



Culinary adventure

## CHEEK BY JOWL

The concept here is a seasonal menu with contemporary starters and shareable mains. Expect dishes such as wild venison with fermented plums and wasabi (Japanese horseradish), rabbit leg with parsnip and beach herbs, and his signature dish, duck and waffles.

📍 21 Boon Tat Street  
☎ (65) 6211 1911  
🌐 facebook.com/cheekbyjowlsg  
🚶 Telok Ayer



Chinese chic

## EMPRESS

This fancy dining establishment offers artfully plated classic Chinese cuisine like king prawn dumplings in broth, lobster mapo (Sichuan-originated tofu dish cooked in spicy chilli bean sauce) and novel dishes like steamed pumpkin and pork skin dumplings. The restaurant's plush decor contrasts the modern and traditional; interiors are vibrant with a hint of fun, while maintaining historical references to the museum's façade.

📍 #01-03 Asian Civilisations Museum, 1 Empress Place  
☎ (65) 6238 8733  
🌐 empress.com.sg  
🚶 City Hall



Haute hawker

## WANTON, SENG'S NOODLE BAR

Slurp your way through a bowl of gourmet wanton (pork and shrimp dumpling) noodles at this quirky noodle bar at Amoy Street. The noodles here come with char siu (barbequed pork) that's a cut above the rest – brilliantly charred and without too much fat. Alternatively, go for the roast pork belly and a slow-cooked pork rib options, and do add the five-minute egg. Book for dinner, otherwise getting a table is like winning the lottery.

📍 52 Amoy Street  
☎ (65) 6221 1336  
🌐 wantongsg.com  
🚶 Telok Ayer



Farm fresh

## ORIGINAL SIN

This Holland Village stalwart serves some of the best Mediterranean vegetarian plates in town. Must-tries include the cheesy baked Portobello mushroom with pesto and tomato basil sauce, and the bosco misto (spinach, feta, and tofu patties coated with crushed almonds and sesame seeds).

📍 #01-62 Block 43 Jalan Merah Saga  
☎ (65) 6475 5605  
🌐 www.originalsin.com.sg  
🚶 Holland Village



Avant-garde gastronomy

## SAHA SIGNATURE INDIAN RESTAURANT & BAR

Nestled in the National Gallery Singapore, this modern Indian fine-dining establishment serves contemporary dishes engineered by celebrity chef Abhijit Saha. His signature style is to play with non-Indian ingredients and unusual techniques, but you won't miss out on traditional dishes such as rich curries from Tamil Nadu and spice-heavy Kashmiri dishes.

📍 #01-03 National Gallery Singapore, 1 Saint Andrews Road  
☎ (65) 6223 7321  
🌐 www.saha.sg  
🚶 City Hall



Peranakan charm

## THE BLUE GINGER

This family-run restaurant is one well-known spot that dishes out exquisite Peranakan (Straits Chinese) plates. Order faves such as the ayam panggang (grilled chicken) 'blue ginger' and assam puteh (the Nyonya version of Thai tom yam soup) to share. For dessert, don't miss the awesome durian chendol (a dessert concoction with green rice flour jelly, coconut milk, shaved ice and palm sugar).

📍 97 Tanjong Pagar Road  
☎ (65) 6222 3928  
🌐 www.theblueginger.com  
🚶 Tanjong Pagar



American comfort

## EVERYTHING WITH FRIES

Not everything here comes with fries, but that hardly bothers us when we're tucking into a slice of EwF's Nutella tart, served with ice cream. But before hopping straight into desserts, try mains such as braised beef karubi and miso-baked king salmon. If time permits, check out EwF's sister-franchise Sinpopo (458 Joo Chiat Road) – a cafe with old-school charm and an interesting local-inspired menu.

📍 40 Lorong Mambong  
☎ (65) 6463 3741  
🌐 www.everythingwithfries.com  
🚶 Holland Village



Cheap eats

## OLD AIRPORT ROAD FOOD CENTRE

All locals know this food hub. Established in 1973, this is the go-to hawker centre for barbecued seafood (Mattar Road Seafood BBQ, #01-63) and freshly made Hong Kong-style chee cheong fun (rice noodle roll at Freshly Made Chee Cheong Fun stall, #01-155). If you prefer Hokkien mee (stir-fried prawn noodle), Nam Sing Hokkien Fried Mee (#01-32) is the local foodies' fave!

📍 19 Old Airport Road  
🚶 Dakota



Heritage dining

## PRIMA TOWER REVOLVING RESTAURANT

One of only two revolving restaurants in Singapore, this top-notch dining spot allows you to savour delectable Beijing fare while taking in a view of the sea. Menu highlights include the house specialty Peking Duck (the crispy skin of the roast duck wrapped in a thin Chinese pancake), and flavoursome shredded scallops with fish and egg white.

📍 201 Keppel Road  
☎ (65) 6272 8822 / 6272 8988  
🌐 pfs.com.sg  
🚶 Tanjong Pagar



# Cool Bars



## PRIVÉ CLARKE QUAY

Fancy some eggs Ben with your cocktails? Hit up this breezy waterfront spot, which serves scrumptious breakfast 'round the clock. There's a vast selection of vodkas to be had, plus a gin bottle service that comes with mini crates of rose petals, cucumber slices and lime. Happy hour starts from 6pm to 9pm everyday, and the bar packs live performances from resident bands and DJs to complete your swigging experience.

📍 Blk C, #01-09A Clarke Quay, 3 River Valley Road  
☎ (65) 6779 8915  
🌐 [www.privecq.sg](http://www.privecq.sg)  
📍 Clarke Quay



## CHUPITOS

Known for their intriguing selection of shots and their awesome happy hour deals (\$6 for all selected shots, bottled bottles, and house pours from 6.30pm till 9.30pm daily), this modest bar is where to go for delicious and power-packed pre-party drinks. Try their local-inspired bestsellers like the Milo Godzilla, Bandung (evaporated milk with water and rose cordial mix) and Pandan Cake.

📍 3B River Valley Road  
🌐 [www.thechupitosbar.com](http://www.thechupitosbar.com)  
📍 Clarke Quay



## TERRA

At its 27-metre long terrazzo-pannelled bar, you can find cleverly curated alcoholic concoctions that range from \$15 (piscola, made with pisco and cola) to \$20 (beergarita, consisting of tequila, lime juice, agave, and topped with beer). Go for the white sangria or the signature Aloeation, a light, cleansing cocktail of gin, aloe vera juice, lime and dill, with nibble-sized aloe vera jelly-chunks, if you're craving a refreshing thirst quencher on a hot day.

📍 #03-308 Suntec City Sky Garden, 3 Temasek Boulevard  
☎ (65) 6336 6009  
🌐 [www.terrasingapore.com](http://www.terrasingapore.com)  
📍 Esplanade



## MCGETTIGAN'S

Decked out in dark mahogany wood, leather armchairs and elegant light fixtures, this sports bar is swankier than your average Irish pub. But you still get the same convivial vibe that Irish bars are known for – thanks to its classic offerings of fish and chips, Guinness, Magners, feet-tapping live music and football on the flat screens.

📍 #01-01C Clarke Quay, 3 River Valley Road  
☎ (65) 6694 6911  
🌐 [www.mcgettigans.com/singapore](http://www.mcgettigans.com/singapore)  
📍 Clarke Quay



## KULT KAFE

Appreciate edgy, contemporary art with a tippie in hand at this dive bar, housed within the cultured crannies of Kult Gallery. The drink to order is the Kult Julep, featuring rum, lime and gula melaka (palm sugar). But if you're game for stiffer concoctions, go for its well-executed Negroni, Boulevardier and 1794.

📍 11 Upper Wilkie Road  
☎ (65) 9190 1481  
🌐 [www.kultkafe.com](http://www.kultkafe.com)  
📍 Dhoby Ghaut

# Cynthia Chua

THE FOUNDER AND CEO OF SPA ESPRIT GROUP, ONE OF SINGAPORE'S LARGEST LIFESTYLE AND BEAUTY EMPIRE, REVEALS HER SOFT SPOT FOR DEMPSEY.



Sitting on a sprawling 35,000 square feet in Dempsey is Open Farm Community, a unique horticultural hub that houses a restaurant, a garden, a retail store-slash-bar and play areas. Here, we catch up with Cynthia Chua, Singapore's undisputed lifestyle maven and the brains behind the project, as she shows us around the lush enclave, which is also home to her first dining venture, House (8D Dempsey Road).

### Open Farm Community is...

an experiential green space and urban farmland in the heart of Singapore. It's a place for city dwellers to connect with nature as they learn more about food, its origins, and the role it plays in a modern eco-system.

### The idea of urban farming...

was introduced to me three years ago by a talented chef, who wanted to build a local urban farm where he can harvest his own produce. I never thought that was possible in Singapore until I met the passionate group of farmers from Urban Garden City.

### I fell in love with Dempsey's...

amazing greenery and tranquility. It's not typical to find a sprawling farm in the city. You feel like you're in Bali here in this neighbourhood. At Open Farm Community, you'll see farmers with straw hats and chefs harvesting and picking produce for the kitchen. It's a visual treat that warms my heart.

### Dempsey was formerly...

A nutmeg plantation, until blight destroyed the crops. The British Army converted it into Tanglin Barracks, which was also used by the Japanese military during World War II. In the late 1980s, the barracks was turned into a headquarters for the Ministry of Interior and Defence (MINDEF) and a base for Central Manpower, until the '90s saw the area transforming into a retail enclave.

### Not many people know that...

Dempsey's actually brimming with wild life, including Kingfishers, Woodpeckers and Monitor Lizards. It's wonderful to kick back over a meal at any of the café's al fresco seating and soak in nature's wonders.

### My five favourite Dempsey spots are...

1) Culina, which offers great food made with quality produce, 2) Powermoves – this pilates studio whips my body into shape 3) Beauty Emporium for quick waxes and great facials, 4) House for a mean cup of red tea latte and Asian sliders, 5) Samy's, which serves flavour-packed Indian food.

Open Farm Community  
📍 130E Minden Rd  
☎ (65) 6471 0306  
🌐 [www.openfarmcommunity.com](http://www.openfarmcommunity.com)  
📍 Orchard



# Navigator Kampong Glam

ONCE AN ETHNIC ENCLAVE FOR THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY, INCLUDING ARAB AND BUGIS TRADERS, KAMPONG GLAM IS NOW A THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOOD PEPPERED WITH HOLE-IN-THE-WALL BOUTIQUES, QUIANT RESTAURANTS, COOL BARS AND CHARMING CULTURAL SPOTS. FUN FACT: KAMPONG GLAM USED TO BE A BUSTLING PORT TOWN BEFORE SIR STAMFORD RAFFLES ARRIVED ON OUR SHORES!

📍 Bugis

## 1. ARTISTRY

Get your dose of creativity at Artistry, an art gallery café dedicated to showcasing local and international artworks. They also host a slew of artsy and hip events – from thought-provoking Story Slam sessions to electrifying live performances by local bands.

📍 17 Jalan Pinang  
☎ (65) 6298 2420  
🌐 [www.artistryspace.com](http://www.artistryspace.com)

## 2. ALI WAL ARTS CENTRE

This arts space typically hosts the Aliwal Urban Art Festival during Singapore Art Week and Aliwal Arts Night Crawl, along with other performing arts events throughout the year, ranging from staged theatre performances, to belly dancing and acappella singing. The centre also houses kid-friendly Eat Play Love Café – another reason to check out this place and its curated exhibitions and workshops.

📍 28 Aliwal Street  
☎ (65) 6435 0131  
🌐 [www.aliwalartscentre.sg](http://www.aliwalartscentre.sg)

## 3. BUMBU RESTAURANT

Undecided between Indonesian or Thai food? Here, you can savour both. Must-tries include the *tahu telur* (think crispy egg on the outside and tender tofu on the inside) and beef *rendang* (slow-cooked beef in spicy coconut-based sauce). Decked with antiques all around, it feels like dining in a cultural museum.

📍 44 Kandahar Street  
☎ (65) 6392 8628  
🌐 [www.bumbu.com.sg](http://www.bumbu.com.sg)

## 4. HOUNDS OF BASKERVILLES

With its old-timey Victorian vibe and dandy barbers, here's where you can get the traditional barbershop experience including hot towel shaves and full-face grooming services.

📍 24 Bali Lane  
☎ (65) 6299 1197  
🌐 [www.facebook.com/HoundsOfTheBaskervilles](https://www.facebook.com/HoundsOfTheBaskervilles)

## 5. KAMPONG GLAM CAFE

Looking for affordable, simple local and regional dishes to whet your appetite? Kampong Glam Cafe is your answer! Tasty delights include *mee rebus* (yellow noodles in spicy curry-like gravy), *nasi lemak* (fragrant rice dish cooked with coconut milk and pandan leaf, accompanied with side dishes like fried whole fish and crispy anchovies), *soto ayam* (Indonesian chicken noodle soup), *maggi goreng* (fried instant noodles) and many more. To complement your meal, grab a traditional *teh tarik* – a sweet tea that's 'pulled' to create a frothy top.

📍 17 Bussorah Street  
☎ (65) 6294 1697  
🌐 [kgglamcafe.ec-platform.net](http://kgglamcafe.ec-platform.net)

## 6. MALAY HERITAGE CENTRE

Take a bit of local history with you: head to The Malay Heritage Centre to learn more about the culture, heritage and history of the Malay community through its exhibitions and activities. Look out for the monthly Neighbourhood Sketches series, which feature street performances that tell the stories of Kampong Glam and the Malay culture against the backdrop of the precinct.

📍 85 Sultan Gate  
☎ (65) 6391 0450  
🌐 [malayheritage.org.sg](http://malayheritage.org.sg)

## 7. LONGPLAY

A must-visit for audiophiles, LongPlay bar houses an impressive collection of over 3,000 vintage vinyl records. While you're enjoying the music, tuck into delish bites like buttermilk chicken and togarashi squid, and try a tippie or two. Don't miss the Rock Island Iced Tea – a twist on the classic Long Island cocktail.

📍 4 Haji Lane/33 Arab Street  
☎ (65) 6291 3323  
🌐 [longplay.sg](http://longplay.sg)

## 8. NOX DINE IN THE DARK

For an out-of-the-ordinary, multi-sensory dining experience, reserve a table at Nox – Dine in the Dark. Here, you can take your culinary adventure up a notch with several strokes of gastro genius served in a perfectly pitch-black room. Bon appétit!

📍 269 Beach Road  
☎ (65) 6298 0708  
🌐 [www.noxdineinthedark.com](http://www.noxdineinthedark.com)

## 10. SULTAN MOSQUE

Built between 1824 and 1826 for the first Sultan of Singapore, Sultan Hussein Shah, this striking cultural landmark boast golden domes and a massive prayer hall that can hold up to 5,000 people. Visitors are welcomed to enter the mosque during visiting hours and learn more about Islam, as well as the building's Indo-Saracenic styled architecture from multi-lingual docents. More information available online.

📍 3 Muscat Street  
☎ (65) 6293 4405/6293 4043  
🌐 [sultanmosque.sg](http://sultanmosque.sg)

## 9. SHOP WONDERLAND

Get lost in this charmingly cosy two-storey shop space, which houses a cafe on the first level that serves both sweet and savoury delights. We love the artfully curated collection of home accessories, such as scented candles, tableware, cushions, and pom poms. The shop also holds flower arrangement workshops, and collaborates with well-known local and international illustrators and artists to host watercolour and calligraphy classes to boot!

📍 37 Haji Lane  
☎ (65) 6299 5848  
🌐 [www.shop-wonderland.com](http://www.shop-wonderland.com)



# HarbourFront and Sentosa

SENTOSA, THE BUZZING LEISURE DESTINATION AT THE SOUTHERN TIP OF SINGAPORE, ISN'T JUST ALL FUN AND GAMES. IT ALSO BOASTS QUITE A SHOPPING SCENE BOTH IN AND AROUND THE ISLAND, AND YOU CAN PICK UP ANYTHING FROM TRAVEL ESSENTIALS AND THE LATEST FASHION TO SOUVENIRS AND DESIGNER WARES. HERE ARE OUR TOP SPOTS.

 HarbourFront

## SWISS WATCH GALLERY

This is the place for watch enthusiasts to buy an investment-worthy timepiece. Its sleek, glossy interior houses some of the world's most exclusive Swiss brands, including Breguet, Blancpain and IWC Schaffhausen, as well as popular names like Longines, Omega and Tissot. Watches are duty-free and tax-free, plus prices are lower compared other shops in the world.

 Level 2 Galleria  
Resort World Sentosa  
8 Sentosa Gateway  
 (65) 6723 8022  
 [www.swisswatchgallery.com.my](http://www.swisswatchgallery.com.my)



## LEGO® CERTIFIED STORE

Like all Lego stores around the world, this builder's paradise has a Pick-a-Brick wall, where you can buy loose pieces in various colours for your creative projects. There are also cool models around the store to marvel at, and a play area to keep the little hands busy while you pick out a perfect set from the extensive selection of LEGO kits.

 Level 2, Festive Hotel  
Resorts World Sentosa  
8 Sentosa Gateway  
 (65) 6570 1360  
 [www.bricksworld.com](http://www.bricksworld.com)

## BIMBA Y LOLA

Gussy up your wardrobe with the Spanish label's chic range of ready-to-wear and covetable accessories, which feature eye-popping colours, vibrant prints, and edgy cuts to take you from the boardroom to the bar effortlessly.

 #01-140 VivoCity  
1 HarbourFront Walk  
 (65) 6376 8006  
 [www.bimbaylola.com](http://www.bimbaylola.com)



## BENJAMIN BARKER

For some dapper threads, Benjamin Barker is the name to remember. Suit-makers by trade, this local gentlemen's outfitters is a cut above the rest. It offers an unbridled selection of sharply-tailored suits, bespoke shirts, custom-made leather brogues, and handsome accessories that even the ladies might be tempted by.

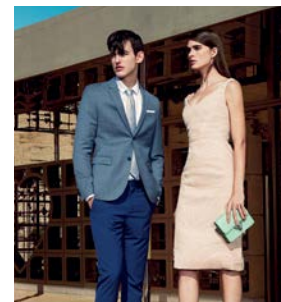
 #02-08 VivoCity  
1 HarbourFront Walk  
 (65) 6376 9228  
 [www.benjaminbarker.co](http://www.benjaminbarker.co)



## WEEKENDS

Don't let its petite size fool you; the store may be small but it packs a punch with its whimsical yet eclectic selection of gifts, accessories, home décor, and novelty fragrances. Looking for pretty decorations that'll turn your party and home into a Pinterest-worthy affair? WEEKENDS has them in spades: go all out with fancy save-the-date cards, chalkboards, pom poms, and glitter confetti.

 #B1-10 VivoCity  
1 HarbourFront Walk  
 (65) 6376 8031  
 [weekends.com.sg](http://weekends.com.sg)



## PEDRO

For shoes that are sophisticated enough for the office and stylish enough for the bar, this accessory giant won't disappoint. While ladies can find their new high-heeled pals in store, the guys can pick out the perfect dress shoes to complete their dapper duds. You'll also find a line of sleek bags, handbags, belts, wallets, ties and other accessories that are kind to your shopping budget.

 #02-186 VivoCity  
1 HarbourFront Walk  
 (65) 6376 5012  
 [www.pedroshoes.com](http://www.pedroshoes.com)



## LE HALL OF FAME

This slick basketball temple carries everything a fan of the game desires— from jerseys, and footwear from NBA superstars to basketballs and compression apparel. Not big on technical gear? Choose from its range of New Era caps and cool sneakers by big-name sporting brands like Nike and Converse.

 #02-19/20 VivoCity  
1 HarbourFront Walk  
 (65) 6376 8285  
 [www.limitededt.com](http://www.limitededt.com)



## SENTOSA FUN SHOP

If you have forgotten something on your day out at the beach, stop by this hard-to-miss shop at the Beach Plaza. It offers a colourful array of beach essentials (flip-flops, tote bags, balls, and more) as well as refreshments. On your way out of the island, buy unique Sentosa-themed souvenirs, like magnets, Wings of Time keychains and Merlion plush toys.

 Beach Plaza  
50 Beach View  
 [www.sentosa.com.sg](http://www.sentosa.com.sg)

# Take me home

DON'T LEAVE SINGAPORE WITHOUT THESE MUST-HAVE LOCAL GEMS.



**1.** This limited edition **SmileSolar for National Gallery** watch adds a pop of colour to your outfit, \$79.90, available at Gallery & Co. at National Gallery Singapore

**2.** **Foreign Policy's** handy tote bag is inspired by the design elements of National Gallery Singapore, \$24.90, available at Gallery & Co. at National Gallery Singapore

**3.** What better way to pay homage to renowned local artists like Liu Kang than with this adorable kids' tee, \$23.90? Available at **Gallery & Co.** at National Gallery Singapore

**4.** Unleash your creativity with Singapore-themed colouring cards by **The Kapok Tree**, \$25, available at Tango Mango (Tanglin Mall)

**5.** Inspired by the classic childhood snack, these pins by **Wheniwasfour** are cute, quirky, and oh-so delectable, \$15.90 each, available at NAIISE (orchardgateway)

**6.** Show your love for the King of Fruits with this silkscreen tote bag by **Wheniwasfour** that doesn't smell, \$24.90, available at Naisee (orchardgateway)

**7.** Get a chuckle out of *The Diary of Amos Lee: I Sit, I Write, I Flush!*, the national best selling children's book by local author Adeline Foo (**Epigram Books**), \$13.80, available at Kinokuniya

**8.** Every girl needs a chic pair of comfy shoes – like these stylish ballet flats by homegrown label **Arete Goods**, \$215, available at kapok (National Design Centre)

**9.** Want a taste of Singapore's rich heritage? **Pin Tea** offers 100% natural teas inspired by local flavours and neighbourhoods such as Amoy

Street and Kampong Glam, from \$18, available at Jones the Grocer (Dempsey)

**10.** Paying homage to the Peranakan culture, this elegant jade bangle by heritage jeweller Choo Yilin is the ultimate arm candy, from \$1,400, available at **Choo Yilin** (331 Joo Chiat Road)

**11.** Need a statement-making everyday accessory? Pick up this charming hand-printed pouch by local textile studio **Fictive Fingers**, \$75, available at Fictive Fingers (317A Geylang Road)

**12.** **Spatula & Whisk's** *Gula Melaka* (palm sugar) - Coconut cookies is sure to satisfy your sweet tooth, \$9.90, available at SABRINAGOH boutique (Capitol Piazza)

**13.** With its oriental print and modern style, this silk bomber jacket by **CHI CHI VON TANG** is the perfect embodiment of East meets West, \$475, available at CHI CHI VON TANG (Scotts Square)

**14.** Bring home a custom-blended set of your own apothecary-style spa

and body products from Spa Esprit, from \$37.45, available at **Spa Esprit** Dempsey and Paragon

**15.** Commemorate Singapore's independence in August with **Temasek Clothings' Party Like It's 1965** t-shirt, \$34.90, available at NAIISE (orchardgateway)

**16.** Beat the heat – and look stylish doing it – with authentic Panama hats from homegrown retailer Hat of Cain, from \$135, available at **Hat of Cain** (18 Joo Chiat Terrace)





# Fam-tastic day out

TEN GREAT THINGS TO DO WITH  
KIDS IN SINGAPORE.



## KIDZANIA

### KICKSTART YOUR DREAM JOB

More than an indoor theme park, this mini metropolis city lets children explore a life-sized Boeing 737, earn their own salaries and live out their dream jobs with over 80 exciting role-play activities.

📍 31 BeachView, Sentosa Island  
☎ (65) 6653 6888  
🌐 [www.kidzania.com.sg](http://www.kidzania.com.sg)  
📍 HarbourFront

### GO LOCO FOR CHURROS

This hip riverside Mexican resto offers fresh, flavour-packed street food in a festive environment. A hot weekend brunch spot, the kids' menu includes faves such as ham and cheese quesadilla – and you'll all love the churros. Bring the scooter so your kid can zip around Robertson Quay afterwards!

📍 60 Robertson Quay  
☎ (65) 6235 8900  
🌐 [www.super-loco.com](http://www.super-loco.com)  
📍 Clarke Quay



## SUPER LOCO



## URBAN SKI

### HIT THE SLOPES

Hit the snow in Singapore! At Urban Ski, skiers and snowboarders of any level can learn, improve and perfect their technique on its indoor rotating ski slope. No travel to far-off lands needed to experience ski season.

📍 #01-46 MilleniaWalk, 9 Raffles Boulevard  
☎ (65) 6238 0575  
🌐 [www.urbanski.com.sg](http://www.urbanski.com.sg)  
📍 Promenade

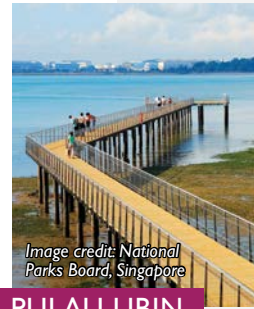


## DUCK TOURS

### SET SAIL ON A CITY ADVENTURE

Go on a land and sea adventure aboard the amphibious DUCK. Witness the city's breathtaking skyline and landmarks including the Merlion and Singapore Flyer during a fun, one-hour journey.

📍 Various locations  
☎ (65) 6338 6877  
🌐 [www.ducktours.com.sg](http://www.ducktours.com.sg)



## PULAU UBIN

### SPEND A DAY IN PULAU UBIN

Hop on a bumboat from Changi Point Ferry Terminal for a day trip to this rustic island. Rent bicycles and explore the secluded beaches, Singapore's last villages and spot the wildlife. This will be one unique day trip!

📍 Various locations  
📍 Changi Point Ferry Terminal + bumboat ride

### CREATE YOUR OWN VIRTUAL REALITY

This playground of the future invites kids to create their own imaginary worlds with state-of-the-art technology. Launch a jumbo jet from your hand, create fireworks from the dance floor and watch as your drawings come to life in a digital aquarium.

📍 Sentosa Island  
☎ (65) 6837 0966  
🌐 [www.mosh.com.sg](http://www.mosh.com.sg)  
📍 HarbourFront



## MOSH!



## ESCAPE ROOMS

### PUZZLE YOUR WAY OUT

Solve mysteries, find clues and ultimately find your way to victory at Singapore's escape rooms. Be pulled into thrilling stories at Xcape and dodge the troopers at Trapped's Hunger Games themed room.

📍 Various locations



## LOCAL BOOKSTORES IN TIONG BAHRU

### VISIT LOCAL BOOKSTORES

A popular post-brunch hangout, Books Actually offers a solid range of classic fiction, local literature and even encounters with its resident cat. Just a few doors down is Woods in the Books, a whimsical children's bookstore with charming animal murals and art workshops.

📍 Along Yong Siak Street  
📍 Tiong Bahru

### TAKE THE FUN OFFSHORE

Take hilarious photos courtesy of the optical illusions at Trick Eye Museum, thrill your senses at Universal Studios Singapore's roller coasters or cool off at the pirate-themed Port of Lost Wonder.

📍 Various locations in Sentosa  
📍 HarbourFront



## SENTOSA



## EXPLORE CULTURAL 'HOODS: BUGIS-BRAS BASAH

### APPRECIATE ART AND HISTORY

Home to some of Singapore's most famous museums and arts schools, the Bugis and Bras Basah precinct is an exhilarating heritage and cultural district. Visit the interactive National Museum of Singapore and marvel at colonial-era buildings and colourful Chinese and Hindu temples.

📍 Various locations  
🌐 [www.brasbasahbugis.sg](http://www.brasbasahbugis.sg)





# MRT Map & Practical Apps



AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD ON APP STORE AND GOOGLE PLAY



**iCHANGI**  
Get information on flight times, departure gates as well as shopping and dining.



**CITYMAPPER**  
A handy transit app that offers travel options via time, cost, and mass transit recommendations.



**MYTRANSPORT**  
Check bus services and routes, traffic news, MRT guides, fares and more at your fingertips.



**HUNGRYGOWHERE**  
Search for restaurants nearby or islandwide, read reviews, and make reservations for dining spots.

## GST REFUNDS



To enjoy the 7 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) refunds paid on your purchases under the Tourist Tax Refund Scheme, you must make at least S\$100 worth of purchases from participating outlets. Such shops will display a 'Tax Refund' logo or a Global Blue 'Tax Free Shopping' logo. On your day of departure from Singapore Changi Airport, proceed to the Tax Refund Counter and present your purchases together with the tax claim forms for customs inspection. Take note that Customs will not process the tax claim forms if the goods are not presented for inspection. For more information, please log on to the Tourist Refund Scheme page on the Singapore Customs website at [www.customs.gov.sg](http://www.customs.gov.sg).

## eTRS TAX FREE



Skip the queues and file your GST claims at the eTRS self-help kiosk at Changi Airport before you fly! All you need to do is shop at places that display the eTRS sign and use one credit card as a Token for tagging your purchases. Tourists departing on international cruises from Marina Bay Cruise Centre Singapore and the International Passenger Terminal at HarbourFront Centre may also qualify for tax refund. Log on to [www.iras.gov.sg](http://www.iras.gov.sg) for more information.

# HOP ON AND DISCOVER SINGAPORE

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