



SAS CITY PORTRAIT

Singapore

2nd ed.

SAS SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES



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The information given in this booklet is based on facts available in September 1970.



Front cover: Empress Place – and Government Buildings.

Introduction

Colorful, cosmopolitan, fourth busiest port in the world, since August 1965 a republic in its own right – Singapore, however you look at it, is Asia in miniature.

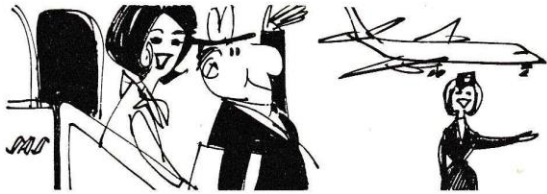
Into this 225 square miles of island, a southern, straits-divided extremity of the Malayan Peninsula, have flocked, in the past 150 years, people of more than a dozen major creeds and cultures. Today, standing on a busy corner of Raffles Place is like standing at the entrance to a fancy-dress carnival. Beautiful, sloe-eyed Chinese girls in slit-skirted cheongsam, dusky Malays in sarong and Kebaya, Indian women in saris, Sikhs with turbans, Europeans in traditional white shirt and slacks . . . You can see them all pass by in minutes in this multi-racial population of more than 2 million.

How did it all begin? . . . Named 'Singapura' (Lion City) by a Sumatran prince who believed he had sighted a lion here, Singapore was to remain – following its devastation by Majapahit forces from Java – a lair only for pirates, until, in 1819, Thomas Stamford Bingley Raffles of the British East India Company, recognizing the island's entrepot potential, established a trading post here.

Singapore has never really looked back.

Following the Japanese occupation, it progressed from a British Crown Colony, as it was until 1959, to a self-governing state; then to a constituent state of the Federation of Malaysia, and finally by mutual agreement to the status of independent Republic.

Yet while present-day Singapore continues to justify its founder's foresight with multi-storey housing estates, ultra-modern hotels, big, bright department stores and towering office blocks like the Shell Building and the Industrial and Commercial Bank – it has not foregone those aspects that lent it its early charm and character. Still here is the Singapore of Somerset Maugham – as British as the 'Traveller's Palms' that fronts the Raffles Hotel, as tea and cricket on the Padang.



Still here, too, is all the clamor, color and confusion that etches out the Republic's Oriental fascination – as Eastern as Chinatown, as the gaudy-statted Tiger Balm Gardens, and bargain-stacked Change Alley.

You may stroll through the peace and exotic flowers of Singapore's Botanic Gardens, feed the monkeys there. You may wander downtown streets, agog at the tax-free bargains that confront you in this port which stands at the crossroads of air and shipping routes between the Orient and the West.

You may photograph the sampans as they ply the Singapore River. Idle along Collyer Quay to watch the huge vessels nosing into the fourth busiest port in the world, transporting the raw materials and tourists that represent the island's economy. You can climb the 350-foot heights of Mount Faber and see the whole island in one sweeping panorama . . . The result is always the same: total capitulation to this Asia in miniature.

Your arrival in Singapore

Singapore International Airport lies about 7½ miles (12 kms.) from the city center. On disembarkation, you will be taken to the Arrival Building by a large comfortable bus. Following health and customs checks, porters employed by the airport and airlines will help you with your luggage. Tipping is optional. Airport facilities include Information counters, a bank, post and telegraph office, a restaurant, cocktail bar and lounge, and private reception rooms, souvenir shops and children's nursery.

There are both bus and taxi services to the city center. The bus takes about 20 minutes, and costs 25 cents. Taxis are available and you can check the taxi fare to your hotel on the board at the Information Counter.

Self-drive and chauffeur-driven cars can be arranged. The main monetary unit of the Republic of Singapore is

the Singapore dollar (S\$) divisible into 100 cents. You will also find in circulation the former Straits or Malayan Dollar and the new Malaysian dollar, both of which are valid currency and are equal in value to the Singapore dollar.

Entry regulations. All visitors to Singapore must possess a valid passport or some other internationally recognized travel document. Visas are required by only a few nationals. (It is, however, worth checking with your embassy or consulate office before setting off.)

For those wishing to enter Singapore on a social, business or professional visit, a visit-pass will be issued by the Controller of Immigration. This is valid for one month, and may be extended.

A valid international certificate of vaccination against smallpox is required and – if the visitor has previously travelled through infected zones – of inoculation against cholera and against yellow fever.

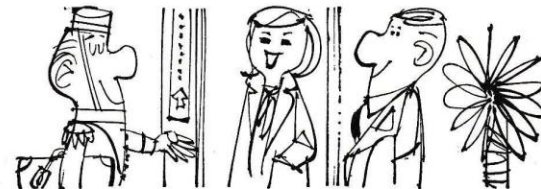
An unrestricted sum of money may be taken in, in the form of traveler's checks and letters of credit.

Duty-free allowances for those entering Singapore include 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 1½ lb. (250 grams) of tobacco and 1 quart (1 liter) each of spirit and wine.

Hotels

There are more than 150 hotels, boarding houses and hostels in Singapore. Of these, more than 30 excellent Western-style hotels, complete with dining room, bar, restaurants, night clubs, convention facilities, provide more than 3,000 rooms (by mid-1971) and by the end of 1972 it is expected there will be approximately 10,000 first class rooms in the Republic.

Singapore is a popular stopping point on any Eastern tour and you'd be wise to make hotel reservations prior to arrival. This is most easily accomplished by contacting your travel agent or the nearest SAS office. Either can



offer you – through the SAS Travel Planning Service – advice on accommodation of all classes, with confirmation of rooms in some instances. Should you arrive unaccommodated, however, ring the hotel of your choice (see list below) or the SAS/THAI International Office (tel. 92121).

Listed below for your guidance is a selection of hotels approved by the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board. However, the classification is not the Board's but an approximate assessment.

De luxe

This group of hotels rivals the best in the region. They offer full convention facilities, have swimming pools, excellent cuisine, well appointed rooms, and good service. Rates range from US\$15 to 24 single, US\$20 to 28 double, and US\$26 to 70 for small suites; VIP or Presidential suites range from US\$130 to US\$185.

Goodwood Park (G2)

Scotts Road
Tel. 24141

Three swimming pools, night club, three restaurants.

Hilton (G1)

Orchard Road
Tel. 37 22 33

Three restaurants, swimming pool, health center, discotheque.

Malaysia (G1)

Tanglin Circus
Tel. 64 71 41

Four restaurants, swimming pool, night club, discotheque.

Mandarin (G3)

Orchard Road
Tel. 37 44 11

(Opening winter 1970).

Seven restaurants including revolving roof-top restaurant, discotheque. Huge shopping complex. Swimming pool.

First class

Rates of first class hotels range from US\$10 to 21 single, US\$12 to 25 doubles, US\$26 to 100 for suites. All have convention facilities and music for dancing.

Merlin (H6)

Beach Road
(Opening late winter 1970).

Three restaurants including revolving roof-top restaurant, swimming pool, Oriental garden, bowling alley.

Ming Court (G1)

Tanglin Road
Tel. 37 11 33

Three restaurants, swimming pool, discotheque.

Shangri-La (G1)

Orange Grove Road
Tel. 37 36 44

Four restaurants, discotheque/night club, swimming pool, large gardens.

Singapore Hyatt (G2)

Scotts Road
Tel. 37 55 11

(Opening late winter 1970).

Several restaurants, bowling alley, swimming pool.



Cuscaden House (F1)

Cuscaden Road
Tel. 37 29 11

Roof-top swimming pool, three restaurants, discotheque.

Equatorial (H1)

Bukit Timah Road
Tel. 50431

Swimming pool, five restaurants, discotheque, night club.

Imperial (F5)

Jalan Rambia
Tel. 36 13 53

Five restaurants (including roof-top grill), swimming pool, discotheque.

Ladyhill (G1)

Ladyhill Road
Tel. 37 21 11

Two restaurants, swimming pool.

Tourist class

Hotels in this group are varied in price, facilities, location and service. Some are old and some just opened. Rates for singles are US\$8 to 20, for doubles US\$12 to 22. All are fully airconditioned.

Adelphi (G6)

Coleman Street
Tel. 28101

Two restaurants, palm court, daily Malay cultural shows.

Ambassador (L10)

Meyer Road
Tel. 44 73 01

Three restaurants, night club.

Cockpit (G5)

Oxley Rise
Tel. 33848

Three restaurants, swimming pool, large garden.

Raffles (H6)

Beach Road
Tel. 28041

Partially air-conditioned, two palm courts, two restaurants.

Seaview (L10)

Amber Road
Tel. 46 11 22

Three restaurants, swimming pool, large grounds.

Singapura Intercontinental (G2)

Orchard Road
Tel. 37 11 22

Swimming pool, two restaurants.

Kings (E4)

Havelock Road
Tel. 71885

Three restaurants including night club, swimming pool, convention facilities for 600.

Lion City (L9)

Tanjong Katong Road
Tel. 49 81 11

Night club/restaurant.

Miramar (E4)

Havelock Road

Swimming pool, two restaurants, discotheque.

Negara (G1)
Claymore Drive
Tel. 37 08 11
Swimming pool, roof-top garden,
two restaurants.

Orchid Inn (I1)
Dunearn Road
Swimming pool, two restaurants,
large garden, special two-storey
three-bedroom maisonettes for
long-term rent.

Ocean Park (L10)
East Coast Road
Tel. 44 74 01
Swimming pool, restaurant, night
club, large grounds.

Economy class

There are more than 50 economy class hotels in Singapore with prices from US\$5 to 13 single, US\$6 to 20 for doubles with private facilities, although rooms without airconditioning and attached bathrooms are cheaper. Below is a sample of the better hotels in the group which are fully air-conditioned.

Biltmore (D7)
Trafalgar Street
Tel. 98 40 15
Chequers (K3)
Thomson Road
Tel. 52266
Large grounds with golf driving
range.

Queens (G3)
Mount Elizabeth
Tel. 26068
Swimming pool, restaurant.

Regency (H3)
Cairnhill Circle
Tel. 36 09 06
(Opening late 1970).
Swimming pool, two restaurants.

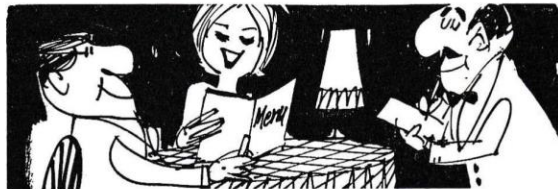
Orchard (G1)
Orange Grove Road
Tel. 37 36 11

Metropole (H6)
Seah Street
Tel. 36 36 11
Three restaurants, night club.

Restaurants and cuisine

Curries from India, a wide variety of Chinese food, rijsttafel from Java, nonya dishes from Malacca – Singapore's racial fusion has provided the visitor with an inordinately varied menu.

You can eat excellently at all hours, in many places . . . In any of the many fine restaurants (see the selection



page 10), or in some favored spot of Singapore's rambling profusion of outdoor eating stalls – as much an experience of colorful local life as they are a culinary treat.

Principal areas around which these stalls are grouped are Albert Street, Bugis Street, Keok Road, People's Park, Hokkien Street and Bedok corner for Chinese food; parking lots at night at Orchard Road, near Keok Road and end of Shenton Way (varied Malay, Chinese and Indian dishes).

Certainly, few things taste better than a midnight bowl of 'mee' taken beneath the stars at Bedok or in crowded Chinatown, or 'satay' off the stick (delicious skewered meat grilled and flavored with spices) at the famous 'Satay Club'.

Beverages

All well-known international spirits and wines are available in Singapore. Try, if you like beer, the excellent local makes, 'Tiger' and 'Anchor'. (Incidentally, the local water is quite safe to drink straight from the tap.)

Restaurants

Most restaurants in hotels charge a 10 % service charge. There is a government tax of 3 % levied on all food and beverages taken in hotels and first class restaurants and bars.

All-night Western-style coffee shops in hotels have now become the vogue. Below is a small selection of coffee shops and restaurants serving different types of Oriental and Western cuisine.

Coffee Shops (24-hour)

Almost every hotel now has a coffee house most of which are open round the clock. The few chosen overleaf are of above average standard:



Equatorial Hotel (H1)
429 Bukit Timah Road

Hilton Hotel (G1)
Orchard Road

Hotel Malaysia (G1)
Tanglin Circus

Hotel Singapura (G2)
585 Orchard Road

Oriental

There are at least 100 restaurants of different quality and decor serving a wide range of Oriental food. *Tim Sum* is a lunch table d'hote of Cantonese titbits. *Satay* is barbecued spiced meat on a skewer and charcoal grilled. Most Chinese restaurants serve a selection of Cantonese dishes even though they may specialize in regional cuisine.

Ban Seng Restaurant (E/F6)
79 New Bridge Road
Teochew.

Batik Inn (G3)
Orchard Road
Satay and curries.

Bodhi Lin Vegetarian Restaurant (D6)
114 Neil Road
Chinese.

Chip Bee Hall (G1)
Ming Court
Northern Chinese.

Cockpit Restaurant (G5)
6 Oxley Rise
Rijsttafel – Sat. and Sundays

Dragon Room (F7)
Robinson's, Raffles Place
Northern Chinese.

Eastern Palace (F7)
John Little's Building
Raffles Place
Peking.

Ladyhill Hotel (G1)
Lady Hill Road

Ming Court (G1)
Tanglin Road

Cuscaden House (F1)
Cuscaden Road

Fujiya Restaurant (F7)
154-B Market Street
Japanese.

Fut Sai Kai Vegetarian Restaurant (J5)
147 Kitchener Road
Chinese.

Golden Phoenix Room (H1)
Equatorial Hotel
Bukit Timah
Sze Chuan.

Kolek Restaurant (E7)
ICB Building
Shenton Way
Malaysian.

Jubilee Restaurant (F7)
20 Robinson Road
Muslim Indian.

Komalas Vilas Restaurant (I5)
Serangoon Road
Indian vegetarian.

Longton House (G3)
15 Emerald Hill Road
Malaysian.

Madam Oko (H1)
Hotel Equatorial
Bukit Timah Road
Japanese.

Majestic Restaurant (E6)
31 Bukit Pasoh
Cantonese.

Ming Palace (G5)
Clemenceau Avenue
Tim Sum.

Mui Fong Restaurant (H6)
85 Beach Road
Korean Barbecue.

Omar Khayyam (G6)
55 Hill Street
Northern Indian and Kashmiri.

Orchid Lantern (G2)
Tropicana Complex
Scotts Road
Tim Sum.

Peking Restaurant (G2)
International Building
Orchard Road
Northern Chinese and Tim Sum.

Po-po Restaurant (L9)
Tanjong Katong Road
Teochew.

Prince Room Restaurant (F7)
Collyer Quay
Hokkien.

Raffles Village (F1)
Cuscaden Road
Satay and curries.

Raja Room (G1)
Hotel Malaysia
Tanglin Circus
Rijsttafel – Sundays.

Rouge et Noir Restaurant (H1)
Hotel Equatorial
Rijsttafel – Saturdays.

Sea Palace Kelong
(off Ponggol Point)
Chinese seafood.

Shanghai Restaurant (G5)
200 Clemenceau Avenue
Northern Chinese.

Sin Leong Restaurant (L5)
187 MacPherson Road
Cantonese – sea food.

Singapore Conference Hall (E7)
Shenton Way
Tim Sum.

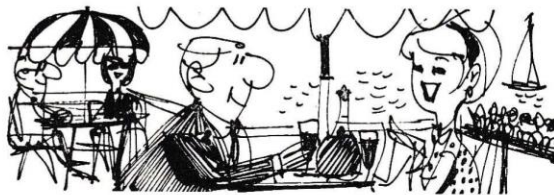
Sky Room (L10)
Sea View Hotel
Amber Road
Northern Chinese.

Torquiose Room (G3)
Queen's Hotel
Mt. Elizabeth
Teochew.

Troika Restaurant (G2)
Liat Towers
Orchard Road
Mongolian barbecue.

Wisma Restaurant (G3)
Orchard Road
Indonesian and Hunanese.

Yamato Restaurant (G3)
Wisma Indonesia
Orchard Road
Japanese.



Western

Most hotel restaurants serve mixed Continental cuisine. Those mentioned here have excellent food or good food with elegant surroundings.

WITH MUSIC

Café Allegro (G2)
Goodwood Park Hotel
Scotts Road

Cockpit Restaurant (G5)
6 Oxley Rise
French.

Four Lions (G2)
Hotel Singapura
Orchard Road

NO MUSIC

A. & W. of Singapore (E7)
MSA Building
Robinson Road
American.

Adelphia Grill (G6)
Adelphi Hotel
Coleman Street
Lunch only.

Carol Inn (E7)
74 Robinson Road
English and French.

Elizabethan Grill (H6)
Raffles Hotel
Beach Road
Also smörgåsbord.

Foster's Steak House (H5)
Amber Mansions
Orchard Road
Steaks.

Genghis Grill (G1)
Ming Court
Tanglin Road

Gino's (G1)
91-A Tanglin Road
Italian.

Rouge et Noir (H1)
Hotel Equatorial
Bukit Timah
French.

Singapore Lady Floating Restaurant
(off Clifford Pier)

Supper Club (G1)
Hotel Malaysia
Tanglin Circus
French.

Gordon Grill (G2)
Goodwood Park Hotel
Scotts Road
Scotch beef.

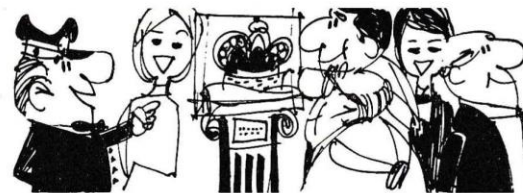
Laksamana Steak House (H1)
Hotel Equatorial
Bukit Timah
Charcoal grill steaks and
teppanyaki.

Le Chalet (G1)
Ladyhill Hotel
Ladyhill Road
Swiss.

Raja Room (G1)
Hotel Malaysia
Tanglin Circus
French.

Sorrento Coffee House (G3)
304-S Orchard Road
Italian.

Troika Restaurant (G2)
Liat Towers
Orchard Road
Russian.



Sights and excursions

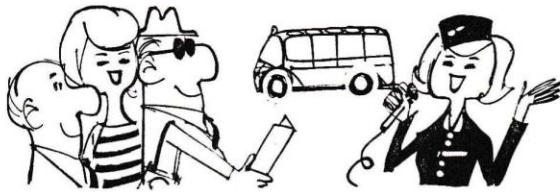
Singapore the city and Singapore the island combine to offer the visitor a rich cross-section of interesting sights and pleasure-spots, from ornate Buddhist and Hindu temples to exotic palm-fringed littoral playgrounds, from the stalls of Change Alley, overflowing with bargains, to the park-like heights of Mount Faber with its panoramic views. Sightseeing in Singapore is, moreover, very largely a case of life-seeing. Drive out by coastal road to the paradisiac beaches of Changi or Pasir Ris, and you're bound somewhere to pass Malay fishermen and their quaintly picturesque 'kelong' fishing traps (lines of upright wooden stakes leading out to a little hut half-submerged in the sea). Explore the city by trishaw (see 'Transportation') and you're closer still to the local scene.

Standard tours with guide comprise a three-hour ride of the city proper, which includes in its itinerary such landmarks as Tiger Balm Gardens, the National Museum, the Jade House and the Botanic Gardens; a three-hour West coast tour (for Chinatown); a three-hour East coast tour (for Changi Point); an excursion across the border to Malaysia's Johore Bahru; and a three-hour tour by boat around the harbor.

You can also hire an airconditioned chauffeur-driven car or self-drive car. Government-licensed guides are available at US\$4 for three hours. All speak English, a few Continental languages and Japanese.

We list below a description of each of the major sights:

Botanic Gardens (north of F1 – Tanglin District). These beautiful gardens were founded in the last century. Winding paths, arbors of trees, lakes with water lilies, patches of 'jungle' where monkeys romp and swing, brilliant carpets of flowers and an orchid house which is claimed by the experts to contain one of the most exotic collections of orchids in the world . . . these are among the pleasures offered to visitors. Open-air concerts are frequently performed here, attracting



large audiences. It was from seedlings produced in the gardens that the Malayan rubber plantations began, and today some of the oldest rubber trees in Malaysia and Singapore thrive in a small rubber plantation adjoining the gardens. This center of botanical research is open daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Change Alley (F7). A 150-yard, stall-jammed backstreet that links Collyer Quay with Raffles Place – Change Alley (named in all probability after the ubiquitous money-changers that call to the passers-by their advantageous terms of exchange) is Singapore's "piece de resistance" in markets. The Alley is a must whether you're on the hunt for all the world's bargains, or simply out to catch more of the colorful local scene.

Chinatown (E6). A teeming, noisy sector of the city, clustered around New Bridge, South Bridge and Tanjong Pagar roads, Chinatown echoes with the cries and tapping sticks of street vendors, the clatter and buzz of foodstalls, and the slap of mahjong counters. Bamboo poles of family washing protrude from the high tenement buildings and by day and night the pavements and streets are crowded with strollers, shoppers, trishaws, bicycles and the omnipresent open-air restaurants. If you are there at the time of a Chinese street opera or funeral, then the cacophony is added to by the blare of brass bands, the clash of cymbals, and the discordant Chinese chant.

Collyer Quay (F7). From the jetty you may enjoy a magnificent view of the bustling harbor and the islands beyond. Clifford Pier is the central point of embarkation and disembarkation and around it small boats, Chinese junks and Malay 'prahus' lie at anchor. Weaving amidst the whole are fast motor-launches, 'tongkangs' and twin-tailed 'sampans', whilst larger vessels lie out in the Roads, beyond the breakwater. The Port provides simultaneous berthing facilities for a maximum of 25 ocean-going and 5 coastal vessels and operates 6 graving docks, the largest of which can accommodate vessels up to 45,000 tons.

Empress Place (F6). Across Singapore River (a fascinating sight in itself) from Battery Road by Anderson Bridge, lies Empress Place, around which are grouped a number of notable landmarks. The Victoria Memorial Hall and Theater and the historic statue of Singapore's founder and first governor, Sir Stamford Raffles, are the main points of interest. The hall was

built a century ago and has witnessed many important functions, celebrations and art exhibitions. The Theater was not so very long ago completely reconstructed. Among the other surrounding interest-points are the Parliament House, Singapore's oldest building erected in 1827; the Supreme Court; the City Hall; and St. Andrew's Cathedral. (See below.)

St. Andrew's Cathedral (G6). This inspiring Gothic cathedral was built between 1856 and 1862 and is the Seat of the Church of England in Singapore.

Great World (E3), **Gay World** (east of L7) and **New World** (J5) **Amusement Parks**. See the chapter, 'Entertainment and night life'.

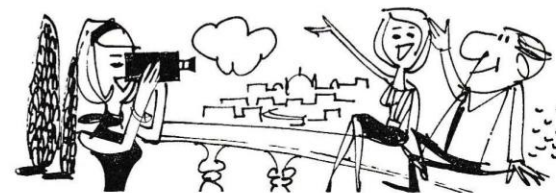
Jade House (Nassim Road – north of F1). The former home of the late Aw Boon Haw (the famous "Tiger Balm King") is today a museum where priceless jade carvings of various colors have been assembled, some dating back to the early Chin Dynasty, more than 200 years before Christ. The museum is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free by tickets only obtainable from Eng Aun Tong, 87 Neil Road, tel. 78687, or at the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board, Tudor Court, Tanglin Road, tel. 63 36 11.

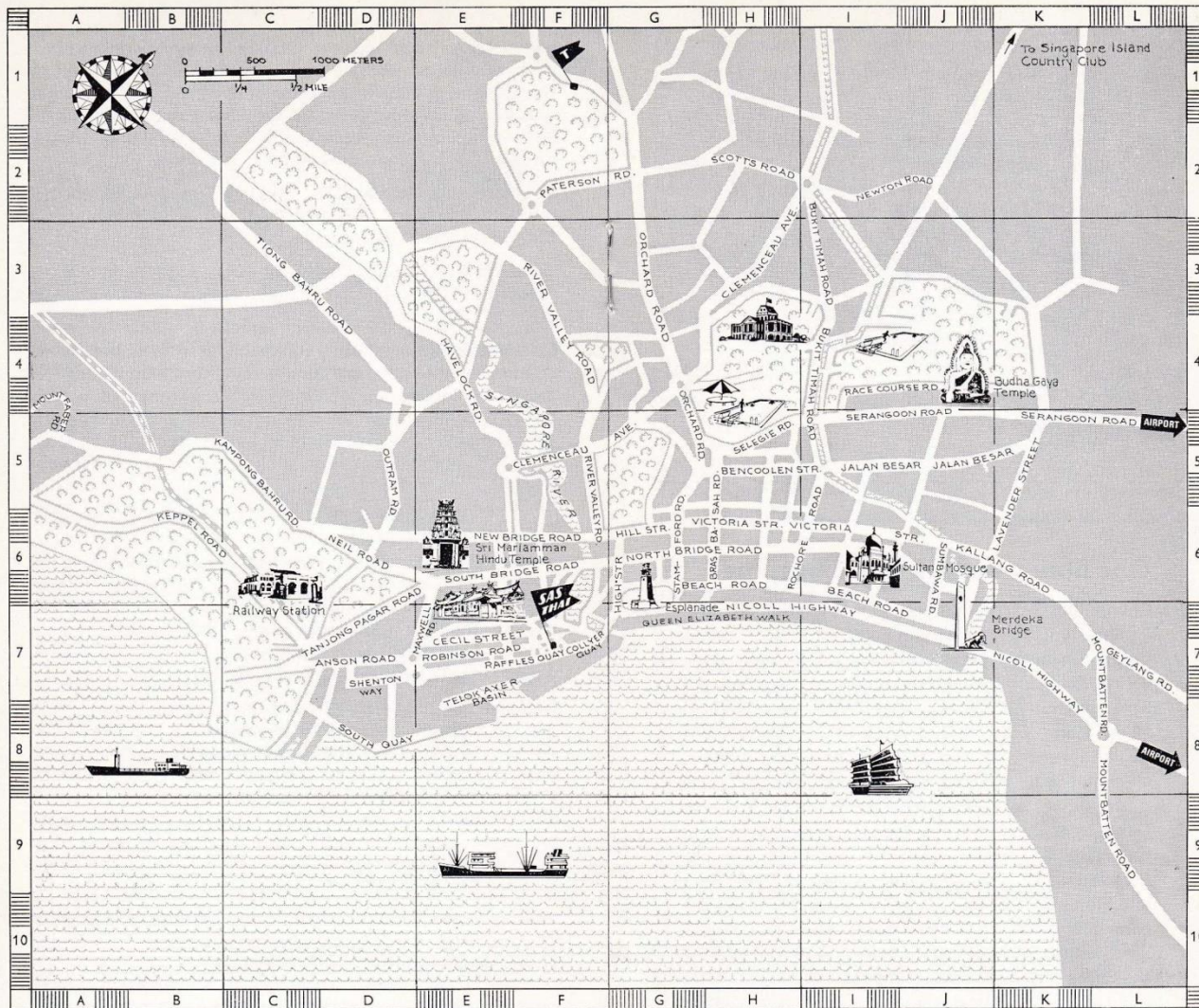
Mount Faber (west of A4). For a bird's-eye view of Singapore, take a trip to the top of 350-foot-high (107 meters) Mount Faber. Here, in vivid miniature can be seen the city, the harbor, the southern-most tip of Johore, Malaysia and the Rhio Islands of Indonesia. Atop of the Mount are observation-bays, a long-range telescope and a restaurant.

National (formerly **Raffles**) **Museum** (Stamford Road – G6). Built in 1886, the National Museum contains a priceless collection of historic treasures, a fine gathering of Malayan arts and crafts and a number of interesting zoological specimens. Next to the museum, stands the New National Library which contains books in Chinese, Malay, Tamil and various European languages, in addition to the State archives. The museum is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.; Sundays and public holidays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Padang (G6/7). This large public playing field is a popular seasonal stage for local cricket, football, rugby, hockey and tennis matches and athletic meetings.

(cont'd on page 19)





Code numbers in this booklet refer to the above map. Thus (F7) is located where lines drawn from "F" and "7" cross each other.

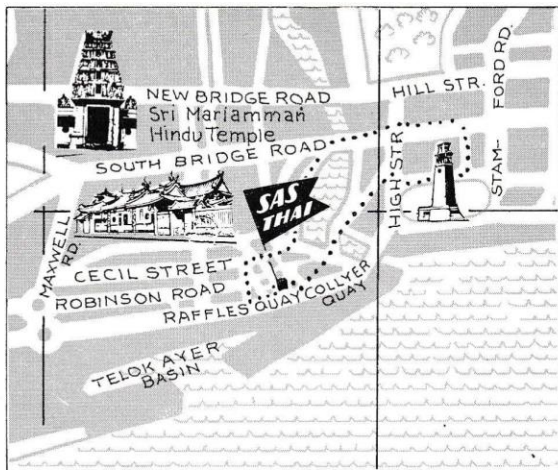
Interesting sights in Singapore

- | | |
|--|---|
| (H1) Botanic Gardens (Tanglin District). | (I1) Orchid Gardens (Mandai Road). |
| (F7) Change Alley. | (G6/7) Padang. |
| (E6) Chinatown. | (F7) Parliament House. |
| (F7) Collyer Quay. | (F7) Raffles Place. |
| (F6) Empress Place. | (L4) Siang Lim Siang Si Temple (Kim Keat Road). |
| (G6) St. Andrew's Cathedral. | (E6) Sri Mariamman Temple. |
| (G1) Jade House (Nassim Road). | (E6) Tiger Balm Gardens (Pasir Panjang Area). |
| (G6) National Museum. | |

Useful addresses

-  **SAS/THAI International Office:**
John Little's Building, Raffles Place.
Tel. 95371, 75513, 96126.
-  **Singapore Tourist Promotion Board:**
Tudor Court, Tanglin Road. Tel. 63 36 11.
- (D8) **Singapore International Chamber of Commerce:**
12 Raffles Quay. Tel. 79156.

Distance from city center to airport: 8 1/2 miles (14 kms.).



One hour's walk around Singapore

Choose the SAS/THAI office, John Little's Building at Raffles Place, as your starting point for a walk around central Singapore. From Raffles Place bear right along Battery Road and left over the bridge between Malayan Banking and the General Post Office into Empress Place. Here you will find a statue of Sir Stamford Raffles, founder of modern Singapore, the Victoria Memorial Hall and the Government Offices. From Empress Place walk straight ahead passing the Supreme Court on your left and the Padang on your right until you reach St. Andrew's Cathedral. Then turn left into Coleman Street, passing Adelphi Hotel, and left again into North Bridge Road, in which there are many department stores. Cross the bridge and turn left into South Boat Quay passing numerous sampans loading and unloading their cargo. Turn right at Market Street and walk to Cecil Street where you head left for Collyer Quay. Strolling along Collyer Quay you can see on your right the busy harbor with its many ships and sampans. Turn left through Change Alley – a bargain hunter's delight – where you can buy everything from a bar of soap to a suit at very favorable prices, then turn right when you come to Raffles Place and you are back to your starting point.

(cont'd from page 15)

Parliament House (F7). This historic building houses the present Government of the Republic of Singapore. The core of the original building was built in 1827 as a private residence but was later taken over by the government and altered extensively 50 years later. Little of the original structure is now visible, although the remodelled building retains much of the former's design and dignity. Admission by appointment only.

Raffles Place (F7). Hub of Singapore's commercial and business district, Raffles Place is centered by playing fountains and a verdant square and surrounded by banks, insurance companies, merchant houses, airline and shopping offices, exchange marts, department stores, textile firms, drug and grocery emporiums.

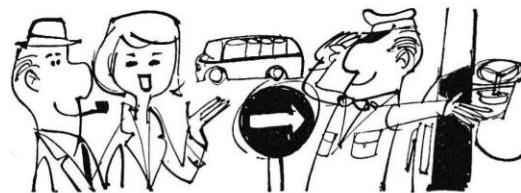
Siang Lim Sian Si Temple (Kim Keat Road). Also known as Twin Grove Temple, this Buddhist place of worship was built 55 years ago and has since been considerably restored. It is the largest Buddhist temple in Singapore and contains, in addition to exquisite examples of artistry in marble, wood carvings comparable to those found in the palaces of Peking.

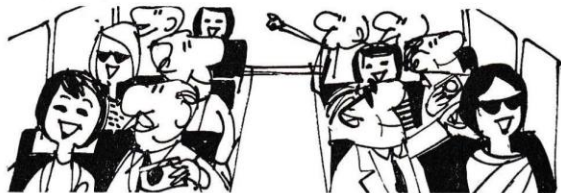
Singapore Race Course (north of 11). See the section 'Sports'.

Sri Mariamman Temple (South Bridge Road – E6). The Sri Mariamman Temple is the oldest Hindu place of worship still in use on the island. Built sometime in the first half of the 19th century, it has been renovated and redecorated many times since. The interior is decorated with beautiful, brightly painted carvings and at festival time the fire-walking ceremony here attracts great crowds.

Subramaniam Temple (G5). This Hindu place of worship was built in 1860 by Nattukottai Chettiars. Particular point of interest is the temple's elaborately decorated silver carriage containing objects of worship, which goes on pilgrimages through the city during the Thaipusam Festival (see 'Public Holidays and Festivals').

The Sultan Mosque (I6). Built between 1924 and 1928, this majestic mosque stands on North Bridge Road, in one of Singapore's Muslim-inhabited districts, a center particularly renowned for its trade in Indian fabrics and Malayan and





Javanese batik. The Muezzin calls 'Allahu Akbar' at 5 a.m., 1, 4, 6.40 and 7.45 p.m., when it is time for prayer. Remember, when entering the mosque, it is Muslim custom to remove your shoes.

Tiger Balm Gardens or Haw Par Villa (Pasir Panjang Area – northwest of map). Acres of hillside have been carved into grottoes and shelves to house what must surely be one of the most gaudy and grotesque assemblages of statuary in existence. This macabre collection – as its namesake in Hong Kong – is a legacy from the Chinese millionaire philanthropist, Aw Boon Haw, and depicts starkly the temptations, rewards and punishments of this life and the next, as well as fantastic scenes from ancient Chinese mythology. Also within the grounds is a fascinating miniature Chinese garden. Admission free.

University of Singapore (Bukit Timah Road – north of map).

Van Kleef Aquarium (G5). One of the most modern aquariums in the world, the fully air-conditioned Van Kleef Aquarium contains myriad varieties of tropical fish and sea animals, each retained in their natural watery habitats. Open daily 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission fee.

The Aquarium is situated in the King George V Park and close by are the National Theater and the public River Valley Swimming Pool.

Outlying interest points

Kranji War Memorial (north of I1). Perched on a small hill off the Singapore–Johore highway stands the beautiful Kranji War Memorial, commemorating the 30,000 men and women of the Allied Forces who died in the Japanese attack on Singapore in 1942. The panoramic view from this point encompasses the Johore Strait, Johore itself and a breathtaking backdrop of jungle-covered hills.

Orchid Gardens (Mandai Road – north of K1). Orchid-admirers who have viewed the beautiful collection in the Botanic Gardens (see page 13) should not miss seeing, too, the Mandai Garden with its unique open-air displays of thousands of flowering orchids. The gardens are open from 8.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Changi Point. A 30 minutes' drive from the heart of the city, Changi Point with its long and sandy beach is a favorite bathing resort. Here you can hire motor-boats, water-skis, swim, fish, picnic and watch the glorious blood-red sun set across palm-tree islands. From here a trip can be made to Taliho, a kelong which welcomes visitors.

Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. One of several nature reserves set aside in the interests of preserving local fauna and flora, the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve is well worth a visit. Here may be found 200-foot (60 meters) tall trees, lianas, ferns and many other plants in a setting which embraces the highest hill in Singapore – 581 feet (175 meters) – and one of the island's best primary evergreen rain-forests.

Johore Bahru. 16 miles from the city of Singapore on the mainland of Malaya, Johore Bahru is a colorful place, strongly influenced by Malay culture. Capital of the State of Johore, the city possesses a number of impressive architectural highlights, among them the Palace of the Sultan, stately Government office buildings, a modern hospital, and a tall minaretted Mosque. There is also a small yet very popular zoo. The surrounding country is richly cultivated with large rubber plantations and pineapples. There is both a good rail service and an excellent highway connecting Johore Bahru with Singapore.

Jurong, on the west coast of the island, is a bustling industrial estate where most of Singapore's manufactured exports as well as local products are made. Many countries have joint ventures in this former marshland. In the midst of the park is a bird sanctuary and aviary with birds donated by many nations and from many lands. There is also a viewing tower and restaurant from which a panoramic view of neighbouring Indonesia and Malaysia can be seen in the distance.

Water Tours. Two-hour and three-hour sightseeing tours of the harbor and southern islands leave Clifford Pier twice a day at 9.30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Charge: S\$10 and S\$15 per person, according to the tour you choose.

Nanyang University, South-East Asia's premier seat of Chinese higher learning and fast becoming the second university of the Republic with its introduction of bilingualism. Its library and museum house some rare books, literature and paintings of Singapore and the region.





Entertainment and night life

As well as a magnificent selection of night clubs and cinemas, Singapore offers a wide range of multi-racial entertainment in the form of Chinese opera, concerts, and Indian and Malay dancing.

The Chinese street operas are colorful and amusing, depicting legends of Ancient China. They can be seen nearly every week, along the roadside. Concerts by visiting international artists, symphonic groups, orchestras, ballet companies, as well as multi-cultural dances, are held at the National Theater (G5), the Victoria Theater (F6), Empress Place, Cultural Center Theater (G6), Singapore Conference Hall, Shenton Way (D8), and the Wisma auditorium, Wisma Indonesia, Orchard Road (G3).

Malayan dancing and a mock Malay wedding ceremony can be seen every evening at the Adelphi Hotel (except Sunday). Raffles Village (beyond F1) with buildings shaped like a fishing village at the time of Raffles landing offers a mixture of Chinese, Indonesian, Indian, Javanese shadow play (wayang kulit) and Malay folk dances and mock wedding ceremonies nightly. Malay folk dances will also be arranged for groups at Villa Saujana as well as at Dari Laut at Loyang.

If you like to dance rather than watch, the leading restaurants and hotels offer excellent restaurant/night clubs some on the roof top, and in 1971 there will be a revolving night club. There are also many discotheque/night clubs with live pop bands from overseas as well as from the local scene. Ask the Singapore Tourist Information Office for details.

The amusement parks of Singapore provide varied, gay and informal evening enjoyment. There are shopping centers, cabarets (hostess-for-hire dance halls), and restaurants. Sometimes there are boxing as well as wrestling matches. Try New World in Serangon Road, Great World in Kim Seng Road, or the Gay World in Geylang. The

Wonderland Park offers a carnival atmosphere of food stalls and children's delight like ferris wheels, roller coasters and model rides.

Night club entertainment ranges from single strip-teasers to large cabaret acts from overseas including topless mannequins. They are offered by top hotel night clubs as well as Singapore's two theater restaurants – Marco Polo, Clemenceau Avenue (G5) and the Tropicana Theater-Restaurant, Scotts Road (corner of G2).

First class entertainment is also provided in the 30 odd cinemas of Singapore, where films from America, Britain, France, India, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Communist China are shown.

For more information, please obtain a copy of "Singapore This Week" which gives details of day to day activities for the week.

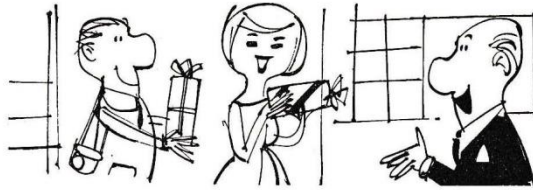
Tipping

Tipping is optional in Singapore, although a 10% gratuity for good service in hotel and restaurant is considered adequate. If a bell-boy or a porter runs an errand for you, give him between 20 cents and S\$2 depending on the complexity of the errand. Luggage porters are usually given 50 Singapore cents per piece. It is not customary to tip taxi-drivers, cinema and theater ushers, chambermaids and barbers.

Shopping and souvenir hunting

As one of the world's great tax-free market places Singapore has long been a source of joy for the discerning bounty-hunter. Here Swiss watches sell cheaper than in Switzerland, Japanese cameras cheaper than in Japan, Scottish woollens cheaper than in Scotland. Shopping





in Singapore promises, however, more than endless variety and money saved; it provides, for the haggler, a sense of sport. Walk down Change Alley and whether or not you've bargained before, you'll quickly get the idea – vendors here expect you to bargain and their asking-prices are always higher than those they expect to sell at.

Alternatively, if you'd rather pay marked prices buy in department stores (check with SAS which are the reputable ones).

If you're shopping in a hurry and know near enough what you want, call the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board (tel. 63 36 11) and experienced receptionists will advise you.

Where to Buy. The city's main shopping districts comprise the area of Raffles Place, Collyer Quay, Change Alley and Battery Road (some of the largest department stores are based here); the Malay Arts and Crafts Center (F7); the High Street and North Bridge Road, Stamford, Orchard, and Tanglin Roads; Middle Road; Arab Street; and the People's Park in Chinatown.

What to Buy. Aside from the innumerable duty-free bargains imported from countries throughout the world, the admirable produce of local arts and crafts make memorable mementos. Look out for batik (the beautifully designed, excitingly colored Malay cotton fabric); Kain Songket handwoven Kelantan silk; Selangor and Singapore pewter; wood carvings; reptile-skin shoes, handbags, briefcases, wallets etc.; and ornate jewelry. Thai silks and bronze cutlery and Indian saris are also wonderful buys.

A Word of Warning. Do not engage 'shopping-guides' or touts – people who approach you in the street and offer to lead you to a particular shop that will grant 'special low-price discounts'.

Business hours

Banks: Open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. from Monday to Friday, closing 11.30 a.m. on Saturdays.

Offices: Government offices 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., commercial offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closing at 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Shops: The larger department stores are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

Other shops are usually open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Saturday inclusive. A few shops stay open at night, particularly in Chinatown, and on Sundays if there is a ship in dock.

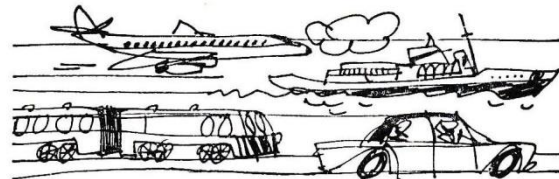
Transportation

Taxis are plentiful in Singapore, 24 hours a day. They can be recognized by their yellow roofs and the 'SH' on their license plates. Charge for up to two passengers: 60 Singapore cents for the first mile and 20 cents for every additional half mile. 10 cents extra is charged for each additional passenger, and between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. there is a surcharge of 50 %. Luggage is also chargeable at 10 cents a piece.

Bus travel is cheap and comfortable, but try to avoid rush hours, 7 to 9 a.m., 12 to 2 p.m., 4.30 to 6 p.m.

Private cars may be hired with or without a chauffeur, through your hotel or through the SAS/THAI office. Charge: 80 Singapore cents for the first mile and 40 cents for every additional half mile. Time charge: S\$8 for the first hour, and S\$4 for every additional half-hour.

A leisurely ride in a trishaw (a pedal bicycle with side car attached) is an unusual experience. Charge: approximately 20 Singapore cents for every quarter of an hour with 10 minutes' free waiting time in the first half-hour,





after which waiting time is charged at 25 cents per 10 minutes. If you decide to take a trishaw, however, be sure and agree the approximate price with the trishawman before the journey.

For those wishing to travel to points in West Malaysia, there is a modern and efficient rail service operating between Singapore station (C6) and Johore Bahru and points beyond. There are regular domestic flights to various parts of Malaysia.

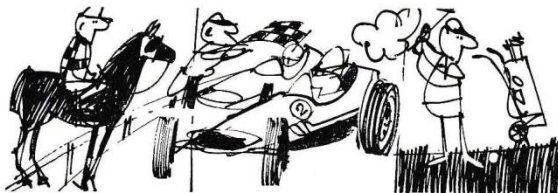
Sports

Sport is an engaging aspect of Singapore leisure life and you'll find most recreations well represented, whether you prefer to watch or play an active part. A constant stage for many of the local encounters is the Padang. Here most afternoons, dependent on the season, you can watch rugby, football, tennis or cricket – even baseball.

The same sports can be watched at Farrer Park – also the venue for many of the city's athletic meetings – Kallang Park and a number of school and university playing fields.

An alternative venue for the ardent football (soccer) fan, is the Jalan Besar Stadium (J/K5).

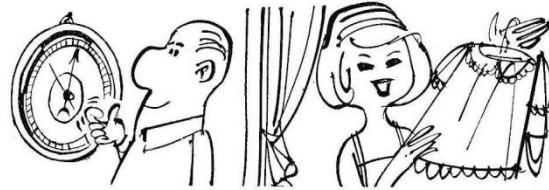
If you prefer horse-racing, there are races on certain Saturday and Sunday afternoons throughout the year at the famous Singapore Turf Club (complete with totalizator betting).



Golfers should get in touch with their hotel managers for an introduction to play at the greens of the Singapore Island Country Club where non-members are not allowed to play during weekends. Yachtsmen should get in touch with the secretary of the Singapore Yacht Club at Cooper Brothers (tel. 79156). Hard or soft court tennis exponents as well as squash enthusiasts should check with the hotel receptionists.

There are also two bowling alleys which open from 8 a.m. to midnight daily though evening and nights are rather crowded. There are also several karate, and taekwan-do clubs which can be contacted through the Chinese YMCA (tel. 75128). For other sports like archery, polo, softball, cricket, badminton, hockey, soccer and sub-aqua diving etc., contact the Sports division of the Ministry of Social Affairs.

If, however, swimming and other aquatic sports are your first love, then Singapore offers you the widest choice of all – from the long, beautiful palm-dotted beaches of Changi Point, Bedok, Loyang and Pasir Ris to the four public swimming pools at Farrer Park, Mt. Emily, Yan Kit, and River Valley roads.

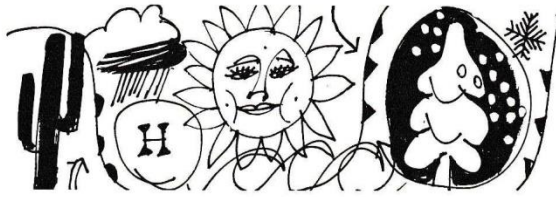


Climate and clothing

Though only 80 miles (128 kms) north of the Equator, Singapore's average maximum temperature is 87°F (30°C), and minimum temperature 75°F (24°C), with humid days and cool, pleasant nights.

Occasional showers help to temper the heat, creating climatic conditions which are less oppressive than in many other countries or cities located much farther north from the equator. The island has no well defined wet or dry season. However, it is free from typhoons and hurricanes.

Dress is informal, lightweight clothes being suitable all year round. In some European-style restaurants and



hotel clubs, it is customary for men to wear jacket and tie, and for women to wear a stole, but, as these places are air-conditioned, you will not find this a discomfort. Laundry and dry-cleaning service is inexpensive and quick and is best arranged through your hotel.

Language

The official languages of Singapore are English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil – Malay being the national language, English the language of administration. In consequence, English is widely spoken or comprehended and you should have no difficulty in making yourself understood.

Religion

The most widely practised religion in Singapore is Taoism, almost 75% of the population being Chinese. Other main followings here include Islam, Christianity and Hinduism and edifices of worship of these and other creeds have been listed below for those wishing to attend services:

Buddhist: Twin Grove Temple (Siang Lim Sian Si), Kim Keat Road.

Hindu. Sri Mariamman Temple, South Bridge Road.

Roman Catholic. Cathedral of the Good Shepherd, Queen Street.



Anglican. St. Andrew's Cathedral, St. Andrew's Road.

Baptist, Baptist Church, 51 Thompson Road.

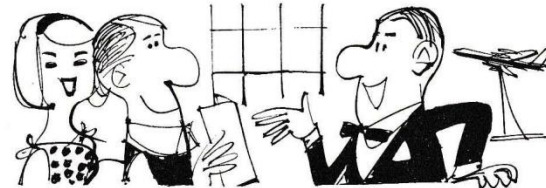
Presbyterian. Presbyterian Church, Orchard Road.

Methodist. Wesley Methodist Church, Fort Canning Road.

Jewish. Jewish Synagogue, Waterloo Street.

Special services

Information. For all general information, including details of tours, contact the Tourist Promotion Board, Tudor Court, Tanglin Road. You can ring the Board's office (tel. 63 36 11) from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Saturday, or the Kee Cheong Answering Service (95865) at any other time. In addition, 'Singapore This Week', a leaflet available free to tourists in most hotel foyers, provides information on what is happening currently in the Republic.



Guides. Tourist guides in Singapore are licensed by law. The Tourist Promotion Board's registered guides all speak English, are specially trained and will escort you around the city at a charge of S\$12 for a three-hour tour.

News. News and newsreel in English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil are televised every evening on 'TV Singapura', and 'Radio Singapura' broadcasts the news up to six times a day in English. There are also many overseas newspapers and magazines available at the city's leading newsagents.

Business Contacts. The Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (F7), 12 Raffles Quay, tel. 79156, is available to help businessmen wishing to make contact with industry and commerce in Singapore.

The Singapore Manufacturers' Association which has a display room at John Little's Building, will be glad to arrange contacts with Singapore manufacturers. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Hill Street, is also a good source of contact and information. There are also Indian, Malay, Pakistani, and Japanese chambers of commerce.

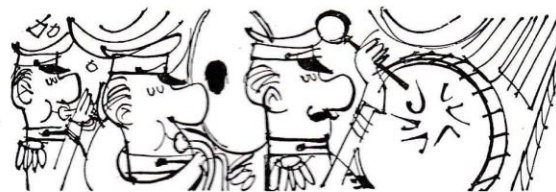
Medical Services. Medical and dental care are of a high standard in Singapore. Should you require any service of this kind, contact your hotel manager.

Radio-Telephone and Cable Services. It is possible to telephone almost any country in the world from Singapore. Details of charges and times of services are given in the Singapore Telephone Directory. Should you have any other queries, dial 908. There is a 24-hour cable service at Fullerton Building (F7). Alternatively, cables for transmission may be handed in at the reception desk of your hotel, Singapore International Airport or the Tourist Promotion Board (F1).

Public holidays and festivals

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| January 1 | New Year's Day. Celebrated with many sports events, including a magnificent water carnival near Clifford Pier (F7). |
| January* | Hari Raya Puasa. This marks the end of the Mohammedan fasting period and is celebrated by Muslims, wearing colorful traditional costumes. |
| January–February* | Chinese New Year. This is the most colorful festival of the year. The Chinese decorate their houses, inside and out, and celebrate for four or five days (traditionally a fortnight) with feasts and fireworks. |
| February* | Thaipusam. Thaipusam is a Hindu Festival, when followers repent by various self-inflicted tortures. At night, the temple Deity is |

* These are moveable festivals and fall on different dates from year to year.



taken in a decorated chariot through the city and there are fire-walking ceremonies in the temples.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| March* | Hari Raya Haji. Muslims celebrate this day on the tenth day of the twelfth moon in the Mohammedan calendar by wearing their best clothes, attending the mosques for prayer and feasting in their homes. |
| March–April* | Good Friday. Christian churches hold services on this day and a wax figure of Christ is carried in procession in the grounds of St. Joseph's Church, Queen Street. |
| March–April* | Easter Monday. |
| May 1 | Labor Day. |
| May* | Vesak Day. This Buddhist holy day celebrates the birth, death and enlightenment of Lord Buddha. Mass meetings are held, and at night illuminated floats are paraded through the city. |
| August 9 | National Day. This commemorates the founding of the new independent republic of Singapore in 1965. |
| October–November* | Deepavali (Festival of Lights). This Hindu Festival commemorates the victory of Lord Krishna over the demon king, Naragasura. Fire-walking ceremonies take place and Hindu homes are illuminated at night with candles and oil lamps. |
| December 24 | Christmas Eve. |
| December 25 | Christmas Day. Christian churches hold special services on this day. |

* These are moveable festivals and fall on different dates from year to year.

Edited by Alan C. Lovejoy

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Our Special Meal Service

If your diet is governed by religion, health, or regional preference, or if you need something different from the regular menu, ask your SAS office or travel agent about the SAS Special Meal Service.

This extra SAS service allows you to preorder from eight different categories of special meals – 70 dishes, among which we are sure you will find a meal to suit your individual taste, or that of your children.

