



Singapore - Population 5.6 million (2022)

- Chinese 74%.
- Malay 14%.
- Indian 9%.
- Other 3%.

100% urbanized.

Religions:

- Buddhist – 33%.
- Christian – 19%.
- Muslim – 14%.
- Taoist – 10%.
- Hindu – 5%.
- Other – 1%.
- None – 19%.

Capital: Singapore. *(City-State)*

Government: Parliamentary republic.

Unicameral parliament: 99 seats.

Independence (from Malay Federation): August 9, 1965.

National day: August 9.

Citizenship by birth in SG: No.

Dual citizenship allowed: No.

Economy:

- Open free-market economy.
- Corruption-free.
- Stable prices.
- Low unemployment: **2.1%**.
- Agriculture: **Nil**.
- GDP per capita: **\$91,100** (US = \$80,034.) **2023 IMF est.**
- Gross national saving: **47% of GDP.** (US = 19% of GDP.)

Prime Ministers:

- **1959-1990:** Lee Kuan Yew. (31½ years). 
- **1990-2004:** Goh Chok Tong. 
- **2004 to present:** Lee Hsien Loong. 

All from same party: People's Action Party.

Prime Minister:

- Head of Government: CEO.
- Named by President. Leader of Parliament majority party (PAP).

Also has a popularly elected President:

- Tharman Shanmugaratnam:
- Elected Sept 1, 2023.
- Heads foreign relations.
- Controls national reserves.



Voting

- Age 21.
- Compulsory (or pay a fine).

Population: 5.6 million. *Collier County*

Land Area: 280 sq. mi. *2,305 sq mi*

Coastline: 120 miles.

Military spending: 3.4% of GDP. (US: 3.3%).

Flag of Singapore

Adopted 1959 (self-governance within Britain).

Reaffirmed 1965 (independence).

Red = Equality. White = Virtue.



Crescent = Young Nation
5 Stars:
 - Democracy.
 - Peace.
 - Progress.
 - Justice.
 - Equality.

Singapore Coat of Arms.

- Lion represents Singapore.
- Tiger represents Malaysia.
- Stand on stalks of rice.
- Adopted 1959 (when Singapore was part of Malaysia).
- Majulah Singapura = Onward Singapore.



Singapore Currency
S\$1 = 73 US Cents

Yusof bin Ishak
 1st President of Singapore 1965-70



Languages

Singapore government recognises four official languages: English, Malay, Mandarin, and Tamil.

Main language spoken at home:

English	48%
Mandarin	30%
Chinese Dialects	9%
Malay	9%
Tamil	3%
Others	2%

Schools and Univ: English dominant.

Chinese	Speaking	Writing
Singapore	Mandarin	Simplified
Mainland China	Mandarin	Simplified
Hong Kong	Cantonese	Traditional
Taiwan	Mandarin	Traditional
Malaysia	Mandarin	Simplified
Macau	Cantonese	Traditional

Singapore History - 1

14th c: Settled by Malay people.

1611: Portuguese invade.

1641: Dutch take control from Portugal.

1819: British arrive, led by Sir Stamford Raffles. Dutch withdraw. Singapore population at the time 1,000 – mostly Malays.

Singapore History - 2

1820-1871: Substantial migration from China, India, Malaya. Economic boom -- shipping and trading.

1871: Singapore population 100,000 – more than half Chinese.

1867-1942: Britain converts Singapore to a separate colony called Straits Settlements.

Singapore History - 3

Dec 8, 1941: Japan invades. Takes control. 130,000 Brit troops imprisoned.

Est. Japan killed 50,000 Singaporeans.

Sept. 1945:

Japan surrender. But Britain had lost its credibility by failing to defend Singapore.



Singapore History - 4

1948: Armed insurgencies by communists. British defend. But independence movement began, led by students and unionists.

1959: Britain grants full internal self-government. Lee Kwan Yew becomes Prime Minister. But still a colony of Britain.



Singapore History - 5

Early 1960s: Public sentiment for full independence from Britain.

1963: Singapore leaders decide to join British Malaya to form new independent country: "Malaysia".

1963-1965: Malaysia race riots – Malays vs Chinese. Hundreds killed and injured. Chaos. Prices skyrocket. Talks between Chinese and Malay leaders fail.

Singapore History - 6

August 9, 1965: Parliament of Malaysia votes 126–0 to expel Singapore from the federation.

Same day: Parliament of Singapore creates the independent Republic of Singapore.

Since 1965: Prosperity, stability, growth.



Marina Bay Sands Hotel and Casino
World's Most Expensive Stand-alone Hotel: US\$6 billion.



Marina Bay Sands

Opened 2010.

2,561 Rooms.

1.3 million sq foot convention center.

Skypark atop:

– 1,120 feet long.

– Capacity 3,900 people.

– 500 foot infinity pool.





Asian Civilisations Museum Galleries

- Level 1: Trade - ceramics, gold, silver
- Tang Shipwreck (9th c).
- Maritime Trade.
- Level 2: Faith and Belief
- Ancient Religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism.
- Christian Art.
- Scholars Gallery.
- Level 3: Materials and Design
- Fashion and Textiles.





Asian Civilisations Museum Singapore



Asian Civilisations Museum

Tang dynasty (618-906)



Asian Civilisations Museum

Bhikshatana Shiva India - 11th c

South Indian temple dancer - 19th c



Fullerton Hotel

- Former General Post Office. 1928.
- Former Inland Revenue HQ.
- Converted to Hotel 1997.



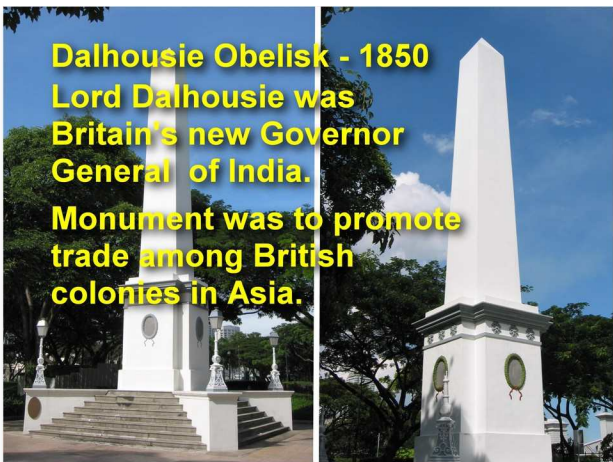
Cavenagh Bridge - 1870

- Commemorates Singapore's Status as a British Crown colony (Straits Settlements).
- General Orfeur Cavenagh was Governor of Straits Settlements (1859 to 1867).



Anderson Bridge

- Across Singapore River.
- 1910.



Dalhousie Obelisk - 1850

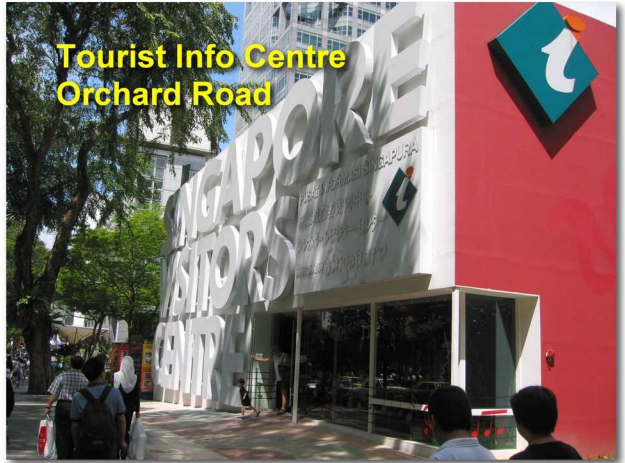
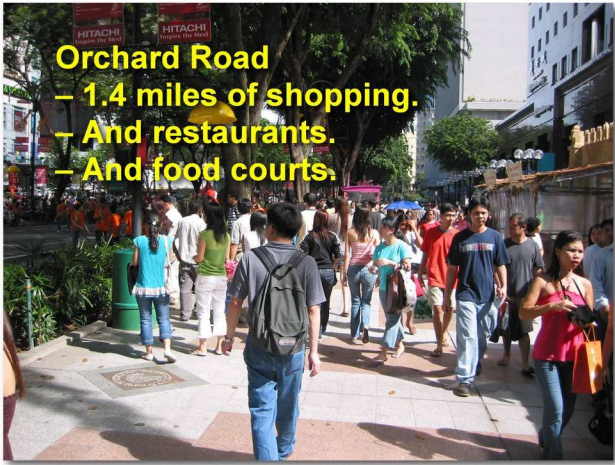
Lord Dalhousie was Britain's new Governor General of India.

Monument was to promote trade among British colonies in Asia.



Orchard Road

Main shopping street in Singapore.

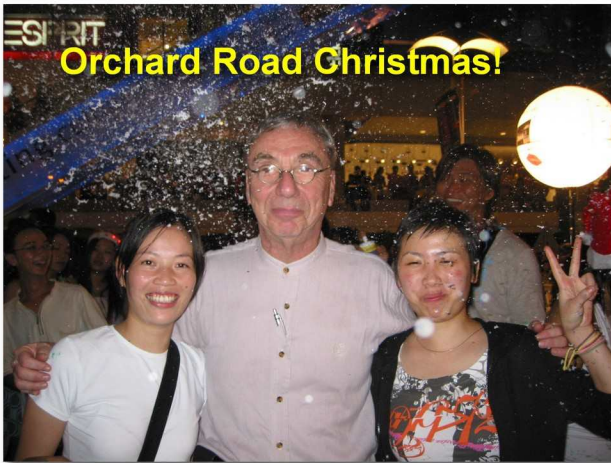




Christmas Eve Snow on Orchard Road



Snow on Orchard Road



Orchard Road Christmas!



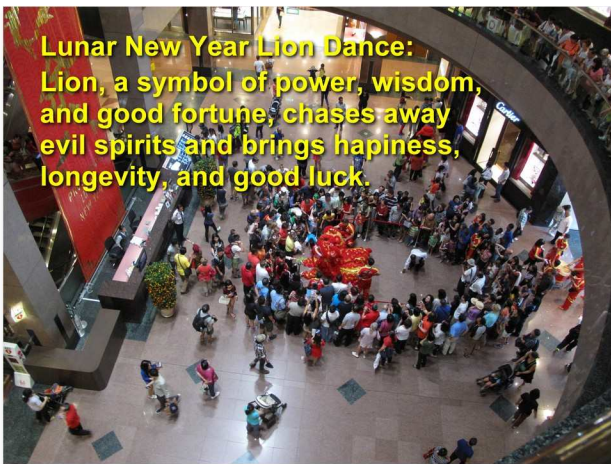
Conservative, workaholic, shopaholic Singaporeans let loose on Christmas Eve!



Snow on Orchard Road



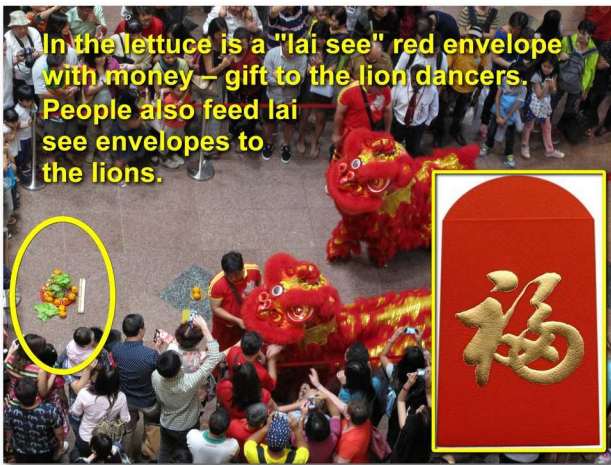
More serious Christmas Eve events on Orchard Road



Lunar New Year Lion Dance: Lion, a symbol of power, wisdom, and good fortune, chases away evil spirits and brings happiness, longevity, and good luck.



"Cai Qing" meaning "plucking the greens". The lion is enticed to eat the auspicious green lettuce and oranges.



In the lettuce is a "lai see" red envelope with money – gift to the lion dancers. People also feed lai see envelopes to the lions.



Chinatown Singapore



Chinatown Singapore



Singapore Chinatown Shops



Dried Seafood



Bee Cheng Hang is an Asian Chain of Chinese sausage and jerky shops (Jerky = Bak Kwa or Rou Gan)



Fresh cooked Bak Kwa (aka Rou Gan) – sweet and salty pork or beef at Bee Cheng Hang.



Typical shrine outside a Chinese shop in Singapore (or Hong Kong). Often at ground level.



Chinatown Market Restaurant

Tiger Beer is Singapore's beer



Pomelos
 - Citrus fruit, similar to grapefruit.
 - Chinese symbol of prosperity and good luck.
 - Often presented as a gift in temples or homes for New Year.



Chinatown Singapore



Chinatown Singapore



Chinatown Singapore

Hainan Chicken Rice (poached). A Singapore National Dish.
 See "Rice Rhapsody" comedy movie!



Chinatown Singapore Ocean King's House of Turtle Specialties

Check out the menu...



House of Turtle Specialties

- Turtle Porridge
- Turtle Soup
- Turtle Claypot Soup
- Turtle Rou Gan (Jerky)
- Turtle Dumpling
- Braised Turtle
- Turtle Hor Fan (flat noodles & veggies)
- Turtle Fried Ginger
- Turtle Curry



Chinatown Singapore

Geese



Chinatown – Lion Dance



Chinatown – Lion Dance



Chinatown Night Market



**Chinatown at Night
During Lunar New Year**



Pumpkin for Lunar New Year brings:

- Prosperity.
- Abundance.
- Descendant's luck.
- Illustrious children.
- Enchantment.
- Energy to manifest gold.

All of that for just \$2!



Chestnuts

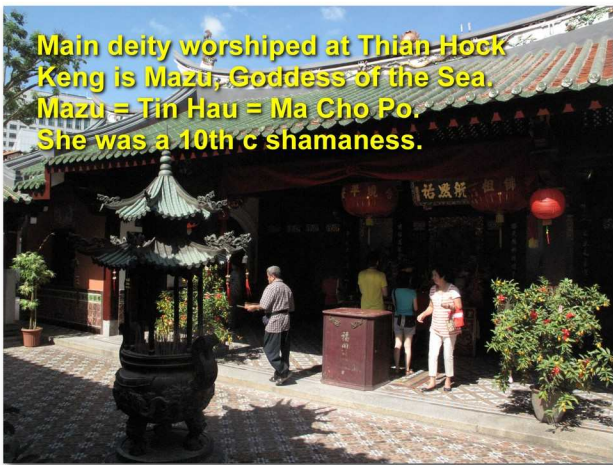


Chinatown Frog Congee

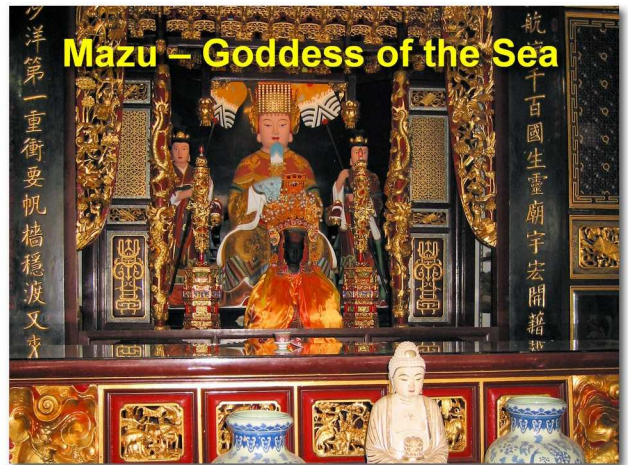
Congee is rice porridge



Thian Hock Keng Temple - 1842



Main deity worshiped at Tian Hock Keng is Mazu, Goddess of the Sea.
Mazu = Tin Hau = Ma Cho Po.
She was a 10th c shamaness.

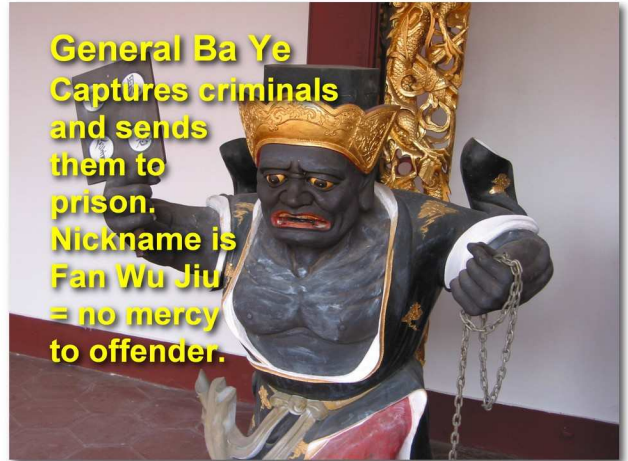


Mazu – Goddess of the Sea



Cheng Huang Ye (City God)
Protects inhabitants' well-being, health, safety

Also worshiped at Tian Hock Keng



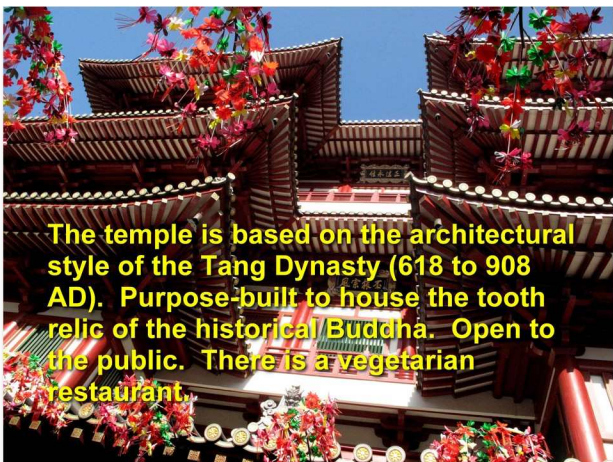
General Ba Ye
Captures criminals and sends them to prison.
Nickname is Fan Wu Jiu = no mercy to offender.



Tian Hock Keng Gate Guardian



Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum
2007



The temple is based on the architectural style of the Tang Dynasty (618 to 908 AD). Purpose-built to house the tooth relic of the historical Buddha. Open to the public. There is a vegetarian restaurant.



Buddha Tooth Relic Temple and Museum.
Chinatown, Singapore.
Open 7 days:
– Temple 7am to 7pm.
– Museum 9am to 6pm.



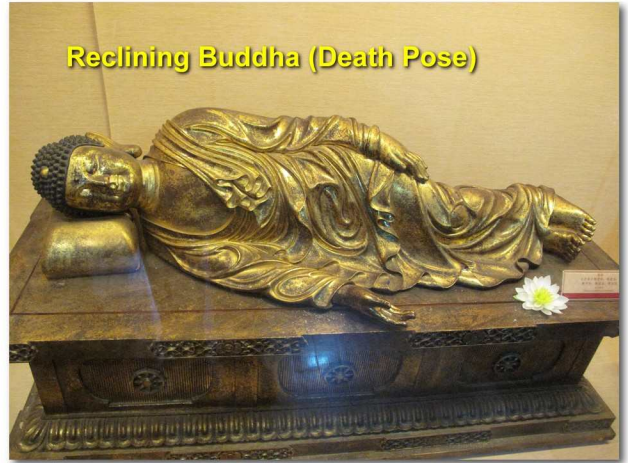
Current Charity: Buddhist robes to needy monks and students.



Giant Prayer Wheel



Ancient incense burner




Reclining Buddha (Death Pose)



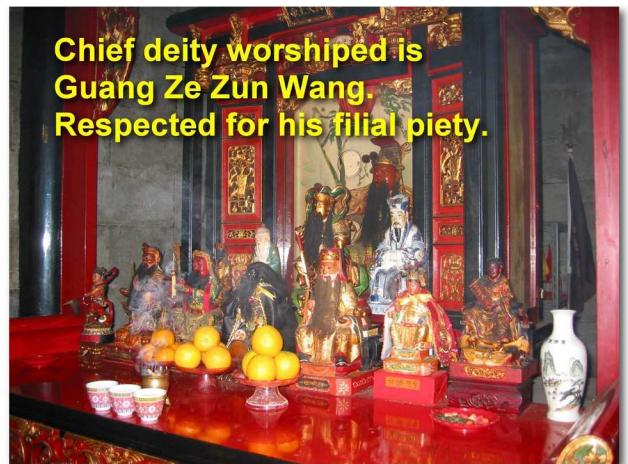
Tooth Relic is on the 4th Floor

Chamber said to hold a relic (Buddha's tooth) left behind after his cremation 5th c BC. Found in a ruined temple in Myanmar 1980. Some question whether this is a 2500-year old human tooth. Others say "The whole premise of faith is that you must believe – you don't ask if it's real."




Hong San See Temple 1913

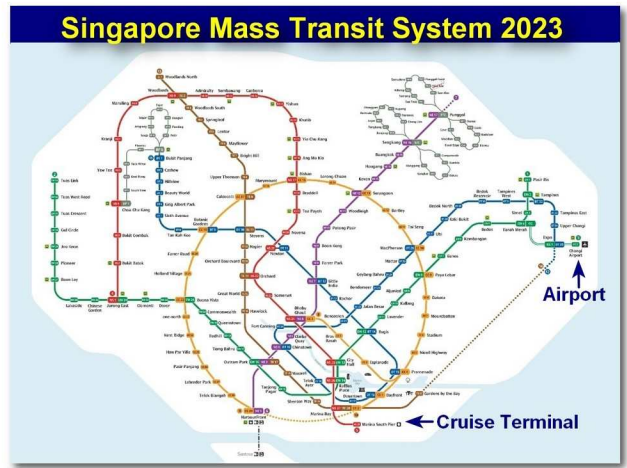
Built by migrants from Fujian Province, China



Chief deity worshiped is Guang Ze Zun Wang. Respected for his filial piety.



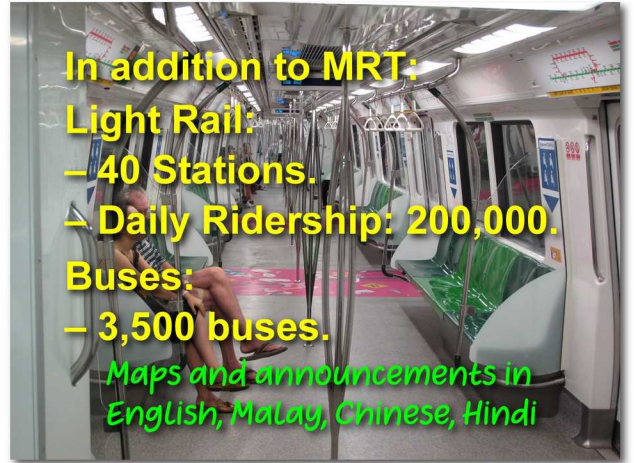
Hong San See Temple



In addition to MRT:

- Light Rail:**
- 40 Stations.
- Daily Ridership: 200,000.
- Buses:**
- 3,500 buses.

Maps and announcements in English, Malay, Chinese, Hindi



Singapore Mass Rail Transit: Opened 1987.

Today:

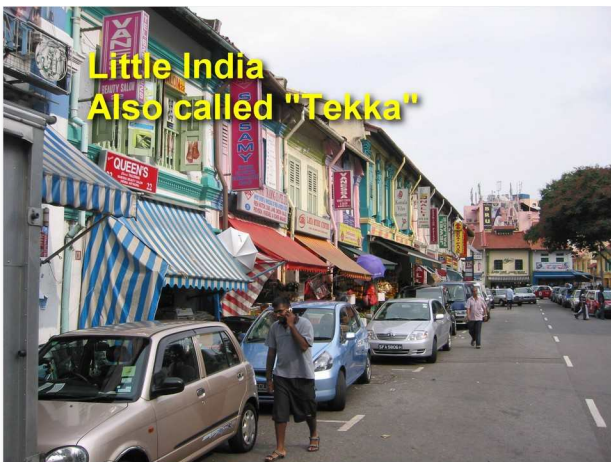
- 6 Lines.
- 140 Stations.
- Daily Ridership: 3.4 million.
- Annual Ridership: 1.2 billion.
- System Length: 140 miles.



Singapore MRT - Normal



"Little India" neighborhood



Little India Also called "Tekka"



- Indian:**
- Groceries.
- Spices.
- Textiles.
- Restaurants.
- Temples.
- Etc



Little India (Tekka)

Bitter Marrow (Eggplant) Aubergine Okra Munge Taut



Little India

Many small Indian restaurants are called "Mess" as in "Mess Hall" (Hong Kong too)



Little India Market

**Little Round Eggplants
Bitter Marrow Loofah
Okra Chayote
Gourd**



**Sri Mariamman Temple
Singapore's oldest Hindu Temple
1827**



**Sri Mariaman Temple
Dravidian Style
High "gopura"
or gatehouse**



**Sri Mariaman Temple
Open:**
– Morning: 5:30 am - 12:00 pm.
– Evening: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm.
**Visitors welcome.
Must remove shoes
before entering.**



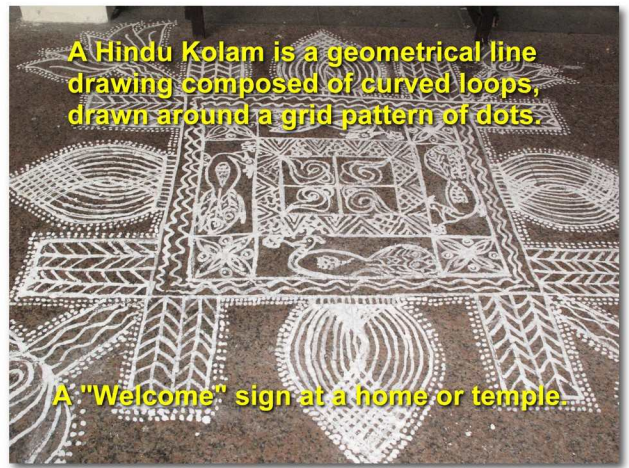
**Dress conservatively
(shoulders covered).
To take photos inside
buy a camera ticket.**



Sri Mariaman Temple – 1827



Sri Mariaman Temple = 1827



A Hindu Kolam is a geometrical line drawing composed of curved loops, drawn around a grid pattern of dots.

A "Welcome" sign at a home or temple.



Another Kolam. Drawn with chalk or rice flour.



Sri Mariaman Hindu Temple



Pooja (Puja): Hindu Worship Ritual.

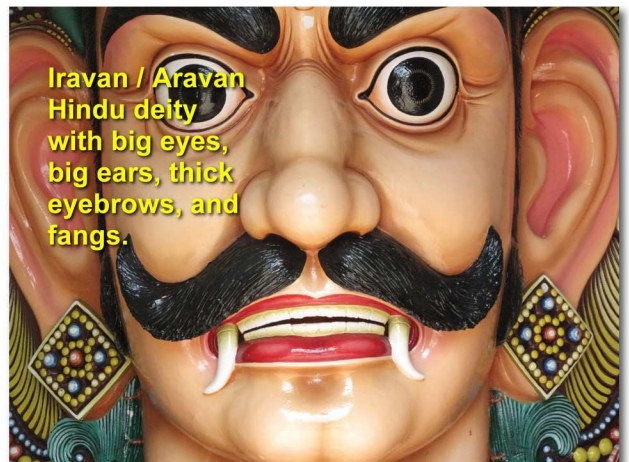


Pooja (Puja) Hindu Worship Rituals



Sri Mariaman Temple Shrine to Hindu deity Aravan.

Aravan symbolizes self-sacrifice.



Aravan / Aravan Hindu deity with big eyes, big ears, thick eyebrows, and fangs.



Nagore Daragh Hindu Shrine
Before recent renovations.
Built 1828.
Possibly earlier.

"Keep Out" sign in English, Chinese, Hindi, and Malay.



Nagore Daragh Hindu Shrine
After recent renovations

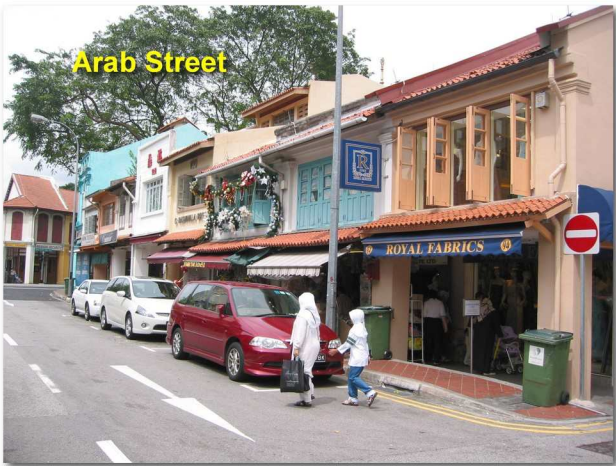


Masjid Sultan – Sultan Mosque
Arab Street
1932

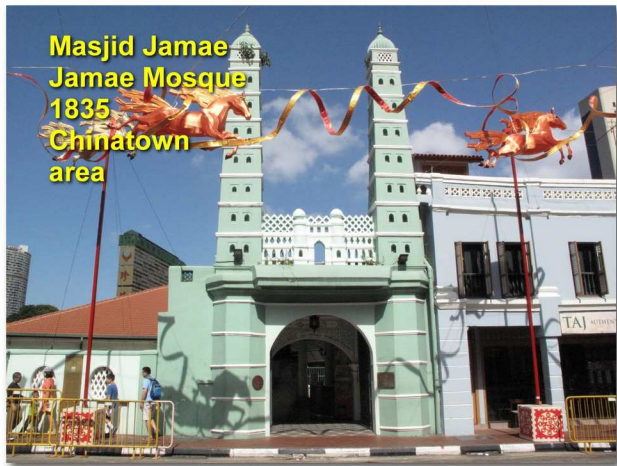
There are over 40 mosques in Singapore.



Masjid Sultan Visiting Hours:
Saturdays to Thursdays:
10 AM – Noon, 2-4 PM.
Friday: 2:30 – 4 PM.



Arab Street

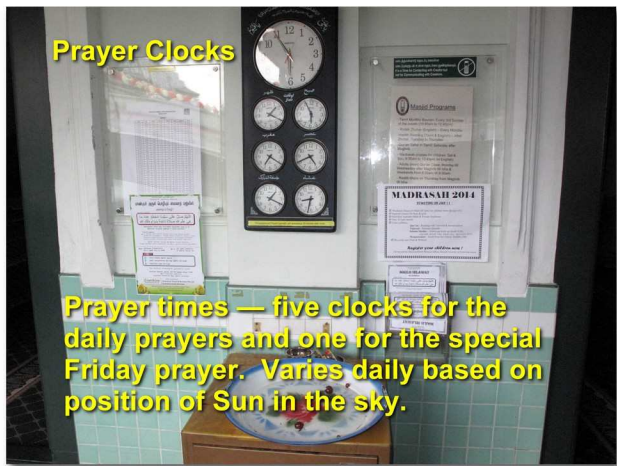


Masjid Jamee
Jamae Mosque
1835
Chinatown area



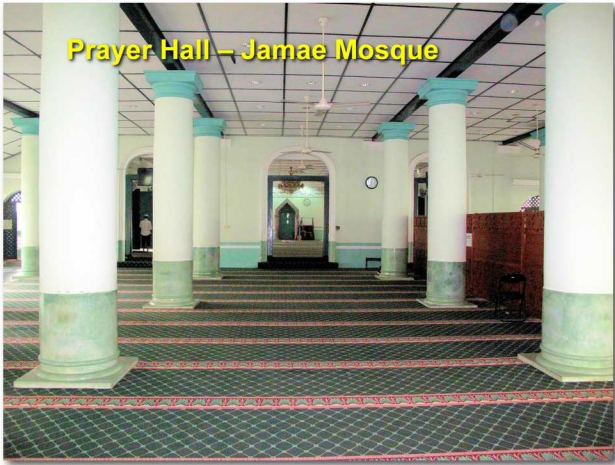
For ritual washing before prayers (Wudu)

Washing the ears, face, hands, arms (up to the elbows).



Prayer Clocks

Prayer times — five clocks for the daily prayers and one for the special Friday prayer. Varies daily based on position of Sun in the sky.



Prayer Hall – Jamae Mosque



Jamae Mosque Singapore



**Armenian Church
1835
Oldest Christian church in Singapore**



**Formal name:
Armenian Church of
Saint Gregory
the Illuminator
Armenian and Eastern
Orthodox services
are held regularly.**



**Armenian Church
Circular Interior.
In 1909, the church
became the first
building in Singapore
with electricity.**



**Monument for the consecration
of the Armenian Church
in 1836**



**Tombs of prominent Singaporean
Armenians**



**"Relict" is an archaic
English term for widow.**

**Sarkies: Armenian family that founded
Raffles Hotel, Singapore, and other
famous hotels in Asia.**



A "Kopi Tiam" is a traditional Singaporean, Malaysian, or Indonesian "Coffee Shop".



Parliament House Singapore 1999



Singapore Parliament
Unicameral

Currently (can vary):

- 88 elected.
- 11 appointed. Intended to assure a "wide representation of community views".

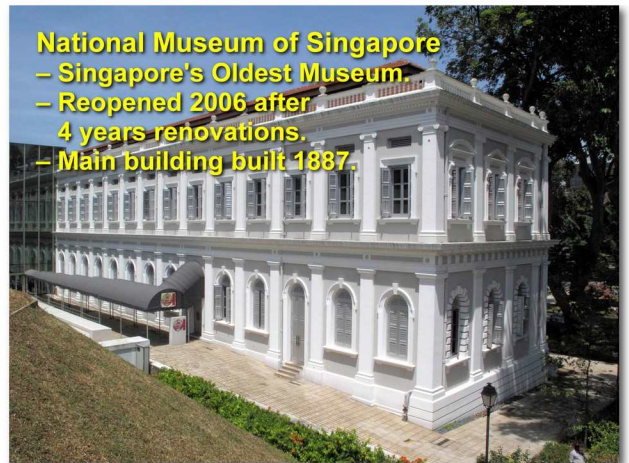


Parliament Offices



National Museum of Singapore
(formerly Singapore History Museum)
Founded 1849

Internet Photo - Not Mine



National Museum of Singapore
- Singapore's Oldest Museum.
- Reopened 2006 after 4 years renovations.
- Main building built 1887.



National Museum of Singapore



National Museum of Singapore



National Museum of Singapore



National Archives of Singapore
– Constitution and many other historical documents.
– Gallery open daily.

Peranakan
Traditionally: **Descendants of Chinese immigrants to Malaysia, Indonesia, Southern Thailand, and Singapore.**
More broadly: Includes descendants of other immigrant groups:
– Indian Hindu, Indian Muslim, Arabs.
Traditionally: Peranakans kept their original language, cuisines, customs.
But, more recently (past 50 years) much more assimilation and Westernization.



Peranakan Museum
Armenian Street
Singapore
Opened 2008



Peranakan Museum – Singapore
– 10 permanent galleries showcasing Peranakan life art, and culture in Southeast Asia
– One of the finest and most comprehensive public collections of Peranakan objects.
– Daily 10am to 7pm. Fridays to 9pm.

Museum Building 1910.



Peranakan Museum

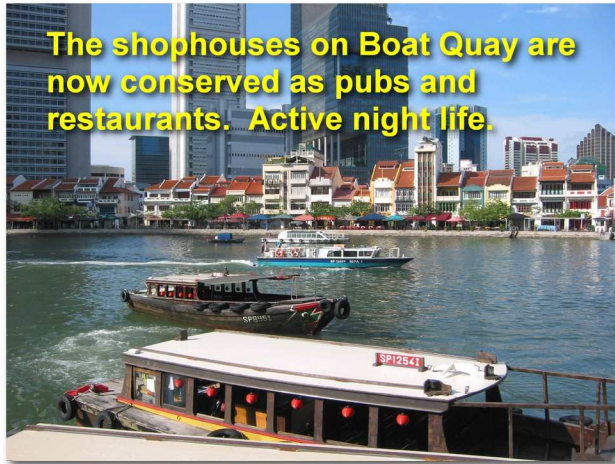
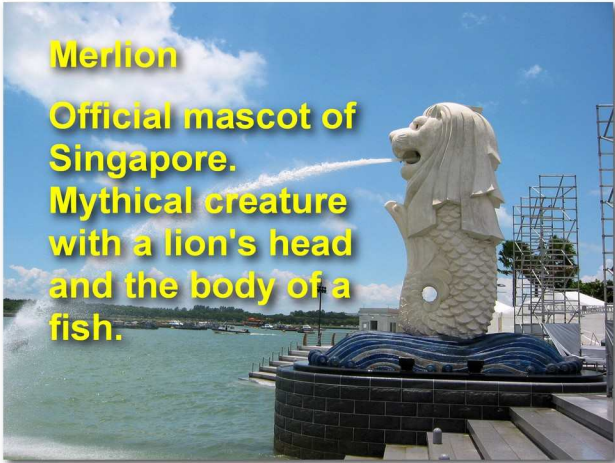
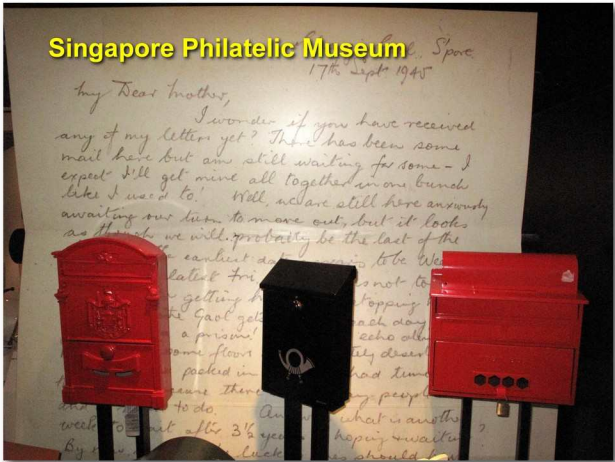


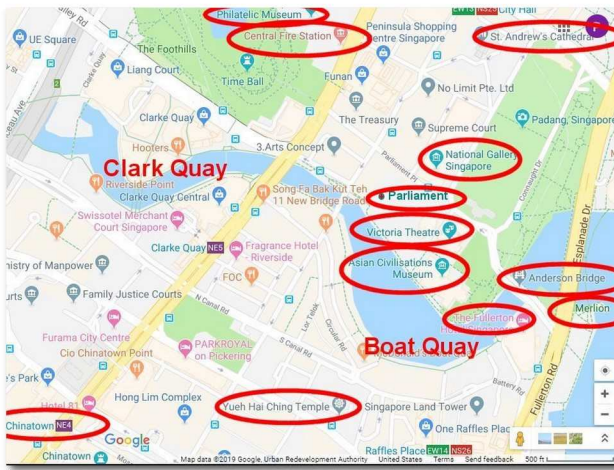
Peranakan Museum



Peranakan Museum







**Clarke Quay on the Singapore River
Historic Commercial Port
Now pedestrian dining and shopping area.**



Clarke Quay on the Singapore River



Japanese Restaurant at Clarke Quay



Japanese Restaurant at Clarke Quay



**Singapore Old Parliament House
Built 1827 as Courthouse and
Government Offices.
Later became Parliament.
Now: "Arts House at The Old
Parliament"**



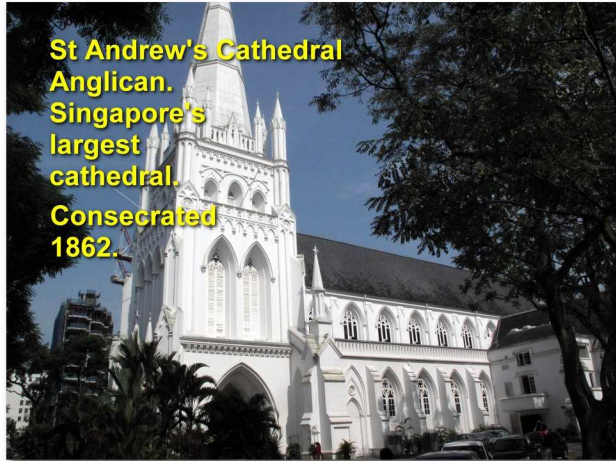
**Arts House at Old Parliament - 1827
Visual, Performing, Cinema Arts
Oldest major building in Singapore**



**National Gallery Singapore:
Southeast Asian Art Museum**
Opened Nov. 2015
Its two buildings were originally:
– Supreme Court – Opened 1939.
– City Hall – Opened 1929.



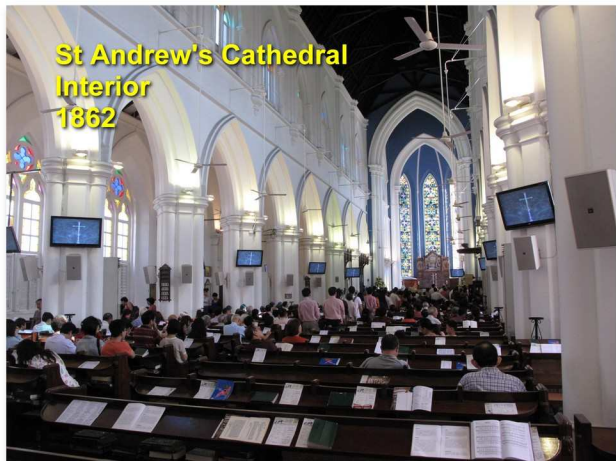
**National Gallery Singapore.
Singaporean and Southeast
Asian art 19th c to Present.**



**St Andrew's Cathedral
Anglican.
Singapore's
largest
cathedral.**
Consecrated
1862.



**St Andrew's
Cathedral**
Mother church
of 27 Anglican
parishes and
more than
55 congregations
in Singapore.



**St Andrew's Cathedral
Interior
1862**



**Singapore Cricket Club
1884
Members Only**



Singapore Cricket Club – Facilities for:
– Cricket.
– Rugby.
– Football.
– Field hockey.
– Squash.
– Tennis.
– Lawn bowls.
– Billiards and snooker.



**Esplanade Theatres on the Bay
Singapore's National
Performing Arts Centre**

Nickname: The Durians.



**Concert Hall – Seats 1,600.
Theatre - Seats about 2,000.**

Also 245-seat recital studio and 220 seat studio theatre.



**Victoria Theatre and Victoria Concert Hall
1862**

**Theatre 614 seats
Concert Hall 673 seats.**



Chinese Garden MRT Station

Jurong East area of Singapore.



Chinese Garden




**"Chinese seller.
Can sell to all races."**

FOR SALE
D27
4 bdrm, 1,410 sqft. Mid flr.
No sun & windy. Lift landing.
Near to amenities. Chinese seller, can sell to all races, motivated seller. COV nego.

\$560,000

For enquiry, please call Shirley Ong at: **9144 2115**

**"Singlish" is a problem in Singapore.
Mix of English with Malay and other words and poor grammar.**



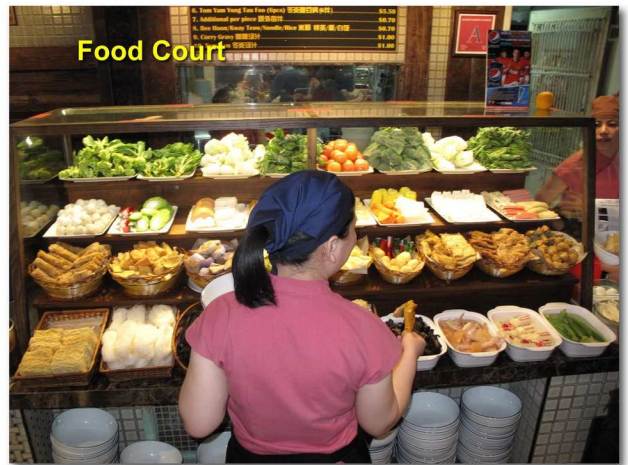
Speak Well. Be Understood.
www.sgem.org.sg

Speak Good English Movement
WHO WE ARE
Behind the Movement is a steering committee made up of individuals who are passionate about the English language. A secretariat supports the running of the Movement's programmes and activities.
WHAT WE DO
We encourage Singaporeans to speak grammatically correct English that is universally understood...

From their website:
Singaporean Blunder: Please on | off it.
Standard English: Please turn it on | off.
Singaporean Blunder: Got so many car here!
Standard English: There are so many cars here!
Singaporean Blunder: Please give me few salt.
Standard English: Please give me less salt.
Singaporean Blunder: You got eat already?
Standard English: Have you eaten?



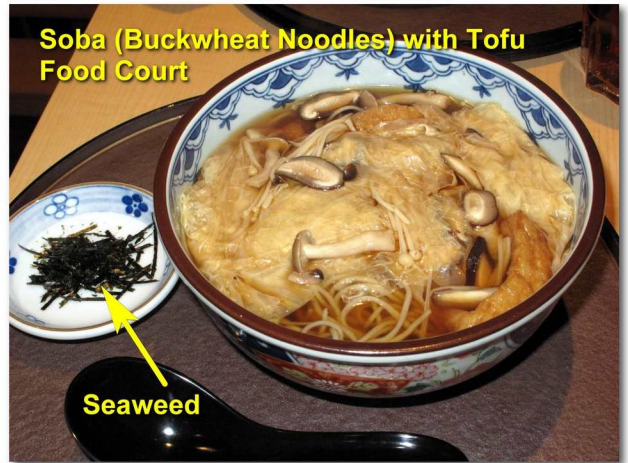
Singapore Food Court



Food Court



Soba (Buckwheat Noodles) + Chicken Food Court



Soba (Buckwheat Noodles) with Tofu Food Court

Seaweed



Durian Ice Cream



One of many food courts in Singapore. Everywhere!



Food Court

"Century Eggs"



Food Court - Roasted Ducks

Clay Pot Frog Legs **Clay Pot Pig's Liver** **Hand Made Raw Fish Tofu** **Various kinds of Congee = Jook = Rice Porridge**

Kinds of Congee		
白粥 + 鱼生	Plain Congee + Raw Fish	\$5
鱼片粥	Sliced Fish	\$3.50
鸡肉粥	Chicken	\$3.50
猪肉粥	Pork	\$3.50
猪杂粥	Mixed Pork	\$3.50
皮蛋猪肉粥	Century Egg	\$3.50
猪肉碎粥	Minced Pork	\$3.50
猪肉片粥	Sliced Pork	\$3.50
猪肝粥	Pig Liver	\$4.50
鱼腩粥	Fish Belly	\$4.50
砂锅田鸡粥	Claypot Frog	\$8/\$16
加蛋	Add Egg	\$0.50
加其他料	Additional Ingredients	\$1.00

Food Court Shop Menu

1. Beef and rice cake strip
2. Beef rice vermicelli
3. Sliced beef soup
4. Beef ball soup
5. Beef salad
6. Cuttlefish salad
7. Chicken salad
8. Plain salad
9. Spicy fragrant oyster sauce beef
10. Spicy fragrant oyster sauce beef tripe
11. Spicy fragrant oyster sauce beef roll
12. Spicy fragrant oyster sauce mixed beef
13. Tender garlic beef
14. BBQ boneless chicken leg
15. Same – with rice
16. Spicy fragrant mixed beef mega set

Food Court Shop **Various Kinds of Sliced Fish**

Fried Anchovies
Fried Fish Skin
Smoked Duck Breast

Various Kinds of Oysters and Noodles

Sambal Prawns (Hot) **Fish Head Soup** **Oyster Omelette**

Baker Senior Center - 6200 Autumn Oaks Lane
Off Immokalee Road Just East of I-75, Naples
All First Monday 3:00-4:00pm

Estonia	Mar 4, 2024
Southern France	Apr 1, 2024
Italy: Rome Part 1	May 6, 2024
Italy: Rome Part 2	Jun 3, 2024
Albania	July 1, 2024
China: Shenyang	Sept 2, 2024
Japan North	Oct 7, 2024
Cuba Other than Havana	Nov 4, 2024
Costa Rica – Pura Vida	Dec 2, 2024

THE END
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