



# Asia Concierge

THE ART OF TRAVEL DESIGN



COUNTRY INFORMATION, FACTS & ADVICE

*Singapore*



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## ● ARRIVING INTO SINGAPORE

### Passport and Visa

Passports must be valid for a minimum of 6 months after your departure date and contain at least two blank pages.

Singapore offers visa-free travel for ASEAN, European, UK and USA passport holders.

Short term travellers holding a passport or travel document from a visa-required country/region must [apply for a Visa](#)

Visa-required travellers can use the [Visa-Free Transit Facility](#) for stay of less than 96 hours in Singapore, if eligible

### Entry Information

Three days prior to your arrival, including the day of arrival, you must complete the SG Arrival Card and e-health declaration through the official and complimentary e-service available on the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) website.

Useful tips:

- Check your passport expiry date and ensure it is valid for more than six months beyond the date of your expected return to your country.
- Ensure you have at least two blank pages in your passport prior to arrival in each country of your journey.
- Print all important documents and keep them handy, such as airline tickets and visa approval letters.
- If your passport is lost or stolen overseas, please contact your local Asia Concierge representative or hotel staff. They will assist you in contacting the relevant embassy or consulate.

Whilst we do our best to provide the most up-to-date information, visa requirements may change at short notice. Obtaining the correct visa is the responsibility of each guest. Therefore, we recommend that you check with your consulate or embassy for current visa information before leaving home

## ● KEEPING HEALTHY IN SINGAPORE

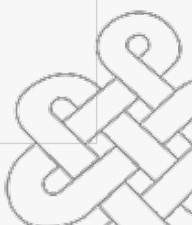
### Vaccinations

Staying up-to-date with your vaccinations is a crucial part of your pre-holiday planning and it is important to seek professional medical advice for your specific requirements. If you are traveling to remote areas, you may also consider preparing a medical kit.

### Special Requirements

If you take prescribed medication, pack enough in your hand luggage for the full trip, keep it in original packaging, and carry a copy of your prescription. Check with relevant embassies to ensure your medication is permitted and whether a doctor's letter is needed.

Please inform your Asia Concierge Travel Designer of any dietary needs or allergies at least four weeks before departure. Travellers with disabilities or ongoing medical needs should notify us at the time of booking or as early as possible.





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## ● TIPPING

Tipping is not a traditional practice in Singapore but is increasingly accepted in the tourism industry. It is not compulsory but is appreciated.

Suggested Guidelines (USD per person, per day):

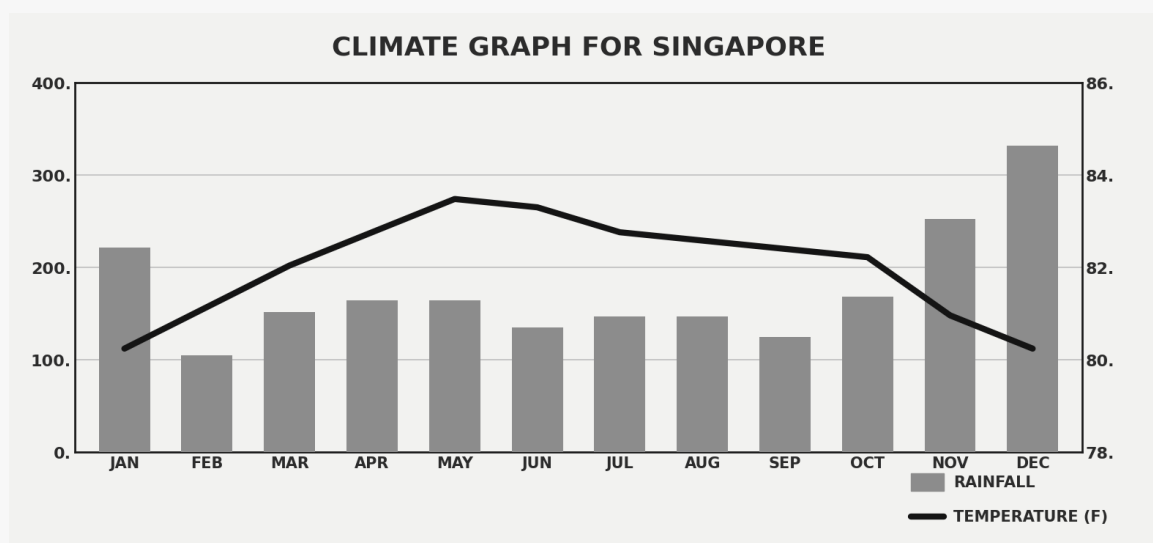
Guide: \$15–25

Driver: \$10–15

## ● WEATHER

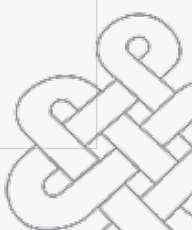
Singapore is located in close proximity to the equator, resulting in a typically tropical climate characterised by plentiful rainfall, consistently high temperatures, and elevated humidity throughout the year. Several climate elements, including temperature and relative humidity, display minimal month-to-month fluctuations. Nonetheless, a number of variables exhibit significant diurnal (daily) variations, with noticeable changes occurring from hour to hour, underscoring the substantial impact of solar heating on the local climate.

Singapore's climate is distinguished by two monsoon seasons, with intervening inter-monsoonal periods (as depicted in the table below). The Northeast Monsoon takes place from December to early March, while the Southwest Monsoon prevails from June to September.



## ● WHAT TO PACK

Singapore experiences a hot and humid climate, making lightweight cotton attire the most comfortable choice. It is advisable to cover your arms and legs when outdoors in the evenings to shield yourself from potential insect bites. When visiting religious sites, it's important for visitors to refrain from wearing shorts, short skirts, singlets, vest tops, or similar clothing. With the exception of the beach and pool areas, it's generally advisable to dress modestly in a manner that shows respect for the conservative values of the local society. Going topless is not considered acceptable. It is recommended to wear a hat, use sunscreen, wear sunglasses, and take regular measures for sun protection, especially if you plan to spend a significant amount of time exploring the numerous outdoor attractions.





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## ● MONEY

### Currency & Exchange

The official currency of the Republic of Singapore is the Singapore Dollar (symbol: S\$; code: SGD). It is legally recognised as the prevailing currency. Credit cards are widely accepted in major hotels, large restaurants, and big stores. If you wish to convert your currency, you can do so either at a currency exchange service in your home country or upon your arrival at Singapore Airport for your initial expenses.

### Credit Cards

Visa and MasterCard are the most commonly accepted cards, with some establishments also accommodating American Express. The exchange rates and transaction fees are contingent upon your home country's bank, so it's advisable to inquire about these particulars with your bank in advance. In smaller, more remote establishments and areas, credit cards may not be accepted.

### Traveler's Checks

Traveler's cheques can be exchanged at most banks, but this process can often be cumbersome and time-consuming. Therefore, it is recommended to avoid using traveler's cheques.

### Banks & ATMs

If you need to withdraw cash, there are numerous ATMs available in tourist areas within the city, as well as at the airports. Using ATMs is likely the most convenient method for currency exchange.

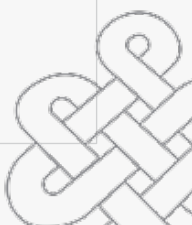
## ● TIME ZONE

Singapore Time is eight hours ahead of the Coordinated Universal Time standard, represented as an offset of UTC + 8:00. To determine the standard time in this zone, you need to add eight hours to Coordinated Universal Time. Regions that adhere to this time zone are predominantly located in Asia, specifically in Singapore. They maintain Singapore Time (SGT) throughout the entire year and do not make any adjustments for Daylight Saving Time.

## ● SHOPPING

In Singapore, shopping isn't merely a transaction for acquiring goods; it's an opportunity to explore diverse realms where retail, nature, technology, and heritage intersect. Pedal your way into Funan Mall on a bicycle, meander through shops surrounding a captivating rain vortex at Jewel Changi, or immerse yourself in the opulence of international flagship stores lining Orchard Road. You can also bring home cultural keepsakes from our ethnic enclaves or engage in hands-on craft workshops offered by independent brands. No matter your passion, there's always a delightful surprise waiting just around the corner.

If you're in search of a particular item, your travel expert may, as a gesture of goodwill, direct you to a vendor that stocks the merchandise you seek. It's important to note that this referral should not be construed as an endorsement by Asia Concierge of the vendor in question. All purchasing decisions remain entirely your own responsibility. Asia Concierge assumes no liability for any products that may be defective or not as described.





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## ● LOCAL FOOD & DRINK

The food scene in Singapore is a vibrant and diverse culinary landscape that mirrors the city-state's multicultural heritage and global influences. Singapore is renowned for its hawker centres, street food stalls, upscale restaurants, and a rich tapestry of flavours and dishes. Here are some key aspects of the food scene in Singapore:

**Hawker Centres:** Hawker centres are the heart of Singapore's food culture. These are open-air or indoor complexes with rows of food stalls selling a wide range of affordable local and international dishes. Popular hawker centres include Maxwell Food Centre, Lau Pa Sat, and Tiong Bahru Market. You can find iconic dishes like Hainanese chicken rice, laksa, char kway teow, and chilli crab here.

**Singaporean Cuisine:** Singaporean cuisine is a fusion of Chinese, Malay, Indian, and Peranakan (Straits Chinese) influences. Signature dishes include Hainanese chicken rice, nasi lemak, satay, laksa, and rojak. Many of these dishes are characterised by their bold and aromatic flavours, often featuring a mix of sweet, spicy, and savoury elements.

**Street Food:** Street food is an integral part of the food scene in Singapore. You can find street vendors selling everything from skewered satay and oyster omelettes to delicious roti prata and carrot cake. These street food options are both affordable and delicious, making them popular choices for locals and tourists alike.

**International Cuisine:** Singapore is a global city, and its food scene reflects this diversity. You can find a wide variety of international cuisines, including Chinese, Malay, Indian, Thai, Japanese, Korean, Italian, and more. The city is particularly known for its Michelin-starred restaurants, offering fine dining experiences.

**Peranakan Cuisine:** Peranakan or Nyonya cuisine is a unique blend of Chinese and Malay flavours. Dishes like ayam buah keluak and babi pongteh are popular examples of this cuisine, which is celebrated for its complex, aromatic, and often spicy flavours.

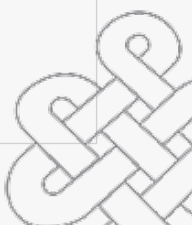
**Seafood:** Given its coastal location, Singapore offers a plethora of fresh seafood. Chilli crab, black pepper crab, and salted egg yolk crab are some of the most popular dishes. The East Coast Seafood Centre is famous for its seafood restaurants.

**Fusion Cuisine:** Many innovative chefs in Singapore experiment with fusion cuisine, combining various culinary traditions to create unique and exciting dishes. This creativity can be seen in the growing number of modern restaurants and cafes in the city.

**Food Festivals:** Singapore hosts various food festivals and events throughout the year, such as the Singapore Food Festival and the World Gourmet Summit. These events celebrate local and international cuisine, bringing together food enthusiasts and top chefs.

**Food Hygiene:** Singapore places a strong emphasis on food safety and cleanliness. Hawker centres and restaurants are regularly inspected, ensuring a high standard of hygiene and quality.

**24-Hour Dining:** Singapore is known for its vibrant nightlife, and you can find eateries that are open 24/7, offering late-night dining options for both locals and tourists.





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## ● CUSTOMS, ETIQUETTE & USEFUL INFORMATION

### Language

Malay serves as the national language of Singapore, with English, Malay, Mandarin Chinese, and Tamil being the four official languages in the country. English is the predominant language, especially among the population under the age of 50, and it serves as the primary medium of instruction in schools. Furthermore, English is the language of choice for business and government in Singapore, following British English conventions. Singapore is also notable for Singlish, a widely spoken language that primarily represents a colloquial variation of English. Singlish possesses a distinct accent and deviates from the conventional standards of English grammar.

### Religious Holidays

Singapore observes a range of significant religious festivals and important dates that are celebrated nationwide. These noteworthy religious events are officially recognised as public holidays in Singapore. The country has 10 annual public holidays, including New Year's Day, Chinese New Year, Good Friday, and Labour Day, among others.

## ● STAYING CONNECTED

Singapore has excellent connectivity throughout. Singtel, StarHub, and M1 all sell tourist SIMs at Changi Airport and convenience stores, with plans from around SGD 12 for generous data. Given how cheap and easy local SIMs are, an eSIM is more about convenience than necessity, letting you skip the counter and be online the moment you land. Wi-Fi is fast and widely available everywhere, including on public transport.

*Singapore*

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