

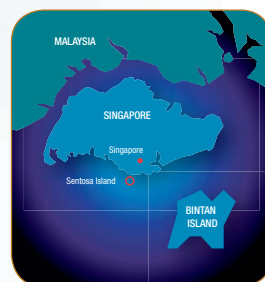
SINGAPORE, SENTOSA & BINTAN

THE PERFECT GATEWAY TO ASIA



The blend of Malay, Chinese, Indian, Arab and European cultures mix to make Singapore a unique city to visit. Experience the hustle and bustle of the Orchard Road shopping district; recapture the colonial era with a Singapore Sling at the legendary Raffles Hotel; visit a fortune teller and one of the intricate Chinese temples in Chinatown; breathe in the smell of freshly ground spices in Little India; or listen to the cry of the Imam from the Sultan Mosque around Arab Street. With endless dining and

entertainment possibilities, quality shopping and cultural treasures, this safe, cosmopolitan city is an ideal destination to Live it Up and the perfect gateway to Asia.



SENTOSA ISLAND appeals to everyone, especially families. It is an island of fun parks, aquariums, beaches, water slides and sporting facilities devoted to fun and entertainment. Sentosa is connected to the main island of Singapore by bridge, ferry and a ski-lift style cable car.

THE INDONESIAN ISLAND OF BINTAN is a short, 45-minute trip by high-speed catamaran from Singapore. One of over 3 thousand islands of the Riau Archipelago scattered across the South China Sea. The northern shores of Bintan are an attractive tourist escape, with un-crowded white sandy beaches, sparkling clear waters and are surrounded by lush tropical rainforest. A setting that promises total relaxation and is ideal for beach lovers. The capital of Bintan is Tanjung Pinang, a lively town retaining much of its old-time charm.

WHEN TO GO Go anytime! Climate is not a major consideration as Singapore has a warm and humid climate throughout the year with a daily average temperature range from 24-32 degrees Celsius. Sentosa and Bintan can get busy at weekends and during Singaporean school holidays.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT Singapore is far and away the food capital of Asia, with an incredible range of cuisine. Choose from lush international food served at the finest restaurants, dine alfresco on the banks of the Singapore River or enjoy fantastic local fare served from street stalls where you can dine like a king for just a few pounds! Chilli crab and fish head curry are just a couple of Singapore's 'must try' dishes. As Bintan is part of Indonesia, expect to find many of the dishes based on rice, similar to that of Bali's food.

SHOPPING Singapore is a dream come true for shopaholics: offering everything from designer clothing & accessories to electronic items; antiques to the latest computer software. Orchard Road is the main shopping area with mall after mall lining each side of the street. Bargains can be found in the ethnic bazaars of Little India and Chinatown.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

VISA Most Western nationalities do not require visas for Singapore/Sentosa - you are granted a 30-day permit on arrival. You will need six months validity on your passport. For more information contact the Singapore High Commission on 020 7235 8315. For entry into Bintan you will need to obtain a visa on arrival. A 7 day visa costs approximately £17 and a 30 day visa approx £35 per person.

CURRENCY The Singapore dollar is the unit of currency. All major credit cards are accepted and there are plenty of ATM's available to withdraw cash. On Bintan Island the currency is the Indonesia Rupiah, although all hotels accept Singapore dollars.

HEALTH No specific vaccinations are required, however you should check with your local GP prior to departure.

TRAVELLING TIME 13-14 hours to Singapore, then onward land or ferry transfers (depending on final destination).

LOCAL TIME GMT + 8hrs for Singapore and Sentosa, +7hrs for Bintan Island.

FURTHER INFORMATION Contact the Singapore Tourist Board on www.visitsingapore.com