SINGAPORE

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Shop, Shop, Shop

Clients travelling to Singapore for a taste of the high life will no doubt be looking to capitalise on some shopping time, and Orchard Road isn't famous for no reason. Whether it's high-end brands like Prada and Harry Winston clients are looking for, or high street like Mango, Zara and Uniqlo, Orchard Road has it all. Highlights of the mall scene are ION Orchard, Paragon and Orchard Central, but wandering up and down will definitely yield a massive haul-if that's the aim.

For those after some quirky additions to the wardrobe, look no further than Haji Lane, in Kampong Glam. A number of boutiques has sprung up offering Korean imports and vintage. There's also a few small local designers and unique stores in Far East Plaza on Orchard Road, if clients are willing to get lost in the maze of cheap stores.

... Rest Stops

Shoppers needing a pick-me-up have a number of dining options up and down the street, including Jones the Grocer in ION Orchard. The café offers fresh dishes including baguettes, antipasto platters and even take-away lunch boxes. There's also TWG Tea in ION, for macarons and the choice of hundreds of teas. See jonesthegrocer.com

To The Theatre



Groups or couples alike will have trouble deciding which show to catch at The Esplanade, Theatres on the Bay, from the Gurus of Indian Classical Dance, to Swan Lake and performances by the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. The complex's two domes are modelled on microphone heads, and with five main performance areas and a plethora of dining and retail destinations, it's an entertainment one-stop-shop. Dining experiences include Gajalee Indian Seafood Restaurant, My Humble House for traditional Chinese, and The Chocolate Bar by Max Brenner. See esplanade.com

Singapore Chic **YourSingapore**

SIN's All Class



Singapore has it all for a trip with all the trappings—whether it's fine dining, shopping, relaxation

Days can be filled checking out the city's various beach clubs and art galleries, while nighttime is reserved for those who want to let their hair down.

There's cuisine to satisfy the appetite of the fussiest of eaters, and shops for all tastes. The nightlife also caters for a range of clients, and it's definitely safe for a gaggle of ladies to get around late at night. Clients looking to engage in some

Brunch

Sun Brunch of the boozy variety has become something of a regular pastime amongst Singapore's expats and locals alike. Most of the city's highend hotels offer one, with free-flow Champagne and a range of cuisine (this isn't just food, it's brunch after all) for anywhere from SGD100-200 most Suns. It pays to book ahead for this experience, and perhaps don't plan on doing anything else with the day to avoid disappointment when it's suddenly 1500 and clients are a tad lightheaded.

Gillman Day Touring

For a day-time art tour with a difference, and the chance to pick up a souvenir, tell clients to head to Gillman Barracks—a new precinct of galleries featuring international and regional contemporary art. There's a constantly rotating array of exhibitions from artists exploring the themes of post-colonial Asia with painting, sculpture and photography, at The Drawing Room, Sundaram Tagore Singapore and Mizuma Gallery. The galleries are playing a prominent role in this year's Singapore Bienale, which is on around the country until 16 Feb. See gillmanbarracks.com

retail therapy may want to travel during the Great Singapore Sale to battle for some bargains (usually Jun-Jul annually).

. . . For Night Owls

It's not a flash trip to Singapore without a night or two out on the town, and instead of diving into the clubs of Clarke Quay for a night, why not head to The Fullerton Hotel's Lantern Bar (pictured) instead? It's one of a number of outdoor bars with pedigree around the city, with company like Ku De Ta atop Marina Bay Sands. There's also the Divine Wine Society in Parkview Square, the Martini Bar at Raffles, PS Café in Dempsey Hill (which is also home to some chilledout nightspots.

High rollers can head to Avalon or Pangea—said to be Singapore's priciest night spots, where a table can be reserved for a reported SGD2500.

To The Beach

They're where Singapore's social set can be found most weekends, peppered with a number of expats working on their tans—Sentosa's beach clubs are where it's at for fun in the sun, and as an alternative to traipsing around the shops. There's Mambo Beach Club, which is described as the closest visitors can get to a proper night club (it has capacity for up to 3500 guests), C Side on the Siloso Beach Walk for live music on Fri and Sat night, or on Sun for one of Singapore's famous brunches. On the mainland on East Coast Park, there's Myra's Beach Club, which is an unpretentious place to hit the beach and grab a meal at the sale time.

2am Dessert Bar



A trip to Holland Village is incomplete without visiting 2am Dessert Bar, tucked away around a corner in the expat enclave. It's the baby of award-winning pastry chef Janice Wong, and 'an undisputed favourite amongst sweet-toothed Singaporeans'. Wong learned from the best on a trip around the world, and produces almost molecular desserts including basil white chocolate with textures of passionfruit, and chilli chocolate with homemade peanut butter. See 2amdessertbar.com



Accommodating The Chic

Visitors to Singapore know all about its iconic and large hotels, think Marina Bay Sands and the Fullerton, but the city also boasts a growing number of boutique hotels to cater for travellers after a more intimate hotel experience. There's Wangz Hotel, near Chinatown, with its quirkily appointed rooms and roof-top bar, the Dorsett Hotel near Tjong Baru with crystal chandeliers and cosy rooms and The Amoy—a 37-room boutique property in Far East Square, close to a range of eateries and shops. Relatively new to Singapore is the PARKROYAL on Pickering (pictured), an architectural marvel boasting an infinity pool surrounded by an undulating façade teeming with greenery. For high-end guests there's the Orchid Lounge, offering expansive city views and a luxury homely feel.