



Singapore's Niches

Over the coming weeks *Travel Today* will publish five mini-feature pages that will focus on one niche that Singapore has covered, from the stopover traveller with a day or two to spare, to families, events and festivals and those after a little culture and cuisine with their Garden City experience.

Kampong Fare

Clients with a couple of days to explore Singapore, or looking for a nook to relax or potter around in before heading to the airport should head to Kampong Glam, Singapore's Arab quarter. Beneath the Sultan Mosque's golden dome is a criss-cross of streets with restaurants, cafes and shops. There's Haji Lane for quirky shopping, Kandahar St for hip cafes that will serve visitors Singapore's famous kaya toast (think egg on toast with soy sauce and coconut jam), and for some true Islamic food, head across the road at the top of Kandahar St to Islamic at NorthBridge on North Bridge Road—it's as authentic as it comes. Look out for the green sign and blue window shutters above.

Singapore In Top List

Singapore made the *New York Times* list of 46 places to go in 2013—owing to the development of Gardens by the Bay and the Marine Life Park, says the Singapore Tourism Board.



Foodie Challenge At Makansutra

Clients looking for hawker fare in the city should check out Makansutra Gluton's Bay, on the Esplanade Mall, 8 Raffles Ave. The alfresco food centre offers classic Singapore dishes including oyster omelette and chilli crab alongside fried carrot cake and roti jala, all available for less than SGD30, and sometimes a lot less. Clients can sit back with a beer and enjoy the free street performances put on by the Esplanade—Theatres on the Bay.

A Day Or Three To Explore Singapore

Kiwis visiting Singapore, whether for the first time or coming back for seconds or thirds, have a huge array of attractions and neighbourhoods to explore on a stopover, whether it's for a day or three.

This mini-feature has been designed to help agents with clients who want

to get beyond the tried and true highlights of Singapore, or combine the familiar with the unknown.

From active options, to exploring one of the Garden City's many cultural enclaves, there's a Singapore stopover option for your UK/Europe-bound clients.

Getting Around

The Singapore MRT is a fast and efficient way to get around the city, there are stops near most of its attractions, and for short-stay visitors there's the Singapore Tourist Pass. The pass offers unlimited rides of the MRT as well as LRT and basic buses, and it's excellent for clients who will mostly be using public transport during their trip. A one-day pass is SGD10, two days is SGD16 and three days is SGD20. There's an additional SGD10 rental deposit that is refunded if returned within five days of purchase. See thesingaporetouristpass.com.sg

YourSingapore App

For clients with only a day or two to spare in Singapore, preparation is key. The Your Singapore Guide is a smartphone app packed with information separated into handy topics, from events to dining, shopping and nightlife. Users can then share their own Singapore experience with the app's built-in social media share functions. The app is available from the App Store and Android Market.

Cycling Options



Active clients looking to stretch their legs before an onward UK/Europe flight and explore Singapore's green areas by bicycle have a few options. On Sentosa there's GoGreen Cycle and Island Explorer, which offers guided tours of the island's Coastal Trail or to Sentosa Cove, or hourly rental. For the path less travelled, and for something close to the airport, there's Pulau Ubin, easily accessible by ferry from Changi Village. After the 15-minute bumboat ride (SGD2.50, have exact change) there are a number of bike hire options that cost from SGD8 for the day.

Agent Experience

Travel agents can create their own Singapore itinerary on the Singapore Tourism Board's YourSingaporeExperience self-famil programme, to try out the city's diverse offering for themselves. Singapore Airlines has partnered with the STB to offer \$650 airfares, plus \$1000 for a companion when they travel before 22 Nov. The on-line portal lets consultants build their itineraries, and there's a trade secrets section including the latest edition of the Singapore Little Black Book. In future, Travel Today's mini-feature pages will also be made available through the portal. See yoursingaporeexperience.co.nz



Stopover At Sentosa

Sentosa makes for the perfect family stopover destination, whether for a night or two at one of its many hotels, or just for a day to make the most of its many adventurous attractions.

Imbiah Lookout has the Sentosa Luge, the Skyride, a giant Merlion lookout and a number of animal interaction points along the way, while the Singapore iFly at Beach Station gives clients the thrill of skydiving, without having to jump from a plane at 10,000ft.

The outdoorsy types can zoom down to Siloso beach on the MegaZip zip-lining experience, and thrill-seekers and families alike can head to Universal Studios Singapore, with the latest rides including the Transformers 3D battle, the Jurassic Park Rapids Adventure and more.

... In Style

The Singapore Cable Car, from Mount Faber to Imbiah Station via HarbourFront, is a novel way to get to and from Sentosa, and while it offers broad views of Singapore during the daytime that help clients get their bearings on the island, there are also a series of night packages that offer a different perspective. After 1900 the Night Rider services offer expansive views of the city skyline with popcorn and a soft drink, priced from SGD35 per couple and SGD10pp for additional passengers. For a special occasion, or last night in the city, there is a Sky Dining option (from SGD150 per couple) including a private dinner onboard a cable car cabin. For reservations e-mail skydining@mountfaber.com.sg