



## Vibrant east-meets-west island-city Singapore combines Asian excitement with the convenience and variety of a modern metropolis.

Located at the centre of the Asia Pacific region, Singapore is a melting pot of cultures, European, Malay, Chinese, and Indian, to name a few. This means there is huge choice regarding the places you can live, eat and explore; the types of people you'll meet; and the activities you can enjoy.

The climate is hot and often humid but people quickly acclimatise and the opportunity to be free from gloves and coats and able to enjoy a drink outside during the balmy evenings makes up for it.

Rightly famous for its shopping and restaurants, should you tire of the gleaming malls of Orchard Road you can explore the thriving cultural and nightlife scenes, play golf, learn to dive or simply enjoy the green spaces.



### Living in Singapore

Singapore is an ideal place to live at any stage of your life. Small enough to be convenient, large enough to be surprising, from country clubs to nightclubs, courses to crèches you can create the life you want to lead.

There is a wide range of housing available with something to suit every budget. Inexpensive options include house shares or sub-letting a HDB (social housing) unit. Higher up the scale there are condominium blocks, shop houses and landed houses which offer a range of amenities.

Although the cost of living is reasonably high, extremely favourable taxation levels (between two and 20 per cent, averaging at about 9 per cent) and easy availability of cheap food and excellent, inexpensive transport offsets the higher costs. Like any city Singapore offers plentiful opportunities to blow the budget but it is equally easy to live within your means.

The education system in Singapore is extremely good. Employment pass holders can choose between sending their children to a government-funded school or one of the numerous independent schools, which provide a range of curriculums including English, Australian and International Baccalaureate.

The excellent health service is on a paid-for basis although medical insurance covers most treatment. Access to doctors is easy and immediate and the hospitals are recognised worldwide for their high standards.



### A 24-hour city

Singapore provides endless scope for playing out in the constantly evolving bar and club scene.

An evening can easily involve a seamless journey from stylish bars to fashionable clubs to edgy afterhours spots followed by a sunrise breakfast. Whether you want sports bars, Irish bars, restaurant bars or prize-winning bars, areas like Emerald Hill, Arab Street, Dempsey and Holland Village will satisfy your craving.

Along the quayside, nightlife hubs Boat Quay for after work drinks; Robertson Quay for dinner and drinks; and Clarke Quay, a network of hip bars and clubs, are within walking distance of each other, meaning a good night out is almost too easy to find.

Mention must be made of Zouk believed by many to be the best club in the world but with competition from

pretenders to its throne such as Butter Factory and Stereolab it can't rest on its laurels.

Thankfully nor does anywhere else. The beauty of Singapore nightlife is that it just keeps getting better.

### Sports in Singapore

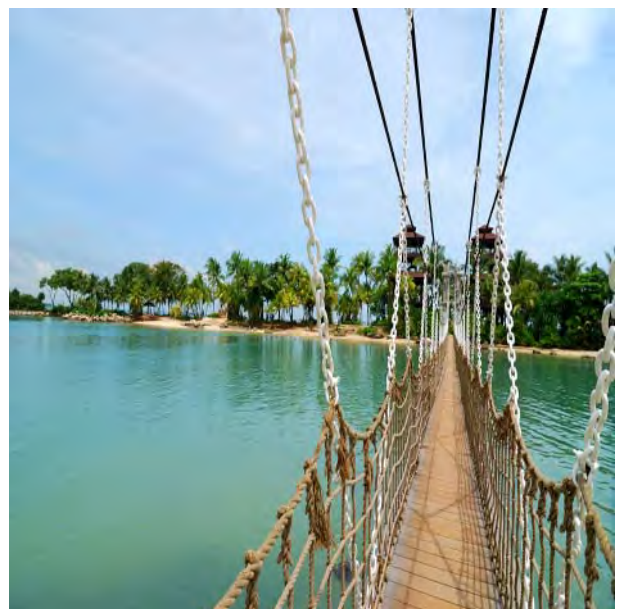
Moving to Singapore doesn't mean you have to leave your racket/clubs/windsurf behind, in fact there are plenty of opportunities to continue with your favourite sports and take up new ones.

Well known as a haven for golfers there are more than 10 courses around the city on a membership or pay-per-play basis.

Team sports including football, cricket, rugby, hockey and netball are well served by leagues run through sports clubs such as the Singapore Cricket Club and on an individual basis.

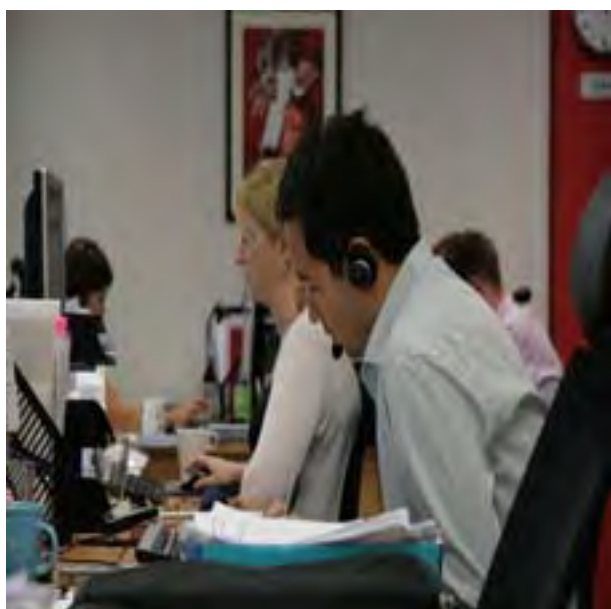
Most condominiums have a swimming pool and many have tennis and squash courts. Racket sports also available at clubs such as the American and British Club as well as at municipal sports centres.

Wakeboarding, windsurfing, sailing and dragon boat racing are common island pursuits and while the diving is not great in Singapore it is close to some of the world's best locations.



### Holidays on your doorstep

Singapore is only a short hop away from some of the loveliest beaches and interesting cultural sites and cities in the world.



With a number of budget carriers running flights across the region, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are all accessed easily and inexpensively.

Holiday allowance goes far when you can leave work on a Friday and be having dinner in a different country three hours later. Choose whether to spend the weekend on the beaches of Bali, partying in Bangkok, diving in Krabi, or exploring the World Heritage Site at Penang, to name a few.

For longer breaks, those holidays of a lifetime you used to dream about are now on your doorstep.

### Working in Singapore

Established in 2007, the RP International office in Singapore is our gateway to the Asia Pacific region.

This region is the fastest growing telecoms and technology market in the world. It is the home of some of the most sophisticated telecoms

and technology markets –Australia, Japan and Singapore, along with two of the world’s most heavily populated emerging nations – India and China.

As the APAC region hub, numerous organisations have headquarters in Singapore and most have a presence here. Because it is a frequent stopping off and meeting point for executives from across the region there is excellent access to major players.

Based at the heart of the Central Business District, in the last year our team has doubled in size and now comprises 22 specialist telecoms and technology recruiters supported by four researchers and a team of back office staff.

Location:	Asia Pacific
Local Time:	GMT +8
Capital City:	Singapore
Population:	4.5 million
Language(s):	Malay, Chinese (Mandarin), Tamil, English
Currency:	Singapore Dollar (SGD 1 = 100 Cents)
Transport:	MRT, Busses, Taxis (\$2.80 flag down plus inexpensive mileage)
Income taxation:	2-20% sliding scale typically around 10%
Eating and drinking:	Hawker centre meal: \$5/2 GBP
	Restaurant meal: \$25/11 GBP upwards
	Pint lager: \$12/5GBP
	Glass wine: \$12/5GBP
Average property prices:	Two bedroom HDB in central area \$1500-\$2,500 p/m
	Two bedroom condominium in central location with good amenities \$3,500-\$4,500 p/m
	Landed house \$8,000 upwards a month

## Links

### Government

Ministry of Manpower (for information about work permits and employment)

Inland Revenue (taxation information)

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Education

### Singapore info

Wikitravel Singapore (city guide)

Lonely Planet, Singapore City

### Setting up home

Expatriation Info (one-stop shop for expat guidance)

International Schools

Property portal

The Straits Times (local newspaper)

Transport information portal

Car ownership guide

### Leisure and recreation

Changi Airport

Restaurant guide

Time Out Singapore

Singapore museums guide

Esplanade Arts Centre

Singapore Cricket Club

The British Club

Golf in Singapore