

Guide to Singapore

John Smith



GUIDE**GECKO** 

AUTHOR BIO



John Smith, born 1971 in New York, moved to Singapore at the age of 27. He instantly fell in love with the island state and its people, the food and the culture. A media consultant in his day job, John spends most of his weekends exploring fascinating places in remote corners of Singapore. He updates this guide frequently to include the latest hot-spots as well as little known gems.

John Smith does not accept payments or discounts in exchange for coverage of any sort.

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About This Template

You are free to use this guide template for your own guides. It can be used in two ways: The straightforward way is to jump directly to the next chapter, where we provide you with a sample guide to Singapore. You can replace the text of that chapter with your own text and copy the sections and headings to add more content.

However, this template offers many additional features that can substantially reduce the time you need to write your guide. For example, you can automatically insert building blocks for hotel or sight listings with a few keystrokes. These features and other formatting tips are described in this chapter.

The template serves as an example and reference only. You do not need to use it to publish your guide. Feel free to change the layout, design, and anything else as you like. You may also add extra sections such as Acknowledgements or References. The purpose of this template is to provide you with a quick start, so that you can focus on writing your guide without having to worry about the layout.

PAGE SEQUENCE

For printed guides, the total number of pages must be divisible by four. If it is not, we will insert blank pages at the end when we print the guide. We will not add blank pages for PDF downloads.

We recommend using the following sequence of pages:

NO FRONT COVER

The front cover needs to be uploaded in a separate file and is **not part of this template**. You may also use our cover generator to create a front cover. The backside of the front cover (on the left hand side of the opened book) will be blank.

TITLE PAGE

The title page is the first page of your document. It will be printed on the right hand side of the opened book, on the page that you see when you turn over the front cover. This page should list your guide's title, the author (you), and perhaps a photograph. You can also include the GuideGecko logo as on Page 1 of this template.

COPYRIGHT PAGE

The copyright page will be printed on the left hand side of the opened book, on the backside of the title page. You can add a short biography of the author together with copyright and other information as in the example on Page 2. If you have an ISBN for your guide, you can add it here. It does not matter if you do not have an ISBN, you can publish your guide on GuideGecko without an ISBN.

Feel free to add an image of Guido (our mascot) and the GuideGecko logo if you like.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

You may insert acknowledgements on the copyright page or include an additional page right after the copyright page. In this template, we have not added acknowledgments.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The next page of your guide is the table of contents. Most editors can automatically generate a table of contents. The easiest way to do this in Microsoft Word is to format all headings throughout your text with Word's built-in heading styles, as we have done in this template. When you are finished writing your guide, you can easily add or update a table of contents using the 'References'-tab in Word 2007. More info can be found at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP012253721033.aspx>. For Microsoft Word 97-2003, please see <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP051892931033.aspx>.

MAIN BODY TEXT

You should start the text of your guide on the next page. It is recommended to start each chapter on a new page, and our 'Heading 1' format-style does this automatically (see 'Sections and Headings'). Most book formatting guidelines would advise you to start each chapter on a page with an odd page number (and to insert a blank page if needed), so that the first page of the chapter appears on the right hand side of the opened book. However, guidebooks usually do not follow such strict rules and chapters can start on any page. When writing a short guide, you might even consider continuing a new chapter on the same page.

INDEX

You may want to add an index at the end of your guide if your guide covers a large number of topics. More information on

creating an index with Microsoft Word 2007 can be found at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP012264991033.aspx>. For Microsoft Word 97-2003, please see <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP051892831033.aspx>.

NO BACK COVER

The back cover needs to be uploaded in a separate file and is **not part of this template**. You may also use our cover generator to create a back cover. The inside of the back cover (on the right hand side of the opened book) will be blank.

SECTIONS AND HEADINGS

This template uses Microsoft Word's built-in heading-styles for all headings. That makes it easy to create a table of contents, and all headings on the same level will automatically be formatted in the same style.

We use Word's style 'Heading 1' for chapter-headlines, and 'Heading 2' to 'Heading 4' for section and sub-section-headlines. 'Heading 1' automatically starts a new page. You may add additional heading levels for sub-subsections, but be careful not to over-organize your guide.

When you use this template in Microsoft Word, you can insert a new chapter-heading by typing '1' and then pressing F3. Sections and sub-sections can be inserted by typing '2', '3' or '4' and then pressing F3. Alternatively, you can also use Alt+Ctrl+1 to Alt+Ctrl+9 to switch to the respective heading format.

6 ABOUT THIS TEMPLATE • Fonts and Formats

There are many ways to organize your guide. Typically, guides are organized geographically and/or by budget level. Restaurants can also be categorized by the type of cuisine. For example, we use level-3 headings for the districts in the ‘See and Do’-Chapter (e.g., ‘Chinatown’, ‘Northern Singapore’), and level-4 headings for the sights in these districts. In the ‘Sleep’-Chapter, we use level-3 headings for different budget levels (‘Low Budget’, ‘Mid-Range’, ‘Top-End’).

If your guide lists many places in a certain section, you may want to categorize the listings according to their geographical location and the budget level or the cuisine type at the same time. For example, in the ‘Eat’-Chapter, we organize restaurants first by district, and then by type of cuisine. However, you should make sure that you use your hierarchy consistently, e.g. always place the budget classification on a higher level than the geographical classification.

FONTS AND FORMATS

We strongly recommend that you only use a few font-styles with a consistent font-size of 13-14 throughout your guide. If you would like to adjust the font-styles

and sizes, please keep in mind that the guide will be printed in a format of 12.7 x 18.5 cm (5.0 x 7.3 inch). Therefore, if you write your guide with a page-size of A4 or Letter, the font-size of the printed guide will be smaller than in your original.

This template uses the font ‘Times New Roman’ with a font-size of 14 for the main body text. Times New Roman is a serif typeface, which makes the text easy to read. The font ‘Arial’ is used for the title page (Page 1). ‘Arial Narrow’ is used for headings and listings, so that these elements can easily be distinguished from the surrounding text.

The main text is formatted in two columns to make it more readable. Within a section, each paragraph uses the ‘Normal’-style (Alt+N) and has a small space on top. Notice the empty space below this line as an example.

If you need to write a paragraph without an empty space on top, use the ‘No Space’-style. See the copyright page on Page 2 as an example.

If you are not familiar with format-styles in Word, the easiest way to create a well-formatted guide is to copy the headings and texts within this document and to modify them according to your needs or

USE BOXED TEXTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You can use a **boxed text** like this to add related information that should stand out of the regular text, for example for anecdotes or additional information on certain details.

To add a boxed text, simply select ‘Boxed-Text’ from the ‘Quick Parts’-command in the ‘Insert’-tab (Word 2007 only) or type ‘Boxed-Text’ anywhere on a page and press F3 (Word 97-2007). A new boxed text will be created automatically and placed at the bottom of the page. Alternatively, you can also select the ‘Boxed-Text Heading’ format-style (Alt+B), type a heading and press Enter.

to use the building blocks and keyboard shortcuts listed throughout this template.

We use the **'Listing'** format-style (Alt+L) for names of establishments and places. The **'Listing'** format-style puts the text in bold and uses the **'Arial Narrow'**-font. This makes it easy for readers to distinguish listings (e.g. names of establishments and other places of interest) from the surrounding text. We suggest that you also use the **'Listing'**-style to highlight other words in your text, for example as in **'the Chinatown Heritage Center is a fascinating museum'**, but use this very sparingly.

Use the **'Listing-Info'** format-style (Alt+I) for all listing information such as telephone numbers, opening times, etc. The **'Foreign-Language Word'** style (Alt+F) can be used for words in a foreign language, e.g. for names of dishes in an international restaurant. Word will automatically transform internet and email-addresses in the **'Hyperlink'**-style (Alt+H, 1), which we prefer to be black instead of the standard blue so that hyperlinks do not disturb while reading the text.

An example listing with all the above-mentioned styles looks like this:

Pizzeria Italia *Listing Style* (☎1234 5678; www.pizzeria-italia.com *Hyperlink in Listing-Info Style*; 12 Firenze St; mains \$10-20; ☺Tue-Sun 6pm-11pm *Listing-Info Style*) The *risotto* *Foreign-Language Word* at Pizzeria Italia is very nice *Normal Style*.

You can automatically insert complete listings with a few keystrokes. Please see the **'Building Blocks'**-section for more information and examples.

We recommend refraining from other styling effects such as font-colors or underlining (also not for hyperlinks), because such styles are very rarely used in professional books.

PAGE LAYOUT

PAGE MARGINS

This template uses mirror margins to correctly set up pages that face each other. This means that the margins of the left page are a mirror image of those of the right page – the inside margins are the same width, and the outside margins are the same width. Guides typically have small page-margins to fit more content on a page and to keep the books lightweight. Page margins of 2.0 cm (0.75 inch) on the left and right and 2.5 cm (1 inch) on the top and bottom are sufficient.

Please do not use a gutter margin (extra space for binding on the inside of the page); our printed books look better when you do not add a gutter margin.

In Microsoft Word 2007, you can adjust the page margins in the **'Page Layout'**-tab. More information can be found at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP012264921033.aspx>. In Microsoft Word 97-2003, use the **'Page Setup'**-command in the **'File'**-menu. See <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP052292751033.aspx> for more info.

HEADER AND FOOTER

This template includes a header with the current chapter and section title as well as the page number. Please note that the header is always displayed on the outside

of the page, i.e., on the left side for even pages numbers and on the right side for odd page numbers. Alternatively, you could also place the page numbers in the center of the header or footer.

More information on adding headers, footers and page numbers in Microsoft Word 2007 can be found at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP012264861033.aspx>, and at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP051863231033.aspx> for Microsoft Word 97-2003.

PICTURE PAGES

Picture pages, such as Page 14 in this template, should be added as the last step when writing your guide. Make sure you have completed all text and page-formatting before you insert a picture page. If you change your text after inserting a picture page, the page-breaks may shift and the picture page may end up at the wrong position.

To enter a picture page, position the cursor in front of the first character on the page where you want to insert a picture page. Then select 'Picture-Page' from the 'Quick Parts'-command in the 'Insert'-tab (Word 2007 only) or type 'Picture-Page' and press F3 (Word 97-2007) to insert the picture page of this template. Now you can replace the pictures and captions with your own.

If the images are not displayed on a separate page, undo the changes and press Ctrl+Enter to add a page-break. Then re-insert the picture page as explained above.

You can also copy individual pictures from the picture page in this template,

but make sure that you copy the text-box around the image and not only the image itself. Alternatively, typing 'Picture-Top' and then pressing F3 will insert a picture with a caption on top. Typing 'Picture-Bottom' and then pressing F3 will insert a picture with a caption in the bottom.

If you are familiar with positioning images and adding captions in Word, you can also insert your pictures directly with the 'Picture'-command from the 'Insert'-tab (Word 2007) or the 'Insert'-menu (Word 97-2003). You can add a caption to your images by right clicking on the image and selecting 'Insert Caption'. More information for Word 2007 can be found at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP012289821033.aspx>, for Word 97-2003 at <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/word/HP051893791033.aspx>.

Please do not forget to update your table of contents after you have inserted picture pages.

CREATE A PDF FILE

You need to create a PDF file of your guide to upload it on GuideGecko.

Creating a PDF file is simple. Many editors have a built-in functionality to create PDF files. If you are using Microsoft Word 2007, you may need to install the 'Save as PDF' add-in from Microsoft, which you can download for free at www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=F1FC413C-6D89-4F15-991B-63B07BA5F2E5.

You can install a free PDF writer if you are using Word 97-2003 or another program that does not have a built-in functionality to create PDF files. A large number of free PDF writers are available.

After installation, these tools add a virtual printer to your system, and you can create PDF files through the regular print functionality of your program. Simply ‘print’ your document, select the virtual printer, and the PDF writer will convert your document into a PDF file and save it in a location of your choice.

We recommend using doPDF writer. It is free of charge, lightweight, and easy to use. You can download it from www.dopdf.com. Other recommended PDF writers are eDocPrintPro (www.pdfprinter.at/en/edocprintpro) and the freeware-version of CutePDF (www.cutepdf.com). The latter two offer more options to create your PDF files.

Make sure that you embed all fonts in your PDF file and use a resolution of 300dpi. Lower resolutions should not be used to ensure a good print quality. Higher resolutions are usually not required, as they only increase the file-size without improving the print quality.

BUILDING BLOCKS

The guide to Singapore in the next chapter contains sample building blocks ready to use for your own guide. You can insert these building blocks automatically with the ‘Quick Parts’-command in the ‘Insert’-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing the first few characters of the respective keyword and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007). For example, type ‘Hotel’ and then press F3 to insert a hotel listing. Please read the guide to Singapore and the boxed text on keyboard shortcuts for a complete list of available keywords.

The building blocks cover some of the most often used elements in a typical travel guide, such as sight, hotel, restaurant and transport listings. If you are writing a food guide, you may only want to use the blocks listed in the ‘Eat’-Section. Similarly, if you are writing a party guide, consider the blocks listed in the ‘Drink’-Section. Hotels and other places to stay can be listed using the building blocks in the ‘Sleep’-Section.

Here is a complete list of building blocks:

Bar ABC (☎1234 5678; Street Address; cover Fri-Sat \$15 incl 2 drinks; ☺Sun-Thu 5pm-2am, Fri-Sat 5pm-3am) This is a dummy text for a bar, which you can use for your own guide.

Hotel ABC (☎1234 5678; email@address.com; www.website.com; Street Address; dorm/single/double/triple with aircon \$20/30/55/70) This is a dummy text for a hotel, which you can use for your own guide.

Restaurant ABC (☎1234 5678; Street Address; mains \$20-40; ☺Tue-Sun 11am-11pm) This is a dummy text for a restaurant, which you can use for your own guide.

Sight ABC

This is a dummy text for **Sight ABC** (☎1234 5678; email@address.com; www.website.com; Street Address; adult/child \$10.50/6; ☺Mon-Fri 8.45am-4pm, Sat 8:45am-noon), which you can use for your own guide.

Transport Company (☎1234 5678; www.website.com; Street Address; ☺Mon-Sat 8.30am-6pm, Sun 9.30am-5pm, hotline 24h)

Destination (\$15; 5 hours)

Transport Service (☎1234 5678; adult/child \$12.70/6.50; ☺5.30am-11.00pm, every 3-6 minutes, 30 minutes)

10 ABOUT THIS TEMPLATE • Building Blocks

Transport Station (☎1234 5678;
www.website.com; Street Address)

Toll Road (car/motorcycle/taxi \$5/1.50/3.70)

Feel free to modify or add building blocks and sections as you like, for

example for Highlights, Tours & Activities, Shopping, or Entertainment listings. Most important: Have fun writing your guide!

KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

This table summarizes all keyboard shortcuts and 'Quick Parts'-keywords.

LISTINGS

Type ' Bar ', and then press F3	Inserts a bar listing
' Hotel ', press F3	Inserts a hotel listing
' Restaurant ', press F3	Inserts a restaurant listing
' Sight ', press F3	Inserts a sight listing

PICTURES

' Picture-Page ', press F3	Inserts a picture page
' Picture-Top ', press F3	Inserts a picture with caption on top
' Picture-Bottom ', press F3	Inserts a picture with caption in bottom

FORMATS

Alt+F	Foreign language word format
Alt+H,1	Hyperlink format
Alt+H,2	Hyperlink in listing format

TRANSPORT

' Company ', press F3	Inserts a transport company
' Destination ', press F3	Inserts a transport destination
' Service ', press F3	Inserts a Transport service
' Station ', press F3	Inserts a transport station
' Toll-Road ', press F3	Inserts a toll road

SECTIONS

' 1 ' to ' 4 ', press F3	Inserts a chapter, section or sub-section heading
Alt+Ctrl+1 to Alt+Ctrl+9	Chapter, section or sub-section formats
' Boxed-Text ', press F3	Inserts a boxed text at the bottom of the page
Alt+B	Boxed text heading format

Alt+I	Listing-info format
Alt+L	Listing format
Alt+N	Main body text (normal format)

Singapore

Please note that this is not a complete guide to Singapore, but a guide template. The purpose of this template is to showcase the available building blocks that you can use to write your own guide. In a real guide, this first section would give a short introduction to Singapore. In this template, it is only a dummy text.

HISTORY

You might add a history-section to give some background information on the history of the places you cover.

WEATHER

The weather in Singapore is hot and humid with averages around 30°C (85°F). The weather is very similar all year long, but there is a little bit more rain during the monsoon seasons from December to early March (Northeast Monsoon) and from June to September (Southeast Monsoon).

SEE AND DO

Most of Singapore's main attractions are conveniently located near the city-center. Sir Stamford Raffles, Singapore's founder, planned the Colonial District as the heart of the city and placed it adjacent to the Singapore River. Nearby in the south-west are Chinatown and the Financial District. Little India and the Muslim district of Kampong Glam are located in the north-east.

CHINATOWN

When the first Chinese junk arrived in 1821, its passengers – all men – settled just south of the Singapore River in an area known today as Telok Ayer. Chinatown's local name, *Niu Che Shui* (bullock cart water), is a reference to the carts that had to be used to haul in drinking water. The central area between Pagoda Street and Smith Street (Exit A of the Chinatown MRT station) has been revamped as a tourist attraction, but there are less touristy and equally interesting areas nearby, particularly along Telok Ayer St and Tanjong Pagar Rd.

Sri Mariamman Temple

Paradoxically located in the heart of Chinatown, **Sri Mariamman Temple** (☎6223 4064; 244 South Bridge Rd; admission free, photo/video permit S\$3/6; 🕒 7.30am-8.30pm) is Singapore's oldest and most impressive Hindu temple. Dating back to 1827, the brick bones of the present building were built around 1843. You can't miss the temple's colorful *gopuram* (entrance tower) at the junction of South Bridge Rd and Pagoda St. Inside, the temple showcases a profusion of deities carved all over its walls, including sculptures of Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva and sacred cows. Every year around October, the temple hosts the Thimithi fire-walking festival, where male devotees walk bare-footed over red-hot coal while spectators chant along in trance. Sri Mariamman Temple is also the preferred venue for many Hindu weddings.

Chinatown Heritage Center

The **Chinatown Heritage Center** (☎6325 2878; www.chinatownheritage.com.sg; 48 Pagoda St; adult/child S\$9.80/6.30; 🕒 9am to 8pm, last admission 7pm), a fascinating **museum** in

the middle of Chinatown, showcases the arduous daily life of Singapore's early immigrants from China. The center is located in an old, beautifully renovated shop-house. The interactive displays tell a moving story of the evils of the time, including gambling, opium, prostitution, and secret societies. On your way out, watch out for the small reconstructed rooms that look like they have never been touched since the 19th century.

NORTHERN SINGAPORE

Singapore Zoo

The world class **Singapore Zoo** (☎6269 3411; www.zoo.com.sg; 80 Mandai Lake Rd; adult/child S\$18/9; 🕒8.30am-6pm) tops many must-see lists for Singapore. The animals are kept in spacious, landscaped enclosures and separated from the visitors by dry or wet moats. The Zoo is located quite far from the city and best reached by taxi. Alternatively, take the MRT to Ang Mo Kio, then catch bus 138; or go to Choa Chu Kang MRT and take bus 927. You may also hop on the **Bus Hub Service** (☎6753 0506; enquiry@bushub.com.sg; adult/ child S\$4/2; 🕒twice daily) that shuttles to the zoo from various spots in the city center, e.g. from the Orchard Hotel at 9am and 1pm.

Night Safari

Adjacent to the zoo, the **Night Safari** (☎6269 3411; www.nightsafari.com.sg; 80 Mandai Lake Rd; adult/child S\$22/11; 🕒7.30pm-12mn, last admission 11pm) is also well-worth a visit. You can take a walk or ride a tram (adult/child additional S\$10/5) to see a range of nocturnal animals, together with the usual favorites such as elephants, lions and giraffes.

Sight ABC

This is a dummy text for **Sight ABC** (☎1234 5678; email@address.com; www.website.com; Street Address; adult/child \$10.50/6; 🕒Mon-Fri 8.45am-4pm, Sat 8:45am-noon), which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the 'Quick Parts'-command in the 'Insert'-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing 'Sight' and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

EAT

Eating is the favorite past-time for many Singaporeans, and so-called hawker-centers with budget eateries can be found in almost every corner. Take a look at the pictures above the stalls, place your order and find a seat at any of the available tables. But watch out for packets of tissue-paper – they are used to block tables and seats while queuing at the stalls.

While you can get all kinds of international cuisines in upscale restaurants, most of Singapore's street food is of Chinese, Indian or Malay origin. Over time, local chefs have created a variety of uniquely Singaporean dishes, often based on a combination of the different immigrant cuisines. Make sure to try fish-head curry or chicken rice as examples.

CHINATOWN

International

Lau Pa Sat (18 Raffles Quay; mains from S\$3; 🕒24h) Built in 1894 as a market hall, Lau Pa Sat is one of the largest and most picturesque hawker-centers in Singapore. It's a bit touristy and slightly more

14 SINGAPORE • Eat

Kong Meng San Phor Kark See Monastery



Restored shop-houses near Arab Street



Sri Mariamman Temple looms over Chinatown (page 12)

The Colonial District from opposite the Singapore River



expensive than other hawker-centers, but locals like to eat here as well. In the evening, try the *satay* from the stalls in the adjacent Boon Tat St.

Italian

Senso (☎6224 3534; 21 Club St; mains S\$30-40; 🍴lunch Mon-Fri, dinner daily) One of the best Italian restaurants in Singapore, Senso has a nice setting in the patio of an old shop-house. It offers antipasti, meat, fish, cheese and an extensive wine list.

LITTLE INDIA

French

French Stall (☎6299 3544; 544 Serangoon Rd; mains S\$10-20; 🍴desserts 3-6pm, dinner 6-10pm) The French Stall offers affordable French food in an outdoor corner-restaurant in Little India. Typical French dishes such as onion soup, *foie gras* or *beef bourgignon* come together with a good selection of French wines. No reservations.

Indian

Banana Leaf Apolo (☎6297 1595; 56-58 Race Course Rd; mains S\$7-20; 🍴10am-10pm) Serves one of the best fish-head curries in town. The *palak paneer* (spinach with cottage cheese) is better in neighboring restaurants, though. Food is eaten from a banana leaf, and you can eat with your right hand or use the cutlery provided. Orders of yellow rice include 2-3 free veggie dishes, depending on your waiter's mood.

Restaurant ABC (☎1234 5678; Street Address; mains \$20-40; 🍴Tue-Sun 11am-11pm) This is a dummy text for a restaurant, which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the 'Quick Parts'-command in the 'Insert'-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing

'Restaurant' and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

DRINK

The drinking and party scene moves quickly and frequently, so it is best to check out the local magazines such as **Time Out Singapore**. At the moment, the hottest nightspots can be found in Clark Quay and near the Colonial District.

CLARK QUAY

Pump Room (☎6334 2628; Clarke Quay, 3B River Valley Rd #01-09/10; 🍴Sun-Thu 12noon-3am, Fri-Sat 12noon-5am) This microbrewery and bistro turns into a packed dance-club at night, with a live band that gets you moving on the dance-floor. Expect long queues if you arrive in the late evening.

Indochine Forbidden City (☎6557 6268; 3A Merchant's Court, River Valley Rd #01-02; 🍴Sun-Thu 3pm-3am, Fri-Sat 3pm-6am) Opposite the Pump Room, the opulently decorated Forbidden City has a nice outside sitting area by the river and a lively inside dance-floor on weekends.

COLONIAL DISTRICT

Loof (☎6338 8035; Odeon Towers, North Bridge Rd #03-07; 🍴Sun-Thu 5pm-1:30am, Fri-Sat 5pm-3am) A rooftop-bar on the third floor doesn't give you the best views over Singapore, but the Loof has a nice atmosphere to chill and relax. If only they hadn't installed that ugly plastic roof to protect you from the rain. One level below is the **Supper Club**. Go there and spend lots of money if you need to see and be seen, but we don't recommend it.

New Asia Bar (☎6837 3322; Swisshotel The Stamford, 2 Stamford Rd; cover Fri-Sat after 9pm incl 1 drink S\$25; ☀Sun-Tue 3pm-1am, Wed-Thu 3pm-2am, Fri-Sat 3pm-3am) Located on the 71st floor, the stylish New Asia Bar has what Loof lacks in terms of view. Come early for the sundowner happy-hour with cocktails at reasonable prices and great views over the city.

Bar ABC (☎1234 5678; Street Address; cover Fri-Sat \$15 incl 2 drinks; ☀Sun-Thu 5pm-2am, Fri-Sat 5pm-3am) This is a dummy text for a bar, which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the 'Quick Parts'-command in the 'Insert'-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing 'Bar' and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

SLEEP

Hotels and hostels in Singapore are more expensive than in neighboring Indonesia and Malaysia, but discounts of up to 50% are not uncommon.

LOW BUDGET

There are many backpacker hostels in Little India, conveniently located near the Little India MRT station and close to the city center.

Prince of Wales (☎6299 0130; info@pow.com.sg; www.pow.com.sg; 101 Dunlop St; dorm/double with aircon, breakfast S\$20/60) Has clean and newly renovated rooms and a lively Australian bar downstairs. Rooms can be noisy, but the location is perfect.

Fragrance Hostel (☎6295 6888; enquiries@fragrancebackpackers.com.sg; www.fragrancebackpackers.com.sg; 63 Dunlop St; dorm with aircon S\$22-25) The mid-range Fragrance chain opened this backpacker

hostel in 2005. It features clean rooms and a nice TV lounge. Some rooms come without windows.

MID-RANGE

Hotel ABC (☎1234 5678; email@address.com; www.website.com, Street Address; dorm/single/double/triple with aircon \$20/30/55/70) This is a dummy text for a hotel, which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the 'Quick Parts'-command in the 'Insert'-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing 'Hotel' and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

Hotel BCD (☎1234 5678; email@address.com; www.website.com, Street Address; dorm/single/double/triple with aircon \$20/30/55/70) This is a dummy text for a hotel, which you can copy for your own guide.

TOP-END

Hotel CDE (☎1234 5678; email@address.com; www.website.com; Street Address; dorm/single/double/triple with aircon \$20/30/55/70) This is a dummy text for a hotel, which you can copy for your own guide.

GET IN AND OUT

BY CAR, TAXI AND ON FOOT

Two toll bridges connect Singapore to mainland Malaysia. Expect traffic jams at both border-crossings, especially on public holidays. **Tuas Second Link** (car/motorcycle/taxi S\$4.60/0.70/3.50), the newer bridge in the west of Singapore, is slightly more expensive and less congested. Most buses and taxis use the **Causeway** (car/motorcycle/taxi S\$1.20/free/0.60), which links Woodlands in the north

of Singapore directly with the city of Johor Bahru in Malaysia.

It is an easy 15-minutes walk over the Causeway, but you cannot walk over the Tuas Second Link.

Regular taxis from Malaysia are not allowed to enter Singapore, so they will drop you somewhere near the border, where you can catch a bus or another taxi to bring you into Singapore. **Taxis** from Singapore to Malaysia wait at the **Queen Street Bus Terminal** (corner of Queen St and Arab St). A taxi from Singapore to Johor Bahru costs S\$32 or S\$8 per person.

Transport Company (☎1234 5678; www.website.com; Street Address; 🕒Mon-Sat 8.30am-6pm, Sun 9.30am-5pm, hotline 24h) This is a dummy text for a transport company (e.g. an airline or a bus operator), which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the ‘Quick Parts’-command in the ‘Insert’-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing ‘Company’ and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

Transport Destination (\$15; 5 hours) This is a dummy text for a transport destination (e.g. another city), which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the ‘Quick Parts’-command in the ‘Insert’-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing ‘Destination’ and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

Transport Service (☎1234 5678; adult/child \$12.70/6.50; 🕒5.30am-11.00pm, every 3-6 minutes, 30 minutes) This is a dummy text for a transport service (e.g. a bus-service), which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the ‘Quick Parts’-command in the ‘Insert’-tab (Word 2007

only) or by typing ‘Service’ and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

Transport Station (☎1234 5678; www.website.com; Street Address) This is a dummy text for a transport station (e.g. an airport, bus/ferry-terminal or train-station), which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the ‘Quick Parts’-command in the ‘Insert’-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing ‘Station’ and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

Toll Road (car/motorcycle/taxi \$5/1.50/3.70) This is a dummy text for a toll road, which you can copy for your own guide. You can also insert it automatically with the ‘Quick Parts’-command in the ‘Insert’-tab (Word 2007 only) or by typing ‘Toll-Road’ and then pressing F3 (Word 97-2007).

BY BOAT

This section would contain transport information by boat.

BY BUS

Singapore has frequent bus connections to all major cities in Malaysia. Most long-distance buses to and from the northern cities of peninsular Malaysia leave during the morning or the evening hours, and arrive roughly 8-12 hours later in the evening or in the early morning of the following day.

There is no central bus terminal in Singapore, and many destinations are served by a number of companies leaving from different terminals. Buses to **Johor Bahru** (S\$2.40; 🕒6:30am-11pm, every 15 minutes, 60 minutes) leave from the **Queen Street Bus Terminal** (corner of Queen St and Arab St). You can substantially save on bus-fares to other destinations in

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Malaysia by first traveling to Johor Bahru and then catching a connecting bus to your final destination.

Buses to **Kuala Lumpur** (S\$27; 5 hours) and other cities further north in Malaysia leave in front of Singapore's **Golden Mile Complex** (Beach Road). Some buses continue to **Phuket** (S\$75; 22 hours) and **Bangkok** (S\$80; 25 hours) in Thailand.

Buses to **Melaka** (S\$12; 4 hours) and places along the east coast of peninsular Malaysia leave from the **Lavender Street Bus Terminal** (corner of Lavender St & Kallang Bahru). Malaysia's largest bus operator, **Transnasional** (☎6294 7034; www.transnasional.com.my), also has its local ticket-office at Lavender Street Bus Terminal.

BY TRAIN

Malaysia's railway operator **Keretapi Tanah Melayu** (KTM; ☎6222 5165; www.ktmb.com.my) runs several services during the day and the night to Malaysia from the **Singapore Railway Station** (☎6222 5165; Keppel Rd) in the Tanjong Pagar district.

The west coast line serves Kuala Lumpur and Penang before connecting to Thailand. The east coast line runs to Jerantut for the Taman Negara National Park and continues to Kota Bharu for the beach-islands of Pulau Perhentian and Pulau Redang.

The sleeper compartments make traveling by train more comfortable than traveling by bus. Tickets and timetables are available at www.ktmb.com.my.

BY PLANE

Singapore's **Changi Airport** (☎6542 1122; www.changiairport.com) is a major travel hub in South-East Asia and is served by many

airlines from around the globe. **Singapore Airlines** (☎6223 8888; www.singaporeair.com; The Paragon, 290 Orchard Road #02-38/39; ☎ Mon-Sat 8.30am-6pm, Sun 9.30am-5pm, hotline 24h), Singapore's national carrier, flies to all major destinations worldwide. Its daughter **Silk Air** (☎6223 8888; www.silkair.com; Keypoint, 371 Beach Road #17-08; ☎ Mon-Fri 8.30am-5.30pm, hotline 24h) focuses on destinations in South-East Asia.

Changi Airport is also served by a number of budget airlines. **Tiger Airways** (☎6538 4437; www.tigerairways.com; ☎9am-9pm) and **Jetstar** (☎800 6161977; www.jetstar.com; ☎24h) fly to destinations in South-East Asia and Australia. **AirAsia** (☎6307 7688; www.airasia.com; ☎8am-9pm) focuses on Malaysia and has its primary hub in Kuala Lumpur, but has some direct international routes from Singapore as well. **Lion Air** (☎6339 1922; www.lionair.co.id; 61 Stamford Road #01-07) has low-cost flights to Bali and Jakarta in Indonesia, but you might want to check their safety record.

AirAsia and **Malaysian Airlines** (☎6336 6777; www.malaysiaairlines.com; Singapore Shopping Centre, 190 Clemenceau Avenue #02-09/11; ☎ Mon-Fri 9am-6pm, hotline 24h) also have a number of flights to **Johor Bahru's Senai Airport** (☎+60 7 599 4500; www.senaiairport.com), which is about 60 minutes away by bus or taxi from downtown Singapore. Domestic flights to Johor Bahru are often cheaper than to Singapore.

GET AROUND

This Section would contain information on Singapore's bus network and Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) passenger train

system as well as telephone numbers to taxi operators.

FROM AND TO THE AIRPORT

You can travel to and from the airport by taxi, train or bus. **Metered Taxis** (S\$20; 20 minutes) have designated pick-up points on the arrivals level. **Shuttle Buses** (☎6543 1985; S\$9; 🕒24h, every 15-30 minutes, 40 minutes) serve all hotels except for Changi Village Hotel and hotels on the Sentosa Island. Stations for the **MRT train** (S\$2.70; 🕒5.30am-11.18pm, every 3-6 minutes, 30 minutes) are located under Terminals 2 and 3.

USEFUL INFORMATION

This section would contain useful phone numbers and addresses, for example for embassies, hospitals and laundry services, etc.

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