



Singaporean Country Guide

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Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise normal safety precautions in Singapore. Use common sense. Look out for suspicious behaviour. Your passport will need to be valid for at least six months, even if you're transiting. If it doesn't, you might be refused entry to or exit from Singapore. See [Entry and exit](#).

Penalties for drug offences are severe and include the death penalty. See [Laws](#). Singapore has strict 'outrage of modest' laws. Offences include men behaving inappropriately towards women, using inappropriate language and inappropriate touching, assault and offences relating to drunkenness. Penalties include imprisonment, fines, and caning. See [Laws](#).

Terrorism is a threat in Singapore. Enhanced security measures are in place. See [Safety and security](#). Smoke haze is usual from June to October, but can occur at any time of the year. See [Health](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Singapore at www.smarttraveller.gov.au.

Tourist Entry Requirements

Australian ordinary passport holders are usually not required to have a visa to enter Singapore as a tourist. A social visit pass is customarily issued to Australians upon arrival in Singapore for an entry period that is determined by immigration officers upon arrival. Travellers should have at least six months validity on their passports (six months validity from intended date of departure from Singapore is recommended) and provide a thumbprint scan. Travellers are also advised to be able to show documentation confirming they have onward or return travel arrangements and sufficient funds to maintain themselves during their stay in Singapore. Australian-Singaporean dual nationals may be liable for military service upon their return to Singapore.

Additional conditions may apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact a Singaporean mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Singapore without a visa.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Singapore. Frequent or long stay travellers should consider vaccination against hepatitis B. Vaccination against typhoid should be considered particularly when travelling to areas with poor sanitation and hygiene. Japanese encephalitis is present in Singapore, vaccination should be considered by travellers spending more than four weeks in rural areas of the transmission zones. Singapore is listed as a zika category 1 country. For information on the risks the zika virus poses to pregnancy, including up to 6 months following the exposure of either parent, see www.who.int/csr/disease/zika/en/.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Singapore should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas, the zika virus and other issues please visit smarttraveller.gov.au/tips.

Singaporean representatives in Australia and abroad

High Commission of Singapore, Canberra

17 Forster Crescent
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6271 2000
Fax: (02) 6273 9823

Web: www.mfa.gov.sg/canberra

Immigration and Checkpoints Authority, Singapore

ICA Building
10 Kallang Rd
SINGAPORE 208718
Tel: (+65) 6391 6100

Web: www.ica.gov.sg



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Time Differences between Singapore and Australia

Singapore is Greenwich Mean Time +8 hours. Daylight saving is not observed. The applicable time zone in Singapore is called Singapore Time (SGT).

Singapore, 12 noon, December = Perth 12 noon, Darwin 1:30pm, Brisbane 2pm, Adelaide 2:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 3pm.
 Singapore, 12 noon, June = Perth 12 noon, Darwin, Adelaide 1:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 2pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Singapore: +65

To Dial Australia Call:
 001 followed by 61 <City> <Number>

Australian Reverse Charges Direct:
 8000 610 610

Singapore Tourist Board Touristline:
 1800 736 2000

Travelex Card Services:
 800 4411 256

Visa Global Assistance:
 800 4481 250

MasterCard:
 800 1100 113

American Express Travellers Cheques:
 (1) 800 823 2090

Emergency Services:
 Ambulance - 995
 Fire - 995
 Police - 999

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _ _ _ _ _

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Card Number: _ _ _ _ _

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Singapore

Australian High Commission, Singapore

25 Napier Road
 SINGAPORE 258507

Tel: (+65) 6836 4100
 Fax: (+65) 6737 7465

Web: www.singapore.highcommission.gov.au

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Singapore are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian High Commission in Singapore, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances for Singapore and Australia

Allowances when entering Singapore:

Alcohol: 2 L of spirits/wine & 1 L of beer OR 1 L of spirits/wine & 2 L of beer.
 Tobacco: There is no allowance for tobacco products.
 Other Goods: Up to the value of S\$600.

Allowances when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 L.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

The above allowances for Singapore are applicable to adult tourists when entering Singapore after 48 hours abroad (not arriving from Malaysia). Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Travellers should note that chewing gum is considered a prohibited good in Singapore. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Singapore and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For further information on Singaporean customs as well as details on the GST Tourist Refund Scheme please visit www.customs.gov.sg, or for further information on Australian customs please visit www.border.gov.au.

Electrical Adaptors and Voltage

Electrical Socket type: British (type G). South African (type M) and European (type C) sockets may also be found.

Supply: 220-240 V, 50 Hz (same as Australia).

A voltage converter will generally not be required to use appliances designed for Australia. A socket converter is usually all that will be required for these appliances.



Singaporean Holidays 2018

Public Holidays

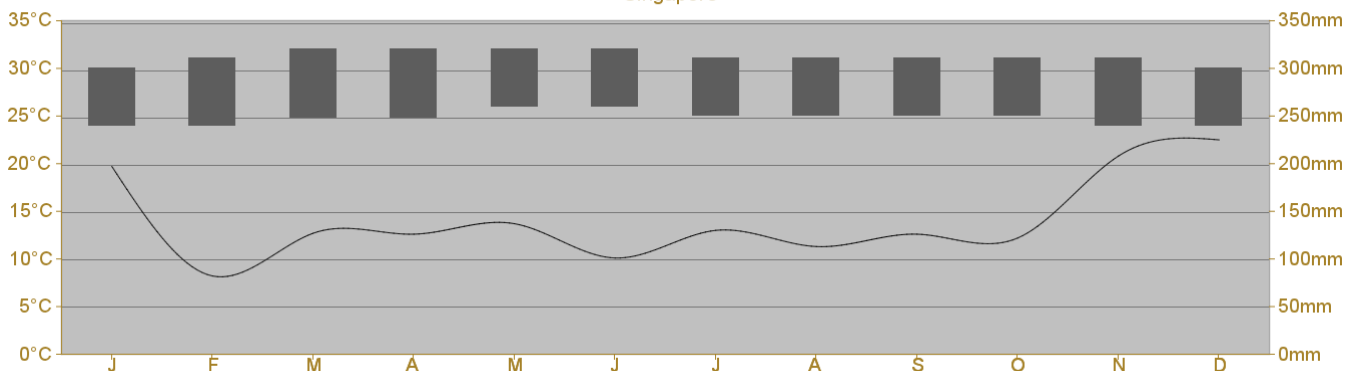
| | | | |
|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------|
| 01 Jan: | New Year's Day | 15 Jun: | Hari Raya Puasa |
| 16 Feb: | Chinese New Year | 09 Aug: | National Day |
| 17 Feb: | Chinese New Year | 22 Aug: | Hari Raya Haji |
| 30 Mar: | Good Friday | 06 Nov: | Deepavali |
| 01 May: | Labour Day | 25 Dec: | Christmas Day |
| 29 May: | Vesak Day | | |

School Holidays

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| After T1: | 10 Mar - 18 Mar | After T3: | 01 Sep - 09 Sep |
| After T2: | 26 May - 24 Jun | After T4: | 17 Nov - 31 Dec |

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line)

Singapore



For local forecasts please go to the National Environment Agency Singapore at www.nea.gov.sg.

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Exchange Rate

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.99 Singapore Dollars
 1 Singapore Dollar (SGD) = 1.01 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) buys 0.95 Singapore Dollars
 1 Singapore Dollar (SGD) will cost 1.05 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging these currencies. These currency rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Purchasing Power Parity

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Singaporean Dollar and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing power of each currency.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 5.87 Singaporean Dollars
 Big Mac Singapore: \$5.80 (SGD) = 5.87 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in Singapore is therefore 1% less expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

Currency Cheat Sheet

| 0.50 cents = \$0.53 AUD | | This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above. | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|--|
| \$1 = \$1.05 AUD | \$10 = \$10.53 AUD | \$100 = \$105.33 AUD | | | |
| \$2 = \$2.11 AUD | \$20 = \$21.07 AUD | \$200 = \$210.66 AUD | | | |
| \$3 = \$3.16 AUD | \$30 = \$31.60 AUD | \$300 = \$315.98 AUD | | | |
| \$4 = \$4.21 AUD | \$40 = \$42.13 AUD | \$400 = \$421.31 AUD | | | |
| \$5 = \$5.27 AUD | \$50 = \$52.66 AUD | \$500 = \$526.64 AUD | | | |
| \$6 = \$6.32 AUD | \$60 = \$63.20 AUD | \$600 = \$631.97 AUD | | | |
| \$7 = \$7.37 AUD | \$70 = \$73.73 AUD | \$700 = \$737.30 AUD | | | |
| \$8 = \$8.43 AUD | \$80 = \$84.26 AUD | \$800 = \$842.62 AUD | | | |
| \$9 = \$9.48 AUD | \$90 = \$94.80 AUD | \$900 = \$947.95 AUD | | | |
| | | \$1,000 = \$1,053.28 AUD | | | |

Notes and Coins

The legal currency of Singapore is the dollar which is abbreviated using the symbol \$ or S\$ and the currency code "SGD". The following units of currency are the most common however other units are also in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images prior to travelling.





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About Singapore

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Full Name: | Republic of Singapore | Significant Dates: | c 1300's - The first port settlements are made on the island. |
| Size: | 697 sq km (1/3 the size of the ACT). | 1819 | - Sir Stamford Raffles of the British East India Company establishes a trading station on the island of Singapore. |
| Population: | 5.5 million (similar to the population of Victoria). | 1869 | - Trade booms following the opening of the Suez Canal. |
| Language: | The official languages are Mandarin, English, Malay and Tamil. English is the language of administration and is taught in schools. | 1922 | - Singapore becomes the main British base in Asia. |
| Religion: | Buddhist 34%, Muslim 14%, Taoist 11%, Catholic 7%, Hindu 5%, other Christian 11%. | 1942-45 | - Japan temporarily captures Singapore from Britain. |
| Ethnicity: | Chinese 74%, Malay 13%, Indian 9%, other 4%. | 1959 | - Self government begins, the People's Action Party win the first elections under Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. The party has retained power until the present day. |
| GDP Per Capita: | US\$81,300 (Australia US\$46,600). | 1963 | - Singapore joins the new nation of Malaysia. |
| | | 1965 | - Singapore becomes independent from Malaysia. |
| | | 1991 | - Lee Kuan Yew stands down but retains influence. |
| | | 2015 | - Founding father Lee Kuan Yew dies aged 91. |

