

LITTLE INDIA map

discover Singapore's cultural precincts



VISIT LITTLE INDIA



Little India's main stretch of commercial activity can be found along Serangoon Road, which was once known as "The road leading across the island" on Lieutenant Jackson's map of 1828 Singapore. The precinct has its early roots as a residential area for Europeans drawn to the area for the elite sport of horse racing, and later evolved into a thriving trade and community hub for the Indian migrants involved in the roaring cattle trade. Places of worship such as the famous Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple, the Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple and the Angullia Mosque, and businesses and services catering to the needs of the Indian community sprouted as a result. Today, its rich history is evident in its architecture and traditional businesses that still exist in the precinct.



VISIT OTHER CULTURAL PRECINCTS



KAMPONG GELAM

Once home to the Sultan of Singapore, Kampong Gelam retains its cosmopolitan bustle through an array of culinary delights, traditional shops and prominent sites, including Sultan Mosque and Malay Heritage Centre which is housed in the Istana Kampong Gelam, a gazetted National Monument.

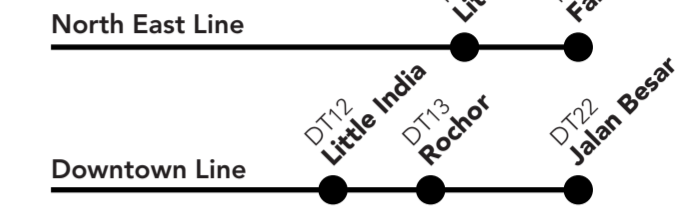


CHINATOWN

Home to early Chinese immigrants, Chinatown has become Singapore's largest conserved historic district.

HOW TO GET THERE

MRT



BUS

- 23, 64, 65, 66, 66B, 67, 131, 139, 147, 857 to Tekka Centre (B07031)
- 48, 56, 57, 131, 166, 170, 851, 960, 980 to Opposite Rochor Road (B07539)
- 131, 141 to Farrer Park MRT Station exit A (B50251)
- 21, 23, 64, 65, 66, 67, 125, 130, 139, 141, 147, 857 to Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple (B07211)
- 21, 125, 130, 141 to Kitchener Road before Tai Hoe Hotel (B07231)
- 64, 65, 130, 139, 147, 857 to Jalan Besar before Sim Lim Tower (B07529)

FROM PAST TO PRESENT



Known as "the road leading across the island" back in the 1800s, Serangoon Road is the main commercial road that intersects Rochor Canal Road and Sungei Road.

Located along Serangoon Road is Tekka Centre. Built in 1915, the original market was located across the street between Hastings Road and Sungei Road. It was later torn down in 1982 and relocated to its present site. The centre lends its name from the surrounding "bamboo clumps", which is the Mandarin translation of Tekka. A visit to Little India is also not complete without exploring the magnificent Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple, which is dedicated to the Hindu goddess Kali.

Little India is one of the most vibrant and charismatic ethnic districts in Singapore. On 7 July 1989, in recognition of its historical and cultural significance, Little India was gazetted as a conservation area. To this day, traditional businesses like goldsmiths, Indian restaurants and coffee shops, saree shops and stalls selling garlands and sweets continue to prosper alongside newer establishments like trendy cafes, boutiques and souvenir shops. There is round-the-clock activity from the clusters of night-time hangouts and late night eateries in the area.

SAMPLE LOCAL FAVOURITES



BIRYANI

Biryani "spicy rice" is a South Asian mixed rice dish of the Indian subcontinent. It is made with spices, rice and meat or egg. Ingredients vary according to the type of meat used and the region the biryani is from. Biryani dishes are very popular in Singapore, being an important part of Malaysian Indian cuisine and are popularised through hawker centres, food courts as well as restaurants.

In all biryani, the main ingredient that accompanies the spices is the chicken and mutton; special varieties used include prawn and fish. The dish may be served with dahi chutney (yoghurt mint dip) or raita (variations of chutney containing yoghurt), dalcha (a type of curry), a sour dish of aubergine, boiled egg and salad.



MASALA THOSAI

Masala Thosai (Indian pancake made from fermented rice and lentil batter) is a variation of the popular South Indian food Thosai. Though it was only popular in South India, it can be found in all other parts of the country and overseas.

In Singapore, the most popular variant of Thosai is the Masala Thosai that is stuffed with spiced potatoes. Easily found in Tekka Centre or any vegetarian restaurant in the Little India neighbourhood, Masala Thosai is often served with chilli chutney, coconut chutney and a small bowl of lentil curry or sambar. Although cutlery is available, the traditional way (and known to many as the best way) to eat Masala Thosai is using your right hand to ensure that you have a generous amount of sauce when taking a bite.



INDIAN ROJAK

Rojak, in its traditional form, is a fruit and vegetable salad dish commonly found in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. Its origins come from being made in Kedah by Malay villagers. Having later learnt the recipe from them, Tamil Muslim Rojak vendors used modified sidecar motorcycles as preparation counters and to peddle their Rojak.

Specifically, in Singapore, Indian Rojak comes in an assortment of potatoes, eggs, beancurd and prawns fried in batter, served with a spicy-sweet peanut sauce.

Did you know that the term "rojak" is also used as a colloquial expression for an eclectic mix, in particular as a word describing the multi-ethnic character of Singaporean society?



THINGS TO SEE/DO

- A1 A Ride Through Race Course Road** by Jaxton Su Jingxiang
74 Race Course Road, Singapore 218574
- A2 Abdul Gafoor Mosque**
41 Dunlop Street, Singapore 209369
- A3 Anonymous Love Letter by Sobandwine**
2 Dickson Road, Singapore 209494
- A4 Baroque House**
29 Rowell Road Singapore 207984
- A5 Indian Heritage Centre**
5 Campbell Lane, Singapore 209924
- A6 Kathaka by Jaba**
86 Serangoon Road, Singapore 217991
- A7 Layers by Shah Rizzal**
240 Serangoon Road, Singapore 218086
- A8 Masjid Angullia**
265 Serangoon Road, Singapore 218099
- A9 Project Oasis Little India Sites**
Hindoo Road / Clive Street
- A10 Residence of Tan Teng Niah**
37 Kerbau Road, Singapore 219168
- A11 Sri Srinivasa Perumal Temple**
397 Serangoon Road, Singapore 218123
- A12 Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple**
141 Serangoon Road, Singapore 218042
- A13 The Gem Museum**
9 Perak Rd, Singapore 208130
- A14 The Sun Beaming by Lee Wan Xiang** and Chand Chandramohan
109 Rowell Road Singapore 208033
- A15 Traditional Trades of Little India by Psyfool**
4 Bellios Lane, Singapore 219955
- A16 Windows by Shah Rizzal**
1 Dunlop Street, Singapore 209331
- A17 Working Class Hero by Zero**
11 Hindoo Road, Singapore 209110

FOOD & BEVERAGE

- B1 Ananda Bhavan Restaurant** ^{*Halal}
95 Syed Alwi Road, Singapore 207671
- B2 Anjappar Chettinad Restaurant**
76-78 Race Course Road, Singapore 218575
- B3 The Banana Leaf Apolo** ^{*Halal}
54 Race Course Road, Singapore 218564
- B4 Chimichanga**
36 Dunlop Street, Singapore 209364
- B5 Delhi Restaurant**
195C Serangoon Road, Singapore 218067
- B6 Gandhi Restaurant**
31 Chander Rd, Singapore 219538
- B7 Gayathri Restaurant**
122 Race Course Road, #01-01, Singapore 218583
- B8 Gokul**
19 Upper Dickson Road, Singapore 207478
- B9 Jaggi's Northern Indian Cuisine**
36 Race Course Rd, Singapore 218554
- B10 Komala Vilas**
76-78 Serangoon Road, Singapore 217981
- B11 Kotuwa**
2 Dickson Rd, Level 1, Singapore 209494
- B12 Meatsmith Little India**
21 Campbell Lane, Singapore 209894
- B13 Moghul Sweet Shop**
48 Serangoon Road, Little India Arcade #01-16, Singapore 217959
- B14 Sakunthala's Restaurant**
88 Syed Alwi Road, Singapore 207667
- B15 Tekka Centre**
665 Buffalo Road, Singapore 210665

RETAIL

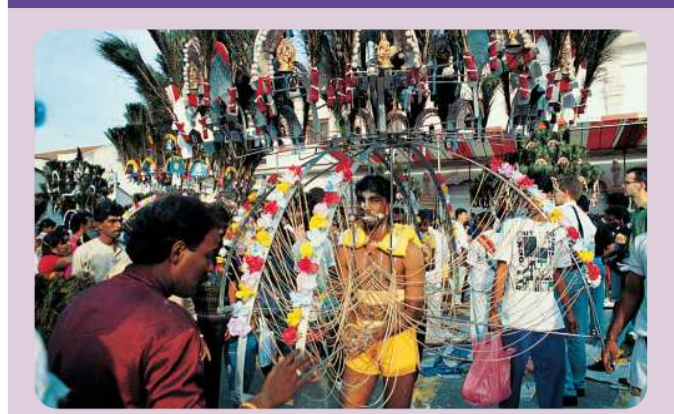
- C1 City Square Mall**
180 Kitchener Road, Singapore 208539
- C2 Haniffa Textiles**
60 Serangoon Road, Singapore 217967
- C3 Jothi Store & Flower Shop**
1 Campbell Lane, Singapore 209882
- C4 Little India Arcade**
48 Serangoon Road, Singapore 217959
- C5 Mustafa Centre**
145 Syed Alwi Road, Singapore 207704
- C6 Nalli Pte Ltd**
10 Buffalo Rd, Singapore 219784
- C7 Tekka Place**
2 Serangoon Road, Singapore 218227

PLACES TO STAY

- D1 Check-Inn@ Little India**
60 Kerbau Road, Singapore 219184
- D2 Citadines Rochor Singapore**
2 Serangoon Road, Singapore 218227
- D3 Hilton Garden Inn Singapore**
3 Bellios Road, Singapore 219924
- D4 One Farrer Hotel**
1 Farrer Park Station Road, Singapore 217562
- D5 Parkroyal on Kitchener Road**
181 Kitchener Road, Singapore 208533

Art Mural Vegetarian

FESTIVALS



Thaipusam
Anchored by a large, colourful annual procession, Thaipusam sees Hindu devotees in Singapore seeking blessings, fulfilling vows and offering thanks. Be part of the colourful festivities amidst the vibrant and charming streets of Little India, where the annual 'kavadi' procession starts from.



Deepavali
As one of the major cultural festivals in Singapore, Deepavali ("Festival of Lights") is a celebration to mark the triumph of good over evil. Visit the bazaars, join in the festivities and snap photos of the stunning street light-up and installations.

ART



Project Oasis in Little India (POLI)
Project Oasis in Little India (POLI) is a project managed by Little India Shopkeepers & Heritage Association (LISHA) and Singapore Tourism Board whereby two unused pockets of land within Little India transform into attractive public spaces with art installations.



Murals around the precinct
Explore the streets and back-alleys to discover art murals that tell the story of Little India's heritage.

DISCOVER LITTLE INDIA

Little India is a buzzing historic area that shows off the best of Singapore's Indian community.

2HR ROUTE

Experience first-hand the culture and history of Little India on your walk. As you shop and dine in Tekka Centre (B12) for various traditional clothing and local delights, take the chance to interact with the multilingual stallholders and be part of Singapore's culturally diverse community. Visit the Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple (A11) which is constructed in the style of South Indian Tamil temples, common in Tamil Nadu. End your route at the photogenic residence of Tan Teng Niah, which is the last surviving Chinese villa in Little India built in 1900s.

4HR ROUTE

Immerse yourself in the Indian culture and heritage by first visiting the Indian Heritage Centre (A3) to gain an insight into the Indian Heritage through various exhibitions and programmes. Indulge in a one-of-a-kind shopping experience at the shopping experience at Mustafa Centre (C5), a paradise for bargain hunters and shopaholics. Grab a bite at one of the Indian cuisine restaurants along Race Course Road for an unforgettable Indian dining experience. Try the popular Indian spice-infused rice dish, Biryani, paired with a meat of your choice and Acar, a tangy mix of pickled vegetable.

