






Singapore - Low



Singapore Country Map

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Last Published: 30 September 2025

## COUNTRY OVERVIEW

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Singapore remains one of the most secure and stable countries in the world, with most visits remaining trouble-free. As a global financial hub, Singapore maintains strong economic ties and good relations with its neighbours. There is very limited

civil unrest in the country, contributing to its overall stability. The crime rates in Singapore are notably low, with few recorded incidents.

While terrorism is a concern in Singapore due to regional and global threats, there have been no reported attacks recently. However, the strategic importance of the Straits of Malacca makes robberies at sea a high threat. Mariners are advised to exercise increased caution when transiting the region, however, such threats do not impact travel on land.

## CULTURAL INFORMATION

### Cultural Tips

- The four official languages of Singapore are Chinese (Mandarin), Malay, Tamil, and English. English is widespread and is the language which unites the various ethnic groups.
- Singaporeans usually shake hands when greeting each other. Visitors should not shake hands with Muslim women, unless they offer first.
- A slight bow and smile are a respectful way to greet people and depart their company.
- Visitors should remove their shoes when entering a home, temple or mosque. In other locations, observe local behaviour to discern whether or not to remove one's shoes.
- Most upper-class hotels and restaurants require their male patrons to wear jackets and ties.
- Women more than six months pregnant must obtain a social visit pass before arrival.
- The crime rate is much lower than that of other countries, and sexual harassment is very rare. Women have more economic equality than in other parts of Asia.

<b>KEY FACTS</b>	
<b>CAPITAL</b>	Singapore
<b>CAPITAL CITY PHONE CODE</b>	NULL

<b>KEY FACTS</b>	
<b>COUNTRY PHONE CODE</b>	65
<b>CURRENCY</b>	Singapore Dollar
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>	230 V, 50 Hz
<b>GMT</b>	+8
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	English
<b>LEADERSHIP</b>	Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, President Tharman Shanmugaratnam
<b>OFFICE WORK WEEK</b>	Monday - Friday
<b>OFFICIAL COUNTRY NAME</b>	Republic of Singapore
<b>PLUG STYLES</b>	Types C, G and M
<b>RELIGION</b>	Buddhist 31.1%, Christian 18.9%, Muslim 15.6%, Taoist 8.8%, Hindu 5%, other 0.6%, none 20%
<b>TIME ZONE OFFSET</b>	UTC +8
<b>TYPE OF GOVERNMENT</b>	Parliamentary Republic

## RISK SUMMARY

**Political - Low**

Singapore has one of the most stable governments in the world. General elections were held in July 2020, with the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) once again securing a decisive victory. Singapore has developed into a global financial hub, maintaining strong economic ties and good relations with most countries, including its Southeast Asian neighbours. However, freedom of speech is limited, defamation lawsuits have targeted opponents of the ruling PAP, and Singapore is considered by Freedom House to ultimately be only 'Partly Free'.

Tharman Shanmugaratnam was elected as President in September 2023. The president of Singapore is the head of state in a largely ceremonial role, while the prime minister is the head of government. The current Prime Minister of Singapore is Lawrence Wong of the PAP, who took office in May 2024, after the previous Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong stood down in April 2024. The PAP has governed without interruption since 1959, de facto making Singapore a one-party state, despite the maintenance of democratic institutions and the presence of opposition parties.

### **Armed Conflict - Negligible**

Singapore has a minimal threat of armed conflict, largely due to its strong military relationships with the United Kingdom and the United States. These alliances are driven by mutual concerns about China's growing influence in the region.

Singapore and the US have a robust security partnership, encompassing border security, maritime security, military preparedness, counter-proliferation, cybersecurity, and counterterrorism. Similarly, Singapore and the UK have elevated their relationship to a Strategic Partnership, focusing on economic cooperation, defence, security, intelligence, and foreign policy.

### **Terrorism - Low**

Singapore faces an underlying threat of terrorism, as the region and its neighbouring countries have experienced terror attacks in the past. However, there have been no reported terror attacks in Singapore in recent years. To counter this threat, Singapore has implemented strong counter-terror legislation, including robust border controls, increased security and police surveillance, and restrictions

on access to certain public venues. These measures are part of Singapore's comprehensive strategy to minimise the risk of terrorist activities.

While there have been no recorded terror attacks in Singapore, terrorists typically target locations that are overcrowded or have international significance, such as shopping centres, transportation hubs, government buildings, places of worship, and tourist locations.

## Crime - Negligible

Crime levels in Singapore are among the lowest in the world. Violent crimes and serious property thefts have been significantly reduced due to effective and comprehensive security measures. Although there have been some reports of criminal gang activity, these are limited in scope and primarily involve narcotics trafficking and prostitution, with foreigners rarely being victims. Instances of fraud and counterfeiting, particularly involving electronic products, have also been reported. Pickpocketing and purse snatching are common in crowded areas such as airports, hotels, transportation hubs, and tourist locations.

It is illegal to consume alcohol in public between 22:30 and 07:00 local time. Geylang and Little India are designated Liquor Control Zones, where alcohol consumption is prohibited all weekend and during public holidays. Smoking is prohibited in public spaces such as parks, gardens, and certain public beaches. Singapore has strict laws on actions that are not typically considered crimes globally, such as possessing e-cigarettes/vapes and chewing gum, jaywalking, littering, spitting, eating and drinking on the mass rapid transit system, inappropriate masculine behaviour, and using foul language.

## Civil Unrest - Low

Protests and industrial action are infrequent in Singapore. It is illegal to hold protests without a valid permit from the authorities. If arrested, protesters may face substantial fines. The only exception is the Speakers' Corner in Hong Lim Park, where protests are legally allowed without permission. Foreign nationals are prohibited from participating in permitted public demonstrations, assemblies, and processions unless they are permanent residents. The law does not distinguish

between participants and observers, meaning anyone in the vicinity can be considered a participant by the authorities. Travellers are advised to avoid large gatherings and demonstrations to prevent being deemed participants and facing punishment.

## **Maritime and Piracy - High**

The Singapore Straits are considered one of the highest risk locations for robberies at sea in the world, although most of these incidents occur outside of Singaporean waters. The threat has additionally been increasing, with an almost 35 per cent increase in the number of maritime security incidents being recorded by the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) in the period January-April 2025 compared to 2024, for example. Of these incidents, 92 per cent of the vessels targeted in the Singapore Straits were successfully boarded. In almost all maritime security cases recorded in the Singapore Straits, the perpetrators intend to steal easily accessible ships' stores rather than seize control of the vessel, as is more typical of piracy off Somalia and in the Gulf of Guinea. Perpetrators can nonetheless pose a threat of violence to crewmembers upon discovery, seeking to incapacitate their discoverer and, in some instances, tying up crewmembers. Perpetrators are often armed, typically with knives but occasionally with firearms, and it is advised not to confront any discovered perpetrators due to the threat of physical violence.

## **Health - Low**

Singapore offers a very high level of medical care, but it can be expensive. Travellers should ensure that they have adequate medical and travel insurance. Not all prescription drugs are available in Singapore.

Dengue fever and other mosquito-borne illnesses are prevalent all year round but increase during wetter months between December and March, and June and September. Regular precautions should be taken.

There can be severe air pollution in Singapore from June to October as a result of land clearance fires in Indonesia; this can lead to health issues, particularly for people with pre-existing respiratory conditions.

## Environmental - Low

Air pollution from fires in neighbouring Indonesia during the dry summer months (June to September) can cause health and transport issues. Singapore also occasionally experiences serious tropical storms and typhoons, with cyclone seasons typically peaking in late summer when ocean temperatures are their warmest. During this period, even small tropical storms can rapidly develop into major typhoons. Associated hazards, such as flash flooding, can occur during intense weather events. Air pollution can be particularly hazardous for travellers with respiratory issues between June and October.

## Transportation - Negligible

Changi Airport (SIN) is the primary airport serving Singapore and one of the largest transport hubs in Southeast Asia. It is consistently ranked as one of the world's best international airports.

Roads are well-signposted and in excellent condition. However, driving in Singapore can be expensive due to high rental rates and additional charges. Traffic can be hectic, particularly during peak hours. International car rental companies such as Avis, Budget and Hertz are located in the arrival halls of Changi Airport. Sentosa and Jurong Island are also accessible by road.

Singapore's public transport system is one of the most efficient in the world. The MRT (Mass Rapid Transit) and LRT (Light Rail Transit) form the core of Singapore's rail transport services, providing efficient and fast travel. International rail links are also available; for example, the KTM West Coast railway line connects to the Malaysian West Coast railway line.

The bus transport system plays a significant role in Singapore, with hundreds of scheduled bus services operated by companies including SBS Transit, SMRT Buses, Tower Transit Singapore and Go-Ahead Singapore. Bus routes are extensive and cover most areas in Singapore. This is the most economical way to travel, and buses are usually air-conditioned.

Taxis are available throughout Singapore and can be flagged down anywhere in the city centre. They are only allowed to stop at designated taxi stands. Fares are

charged by the taximeter, and besides the basic rate, there are several surcharges. It is important to note that during peak hours and festivities, taxi availability can be low; therefore, advanced bookings are recommended. Taking a taxi in Singapore is considered low risk as the transport authority highly regulates them.

<b>EMERGENCY DETAILS</b>	
<b>IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY CONTACT SOLACE GLOBAL 24/7 OPERATIONS CENTRE AT +44 (0)1202 795 801. LOCAL EMERGENCY SERVICES CAN BE REACHED BY DIALLING: POLICE – 999, FIRE AND AMBULANCE – 995. RESPONSE SERVICES ARE LIKELY TO BE LIMITED.</b>	
<b>POLICE NUMBER</b>	999
<b>AMBULANCE NUMBER</b>	995
<b>FIRE NUMBER</b>	995
<b>EMERGENCY DETAILS</b>	

## TRAVEL

### TRAVEL ADVICE

Travellers visiting Singapore for less than 30 days do not require a visa, whether for tourism or business purposes. However, women who are more than six months pregnant may be denied entry by immigration officers upon arrival. Singapore maintains stringent regulations on specific items, such as radio communications equipment and certain medications. If a traveller needs prescription medicines while in the country, they should apply for a medicines permit from the Singapore Health Sciences Authority before arrival. Travellers arriving from the Middle East might be screened for Middle East Respiratory Syndrome.

Public consumption of alcohol is illegal between 22:30 and 07:00, although this restriction does not apply to licensed restaurants or bars. Geylang and Little India are designated Liquor Control Zones, where alcohol consumption is prohibited all weekend and during public holidays. E-cigarettes are banned in Singapore, and it is also illegal to smoke and chew gum in some public areas, which can result in on-the-spot fines. Drunk and disorderly behaviour is taken very seriously, with penalties for offenders ranging from fines to imprisonment to corporal punishment (caning). Drug offences are met with severe penalties, including the death penalty.

SIGNIFICANT DATES
<b>DECEMBER 21, 2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>December Solstice:</b> Singapore - Seasonal</li></ul>
<b>DECEMBER 24, 2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Christmas Eve:</b> Singapore - Observance</li></ul>
<b>DECEMBER 25, 2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Christmas Day:</b> Singapore - National</li></ul>
<b>DECEMBER 31, 2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>New Year's Eve:</b> Singapore - Observance</li></ul>
<b>JANUARY 01, 2026</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>New Year's Day:</b> Singapore - National</li></ul>

## SIGNIFICANT DATES

### **FEBRUARY 01, 2026**

- **Thaipusam:** Singapore - Observance

### **FEBRUARY 14, 2026**

- **Valentine's Day:** Singapore - Observance

### **FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

- **Total Defense Day:** Singapore - Observance

### **FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

- **Chinese Lunar New Year's Day:** Singapore - National

### **MARCH 08, 2026**

- **International Women's Day:** Singapore - Observance

### **MARCH 20, 2026**

- **March Equinox:** Singapore - Seasonal

### **APRIL 01, 2026**

- **April Fool's Day:** Singapore - Observance

### **APRIL 03, 2026**

## SIGNIFICANT DATES

- **Good Friday:** Singapore - National

**APRIL 04, 2026**

- **Easter Saturday:** Singapore - Observance

**APRIL 05, 2026**

- **Easter Sunday:** Singapore - Observance

## RECENT ALERTS

**LARGE FIRE CONTINGENCY PRESENCE REPORTED AT EUNOS INDUSTRIAL AREA IN SINGAPORE**



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate



01-Nov-2025 12:06

## RECENT ALERTS

Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) has reported that there is a large fire contingency presence reported at the Eunos Industrial area in Singapore. There are at least 16 fire engines and 60 firefighters on the scene, which is attributed to a metal fabricator and a firm manufacturing door warehouse. The fire was reported at 1730 local time, and it is unclear if the fire is still ongoing or if it has subsided.

### LARGE FIRE AT AN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING IN TAMPINES PROMPTS SCHOOL EVACUATION



**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate

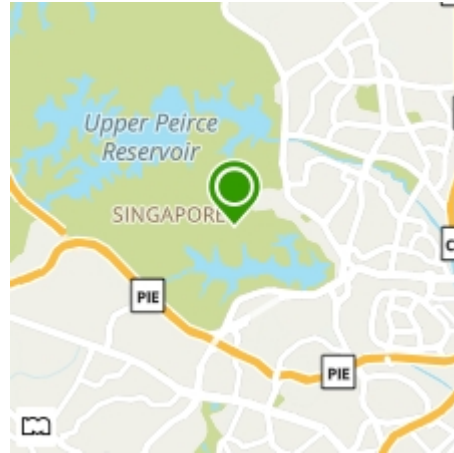


09-May-2025 06:23

According to local sources, a large fire has broken out at a two-storey industrial building in Tampines around 12:50 local time. The Singapore Civil Defence Force remains at the scene as the blaze is still active. Large plumes of smoke can be seen in surrounding areas, with a nearby school having ordered evacuations at about 13:15. There are no reports on casualties at this time, and the extent of infrastructural damage is not immediately clear.

## RECENT ALERTS

### VOTING UNDERWAY IN SINGAPORE FOR FOURTEENTH GENERAL ELECTION



**Category:** Political - **Risk:** Low

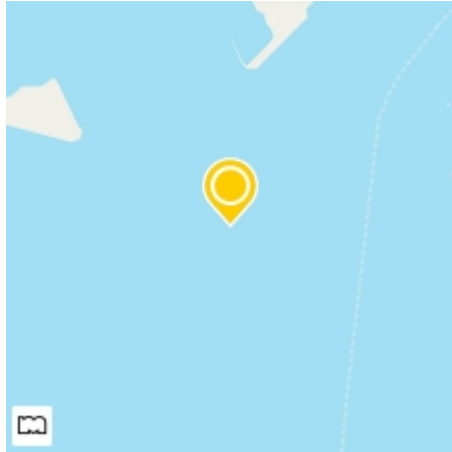


03-May-2025 03:29

Local media reports that voting is underway for Singapore's Fourteenth General Election, with polls open from 0800 to 2000 local time. The elections are the first under Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, with the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) seeking to maintain its majority amid discussions on political representation and economic policy. There are no protests planned as of yet, however, we will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates when necessary.

### BOARDING REPORTED ON VESSEL IN SINGAPORE STRAIT

## RECENT ALERTS



**Category:** Maritime - **Risk:** Moderate



22-Jan-2025 09:33

Local maritime sources have reported a vessel was boarded in the Singapore Strait by multiple perpetrators. The perpetrators stole one generator spare part. The crew were not injured and the incident was reported to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB). No further details are currently available.

# FCDO SUMMARY

Last updated: 12/10/2025 13:03:52

## Warnings and insurance

### Illegal drugs

There are severe consequences for drug related crimes in Singapore. Evidence of drug use in your system on arrival or in transit will lead to refusal of entry or arrest. See [Entry requirements](#) and [Safety and security](#) pages for more information.

### Before you travel

No travel can be guaranteed safe. Read all the advice in this guide. You may also find it helpful to:

- see [general advice for women travellers](#)
- read our [guide on disability and travel abroad](#)
- see [general advice for LGBT+ travellers](#)
- read about [safety for solo and independent travel](#)
- see [advice on volunteering and adventure travel abroad](#)

### Travel insurance

If you choose to travel, research your destinations and [get appropriate travel insurance](#). Insurance should cover your itinerary, planned activities and expenses in an emergency.

### About FCDO travel advice

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) provides advice about risks of travel to help you make informed decisions. Find out [more about FCDO travel advice](#).

### Get travel advice updates

Sign up to [get email notifications](#) when this travel advice is updated.

Follow FCDO:

- [travel advice on X](#)
- [travel advice on Facebook](#)
- [Travel Aware on Instagram](#)

## Entry requirements

This information is for people travelling on a full [‘British citizen’ passport](#) from the UK. It is based on the UK government’s understanding of the current rules for the most common types of travel.

The authorities in Singapore set and enforce entry rules. If you’re not sure how these requirements apply to you, contact the [Singapore High Commission in the UK](#).

## Passport validity requirements

To enter Singapore, your passport must have an ‘expiry date’ 6 months after the date you arrive.

Check with your travel provider that your passport and other travel documents meet requirements. [Renew your passport](#) if you need to.

You will be denied entry if you do not have a valid travel document or try to use a passport that has been reported lost or stolen.

If you are resident in Singapore, there is no minimum passport validity required. [Apply for a renewal](#) before your passport expires.

## Dual nationals

When returning to the UK, British citizens must carry a valid [British passport](#) or [certificate of entitlement](#). See [Dual citizenship](#).

## Singapore-British dual nationals

Singapore does not recognise dual nationality beyond the age of 21. A citizen of Singapore is required by Singapore law to renounce any other nationalities before the age of 22 in order to retain their Singaporean citizenship.

## Visa requirements

You can visit Singapore without a visa for tourism or business. The [Immigration and Checkpoints Authority](#) decides who can enter Singapore and how long they can stay. The period of stay permitted is at the discretion of the immigration officer. It is normally between 30 and 90 days for British citizens.

## Penalties for overstaying

Penalties for overstaying the time allowed include [fines, imprisonment, caning and deportation](#) depending on how long you have overstayed. When arriving and departing Singapore, biometric details, including your fingerprints are recorded electronically.

## Checks at border control

You must [complete an electronic SG Arrival Card](#) in the 3 days before you arrive in Singapore. This online form asks for travel details and a health declaration. It is illegal to submit a false declaration. Biometric information is also recorded and scanned when you enter and depart Singapore (iris, face and fingerprints).

## Screening: Drugs

Penalties for drug possession, including cannabis, are severe. If you are carrying or transporting drugs, you can be [imprisoned, caned or executed](#).

You can be screened for drugs in your system on arrival in Singapore, including if you're in transit. You can be charged with drug consumption or detained without trial even if the drugs were taken in another country, including countries where the use of that particular drug is legal. See [Illegal drugs](#)

## Ship's crew

There are different entry requirements if you are [crew working on ships, small vessels, or pleasure crafts](#) arriving at one of Singapore's ports or marinas.

## Vaccine requirements

To enter Singapore, if you're coming from a [country listed as a transmission risk](#) for yellow fever, or if you have been in such a country in the previous six days prior to arrival, you must have a certificate to prove you've had a yellow fever

vaccination. If you arrive from one of these countries without a certificate, the authorities may put you in mandatory quarantine or refuse you entry to Singapore.

For full details about medical entry requirements and recommended vaccinations, see [TravelHealthPro's Singapore guide](#).

## Accommodation

There are strict laws that prevent private homes being used for short-term rental, including for tourists.

## Customs rules

There are strict rules about goods you can take into or out of Singapore. You must declare anything that may be prohibited or subject to tax or duty.

It's illegal to import [controlled drugs](#). If convicted, you could be [imprisoned, caned or executed](#).

The following items are also illegal to bring into Singapore:

- vaporisers and e-cigarettes
- tobacco products that are chewed or injected
- chewing gum to sell
- weapons and ammunition (including empty cartridge cases and air guns)
- replica guns, including lighters shaped like a pistol or revolver
- radio communications equipment

See the [complete list of prohibited items](#) on the Singapore Customs website.

## Safety and security

### Terrorism

There is a high threat of terrorist attack globally affecting UK interests and British nationals, including from groups and individuals who view the UK and British nationals as targets. Stay aware of your surroundings at all times.

UK Counter Terrorism Policing has information and advice on [staying safe abroad](#) and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack. Find out [how to reduce your risk](#)

[from terrorism while abroad.](#)

## Terrorism in Singapore

Terrorist attacks in Singapore cannot be ruled out.

## Crime

### Protecting your belongings

Violent crime and theft are rare in Singapore. Take care of your passport. Leave valuables in a hotel safe if possible. Do not leave bags unattended.

### Scams

Online scams and phone scams are common and may involve individuals pretending to be officials or bank employees.

## Laws and cultural differences

### Public offences

The public display of the national flags or emblems of other countries is illegal except where a specific exemption has been granted. It is illegal to use the Singapore flag and national symbols in ways considered disrespectful.

Police may give you an on-the-spot fine for littering. Acts of vandalism including graffiti carry harsh penalties such as fines, imprisonment and caning.

Disrespecting or intimidating a public official can be illegal. There is zero tolerance for bribery in Singapore and any attempt to bribe or otherwise prevent an official from carrying out their duties can lead to arrest.

### Personal ID

Use of false ID is illegal in Singapore. Foreigners living in Singapore are issued with an official identity card.

### Outrage of modesty

You should avoid any action that could be interpreted as molestation. Penalties for convicted offenders include [fines, imprisonment and caning](#).

Some scams involving false claims of molestation and extortion have been reported.

## Alcohol laws and bans

The authorities do not tolerate drunk and disorderly behaviour. It is illegal to drink alcohol in a public place, besides restaurants, bars and licensed entertainment venues, between 10:30pm and 7am.

You could be arrested for:

- being found drunk and incapable in public
- fighting and becoming a nuisance in public
- touching someone inappropriately (whether resulting from drunken behaviour or not)
- driving while drunk
- drinking in public outside of allowed hours and areas

Penalties for convicted offenders include fines, imprisonment and caning.

Geylang and Little India are '[Liquor Control Zones](#)' (PDF). Drinking in these areas is banned all weekend, on public holidays and on the eve of public holidays.

## Vaporisers, smoking and e-cigarette bans

Vapes and e-cigarettes are banned in Singapore. It is illegal to bring them into the country, including for personal use. Those found in possession of vapes or e-cigarettes will have them confiscated and could be fined.

You must be 21 or over to [purchase, use, own, sell or supply tobacco products in Singapore](#).

Smoking is banned at all public parks, all beaches and along certain waterways. Orchard Road is a No Smoking Zone. Make sure you smoke in [designated areas only](#).

## Illegal drugs

There are severe penalties for all drug offences in Singapore, including possession. Carrying even a small amount of drugs can have significant consequences.

You can be charged with trafficking ('intent to sell') for possessing drugs above a certain amount. You can be detained without trial. Sentences include prison terms, caning and the death penalty, including when transiting through the airport.

Airports in Singapore have excellent technology and security for detecting illegal items, including cannabis. This is also used to scan the baggage of transiting passengers.

See the [Misuse of Drugs Act](#) for information on definitions and penalties.

## **Arrests and detentions**

If you're arrested, you might not be allowed to speak with anyone, not even a lawyer while you are questioned.

Do not offer money to officials. You can face further charges or penalties for any attempt to bribe or prevent an official from carrying out their duties.

See our guides on [Singapore's legal and criminal system](#) and [being arrested or detained abroad](#) to find out how we can help.

If you're under police investigation, the authorities will take your passport and return it once the investigation is over. If you're convicted, your passport will be held until you've served your sentence.

In most cases, you will not be allowed to leave Singapore while the case is open. There is no set timeline for investigations. You must be able to support yourself financially during this period.

The British High Commission cannot interfere in the criminal and legal process in Singapore.

## **Death penalty**

A death penalty is a possibility for some offences, including murder and drug trafficking. Penalties for drug offences are severe and possession of even very small quantities can lead to a death penalty.

## **LGBT+ travellers**

Same-sex sexual activity is legal in Singapore. However, the law does not recognise same-sex marriage and partnerships. This means, for example, that

foreign residents cannot easily get a dependant's pass for a same-sex spouse or partner. A child from a same-sex partnership may not be recognised as the child of one or both parents.

It is possible to change legal gender in Singapore, subject to medical procedures.

LGBT+ support groups and social venues exist in Singapore.

Read more [advice for LGBT+ travellers](#).

## **National Service for British dual nationals and permanent residents**

The following are liable for [National Service](#):

- all male Singapore citizens
- all male dual nationals aged 20 and under
- all male children granted Permanent Resident ([PR](#)) status as part of their parents' [PR](#) application

Specific questions on National Service can be put to Singapore's Central Manpower base, email: [contact@ns.sg](mailto:contact@ns.sg).

For further information, see the [Immigration and Checkpoints Authority](#) and [Ministry of Defence \(MINDEF\)](#).

## **Protests and public demonstrations**

Avoid street gatherings and public demonstrations as they will be illegal if they do not have police permission. Foreigners who are not permanent residents are prohibited from attending outdoor demonstrations regardless of police permission. Filming an illegal gathering is forbidden. The wearing of 'cause-related' clothing and displaying 'cause -related' banners is prohibited in public.

It is illegal for foreign nationals to give a talk publicly on 'racial, communal, religious, cause-related or political topics' without a permit.

## **Religions**

Both public and private Jehovah's Witness meetings are illegal in Singapore. It is also illegal to possess any Jehovah's Witness publication, including a Jehovah's

Witness bible. There are similar measures against the Unification Church and the Shincheonji Church of Jesus.

## Transport risks

### Road travel

If you are planning to drive in Singapore, see [information on driving abroad](#) and read the [Singapore Highway Code](#).

You can drive with a UK driving licence for up to 30 days. After that you need a [1949 international driving permit \(IDP\)](#) as well as your UK driving licence.

Hire car companies often have stricter requirements for their customers, such as a year of driving experience, minimum age and holding an IDP.

You cannot buy an IDP outside the UK, so get one before you travel. If you're staying in Singapore on a longer term pass or you've become a permanent resident, you must [get a Singaporean driving licence](#) to drive.

Driving under the influence of alcohol carries serious penalties including imprisonment. The traffic police regularly carry out breath tests.

If you're involved in an accident, you must stay at the scene if there has been damage or injury. You must provide contact details and inform the police within 24 hours.

### Arriving or departing by car

If you are arriving in a car that is not registered in Singapore, visit the [OneMotoring website](#) to apply for a vehicle entry permit.

Vehicles leaving the country will be checked against police records.

### Air travel

The Singaporean authorities will prosecute cases of drunken or antisocial behaviour by air passengers on any aircraft registered in Singapore.

### Sea travel

There have been incidents of [piracy and armed robbery](#) against ships in and around the waters of Singapore and the Malacca Strait. Set up secure areas on board and report all incidents to the coastal and flag state authorities.

## Health

Before you travel check that:

- your destination can provide the healthcare you may need
- you have [appropriate travel insurance](#) for local treatment or unexpected medical evacuation

This is particularly important if you have a health condition or are pregnant.

## Emergency medical number

Call 995 and ask for an ambulance.

Contact your insurance company quickly if you're referred to a medical facility for treatment.

## Vaccine recommendations and health risks

At least 8 weeks before your trip:

- check the latest [vaccine recommendations for Singapore](#)
- see where to get vaccines and whether you have to pay on the [NHS travel vaccinations page](#)

See what [health risks you'll face in Singapore](#), including :

- Zika virus
- dengue
- chikungunya

[Hand, foot and mouth disease](#) is common in Singapore with more serious outbreaks from time to time. Young children are particularly at risk.

## Air quality

From June to October Singapore can experience high levels of pollution (haze) from land clearance fires in Indonesia. The haze can cause disruption to local and regional air travel and may have an impact on public health. Monitor the [Pollutant Standards Index \(PSI\) updates and health advisories](#) from the Singapore government.

## Medication

The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries.

Check to see whether you need approval from the Health Sciences Authority to [bring in medication from the UK](#).

Not all medicines from the UK are available in Singapore. Make sure you have a prescription from your GP and check with a doctor in Singapore who may be able to issue a prescription for a local equivalent. See the [HCI Directory](#) for a listing of licensed healthcare institutions.

Read [best practice when travelling with medicines on TravelHealthPro](#).

## Healthcare in Singapore

Healthcare in Singapore is of a high quality and expensive. English is almost universally spoken in Singapore, so all hospitals, whether private or public, will have English-speaking medical staff.

Take enough medication for your stay and carry it in your hand baggage. Make sure you have travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment and possible medical repatriation.

[ECDO](#) has a list of [medical providers in Singapore](#).

There is also [guidance on healthcare if you're living in Singapore](#).

## Travel and mental health

Read [ECDO guidance on travel and mental health](#). There is also [mental health guidance on TravelHealthPro](#).

If you need emotional support during your visit, you can call:

- National Care Hotline: 1800 202 6868
- Samaritans of Singapore: 1800 221 4444
- Mental Health Helpline (Institute of Mental Health): 6389 2222

## Getting help

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) cannot provide tailored advice for individual trips. Read this travel advice and carry out your own research before deciding whether to travel.

## Emergency services in Singapore

Ambulance and fire: 995

Police: 999

## Contact your travel provider and insurer

Contact your travel provider and your insurer if you are involved in a serious incident or emergency abroad. They will tell you if they can help and what you need to do.

## Refunds and changes to travel

For refunds or changes to travel, contact your travel provider. You may also be able to make a claim through insurance. However, insurers usually require you to talk to your travel provider first.

Find out more about [changing or cancelling travel plans](#), including:

- where to get advice if you are in a dispute with a provider
- how to access previous versions of travel advice to support a claim

## Support from FCDO

FCDO has guidance on staying safe and what to do if you need help or support abroad, including:

- finding [lawyers](#), [funeral directors](#) and [translators and interpreters](#) in Singapore

- dealing with a [death in Singapore](#)
- being [arrested or imprisoned in Singapore](#)
- getting help if you're a [victim of crime](#)
- what to do if you're [in hospital](#)
- if you're [affected by a crisis](#), such as a terrorist attack

## Contacting FCDO

### Help abroad

See [how to get help from the UK government abroad](#) including in an emergency.

### Help in the UK

You can call FCDO in London if you need urgent help because something has happened to a friend or relative abroad.

Telephone: 020 7008 5000 (24 hours)

[Find out about call charges](#)

## Get travel advice updates

Sign up to [get email notifications](#) when this travel advice is updated.

Follow FCDO:

- [travel advice on X](#)
- [travel advice on Facebook](#)

## Risk information for British companies

The Overseas Business Risk service offers [information and advice for British companies operating in Singapore](#) on how to manage political, economic, and business security-related risks.

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**PACK SMART**

Only pack items you can replace, leave valuables at home. You will be less likely to attract criminals and if threatened, you won't be tempted to put up a fight to save your belongings.



Carry a duplicate wallet with small denomination notes and old cards that you could relinquish if threatened by robbers. Only pack items you can replace, leave valuables at home. You will be less likely to attract criminals and if threatened, you won't be tempted to put up a fight to save your belongings.



Always check the destination restrictions regarding medications when planning your trip.

### **STAY SAFE: Hotels**



Request a hotel room between the third & seventh floor. Ground floor rooms should always be avoided as they are easily accessible from the outside. Higher levels mean in the event of a fire there are many stairs to navigate and in some countries firefighters may not have ladders capable of reaching higher than the seventh floor.



Check your room phone works in case you need to call reception for help.



Know where your fire exits are. Count the number of doors to the fire exit from your room so you can feel your way in the event of a fire and a smoke-filled corridor.



To prevent unauthorised entry into your hotel room, make sure the windows and doors lock. Bolt the deadbolt and use the door wedges you've brought with you from home to wedge the main door closed.

### **TRAVEL SAFE: Out & About**



When you are out and about, be aware of your surroundings - don't display obvious wealth, such as expensive jewellery, watches and mobile phones.



Use ATMs inside banks and shopping centres, where there is greater security and CCTV. Safety in numbers. If you are travelling with colleagues, stay together for meals and trips out. If you are alone, avoid quiet areas and trust your instincts.

### **Road traffic accidents are still the greatest threat to travel safety.**



- Use licensed taxis.
- Always wear a seat belt.
- Keep doors locked & windows up.
- Avoid night-time driving.
- If the driver is using a phone or driving dangerously, insist they slow down/stop using their phone.

Check in regularly. Use the 'Check In' button on the Solace Secure app so your location can be monitored and you can view all intelligence alerts within your vicinity.

## SAFE TRAVEL: Health Tips

See a medical travel specialist at least 4 weeks before travel.

Ask about recommended vaccines for specific destinations.

First aid kit with regular & special medication for trip - carry in hand luggage.

Evacuation & travel insurance to cover health emergencies while abroad.



Take an extra month of prescribed medication for pre-existing conditions.

Risk of malaria - take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and take malaria pills as advised.



Avoid drinking alcohol and becoming dehydrated.

Verify & consume safe water and food. Have a supply of medicine for self-treatment of diarrhoea.



Excessive sun exposure should be minimised by the use of sunscreen - sun can be more intense over water, snow and at altitude.

Leave animals alone. Animal bites or scratches can transmit rabies.

## THINK SAFE: Know Your Destination

Understand the culture of your destination. Dress and behave so as not to cause offence or draw attention.



Know if the tap water is suitable to drink if not; only accept water from a sealed bottle.

Avoid ice in your drinks & salad washed in tap water.

Research where you are travelling to. Make a note of the local emergency services number. Know the current security and medical threats and advice. See the FCO website for general information ([gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](https://gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice)).

## **DOCUMENT SAFE: Know Your Destination**

Take photos/scans of your essential documents and email them to yourself. You can then access them remotely if your belongings are stolen:

- Passport
- Driver's Licence
- Travel Insurance Document
- Visa
- Medical Certificates

For 24/7 travel risk advice and emergency assistance contact Solace Global Risk operations: + 44 (0)1202 795 801

The Solace Secure desktop and app provide up-to-the-minute alerts, providing latest information on your travel location even when you are there.

### CONTACT SOLACE GLOBAL RESPONSE TEAM

This report has been prepared for you by Solace Global Risk Ltd.

If you need urgent help, advice or assistance at any time please contact the 24/7 Response and Assistance Team.

If you have a question about this travel advice or any other location please email [SGR@solaceglobal.com](mailto:SGR@solaceglobal.com) for further safety and security information.

For support using your Solace Secure platform or app please contact [support@solaceglobal.com](mailto:support@solaceglobal.com).

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