



IIEPassport
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IIEPassport Focus...



Singapore

Singapore Fast Facts

Population:

4.4 million

Capital:

Singapore

Currency:

Singapore Dollar (SGD)

Religions:

Buddhist, Islam, Christian, Hindu, Sikh, Taoist, Confucianism

Language:

Mandarin, Malay, Tamil, English

Major Events:

Chinese New Year - January

Hari Raya Puasa - last three days of Ramadan

Festival of the Hungry Ghosts - September or



Singapore at a Glance...

Located off the southern coast of Malaysia, Singapore is a country rich with history and culture. According to Malay legend, Singapore was originally named Singapura by a Sumatran prince after he encountered a lion. This encounter was considered to be good luck, and thus, "Singapura" was founded. Eventually, Singapore became a trading post for the British during the 18th century and remained under British rule until the Japanese invaded the island during World War II. After the War ended, the



British returned and Singapore did not gain independence until 1965.

The hot and humid lowlands of Singapore are brimming with diverse cultures, languages, and religions. The country is host to numerous attractions that reflect the many interests of its people. Some of these attractions include Colonial Singapore, with its beautiful churches and cathedrals; Chinatown, presenting the Thian Hock Keng Temple; Arab St., boasting unique spices and goods, and Little India, saturated by fascinating shops.



Festivals also display the cultural diversity of Singapore. The Chinese New Year is celebrated with dancing and parades while Hari

Raya Puasa is held during the last three days of Ramadan.

Education is among the top priorities for the people of Singapore and is the government's second largest expense. Mandatory schooling is enforced for 6 years of primary school and 4 years of secondary school. From secondary school, students can apply for junior college

Check out IIE Passport...

IIE Passport (<http://www.iiepassport.org>) is the study abroad search engine. Find study abroad programs in Singapore, Mandarin language programs, and a whole lot more!

and eventually move on to one of Singapore's three universities: the National University of Singapore, the Nanyang Technological University, or the Singapore Management University.



A visit to Singapore guarantees to be a memorable experience for anyone interested in learning more about a truly diverse culture and rich history.

Online Resources

CIA World Factbook:

<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>

Lonely Planet:

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com>

World Bank:

<http://www1.worldbank.org/>

UK Government:

<http://www.tradepartners.gov.uk/>

On StudyAbroad.com:

Singapore.StudyAbroad.com