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CityBuzzStop **Description**

C1 C2 C3 (1) **Esplanade**

This is one of the 2 common stops for all three CityBuzz routes which allows you to catch C1, C2 or C3. Start your CityBuzz day here or get off here to transfer onto a different CityBuzz service.

The unique architecture of Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay is affectionately associated with the local king of fruits, the durian. Besides hosting world-class performances, Esplanade* also houses an arts-related shopping mall and



features many tantalising restaurants, cafes, bars and even food stalls by the bay - opened daily 6pm-3am. While you are here, why not join a 45-minute guided tour of Esplanade* (11 am daily; weekdays extra tours at 2pm).

C1 (2) St Andrew's Cathedral

St Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore's oldest Anglican church, was built between 1856 and 1861 and stands on the site of an earlier church, which was twice struck by lightning. Designed by Colonel Ronald MacPherson and built by Indian convict labour, the building is one of the few examples of early Gothic architecture in Singapore.

To shop for the latest in computer and electronics gadget, go across the street to Funan IT Mall. You may also wish to visit Southeast Asia's first and only philatelic museum, the Singapore Philatelic Museum*, located a stone's throw away along Coleman Street. The museum showcases Singapore's collection of stamps, philatelic materials, and postal history artefacts dating back to the Straits Settlements.

C1 (3) **Boat Quay**

You may want to start exploring Singapore River from this stop. This is also an ideal photo stop with Coleman Bridge behind you. Diagonally opposite is the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA) building which houses several art galleries. Built in the 1930's, it used to be the Old Hill Street Police Station and was then the largest building in Singapore. Just in case you are wondering, it had 911 windows. To get to Boat Quay, one of the 3 quays covered on this route, walk along the river, pass The Riverwalk till you get to a row of pubs, restaurants and cafes lining the riverbank. Boat Quay is where you will find many professionals and expatriates "chill out" after a hard day's work.

C1 (4) Clarke Quay

Clarke Quay, a centre of commerce in the late 19th century, has been revived as a riverside festival village. The old shophouses and godowns along the riverbanks are now home to specialty restaurants, pubs and wine bars. Get down here if you would like try out G-Max*- the reverse bungy jump or have a drink at the famous Hooters*.



C1 (5) **Robertson Quay**

Robertson Quay is a quiet residential enclave that, in recent years, has seen the beginnings of a dining hub, with excellent restaurants and gourmet shops all within walking distance of each other. Close to the leafy coolness of Fort Canning as well as the drinking spots stretch of





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C1 (6) **Hotel Miramar**

Although the Hotel Miramar is strategically close to Boat Quay, she retains a peaceful ambience from the bustle of party life. This stop is also within easy reach of other major hotels such as River View Hotel, Copthorne King's Hotel, Novotel Apollo, Grand Copthorne Waterfront and The Gallery Hotel.

C1 (7) **Great World City**

The legendary Great World Amusement Park had humble origins. It began with about 150 wooden shacks which sprouted out of a Chinese cemetery. The land was owned by Mr Lee Choon Yung, a relative of philanthropist Lee Kong Chian. From the ashes like the phoenix, the Great World City Shopping Centre is now a huge, new mall that has found a new lease of life, out of what used to be a field of rubble along Kim Seng Road. Adjoining to the shopping centre is the Great World Serviced Apartments, popular with the expatriate community.

C1 (8) **Paterson**

We are one stop away from the famous Orchard Road, Singapore's fashion and major shopping district. You may alight here to get to Wheelock Place, home to Borders bookstore, Mark and Spencer and a good mix of international restaurants and cafes. Hungry? Why not try out the newly opened SUN with MOON Japanese Dining and Café*?

C1 (9) Tang Plaza

This grand dame stands at the most famous shopping belt in Singapore, Orchard Road - THE shopping paradise for both visitors and locals alike. Named because of the many orchards in the area, the road now sprouts mega-shopping complexes. Start your shopping spree here and move on to the nearby Lucky Plaza, Ngee Ann City, Wisma Atria, Paragon, etc.



C1 (10) The Heeren

The Heeren targets shoppers aged 24 - 45 years old. Its anchor tenant, HMV is the largest music store in Southeast Asia. Across the busy Orchard Road is Mandarin Singapore, a 5-star hotel and next to it, is the Cathay Cineleisure Orchard. Can't sleep - watch a movie. Movies are screened here 24 hours a day, daily.

C1 (11) Peranakan Place

Peranakan culture is the blending of Chinese and Malay cultures that emerged during the 15th and 16th centuries when descendants of early Chinese settlers who married native Malays. At Peranakan Place, situated along Orchard Road, this colourful and unique culture is vibrantly depicted in the beautiful buildings. You are still a the heart of Orchard Road, so continue your shopping - do not miss John Little at the Specialist Shopping Centre and Robinsons at





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C1 (12) Dhoby Ghaut

Get down here to hop onto the North East MRT Line (Dhoby Ghaut Station) or explore the nearby Plaza Singapura. Opened in 1974, it was then the first multi-storey shopping mall. In 1997, it underwent a massive facelift after 23 years of operations and now continue to flourish as a popular one-stop urban mall with emphasis on fashion, entertainment and food. The Istana (palace in Malay), located a short walk away, is the official residence of the President of Singapore. You may visit it during the Istana Open House scheduled around Chinese New Year, Labour Day, National Day, Deepavali and Hari Raya.

C1 (13) Singapore Art Museum

The Singapore Art Museum at Bras Basah Road is housed in a beautifully restored school building (the former St. Joseph's Institution). Its state-of-the-art galleries feature paintings, sculptures and installations drawn from its 6,500-strong permanent collection of Southeast Asian modern and contemporary art as well as touring 'blockbusters' shows. Admission is free on Fridays 7pm - 9pm.



C1 (14) Raffles Hotel

C3 (11)

Declared a National Monument in 1987, Raffles Hotel is a jewel in the crown of Singapore's hospitality industry, renowned and loved for its inimitable style and unsurpassed excellence in service and facilities. The Singapore Sling, a world-famous cocktail was created here at the Long Bar. Why not savour it after a long day of CityBuzz tour and break the 'no littering' rule by sweeping peanut shells onto the floor?



C1 C3 (15) Pan Pacific Hotel

Pan Pacific Singapore is an international 5-star hotel that meets the personalised needs of today's global business traveller. Other renowned hotels in the Marina Bay area includes Marina Mandarin, Conrad Centennial, The Ritz-Carlton Millenia and The Oriental Singapore, all a short walk from this stop. Explore the nearby Suntec City, Marina Square and stop by for a quick healthy meal of crepes, pasta or western food at Bistro 21* of Millenia Walk.

C1 C2 C3 (16) The Oriental Singapore

The Oriental Singapore is located beside Marina Square Shopping Mall, one of Singapore's premium shopping and entertainment complexes; ideally located opposite Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay, and within short walking distance to Suntec Singapore. With breath-taking views of Marina Bay and the harbour, The Oriental Singapore features an impressive atrium lobby; 527 elegant guestrooms and suites, providing guests with impeccable service and luxurious comfort.

C2 - The Chinatown Route

CityBuzzStop Description

C2 (2) The Padang

This is a must-stop to capture postcard-perfect photos! The Padang ("flat field" in Malay), stretching out right before the City Hall is the ceremonial green of Singapore. On the left of the City Hall, stands the Supreme Court of Singapore. Both stately buildings with Corinthian columns are some of the last colonial constructions in the city area. Across from the Padang is the

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C2 (3) Clifford Pier

The Clifford Pier was built in 1931 and later replaced the Johnston Pier in 1935, where the passengers on freighters would transfer to bumboats and disembark. Locally known as the "Red Lantern Pier", it was a popular dating spot for couples in the 1960s. Today, it continues to function as a pier for cruise boats and ferries. To get up-close to the majestic Merlion, the half-lion, half-fish iconic statue, alight at this stop and walk back towards the Esplanade Bridge



where the Merlion Park is located. Enjoy the picturesque Marina Bay adorned by the Singapore skyline and Esplanade as its back drop. On your way there, be captivated by the neo-classical architecture of The Fullerton Hotel.

C2 (4) Far East Square

Far East Square is made up of quaint shophouses which used to house coolies and traders in the early days of Singapore. Its friendly atmosphere entices both locals and expats to congregate long into the evening for cool drinks and food. For vegetarian food lovers, try out Lingzhi Vegetarian Restaurant*. Across Far East Square, stands Telok Ayer Street, which at one time was Singapore's south-east shoreline but through reclamation, turned into a bay. In



Malay it means "street by the bay". Along this street you will find "Fuk Tak Chi" Temple, now restored as a museum, the grand Hokkien Taoist Thian Hock Keng Temple and the Nagore Durgha Shrine. On the way to this stop, you may have noticed an octagonal shaped structure, also the largest remaining cast iron structure in Southeast Asia. This is Lau Pa Sat ("old market"). A former market, it now houses a maze of food stalls and outlets, open 24 hours.

C2 (5) Sri Mariamman Temple

This magnificent structure is Singapore's oldest Hindu temple, dating back to 1827, built by Narayana Pillai, the first Indian building contractor in Singapore. It was originally only a wood and thatched hut but for the next twenty years, craftsmen from India constructed the present brick building. The tower-like gopuram of the temple has become a landmark to the Hindu worshippers and Singaporeans. Entry is free but do respectful, remove your shoes. Although a



Hindu temple, it is located at the heart of Chinatown. You may start exploring the quaint streets of Chinatown from this stop or alight 2 stops later.

C2 (6) Kreta Aver

Kreta Ayer means "bullock cart water" in Malay and its Chinese translation of "Niu Che Shui" is what Chinatown is fondly referred to by the local Chinese. Just a few steps away lies Keong Saik Road, which houses the infamous red light district. These days the flesh trade activities has declined over the years and shifted to the Geylang districts. What remains now is a cluster of new eateries and boutique and budget hotels. Nevertheless, still worth a look by strolling down the narrow streets and alleys. Boutique hotels, cheap and clean hostels are aplenty here.

C2 (7) Chinatown

A visit to Singapore is never quite complete without exploring the many treasures of Chinatown, including mosques, temples, markets, parks, and shophouses. These have stood the test of time and are now treasured as memories of the past. Items from local daily groceries to hand-made

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are your cup of tea, you'll be delighted to find dried sea horses to the nutritious birds' nests on display in traditional medical shops. For a realistic snapshot of life in the days of old, head for the Chinatown Heritage Centre*, which recreates with startling authenticity the cramped and dark living quarters of the early immigrants.



C2 (8) Speaker's Corner

Known now as Hong Lim Park, the then Hong Lim Green was Singapore's first public garden created and maintained by Cheang Hong Lim, who was a businessman and philanthropist. Throughout the years, it has been known as a popular venue for election rallies, political speeches and public performances, even in the 50's and 60's. Of course today, we all know it as the place where Singapore recently found its voice at the famous Speaker's Corner. You are just a short walk away from the Old Thong Chai Building, a beautifully restored old Chinese medical institution which provided free medical consultation and herbal medication to the public.

C2 (9) Parliament House

The new Parliament House is fronted by a lush green lawn. Although relatively new, its architecture blends in with the surrounding buildings in the Civic District. A short walk away is Singapore's oldest government building, the former Parliament House, now home to The Arts House. To see where it all began, head down towards the bank of the Singapore River to view the Raffles Landing Site, marked by a pure white polymarble statue of Singapore's founder, Sir Stamford Raffles.

C2 (10) Convention Centre

Singapore's International Convention and Exhibition Centre (SICEC), due to its prime location, regularly hosts grand international conventions and exhibitions as well as consumer fairs and product sales. Joining the SICEC is the Suntec City Mall, which houses over 250 retail, dining and entertainment outlets. Suntec even boasts of the world's biggest fountain, the 'Fountain of Wealth', which resembles a precious gold ring into which water (fortune) flows. In the



evening, fine water spray from the fountain is used as a backdrop for a fantastic laser show.

C3 - The Little India Route

CityBuzzStop

Description

C3 (2) CHIJMES

CHIJMES (pronounced "chimes") started as a convent girls' school and orphanage in 1854. The convent was closed in 1983 and declared a national heritage site. CHIJMES Hall, the restored chapel, provides a spectacular backdrop for musicals, recitals and other theatrical performances. One of the last few cloistered convents in the world, the fine gothic architecture offers a great photographic opportunity and is well worth a visit. The restaurants, cafes and wine



bars at CHIJMES are also worth a visit. Japanese Dining Sun* promises an unforgettable culinary experience for Japanese food lovers.





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Library, which also houses the National Arts Council's Drama Centre. Next to it is the Hotel Inter-Continental Singapore which connects seamlessly to Parco Bugis Junction - a shopping haven for the young and trendy and home to Singapore's first glass-covered air-conditioned shopping streets.

C3 (4) Goddess of Mercy Temple

The Goddess of Mercy Temple or better known as the Guan Yin Temple is located at Waterloo Mall. Local Buddhists flock to the temple every 1st and 15th of the lunar month and the temple is especially packed during the Chinese New Year. The Sri Krishnan Hindu Temple located a few doors away illustrates the rich culture of religious harmony of Singapore. Soak in the busy surroundings of the pedestrian mall with its brightly coloured stalls of flowers and joss sticks for prayer offerings. Browse through the many unique stalls along the New Bugis Street Market. Need a rest? Get your body massaged and watch a movie from a personal DVD player while waiting for your pedicure to be done at Polished Divas Nail Lounge* located at Bugis Village.

C3 (5) Tekka

Start exploring Little India from this stop, the start of Serangoon Road. Best seen on foot, Little India is awashed with the scents and sights of the subcontinent. Stroll along this road and the neighbouring alleyways to take in the quaint old-fashioned shops selling spices, sarees, trinkets, Indian jewellery and daily products used by the average Indian households. Do not miss Little India Arcade, a block of renovated shophouses selling curios and Tekka Market, a unique wet market with a great variety of fresh produce, meats and seafood. By the way, "Tekka" means "foot of bamboo shoots" in the Chinese Hokkien dialect.

C3 (6) Little India

You are still at the heart of Little India. On the way to this stop, you may have noticed the colourful Sri Veerakaliaman Hindu Temple. Savour the many Indian delicacies such as briyani rice, fish head curry, Indian rojak, dosai and many other Indian cuisine unique to Singapore, or stock up on souvenirs ranging from colourful bangles, elephant motif lanterns to a wide variety of Indian handicrafts. Rest your legs at Amber Restaurant* which serves traditional Northern



Indian cuisine and get a free dessert with every main course ordered.

C3 (7) Mustafa

Mustafa has seen impressive growth since its inception. The first shop was established in 1971 at Campbell Lane in Little India, selling ready made garments. In 1985, the government acquired the shops for conservation forcing Mr Mustaq Ahmad to look at several areas before he decided to set up shop at Serangoon Plaza. In April 1995, Mustafa Centre became a reality and became a shopping paradise to many people. The store packs in over 15,000 customers of all nationalities and opens 24 hours daily.

C3 (8) Thieves' Market

Tired of shopping at the malls? Prefer to unearth treasures at flea markets? Then alight here to explore the oldest flea market, the Thieves' Market at Sungei Road. It used to be where thieves sell their stolen wares but today they are mostly used or second had items. If you cross the road, you can still explore the side streets of Little India district. Cool off with a cold beer at Prickly Bush Bistro* located along Dunlop Street.

C3 (9) Kampong Glam

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> Glam is a sea of sounds and colours. Originally a fishing village at the mouth of the Rochor River, it was the historic seat of Malay royalty in Singapore. Today, you can still see where the Istana Kampong Glam (the Sultan's Palace) stands. Why not visit the Istana Compound, Malay Heritage



Museum* or participate in the Cultural Programme* to learn about Singapore's Malay history and culture? You may wish to visit the Sultan Mosque, the biggest mosque in Singapore with the capacity to accommodate up to 5,000 Muslims in congregational prayers. But remember to take off your shoes as a sign of respect before entering.

C3 (10) The Gateway

Reflecting the skies like a towering giant mirror from the perfectly symmetrical mirrored walls of the twin buildings, The Gateway building exemplifies the beginnings of architectural creativity that has been the emphasis of the government in the last 10 years. The building nearby is the Plaza Parkroyal Hotel and across the road is the New 7th Storey Hotel, a budget hotel, which is not quite that new and has 9 floors.

* CityBuzzPass holders enjoy discounts or freebies! Check out the <u>CityBuzzPass Privileges Programme</u>.