

Little India & Kampong Glam

LITTLE INDIA | KAMPONG GLAM | BUGIS

Neighbourhood Top Five

1 Kicking off your flip-flops and braving the infamous chilli challenge at mouthwatering **Lagnaa Barefoot Dining** (p87), one of Little India's tastiest nosh spots.

2 Customising the perfect fragrance at **Sifr Aromatics** (p92), one of a string

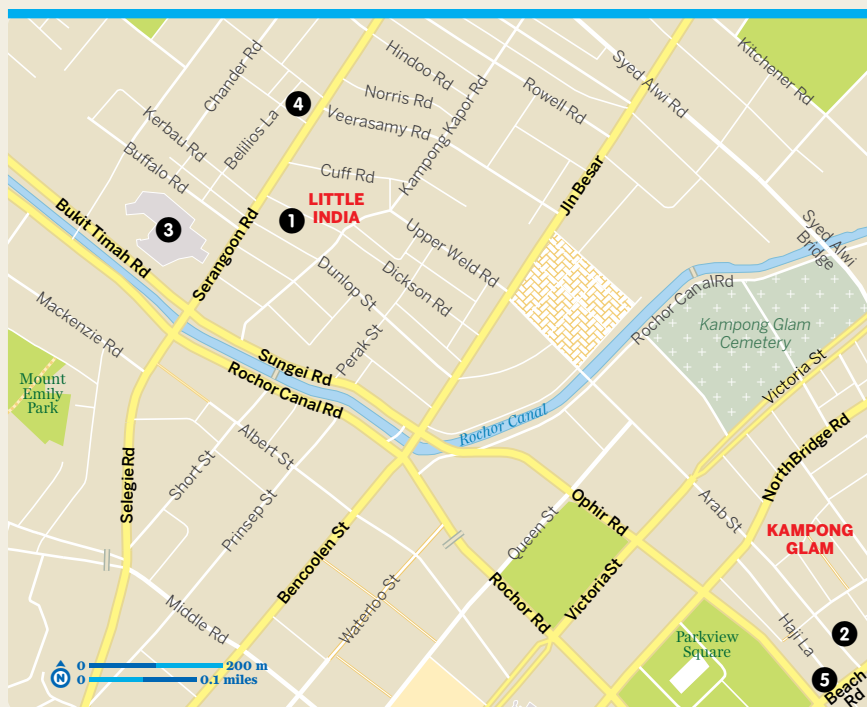
of one-off shops in eclectic Kampong Glam.

3 Shopping for saris at the **Tekka Centre** (p92), then heading downstairs for lip-smacking street eats at Little India's liveliest hawker centre.

4 Taking a back seat during *puja* (prayers) at **Sri Veeramakaliamman**

Temple (p83), Little India's most atmospheric Hindu temple.

5 Kickstarting your night with bolshy margaritas at **Piedra Negra** (p89), slap bang on buzzing Haji Lane.



For more detail of this area see Map p210. ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

If you want to experience Little India at its busiest, subcontinental best, come on a Sunday. This is the only day off for many workers, particularly Indian labourers, and at times it feels like you're sharing the streets with half of Mumbai.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Lagnaa Barefoot Dining (p87)
- ➔ Cicheti (p87)
- ➔ Zam Zam (p87)
- ➔ Gandhi Restaurant (p86)
- ➔ Nan Hwa Chong Fish-Head Steamboat Corner (p88)

For reviews, see p86. ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Bar Stories (p89)
- ➔ Piedra Negra (p89)
- ➔ Artistry (p89)
- ➔ BluJaz Café (p89)
- ➔ Bellwethers (p88)

For reviews, see p88. ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Sifr Aromatics (p92)
- ➔ Haji Lane (p92)
- ➔ Tekka Centre (p92)
- ➔ Tuckshop & Sundry Supplies (p92)

For reviews, see p92. ➔

Explore Little India & Kampong Glam

The heart of Little India lies in the colourful, incense-scented lanes between Serangoon Rd and Jln Besar, stretching from Campbell Lane in the south to Syed Alwi Rd in the north. The best way to take in this area is to simply wander the lanes on foot. Shopping and temple-hopping rank highly, but the main attraction is authentic Indian food.

From Malay and Middle Eastern to Italian and Chinese, scrumptious flavours also await in Kampong Glam, an area sometimes referred to as Arab St. It's an intriguing blend of the Islamic and the hipster, a place of storybook mosques, Third Wave cafes and trendy boutiques dotted around brightly painted laneways. For fun drinking options, Kampong Glam is where it's at, with notable cocktail dens, fragrant sheesha cafes, live music gigs, and a bustling, back-alley vibe.

Local Life

➔ **Connect with your food** Using your fingers rather than cutlery is an integral part of the Indian eating experience. Wash your hands before and after (all Indian restaurants have sinks), and be sure to only use your right hand (the left is for toilet duties).

➔ **South Indian breakfasts** You'll soon tire of toast-and-tea hotel breakfasts, so head to one of Little India's plethora of canteen restaurants and dig into a scrummy South Indian breakfast of *dosa* (paper-thin lentil-flour pancake), *idly* (fermented rice cakes) or *uttapam* (thick, savoury rice pancake).

➔ **Bollywood movies** The colour and rhythm of Little India may just leave you itching for some Bollywood. Head straight to the historic Rex Cinemas (p89) to catch an all-singing, all-dancing Indian blockbuster.

Getting There & Away

➔ **MRT** Little India station is right by the Tekka Centre. You can walk here from Bugis and Farrer Park stations. Bugis is best for Kampong Glam. As of 2016, Little India and Bugis stations will be directly connected by the Downtown Line 2 extension.

➔ **Bus** Number 65 runs from Orchard Rd to Serangoon Rd. From the Colonial District, catch buses 131 or 147 on Stamford Rd. For Kampong Glam, take bus 7 from Orchard Rd to Victoria St (get off at Stamford Primary School, just past Arab St). From the Colonial District, buses 130, 133, 145 and 197 go up Victoria St, and buses 100 and 107 run along Beach Rd from the Raffles Hotel to Bussorah St.