



Sentosa & Other Islands

Sentosa Island p117

Essentially one giant theme park, Sentosa is a firm favourite with families. Expect activities galore, rides-a-go-go and three pretty decent beaches on which to dine, drink or just chill.

Pulau Ubin p121

An unkempt jungle of an island, Ubin offers a forest full of weird and wonderful creatures, bundles of village-life charm and, best of all, the chance to explore it all by bicycle.

Southern Islands p122

Perfect for a picnic by the sea, or just a nice excuse for a boat trip, these three small islands make up one of Singapore's quieter getaway options.

Sentosa Island



SIGHTS

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

AMUSEMENT PARK

Map p220 (www.rwsentosa.com; Resorts World; adult/child/senior \$72/52/36; ☉10am-7pm) Universal Studios is the top-draw attraction in Resorts World. Shops, shows, restaurants, rides and roller coasters are all neatly packaged into fantasy-world themes based on your favourite Hollywood films. One of the highlights is the pair of 'duelling roller coasters' in Sci-fi City, said to be the tallest of their kind in the world. Sometimes during peak or summer months Universal Studios is open until 9pm. Check the website for the latest info.

FORT SILOSO

MUSEUM

Map p220 (Siloso Point; adult/child \$8/5; ☉10am-6pm) Dating from the 1880s, when Sentosa was called Pulau Blakang Mati (Malay for 'the island behind which lies death'), Fort Siloso was built to protect Britain's valuable colonial port. Ultimately it failed.

Designed to repel a maritime assault from the south, Siloso's heavy guns had to be turned around when the Japanese invaded from the Malaya mainland in WWII. The British surrender soon followed, and later the fort was used by the Japanese as a prisoner-of-war camp.

Well-laid-out **exhibits** – photos, wax models, videos, audio recordings – talk visitors through the fort's history. There are **old gun emplacements** that can be viewed and the **underground tunnels** are fun to explore.

UNDERWATER WORLD

AQUARIUM

Map p220 (☎6275 0030; www.underwaterworld.com.sg; behind Siloso Beach; adult/child \$25.90/17.60; ☉9am-9pm) Leafy sea dragons and wobbling medusa jellyfish are mesmerizing, while stingrays and 10ft sharks cruise inches from your face as the travelator transports you through the Ocean Colony's submerged glass tubes. Watch divers feeding the fish or muster some nerve for the 30-minute **Dive with the Sharks** experience (\$120 per person, bookings essential). The lights are turned off after 7pm and the aquarium takes on an eerie torchlit atmosphere.

Entry includes admission to next-door **Dolphin Lagoon**, where Indo-Pacific hump-backed dolphins (aka pink dolphins) dutifully perform with seals at 11am, 2pm, 4pm and 5.45pm. A 7pm show can also be seen

Explore

Epitomised by its star attraction, Universal Studios, Sentosa is essentially one giant theme park. And as such, kids love it. Packed with rides, activities and shows, most of which cost extra, it's very easy for a family to rack up a huge bill in one day spent here. And that's not counting visits to the casino. The beaches, of course, are completely free and very popular with locals and tourists alike.

You need at least a full day to experience everything Sentosa has to offer (and a very large wallet), but it's quite possible to just come here for a morning or afternoon on the beach. In fact, some people just come here for a drink in the evening. There are certainly worse ways to watch the sunset than at a beach bar on Sentosa, gin and tonic in hand.

The Best...

- ➔ **Sight** Universal Studios (p117)
- ➔ **Place to Eat** Cafe del Mar (p119)
- ➔ **Activity** Swimming on Palawan Beach (p119)

Top Tip

Be sure to pick up a Sentosa Island map leaflet, available at booths as you enter the island. The map on it is much larger and more detailed than the one in this guidebook.

Getting There & Away

Cable car Ride the cable car from Mt Faber or the HarbourFront Centre.

Monorail The Sentosa Express (7am-midnight) goes from VivoCity to three stations on Sentosa: Waterfront, Imbiah and Beach.

Walk Simply walk across the Sentosa Boardwalk from VivoCity.