

Little India & Kampong Glam

Neighbourhood Top Five

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

2 Sifr Aromatics (p91) Customising the perfect fragrance at this perfume lab, one of a string of one-

off shops in eclectic Kampong Glam.

3 Tekka Centre (p85) Shopping for saris, then heading downstairs for lip-smacking street eats at Little India's liveliest hawker centre.

4 Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple (p83) Taking a back seat during *puja* (prayers) at this atmospheric Hindu temple.

5 Piedra Negra (p88) Kick-starting your night with bolshy margaritas at this Mexican place, 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 busy, sub-continental best, come on a Sunday. This is the only day off for many workers, particularly Indian labourers, and at times it feels as though you're sharing the streets with half of Mumbai.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Kilo (p89)
- ➔ Hill Street Tai Hwa Pork Noodle (p89)
- ➔ Lagnaa Barefoot Dining (p88)
- ➔ Sungei Road Laksa (p87)
- ➔ Nan Hwa Chong Fish-Head Steamboat Corner (p89)

For reviews, see p85. ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Haji Lane (p92)
- ➔ Supermama (p92)
- ➔ Sifr Aromatics (p92)
- ➔ Rugged Gentlemen Shoppe (p91)
- ➔ Bugis Street Market (p92)

For reviews, see p91. ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Atlas (p90)
- ➔ Chye Seng Huat Hardware (p86)
- ➔ Druggists (p86)
- ➔ Maison Ikkoku (p90)
- ➔ BluJaz Café (p90)

For reviews, see p89. ➔

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's bewitching sights, smells and sounds is to simply wander the lanes on foot. Shopping and temple-hopping rank highly, but the main attraction is authentic Indian food. Arm yourself with an empty stomach and dive in.

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, live-music gigs and a bustling, back-alley vibe.

Local Life

➔ **Eating with your hands** Using your fingers rather than cutlery is an integral part of the Indian dining 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 to see a big Bollywood number. Head straight to the historic Rex Cinemas (p90) to catch an all-singing, all-dancing Indian blockbuster.

Getting There & Away

➔ **MRT** Little India MRT station is right by the Tekka Centre. You can walk here from Rochor, Jalan Besar, Bugis and Farrer Park MRT stations. Bugis is best for Kampong Glam, and Jalan Besar is easily reached from Bendemeer, Lavender or Farrer Park.

➔ **Bus** Bus 65 runs from Orchard Rd to Serangoon Rd. From the Colonial District, catch bus 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 bus 100 and 107 run along Beach Rd from the Raffles Hotel to Bussorah St.