

West & Southwest Singapore

Neighbourhood Top Five

1 Southern Ridges (p132)

Stretching your legs for a park-to-park walk along the Southern Ridges to Mt Faber, then hop onto the cable car for gob-smacking views of the city, port and Sentosa Island.

2 Gillman Barracks

(p128) Immersing yourself

in culture, art and food while wandering around colonial Gillman Barracks.

3 Jurong Bird Park (p129)

Landing a peckish, rainbow-coloured parrot on your arm at family-friendly Jurong Bird Park.

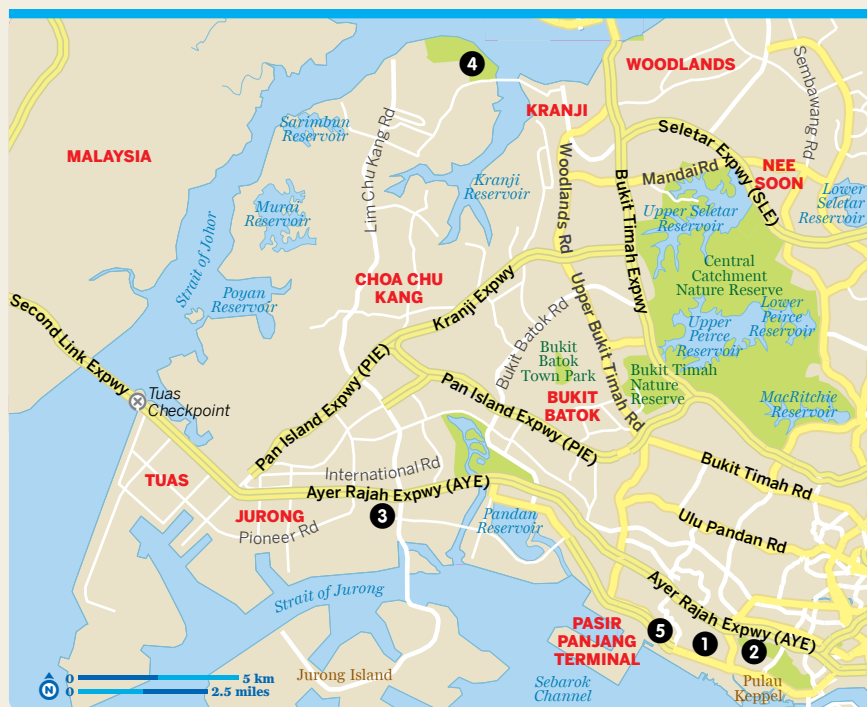
4 Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (p129)

Joining

serious twitchers for a spot of birdwatching in the mangroves.

5 Haw Par Villa (p128)

Re-living a little 1950s tourism at this wonderfully quirky and offbeat theme park.



For more detail of this area see Map p220 and p221 ➔

Explore: West & Southwest Singapore

This vast area is packed with sights that together would take a number of days to see. But you don't need to visit them all – none are absolute must-see attractions, most are quirky or somewhat specialist – so pick and choose what best suits you to plan your foray into western Singapore without wasting too much travel time.

Bundling sights together into one trip makes sense. The Science Centre (p129), Omni-Theatre (p131) and Snow City (p132) stand side by side, while a number of sights in the northwest are accessed via Kranji MRT station.

Consider timing your visit to Mt Faber Park (p128) to coincide with sunset, so as the sun goes down you can either be on the cable car or at a restaurant or bar on the summit. It's then easy to get back to your hotel via the HarbourFront MRT station.

Local Life

➔ **Deals** Look into the combined ticket deals for the Science Centre, Omni-Theatre and Snow City. Likewise, Jurong Bird Park (p129) is part of a three-in-one ticket deal with Singapore Zoo (p114) and the Night Safari (p115). You can also get various Sentosa Island deals if you're travelling there by cable car.

➔ **University treasures** Western Singapore's universities harbour some lesser-known cultural diversions. The National University of Singapore (NUS) is home to three museums (p128) in one, as well as the visually stunning Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum (p128). Further afield you'll find the Chinese Heritage Centre (p129), a tranquil museum exploring the Chinese diaspora at Nanyang Technological University.

➔ **Sun-kissed** The west and southwest are full of parks, hills and nature reserves. They're wonderful places for strolling around, but don't underestimate the strength of the Singapore sun. Slop on the sunscreen, slap on a hat, and pack those water bottles.

Getting There & Away

➔ **MRT** This vast area is actually served pretty well by the MRT. Some attractions have namesake stations. HarbourFront, Jurong East, Boon Lay, Chinese Garden, Pioneer and Kranji are all useful stations that are either walking distance to sights or have bus connections to them.

➔ **Bus** For the more out-of-the-way sights you'll need to combine MRT trips with a bus ride. The Kranji Express is a handy minibus service you can use to visit the farms in the northwest.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Each Friday night the Science Centre (p129) offers free stargazing at the Observatory in the Omni-Theatre building (p131). Visitors take turns peeking through the telescopes at the starry sky above. Additional talks and slide shows are often conducted; visit www.science.edu.sg for schedules.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Tamarind Hill (p130)
- ➔ Timbre+ (p130)
- ➔ Naked Finn (p128)
- ➔ Faber Bistro (p130)

For reviews, see p130. ➔

Best Natural Escapes

- ➔ Southern Ridges (p132)
- ➔ Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (p129)
- ➔ Kranji farms (p131)

For reviews, see p128. ➔

Best For Kids

- ➔ Jurong Bird Park (p129)
- ➔ Science Centre Singapore (p129)
- ➔ Snow City (p132)

For reviews, see p128. ➔