ABOUT SINGAPORE
Located in Southeast Asia, Singapore is officially the Republic of Singapore with land area of about 720 sq km, making her one of the smallest countries in the world and the smallest in the region – hence the moniker “The Little Red Dot”.

POPULATION & CULTURE
5.61 million. 3.44 million of which are Singapore Residents.
74.3% Chinese, 13.3% Malays, 9.1% Indians, 3.3% Eurasians and people of other descent.

LANGUAGE
Four official languages: English, Mandarin, Malay and Tamil.
English is the working language for business and administration.

RELIGION
Main religions are Taoism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Sikhism.

WEATHER
Hot and humid at year-round, with temperatures usually over 30°C.
Be prepared for rain at any time, which can be torrential but usually brief.

CURRENCY
The currency used in Singapore is the Singapore dollar (S$).
Money changing services can be found Singapore Changi Airport, major shopping centres and hotels. You can also access the automated teller machines (ATMs) located everywhere (even
in the most obscure bits) in Singapore, that accept most of the main credit cards such as Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

COMMUNICATIONS
There are three mobile service providers in Singapore, SingTel, M1 and StarHub.

SIM and phone cards are available at any 7-11 convenience stores inside the Changi Airport and within the city. There are WIFI Hot spots in the city shopping centers and restaurants.

TRANSPORTATION
Singapore has a fully multi-modal transportation system consisting of taxis, buses and MRT (subway system). Buses and trains run from 0600 hrs to midnight and taxis operate 24-hours daily. There are several taxi companies islandwide.

ELECTRICITY
220 - 240AC, 50 Hertz

DRINKING WATER
In this cleanest of cities, you can drink water straight from the tap.

(NO) SMOKING
Besides air-conditioned areas such as shopping centres, restaurants, entertainment outlets and cinemas, smoking is also an offence on the SMRT (Singapore Mass Rapid Transit system), public buses, taxis and in lifts. Recently, the smoking ban has also been imposed on public eateries and within a five-metre radius from most building entrances, except for allocated smoking areas that are clearly marked with bright yellow paint. A maximum fine of S$1,000 may be imposed on first-time offenders.

CUSTOMS
There is no limit on the amount of currency you can bring into Singapore. Prohibited items into Singapore are chewing gum, chewing tobacco and imitation tobacco products, cigarette lighters of pistol or revolver shape, controlled drugs and psychotropic substances.

GST REFUND SCHEME
Enjoy tax-free shopping in Singapore at locations with the “Tax Refund” logo. As a visitor, the 7% Goods and Services Tax (GST) that you paid on your purchases can be claimed when you leave Singapore. Simply spend SGD 100.00 or more at participating retailers to qualify for refunds.

Refunds may be claimed either directly from retailers or at Changi Airport. Ask for GST Refund Forms from the retailers, as they are not available at the airport. GST Refund Forms must be completed with the dealer’s signature and stamps, and then validated by Customs at Singapore Changi Airport before your departure.