

# Singapore Travel Diary

Paste  
Doll picture  
here

# Singapore

## Day 1

10:25 a.m.

Dear Diary,  
Welcome to Singapore! It's my first day here—well, actually, we got in SUPER late last night, but after the long flight I went straight to bed. I'm up now and can't wait to get out and see the sights. So far all I know is that I can't spit on the street (not that I would!) or chew gum—both are against the law! We even had to throw out our gum before leaving the plane! Oh, and it's really hot here! Too hot for Coconut, who is still asleep, so she's going to stay in the hotel where it's cool.

4:15 p.m.

Dear Diary,  
You'll never guess who I had afternoon tea with today—an orangutan! Well, Nani (that's what I named her) didn't really drink a cup with me, but she did come by my table and wave. After tea, we walked

around the rest of Singapore Zoo. My favorite animals were the golden lion tamarins, tiny monkeys that run free all over the zoo! Some of them came really close to me. And tonight, we're going to another zoo—the Night Safari!



Here's a picture of me with a stuffed animal version of Nani the orangutan that I got in the gift shop.\*

**\* Activity: Print and paste a photo of your doll's head and color in her hair & outfit.**

9:05 p.m.

Dear Diary,

At the Night Safari, you can walk or ride around looking at animals in the dark!

Being in a zoo at night is really cool—and kind of creepy, too! On the Fishing Cat

Trail, we saw a leopard cat jump into the water after his dinner! Then, in a tree

on another trail, we saw a tarsier, which looks like a cross between a monkey and

a possum. He was just the size of my hand and he had big, round, sad eyes.

Every time I looked at him, he was staring right back at me. And once, a flying fox fruit bat flew right over my head! It really was a jungle in there!

## Day 2

10:20 a.m.

Dear Diary,

I always wondered what it would be like to walk through a rainbow—and today I found out! We're at the National Orchid Garden, and the flowers come in just about every color you can think of.

Some of them are really weird and hardly even look like flowers, but others are so pretty that I want to pick them and put them in my hair—only I think that would get me into trouble. So I'll just take lots and lots of pictures instead.

2:10 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Here in Singapore's Chinatown, people shop for groceries at the wet market. It has fruits and veggies just like the

supermarket back home—but it also has eels, turtles, frogs, and a lot of other things that don't seem like food to me.

But I guess people here like them. The strangest food I saw was Thousand-

Year-Old Eggs—they were black inside! I don't think they're really a thousand

years old, but I'm not sure I want to find out. I'll stick with the chwee

kueh for breakfast—it's a rice-flour pudding.

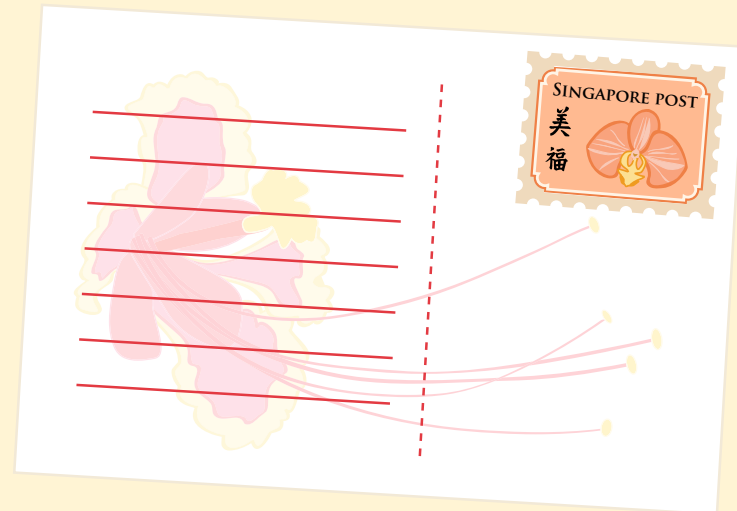
6:30 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Imagine walking on hot coals in your bare feet! That's exactly what a Hindu priest did today at a fire-walking ceremony called Thimithi. It was held at the Sri Mariamman Temple in Chinatown—one of the oldest and most important temples in Singapore. And, Diary, you should've seen the roof—there were hundreds of gods and goddesses and animals standing on a turquoise pyramid! They were all painted and gilded with gold, and almost as big as real people. I could have looked at them all day.



A dragon from the Sri Mariamman Temple



Here's the postcard I'm sending my best friend back home.\*

**\* Activity: Write a message on the back of the card**

### Day 3

9:55 a.m.

Get ready, dear Diary, because it won't be long before we set sail on the Singapore River. Right now, we're on the MRT—Singapore's subway—headed to where Sir Thomas Raffles, who helped discover Singapore, first stepped ashore.

This is going to be sooo much fun! I just hope I don't get seasick. Can you get seasick on a river? Guess I'll find out.

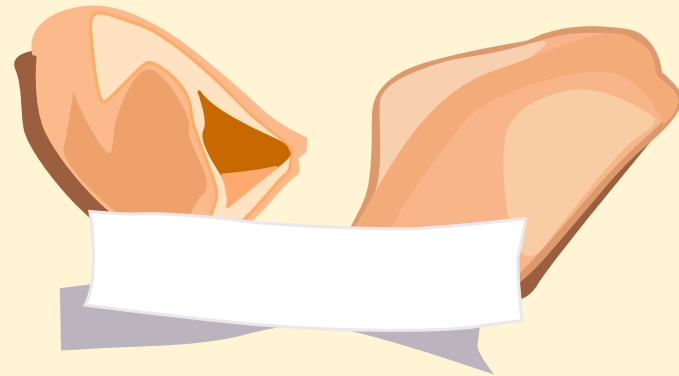
11:45 a.m.

We're off! The harbor bumboat tour just started. It's hard to believe this is still Singapore—it looks so different from the boat. There are skyscrapers everywhere, way taller than the Raffles Hotel, which is really pretty and white with lots of windows looking over the harbor. A lady on the boat told us that the hotel is over a hundred years old.

2:30 p.m.

Wow, the boat tour was awesome! At the end, we got to see the Merlion. It's a huge half-lion, half-fish statue that shoots water out of its mouth into the river. Our tour guide said it's the mythical icon of Singapore because it guards the entrance to the Singapore River. We had lunch in a restaurant near the

river; I ate noodles with prawns. Here's what my cookie fortune said: "It's time for you to explore new horizons." Which is true, since we're leaving for another country very soon!



What fortune did you get in your cookie?

**\* Activity: Write a fortune for your cookie.**

## Day 4

7:25 a.m.

Dear Diary,

I can't believe it's time to leave Singapore already! I've learned so much about the culture in just four days, and even tried foods I never thought I'd like—and then ended up loving! But now it's time to pack my suitcases and soon I'll be on a plane. See ya later, Singapore!

Next destination? Well, you'll just have to wait and see, dear Diary!

**\* Activity:** Draw a picture of the Merlion on the next page. Hint: you can see a picture of the Merlion on the printable poster...

