



## MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE: TAPESTRY OF CULTURES – A MARCO POLO JOURNEY (2024)

Immerse yourself in two sumptuous destinations, each with diverse cultures, that have been at the crossroads of international trade for centuries.

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Small Group Journeys, Marco Polo Small Group Journeys



Asia, Singapore, Malaysia &  
Borneo



11 days from AU\$18,855 pp



18 Guests

## Journey Overview

Immerse yourself in two sumptuous destinations, each with diverse cultures, that have been at the crossroads of international trade for centuries, getting to know their many peoples and cuisines on a unique journey that reveals the rich contrast between the soaring architecture of major cities and the tropical beauty of highland landscapes.

### Journey Highlights

- Experience Singapore and Malaysia's rich culinary diversity with a Malay cooking lesson and traditional English afternoon tea
- Wander the colonial streets of Penang and learn to play mahjong with an expert in the city's historic Blue Mansion, a location featured in the movie *Crazy Rich Asians*
- Explore two highly diverse cities, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, from the Gardens of the Bay to the Petronas Towers
- Marvel at the former royal town of Kuala Kangsar and try your hand at picking tea leaves in the picturesque Cameron Highlands



## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Arrive Singapore**

Arrive in Singapore, where you are met and transferred to your legendary hotel. Check in and relax, with an authentic, complimentary Singapore Sling in hand.

#### ***Raffles Singapore***

### **Day 2: Singapore | Chinese Culture, Then and Now**

Begin exploring Singapore with a walking tour of the Chijmes, a historic building complex and former convent. Continue to the city's lush Botanical Gardens, including its renowned National Orchid Garden. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Discover Singapore's Chinatown and learn about the city's legacy as a centre for the spice trade on a visit to Ang Siang Hill. Return to your hotel, where later this evening you enjoy a welcome dinner.

#### ***Raffles Singapore | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 3: Penang, Malaysia | Supertrees**

This morning, explore spectacular Gardens by the Bay, observing the resident flora and fauna and experiencing the futuristic Supertree Observatory. Fly to the island state of Penang, checking into your hotel on arrival. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant followed by a walk through a local hawker centre.

#### ***Eastern & Oriental Hotel | Meals: BD***

### **Day 4: Penang | Exploring Historical Georgetown**

Today, Ride Like a Local by rickshaw through UNESCO-listed colonial Georgetown, a multicultural enclave. Visit Pinang Peranakan Mansion, a museum devoted to preserving the culture of the Peranakans. Then, proceed to the Cheong Fatt Sze Mansion (the Blue Mansion) to take in its distinctive architectural features. After lunch, enjoy a lesson from a master in the game of mahjong on an A&K-exclusive experience. Later at your hotel, gather for a proper afternoon tea.

#### ***Eastern & Oriental Hotel | Meals: BL***

### **Day 5: Penang | Treasures of a Hidden Rainforest**

Experience the natural splendours of Tropical Spice Garden, a rainforest home to hundreds of species. Take a break from exploring for a Malay cooking class, helping a local chef concoct the dishes you enjoy for lunch on a Chef's Table experience. Visit Penang Hill Biosphere Reserve, home to soaring tropical trees and over 100 species of birds, taking a funicular to the summit of the hill.

***Eastern & Oriental Hotel | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 6: Kuala Kangsar | Royal Heritage**

Drive to Kuala Kangsar, nestled in a lush valley and once home to the Sultan of Perak. Take the opportunity to learn about the history of these royal rulers before continuing to Ipoh's Sam Poh Tong Temple, hewn into a cave at the foot of a limestone pinnacle. Ascend into the rolling, green Cameron Highlands and your colonial bungalow-inspired resort hotel, where you enjoy dinner.

***Cameron Highlands Resort | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 7: Cameron Highlands | Tea Plantation Visit**

This morning, enjoy a short hike or 4x4 ride through the verdant cloud forests of the highlands. Next, visit Boh Tea Plantation, where you try your hand at picking tea leaves, observe the artful work of processing tea and sip a freshly brewed cup yourself. This afternoon, relax at your hotel savouring a traditional high tea.

***Cameron Highlands Resort | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 8: Kuala Lumpur | Vast Metropolis**

Today, journey overland to the nation's dazzlingly modern capital city, Kuala Lumpur. On arrival, check in to your luxurious hotel, where you partake in a Scenic Sundowner overlooking the city's dazzling skyline before dinner at a local restaurant.

***Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur | Meals: BD***

### **Day 9: Kuala Lumpur | Malaysia’s Islamic Heritage**

Start your exploration of the city from an incredible vantage point: the skybridge of the soaring Petronas Twin Towers. Next, discover another facet of Malaysia’s cultural mix with a visit to the Islamic Arts Museum, the largest of its kind in southeast Asia. Peruse the city’s Central Market, where local artists and craftsman sell their goods. After lunch at a local restaurant, your afternoon is at leisure for relaxing or exploring.

***Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur | Meals: BL***

### **Day 10: Malacca | Fusion of East and West**

Venture to historic Malacca, a city whose architecture reflects a mix of Chinese, Dutch and Portuguese colonial influences. Privately cruise the Malacca River to visit St. Paul’s Church, the Sultanate Palace, Stadthuys (city hall) and Old Town. After lunch at a local restaurant, return to Kuala Lumpur. Tonight at your hotel, gather for a farewell dinner.

***Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 11: Depart Kuala Lumpur**

After breakfast, transfer to the Kuala Lumpur airport for your departing flight.

***Meals: B***

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## Journey Details

Internal Air Included: Singapore/Penang

Minimum age is 10 years.

First group event: welcome briefing at 8:00 am on Day 2.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 7:00 pm on Day 10.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

## Included with every Marco Polo Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director® and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations (Where Available)
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy® Luggage Handling
- Breakfast in Bed on Select Days
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service
- Internet Access (Where Available)
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures with Just Two Guests

## Customise this Journey

**Talk to one of our expert Journey Designers** or your travel agent about booking this tour as a private journey for your own small group with family or friends. Or, if you would prefer to travel privately, find out more about creating the perfect bespoke Tailor-Made Journey based on this itinerary.



## Map



## Accommodation

### Raffles Singapore



Raffles Hotel is one of Singapore's most graceful landmarks, renowned for its charming ambience and legendary service.

Enjoy a wide variety of bars, restaurants, courtyards, and social areas; spaces designed to make Raffles the place to meet, spend time, shop and celebrate. Long Bar continues its proud tradition as the Home of the iconic Singapore Sling.

This luxury Singapore hotel celebrates a tradition of unwavering service excellence spanning more than 125 years. Immortalised in the novels of Somerset Maugham and Rudyard Kipling, Raffles Hotel, Singapore's colonial-styled architecture and lush tropical gardens exude an atmosphere of timeless elegance. This luxurious Singapore hotel lies in the heart of the city, in close proximity to the banking and financial districts, Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre (SICEC), as well as leisure attractions including the casino at Marina Bay; the cultural sights of Arab Street and Chinatown and shopping at Raffles City shopping mall and Orchard Road shopping belt.

Choose from 115 elegant suites, all served by Raffles' legendary butlers. Signature teakwood floors and crisp white linen provide a welcome sanctuary at the end of each day. Enjoy views of the tropical gardens from



your balcony before relaxing with a treatment in the spa.

Step back in time with the resident historian and learn about the hotel's heritage. Before you leave, pick up a souvenir of this bygone era from the exclusive boutiques in the light, airy Raffles Arcade.

## Cameron Highlands Resort



Cameron Highlands Resort is situated on the largest hill retreat in Malaysia, surrounded by breathtaking scenery, lush greenery, rolling hills and Tudor-styled cottages. The luxurious boutique resort features 56 beautifully-appointed rooms and suites, and fronts Cameron Highlands' 18-hole golf course. It also houses the third wellness centre of the award-winning Spa Village group, which offers exotic treatments focusing on the healing and restorative properties of tea.

Located in the state of Pahang, approximately 200 kilometres north of Kuala Lumpur, Cameron Highlands is a beautiful holiday destination and the only place where you can find tea plantations and strawberries in Malaysia. At about 1,800 metres above sea level, it is the highest area on the mainland and enjoys a cool climate and fresh air, with temperatures ranging between 15° and 25° Celsius.

Much of the character of the highlands remains unchanged since colonial times. It is endearingly known to some as the 'little corner of England in Asia'. The cool climate on the picturesque plateau and its surrounding hills and forest make this a popular retreat for golfing, jungle trekking and exploration of the many plantations and gardens. Cameron Highlands Resort is ideal all year round for families, honeymooners and holidaymakers out to satiate their appetites for trails, tales and tradition.

- Set amidst tea plantations and rolling hills, this tranquil boutique hideaway promises all the splendour, romance and nostalgia of Cameron Highlands' grand colonial heritage
- Tall French doors, timber-beamed ceilings and plantation shutters make the luxury rooms exude colonial charm

- Enjoy a refreshing round of golf, a pink-cheeked ramble along jungle trails, or a leisurely walk through tea plantations and strawberry farms

## Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

### Dec 7, 2024 - Dec 17, 2024

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$18,855 pp</b>	AU\$5,840	Included	Call for Availability

### Dec 22, 2024 - Jan 1, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$20,195 pp</b>	AU\$6,610	Included	Call for Availability

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