

FAR EAST

SPECIALIST COLLECTION



EXPERIENCE

The mystique of the Orient

EXPLORE

Your taste buds with exotic cuisine

DISCOVER

The fascinating Oriental ports



www.thompsons.co.za

CULTURALLY EXOTIC

WHY FAR EAST WITH THOMPSONS?

For centuries, the mysteries of the Far East have enticed travellers to uncover the secrets of the Orient with its ancient history, fascinating cultures and traditions. The Far East promises a sensory overload of vivid colours, scented aromas, delectable cuisine, magnificent temples and friendly people. Explore a plethora of wonders and sights with Thompsons Holidays, from the breathtaking Marble Mountains of Da Nang in Vietnam and Shanghai's soaring skyscrapers to Singapore, home to the busiest harbour in the world.



TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE WITH A GLOBAL COMPANY

With 40 years of trusted travel experience you will receive expert advice. No request is too large, no detail too small.

Thompsons Holidays is a division of Cullinan Holdings Group and a member of THE TRAVEL CORPORATION, a fourth generation family owned group.

Our financial stability is the key to a relaxed holiday.

UNRIVALLED VALUE FOR MONEY ON TRIED AND TESTED HOLIDAYS

As the largest South African tour operator, our greater buying power means you get the best deal on your holiday, unrivalled value for money and unexpected bonus offers.

WE ARE WITH YOU 24/7

With you all the way – our care line is your friend in an emergency.



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- ▶ **LANGUAGE:** English is widely spoken.
- ▶ **CURRENCY:** US Dollars are also widely accepted.
- ▶ **VISA:** Enquire about visa requirements.
- ▶ **TIME:** Vietnam – 5 Hours ahead of South Africa; China, Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia – 6 Hours ahead of South Africa.
- ▶ **WEATHER:** Generally hot and humid. Northeast monsoon – mild and pleasant (Nov - Apr) / Southwest monsoon – wet season (May to Oct).
- ▶ **PLUG TYPE:** Standard socket: UK-style 3-pin plug. International adaptor recommended. Standard voltage: 220-240 V.
- ▶ **TRAVEL INSURANCE:** For peace of mind, contact Thompsons for more info.





SINGAPORE - VIBRANT ISLAND

Singapore invites you to discover the world's only city-state, a sophisticated and mesmerising place where you can explore the thriving contemporary art scene, taste sensations on every corner, awe-inspiring architecture and some of the best shopping opportunities in South East Asia. Stay at some top-notch hotels and be immersed in Singapore's extraordinary melting pot of cultures. The tropical climate has resulted in one of the largest orchid gardens in the world, which is just waiting to be discovered.



TOP SIGHTSEEING TOURS



SUNSET SENTOSA TOUR

Enjoy a panoramic view of the world's busiest harbour whilst you ride aboard the Singapore Cable Car to magical and exciting Sentosa Island. Venture to one of the world's largest aquariums, where you can immerse yourself in a magical marine world. The Sky Tower offers breathtaking panoramic views across Singapore's Southern Islands. Complete a day at Sentosa with a spectacular night show - the Wings of Time - which is set outdoors against the backdrop of the open sea.

GARDENS BY THE BAY



Gardens by the Bay has blossomed into a must-see destination with more than one million plants and thousands of species. Marvel at the very best of horticultural sustainability and architectural design at the Flower Dome, be awed by the world's tallest indoor waterfall and discover various gardens.

THOMPSONS TIP:

Pre-book memorable sightseeing experiences prior to departure.

ENQUIRE FOR MORE SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES OPTIONS.



UNIVERSAL STUDIOS SINGAPORE

Universal Studios Singapore invites you to explore an experience beyond the screens. This is Southeast Asia's first and only Universal Studios theme park, which features cutting-edge rides, shows and attractions in a variety of themed zones, based on your favourite blockbuster films and television series. Experience the likes of: Jurassic Park Rapids Adventure™, Battlestar Galactica: HUMAN vs. CYLON™, TRANSFORMERS The Ride: The Ultimate 3D Battle, and more!

TRAVELLING VIA SINGAPORE?

FREE VOUCHER FOR COFFEE OR SHOPPING

When flying to onward destinations with Singapore Airlines, passengers will receive a voucher valued at SGC 20 - SGD 40 (approx. R200 - R400) per person while in transit at Singapore Changi Airport. In order to qualify, passengers should transit on both legs of their journey. Spend your voucher on a coffee, a meal or toward Duty Free Shopping. The offer is valid for travel until 30 September 2018.



★★★ HOTEL CHANCELLOR @ ORCHARD

The Hotel Chancellor @ Orchard boasts a Greenmark certified status, effortlessly incorporating the latest technologies to deliver excellent service and style in an environmentally sustainable environment. Relax in the modern and comfortable hotel rooms, take a splash in the rooftop pool, utilise the business facilities and feast at the all-day dining.



★★★★★ OASIA HOTEL NOVENA

The 27-storey Oasia Hotel Novena is a breath of fresh air and welcome greenery in Singapore's Central Business District. A true respite in the city, the tropical skyscraper is refreshingly sleek inside, with its modern functionalist and comfortable style. Choose your ideal spot for relaxation, exercise or work with a selection of rooftop pools, gyms, exclusive lounges, picturesque sky gardens and terraces.



★★★★★ COPTHORNE KINGS HOTEL

Ideally located on the historic Singapore River near central Singapore, this hotel boasts a modern design. This is perfectly paired with the hotel's award-winning dining venues, a landscaped outdoor pool, steam and sauna facilities and even a mini putting green – providing all that one could need to relax and recharge.



★★★★★ YORK HOTEL SINGAPORE

The York Hotel is a deluxe urban oasis ideally situated on Mount Elizabeth with some of the area's finest shopping, dining and entertainment all just a short walk away. The hotel offers tastefully well-appointed rooms, a swimming pool, a fitness centre and a choice of conference facilities.



★★★★★ RENDEZVOUS HOTEL SINGAPORE

This hotel is aptly inspired by the surrounding Arts and Heritage district, clearly reflected in the bespoke contemporary interior design, the latest technology and the multi-sensory art experience that weaves in different art mediums all around the establishment. It is ideally located for travellers as it's just a few minutes' walk from Orchard Road shopping, Bras Basah and Dhoby Ghaut MRT Stations.

SINGAPORE HOTELS



★★★★ ORCHARD PARADE HOTEL

Orchard Parade Hotel will help you to discover all the best that Singapore has to offer – with the finest shopping, dining and entertainment choices right at your doorstep. Located at the entrance to Orchard Road, Singapore’s most famous shopping district, Orchard Parade Hotel is an absolute shopper’s dream. It is ideally located within walking distance of all the major malls and designer boutiques. Food lovers will also be spoilt for choice with the wide selection of dining options available in the area.



★★★★ THE ELIZABETH HOTEL

The Elizabeth Hotel takes inspiration from European influence; it reflects a delightful nod to the past, whilst effortlessly featuring all the modern conveniences of the present. Elegant chandeliers and black marble counters are seamlessly balanced by the state-of-the-art amenities and facilities. Adding to the air of prestige and exclusivity are the many world-class boutiques and malls that surround the hotel, making this establishment extremely convenient for guests to explore and shop to their hearts’ content.



★★★★★ ORCHARD HOTEL SINGAPORE

The Orchard Hotel features contemporary, modern design with Chinese accents. It is perfectly located for business or leisure. A short walk from the MRT station, yet also ideally secluded from the bustle of the city with Singapore’s top shopping and entertainment right on its doorstep. Delight in one of the hotel’s five dining establishments, take a dip in the pool or make use of the conference centre.



★★★★★ PAN PACIFIC SINGAPORE

Whether for business or leisure, a stay at the Pan Pacific Singapore hotel is your assurance of world-class service and five-star luxury accommodation. Overlooking the heart of Marina Bay, this elegant hotel lets you experience classic luxury at the top of the world. This location is also close to an array of sightseeing, retail and entertainment options. Savour decadent delights at the award-winning restaurants and unwind at the pool or on the tennis courts.



HONG KONG - COLOURFUL TRADITIONS

Discover this extraordinary destination with its iconic skyline and glittering harbour. Delight in delectable cuisine in one of the world's top culinary capitals. Hong Kong is a shopper's dream, with a dizzying array of choices for every taste. It's a melting pot of Eastern and Western characteristics, visible in its architecture, traditions, food and fashion. Hong Kong entices you with its contradictions and infectious energy.

TOP SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES



★★★ PLUS NATHAN HOTEL

This hotel is an all-time favourite, ideally situated on Nathan Road in Kowloon within close proximity to the central areas. The guestrooms provide a cosy atmosphere and guests can delight in the facilities which include a wine cellar, fitness centre, restaurants and the Starbucks on the premises.



OCEAN PARK TOUR

This tour is the perfect combination of fascinating marine life, breathtaking scenery, spectacular thrill rides and a chance to see the pandas.

★★★★ NOVOTEL HONG KONG NATHAN ROAD KOWLOON HOTEL

Ideally located within Kowloon's shopping, dining and business district. Also close to Temple Street Night Market. Rooms are elegantly decorated and there's a selection of dining options.



SYMPHONY OF LIGHT CRUISE TOUR

Watch the 'World's Largest Permanent Light and Sound Show' by Guinness World Records - A Symphony of Lights - from a Chinese sightseeing boat.



★★★★ HARBOUR PLAZA 8 DEGREES

This award-winning hotel provides delightful experience. The design of the hotel will delight your senses; it features intimate rooms, distinctive restaurants and a bar, multi-purpose function rooms and extraordinary facilities. It offers the perfect blend of comfort, style and convenience.



HONG KONG ISLAND TOUR

This is the perfect way to discover Hong Kong's delights. Explore Victoria Peak by Peak Tram, Aberdeen (with an optional sampan ride), historic Repulse Bay, Stanley Market for bargains and visit a prestigious jewellery workshop.



MALAYSIA - TRULY ASIA

Malaysia is a country with a melting pot of cultures that create its colourful and atmospheric buzz. The capital, Kuala Lumpur, with its gleaming skyscrapers, is an absolute shopper's paradise. Take a journey back in time in Penang or choose from a selection of beautiful islands such as Langkawi with its powdery beaches. Discover the country's natural splendour in Kota Kinabalu which is the ideal base for adventure.



★★★★ SWISS-GARDEN HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR

Located in the heart of Kuala Lumpur between bustling Bukit Bintang and colourful Chinatown, this hotel offers a refined experience with comfortable guest rooms and unique dining options. The stylish and elegant cocktail lounges are the ideal places to relax and unwind.

★★★★ THE WESTIN LANGKAWI RESORT & SPA

The ideal resort for an exotic escape, close to shopping malls and the Kuah jetty. Features elegant rooms, an award-winning Heavenly Spa by Westin™, bars and restaurants.



★★★★ HOLIDAY INN RESORT PENANG

Unwind on white sand beaches in the heart of Batu Ferringhi. Spend relaxing days next to the sparkling swimming pool, and fun evenings at famous Jalan Batu Ferringhi's bustling night bazaar which is located right on your doorstep. Sip cocktail aperitifs and enjoy live music entertainment in the Lobby Lounge.



TOP SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES



BATU CAVES & ROYAL SELANGOR PEWTER TOUR

Venture to the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur to experience highlights such as impressive cave temples, Hindu shrines and the Royal Selangor Pewter factory.



LANGKAWI SUNSET CRUISE

Enjoy a relaxing evening on this sunset luxury yacht cruise and take in the stunning natural views as you experience the beauty of a golden Malaysian sunset while sipping cocktails.



HISTORICAL GEORGETOWN TOUR

See the Reclining Buddha, Dhammikarama Temple, St Georges Anglican Church, Goddess of Mercy Temple, Sri Mariamman Temple, Masjid Kapitan Keling, Khoo Kongs, coffee shop and Fort Cornwallis.

INSPIRING TOURS



CAMERON HIGHLANDS ESCAPADE - 2 NIGHTS

Day 1: Kuala Lumpur – Cameron Highlands

Depart Kuala Lumpur for the Cameron Highlands, famous for its world-renowned tea. Visit the Batu Caves where the shrine of the Hindu

deity Lord Subramaniam is located within an outcrop of limestone caves. Continue north to the Hill Resort of Cameron Highlands, which is 1,542 metres above sea level. Visit a cottage industry that makes bamboo baskets and view the Lata Iskandar Waterfall.

Day 2: Cameron Highlands (B)

Explore many interesting sights such as the tea plantation and tea factory to learn about the tea-making process. Enjoy the beautiful view overlooking the plantations

with a cup of tea. Visit vegetable and strawberry farms before continuing to the morning market where you can bargain and find local produce all sold in one place. Then proceed to the Butterfly Farm and Time Tunnel Museum to take a peek into the history of the Cameron Highlands. The tour ends with a stroll around Tanah Rata.

Day 3: Cameron Highlands – Kuala Lumpur (B)

Morning at leisure prior to an afternoon departure back to Kuala Lumpur.

MALAYSIA ROUND TRIP - 6 NIGHTS

Day 1: Kuala Lumpur – Batu Caves – Cameron Highlands

Head to the Kuala Head on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur city where you will visit the well-known Royal Selangor Pewter factory, the largest in the world. Then proceed to the Batu Caves, a world-famous limestone outcrop which houses a Hindu temple. Continue on to the Cameron Highlands.

Day 2: Cameron Highlands – Penang (B)

Explore many interesting sights in the Cameron Highlands such as the tea plantation, tea factory, a vegetable farm and the market square before continuing your journey towards Penang. Visits en route include the Sam Poh Tong

Cave Temple, the Ubudiah Mosque and Iskandariah Palace.

Day 3: Penang (B)

Depart on a half day tour around Penang to experience some of the island's key attractions.

Day 4: Penang – Kota Bharu (B)

Drive towards Kota Bharu with breathtaking views of the tropical rainforest along the way.

Day 5: Kota Bharu – Kuala Terengganu (B)

Experience a short orientation tour through Kota Bharu, and visit the colourful market. Head to Terengganu and visit Pulau Duyong Besar, the largest island in the estuary where fishing boats are built using age-old techniques and tools.



Day 6: Kuala Terengganu – Kuantan/Cherating (B)

Drive to Kuantan, stopping to visit Cherating Village en route to observe their traditional lifestyle and see pandan leaves being weaved into bags, mats and crafts.

Day 7: Kuantan – Kuala Lumpur (B)

Head back to Kuala Lumpur. End of the tour.



SABAH NATURE & CULTURE TOUR - 6 NIGHTS

Day 1: Kota Kinabalu

Arrive in Kota Kinabalu and transfer to your hotel.

Day 2: City Tour and Mangrove and Wildlife Cruise (B/L/D)

Go on an introductory tour of the City of Kota Kinabalu, visiting a Chinese Buddhist temple, the Blue Mosque and the Sabah Museum. Experience a river cruise into the

Mangroves with its Proboscis monkeys (only found in Borneo).

Day 3: Rungus Longhouse Tour (B/L/D)

Drive to the tip of Borneo, stopping at local markets along the way. View the rural scenes of native villages, rice fields, rubber estates and fruit orchards. Continue to Tanjung Simpang Mengayau where you can enjoy swimming in crystal clear waters, then head to a traditional and basic Rungus longhouse where you will spend the night.

Day 4: Rungus Longhouse – Kota Kinabalu (B/L)

Spend some time exploring the area surrounding the village, do

some trekking and observe the lifestyle of the local people.

Day 5: Kinabalu Park and Poring Hot Spring (B/L)

Join a jungle trail, venturing into the canopy walkway and get a bird's eye view of the rainforest canopy. If time permits, take a dip in the therapeutic sulphur baths.

Day 6: Coral Island (B/L)

Take a 20-minute boat ride to one of the coral islands within the Tunku Abdul Rahman Park and spend the day swimming, snorkelling or just relaxing on the beach.

Day 7: Kota Kinabalu (B)

Morning at leisure before you are transferred to the airport for your flight home.

MEAL BASIS: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner Enquire for full itinerary details and inclusions.



SPORTING EVENTS - ADRENALINE RUSH

Thompsons recommends travelling to some of the most renowned sporting events in the Far East to watch international class motor racing and rugby. Learn all about each country's culture, and delight in the festivities and fun. Take your pick from our selection, which includes attending the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai to be immersed into this futuristic sporting venue. The Singapore Grand Prix will take you on an exciting adventure as you witness the fast-paced racing circuit in this cosmopolitan city. There's also the Hong Kong Sevens 3-day rugby extravaganza, where you get to enjoy the incredible excitement and energy of the matches and festivities.



CHINESE GRAND PRIX

Spectators at the 2018 Chinese Grand Prix can enjoy a truly authentic F1 experience with exclusive benefits. The Chinese Grand Prix takes place at the Shanghai International Circuit in Jiading, Shanghai. This renowned circuit is a spectacular venue with the finest facilities. Its layout was designed in an ascending design, based on the Chinese 'Shang' character, which translates to mean 'to ascend'. The first race to be held here was in 2004 and was won by Rubens Barichello driving a Ferrari. Michael Schumacher also participated in his final race at the Shanghai circuit in 2006.

The Shanghai International Circuit is a spectacular venue with the finest facilities on offer; it has been described as elegant and futuristic with world-class viewing opportunities, making for exciting viewing of the races. Shanghai itself offers so many incredible sights to see and explore. Take time to marvel at the skyscrapers such as the Jinmao Tower and Shanghai Global Financial Centre.

SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX



The Singapore Grand Prix takes place at the Marina Bay circuit each year. It presents itself as more of a national festival than simply a race, which offers something for everyone to enjoy. World-famous entertainment acts flock to perform for thousands of spectators. This exciting event is Formula One's original night race. It takes place on an exciting 5-kilometre street circuit that weaves artfully through this colourful and cosmopolitan city. The race is floodlit, and the bright lights of Singapore's financial centre illuminate the background and give the race an exciting atmosphere for all spectators.

When you're not attending the Grand Prix, there is plenty to do in this delightful modern city. Singapore is renowned for its incredible shopping, variety of entertainment and excellent restaurants. There is literally something for everyone to enjoy!



RUGBY - HONG KONG SEVENS

The Hong Kong Sevens is widely renowned as the premier Sevens rugby tournament, held annually in Hong Kong. This international tournament is one of the largest on the HSBC Sevens World Series and attracts fans from all over the world. The tournament, which takes place every year, usually in April, is a 3-day event with more than 40 matches. It's held at the renowned Hong Kong Stadium. Spectators can enjoy the matches, excitement and energy, perfectly set against a backdrop of skyscrapers, forests and mountains.

Spectators can also delight in the entertainment on offer at the event which includes live shows and concerts. You can also head to the South Strand where outrageous costumes are required for the festivities. When not at the matches, take time to discover Hong Kong's delicious cuisine, spectacular shopping and historic sites.

Thompsons Holidays 40^{YEARS}

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TOURISM & LEISURE



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TreadRight is a non-profit organisation dedicated to support communities to preserve their traditions for future generations.



WILDAID

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