

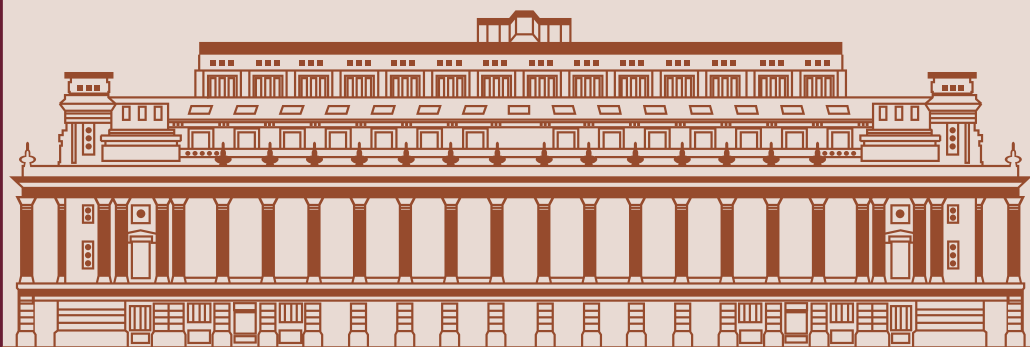
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— S I N G A P O R E —

THE  
FULLERTON  
HERITAGE

— TRAIL —

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## EXPERIENCE THE SINGAPORE STORY IN THE FULLERTON HERITAGE PRECINCT



Located in the heart of Singapore, The Fullerton Heritage is a historic precinct on the Marina Bay waterfront. Since the days of Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles who founded modern Singapore in 1819, The Fullerton Heritage precinct has stood as a witness to the transformative changes from Singapore's humble beginnings to the cosmopolitan city it is today.

Our landmark destination consists of seven historic and new icons  
– The Fullerton Hotel Singapore, The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore,  
The Fullerton Waterboat House, One Fullerton, The Fullerton Pavilion,  
Clifford Pier and Customs House.

Walk in the footsteps of our forefathers through our historic precinct today.

### A Brief History of Singapore

Once a sleepy island, Singapore awoke to the bustle of trade and commerce when it grew rapidly into a major port city after Raffles' arrival. Travellers arrived to seek a new life and business opportunities on the shores of Singapore, where The Fullerton Heritage precinct is located today. On 9 August 1965, Singapore declared its independence as a nation under the leadership of the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, our founding prime minister.



# THE HISTORIC DISTRICT OF SINGAPORE

At The Fullerton Heritage precinct, you are perfectly placed to immerse yourself in history, culture, art and commerce, all within a delightful walk. Discover the places of interest located around our precinct.



Ministry of Information and the Arts Collection,  
Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

## Singapore River and Raffles Landing Site

Stand at the Raffles Landing Site along the Singapore River, where Sir Stamford Raffles first stepped on the island in 1819. Imagine what he saw – an ideal riverbank deep enough to be a port for a trading outpost. This discovery sparked the birth of modern Singapore.

In the early days, ships had to sail past the river to reach the godowns and shophouses at Boat Quay.

Clarke Quay and Robertson Quay were developed later when trade increased dramatically. The humble river was the lifeline of Singapore until the 1970s when the shipping trade moved to Keppel Harbour. It was given a new lease of life after a massive clean-up in 1983.

Relive the old days and hop on a river taxi or enjoy a cool drink at one of the conserved shophouses along Boat Quay which now houses restaurants and bars.



CUSTOMS HOUSE

THE FULLERTON BAY HOTEL

THE CLIFFORD PIER

B



Courtesy of National Gallery Singapore

## National Gallery Singapore (City Hall and former Supreme Court buildings)

Experience rich history with exciting modernity at the City Hall and the former Supreme Court buildings – reborn as the National Gallery Singapore, a visual arts institution with a focus on Southeast Asian and Singapore art.

### City Hall

The City Hall building, built between 1926 and 1929, housed various government bodies before it became home to the Singapore judiciary in 1987. It is a venue marked by several momentous events, including the declaration of Singapore's self-governance in 1959 and independence in 1965, as well as the swearing-in of Singapore's prime ministers.

### The former Supreme Court

The last Neoclassical building to be built in Singapore in 1939, the former Supreme Court building lends a stately presence and is said to be inspired by the Old Bailey courthouse in London. Check out the symbols of law and order on its façade and visit the exquisite Rotunda in the middle of the building – its detailed workmanship and distinctive cornices are especially noteworthy.

C



Courtesy of Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall

## Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall

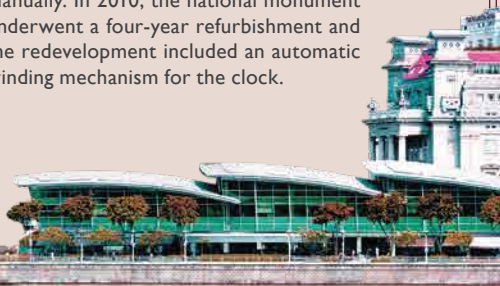
Did you know the grand old dames of Singapore's performing arts scene are a complex of two historic buildings connected by a clock tower and a common corridor?

The Victoria Theatre was first built as a Town Hall with a theatre in 1862, but soon became too small to serve its function. To commemorate Queen Victoria's death in 1901, a Memorial Hall was built in 1905, next to the Town Hall; the façades unified in the Palladian architectural style and a clock tower erected to join the two buildings together. Later, the Town Hall was renamed Victoria Theatre and the Memorial Hall renamed the Victoria Concert Hall. The Victoria Concert Hall is also the home of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra.

Interestingly, the clock in the tower required a clock winder to walk up 107 steps about once a week, spending up to an hour winding the clock manually. In 2010, the national monument underwent a four-year refurbishment and the redevelopment included an automatic winding mechanism for the clock.



THE FULLERTON PAVILION



ONE FULLERTON

D



Courtesy of The Arts House

### Old Parliament House (The Arts House)

The Old Parliament House is the oldest surviving government building in Singapore. Built originally as a residence in 1827, it later housed the judiciary and colonial government offices before being known as the Parliament House when Singapore gained independence. In 2003, it was converted to The Arts House, a multidisciplinary arts centre.

Visit the former Parliament Chamber which has been converted into a function room where intimate performances are held.

E



Courtesy of Asian Civilisations Museum

### Asian Civilisations Museum

History aficionados, don't miss the Asian Civilisations Museum with its original Neoclassical architecture. Known as one of the top Asian museums on Southeast Asian culture, the museum tells stories of Asian civilisations through its permanent collections where visitors can explore interactive spaces and participate in fun activities.

The grand building was opened in 1865 as a court house, and has been home to the Registry of Births & Deaths as well as the Singapore Mint. It became the Empress Place Museum in 1989 before emerging in its current incarnation in 2003.



THE FULLERTON HOTEL

THE FULLERTON  
WATERBOAT HOUSE

MERLION  
PARK



## THE FULLERTON HOTEL SINGAPORE

1



Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

### The Fullerton Building – “A Monument Worthy of the City”

Built in 1928, this was a government building named after the first governor of the Straits Settlements, Robert Fullerton. It was situated at the mouth of Singapore River at the site of the former Fort Fullerton (1825-1873), the first line of defence for Singapore.

The Fullerton Building once housed government departments, the Singapore Club and the Chamber of Commerce, but is most fondly remembered as Singapore's General Post Office. It was conserved and renovated into The Fullerton Hotel Singapore, which opened on 1 January 2001.

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Ministry of Information and the Arts Collection,  
Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

### DID YOU KNOW?

The Fullerton Heritage Gallery has an amazing collection of photographs, maps, stamps and philatelic materials dating back to 1932. Visit the Gallery at level 1.

2



Lee Kip Lin Collection, Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

### Architecture

The Fullerton Building is a magnificent palatial, Neoclassical structure. Commissioned as part of the British colony's centennial celebrations and designed by Major P.H. Keys in 1920, the building has five façades, each in the Doric order.

Head over to Fullerton Road to view the building's most prominent east façade, designed to face the harbour and make a strong impression on travellers arriving in Singapore in the early days.

### General Post Office (GPO)

In the days when there were no internet services and mobile phones, the GPO was essential for communication and trade. Many would recall walking through the lower levels of Fullerton Building where the GPO was located. The basement was used for parcel sorting, while the first floor had postal counters, telegraph rooms and letter sorting rooms.

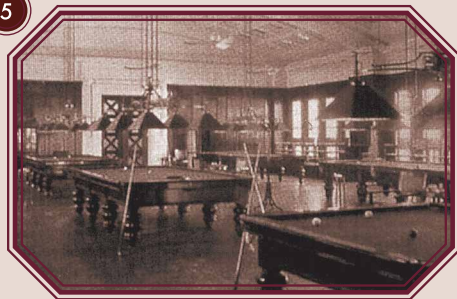


Post a letter through two of our functioning red pillar post boxes located at The Fullerton Hotel Singapore. The red pillar post boxes were first introduced in 1873 and serve as a legacy to the British colonial era.

The Fullerton Building  
it was such a  
prominent landmark.  
When people first arrived  
in Singapore, that was  
the first impression they  
had of the city.  
In a way, the  
Fullerton was a symbol  
of Singapore.

Former President of Singapore  
Mr. S. R. Nathan

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## Singapore Club

From 1928 to 1961, one-third of the building was occupied by the Singapore Club. Established in 1862, this exclusive European club admitted mainly the male high-level government officials and wealthy merchants. Its presence in Fullerton Building was questioned as the building was built on public funds, yet members of the lavish club represented a small portion of the society. The Club, later known as the Town Club, left the Fullerton Building in 1961. Today, it is known as the Singapore Town Club.

### DID YOU KNOW?

*You don't have to be a club member to enjoy the privileges! Approach our Concierge to visit The Straits Room (level 4), which used to house the club's billiard room, and view its unique coffered ceiling – Singapore's only barrel-vaulted example, designed by Italian sculptor Cavaliere Rudolfo Nolli (1888-1963).*

*Or visit the Town Restaurant, named after the Club, and sample Singaporean delicacies such as Fullerton's Hainanese Chicken Rice and Singapore Satay.*

## Mile Zero: All Roads in Singapore Led to the GPO

The Fullerton Building was once the Mile Zero of Singapore. All roads in Singapore used to stem from this point, a system that can trace its roots to the Roman Empire.

Before the road system of modern-day Singapore was introduced, people meant it quite literally when they said they had reached a milestone. They used to find their way across the islands with some help of large stone markers found on roads. Standing erect a mile, or about 1.6km apart, the milestones were labelled with numbers and led people to both rural and modern parts of the island.

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## A Government Building

Besides the General Post Office, Fullerton Building once housed different government departments. They included the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development Board, Inland Revenue Department, Imports and Exports Department and the Marine Office. Illustrious personalities who used to work in the historic building include former President S.R. Nathan who worked in the Marine Office in the 1950s and former Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, who began his career at the Ministry of Finance in the 1960s.

### DID YOU KNOW?

As a tribute to government offices located in the Fullerton Building, some of the meeting rooms at the basement of The Fullerton Hotel Singapore are named after them:

- Inland Revenue Room – Inland Revenue Authority
- TDB Room – Trade Development Board
- GPO Room – General Post Office
- EDB Room – Economic Development Board

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Ministry of Information and the Arts Collection,  
Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

## The Fullerton Lighthouse

Situated atop the Fullerton Building was the Fullerton Lighthouse, built in 1958 to replace the 103-year-old Fort Canning Lighthouse. Its beacon guided the world's mariners to the safety of the Singapore port until it ceased operation in 1979, when it was overshadowed by skyscrapers.

Today, it has been transformed into an event space which offers panoramic views of the Singapore skyline. The beacon which was removed during the building's conservation project is now exhibited at Harbourfront Towers.

### DID YOU KNOW?

After it was decommissioned, the premise around the Lighthouse housed the government canteen, named "Spartan". Former Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong often went there for lunch when working at the Ministry of Finance.

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Ministry of Information and the Arts Collection,  
Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

## Founding Prime Minister at the Fullerton Square

In the 1960s to 1980s, many of the rallies by Singapore's People's Action Party (PAP) often took place at the Fullerton Square during lunchtime to attract the office crowd. The late founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew gave speeches to hundreds of "White on White" supporters at a podium, through rain or shine.

### DID YOU KNOW?

"White on White" refers to the attire of PAP supporters: white shirts and white trousers. It symbolises PAP's ideals of clean governance: a white uniform, once smudged, is difficult to make clean again.

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## The Foundation Stone

Laid by Singapore's first President Yusof Bin Ishak in 1970, the Foundation Stone was originally named "The Foundation Stone of the Monument of the Early Founders of Singapore". It was erected as a keynote memorial by the Alumni International Singapore to celebrate the achievement of our forefathers. Later, plans to build the memorial were scrapped and the Foundation Stone itself became the memorial.



Today, you can locate the memorial outside Town Restaurant at The Fullerton Hotel Singapore.

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## East Garden Gallery

Embark on an artistic journey or bring home a piece of art with you at the East Garden Gallery (level 1), a dedicated stage for rotating exhibitions by talented international and local artists on selected months of the year.



## THE FULLERTON WATERBOAT HOUSE

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Wong Kwan Collection, Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

### The Fullerton Waterboat House

Designed in 1940s by Swan & Maclaren for Hammer & Company, the building features a unique Art Deco style with an elegant façade and curved balconies. Once tasked to supply water to ships anchored offshore, the building was gazetted for conservation in 2002 and awarded the Architectural Heritage Award in 2005 for the restoration works, which included the recovery of its original grey Shanghai plaster finish and an addition of a new glass annex.

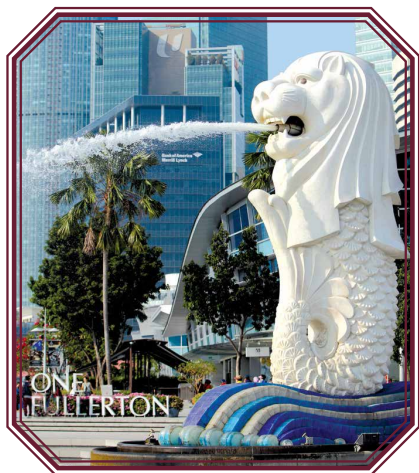
Today, it has evolved into a classy dining venue and faces the Fullerton Hairpin (Turn 13) of the Singapore Formula One Grand Prix Race Circuit.

## ONE FULLERTON

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### One Fullerton

A graceful waterfront development blessed with stunning vistas of Marina Bay developments, the all-day dining and lifestyle destination is directly adjacent to the well-recognised historic Merlion Park, home to the Merlion.



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### The Merlion

A national icon, the Merlion's lion head refers to an ancient myth where a Palembang prince reportedly encountered a lion when he first stepped on the shores of Temasek, renaming this island Singapura ("Lion City" in Sanskrit); its body of a fish refers to Singapore being a port city. This 8.6-metre-tall statue was sculpted by Lim Nang Seng and unveiled by Singapore's founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in 1972.

Try our signature Merlion Cocktail available at The Fullerton Hotel Singapore and The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore or try making your own!



#### Ingredients

45ml Tequila  
25ml Lime Juice  
25ml Sugar Cane Syrup  
10ml Pomegranate Syrup  
10ml Ginger Juice  
20ml Egg White

## CLIFFORD PIER

14



Courtesy of Urban Redevelopment Authority

### Clifford Pier

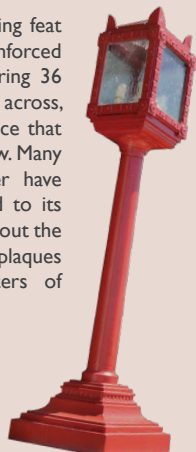
Opened on 3 June 1933, Clifford Pier was once the major landing point for immigrants and sea passengers arriving in Singapore. Although named after Sir Hugh Clifford, Governor of the Straits Settlements (1927-1929), it is more commonly known as the Red Lantern Pier, because red oil lamps were hung at the pier to guide seafarers ashore. Clifford Pier closed in 2006 and has been restored as The Clifford Pier, a sophisticated event venue at The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore.

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### Architecture and Conservation

Clifford Pier was an engineering feat of its time with its 10 reinforced concrete arch trusses measuring 36 feet high and spanning 60 feet across, resulting in a column-free space that facilitated passenger traffic flow. Many elements within Clifford Pier have been conserved and restored to its former glory. Find out more about the restoration works from the plaques located within the perimeters of Clifford Pier.



## THE FULLERTON PAVILION

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### The Fullerton Pavilion

The Fullerton Pavilion is a first-of-its-kind floating glass dome structure set on Marina Bay, a design masterpiece complete with a public rooftop observation deck. It was built beside the old Finger Pier – the extension dock of the old Clifford Pier.

## THE FULLERTON BAY HOTEL SINGAPORE

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### The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore

Built entirely on water, The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore makes a striking impression with its breathtaking architecture, award-winning service and glamorous interiors by Asian designers. The form of the building is shaped in response to the flanking Clifford Pier and Customs House buildings. Experience the transition from past to present as you enter the lobby within the historic Clifford Pier, before proceeding through a contemporary linkway with splendid views to the bay, and finally arriving at the voluminous reception atrium in the newly constructed jewel-shaped hotel building.

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### The Landing Point

The Landing Point is one of the dining venues at The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore, named after Clifford Pier which was the main landing point in Singapore for visitors and immigrants from 1933 to 2006. Before air travel became popular, most travellers and immigrants arrived at Singapore via Clifford Pier. During the pier's later years of operation, it was used by locals to travel to off-shore islands like Kusu Island for vacations and pilgrimages via bumboats.

## CUSTOMS HOUSE

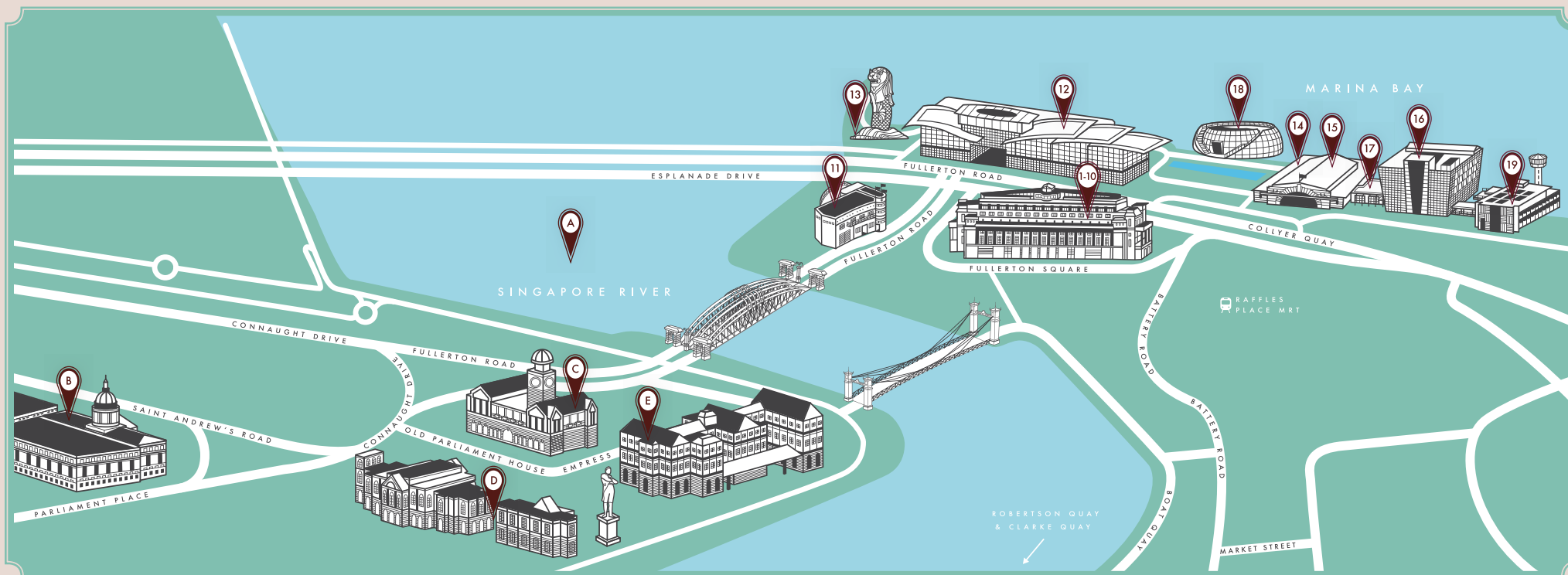
19



Courtesy of Urban Redevelopment Authority

### Customs House

Integral to the safety of Singapore's harbour, Customs House (formerly known as Customs Harbour Branch Building) was home to the harbour division of the Singapore Customs Police. It was here where customs officers kept a round-the-clock vigil from the 23 metre-high control tower, watching out for illegal and smuggling activities. Raids on the high seas, seizures of illegal goods and encounters with pirates were all part of the colourful stories that once took place on the waters. It ceased operation in 2016 and was restored to become part of The Fullerton Heritage precinct, featuring unique dining concepts.



- |   |                                    |  |   |
|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>A</b> Singapore River                          | <b>1</b> The Fullerton Building    | <b>8</b> Founding Prime Minister at The Fullerton Square | <b>15</b> Architecture and Conservation |
| <b>B</b> National Gallery Singapore               | <b>2</b> Architecture              | <b>9</b> The Foundation Stone                            | <b>16</b> The Fullerton Bay Hotel       |
| <b>C</b> Victoria Theatre & Victoria Concert Hall | <b>3</b> General Post Office (GPO) | <b>10</b> East Garden Gallery                            | <b>17</b> The Landing Point             |
| <b>D</b> Old Parliament House (The Arts House)    | <b>4</b> A Government Building     | <b>11</b> The Fullerton Waterboat House                  | <b>18</b> The Fullerton Pavilion        |
| <b>E</b> Asian Civilisations Museum               | <b>5</b> Singapore Club            | <b>12</b> One Fullerton                                  | <b>19</b> Customs House                 |
|   | <b>6</b> Mile Zero                 | <b>13</b> The Merlion                                    |   |
|   | <b>7</b> The Fullerton Lighthouse  | <b>14</b> Clifford Pier                                  |   |



# THE FULLERTON HERITAGE

SINGAPORE



## COMPLIMENTARY HERITAGE GUIDED TOURS

To present the heritage significance of our precinct, The Fullerton Heritage conducts guided heritage tours weekly. To join the tour, approach our Concierge at The Fullerton Hotel Singapore or The Fullerton Bay Hotel Singapore, or register on our website.

### The Fullerton Hotel's Concierge

(65) 6877 8078

[tfs.concierge@fullertonhotels.com](mailto:tfs.concierge@fullertonhotels.com)

### The Fullerton Bay Hotel's Concierge

(65) 6597 5312

[fbh.concierge@fullertonhotels.com](mailto:fbh.concierge@fullertonhotels.com)



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