



Heritage-listed **Singapore Botanic Gardens**. With a rich history, it is home to an array of botanical attractions and a plant collection highly regarded around the world. We'll be guided by Director Dr Nigel Taylor who will explain the story of Singapore's **National Orchid Garden**. Since 1928 the garden has been hybridising orchids, which has led to a significant national industry. We will look at the growing process of one of the world's great collections. This afternoon we'll visit **Kampong Glam**, a bustling multi-ethnic precinct mixing traditional and contemporary businesses. Our Peranakan-style farewell dinner is at the **National Kitchen by Violet Oon** at the National Gallery. (B, D)

Day 7 Sat 23 March Depart Singapore
Tour arrangements finish after breakfast. Make your own way to airport for your departure. (B)

Tour Prices (Per person, land only)

Twin share: \$3,350

Single room: \$4,385

Tour price includes 6 nights accommodation in 5-star hotel; 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners & 1 high tea at Raffles Hotel; air-conditioned coach throughout the tour; entrance fees to all gardens and sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary.

Not included: International flights; travel insurance; personal expenses and anything not mentioned above.

Fitness Level - Moderate

About Your Tour

Join Kim Woods Rabbidge in cosmopolitan Singapore to celebrate the tropics. A place where heritage, plus new, internationally acclaimed gardens are revered. Few countries in the 21st Century have put so many resources into gardens, generating opportunities and prosperity for residents, and horticultural extravaganzas for visitors from near and far. This 'City in a Garden' showcases the most innovative contemporary practices in the futuristic Gardens by the Bay. Giant tree-like towers generate solar power used for garden maintenance and for the spectacular evening light show. Marvel at vast displays of exquisite orchids; and be amused by our Bollywood Veggies eccentric hostess while dining in her Poison Ivy Bistro – a favourite weekend destination for locals. Foodies and collectors will love the buzz of markets. Take a reflective moment at historic sites important to Australia. Retreat to your 5★ Hotel at day's end.

Tour Leader



Kim Woods Rabbidge, behind the popular 'Our Australian Gardens' Instagram and blog ouraustraliangardens.com, is an award winning garden writer and photographer, and researcher and scriptwriter for OAG's DVDs.

Her articles and photographs appear in several garden books, and national publications including Gardening Australia, House & Garden, and RM Williams Outback magazine. From 2005-2009 Kim was Qld Coordinator and National Newsletter editor for Open Gardens Australia. Kim is the President of the Horticultural Media Association Queensland.

For more detail contact **Opulent Journeys**

Phone: 1300 219 885

Email: enquiries@opulentjourneys.com.au

www.opulentjourneys.com.au

Last edited on 6th Sep 18



Journeys that Take You to Far Horizons



Singapore Gardens Tour

With Australian Association of
Friends of Botanic Gardens

17– 23 March 2019



Journeys that Take You to Far Horizons



Singapore Gardens Tour 17 – 23 March 2019

Day 1 Sun 17 March Arrive in Singapore
Our tour commences from the hotel. A brief orientation once you've settled into your hotel. Welcome dinner tonight. (D)

Day 2 Mon 18 March Fort Canning & Little India
We'll enjoy an early morning visit to **Fort Canning Park**, an iconic hilltop landmark that has witnessed many of Singapore's historical milestones. This historic place was once home to Malay royalty and it's where the British decided to surrender to the invading Japanese during WW II. Afterwards we'll explore **Serangoon Road**, **Little India's** central strip that boasts a plethora of jewellery shops, traditional Indian tailors, everything-must-go fashion outlets, fresh fruit and veg stalls, Chinese liquor stores, beauty salons, and of course, row upon row of delicious curry houses. (B)



Day 3 Tue 19 March Bollywood Veggies & Singapore Zoo
We visit the beautifully designed **Kranji War Memorial** that honours the men and women who died in the line of duty during World War II. Maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the gardens are in keeping with the guidelines set out by Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll. Next, we head further into the countryside, for a tour and lunch at **Bollywood Veggies** and step back to Singapore's lush history. After lunch visit **Singapore Zoo** an award-winning wildlife park to see animals roaming freely in natural habitats. Set in 26-hectares, it is home to over 300 species of mammals, birds and reptiles, and has been providing exciting wildlife experiences to visitors for over 40 years. (B, L)

Day 4 Wed 20 March HortPark & Khoo Teck Puat Hospital
We visit **HortPark**, a 9-hectare site used as a valuable education facility for Singapore gardeners. It has a range of specialised gardens, sales facilities, and educational tours. Facilities like this reflect Singapore's priority on horticulture. Our next stop is **Khoo Teck Puat Hospital Rooftop Garden**. KTPH was designed for patient's wellbeing using biophilic principles. Greenery covers four times the footprint of the hospital buildings. Since opening eight years ago the community-at-large has been engaged, and nearby residents also enjoy the hospital's public spaces which is encouraged by KTPH. Programs such as line dancing, tai chi and Zumba

are regular occurrences, and volunteers (mostly retirees) tend the rooftop gardens alongside staff. Some produce finds its way to the hospital kitchens, and the rest is sold to help with costs. This evening soak in the beautiful experience of music and patterns of dancing light in **Garden Rhapsody** at Gardens by the Bay. Watch the iconic, towering Supertrees transform as the visual sensory extravaganza brings a touch of magic. (B)

Day 5 Thu 21 March Gardens by the Bay
Today's destination, **Gardens by the Bay**, offers breathtaking waterfront views. The multi-award winning horticultural destination spans 101 hectares of reclaimed land. This extraordinary project, opened 4 years ago, is a complex of outdoor gardens and glasshouses on a massive scale. Advised by the Eden Project in the UK, it covers both tropical and temperate to cool climate specialist gardens. Before heading back to the hotel, we will walk through **Marina One**, 'an international role model for living and working' by Ingenhoven Architects, landscape architect Kathryn Gustafson and her team. The high-density building complex with its mix of uses extends to over 400,000 square meters and, with its group of four high-rise buildings, defines the "Green Heart" - a public space extending over several stories. A treat this afternoon when we take **High Tea at Raffles Hotel**. The Raffles Hotel in Singapore has been serving high tea for more than one hundred years. We'll see their recent extensive refurbishment. (B, High Tea)

Day 6 Fri 22 March Singapore Botanic Gardens
After breakfast we visit the beautiful UNESCO World

