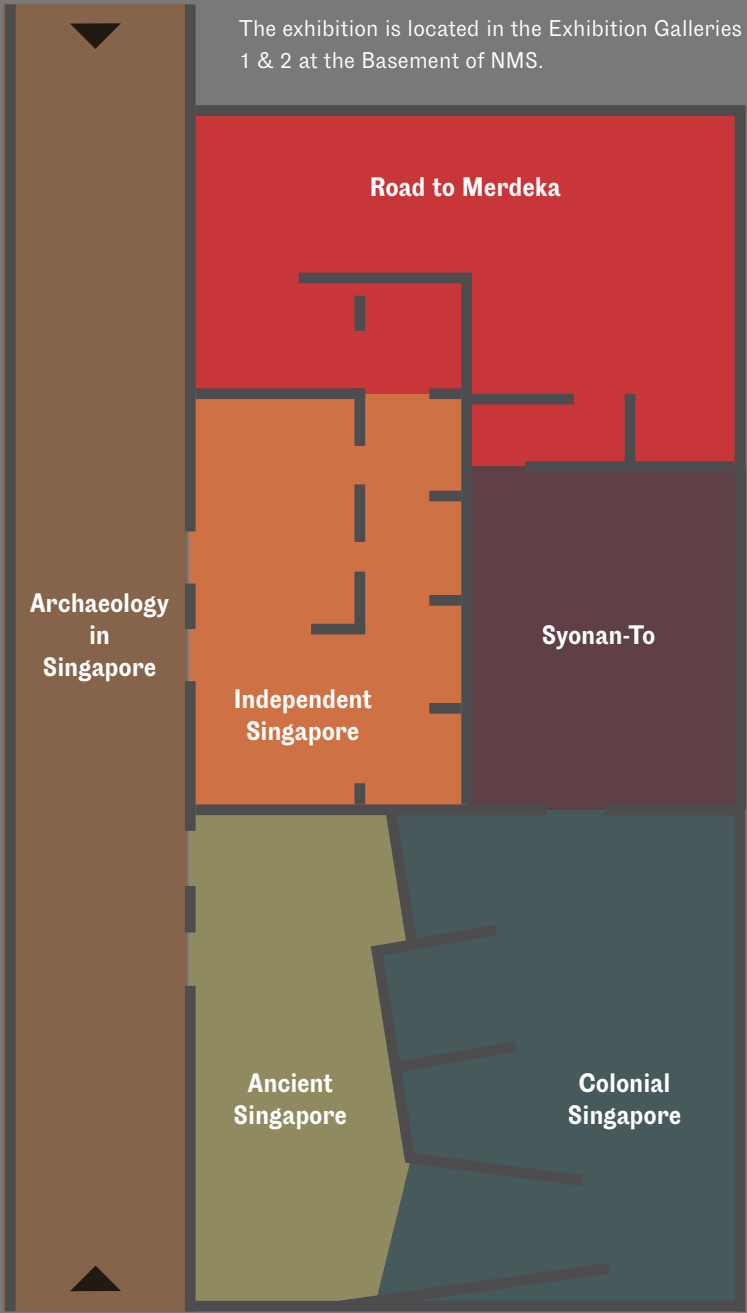


Gallery Guide

The exhibition is located in the Exhibition Galleries 1 & 2 at the Basement of NMS.



Before we begin the journey...

The National Museum of Singapore is proud to present *SINGAPURA: 700 Years*, an exhibition that takes you on a journey through 700 years of Singapore's history beginning from the 14th century. Even as we celebrate the accomplishments of the rapid development and remarkable growth of our young nation, it is also important to reflect on the journey that we have taken.

This immersive exhibition draws on contextual references and elaborate displays to transport the visitor through a riveting exploration of Singapore's history. You will find yourself placed right in the midst of the defining moments in Singapore's history.



Experience Singapore's transformation through the ages as it went from a humble fishing village to the pride of an empire, before finally achieving the status of being an independent nation-state as it is today.

The exhibition consists of six sections, Archaeology in Singapore, Ancient Singapore (1300–1818), Colonial Singapore (1819–1942), Syonan-To (1942–1945), Road to Merdeka (1946–1965) and Independent Singapore (1965–1975).

Cover image: Scene of crowded Singapore River and Fort Canning, circa late 19th and early 20th century. Gift of Ms Ng Chee Sun.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Exhibition Venue
Exhibition Galleries 1 & 2, Basement
National Museum of Singapore
93 Stamford Road, Singapore 178897

Opening Hours
Daily from 10am to 6pm

Admission
Free admission for Citizens, Permanent Residents and visitors aged 6 years and below.

Adult \$6
Student & Senior aged 60 years & above with valid ID \$3

Tickets are available from the NMS Visitor Services Counter and SISTIC. Please present proof of eligibility to enjoy concessions or free admission.

Getting to NMS

By train
Bras Basah or Dhoby Ghaut MRT Station (5-min walk), City Hall MRT station (10-min walk)

By bus
SBS: 7, 14, 14e, 16, 36, 64, 65, 111, 124, 128, 131, 139, 162, 162M, 166, 174, 174e, 175

SMRT: 77, 106, 167, 171, 190, 700, 700A, 857, NR6, NR7

By car
Carparks available at NMS, YMCA, Park Mall, Singapore Management University & Fort Canning Park.

Wheelchair Access and Lockers
Lifts provide easy access to galleries. Lockers are available for visitors' use. Please enquire at the Visitor Services Counter.

NMS Online
www.nationalmuseum.sg
 [www.facebook/National.Museum.of.Singapore](https://www.facebook.com/National.Museum.of.Singapore)
 twitter.com/natlmuseum_sg

Enquiries
6332 3659 or 6332 5642

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28 October 2014 to 10 August 2015
National Museum of Singapore

ARCHAEOLOGY IN SINGAPORE

Unbeknownst to many, archaeologists have been quietly excavating in Singapore for the past three decades. Since 1984, some 19 sites were excavated, and many other surveyed. Archaeology has added another layer to our understanding of Singapore's ancient, colonial and more recent past.

This section showcases a part of the large collection of archaeological artefacts that have been unearthed over the years. Some of these artefacts date to as early as the 10th century AD. This section brings you through an understanding of what is archaeology, and showcases some of the significant archaeological sites and artefacts in Singapore.

ANCIENT SINGAPORE

Ancient Singapore was known variously as *Temasek* and *Singapura*, among other names. Learn about the legendary five Malay kings who ruled over a prosperous trading settlement until the Javanese invaded the island and laid it to waste. Can you solve the mysteries of Parameswara and Iskandar Shah, and the legendary lion that gave the island its name?

COLONIAL SINGAPORE



View of the East India Company garrison soldiers marching down Government Hill, 1830s

The arrival of the British in 1819 was central to the rise of Singapore as a regional trading hub. After setting up a factory on the island, they then secured rights to the island from the Malay rulers and developed Singapore into a thriving port and premier city in the region which attracted migrants from all over the world. Explore this section to see how the different communities lived and worked side by side.

ROAD TO MERDEKA

Postwar Singapore was a time of rebuilding and revolution. The war left Singapore in shambles; there were problems of unemployment, poverty and poor living conditions. At the same time the spirit of nationalism had emerged. Walk through a student demonstration and listen to former students share about their involvement. Be assaulted by election fever, learn about the political parties and their ideologies, and participate in the referendum that shaped Singapore's collective national consciousness.

SYONAN-TO



Japanese Occupation propaganda postcard, 1940s

On 15 February 1942, Singapore came under a new master: Japan. The city was renamed *Syonan-To* (the light of the south). Experience the lives of the people at the time: the fear of mass screening exercises, the lack of food and supplies and learning how to be Japanese in school. Walk into a Changi prison cell and see how Prisoners of Wars survived those years.

INDEPENDENT SINGAPORE



Coloured postcard showing Toa Payoh estate, 1960s

Singapore's first ten years of nation building was a time of hard work and achievement. Explore how the foundations of our nation were built: in defence, foreign policy, economy, education and housing. Visit our 1970s-inspired HDB living room, read magazines and watch newsreels from the time. Have fun at the void deck and relive moments of your childhood at the playground.