

LIVE LIKE  
A LOCAL



village

RESIDENCE  
HOUGANG

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of city life and discover this peaceful Singapore heartland. Situated away from the city centre, Village Residence Hougang is surrounded by a myriad of amenities and activities to enrich your stay. This handy guide will have you living like a local, while exploring the quaint streets of Hougang.

# EXPLORE

## Hougang

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Information is accurate as at time of compilation

## EAT

Discover Hougang's assembly of local culinary delicacies, as humble shopfronts mask the extraordinary variety of appetising dishes available. Don't take our word for it, let your taste buds decide!



Photo credit: <https://www.sodcafe.com.sg/>

**SOD Café** 🚶 5-min walk  
51 Hougang Ave 9, #01-03 Ci Yuan Community Centre,  
Singapore 538776

This café prides itself on serving beverages made from the best ingredients, to invigorate the health of every customer. Try one of their signature revitalising teas to be elevated to the next level of healthy living, *double confirm!*

### MUST TRY

Signature Milk Tea

### LOCAL SLANG

*Double confirm (used to emphasise confirmation)*

🚗 8-min drive 🚶 18-min walk

## Sin Heng Kee Porridge

685 Hougang St. 61, #01-150, Singapore 530685

Being around for over a decade, Sin Heng Kee Porridge offers an extensive menu with generous ingredients that are cooked fresh daily. Treat yourself to a *sedap* and comforting bowl of porridge packed with umami flavour!

### MUST TRY

Signature Porridge and  
Meat Ball Porridge

### LOCAL SLANG

*Sedap (delicious  
in Malay)*

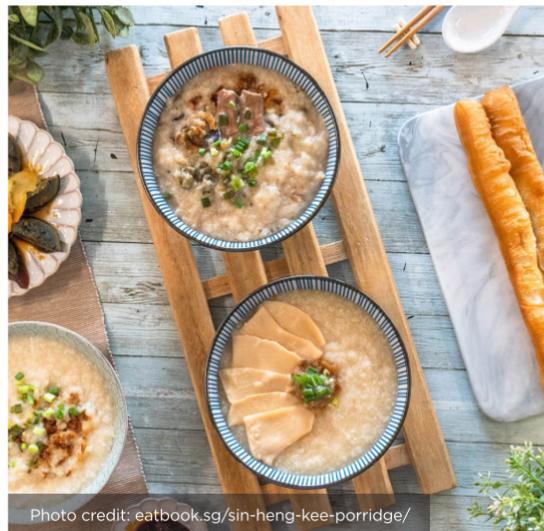


Photo credit: [eatbook.sg/sin-heng-kee-porridge/](https://eatbook.sg/sin-heng-kee-porridge/)

🚗 11-min drive

### Serangoon Gardens Bakery & Confectionery

49A Serangoon Garden Way,  
#01-45/46 Serangoon Garden  
Market, Singapore 555945

From coconut shavings and grounded peanuts to their popular luncheon meat buns, the unique stuffing of the freshly-made buns sold at this bakery won't go *salah!*

#### MUST TRY

Luncheon Meat Bun

#### LOCAL SLANG

*Salah* (wrong, incorrect)



Photo credit: <https://www.tripzilla.com/>



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Photo credit: [www.nea.gov.sg](http://www.nea.gov.sg)

**Chomp Chomp Food Centre** 🚗 11-min drive  
20 Kensington Park Rd, Singapore 557269

Dine among locals at one of Singapore's famous gastronomical gems. Give these popular stalls a try: Ah Hock Fried Hokkien Noodles, Chomp Chomp Satay and Ang Mo Kio 409 Fried Carrot Cake. Bring a friend along to *chope* seats!

#### MUST TRY

Satay (meat skewer)

#### LOCAL SLANG

*Chope* (reserve)

Escape the scorching sun with a scoop of ice cream or warm up with a hot latte on a rainy day. Drop by the many local coffee houses and check out some of the off-the-beaten track cafes to quench your thirst.

**Lickers** 🚗 14-min drive  
124 Hougang Ave 1, #01-1446, Singapore 530124

Feel right at home in just about the cosiest ice cream parlour in Hougang. Ice cream lovers will be delighted by their unique selection of craft ice cream flavours, available till 2am. Visits here are guaranteed *shio*k!

#### MUST TRY

Milo Mallow and  
Mao Shan Wang

#### LOCAL SLANG

*Shio*k (expression of  
sheer delight)



Photo credit: <https://lickers.com.sg/>

## PLAY

Warm up and stretch before entering Hougang's playground! From cycling to indulging in retail therapy, there are activities for everyone to unwind.



Photo credit: <https://expat.guide/singapore-list-of-malls/>

**Hougang 1 Shopping Mall** 🚶 1-min walk  
1 Hougang Street 91, Singapore 538692

Enjoy a vibrant mix of dining, shopping, and entertainment at Hougang 1, with everything you need just right at your doorstep! Bring the family for some fun and games at Cow Play Cow Moo arcade, and don't forget to grab your daily essentials at the supermarket — super convenient *lah!*

### MUST TRY

Arcade games at Cow Play Cow Moo

### LOCAL SLANG

*Lah* (used to add emphasis or indicate a casual tone)

**Hougang Mall** 🚗 10-min drive  
90 Hougang Ave 10, Singapore 538766

Discover the charm of this nifty neighbourhood mall, where you'll be spoilt for choice with a selection of food options and retail shops. Got time to *lepak*? Drop by Cheng San Public Library to gain some knowledge and relax!



Photo credit: [www.ehc-global.com](http://www.ehc-global.com)

### MUST TRY

Pay a visit to Cheng San Public Library for a read

### LOCAL SLANG

*Lepak* (relax, hang out or chill out by doing nothing)

PLAY  
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Photo credit: [www.nparks.gov.sg](http://www.nparks.gov.sg)

### Punggol Waterway Park 🚗 13-min drive

Sentul Cres, Singapore 821313

Enjoy a fun-filled day of leisure activities at this recreational park, built around a section of Punggol Waterway. With well-maintained running and cycling tracks along the promenade, plus a water playground for the little ones to splash and play until *song*, it's a great spot for everyone to unwind!

#### MUST SEE

Photogenic views of the waterways or flora and fauna

#### LOCAL SLANG

*Song* (to express pleasure or excitement)

🚗 15-min drive

### Forte Bowl @ JForte Sportainment Centre

50 Hougang Ave 1, Singapore 538885

With a fusion of light, sound and sport, Forte Bowl integrates training facilities with exciting entertainment for a novel experience. Featuring 20 Brunswick Bowling Lanes with ultraviolet light effects and the latest automatic scoring system, *jio* your family and friends and let the good times bowl!

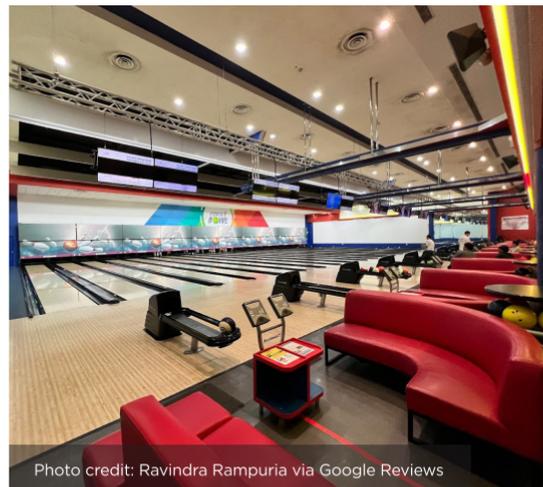


Photo credit: Ravindra Rampuria via Google Reviews

#### MUST TRY

Cosmic bowling

#### LOCAL SLANG

*Jio* (invite)

PLAY  
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🚗 14-min drive

### KidzPlay @ Sky Garden at NEX

1 Hougang Street 91,  
Singapore 538692

Perched on the rooftop of NEX, KidzPlay is a refreshing escape for families with children to cool off and have fun! With both wet and dry zones, plus a pirate-themed water play area, it's *confirm plus chop* a dream come true for little adventurers. Don't forget to bring an extra set of clothes for the kiddos!

#### MUST TRY

Pretend to be a pirate and set sail on the ship

#### LOCAL SLANG

*Confirm plus chop*  
(extremely certain of something)



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## EXPLORE

Take the road less travelled and discover more about Singapore's heritage and biodiversity, through the fascinating places and activities in Hougang that will help you get in touch with your senses.



Photo credit: <https://explorersg.com/>

**Kampong Lorong Buangkok** 🚗 5-min drive  
7 Lorong Buangkok, Singapore 547557

Discover Singapore's last remaining *kampong*, Kampong Lorong Buangkok, for a nostalgic experience! This charming village offers a rare glimpse into 1950s and 60s life, preserving its rustic charm and traditional atmosphere. Though some houses have been repainted and restored, the kampong remains a unique sight amid Singapore's modern cityscape.

### MUST SEE

Kampong houses

### LOCAL SLANG

*Kampong* (a hamlet or village in Malay)

**Singapore Airforce Museum** 🚗 16-min drive  
400 Airport Rd, Singapore 534234

Let your imagination soar at the Singapore Air Force Museum! Get up close with fighter planes



Photo credit: <https://defencecollectivesg.com>

and helicopters, and learn about Singapore's *zai* pilots through fascinating exhibits indoors and outdoors.

### MUST SEE

Life-sized fighter jets at the outdoor gallery

### LOCAL SLANG

*Zai* (to be very good at something)

**Coney Island Park** 🚗 17-min drive  
Punggol Promenade Nature Walk, Singapore 829325

Gather your *kakis* and escape the city bustle at this 50-hectare nature park. Stroll through lush forests and mangrove habitats, and see how many of the 80 bird species you can spot!



Photo credits: [www.nparks.gov.sg](http://www.nparks.gov.sg)

### MUST SEE

Migratory birds, Cassuarina Exploratory

### LOCAL SLANG

*Kakis* (friends)

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# The Village Guide to SINGLISH

Singlish is a language unique to Singapore, which blends elements of English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil. It is a central expression of the cultural and historical background of Singapore.

Try incorporating some of these Singlish words into your conversations to speak like a local!

## Alamak

Exclamation to express when one makes a mistake  
Eg. *Alamak, I forgot my passport!*

## Shiok

Tastes or feels good  
Eg. *This burger / massage is so shiok!*

## Lah

Used at the end of sentences to indicate tone of anger or agreement  
Eg. *Yes lah... / Yes lah!*

## Leh

Used at the end of sentences to sound more placating in a disagreement or to persuade  
Eg. *No leh... / Yes leh, he did leh. / Go leh.*

## Wah

Exclamation to express shock or disappointment  
Eg. *Wah lao! / Wah lao... How could he do that?*

## Order drinks like a Local

Singapore has a well-established *kopitiam* (coffee shop) culture that many locals hold close to their hearts.

Kopi in Singapore is made from Robusta beans, which have on average 83% more caffeine than standard arabica coffee! The beans are roasted in a wok with butter or margarine with sugar, enhancing the coffee's flavour.

You may notice quirky practices, particularly during order takings for beverages. Here is a guide to acquaint you with some of the unique terms Singaporeans use when ordering their preferred drink!



## Directions to Village Residence Hougang

### Train

**NE14** Hougang (10-min ride via bus 329)

### Bus

Bus stop B64081: 325, 329  
Bus stop B64089: 329

### Car/Taxi

25 mins from the city centre  
30 mins from Changi Airport

### Taxi hotline

Comfort Taxi +65 6552 1111  
SMRT Taxi +65 6555 8888  
Limousine Cab +65 6535 3534

### Ride-Hailing Applications

 CDG Zig  
 Gojek  
 Grab

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police	999
Fire & Ambulance	995
Non-Emergency Ambulance	1777
Village Residence Hougang	+65 6019 0400

