

We are finally 30,000km across the world, to our final destination in...

# **SINGAPORE**



Due to the vast amount of registrations we have had for all our Purple Wave events, and through the outstanding training distances tracked through Strava, we have now reached our final destination on our 30,000km journey across the world – Singapore!

Singapore, an island city state in South East-Asia lying one degree north of the equator, is the furthest place from the UK that can be reached via rail and road. As well as being a global hub for finance and innovation, Singapore is also home to three of the University of Manchester's partner Universities: Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Management University and the famous National University of Singapore. The University of Manchester also links greatly with Manchester's International Centre in Singapore. How does the University of Manchester link with Singapore?

International Students: Facts and Figures

The University of Manchester has a long history of working in Singapore and has been welcoming Singaporean students for many years. In the 2016–17 academic year there were 297 students from Singapore studying at the University.

The University of Manchester's graduates can be found in influential positions all over the world. We are currently in contact with over 1,600 graduates from Singapore where our alumni includes <u>Teo Chee Hean</u>, Deputy Prime Minister in Singapore; he graduated from UMIST in 1976 with a BSc (Hons) in Electrical Engineering and Management Science.

Manchester has a very active Singapore Students' Society, which can be contacted via the <u>UMSU website</u>. The society holds events through the year for its members, including a freshers' party, Chinese New Year reunion dinner and Annual Dinner and Dance. SSSM also organises an informal orientation event in Singapore during the summer, as well as assisting with the University's pre-departure briefing session before the start of the new academic year.

## National University of Singapore: Case study of Mia Gair

"In January 2018 I flew out to Singapore to spend my second semester there studying at the National University. It was honestly one of the best experiences of my life; the weather, the diverse range of cultures, studying with people from around the world. The University itself was a huge campus on the West of the country. It had everything you could ever want on a uni campus; four gyms, four pools, salons, shops, sports pitches, dedicated music rooms; all available for us students to use whenever we wanted - so there wasn't much time to get bored!



"I study Politics and International Relations, so was able to take different politics modules while I was out there. The teaching was quite different, much more controlled by the individual lecturers rather than the school or department, but it meant that you were learning from their own research experience, so it was quite American-styled like that. I was able to attend talks and lectures from world experts, such as Ambassadors, Business leaders and more. They were really keen on students being able to expand their horizons and go beyond just their lectures in terms of their learning.



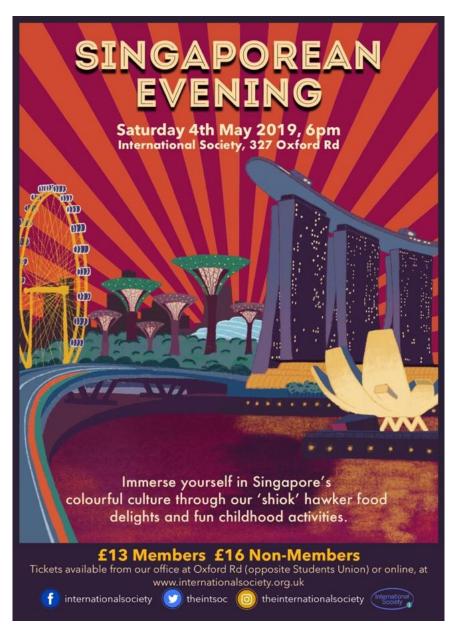
"A big pull for me to Singapore was that the culture was a bit different to what I was used to in the UK. It is a real melting pot of a country, and the university even more so. All of my lecturers were from a different country, there were countless languages spoken around campus, and you could "easily mistake the campus environment for any other major city around the world. I loved being able to be immersed in so many different cultures at once; from celebrating Chinese New Year to learning how to make curry with friends from Kerala - it was a great change from grey and rainy Manchester!

"Another great thing that I found about Singapore was how central it was in South East Asia making travelling around the region really easy. I was able to hop on a plane to go to Malaysia, Thailand or Bali for a long weekend so easily. I honestly wish I could go back and study there again!"

## To visit the National University of Singapore website, see <u>here</u>.

To see other Case studies and stories of those studying in Singapore, see our website <u>Manchester on the Road</u>.

## International Society: Singapore Evening



The University of Manchester International Society also run events across the year. On the 4<sup>th</sup> May they will be running a Singapore evening to share the culture, activities and food of the area to our students and staff.

#### Buy your tickets <u>here</u>.

The University of Manchester also have a Singapore Students' Society of Manchester, see their Facebook page <u>here</u>.