The High Commission observes a mixture of Singaporean and Canadian holidays. If visiting during a suspected holiday, check that the office will be open.

MEASURES

The metric system is the official system of measurement. Information on industrial standards for electrical, sanitary and building products can be obtained from the Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research (SISIR).

FOOD

It is safe to drink the tap water and eat at local hawker centres. Singapore has a wide variety of cosmopolitan restaurants, offering almost every cuisine. A 10 percent service charge is automatically included in restaurant bill. Tips are not required for waiters or taxi drivers.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity supplied for domestic use is 230V, single phase, 50 cycles AC. For industrial purposes, the supply is 415V, three phases, 50 cycles AC. There is no uniformity of appliance plug design, although English three-prong (large) plugs predominate.



TIME DIFFERENCE

Singapore is 12 hours ahead of Canadian Eastern Standard Time, 13 hours ahead of Daylight Savings Time (October-April).

BUSINESS HOURS

Business hours are generally 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and industrial enterprises work from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most places normally close for lunch between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday business hours are from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Many stores are open seven days a week until about 9 p.m.*