

Singapore's sentinels

The Civic District's majestic and historic trees are part of a new tree trail to be rolled out by NParks from May 1. It features 20 stops.



- The rain trees at the mouth of the Istana are hardy and provide shade.
- An ideal species for roadside greenery, rain trees were first introduced to Singapore in the 1870s.

- The School of the Arts building was built around a 25m-tall angsa tree which is approximately 40 years old.
- The tree has a dense, dome-shaped, widespread and droopy crown.



- The Indian rubber tree was once an economically important plant in the region as its latex was tapped and processed into a type of rubber.
- The tree at the National Museum can be traced back to 1955.



- To create a European garden setting, about 10 of these tamalan or black rosewood trees were planted at Chijmes.
- Its wood is used to make furniture. It also produces purplish-white flowers in small clusters.

- The meninjau or belinjau tropical tree species, which is native to Singapore, has a narrow conical crown.
- The shape of these trees complements the structure of the War Memorial.



- Rain tree saplings have been present along this site, then known as New Esplanade Road, since the 1880s.
- The umbrella-shaped crowns of the rain trees have created a green tunnel effect over time. Twenty-two of these rain trees have been given the status of heritage trees.



- NParks and the Urban Redevelopment Authority transplanted five angsa trees from Upper Serangoon Road to Esplanade Park late last year to recreate an iconic area familiar to dating couples between the 1960s and 1980s.
- The original trees, known as "Gor Zhang Chiu Kar", which means "under the shade of five trees", were removed after they were affected by fungus.
- The angsa tree can grow up to 40m in height.