

Greater Rustic Coast

The new 50km Greater Rustic Coast belt running along Singapore's northern coast is part of the Draft Master Plan 2019 (DMP19) unveiled recently by the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA). The segment stretches from Changi to Lim Chu Kang and is part of a future key recreational corridor, which includes the Round Island Route, Rail Corridor, Kallang River, Coast-to-Coast Trail, Bukit Timah-Rochor green walk as well as a growing network of park connectors. It will link areas of heritage, biodiversity and recreation and allow visitors to experience numerous settings along its length. In future, a total of 1,000ha more parks and park connectors will be added. The Master Plan is a statutory land-use plan that guides Singapore's development in the next 10 to 15 years and is reviewed every five years.



THE TRAIL HAS THREE DISTINCT ATTRIBUTES

A place of military and industrial heritage
Singapore's strategic location helped it play a pivotal role as the British Empire's stronghold in Asia. Military installations were constructed to stand guard along the coastline, which have shaped the identity of the area.

A place teeming with biodiversity
Singapore's northern coast, including the northern offshore islands, is home to many species of hard corals and reef fish, which contribute to its rich coastal ecosystem. The area also houses the largest patch of mangroves that can be found on mainland Singapore.

A recreational, laidback heartland
In the early days, coastal kampung dwellers and the seafaring orang laut lived along the Strait of Johor. Today, many recreational nodes, including chalets and seaside pavilions, dot the northern coastline.

1 CASHIN HOUSE



Built in the late 1910s by prominent landowner Joseph Cashin, Cashin House is one of the sites where the Japanese Imperial Army first landed on Feb 8, 1942 during World War II. The house will have a few amenities for visitors to enjoy.

2 SUNGEI BULOH WETLAND RESERVE



One of Singapore's four nature reserves, it lies along the East-Asian Australasian Flyway and is a site of international importance for migratory birds.

3 KRANJI MARSHES



One of Singapore's largest freshwater marshes, it is home to more than 170 species of birds and 54 species of butterflies. Head up Raptor Tower for a bird's-eye view of the entire area.

4 SINGAPORE RACECOURSE



More recreational activities and community spaces will be introduced for visitors to have fun in this space.

5 MANDAI MANGROVE AND MUDFLAT



Ecologically linked to the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, this area will open in mid-2022 as a nature park. Experience a close-up view of migratory shorebirds feeding on the mudflat within this 72.8ha wetland.

6 WOODLANDS WATERFRONT PARK AND JETTY



It offers a view of the sea. It was originally the jetty of the Royal Malayan Navy, based along Admiralty Road West, adjoining the Singapore Naval Base, which spanned from Sembawang to the Causeway.

7 SEMBAWANG SHIPYARD



Part of Sembawang Naval Base, it was completed in 1938. Boasting the King George VI graving dock, one of the largest naval docks that could fit the biggest ships in the world, the shipyard was comparable with the best naval bases in the world.

8 SEMBAWANG PARK



The park offers a splendid view of the waterfront from Beaulieu House, which was formerly a coastal holiday home for a plantation owner. It later became a residence for high-ranking officers of the British Royal Navy and houses a restaurant today.

9 SUNGEI KHATIB BONGSU



Hop onto a kayak from the PA Water Venture in Sembawang and paddle along the Strait of Johor to explore the mangrove forests here.

10 YISHUN DAM



Built in 1983, the dam created Lower Seletar Reservoir, one of the largest water sources in Singapore. It also provides a magnificent vista of the reservoir and is a famous spot for picnics and barbecues today.

11 PARK AT HAMPSTEAD GARDENS



The rustic charm of the existing wetland at Hamilton Place will be enhanced to form a park for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.

12 FORMER ROYAL AIR FORCE (RAF) SELETAR



The former RAF headquarters of the Far East Command was a key station guarding vital trade and transport routes. It was also Singapore's first civil airport. Today, visitors can enjoy an array of F&B options housed in colonial bungalows at The Oval.

13 JALAN KAYU



A bustling community today, Jalan Kayu was originally a road constructed in 1928 to connect Seletar Airbase and Seletar Hills Estate. It served many servicemen who stayed there as well as in nearby settlements. This area will provide an improved pedestrian experience and have new landscaping and outdoor refreshment areas.

14 PUNGGOL POINT



A historical spot with a sombre past, this was where about 400 Chinese civilians were massacred during World War II. With the opening of Punggol Point Park and the injection of new homes in the future, it looks to a new beginning as a popular coastal recreation spot.

15 CONEY ISLAND PARK



Officially opened in 2015, the 50ha park is a splendid rustic getaway. Environmental initiatives were adopted to retain its character during development, such as using casuarina timber from uprooted trees for park signage, benches and exhibits. Explore the southern perimeter via a new park connector.

16 LORONG HALUS WETLAND



A thriving wetland today, it helps to collect and treat water passing through what was once a garbage landfill site.

17 PULAU UBIN



Be transported back to the 1960s as you embark on a trip here, home to kampungs which offer a glimpse into past lifestyles. It is also home to the Chek Jawa Wetlands, one of Singapore's richest ecosystems.

18 PASIR RIS PARK



Well-loved for its many play structures catering to kids of all ages, the park is also a place of respite. Visitors can enjoy relaxing walks along multiple trails or explore the flora and fauna of a mangrove forest via a boardwalk.

19 DOWNTOWN EAST



It is a popular recreational and lifestyle destination and a five-year redevelopment project has just been completed. It includes the nature-inspired D'Resort, Wild Wild Wet water park that has seven new rides and myriad retail, dining and entertainment options.

20 CHANGI POINT



It was first developed by the British as a military base in 1927. The area now exudes a rustic charm, with old buildings used as holiday chalets and more. More stretches of the beach will be opened up through native coastal forest and beachfront landscaping.