

MAP & SUGGESTED ROUTES
WOODLANDS HERITAGE TRAIL

The Woodlands Heritage Trail is part of the National Heritage Board's ongoing efforts to document and present the history and social memories of places in Singapore. We hope this trail will bring back fond memories for those who have worked, lived or played in the area, and serve as a useful source of information for visitors and new residents.



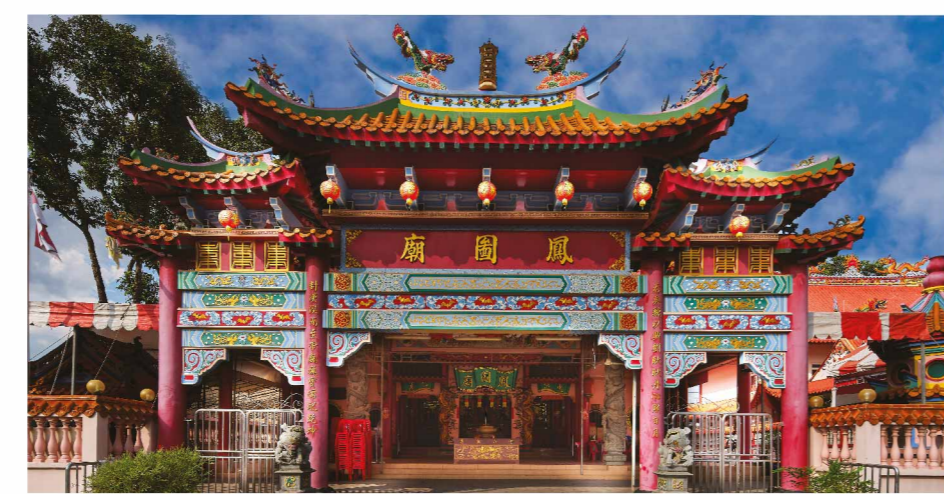
The completed Causeway, c. 1924
Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

SUGGESTED SHORT TRAIL ROUTES

Covering landmarks such as community institutions, military cemeteries and parks, these trail routes are designed to showcase the community history, military legacies and scenic spaces in Woodlands. Select one (or more) of these specially curated trails and start exploring the rich heritage of Woodlands today!

Communities of Woodlands 1.5 hours with public transport (4 km)

Despite its far-flung location in Singapore's northern corner, Woodlands has been home to many communities who also set up institutions to cater to their spiritual needs. This trail introduces you to different religious institutions and community landmarks that originated in Woodlands and continue to serve residents today.



Then, take a bus to one of Woodlands' most iconic landmarks, Masjid An-Nur, with its beautiful blue walls and towering minaret. Opened in 1980, this mosque was the result of fund-raising efforts by Woodlands' Muslim community who sought to build a mosque for their religious needs. The mosque also has a water cooler along the path outside to provide relief to thirsty passers-by.



Start your journey at Hong Tho Bilw Temple, which is a short walk from Woodlands MRT via Exit 1. Located at Marsiling Industrial Estate Road 3, this Taoist temple is dedicated to Guan Di Gong, a god of war and wealth. It was established in the late 1940s in Kampong Hock Choon, a farming village in Woodlands. Next to it is Shang Di Miao Chai Kong Temple, which was founded in 1935 in a village at Lorong Woodlands Kechil (now Singapore Turf Club). The two villages were resettled in the 1980s, and the two temples, which opened here in 1996 and 1994 respectively, are living legacies of Woodlands' pre-war rural communities.

Next, walk through the industrial estate and head towards Marsiling Rise to Sri Siva-Krishna Temple, the only Hindu temple in Singapore devoted to Lord Siva-Krishna, a deity who is a combination of Lord Siva and Lord Krishna. Founded in 1962 in Sembawang, this temple moved to Marsiling in 1982 and the present building, with its beautiful entrance *gopuram* (gate-tower), was completed in 1996.



After viewing the temple, cross Marsiling Road and walk down Marsiling Lane to Marsiling Lane Market & Food Centre. Opened in 1975, this was the first market to serve the Marsiling HDB estate. Today, it remains a popular destination for residents who enjoy its many old-school stalls and shops.



Finally, take a bus from Woodlands Centre Road to The Church of St Anthony of Padua. This Catholic church began in the 1920s when Catholic Teochews from China found refuge in Mandai. They established a wooden chapel, which was replaced in 1960 by the first Church of St Anthony. The church then relocated here in 1994. Its entrance has a bronze statue of St Anthony of Padua, while its fan-shaped worship hall has an altar table that was used by Pope John Paul II to celebrate Mass at National Stadium during his visit to Singapore in 1986.



Woodlands at War 2 hours with public transport (9 km)

Why does Woodlands have places with names like Admiralty Road and Admiralty Park? This is because the British Admiralty, which ran Britain's Royal Navy, was once a prominent military force in Woodlands. This trail brings you to these and other former military sites and reveals their integral role in Woodlands' history.



Begin the trail at the South Entrance of Admiralty Park, a short walk from Woodlands MRT, via Exit 3. The name of this park, the largest in the north, is a reminder that much of northern Woodlands used to be part of a British naval base that was active from 1938 to 1971.

Enjoy a scenic walk through Admiralty Park. Upon arrival at the park's North Entrance, turn right and walk along Admiralty Road West. At the first junction, you will see on your right the retained Administration Block of former *KD Malaya*, a Malaysian naval base that occupied this area from the 1950s to 1997. You will also see a small prison (presently closed) across the road, that was built in 1950 as quarters for naval policemen. The prison is known as Khalsa Crescent (as many residents were Sikhs) or Torpedo (as it stood next to the naval base's Torpedo Depot) and is no longer in use.

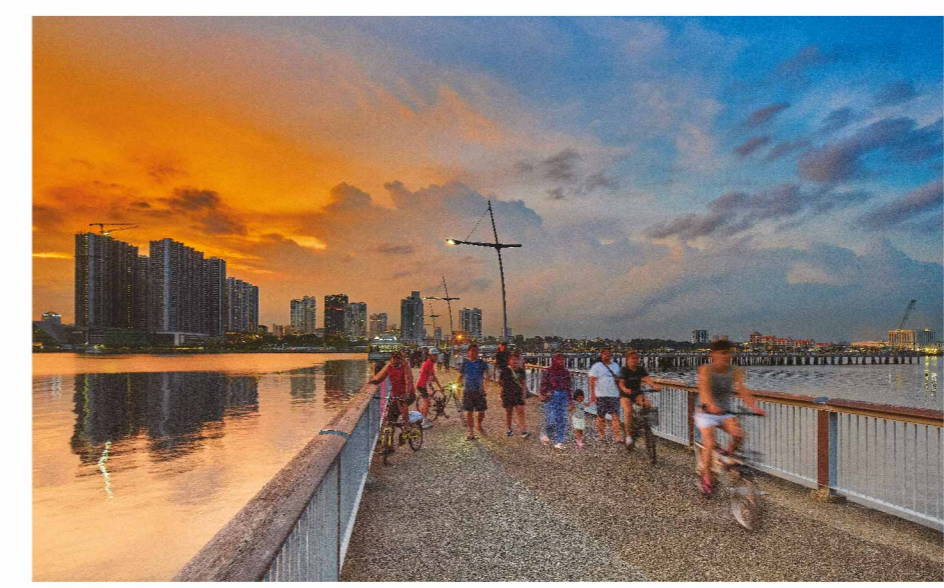
Next, cross the junction, turn left and walk back along Admiralty Road West to reach Woodlands Waterfront Park. Here, you will find the former *Malaysian Base Jetty* that was completed in 1966 as part of the *KD Malaya*. This 400-metre-long jetty now offers a spectacular view of the Johor Strait and has seats that were once mooring anchors for ships. It also has a restaurant, and is a popular fishing spot.



Continue westwards along the park's waterfront promenade, which provides a clear view of the Causeway. Opened in 1924, the Causeway was an important military site during World War II. After the last Allied defenders of Malaya crossed the Causeway on 31 January 1942, it was blown up to prevent the Japanese from crossing over into Singapore.

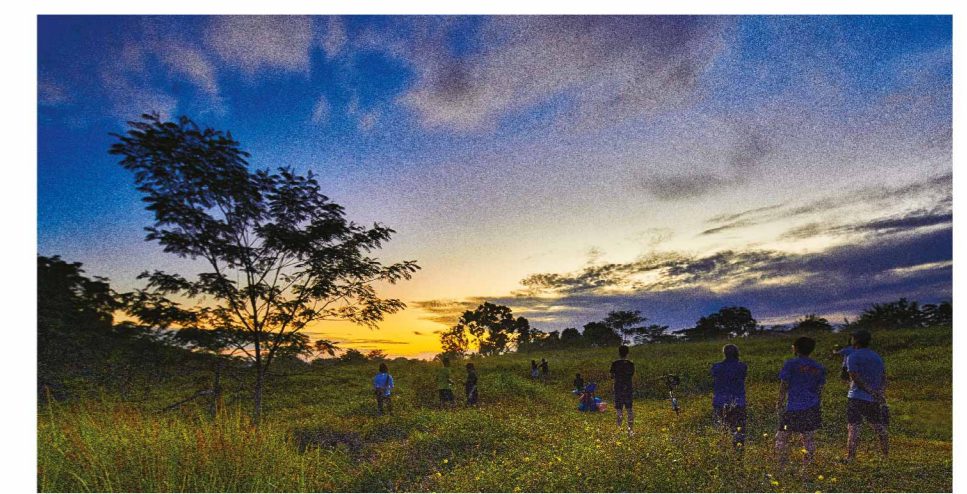


Finally, use the Marsiling Park Connector to reach Woodlands Centre Road, and take a bus to *Kranji War Cemetery*. This World War II commemorative site was formerly the burial ground of a prisoner-of-war camp. After the war, the site was expanded into a resting place for more than 4,400 Allied soldiers who died in Singapore and Malaya. At the heart of the cemetery is the hilltop Singapore Memorial, which bears the names over 24,000 casualties of the Commonwealth land and air forces who have no known graves. The register of names, kept by the War Graves Commission, can be found at the entrance.

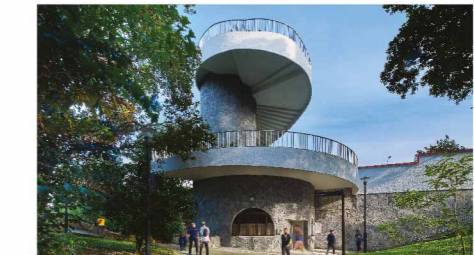


A Journey through the Woods 1.5 hours on bike; 2.5 hours on foot with public transport (15 km)

True to its name, Woodlands continues to be a place filled with trees and woods. This trail allows you to explore the parks and other green spaces that make up Woodlands, as well as the rich history of these places. Due to the extended length of this route, cycling is suggested.



Start your journey at Marsiling Park, a short walk from Marsiling MRT. This park consists of a lake surrounded by landscaped pavilions and a landmark spiral viewing tower. In 2018, the park was renovated and renamed Marsiling Park. This name comes from Marsiling Estate, a former rubber plantation established in this area by Lim Nee Soon in the early 20th century. Lim had named the plantation after Ma Xi, his ancestral village in China.



Next, use the Marsiling Park Connector, which runs past the old Woodlands Checkpoint, to get to Woodlands Waterfront Park. Here, you will find a 1.5-kilometre-long waterfront promenade with excellent views of the Causeway and the Johor Strait. Continue along this promenade to reach the former *Malaysian Base Jetty* that was completed in 1966 as part of *KD Malaya*, a Malaysian naval base located here between the 1950s to 1997. Today, the jetty is a popular recreational spot that offers a splendid view of Singapore's wooded northern coast.



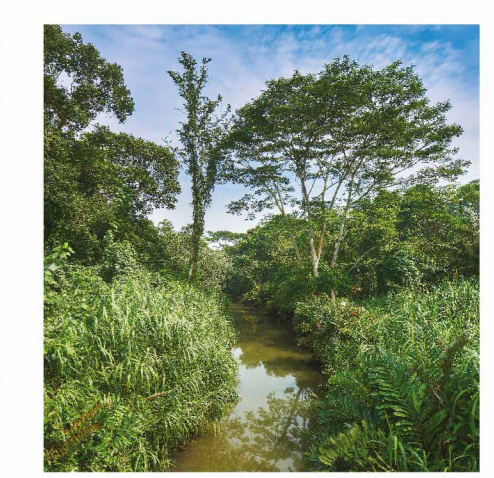
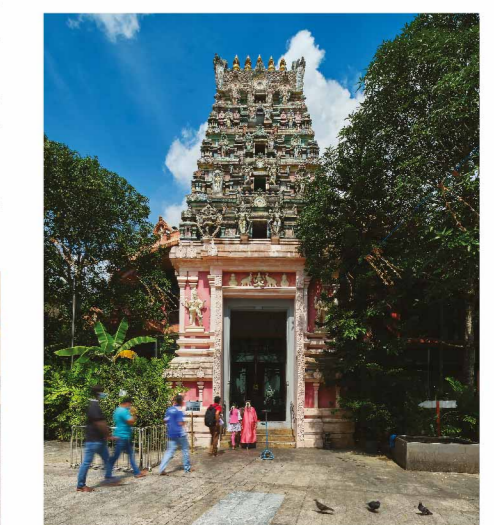
Go through the park's carpark and cross Admiralty Road to reach Admiralty Park, the largest park in the north. Opened in 2007, this unique park features walking trails and a boardwalk that runs through a mangrove swamp, a remnant of the coastal woods that once guarded Woodlands' northern shoreline.

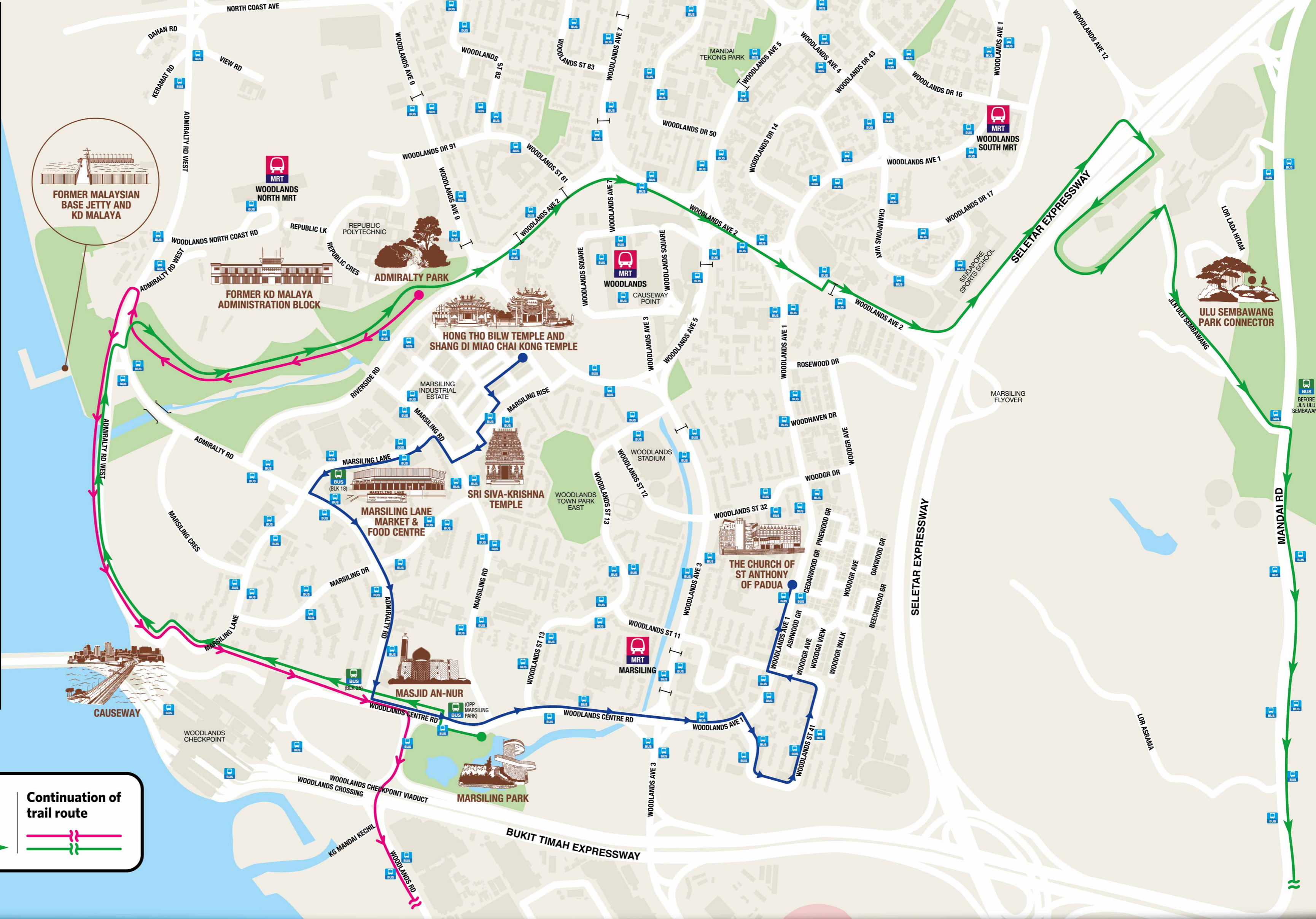
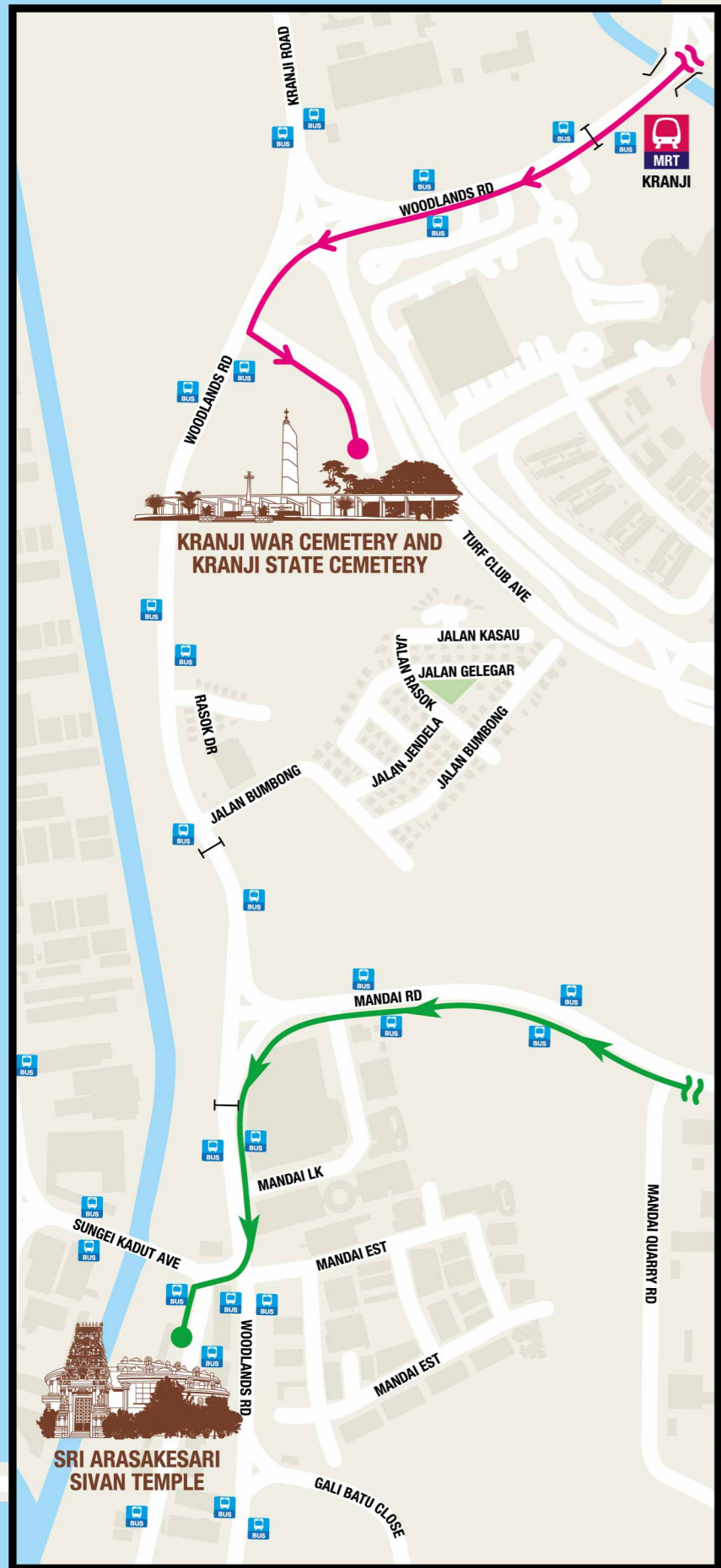
Cycle or walk through the park and upon arrival at its Southern Entrance, cyclists can use the Woodlands Avenue 2 Park Connector to reach the Woodlands (SLE) Park Connector, which will bring you to the Ulu Sembawang Park Connector. If you are exploring the trail by foot, take

the MRT (Thomson-East Coast Line) from Woodlands station to Woodlands South station, and walk to Woodlands Avenue 12. Turn right into the Woodlands Avenue 12 Park Connector and you will arrive at the start of Ulu Sembawang Park Connector.

Now a popular jogging and cycling spot, Ulu Sembawang Park Connector was formerly part of Jalan Ulu Sembawang, a rural track that ran through Mandai Tekong Village and a Catholic Teochew Village. Today, it offers a scenic path through a hilly countryside that shows a glimpse of old Woodlands' landscape.

Ulu Sembawang Park Connector ends at Mandai Road. Here, continue to Sri Arasakesari Sivan Temple at Sungei Kadut Avenue by cycling or taking a bus along Mandai Road towards Woodlands Road. This Hindu temple was founded in Woodlands in 1924 and has a "woodland" design with many trees all around the shrine. It is also the only Hindu temple in Singapore to have a ceremonial pond.





Communities of Woodlands	Woodlands at War	A Journey through the Woods	Continuation of trail route

HERITAGE SITES IN THE SUGGESTED SHORT TRAIL ROUTES



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