

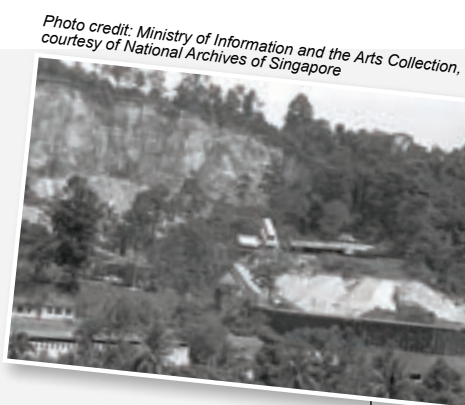
LAND USE HISTORY BUKIT TIMAH AREA

Photo credit: Gretchen Liu Collection,
courtesy of National Archives of Singapore



Pepper plantation

Then Minister
of Finance Dr
Goh Keng Swee
and Malaysian
Minister of
Commerce and
Industry Dr Lim
Swee Ann tour
Ford Factory at
Bukit Timah.



Prior to colonization, the Bukit Timah area was home to dryland dipterocarp forest. While some of the dipterocarp forest has been retained within Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, other remaining forests surrounding the reserve now comprise various types of mixed age secondary growth after a period of forest removal. These forests were shaped by the proliferation of agricultural plantations such as gambier, rubber, and oil palm, quarrying, and infrastructure for human settlement.

This is the Poh Kim Granite Quarry at the base of Bukit Batok Hill. The disused quarry which stopped operations in the late 70s has been converted to the Bukit Batok Nature Park.

Photo credit: Ministry of Information and the Arts Collection,
courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

The Asian Fairy Bluebird can sometimes be seen in our Nature Parks. Keep an eye out for their bright blue plumage!

Photo credit: NParks

IMPORTANCE OF NATURE PARKS

Nature parks are green buffers that serve to reduce pressures and stressors on our nature reserves. They are commonly located on the fringes of nature reserves, where much of Singapore's remaining biodiversity reside.

As the number of visitors to nature reserves has grown over the years, human impacts such as erosion, soil compaction and trail widening can cumulatively result in habitat degradation and fragmentation within our reserves. Therefore, nature parks are introduced to reduce the impact of visitors on areas of high conservation value. As part of our Forest

Restoration Action Plan (FRAP), nature parks are being restored such that they can be a part of the mature forest landscape in time to come.

We invite you to explore our nature parks, which offer exciting nature-based recreational experiences and have curated 4 hiking trails for you to explore.

TOP
Community volunteers help to pull up invasive weeds such as *Dioscorea sansibarensis*. Invasive weeds often outcompete or smother our native plants and have to be removed regularly to promote good regeneration of native trees.

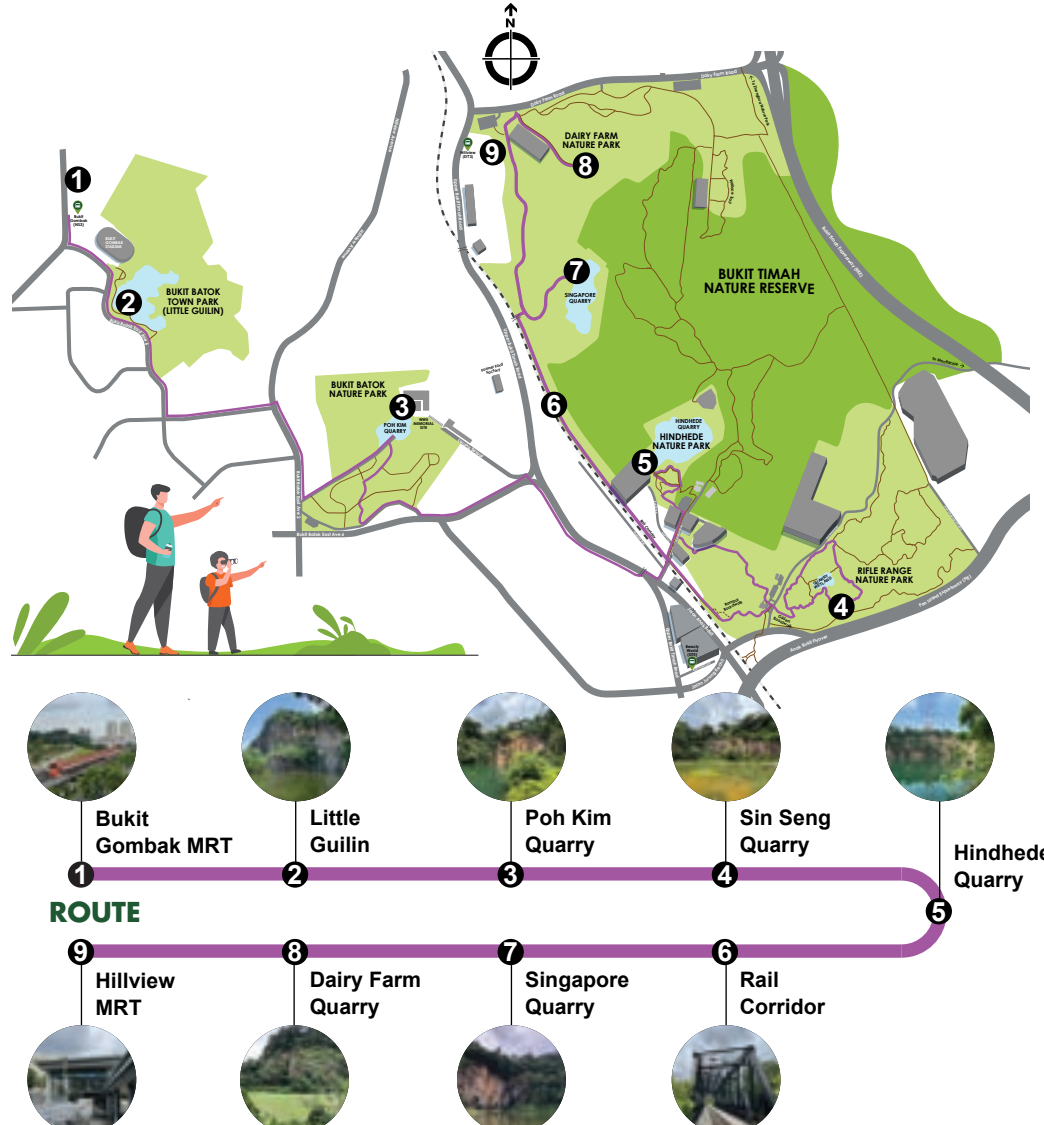
BOTTOM
NParks Friends of Bukit Timah volunteers help to plant native trees at Dairy Farm Nature Park. Photo credit: Joseph Koh

Photo credit: NParks

Photo credit: Joseph Koh

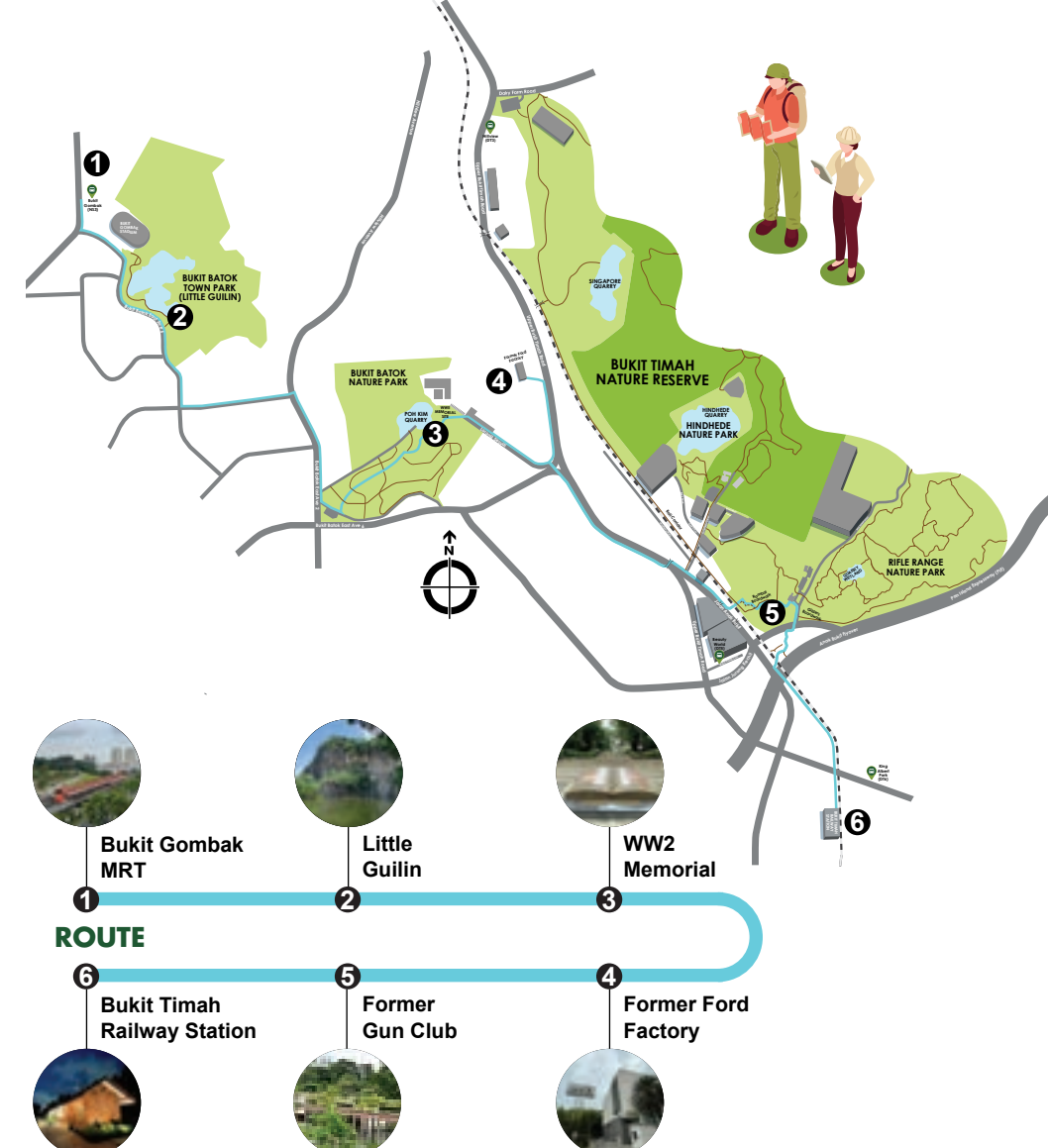
SCENIC QUARRIES (11 KM)

During the growth in construction in 1980s to 1990s, demand for granite soared and quarrying became a booming industry. As the dangers of quarry mining became apparent, quarries in Singapore were shut down by 2000. Many have since been filled with water or soil and turned into nature parks, creating scenic landscapes for visitors to enjoy.



PIECES OF BUKIT TIMAH'S HISTORY (6.6 KM)

On top of their rich biodiversity, our nature parks and green spaces have unique histories behind them. Embark on this trail and take a step back in time as you visit places which have a part of Singapore's mining, manufacturing, war, and transport histories.



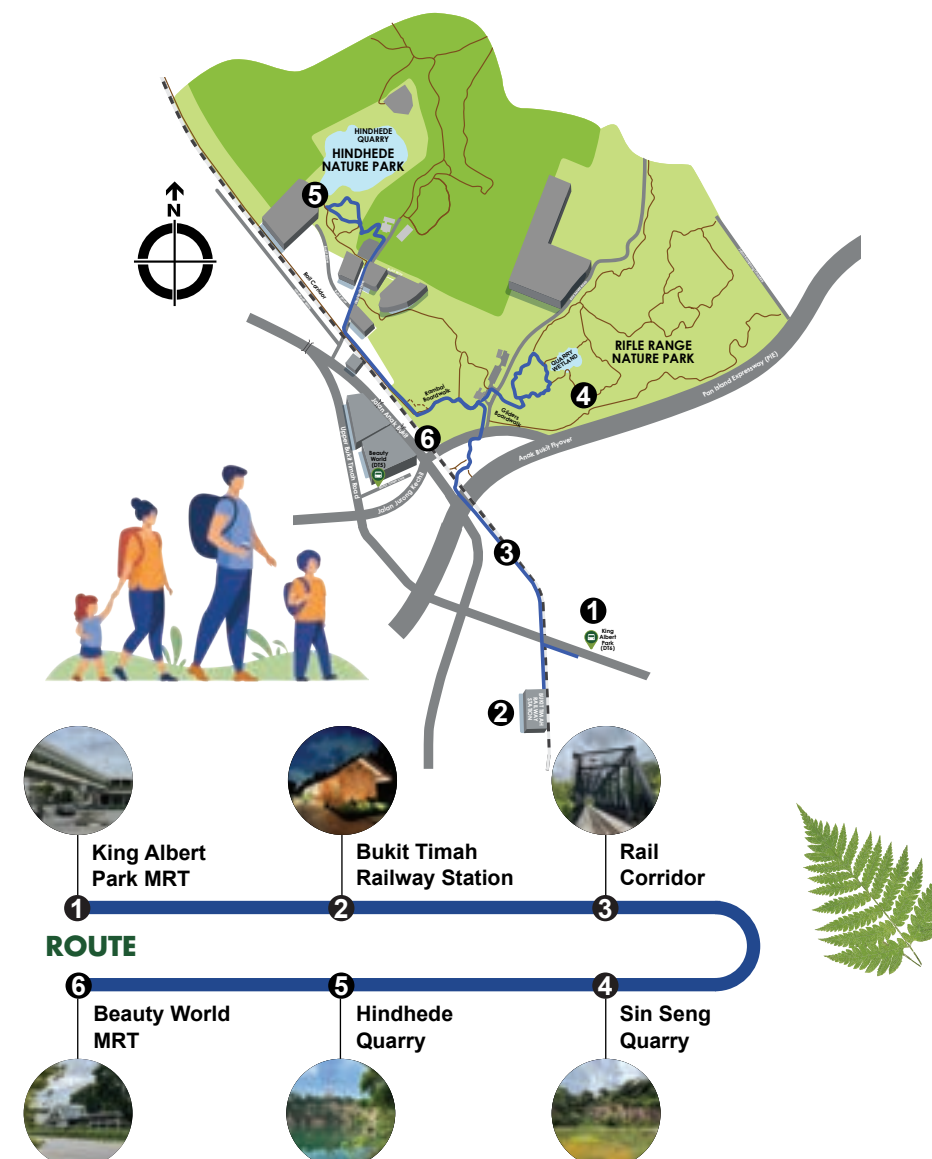
HOW FAR CAN YOU GO? (>12 KM)

Challenge yourself with this hiking trail that runs from Central to Northern Singapore. Stop by nature parks along the way, each with their unique charms. After Point 9, continue your journey towards the Northern Explorer Loop (PCN) and discover more gems of the north.



EASY WALKING (4.5 KM)

Families with children and seniors who are keen on exploring our nature parks should attempt this family-friendly trail. These green spaces have easy walking trails and can be completed within an hour for a brisk and relaxing hike followed by a meal at the Beauty World area.



TRAIL ETIQUETTE

Tips for safety and enjoyment

- Wear comfortable walking shoes and light clothing. Bring along a water bottle, insect repellent and an umbrella/raincoat.
- Observe all signs and information boards which are provided for your safety and enjoyment.
- Keep to the designated trails and roads. Hikers should not use the biking trails for hiking.
- Open fires and camping are prohibited.

Consideration for others

- Respect your fellow visitors' rights to peaceful enjoyment of the nature reserves and leave radios and sound systems at home.
- For the safety and convenience of other visitors, please do not put up any signs or markers without authorisation.
- Encourage others to protect the natural environment.

This free guide is made available through Garden City Fund, National Parks Board's registered charity and IPC. Support the conservation of our natural heritage at www.gardencityfund.gov.sg.



Share your love for nature and animals at
#NParksBuzz #AnimoBuzzSG

A Guide to Hiking Trails around Bukit Timah

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Bukit Batok Nature Park
Opening hours: 24hrs
Revisit history where an abandoned mining quarry and the World War II memorial plaque await you.



Bukit Batok Town Park
Opening hours: 24hrs
Known to many as 'Little Guilin' as it features granite rock formations that resemble its namesake in Guilin, China. Take a quick getaway to this park nestled in a quiet neighbourhood.



Bukit Timah Nature Reserve
Opening hours: 7am to 7pm
Home to one of the few remaining patches of primary forests and the highest peak in Singapore, Bukit Timah Nature Reserve is an area with high conservation importance.



Chestnut Nature Park
Opening hours: 7am to 7pm
At 81 hectares, this is Singapore's largest nature park to date. While known for its mountain biking trails, it is also home to many hiking trails and is a great place to visit for bird watchers.



Zhenghua Nature Park
Opening hours: 24hrs
Admire a curated planting of bird and butterfly-attracting plants as you travel between the Bukit Panjang Park Connector and the Bukit Timah Nature Park Network.



Dairy Farm Nature Park
Opening hours: 7am to 7pm
Despite what its name suggests, there is no longer a Dairy Farm here. Instead, the forest has regrown and been restored to a nature park with lush biodiversity. Families can also look forward to visiting the Wallace Education Centre which showcases our natural history.



Hindhede Nature Park
Opening hours: 7am to 7pm
Tucked away in a corner of the Nature Reserve, Hindhede Nature Park is a popular photography spot with abundant wildlife, scenic Hindhede Quarry and easy walking trails.



Rail Corridor
Opening hours: 24hrs
Once the KTM railway that ran from Tanjong Pagar to Johor, the Rail Corridor now serves as an important ecological corridor for wildlife movement.
**Take note that there is no lighting provided at night.*



Rifle Range Nature Park
Opening hours: 7am to 7pm
The newest addition to the Bukit Timah Nature Park Network. Check out the Colugo Deck to enjoy panoramic views of Singapore!

