

Starting in Singapore: Groceries and other essentials

Groceries and other Essentials

Grocery outlets range from supermarkets and minimarts, to convenience stores and provision shops. You can save more by shopping at neighbourhood provision shops and NTUC FairPrice supermarkets, where prices are generally lower. For greater variety and specialty items, go for the more upscale supermarkets. Some private condominiums may also run a minimart for residents. The latest craze to hit shopaholic Singapore are the "hypermarts"--huge supermarkets offering popular items at unbelievable reductions. Two places to try: Carrefour at Suntec City Mall and Tops at Great World City.

Other names to check out:

7-Eleven: chain of convenience stores, open 24-hours.

Jasons: just one outlet in Claymore Drive off Orchard Road.

What to look for: wines and fine foods.

Kimisawa: Japanese chain.

What to look for: Prepacked sushi and Japanese rice.

Tanglin Market Place: at Tanglin Mall just opposite the Marco Polo Hotel.

What to look for: gourmet items.

Cold Storage Gourmet: at Guthrie House, Fifth Ave.

What to look for: hard-to-find obscure ingredients from around the world.

Big-volume and busy shoppers might want to try Cold Storage's Dial & Deliver service. You have to sign up as a member before you can order your groceries by phone, fax or Internet. Operating hours are from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm daily except Sundays and Public Holidays. Orders will be delivered by the next working day to locations within mainland Singapore. The minimum order is \$50 per delivery and there is a \$5 delivery fee. Payment can be made through the Cold Storage Card, cash on delivery, or cheque on delivery.

Hotline: 1800-344-1511

Tel: 6334-1661

Fax: 6344-1522

Web site: <http://www.coldstorage.com.sg> Laundry and dry cleaning

These services are conveniently located in shopping centres, within the Central Business District and around most housing estates. Photo developing

Photo developing shops are everywhere, just look out for the yellow Kodak or green Fuji signs. Services include express 30-minute developing and photo enlargement. Prices depend on the speed of developing and size of print required, but expect to pay about 30 cents for a normal 3R size photo plus \$3 for every roll developed.