



Batam Weekend Getaway From Singapore (2026 Guide)

Description

A **Batam weekend getaway** is the closest thing Singapore has to a proper island escape without a flight. The Indonesian island sits barely 20km across the strait, the fast ferry takes under an hour, and Singapore passport holders walk straight in visa-free. For a Friday-night dash out or a lazy two-day reset of spa treatments, seafood and beach time, few destinations give you more for less. Here is how to plan a Batam weekend getaway in 2026, with ferry fares, entry rules and resort prices in SGD.

Why Batam works for a quick escape

Batam trades on three things Singaporeans love: it is near, it is cheap, and it is easy. A 90-minute massage that would cost S\$120 at home runs a fraction of that here, fresh seafood is served straight off the kelong, and beachfront villas with private plunge pools sit well below Sentosa rates. Because the ferry crossing is so short, you can leave the office at 6pm and be sinking into a resort pool before dinner. If you have already ticked off the usual weekend runs, this rounds out the set nicely alongside our [Bintan weekend getaway guide](#) and [Desaru Coast getaway](#).



Nongsapura's seafront resorts are a 30-minute ferry hop from Singapore. Photo: Fredrik Moeladi / Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA 3.0)

Getting there: ferries, fares and timings

Ferries leave from two Singapore terminals. **HarbourFront Centre** serves the main Batam ports of Batam Centre, Harbour Bay, Sekupang and Waterfront City, while **Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal** runs to Nongsapura, the terminal closest to the Nongsapura resort strip. The three main operators are Sindo Ferry, Batam Fast and Majestic Fast Ferry, with more than ten crossings a day.

The trip takes roughly 50 minutes to an hour. Return tickets typically start from around S\$40 and climb to about S\$58 depending on operator, port and how far ahead you book. Remember the S\$10 Singapore Passenger Departure Fee, and note a small seaport tax is collected on the Batam side. Booking through the operator websites or a platform like Klook usually locks in the cheaper fares and lets you pick a fixed sailing.

One thing that trips up first-timers: **Batam runs one hour behind Singapore** (Western Indonesia Time). Set your watch back on arrival, and always plan around the last ferry home, which is usually in the early evening rather than late at night.



Ferries from Singapore dock at Batam Centre and four other terminals on the island. Photo: Masgatotkaca / Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA 3.0)

Entry rules: visa-free, but do this before you go

Singapore passport holders get a **30-day visa-free stay** in Indonesia for tourism, with no application, fee or embassy visit required. Just present your passport at immigration. Make sure it has at least six months's validity.

Two online formalities have become standard and are best completed a day or two before travel. The **Batam Arrival Card** is the entry declaration all foreign visitors submit, and the **electronic customs declaration (e-CD)** records your details and where you are staying. Both are free and take a few minutes online. Complete them at home so you are not fumbling with airport-style forms on the ferry.

Money and connectivity

The currency is the Indonesian rupiah, roughly IDR 12,000 to the Singapore dollar. Malls, resorts and larger restaurants take cards, but carry some cash for spas, taxis, markets and the kelongs. A local eSIM or a data roaming pass keeps Grab and Google Maps running.

Where to stay

The Nongsa coast on the island's north-east is the resort heartland. **Montigo Resorts Nongsa** is the marquee pick, with one- to five-bedroom villas, private plunge pools and an award-winning wellness sanctuary; all-inclusive weekend packages have started from around S\$170 per night. **Nongsa Point Marina, Turi Beach Resort** and the **Radisson Golf & Convention Centre** round out the beach-and-fairway options, while **Harris Resort** at Waterfront City and Batam Centre suits families who want to be near the ferry and shopping. Book direct or via a travel platform for ferry-plus-stay bundles, which are often the cheapest way to do a Batam weekend getaway.

What to do in a weekend

Batam rewards a slow itinerary built around eating, unwinding and a couple of photo stops.



Nagoya Hill is Batam's largest mall and the hub of its dining and shopping scene. Photo: Cun Cun / Wikimedia Commons (CC BY-SA 4.0)

Seafood on the water

The kelongs, restaurants built on stilts over the sea, are the signature Batam meal. Waterfront City, Harbour Bay and coastal spots around the island serve prawns, crab, fish and shellfish at prices that feel almost implausible after Singapore. A generous seafood spread for a group often lands well under what one person would pay back home.

Spa and massage

This is where Batam earns its reputation. A 90-minute full body massage at a smart resort spa runs roughly IDR 400,000 to 600,000 (about S\$35 to S\$50), while a reflexology session at a Nagoya shop can be closer to IDR 100,000 to 150,000 an hour. Many visitors build a whole day around back-to-back treatments.

Golf, shopping and sights

Golfers have well-kept 18-hole layouts at Tering Bay and the Radisson course, with weekday green fees around IDR 500,000 to 800,000, roughly half of Singapore rates. For shopping, Nagoya Hill is the biggest mall on the island. Two easy sightseeing stops are the photogenic **Barelang Bridge**, best at sunset with local snacks, and the sprawling **Maha Vihara Duta Maitreya**, one of the largest Buddhist temples in Indonesia.

A simple two-day plan

Day one: Catch a mid-afternoon ferry, check in at Nongsa, and ease in with a sunset spa session followed by a kelong seafood dinner. **Day two:** A slow resort morning by the pool or on the beach, a swing through Nagoya Hill for duty-free shopping and lunch, a quick Barelang Bridge photo stop, then the ferry home. Two nights turns it into a genuine reset; even a single overnight beats staying put.

Batam weekend getaway: quick tips

Book your ferry sailing and resort together for the best price, and reserve popular villas early for long weekends. Complete the Batam Arrival Card and customs declaration before you leave. Carry rupiah cash for spas and taxis, agree taxi fares or use Grab, and keep the time difference in mind so you never miss the last boat back. For more ideas on getting out of town, browse our [Malacca weekend getaway guide](#) and, if you fancy going further afield, our roundup of [cruises from Singapore in 2026](#).

Prices are indicative and were accurate at the time of writing; ferry fares, resort rates and entry requirements can change, so confirm directly with operators and Indonesian immigration before you travel.

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