

Childrenâ??s Garden at Gardens by the Bay: free entry, but adults only with a child aged 12 or below

Description

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The year-end school holidays start on Saturday 21 November, and the **Childrenâ??s Garden at Gardens by the Bay** is one of the few big play spots with no ticket to buy. Entry is free. The catch is in the rules: adults are only allowed in if they are with a child aged 12 or below.

Here is what the gardenâ??s own page says, so you can plan around the opening days.

Childrenâ??s Garden at Gardens by the Bay: hours and entry

The garden is designed for children aged 12 and below, and the Far East Organization Childrenâ??s Garden page is clear that an adult visitor is permitted entry only if accompanying a child in that age range. Do not turn up with a group of grown-up friends and expect to wander in.

- Regular days: Thursday to Sunday and public holidays, 9am to 7pm, with last admission at 6pm.
- School holidays: Tuesday to Sunday, 9am to 7pm, with last admission at 6pm.
- Water play closes at 6.30pm.
- The garden is closed on a Tuesday if the preceding Monday is a public or school holiday.

MOEâ??s calendar puts the end-of-year vacation from Saturday 21 November to Thursday 31 December 2026 for MOE kindergartens, primary and secondary schools. Christmas Day is Friday 25 December, and public holidays fall under the gardenâ??s regular opening days. JC Year 1 and Millennia Institute students break a week later, from 28 November.



Source: Gardens by the Bay

Which zone suits which age

The garden splits its play areas by age, which saves a lot of grumbling at the gate.

- Toddler Play Zone, ages 1 to 5: a swaying bridge, stepping springs, water tunnels, fish sculptures and a Fish Fountain.
- Rainforest Tree Houses, ages 6 to 12: two tree houses linked by a 130-metre forest trail with ropes, ladders and slippery dips.
- Water Play, ages 6 to 12: sensor-driven water features that respond to your childâ??s movement.
- Amphitheatre: a sheltered space for up to 300 people, used for educational events.

Water Play is for the 6 to 12 group, so younger siblings may need to watch from the edge or stay in the toddler zone. The splash pad floor carries a painted â??no footwearâ?• sign in the gardenâ??s official photos, so bring a towel and a change of clothes. The official page does not give clothing advice, so treat that as common sense rather than a rule.



Source: Gardens by the Bay

Getting in: use the new entrance

The entrance on the Waterfront Promenade has been closed since 26 March 2026. Visitors should use the new entrance near the Sun Pavilion instead. Bay Southâ??Bay East Bridge works since 4 May 2026 have also stopped cyclists from using the Waterfront Promenade, though pedestrians can still

walk it with a slight diversion.

If you are driving, the nearest carpark is the Satay by the Bay Carpark. The gardensâ?? address is 18 Marina Gardens Drive, Singapore 018953, and the site is easiest to reach on foot from the Bay South area. Check the live notices on the Gardens by the Bay website before you set off, because routes and hours can change.

A practical note on timing: with Tuesday to Sunday opening, Monday is the one weekday the garden stays shut, so Sunday afternoons and the first days after school ends on 20 November are likely to be the busiest. Weekday mornings tend to be calmer, but that is a rule of thumb, not something the garden publishes. Last admission is at 6pm, so aim to arrive well before then if you want the kids to get through both the tree houses and the water.

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Source: Gardens by the Bay

Pair it with other free holiday plans

If the weather turns, the free LEGO pop-up at KidsSTOP runs from 21 November to 3 January. The Christmas 2026 family dates round-up lists the train show and school holiday dates, and Gardens-A-Glow adds free nightly tree lights at the Botanic Gardens from 5 December.

Date Created
14/11/2026
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