



Former Ford Factory: Build a Focused 90-Minute Visit

Description

The Former Ford Factory at 351 Upper Bukit Timah Road opens Tuesday to Sunday from 9am to 5.30pm, with last gallery admission at 5pm. Singaporeans and permanent residents enter free; foreign visitors pay S\$7.13 including GST. This guide is for a singapore resident, family or visitor who wants to understand the site rather than rush through its galleries and resolves one task: plan a compact visit that connects industrial history, the 1942 surrender and civilian occupation experience. The material claims were checked against [Former Ford Factory visitor information](#) and [NHB Roots monument history](#).

Choose the route that matches your case

Situation	What to do
You have 45 minutes	Prioritise the building, surrender room and one civilian-life theme
You have 90 minutes	Use the three-part route in this guide
Visiting with younger children	Prepare difficult wartime context and allow breaks
Visiting on Monday	Choose another site; the factory is closed

Start outside the building

Completed in 1941 as Ford's first Southeast Asian car assembly plant, the building was designed in an Art Deco style. Notice the stepped openings, tall green-glazed windows and flagpole before entering. According to [Former Ford Factory visitor information](#), the controlling detail for this branch is the specific rule or service condition cited here.

This industrial beginning prevents the site from becoming only a surrender-room backdrop.

Use the surrender as a hinge

The British surrender was signed here on 15 February 1942, after the Japanese army used the factory as headquarters. According to [NHB Roots monument history](#), the controlling detail for this branch is the specific rule or service condition cited here.

Spend time on the military situation, but avoid treating one room as the whole occupation story.

Move to civilian experience

The permanent exhibition uses archival material and memories to show life during the Japanese Occupation and its legacies. According to [Former Ford Factory visitor information](#), the controlling detail for this branch is the specific rule or service condition cited here.

Choose two objects or testimonies and ask what each reveals about food, fear, work, identity or survival.

Finish with the post-war factory

Ford resumed assembly after the war and operated until 1980. The surviving historic front was later preserved and the site became a national monument. According to [NHB Roots monument history](#), the controlling detail for this branch is the specific rule or service condition cited here.

This final stage links memory, industrial change and preservation choices.

Plan the clock

Opening hours are 9am to 5.30pm from Tuesday to Sunday, and last admission is 30 minutes before closing. Monday public holidays remain closed under the published rule. According to [Former Ford Factory visitor information](#), the controlling detail for this branch is the specific rule or service condition cited here.

Arrive at least 90 minutes before closing for the full route.

Know the practical details

Entry is free for Singaporeans and PRs, children six and below, and specified concession groups. Foreign visitors pay S\$7.13; transactions are by accepted cards or NETS. According to [NHB Roots monument history](#), the controlling detail for this branch is the specific rule or service condition cited here.

The visitor page warns that galleries can be cold, so bring a light layer.

Run the numbers or sequence

A 90-minute visit can use 15 minutes on the facade and factory history, 25 minutes on the surrender, 35 minutes on civilian occupation material and 15 minutes on post-war memory and reflection.

The calculation or sequence above is an LBRD working example. Replace every example input with the amount, date, access condition or document from your own case. Keep the official rate or threshold beside the working so another person can reproduce the answer.

Build a verification note another person can check

Before acting, create a one-page case note headed with the task, the date checked and the person responsible. Copy only the facts that affect your decision, then attach the statement, booking, application, receipt, map record or screenshot that supplies your own input. This separates a published rule from a personal assumption. If the official page changes, keep the earlier dated record but rework the decision with the live version.

Controlling source	What to verify	What to retain
Former Ford Factory visitor information	Current hours, closure pattern, last admission, entry prices, payment methods and address.	Record the page date, the exact rule used and the case input it governs.
NHB Roots monument history	1941 factory origins, 1942 surrender, occupation, post-war use and Art Deco architecture.	Record the page date, the exact rule used and the case input it governs.

Read the source in context, including definitions, exceptions and effective dates. A relevant page is not proof by itself: the cited passage must contain the particular rate, deadline, eligibility condition, access rule or warning used here. Where two official channels appear inconsistent, pause and ask the authority about the exact case rather than choosing the more convenient answer.

Use the guide with its limits

A useful museum visit is built around questions, not the number of display labels read. Choose the time budget, identify two objects or moments to examine closely, and leave a few minutes to connect them with the site and wider neighbourhood.

No interview, personal use, fresh field visit, survey result or price check is claimed unless explicitly stated. Availability, fees and procedures can change. Reopen the linked authority page immediately before payment, travel, filing or emergency use.

Before you act

1. Avoid Monday
2. Arrive before the last-admission window
3. Bring identity for resident admission
4. Carry a light layer
5. Start with the exterior
6. Choose two civilian stories
7. End with the post-war timeline

Mistakes that change the outcome

- Arriving at 5pm for a full visit
- Skipping the factory's industrial history
- Treating surrender as the only story
- Forcing young children through distressing material
- Assuming cash is accepted

Continue with the relevant LBRD guide

Next, [try another focused history route](#). You can also [choose a neighbourhood heritage trail](#).

Questions readers ask

Is admission free?

Yes for Singaporeans and permanent residents, plus the listed concession groups.

When is it closed?

Mondays, Monday public holidays and the first day of Chinese New Year.

How long should I allow?

Ninety minutes works for a focused route; a shorter visit needs priorities.

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