



JB Weekend Getaway 2026: MINILAND Singapore at LEGOLAND, New Cafes & the Best Things to Do Right Now

Description

Editorâ??s note: Imagery on this post is being updated to match Little Big Red Dotâ??s editorial standards. Photographs sourced from the originating organisation will replace any temporary placeholders shortly.

Just 15 minutes across the Causeway (traffic permitting, of course), **Johor Bahru** remains the ultimate quick escape for Singaporeans. Whether you are going for the cheap manicures, the seafood feasts, or the family-friendly attractions, JB in 2026 has more on offer than ever â?? with new cafes, a brand-new MINILAND Singapore at LEGOLAND, and a slew of aesthetic spots that have been making waves on Instagram.

Here is your updated guide to the **best things to do in JB on a weekend getaway in 2026** â?? whether you are making it a day trip or staying overnight.

Getting to JB from Singapore

The most common way is by bus or private car across the **Woodlands Checkpoint (Causeway)** or the **Tuas Second Link**. The Johor Bahruâ??Singapore Rapid Transit System (RTS Link) opened in 2026, making the cross-border commute significantly easier for foot passengers â?? just a quick train ride from Woodlands North MRT to JB Sentral.

Grab is available on both sides of the border (make sure you switch your Grab app to Malaysia mode once you are in JB). Expect to pay RM8â??RM15 for most rides within the city.

New Things to Do in JB in 2026

MINILAND Singapore at LEGOLAND Malaysia

LEGOLAND Malaysia's newest attraction is a must-see for both kids and adults. **MINILAND Singapore** is built with over 1.5 million LEGO bricks and features iconic Singapore landmarks from Marina Bay Sands and Gardens by the Bay to the Merlion and hawker centres all recreated in intricate LEGO detail. It sits within the MINILAND zone at LEGOLAND, making it a perfect add-on to a full-day LEGOLAND visit.

LEGOLAND Malaysia is located in **Nusajaya, about 20 minutes from JB city centre**. Tickets for adults start from RM99 (~SGD29) on weekdays, with family packages available.

Horizon Mall (Opening May 2026)

If you are planning a JB trip in May, mark your calendar for the opening of **Horizon Mall** a 150,000 sqft open-air boutique mall in the Horizon Hills neighbourhood, just 10 minutes from LEGOLAND. It will house over 30 food and beverage outlets and is designed to be a lifestyle destination rather than a traditional shopping mall.

Chocolate Atelier Workshops

For something uniquely JB, **Chocolate Atelier** offers hands-on chocolate-making workshops where you craft gold-flake-covered bars, mini houses, and characters using Callebaut Belgian chocolate. Workshops start from just RM39 (~SGD11) a fraction of what similar experiences cost in Singapore.

Where to Eat in JB

Dim Sum at Tian Xin Lou (Jalan Dhoby)

Start your JB morning with traditional dim sum at **Tian Xin Lou**, a cosy teahouse along Jalan Dhoby one of JB's trendiest streets. Har gao, char siew bao, and egg tarts here cost a fraction of Singapore prices.

Korean BBQ and Steamboat

JB's night-time food scene is dominated by Korean BBQ and steamboat restaurants, where you can feast on quality meat and seafood for RM80-120 (~SGD24-36) per couple. Areas like **Mount Austin** and **Danga Bay** are great hunting grounds.

Salted Egg Squid at Jalan Seladang

No JB trip is complete without trying the legendary **salted egg squid** at the hawker stalls along Jalan Seladang, near KSL City Mall. The queue is long but absolutely worth the wait.

Shopping: Manicures, Hair Spas, and More

JB's beauty salon scene remains a major draw for Singaporeans. **Gel manicures** typically cost RM30-50 (~SGD9-15), and hair treatments including rebonding, keratin, and colouring are significantly cheaper than in Singapore. **City Square Mall** and **Mid Valley Southkey** are both reliable hubs for beauty services.

Practical Tips for Your JB Trip

- **Currency:** Bring SGD to exchange at JB money changers for a better rate than exchanging in Singapore. The rate is typically around 3.3-3.4 MYR to 1 SGD.
- **Timing:** Avoid Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons, when the Causeway queues are at their worst.
- **Payment:** Most restaurants and malls in JB accept GrabPay and e-wallets. TNG (Touch 'n Go) is handy for tolls if you are driving.
- **Data:** Activate a Malaysia data roaming pack or grab a cheap SIM at JB Sentral.

Ready to start planning? Check out our guide to [Best Flight Deals from Singapore in April & May 2026](#) if you are thinking beyond JB, or browse our [Ultimate Penang Travel Guide for Singaporeans](#) for your next slightly-longer escape.

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