


















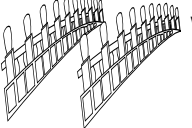
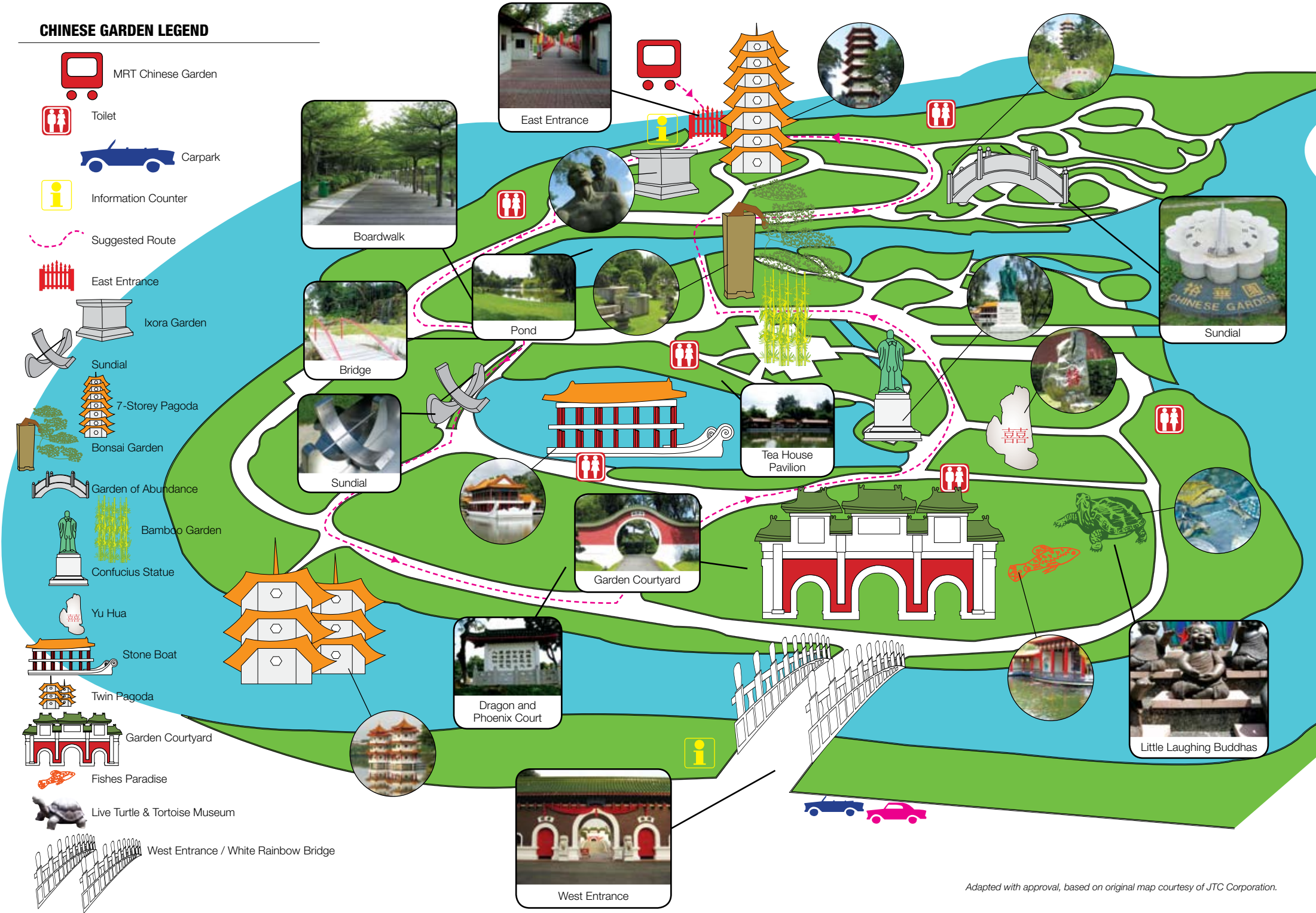
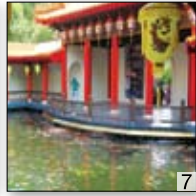


# CHINESE GARDEN LEGEND

-  MRT Chinese Garden
-  Toilet
-  Carpark
-  Information Counter
-  Suggested Route
-  East Entrance
-  Ixora Garden
-  Sundial
-  7-Storey Pagoda
-  Bonsai Garden
-  Garden of Abundance
-  Bamboo Garden
-  Confucius Statue
-  Yu Hua
-  Stone Boat
-  Twin Pagoda
-  Garden Courtyard
-  Fishes Paradise
-  Live Turtle & Tortoise Museum
-  West Entrance / White Rainbow Bridge



# CHINESE GARDEN



## 1. East Entrance

The 13.5ha Chinese Garden, built in 1975, is a 250m-walk from the train station. Be careful of an uneven step as the path begins a gradual descent near the East Entrance. You will be greeted by a high-rise pagoda in a distance as you approach the connector bridge. Read the Garden rules before proceeding further, and then turn right. The Chinese Garden is opened from 6am till 11pm daily. Entrance is free.

## 2. 7-storey Pagoda

12 terracotta warriors keep sentry along the steps leading to the 7-storey pagoda, a prominent landmark rich in Sung Dynasty imperial architecture flavour in the Garden. It offers a panoramic view of the estate if you are game enough to climb its spiral staircase with the pram and all. Keep the children away from the parapet if you do go up. If not, take a rest at the many scroll-like benches at the foot of the pagoda and admire the hexagonal structure whose design is borrowed from Beijing's Summer Palace.

## 3. Ixora Garden

Turn up a narrow path on your left and you will come face to face with the statue of the great politician, philosopher, and poet, Lin Zexu. This is one of eight statues of Chinese legendary heroes (the others being Zheng He, Wen Tianxiang, Yue Fei, Hua Mulan, Guan Yu, Qu Yuan, and Kong Zi) in the Ixora Garden. They have been relocated from the Sculpture Garden in Marina City Park in 2007. Reading the plaques will give you an idea of who these figures are.

## 4. Stone Boat

Exiting the Ixora Garden, head straight and make

a left at the second turn where you will encounter a waterfall on your right. Be careful of the slightly shaky planks as you cross the bridge. Look out for a sundial a little further down the road. This is one of 10 such sundials installed under the "Our Solar System" project throughout Singapore. The one in mention here represents the earth. Get the children to give conventional time-reading a go.

Head on towards the double-storey Stone Boat where you can take a toilet break and enjoy some good shade to rest any achy feet. A wide pond teeming with basking turtles spread out before you while butterflies and birds frolic in the sky. If you are lucky, you might even catch sight of a huge komodo dragon with its wrinkled skin, perched on the rocks.

## 5. Twin Pagoda

Head back to the fringe of the Garden until you catch sight of a pair of pagodas standing on an extended walkway over Jurong Lake. Hoist the baby pram up the stairs to reach the three-storey Moon Receiving Tower and the Cloud Wrapped Pavilion. Inside, steep and narrow spiral staircases make it inadvisable to go upstairs. Nonetheless, you can enjoy the breeze at its foot and take in the scenery while flags flutter and an occasional train passes through the Chinese Garden MRT station in a distance.

## 6. West Entrance / White Rainbow Bridge

80m from the Twin Pagoda is the West Entrance where the prominent White Rainbow Bridge is. The climb is a little steep but manageable. Somewhere about 30 balustrades down, you will reach the middle of the arch. Enjoy the view!

## 7. Garden Courtyard / Fishes Paradise

Down the bridge and through the Garden Courtyard, you can access the Fishes Paradise. For \$1 the children can feed the koi and watch them splish-splash about the pond to scamper for food. There is also a vending machine where you can get a soft drink for a pricey \$1.70.

## 8. Live Turtle & Tortoise Museum

Be charmed by the world's largest collection of shelled reptiles at the Live Turtle & Tortoise Museum. The humble museum showcases memorabilia and over 60 different species. Look out for interesting species such as the golden soft shelled turtle and be careful not to step on a free-roaming turtle when walking around the garden. Toss a coin and make a wish to the Giant Asian Pond Turtle, labelled the "fortune turtle". For \$10, you can purchase a certificate of attestation for having completed a fearless encounter with the animals. Entrance fee is \$5 for adults and \$3 for senior citizens and children aged under six. Enquire for special tours at the counter. (Leave the pram at the counter before touring the premise.)

## 9. Yu Hua

Just beyond the walls of the Museum is Yu Hua, a shady garden featuring large pieces of rocks carved with auspicious Chinese text. This is lovely spot for some meaningful photo taking.

## 10. Confucius Statue

Look out for the statue of the great sage, Confucius, a stone's throw away, and read up on his teaching.

## 11. Bamboo Garden

A Bamboo Garden is situated across the bridge

from where Confucius stood. With plenty of shade, ample space for the children to run about, and seats for resting, it makes a lovely spot for a family picnic.

## 12. Bonsai Garden

The Bonsai Garden is the largest such garden outside China. Rich in Suzhou architecture, it is home to an extensive collection of pen jing, meaning "miniature nature in a pot". A walk around the lush lawns, dotted with artful bonsais, will quickly teleport you into a serene and calm realm. On a good day, you might even catch a couple of eagles soar overhead. The Bonsai Garden opens from 9am to 5pm daily.

## 13. Garden of Abundance

Sculptures of zodiac animals and century-old pomegranate trees, hailed from Shantung (China), reside in the Garden of Abundance. Generous greenery and auspicious bridges span the extent of this charming garden. Take some photos!

