

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

- 1) **ONE** – Singapore will make history by hosting the **first (1st)** Youth Olympic Games (YOG) from 14 to 26 August 2010. The Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games aims to inspire youth around the world to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect. It will create a lasting sports, culture and education legacy for Singapore and youths from around the world, as well as enhance and elevate the sporting culture locally and regionally.

ONE - Singapore ranked **first (1st)** in the world's easiest places to do business for two consecutive years – 2009 and 2010.¹

ONE – Singapore ranks **first (1st)** in Asia as the best place to live, work and play, according to the Quality of Living Global City Rankings, Mercer, 2009.² It is also the **first (1st)** choice for Asian expatriates.³

- 2) **TWO** – Lyo the lion cub, and Merly the merlion cub, with their big, innocent eyes, funky hairdos and oh-so-huggable bodies are the **two (2)** mascots of the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

Lyo (pronounced as "Leo"), the "Lion of the Youth Olympics", is a lion cub with a mane as fiery as his passion for life. Full of youthful energy, Lyo is always on the go, making new friends from all over the world and playing sports.

Merly got her name from "mer" (meaning the sea): while "l" and "y" stand for liveliness and youthfulness. She is a merlion cub who loves exploring the seas surrounding Singapore, and beyond. Her dream is to become an environmental scientist one day.



TWO - Singapore was named the Number **2** Ultimate Sports City at the recent biennial Sport Accord Convention, organised by the London-based Sport Business Group. The accolade cements Singapore's bid to become one of the top sporting destinations in the world.⁴

¹ Source: Economic Development Board - Doing Business 2010 Report, World Bank

http://www.edb.gov.sg/edb/sg/en_uk/index/why_singapore/singapore_rankings.html#rank_chart%22

² Source: Economic Development Board – Quality of Living Global City Rankings, Mercer, June 2009

http://www.edb.gov.sg/edb/sg/en_uk/index/why_singapore/singapore_rankings.html#rank_chart%22

³ Source: Economic Development Board - ECA Location Ratings Survey, ECA International, 11 March 2009

http://www.edb.gov.sg/edb/sg/en_uk/index/why_singapore/singapore_rankings.html#rank_chart%22

⁴ Source: Channel News Asia, 27 April 2010

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/1052895/1/.html>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

- 3) **THREE** – Excellence, Friendship and Respect are the **three (3)** Olympic values of the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games. In line with the YOG's mission to educate and engage young athletes, inspiring them to play an active role in their communities, the Culture & Education Programme (CEP) is an integral part of YOG, and aims for the athletes to embrace, embody and express the three Olympic values.

THREE – The Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games emblem 'Spirit of Youth' celebrates Singapore 2010 in an adventurous, open and fun way. It evokes the Singaporean sense of confidence and progress. The **three (3)** distinct elements of the emblem are:

- The Flame of Passion
- The Star of Champions
- The Crescent of Tomorrow



Spirit of Youth inspires all of us to express the Olympic spirit and celebrate the first-ever Youth Olympic Games.

- 4) **FOUR** – Malay, Mandarin, Tamil and English are the **four (4)** official languages in Singapore. English is the language of administration as well as the medium of instruction in schools and other educational institutions. The National Anthem is sung in the Malay language.
- 5) **FIVE** – The Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games theme song entitled 'Everyone' will be sung by **five (5)** young singers, from the five continents participating in the Games.

The five singers are:

- Ms Jody Williams representing Africa
- Mr Sean Kingston representing America
- Ms Tabitha Nauser representing Asia
- Mr Steve Appleton representing Europe
- Ms Jessica Mauboy representing Oceania

FIVE – The 117th IOC session was held in Singapore in 2005, where it was announced that London will be the host city of the 2012 Olympic Games. British footballer David Beckham, Olympic rowing champion Steve Redgrave, heptathlon Olympian Denise Lewis, Olympic and world champion rower Matthew Pinsent, double olympic gold medalist Shirley Robertson and Jonathan Edwards, also an Olympic gold medalist, were part of the London IOC delegation who came to Singapore.

- 6) **SIX** – The Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay is a waterside building located on **six (6)** hectares⁵ of waterfront land

⁵ Source: Your Singapore <http://www.yoursingapore.com/content/traveller/en/br/entertainment/architecture/esplanade-theatres-on-the-bay.html>



99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

alongside Marina Bay near the mouth of the Singapore River, purpose-built to be the centre for performing arts for the island nation of Singapore.

The concert hall is one of only five⁶ in the world with state-of-the-art acoustics: The orchestral platform is able to hold up to 120 musicians. Above it is the movable acoustic canopy, which is composed of three pieces, each weighing 17 tons.⁷ This canopy serves the purpose of a sound reflector, both to get the right acoustics to suit the ongoing event, and also to enable musicians to hear themselves on stage. As such, the hall can cater to a diverse range of musical performances.

The hall's reverberation chamber, used to vary the acoustic characteristics of the Hall, is an open void that spans three levels and has a volume of 9,500 cubic metres⁸, or about the volume of four Olympic-sized swimming pools.

SIX – Singapore will be awarding the Singapore Youth Olympic Scholarship to outstanding young athletes around the world to study in the island state's Singapore Sports School. A legacy for the inaugural Youth Olympic Games (YOG), six scholarship places will be offered at each Summer Youth Olympic Games. The scholarship, which is in line with the YOG's objective to provide an integrated sport and education experience for athletes, includes an integrated sport training and education, specialised coaching, full board accommodation and language induction for non-English speaking candidates.

The summer edition takes place once every four years and there will be **six** awardees per summer YOG, one from each of the five continents (Europe, Africa, the Americas, Oceania and Asia) and one from Singapore.

- 7) **SEVEN** – The Journey of the Youth Olympic Flame (JYOF) will be the link that connects the youth of the world to the Olympic Movement and spreads the spirit of Olympism to them. The JYOF will cover **seven** (7) cities, beginning in Greece according to Olympic tradition, and ending in Singapore.

The Flame will also travel to one city in each of the five continents, namely:

* Berlin, Germany, representing Europe

⁶ Source: Esplanade website http://www.esplanade.com/about_the_centre/venues/concert_hall/index.jsp

⁷ Source: Focus Singapore <http://www.focussingapore.com/singapore-entertainment/theatres/esplanade-theater-bay-singapore.html>

⁸ Source: Discover Singapore
http://books.google.com.sg/books?id=0366OQCNeZEC&pg=PA48&lpq=PA48&dq=esplanade+9,500+cubic+metres&source=bl&ots=P9G-78eLk9&sig=O2mSJH7p2Orfg86JKDeXh7dgy4g&hl=en&ei=H1jrS_zhBoHo7AODzKGxCA&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=6&ved=0CC0Q6AEwBQ#v=onepage&q&f=false

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

- * Dakar, Senegal, representing Africa
- * Mexico City, Mexico, representing the Americas
- * Auckland, New Zealand, representing Oceania
- * Seoul, Republic of Korea, representing Asia

At each city, the Youth Olympic Flame will travel to iconic sights in the city, before ending the day with a city celebration. The youth representing the NOCs of each continent will be invited to the Celebration City to celebrate the arrival of the Youth Olympic Flame to their continent.

The Youth Olympic Flame will be lit at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games Opening Ceremony on 14 August 2010, marking the commencement of the first YOG.

- 8) **EIGHT** – The quantity of food that will be catered for over the course of Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games is **eight hundred (800)** tonnes of food, which is equivalent to 700,000 meals!

Paddlers Li Jia Wei, Wang Yuegu and Feng Tianwei charted a new sporting milestone for Singapore when they secured the silver medal in the Table Tennis Women's Team event at the Beijing **2008** Olympic Games. This is Singapore's historic win in clinching its second Olympic medal in history.

- 9) **NINE** – Singapore's National Day is celebrated on the **ninth (9th)** of August⁹ every year by all people to venerate Singapore's independence.

The name Singapore is derived from the word "Singapura" or "Lion City" as legend has it that a Sumatran prince sighted a beast that looked like a lion when he first set foot on the island in the 14th century. In the year 1819, Sir Stamford Raffles established a British trading station on this island. Singapore gained its independence as a sovereign and democratic nation on **ninth (9)** August 1965. It was admitted to both the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Nations in the same year.

The National Day of Singapore is celebrated with a National Day Parade. This Parade has become the grandest national event in Singapore. The celebrations of the national day of Singapore include an amazing exhibit of fireworks that marks the pinnacle of the parade when the sky becomes a canvas of



⁹Source: Wwww.sg - Your official gateway to Singapore <http://app.www.sg/who/39/Independence.aspx>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

colors. It is accompanied by military parades, colorful demonstrations of different cultural groups, amazing stunts by the Singapore Armed Forces parachutists and the melodious choirs by the school children.

- 10) **TEN** – The starting price of a ticket to a ticketed competition event at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games is **ten (10)** Singapore dollars. Around 320,000 tickets to 158 competition events in 26 sports are on sale at www.singapore2010.sg/tickets.

To encourage everyone to be a part of this milestone sporting event, the tickets are priced affordably at S\$10 (Preliminaries), S\$15 (Quarter Finals/ Semi Finals) and S\$30 (Finals). For the first time in the history of Olympic Games, each ticket purchased is accompanied by a Singapore 2010 DBS Visa Prepaid Companion Card that combines payment and transit functionality.

Tickets for the Opening and Closing ceremonies will be allocated via a ballot-to-purchase system since places are limited, and the aim is to allow everyone a fair chance to buy them. Ticket prices for the Opening Ceremony start from S\$30 while those for the Closing Ceremony start from S\$15.

- 11) **ELEVEN** – Russell Lee, a pseudonym for a team of ghost-story writers, is the hottest-selling local author in Singapore. His **eleven (11)** volumes¹⁰ of *True Singapore Ghost Stories* have sold more than 600,000 copies to date. These volumes have formed a memorable part of Singapore's arts and culture offering.

- 12) **TWELVE** – The **twelve (12)** Singapore Airlines Suites¹¹, exclusively available onboard the A380, provide a privileged few with their very own haven of tranquility. Lounge in the largest ever seat; a lavish armchair with adjustable headrest and armrests. For a restful sleep, experience the pleasure of sleeping on a standalone bed; not one converted from a seat, topped off with turn-down service with fine linen and full-sized pillows.



- 13) **THIRTEEN** – **Thirteen (13)** recycling stations along Orchard Road, owned by the National Environment Agency, will be redesigned to include ideas and tips to encourage proper use of the stations. Some examples of these 'eco ideas' are, how recycling one tonne (1,000 kg)

¹⁰ Source: NewAsia Singapore – Did You Know... http://www.newasia-singapore.com/travel_information/introduction/did_you_know..._200705301.html

¹¹ Source: Singapore Airlines – Seats Features http://www.singaporeair.com/saa/en_UK/content/exp/new/suite/seatfeatures.jsp

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

of paper can help save 17 trees, and the recycling of one aluminum can save enough energy to light up a 100W bulb for three and a half hours.

This is part of Panasonic's partnership with SYOGOC to drive environmental awareness and inculcate environmentally-friendly practices among athletes, Singaporeans and visitors to the Games, under the YOG Environment Programme.

- 14) **FOURTEEN** – August **fourteenth (14th)** will mark the start of the world's inaugural Youth Olympic Games, to be kick started with its Opening Ceremony at the Float@Marina – Singapore's largest floating platform.

The story behind the Opening Ceremony illustrates the parallels between Singapore and the Young Olympians – their struggles, hopes and dreams. The show celebrates Singapore's origins and diversity, and offers a glimpse of the nation's hopes for the future, drawing on all that Singapore has to offer in terms of art, culture and expertise.

FOURTEEN - The Singapore Arts Festival this year will be held from **14** May – 13 June 2010¹². The festival aims to engage the community by bringing the arts closer to the local neighbourhoods through a year-long series of programmes at places such as community centres and regional libraries. The festival will also feature strong creative content with a global perspective.

- 15) **FIFTEEN** – The United States is approximately **15,000** times¹³ bigger than Singapore. Singapore is among the 20 smallest countries in the world but has lots to offer.
- 16) **SIXTEEN** – A sprint canoe in the Canoe Sprint event at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games will weigh at least **sixteen (16)** kilograms.

Two types of canoes were adopted in the 19th century. The Kayak is a covered deck canoe propelled with a double-bladed paddle with the paddler seated in the boat. The Canoe is an open canoe propelled with a single-bladed paddle with the paddler kneeling in the boat. In the Canoe Sprint event, the athletes paddle on a circuit, and compete against each other over a 420m course. For Canoe Slalom, the athletes compete on a calm water surface and not on a natural river or artificial slalom course. However, they still need to demonstrate the skills of a Slalom athlete by maneuvering around gates and also beating the competitor on the course.

¹² Source: Channel NewsAsia

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/1036675/1/.html>

¹³ Source: Uniquely Singapore – Did you know www.uniquely-singapore.com.sg/publish/stbportal/en/home/about_singapore/fun_stuff/did_you_know_.html

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

- 17) **SEVENTEEN** – At the 2002 Asian Games in Busan, Singapore won a total of **seventeen (17)** medals – five Gold medals, two Silver medals, and ten Bronze medals in Bodybuilding, Bowling and Swimming¹⁴.
- 18) **EIGHTEEN** – A total of **eighteen (18)** competition venues will host the 201 sporting competitions in 26 sports during the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games. Singapore is a small nation with limited natural resources. Sustainability is vital to us and our Games preparations reflect this. No new venues will be built for the Games, which will be held from Aug 14 to 26, and our competition sites endorsed by IOC as world-class have all been transformed from existing venues.
- 19) **NINETEEN** – **19.4** degrees Celsius¹⁵ is the lowest temperature ever recorded in Singapore's history. The typical temperature in Singapore is about 31 degrees Celsius.
- 20) **TWENTY** – There will be **twenty thousand (20,000)** local and international volunteers participating in making the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games a success. Volunteers will assist in various aspects of the Games.
- 21) **TWENTY-ONE** – On **twenty-first (21)** February 2008, the IOC announced that Singapore had won by 53 votes over Moscow (44 votes) to become the host city for the first Youth Olympic Games.

Singapore won the bid because of its innovative Games concept with a compact venue plan and a comprehensive Culture and Education Programme (CEP). Besides possessing excellent sports facilities of the correct size for the Games, Singapore also has a sterling reputation for being efficient and organised.

- 22) **TWENTY-TWO** – One of two Olympic-themed artworks selected to be displayed at Marina Bay waterfront promenade along Marina Boulevard, was created by Mr Huang Yifan, age **twenty-two (22)**. He holds a Diploma in Sculpture from LASALLE College of the Arts.

Named "A World United", his design creatively reflects the unifying spirit of sport through a dynamic depiction of sportsmen engaging in the 26 sports of the YOG and represents the Olympic ideals of Peace and Sport, as well as Culture. Incidentally, he is also the youngest participant in this initiative.



¹⁴ Source: Singapore National Olympic Committee website http://www.snoc.org.sg/asian_games.php

¹⁵ Source: GuideRooms.com – Singapore travel information
<http://www.guiderooms.com/singapore/travelguide/index.htm>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

TWENTY-TWO – An Eunhui, age **twenty-two (22)** from Korea, is one of thirty Young Ambassadors for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games. (Refer to 30) for more information on the Young Ambassadors programme.)



Eunhui said, “What I’m looking forward to at the YOG is a meeting all the friends in the world at the very special place, Singapore. Also, I’d like to prove that **MORE THAN A GOLD** in the Olympic Games, promoting the CEP program to All youths including athletes.”

23) **TWENTY-THREE** – Karolin Anna Weber, age **twenty-three (23)** from Germany, is one of thirty Young Ambassadors for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.



My favorite moment from past Olympics:

In Beijing we had tickets for a men handball game and two tickets were left over. On the tube we met a little Chinese boy and his father. The father spoke a bit of English and we got in contact with him. We end up giving them the two tickets. With the tickets they had the chance to visit at least one event. During the game they were sitting next to us and we explained the game and the rules to them. Seeing the smile of the boy was my favourite moment of the past Olympic Games.

What I’m most looking forward to at YOG:

Meeting all these interesting people from all over the world.

24) **TWENTY-FOUR** – In the Singapore leg of the Journey of the Youth Olympic Flame, about twenty-four hundred (2400) torchbearers will be journeying around the island in the city first-ever Olympic Games torch relay. As torchbearers are the ambassadors of the Olympic Flame, they must embrace, embody and express the Olympic values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect. Cheer them on in the six-day torch relay in the city-state come August!

TWENTY-FOUR – Elise Rechichi, age **twenty-four (24)** from Australia, is one of thirty Young Ambassadors for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.



Elise was quoted as saying, “I cannot wait to see the vibrance and enthusiasm that the athletes will bring to this amazing event, from both sporting and cultural perspectives. There is something about the spirit of

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

youth, an authenticity that will allow us into their worlds and into their hearts as we follow their performances, which will be amazing to watch. I'm looking forward to the athletes being given the opportunity to understand what it means to compete at Olympics - what you have to give of yourself. I think that the YOG will inspire renewed enthusiasm in sport in youth, globally. In addition I think that the YOG will be a very powerful vehicle to inspire healthier, more active lifestyles in young people worldwide. Finally, and maybe most importantly I cannot wait to see how the YOG will bring people from the most culturally diverse of backgrounds together - people who are so different, yet all share the same mission."

TWENTY-FOUR – Erin Kennedy, age **twenty-four (24)** from the United States of America, is one of thirty Young Ambassadors for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.



My favorite moment from past Olympics:

My hometown in Pennsylvania is named after a former Olympian - Jim Thorpe. Although I was not there, my favorite moment would be when he won gold medals in the pentathlon and the decathlon in the 1912 Summer Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden. This athlete has brought great pride to my small town, something that will remain with me forever.

What I'm most looking forward to at YOG:

I am most looking forward to experiencing a new culture and interacting with people from all over the world!

TWENTY-FOUR – Fergus Bisset, age **twenty-four (24)** from Great Britain, is one of thirty Young Ambassadors for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

Fergus said, "I'm looking forward and feel incredibly privileged to be a participant in the first ever YOG and contributing to this really significant moment for the the Olympic Movement. I'm hoping to help create a significant and defining experience for all the young athletes at a potentially significant point in their careers and in their lives. I'm also then looking forward then to what comes after the YOG - the legacy - in the hearts and minds of all the participants but also in the thousands of other people, young and old that we can go on to inspire by embodying the Olympic Values and aspiring to continually better ourselves and our environment."



99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

25) **TWENTY-FIVE** – Despite being largely urbanized, Singapore is the largest exporter of ornamental fish, making up **twenty-five (25)** per cent¹⁶ of the world market.

TWENTY-FIVE – Angeliki Kordali, age **twenty-five (25)** from Greece, is another one of the thirty Young Ambassadors for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

Her favourite moment from past Olympics was the rehearsal of the Opening Ceremony of Athens 2004 Olympic Games. Angliki said, “The stadium full of volunteers as spectators watching what the rest of the world would watch the next day. I couldn't get enough of what was going on, as if I was trying to capture all the feelings and emotions.”

“I look forward to watching the young athletes making their best effort but also experiencing unforgettable moments that will influence their whole lives.”



26) **TWENTY-SIX** – The Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games will see some 5,000 athletes compete in **twenty-six (26)** sports.

The 26 sports are:

Aquatics; Archery; Athletics; Badminton; Basketball; Boxing; Canoe-Kayak; Cycling; Equestrian; Fencing; Football; Gymnastics; Handball; Hockey; Judo; Modern Pentathlon; Rowing; Sailing; Shooting; Table tennis; Taekwondo; Tennis; Triathlon; Volleyball; Weightlifting; Wrestling

¹⁶ Source: EntrePinoy's Atbp - Ornamental Fish Breeding: Uncovering a Billion-Dollar Industry, 8 September 2007
<http://www.mixph.com/2007/09/ornamental-fish-breeding-uncovering-a-billion-dollar-industry.html>

TWENTY-SIX – Sherry Tsai, age **twenty-six (26)** from Hong Kong, China, is another one of the thirty Young Ambassadors for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.



My favorite moment from past Olympics:

Have been a swimmer for 16 years, and I represented Hong Kong in 3 Olympics (2000 Sydney Olympics, 2004 Athens Olympics, and 2008 Olympics). I was honoured to be the flag bearer of the Hong Kong Delegation at the opening ceremony of the Athens Olympics, and was one of the torchbearers of the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Being part of the Olympic Games history was a 'dream come true' to me. I look forward to be a part of the 1st Youth Olympics!

What I'm most looking forward to at YOG:

Meet new friends, spread the Olympic spirit to the Youth, and have fun!!!!

27) **TWENTY-SEVEN** – The Youth Olympic Park, located at the entrance of the new pedestrian bridge at Marina Bay, will display **twenty-seven (27)** artworks created by youths, YOG memorabilia which tell the Singapore 2010 story and installations in expression of the Olympic values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect.

28) **TWENTY-EIGHT** – The fastest selling book of all time in Singapore is *Hello Chok Tong, Goodbye Kuan Yew: The Untold Story*. Written and drawn by political cartoonist George Nonis, it sold approximately **twenty-eight (28)** books an hour¹⁷ in the first two months of its launch.

TWENTY-EIGHT – The Singapore Flyer is the world's largest Giant Observation Wheel and is set to be one of Asia's biggest tourist attractions. Featuring **twenty-eight (28)** fixed capsules¹⁸ the size of a bus, the spectacular monument is capable of holding up to 784 passengers. Each capsule has a 28 person capacity and each revolution takes approximately 30 minutes.



¹⁷ Source: NewsAsia Singapore http://www.newasia-singapore.com/travel_information/introduction/did_you_know..._200705301.html

¹⁸ Source: Singapore Flyer official website <http://www.singaporeflyer.com/en/about-us/about-singapore-flyer.html>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

Singapore Flyer was conceived and designed by Dr. Kisho Kurokawa and DP Architects, Singapore. It held its groundbreaking ceremony in September 2005 and was launched in 2008. It promises more than just a view, but a panorama that captures Marina Bay's skyline with a glimpse of neighbouring Malaysia and Indonesia.

29) **TWENTY-NINE – Twenty-nine (29)** per cent¹⁹ of over 1,000 animals from 115 species that inhabit the 40-hectare Night Safari are threatened species. In line with its mission to promote biodiversity, the park focuses on the captive breeding of threatened species. Over the years, it has bred Malayan tigers, Asian elephants, fishing cats, red dholes, anoas, markhors, bantengs, Malayan tapirs and Asian lions, among other endangered species.

30) **THIRTY** – There will be **thirty (30)** Young Ambassadors participating in the Young Ambassador programme for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games. This new initiative by the International Olympic Council (IOC) engages 30 young people nominated by their National Olympic Committees to help promote the YOG in their regions and communities and support the athletes before and during the Games as well as during their participation in the Culture and Education Programme (CEP).

The Young Ambassadors are between the ages of 18 and 28, come from a variety of backgrounds -- from former Olympians to scholars -- and represent countries from Australia to Zimbabwe. They strive to “connect” and “engage” with youths from their respective countries around the world, to excite them about the Games.

THIRTY – The world's highest man-made waterfall, standing at **thirty (30)** metres, is located at the Jurong Bird Park²⁰. Opened in 1971, Jurong Bird Park is the largest bird park in the world, offering a 20.2-hectare hillside haven for 8,000 birds representing 600 species. Its Heliconia Repository, with 108 heliconia species and cultivars in its collection, is one of the largest in the region. With key attractions such as the Bird Discovery Centre, African Waterfall Aviary, Lory Loft Aviary, Southeast Asian Birds Aviary and the award-winning African Wetlands, the Bird Park attracted close to 900,000 visitors in 2009.

31) **THIRTY-ONE** – Singapore has a tropical climate, with the average daytime temperature at **thirty-one (31)** degrees Celsius²¹ (88°F), dropping to around twenty-four degrees Celsius (75°F) in the evenings.

32) **THIRTY-TWO** – Singapore is one of Asia's most advanced and cosmopolitan cities, with a standard of living comparable to North America and Western Europe. In terms of quality of life, it is tops in Asia and number **thirty-two (32)**²² in the world, according to the annual

¹⁹ Source: Night Safari official website http://www.nightsafari.com.sg/l2_t1.aspx?l1=1&l2=2&langid=1

²⁰ Source: Singapore – Tourism Asia <http://singapore.tourism-asia.net/jurong-bird-park.html>

²¹ Source: World Weather Information Service – Singapore <http://worldweather.wmo.int/081/c00234.htm>

²² Source: Mercer - Quality of Living global city rankings 2008 – Mercer survey, 10 June 2008

<http://www.mercer.com/referencecontent.htm?idContent=1307990>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

Mercer Human Resource Consulting survey in 2008. In 2009, Singapore ranked even higher, at 26th in the world for quality of life. Survey criteria included political, social, economic and environmental factors, as well as personal safety, health, education, transport and other public services.

- 33) **THIRTY-THREE – Thirty-three (33)** per cent of Singaporean couples²³ choose to deliver their babies at KK Women's and Children's Hospital.

KK Women's and Children's Hospital is the largest medical facility in Singapore which provides specialised care for women, babies and children. Since their inception in 1858, they have grown from a 30-bed maternity hospital in 1924 and evolved into an 830-bed hospital for women and children. In fact, it is the only integrated women's and children's hospital in Singapore.

- 34) **THIRTY-FOUR** – Foreigners make up **thirty-four (34)** per cent²⁴ of Singapore's total workforce.

- 35) **THIRTY-FIVE** – The Marina Barrage is a dam built across the **350-metre wide**²⁵ Marina Channel to keep out seawater, forming Singapore's first reservoir in the city and 15th reservoir. Marina Reservoir combines with the future Punggol and Serangoon reservoirs will increase Singapore's water catchment areas from half to two-thirds of Singapore's land areas.

With a catchment area of 10,000 hectares, or one-sixth the size of Singapore, the Marina catchment is the island's largest and most urbanised catchment.

The Marina Barrage is one of the locations for the Culture and Education Programme (CEP), where youths and athletes will do activities and learn about the importance of water conservation.



- 36) **THIRTY-SIX** – The second of the two Olympic-themed artworks selected to be displayed at Marina Bay waterfront promenade along Marina Boulevard, was created by Mr Edwin Cheong, age **thirty-six (36)**, a lecturer at Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts.



²³ Source: LinkedIn – KK Women's & Children's Hospital <http://www.linkedin.com/company/kk-women-s-and-children-s-hospital>

²⁴ Source: Financial Times – Asia Pacific: Singapore aims to ease fears over immigration, Financial Times, 31 January 2010 <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/7996cf3e-0e84-11df-bd79-00144feabdc0.html>

²⁵ Source: Public Utilities Board – Marina Barrage <http://www.pub.gov.sg/marina/Pages/default.aspx>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

His work, named "Breathe", comprises three tree-like sculptures with windmills (or "branches") that echo the Olympic rings. It has been designed to capture the wind and translate the stored energy to power the LED lights lining the leaves at night. This sculpture demonstrates the self-sustaining nature of the environment and aptly reflects the Olympic ideal of Environment.

37) **THIRTY-SEVEN** – Changi International Airport handled over **thirty-seven million (37,000,000)** passengers in 2009²⁶. This made it the 21st busiest airport in the world and the fifth busiest in Asia by passenger traffic in 2009.

38) **THIRTY-EIGHT** – For the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games Equestrian competition, riders will compete on mounts provided by the Organising Committee. In total, the Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (SYOGOC) will provide a stable of **thirty-eight (38)** horses which will arrive here in July 2010.



The provision of horses is a Games requirement, and will ensure a level playing field as the horses will be of similar standards. A draw will be conducted to allocate horses to riders. The assigned horse-rider combination will apply throughout the competition, for both the team and individual events.

Australian thoroughbreds have been chosen for Singapore 2010 as they are generally lighter and more suited to Singapore's tropical climate. The climate in Brisbane, Australia where the horses are being trained is similar to that of Singapore's.

39) **THIRTY-NINE** – According to the CIA World Factbook, the median age of a Singaporean is **thirty-nine (39)** years²⁷.

40) **FORTY** – Singapore is a compact island measuring just **forty (40)** kilometres²⁸ east-to-west and twenty kilometres north-to-south. It is jam packed with entertainment, dining, shopping and arts offerings, which are extremely convenient to commute between.

41) **FORTY-ONE** – The Singapore Sling is an internationally recognised cocktail created at Raffles Hotel in 1915 by Bar Captain Ngiam Tong Boon. Originally created as a lady's drink and thus the pink hue, it has



²⁶ Source: Changi Airport official website

http://www.changiairport.com/changi/en/about_us/fact_sheets/?_locale=en

²⁷ Source: Central Intelligence Agency – Singapore <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sn.html>

²⁸ Source: Singapore 2010 official website

http://www.singapore2010.sg/public/sg2010/en/en_youth_olympic_flame/en_singapore_leg.html

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

become a world-renowned cocktail still being mixed in Raffles Hotel. A recipe written on a bar-chit in creator Ngiam's own handwriting, dated 1936, can still be found in the Raffles Hotel Museum along with Ngiam's recipe book. In 1999, Raffles Hotel reportedly sold more than **forty-one (41)** Singapore Slings an hour²⁹.

Long Bar in Raffles Hotel is an iconic bar that adds to Singapore's vibrant nightlife scene.

FORTY-ONE – Night Safari, the world's first wildlife park for nocturnal animals attracts more than 1.1 million visitors yearly. Over 1,000 animals from 115 species inhabit the 40-hectare park. The park can be explored either on foot via three walking trails, or by tram. On foot, visitors can view **forty-one (41)** exhibits³⁰, while on tram they can view eighteen exhibits.

- 42) **FORTY-TWO** – The number of tennis balls used in the tennis competition events at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games is **forty-two hundred (4,200)**.

A Tennis match is a game of endurance, quick-wittedness and precise execution. It consists of a pre-determined number of sets, which in turn consists of games. Each game is made up of a sequence of points played with the same player serving. For the Singles competitions, all matches will be determined through the best of three tie-break sets. For the Doubles competitions, all matches will be determined by two tie-break sets and a match tie-break game (10 points) in place of a third set.

- 43) **FORTY-THREE** – Singapore has had a currency agreement with Brunei for **forty-three (43)** years now³¹, where the Singapore dollar has been pegged to the Brunei dollar at a rate of 1:1. The two currencies are accepted in both countries as legal tender. The currency peg has benefited both countries as there are no additional charges and banks will accept the currencies at the same value.

In 2007, to celebrate 40 years of currency interchangeability, Singapore and Brunei issued a special joint bank note.

- 44) **FORTY-FOUR** – In **1944**, one of Singapore's oldest buildings, the Capitol Theatre, was damaged by a bomb as part of the anti-Japanese resistance. Today, the theatre is one of Singapore's architectural landmarks and has been listed for preservation by the Urban Redevelopment Agency.³²



²⁹ Source: National Library Board – Singapore Infopedia, 29 September 1997

http://infopedia.nl.sg/articles/SIP_21_2005-01-11.html

³⁰ Source: Night Safari – Fast Facts http://www.nightsafari.com.sg/l2_t1.aspx?l1=1&l2=2&langid=1

³¹ Source: The Government of Brunei Darussalam Official Website http://www.finance.gov.bn/bcb/bcb_index.htm

³² Source: National Library Board – Capitol Theatre http://infopedia.nl.sg/articles/SIP_630_2004-12-15.html

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

45) **FORTY-FIVE** – Singapore will celebrate **forty-five (45)** years of independence³³ this year, marking our successful transformation from a small Asian outpost to a vibrant metropolis.

46) **FORTY-SIX** – The Merlion, Singapore's mascot and an imaginary creature with the head of a lion and the body of a fish, turns **forty-six (46)** years old³⁴ this year. Its name combines "mer" meaning the sea and "lion". The fish body comes from Singapore's ancient name back when it was a fishing village, Temasek, meaning "sea town" in Javanese.



47) **FORTY-SEVEN** – In **1947**, a movie called 'Singapore' was produced³⁵, directed by John Brahm. The story is set in pre-war Singapore, where Matt Gordon meets and falls in love with Linda Grahame. But, during the Japanese attack and invasion, he loses contact with her. Five years later he returns to Singapore to recover some stolen pearls and accidentally meets Linda, who is suffering from amnesia and does not remember the years before the war, and is married to an Englishman she met while interned in a Japanese prison camp.

48) **FORTY-EIGHT** – The lightest weight class for female weight lifting at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games is **forty-eight (48)** kilograms.

In Weightlifting, competitors compete to lift a weighted bar above their head and hold it under control until signalled by the referee to replace it on the platform. The Men will compete in six bodyweight categories, while the Women will compete in five bodyweight categories. The combined results of the Snatch and the Clean & Jerk will produce the champion of each bodyweight category.

49) **FORTY-NINE** – Singapore has a total population of **4.9** million³⁶, who trace their roots back to diverse regions of the world. This number has more than tripled in the last 50 years.

50) **FIFTY** – The Culture and Education Programme for athletes participating in the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games comprises over **fifty (50)** fun, interactive activities crafted along the 5 educational themes of Olympism, Skills Development, Well-Being and Healthy Lifestyle, Social Responsibility and Expression. Set in 7 formats, these activities aim to engage and inspire athletes to be true Olympians, to adapt and live by the Olympic Values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect, and to play active roles within their communities.

³³ Source: Wwww.sg- Your official gateway to Singapore <http://app.www.sg/who/39/Independence.aspx>

³⁴ Source: New Asia Singapore – History & Origins http://www.newasia-singapore.com/travel_information/introduction/history_and_origins_20070609390.html

³⁵ Source: The Internet Movie Database – Singapore (1947) <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0039829/>

³⁶ Source: Singapore Statistics – Time Series on Population (Mid-Year Estimates) <http://www.singstat.gov.sg/stats/themes/people/hist/popn.html>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

These seven formats are:

- Chat with Champions
- Discovery Activity
- World Culture Village
- Community Project
- Arts and Culture
- Island Adventure
- Exploration Journey

51) **FIFTY-ONE** – The Asian Games is a multi-sport event held every four years among athletes from all over Asia. The games were started in **1951**, and are regulated by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) under the supervision of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). 1951 was also the year that Singapore first participated in the Asian Games³⁷.

52) **FIFTY-TWO** – Lee Hsien Loong, prime minister of Singapore, was born in **1952**. The eldest son of Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's first prime minister, Lee was educated at Cambridge and Harvard while also serving (beginning in 1974) in Singapore's armed forces. Retiring as a brigadier general in 1984, he was elected to parliament and became a member of the leadership of the People's Action party two years later. A cabinet member from 1987 and deputy prime minister from 1990, he became finance minister in 2001. In 2004 he succeeded the retiring Goh Chok Tong as prime minister.³⁸

53) **FIFTY-THREE** – When Singapore won the bid to host the inaugural 2010 Summer Youth Olympic Games on 21 February 2008, Singapore beat Moscow in the finals by winning **fifty-three (53)** International Olympic Committee (IOC) votes to Moscow's forty-four.

54) **FIFTY-FOUR** – The National Parks Board National Parks Board (NParks) is responsible for providing and enhancing the greenery of Singapore, the Garden City. NParks manages **fifty-four (54)** assets, comprising 50 major parks and 4 nature reserves³⁹. Adding to this is the extensive streetscape, or roadside greenery, that forms the backbone of the City in a Garden. An island-wide Park Connector Network has also been developed to link major parks and residential areas. For Singapore 2010, the triathlon event is held at the East Coast Park and Cycling Men's Final is held at the Tampines Bike Park. One of the Exploration Journeys is at the newly-built gardening hub, the HortPark which Singapore 2010 athletes will go on to learn more about the eco-system and sustainability.

³⁷ Source: Olympic Council of Asia <http://www.ocasia.org/Game/GamesL1.aspx?GPCode=1>

³⁸ Source: The Cabinet, Mr Lee Hsien Loong
<http://www.cabinet.gov.sg/CabinetAppointments/Mr+Lee+Hsien+Loong.htm>

³⁹ Source: National Parks Singapore, Corporate Information
http://www.nparks.gov.sg/cms/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=49&Itemid=54

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

FIFTY-FOUR – Singapore won a gold medal in the water polo category in the **1954** Asian Games, when the team managed to beat the Japan opposition, who had been the overwhelming favourite throughout the tournament, 4-2 in the final⁴⁰.

- 55) **FIFTY-FIVE** – To build a strong sporting culture in Singapore, the Singapore Sports Hub is expected to be ready by 2014 and will comprise a new **fifty-five thousand (55,000)** capacity National Stadium with a retractable roof, a 6,000-capacity indoor aquatic centre, a 400-metre warm-up athletic track and a 3,000-seat multi-purpose arena⁴¹.
- 56) **FIFTY-SIX** – The Johor–Singapore Causeway is a **1,056**-metre causeway that links the city of Johor Bahru in Malaysia across the Straits of Johor to the town of Woodlands in Singapore. The causeway carries 60,000 vehicles on a typical day⁴².
- 57) **FIFTY-SEVEN** – Prior to gaining independence, Singapore was colonised by Britain. In the year **1957**, the British government allowed the island colony of Singapore to govern itself under a new constitution agreed in London, while Britain remained in charge of external affairs and defence⁴³.
- 58) **FIFTY-EIGHT** – Tan Howe Liang, nicknamed "Tiger" is the first Singaporean ever to have won a medal in the Olympic Games. He won the silver medal in the weightlifting event, under the men's lightweight (60-67.5 kg) category on 8 September 1960 at the Palazetto Dello Sport Hall in Rome during the 1960 Olympics when he was 27 years old. Tan also broke the oldest-standing world record in the lightweight frame in the clean-and-jerk in **1958**⁴⁴.
- 59) **FIFTY-NINE** – In **1959**, Singapore had its own state arms, its own flag, and its own national anthem. The arms consisted of a lion and a tiger holding a crest made up of a crescent moon and five stars⁴⁵.

The animals symbolised Singapore's unity with the Malayan Federation, and stood on a scroll with the words 'Majulah Singapura' (Onward Singapore). The crescent moon represented a



⁴⁰ Source: All Asian Games water polo results, Asia Swimming Federation
<http://www.asiaswimmingfederation.org/results/water-polo/all-results/all-asian-games-results/asian-games-wp-results.pdf>

⁴¹ Source: Singapore Sports Hub, Singapore Sports Council
<http://www.ssc.gov.sg/publish/Corporate/en/industry/sportshub.html>

⁴² Source: Causeway, Johor Bahru, Malaysia, Yahoo! Travel http://travel.yahoo.com/p-travelguide-2887939-causeway_johor_bahru-i

⁴³ Source: On this Day – 11th April, bbc.co.uk
http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/dates/stories/april/11/newsid_2828000/2828903.stm

⁴⁴ Source: Tan Howe Liang, Singapore National Olympic Committee
http://www.snoc.org.sg/p_tan_howe_liang.php

⁴⁵ Source: Singapore's State Arms, Flags and National Anthem, MINDEF History
http://www.mindef.gov.sg/imindef/about_us/history/birth_of_saf/v04n03_history.html

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

new and rising state, while the five stars symbolised democracy, peace, progress, equality and justice.

- 60) **SIXTY** – As the Youth Olympic Flame journeys around Singapore in a 6-day torch relay, Singaporeans will be participating as torchbearers or cheering on their fellow community torchbearers in the first-ever Olympic Games torch relay in Singapore. The Torch is made of aluminum, with the handle coated with non-slip material, and measures **sixty (60)** centimeters in height.

The visual imagery on the Youth Olympic Flame (JYOF) torch takes its design inspiration from nature's two most powerful elements – fire and water. Fire represents the Youth's passion and burning desire to learn and excel, blazing the trail in life. Water represents Singapore, with its origins as a seaport; and the vibrant and dynamic nature of Singapore as an island city-state is represented in the fluid energy of water.

The form of the torch was designed to combine the dual elements of fire and water, with the water wave on the torch body and a flaming fire on top.

- 61) **SIXTY-ONE** – There are **sixty-one (61)** laps to the 2010 Formula One Singtel Singapore Grandprix. Held at the Marina Bay Street Circuit, the Herman Tilke designed circuit features 23 turns and is one of four street circuits on this year's race calendar⁴⁶. The anticlockwise route also has corners named after famous Singapore icons such as Singapore Sling and runs past the Andersen Bridge and Fullerton Hotel.

The world's only night race has seen two world champions, Fernando Alonso and Lewis Hamilton, take the chequered flag. However, the record for the fastest lap set during the first race is still held by Kimi Raikkonen in 2008.

- 62) **SIXTY-TWO** – The official retirement age in Singapore is **sixty-two (62)** years⁴⁷. By 2012, Singapore plans to raise the retirement age to 65, and eventually to 67 to account for the higher life expectancy of its ageing population. Nearly two-thirds of companies in Singapore already allow their workers to continue working past the age of 62.

- 63) **SIXTY-THREE** – The highest weight class for women in the Judo event at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games is **sixty-three (63)** kilograms and above.

Judo, a traditional Japanese martial art sport, means 'gentle way'. It was introduced by Professor Jigoro Kano in Japan in 1882. Governed by the philosophy 'minimum strength,

⁴⁶ Source: Singapore Grand Prix, Formula 1 Grand Prix: <http://www.formula1-grand-prix.com/gp/en/circuit/23-singapore-grand-prix/singapore-circuit>

⁴⁷ Source: Singapore to raise retirement age to 65 by 2012, inquirer.net, 19/8/2007: <http://business.inquirer.net/money/breakingnews/view/20070819-83520/Singapore-to-raise-retirement-age-to-65-by-2012>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

maximum efficiency', Judo involves two individuals who, by gripping the Judo uniform or Judogi, use the forces of balance, power and movement to throw the opponent over. There is no kicking, punching or weapons involved. There are a total of eight weight categories for both Boys and Girls at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

64) **SIXTY-FOUR** – Singapore consists of a total of **sixty-four (64)** islands, of which one is the main island, and 63 are other small surrounding islands. Most of these small islands are uninhabited⁴⁸.

65) **SIXTY-FIVE** – There will be **sixty-five (65)** standalone bike racks used for the Cycling events at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

Cycling is divided into four main events for the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games: BMX, Mountain Bike, Road Race and Time Trial, testing the speed and endurance of athletes as they speed through the course. Each team consists of three Junior Men and one Junior Woman, with the three Junior Men required to compete in one discipline each (BMX, MTB and Time Trial) while the Junior Woman has to compete in all three disciplines. All male riders also have to compete in the Road Race.

SIXTY-FIVE – Singapore's international country code is +65⁴⁹.

66) **SIXTY-SIX** – On 26 February **1966**, Singapore's first and only disco, Gino's A-Go-Go at Tanglin Road debuted with a full house. Spotted on the dance floor were some of the latest dance moves (at the time), including the Swim, the Hitchhiker, the Monkey, the Shake, the Bug and the Frug⁵⁰.

SIXTY-SEVEN – The details of the new National Service scheme were spelt out in an announcement on 25 February 1967. All 18 year old male Singapore citizens and permanent residents as well as civil servants and students would be called up for National Service. 10% would be called up for full-time training and after their full-time service they would return to civilian life but would be placed in the Reserve Service. The remainder would be called up for part-time service with the People's Defence Force, the Special Constabulary and the Vigilantes. The National Service (Amendment) Bill was tabled on 27 February 1967. The Parliament passed the Bill on 14 March 1967.

67) **SIXTY-EIGHT** – Looking at Sentosa today, it is hard to imagine the island was once a fishing village known as Pulau Blakang Mati. It later became a British military fortress until 1967 and was handed back to the newly independent Singapore Government. In **1968**, the Government decided to develop the island into a holiday resort for local visitors and tourists.

⁴⁸ Source: Guide to the Mangroves of Singapore, NUS: <http://mangrove.nus.edu.sg/guidebooks/text/1003.htm>

⁴⁹ Source: Singapore Country Code 65, country code.org: <http://countrycode.org/singapore>

⁵⁰ Source: Chronicles of Singapore 1959 - 2009

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the I

The public was invited to suggest names for the island and "Sentosa" – meaning peace & tranquility in Malay - was eventually chosen for the island resort⁵¹.



Today, Sentosa, the premier island resort getaway, is testament that Singapore is home to many vibrant lifestyle and entertainment destinations. Just 15 minutes from the city, it is a unique blend of leisure and recreational facilities including family attractions, sea sports, golf as well as hotel accommodation and retreats. A canopy of secondary rainforest covers 70 per cent of the 500-hectare island and is home to monitor lizards, monkeys, peacocks, parrots as well as other native fauna and flora. Sentosa has a 3.2-kilometre stretch of white sand beach, and is the only location in Singapore to offer beachfront accommodation and over 670 hotel rooms with full facilities. Accessed by cable car, bus, taxi or car, the island is open for 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Since the island's inception in 1972, S\$420 million in private investments and another \$500 million from Government funding have gone into developing the island.

- 68) **SIXTY-NINE** – In **1969**, limited edition coins were issued to commemorate Singapore's 150th anniversary. The Government declared that the limited-edition gold coin would be legal tender with a face value of S\$150. Designed by the Royal Mint, the S\$150 coin had the crest of the Republic on its obverse side and the Raffles Lighthouse on its reverse side⁵².



- 69) **SEVENTY** – A total of **seventy (70)** dinghies will be used for the sailing competitions at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

Sailing is a sport involving the maneuvering of a boat. It uses wind as the only source of power to navigate a specially-marked course during a race. The Sailing competition at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games comprises four medal events with Boys and Girls sailing in either the Byte CII boat (one person dinghy) or Techno 293 (windsurfing).

SEVENTY – The shooting distance at the archery competition in the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games is **seventy (70)** metres.

Shooting is a target sport categorised according to the weapon or target used. A total of four events, the Men and Women Air Rifle and Air Pistol will be competed in for the Singapore

⁵¹ Source: Sentosa official website http://www.sentosa.com.sg/about_us/sentosa_island/index.html

⁵² Source: Singapore Mint http://www.singaporemint.com/abt_corporate_1960s.php

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

2010 Youth Olympic Games. Shots are fired at a ten-ring target. The higher score is awarded when a shot touches the line between two zones. The top eight shooters in the qualification round proceed to the finals. In the finals, the ten rings on the target are subdivided into 10 'decimal' score zones (10.0 to 10.9), the highest score for a shot being 10.9. The shooter with the highest total score based on the addition of the qualification and finals score is the winner.

70) **SEVENTY-ONE** – The total land area of Singapore is **710** square kilometres⁵³.

71) **SEVENTY-TWO** – **Seventy-two (72)** pairs of gloves will be used for the boxing events at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

Amateur boxing is a sport where points are scored through punches to an opponent above his waistline. Each bout is made up of four rounds; each round lasts two minutes, with a one minute rest period between the rounds. The winner of a bout is decided by a win on points by five judges or the referee.

72) **SEVENTY-THREE** – **1973** saw the opening of the Singapore Zoo, set in a rainforest environment with a world famous "Open Concept" that offers visitors the opportunity to experience and be inspired by the wonders of nature. Home to over 2,500 specimens from 315 species, 16% of which are threatened, the Zoo has attained a strong reputation internationally for its conservation initiatives and breeding programmes⁵⁴.

SEVENTY-THREE – Swissotel the Stamford is the tallest hotel in Singapore, with a total of **seventy-three (73)** floors. Located in the heart of Singapore, this hotel is part of the Raffles City complex comprising two hotels, the Raffles City convention centre, Raffles City shopping centre and an office tower. Situated at 2 Stamford Road, the hotel sits above City Hall subway station. A distinct landmark in the scenic skyline of Singapore⁵⁵.

73) **SEVENTY-FOUR** – According to a survey conducted this year, Singaporeans are now taller and broader at the shoulders than they were about two decades ago. The average height of the Singaporean man is now **1.74m**, up 5cm from 1990. So USA Basketball Dream Team, we'll see you on the court in a couple of decades!⁵⁶

⁵³ Source: Singapore, World Health Organization Western Pacific Region
<http://www.wpro.who.int/countries/2009/sin/>

⁵⁴ Source: Singapore Zoo, fast facts : http://www.zoo.com.sg/l2_t1.aspx?l1=1&l2=2&langid=1

⁵⁵ Source: Swissotel the Stamford, Singapore, Yahoo! Travel : http://travel.yahoo.com/p-hotel-325857-swissotel_the_stamford-i

⁵⁶ Source: Taller, heavier and broader. The Straits Times, 20/04/2010:
http://www.straitstimes.com/BreakingNews/Singapore/Story/STIStory_516680.html

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

74) **SEVENTY-FIVE** – Approximately **seventy-five (75)** per cent of Singapore's total population is made up of Singapore residents, the remaining includes the varying different nationalities that reside on the island⁵⁷.

75) **SEVENTY-SIX** – A majority of the Singapore population, **seventy-six (76)** per cent to be precise, are of Chinese origin. The remaining population comprises Malays, Indians, Eurasians and others⁵⁸.

76) **SEVENTY-SEVEN** – Elim Chew, set up Singapore's most well known teenage streetwear chain, **77th Street** in Far East Plaza in 1999. It subsequently expanded and now has 12 outlets islandwide! It is also the first Singapore retailer to set up a shopping mall – **77th Street Plaza** – in Xidan Cultural Square in Beijing, bringing Singapore streetwear to the global stage.⁵⁹

77) **SEVENTY-EIGHT** – In **1978**, thousands of spectators gathered at the Esplanade to witness the first-ever Singapore Dragon Boat Festival. The Dragon Boat Festival is one of the most spectacular traditions of ancient China. It is an exciting period for rowing competitions marked by the eating of rice dumpling called "Ba Chang". In some Chinese-speaking societies, the day is also known as the "Poets' Day"⁶⁰.



78) **SEVENTY-NINE** – The thriving music scene in Singapore started with a much anticipated debut of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra (SSO) took place in January **1979**. The nation's first professional symphony orchestra played a rousing rendition of the National Anthem to begin the first of three inaugural performances⁶¹.

79) **EIGHTY** – **Eighty (80)** headgears and trunk protectors will be used for the taekwondo competitions in the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

⁵⁷ Source: Channel News Asia

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/1007789/1.html>

⁵⁸ Source: Singapore Cultural Etiquette, ediplomat http://www.ediplomat.com/np/cultural_etiquette/ce_sg.htm

⁵⁹ Source: National Library Board, Elim Chew: http://infopedia.nl.sg/articles/SIP_1486_2009-03-15.html

⁶⁰ Source: Facts about SDBA, Singapore Dragon Boat Association <http://www.sdba.org.sg/facts.htm>

⁶¹ Source: Singapore Symphony Orchestra, yoursingapore.org

<http://www.yoursingapore.com/content/traveller/en/browse/see-and-do/arts-and-entertainment/music/singapore-symphony-orchestra.html>

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

Taekwondo, a martial art sport, involves the use of both hands and legs to overcome an opponent. The trademark of the sport is its combination of kick movements. Athletes will be competing in five weight categories per gender during the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games.

EIGHTY – Russel Wong, one of the most profiled photographers in Singapore and Asia, enjoys the acclaim of being the first Singaporean to break into the notoriously difficult Hollywood movie industry. He is also among the elite photographers commissioned to photograph covers for Time magazine. He is the first Singaporean photographer to have a solo exhibition at the Singapore Art Museum (Russel Wong: **1980** – 2005), and also the first and only photographer to be invited for the art residency at the renowned Singapore Tyler Print Institute. In addition, His art works can be found in public and private collections, with his “Bamboo Forest” print going for a record US\$40,000.00 at a Christie’s auction in Hong Kong⁶².

80) **EIGHTY-ONE** – In **1981**, Singapore Changi Airport welcomed its first scheduled flight. Flight SQ101, from Subang Airport in Kuala Lumpur, landed at the spanking new Changi Airport at 7.10am on 1 July, signaling the start of operations for the airport. It was all systems go with 113 flights inbound and outbound on the first day⁶³.

81) **EIGHTY-TWO** – Olympic pole-vaulting legend Yelena Isinbayeva, born in **1982**, is an official Ambassador of the Youth Olympic Games. Two-time Olympic gold medallist Isinbayeva will support the Youth Olympic Games by encouraging the participation of young people in sport around the world.

Isinbayeva said: “I am happy to play such an important role in getting young people active, and the Youth Olympic Games provides the perfect vehicle with which to inspire young people around the world to do incredible things through sport.



“This is a very exciting opportunity for me to pursue whilst I take a break from competition. I look forward to having a positive impact on young people and can’t wait for the first Youth Olympic Games to get under way this August. I will be in Singapore to support the athletes, to encourage them to do their best and enjoy the whole experience.”

⁶² Source: Russel Wong, russelwongphoto.com <http://www.russelwongphoto.com/wp-content/themes/RusselWongPhoto/bio.htm>

⁶³ Source: Chronicles of Singapore 1959 - 2009

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

82) **EIGHTY-THREE** – A thousand Singapore dollar (S\$1,000) bank note measures **83mm** in height⁶⁴. The current Portrait series was introduced in 1999, and the notes feature the face of Yusof bin Ishak, the first president of the Republic of Singapore, on the obverse, and the reverse depicts a feature of civic virtue. There are both paper and polymer notes in circulation. The designs of the polymer notes are very similar to the corresponding paper note except for the slightly slippery feel and a small transparent window design in the corner of the banknote. Polymer notes are progressively replacing the paper banknotes in circulation. The notes also has Braille pattern at the top right-hand corner of the front design.



83) **EIGHTY-FOUR** – About **eighty-four (84)** per cent of Singaporeans live in Housing Development Board (HDB) flats. The Housing & Development Board (HDB) is Singapore's public housing authority and a statutory board under the Ministry of National Development⁶⁵.

84) **EIGHTY-FIVE** – Sixteen-time Olympic medallist, Michael Phelps, who was born in **1985**, will support the Youth Olympic Games by encouraging the involvement of young people around the world.

Michael Phelps said “The Youth Olympic Games is an excellent initiative, not only for the athletes competing, but also those who are inspired to get into sport and be more active. I am delighted that I have been given the opportunity to become the first official Ambassador of the Youth Olympic Games, and can't wait to get working with the YOG team to promote the first event this summer!”



85) **EIGHTY-SIX** – In 1986, the Youth Wing of the People's Action Party (PAP), the leading political party in Singapore, was formed with 1,185 members. These members, who had responded to an island-wide search for members aged between 17 and 35, were politically conscious and felt able to contribute to Singapore society⁶⁶.

86) **EIGHTY-SEVEN** – Lee Kuan Yew, co-founder and first secretary-general of the People's Action Party (PAP) in Singapore turns **eighty-seven (87)** this year. He led the party to a

⁶⁴ Source: Singapore Currency, tradechakra.com <http://www.tradechakra.com/economy/singapore/singapore-currency-6.php>

⁶⁵ Source: HDB History: About Us <http://www.hdb.gov.sg/fi10/fi10320p.nsf/w/AboutUsHDBHistory?OpenDocument>

⁶⁶ Source: Chronicles of Singapore 1959 - 2009

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

landslide victory in 1959, oversaw the separation of Singapore from the Federation of Malaysia in 1965 and its subsequent transformation from a relatively underdeveloped colonial outpost with no natural resources into a "First World", Asian Tiger. He has remained one of the most influential political figures in Singapore and South-East Asia⁶⁷.

EIGHTY-SEVEN – Singapore has one of the most efficient transport systems in the world. The first Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) train opened on the 7th of November, **1987**. Singapore's aim was to develop a comprehensive rail network as the main backbone of the public transport system in Singapore. Initially only planned to have 42 stations along the 62km route, the entire MRT system is now 89.4km consisting of the North South and East West lines, with 51 stations in total, and will expand to include a 33.3km long Circle Line (CCL) that has 29 stations to enable convenient transport around Singapore. Average daily ridership in 2009 was 1.952 million, just over 63% of the bus network's 3.085 million in the same period⁶⁸.

87) **EIGHTY-EIGHT** – Known as Singapore's King of Swing, Jeremy Monteiro, 49, launched his international career at the Montreux Jazz Festival in **1988** with his group "Monteiro, Young & Holt". Since then, he has recorded over 20 jazz albums and has played on numerous recordings by other artistes such as Grammy Award-winning jazz saxophonist Ernie Watts. Jeremy is a winner of the Singapore Cultural Medallion – Singapore's pinnacle award in arts achievement in 2002. ⁶⁹

88) **EIGHTY-NINE** – The Singapore Indoor Stadium is an air-conditioned, multi-purpose sports and entertainment facility designed by internationally acclaimed architect Kenzo Tange. Built at a cost of S\$90 million in **1989**, its unique, ultra-modern design features an eye-catching roof that reflects traditional Asian cultural values. The two sides of the futuristic roof structure intersect to form the Chinese character for the lucky number eight. At its apex, the roof soars to an impressive forty metres, making it one of the tallest single-storey buildings in Singapore⁷⁰.



Over the years, nearly 5 million people have attended more than 3,000 events at the Singapore Indoor Stadium making it Asia's favourite venue for sports and live entertainment.

⁶⁷ Source: Lee Kuan Yew Biography, bookrags.com: <http://www.bookrags.com/biography/lee-kuan-yew/>

⁶⁸ Source: Singapore Land Transport System, NLB: <http://libguides.nl.sg/content.php?pid=93596&sid=698340>

⁶⁹ Source: Jeremy Monteiro's official website:

http://web.mac.com/fingerz/Jeremy_Monteiro_website/Biography.html

⁷⁰ Source: Singapore Indoor Stadium, NLB: http://infopedia.nl.sg/articles/SIP_1596_2009-10-30.html

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

The venue currently has one of the highest utilisation rates in the world, featuring a year round programme of international performances and sporting action. World-renowned acts like Elton John, The Rolling Stones, The Eagles, Placido Domingo, Jacky Cheung, Sammi Cheng and sports stars like Pete Sampras and the Harlem Globetrotters have all played to sell out crowds at the venue.

At the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games, the Table Tennis and Badminton competitive events will also be held here.

89) **NINETY** – Singapore celebrated its 25th birthday in **1990**, with the theme “One People, One Nation, One Singapore”. The parade showcased the foundations built during the last 25 years, while expressing the hope for another 25 years of achievement. The Grand Finale of the Parade was the unfurling of a giant human national flag on the Padang, made up of 12,800 participants, occupying the size of one-and-a-half football fields.⁷¹

90) **NINETY-ONE** – In **1991**, Asia’s largest tropical oceanarium, with over 2,300 marine specimens, opened at Sentosa. Underwater World Singapore, costing over S\$20 million, offered a world-class experience, where visitors could get up close to the fish by just walking through an 80-metre underwater glass tunnel. Since its opening in 1991, close to 30 million visitors have been won over by their exhibits⁷².



91) **NINETY-TWO** – The only living Samsui woman living in Tiong Bahru is **ninety-two (92)** years old this year. The term Samsui women refers to a group of Chinese immigrants who came to Singapore between the 1920s and 1940s in search of construction and industrial jobs. Their hard work contributed to Singapore’s development, both as a colony and as a nation.

Before arriving in Singapore, most Samsui women took vows never to marry, although there are exceptions. They lived with other Samsui women, helping out each other and forming tightly united cliques. Samsui women also remained in touch with their relatives back home in China, communicating with them frequently through letters. Occasionally, they would send money to them⁷³.



⁷¹ Source: National Library Board: Celebrate Singapore! Nation on Parade

<http://newspedia.nl.sg/Archive.aspx?Title=Celebrate+Singapore!%3A+Nation+on+Parade>

⁷² Source: Under Water World official website <http://www.underwaterworld.com.sg/abtus.htm>

⁷³ Source: Operation Tiong Bahru, The Online Citizen: <http://theonlinecitizen.com/2010/05/civic->



99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

- 92) **NINETY-THREE** – The 17th Southeast Asian Games were held in Singapore from 12 June to 20 June **1993** with Singa the lion as a mascot⁷⁴.
- 93) **NINETY-FOUR** – Lau Pa Sat (or “old market” in the Hokkien dialect) was Singapore's first wet market that dates back over 150 years ago to the time of Sir Stamford Raffles, the founder of Singapore. Previously known as Telok Ayer Market, this distinctive octagonal structure with eight entrances was first opened in **1894** and became well-known as a market and food centre. It was subsequently converted into a famous gourmet paradise and has been gazetted as a national monument since 1973⁷⁵.
- 94) **NINETY-FIVE** – One of the most wired cities in Asia, Singapore aims to equip **ninety-five (95)** per cent of all homes and other buildings with high-speed broadband by 2012. This is part of the Intelligent Nation 2015 master plan under the Next Generation Nationwide Broadband Network (Next Gen NBN) project, to transform Singapore into an intelligent nation and a global city, powered by info-communications⁷⁶.
- 95) **NINETY-SIX** – In **1996**, after 70 years, the rare Talipot Palm at the Singapore Botanic Gardens flowered more than 10 million cream coloured flowers. Sadly this meant the palm would die within the year.⁷⁷ Today the Botanic Gardens has a collection of more than 10,000 plants and is an important centre for horticultural research, education and conservation.⁷⁸
- 96) **NINETY-SEVEN** – The shophouses in the Little India arcade are **ninety-seven (97)** years old. Little India Arcade is a cluster of shophouses which were restored and turned into a bazaar. This is a great place to catch a glimpse of the culture and tradition of Little India. The shophouses that make up Little India Arcade were built in 1913 in the early Art Deco style. Today they house a kaleidoscope of colourful shops selling everything you would expect to get in India itself.⁷⁹
- NINETY-SEVEN** – The first Singaporean film to be shown at the Cannes Film Festival was director Eric Khoo's 12 Storeys in **1997**.⁸⁰

⁷⁴ Source: Southeast Asian Games, statemaster: <http://www.statemaster.com/encyclopedia/Southeast-Asian-Games>

⁷⁵ Source: Telok Ayer Market, Heritage Trails: http://heritagetrails.sg/content/613/Telok_Ayer_Market_1894_.html

⁷⁶ Source: Mis Asia, Ultra high-speed broadband by 2012 in Singapore , 29 Sep 2008 <http://www.mis-asia.com/news/articles/ultra-high-speed-broadband-by-2012-in-singapore>

⁷⁷ Source: Chronicles of Singapore: Fifty Years of Headline News, The Straits Times.

⁷⁸ Source: Singaporesights, The Singapore Botanic Gardens: <http://www.singaporesights.com/sight/singapore-botanic-gardens-%E2%80%93-leading-botanic-institution-and-regional-park>

⁷⁹ Little India Arcade http://lifestylewiki.com/Little_India_Arcade

⁸⁰ Source: NewsAsia Singapore http://www.newasia-singapore.com/travel_information/introduction/did_you_know..._200705301.html

99 Facts on Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games and the host city of Singapore

97) **NINETY-EIGHT** – At the 25th Southeast Asian Games held in Vientiane, Laos, in 2009, Team Singapore won a total of **98** medals including of 33 Golds⁸¹.

98) **NINETY-NINE** – On 7 May 2010, Singapore celebrated **ninety-nine (99)** days to go to the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games. The world's first Youth Olympic Games – an initiative mooted by IOC President Jacques Rogge is set to take place from 14 to 26 August 2010!

Find out more by visiting www.singapore2010.sg and purchasing your tickets to the competitions. Take part in the celebrations by sharing your deeds of Excellence, Friendship or Respect to be a part of the Million Deeds Challenge. Every deed that you post brings the virtual Youth Olympic Flame closer to Singapore.

⁸¹ Source: Special Reports SEA Games, Channel News Asia, <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/seagames09/>