

# Northern Explorer Loop

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# A Journey of Discoveries

Gear up for a journey of exploration. Catch the Banded Woodpecker busy pecking away at worms or admire dainty butterflies fluttering all around. Discover little known facts on the loop. With 52 species of birds, 35 species of butterflies and 15 species of dragonflies among other fauna and flora residing here, the Northern Explorer Loop never fails to delight.

**Discover** the great outdoors on the Park Connector Network (PCN) – an island-wide network of linear open spaces around major residential areas, linking up parks and nature sites. An important part of Singapore’s transformation into a City in a Garden, the PCN brings you through the lush greenery and natural splendour of our island, as well as a wide range of exciting recreational activities.

The 25-kilometre Northern Explorer Loop connects 11 parks and nature sites, including Woodlands Town Garden, Admiralty Park and the Woodlands Waterfront, and also links the towns of Sembawang, Woodlands and Yishun.

Delve into the midst of the island’s thriving natural environments as you wander along green belts that connect the various parks. Seek out unique species of flora and fauna in their natural habitats. You can also visit places of rich heritage and learn about their colourful histories.

The Northern Explorer Loop promises ample opportunities for venturing off the beaten path. Let curiosity be your guide as you explore a world outdoors that is filled with fascinating discoveries.

**For more information and detailed maps of our park connectors, visit:**  
[www.nparks.gov.sg/PCN](http://www.nparks.gov.sg/PCN)

Like us on [www.facebook.com/nparksbuzz](http://www.facebook.com/nparksbuzz)

Long-time residents of **Ulu Sembawang** will recall how this area used to be home to numerous vegetable and fruit farms as well as several fishing ponds, right up till the 1980s.



Stand in awe of the towering trees that dominate Southeast Asia’s rainforests. Singapore’s first **Dipterocarp Arboretum** at Yishun Park is a botanical garden devoted to this family of majestic forest giants.



Photo by Cai Yixiong

This vibrantly coloured **Crimson Sunbird** is just one of the many colourful bird species residing in this bird haven. Definitely a treat for bird lovers.

Craving some adrenaline-pumping action? The refreshing waters of Lower Seletar Reservoir beckon you to sweat it out. For a quick start, pick up a **kayak** at the People’s Association Water-Venture outlet or sign up for a **dragon boating** course.



Located along Mandai Road, the **Ordeal Tree** (*Erythrophloeum suaveolens*) is one of Singapore’s **heritage trees**. It gets its unique name from having featured in African tribal trials of the past, in which its poisonous red sap was fed to accused individuals. Survivors were deemed innocent, and those who died were believed to be guilty.



Many intriguing stories surround the **Sembawang hot spring**. Does the water from the only natural hot spring on mainland Singapore – once bottled and sold by a soft drink company – have healing powers? Or does it bring good luck? The spring and its water remain a mystery.

**Overview Map**

1	Admiralty West Park Connector	1.3km
2	Woodlands (Ave 7) Park Connector	3.1km
3	Sembawang Park Connector	2.0km
4	Canberra Park Connector	1.6km
5	Canberra - Sembawang Park Connector	1.0km
6	Simpang Kiri Park Connector	3.0km
7	Yishun Park Connector	3.2km
8	Khatib Bongsu Park Connector	3.3km
9	Mandai Park Connector	5.0km
10	Central Catchment Park Connector	1.3km
11	Ulu Sembawang Park Connector	1.5km
12	Woodlands (SIE) Park Connector	1.1km
13	Woodlands (Ave 2) Park Connector	2.0km
14	Woodlands (Ave 5) Park Connector	0.6km
15	Woodlands (Ave 3) Park Connector	0.7km
16	Woodlands (St 13) Park Connector	1.3km
17	Marsiling Park Connector	1.3km
18	Woodlands (Ave 12) Park Connector	3.0km

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## Safety Dos and Don'ts

### For All Users

- ✔ Do hydrate before any physical activity.
- ✔ Do bring along your handphone in case of an emergency.
- ✔ Do obey all traffic rules, such as stopping at zebra crossings and observing traffic signals.
- ✔ Do look out for other cyclists and pedestrians on the PCN.
- ✔ Do keep to the left side of the track if you intend to stop.
- ✔ Do keep within the speed limit of 15 kilometres per hour.
- ✔ Do clean up after your pets and keep them leashed.

### For Cyclists

- ✔ Do wear helmets that fit well.
- ✔ Do switch on your front and rear lights under conditions of low light or poor visibility.
- ✔ Do dismount and push your bicycle where necessary.
- ✘ Don't brake or swerve your bicycle suddenly or without warning.

For feedback or queries, please call our 24-hour helpline or e-mail us:

1800-4717300  
[nparks\\_mailbox@nparks.gov.sg](mailto:nparks_mailbox@nparks.gov.sg)



### Admiralty Park

Marvel at the vibrant biodiversity in this park made up of a 7-hectare urban garden and a 20-hectare nature area.

Along with the river Sungei Cina, the open grassland, mangrove swamp and tropical rainforest in Admiralty Park provide a range of natural habitats for over 100 species of flora and fauna.

Be amazed by the mudskippers, migratory birds and other wildlife that thrive in the mudflat as you venture out along the boardwalks. You will also chance upon unique plant species that have traditionally been used for medicinal purposes.



### Woodlands Waterfront

For a brand new experience along the northern coast of Singapore, take a trip up to Woodlands Waterfront.

A distinct setting flanked by the iconic Woodlands Causeway, the sprawling coastal park offers a different perspective to recreational activities in this region. Be treated to exceptional views of the park and the Straits of Johor as you head out along the scenic trail.

Besides a 700-metre cantilevered section of waterfront promenade that brings you closer than ever to the coastline, fitness stations, a fishing jetty, a jogging track and a playground provide you with a selection of leisure activities.



### Woodlands Town Garden

One of Singapore’s most beautifully manicured gardens, Woodlands Town Garden is artfully landscaped with some 8,000 trees and shrubs, a serene lake, aesthetically shaped pools and decorative bridges.

Visitors will be drawn to the 13 beautiful pavilions built in traditional Chinese and Malay architectural styles. Have a picnic by the lake, which is part of the river Sungei Mandai Kechil, and watch coconut and palm trees sway languidly in the breeze.

The oasis-like ambience will have you linger a little longer than planned.



### Ulu Sembawang Park Connector

Undulating terrain marks the Ulu Sembawang Park Connector as a truly interesting getaway from the city.

Winding through stretches of thick vegetation, the trail runs along the periphery of the Mandai Nature Reserve, past quiet nurseries, ponds and plots of vegetation.

Along the way, the sight of tropical fruit trees with an occasional macaque swinging in the branches, and the sound of birdsongs ringing through the air, are reminiscent of carefree kampung days.



### Central Catchment Park Connector

Carved into the dense forest of the Central Catchment Nature Reserve is the 1.3-kilometre Central Catchment Park Connector – an ideal trail for nature lovers, photographers, bird watchers and adventurous trekkers.

Avid mountain bikers can take on the more rugged sections of the Central Catchment Mountain Biking Trail, which are excellent for honing their skills, before continuing on the Western Adventure Loop.

The loop also connects to Dairy Farm Nature Park via Chestnut Track, allowing cyclists to explore large, interconnected stretches of greenery. For those who prefer a tamer ride or trek, Central Catchment Park Connector also leads to Zhenghua Park near the Gali Batu Flyover.



### Lower Seletar Reservoir Park

With tranquil waters amid flourishing green surroundings, Lower Seletar Reservoir Park is the perfect setting for both relaxing activities and exciting water sports.

Already popular with joggers, anglers, and bird watchers, the open reservoir is quickly becoming a favourite location for kayakers and dragon boat racing teams.

In addition, a host of recreational facilities that includes a Family Bay with a new performance stage, a water-play area, a bioswale rain garden, and a Heritage Bridge makes the park a destination not to be missed.



### Yishun Park

Formerly a rubber estate, Yishun Park is now home to a variety of fruit trees including durian, rambutan and jackfruit. The park’s arboretum – a botanical garden specifically for trees – houses 860 living Dipterocarp specimens of 73 different species, offering a rare opportunity to learn about these magnificent trees.

Visitors can also enjoy a range of leisure activities against the backdrop of lush foliage in this unique, peaceful environment.



### Sembawang Park

With significant ties to Singapore’s naval history, the verdant Sembawang Park is an intriguing mix of natural beauty and national heritage.

Learn about Singapore’s colonial past when you visit the Beaulieu House, Sembawang Jetty and the remains of the 1920s Seletar Pier. Restored old pathways used during the British occupation will bring back memories as you take a quiet ramble in this nostalgic park.

Stroll along one of Singapore’s few remaining natural beaches, and encounter the *Mesua ferruginea* – or Sembawang Tree – after which the park is named.

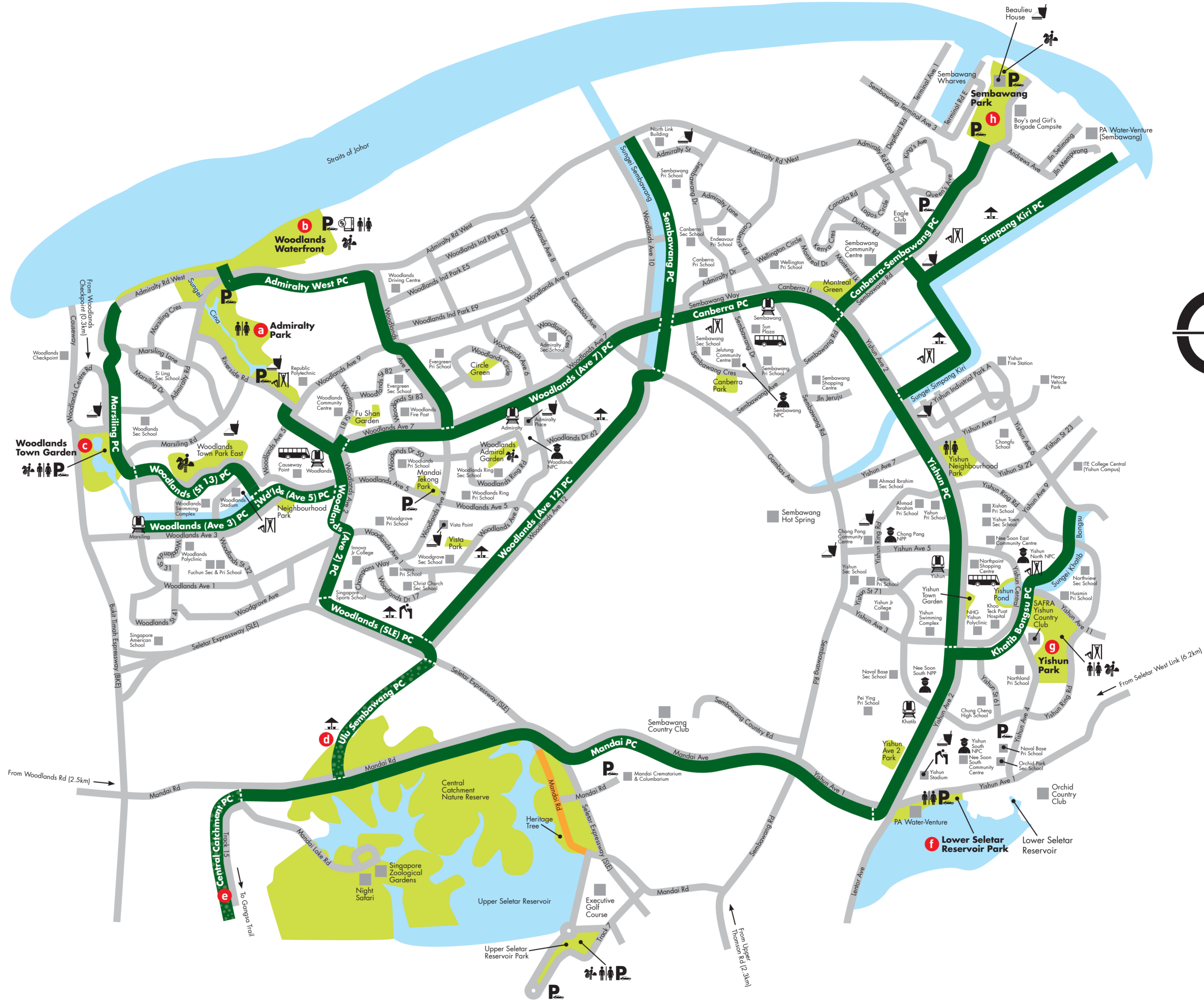
# Northern Explorer Loop

- Carpark
- Restrooms
- Play Area
- Fitness Corner
- Shelter
- Water Point
- Vending Machine
- Food & Beverage
- Police Post
- Bus Interchange
- MRT Station

- Park Connector (PC)
- Park
- Ulu Sembawang PC & Central Catchment PC (Gravel surface – challenging terrain)
- Landmark
- Water Body
- Heritage Road

- How to get there**
- Sembawang Park**
- Sembawang MRT → Sembawang Bus Interchange → Bus 882 to Sembawang Road (End)
- Admiralty Park**
- Woodlands MRT → Woodlands Regional Interchange → Bus 856 to Admiralty Road
  - Woodlands MRT → Woodlands Regional Interchange → Bus 902 or 169 to Woodlands Ave 9 (Republic Polytechnic)
  - Yishun MRT → Yishun Interchange → Bus 856 to Admiralty Road
  - Ang Mo Kio MRT → Ang Mo Kio Interchange → Bus 169 to Woodlands Ave 9 (Republic Polytechnic)
- Lower Seletar Reservoir Park**
- Yishun MRT → Yishun Interchange → Bus 851, 852, 853, 854, 855 or 957 to Yishun Ave 2
  - Woodlands MRT → Woodlands Regional Interchange → Bus 858, 965 or 969 to Yishun Ave 2
  - Bus 39 or 85 to Yishun Ave 2
- Yishun Park**
- Yishun MRT → Yishun Interchange → Bus 804, 806 or 812 to Yishun Ring Road, Yishun Ave 11 and Yishun Ave 4 respectively

- Where to park**
- Sembawang Park: via Tuah Rd
  - Admiralty Park: via Riverside Rd and Admiralty Rd
  - Lower Seletar Reservoir Park: via Yishun Ave 1
  - Yishun Park: at Yishun SAFRA, via Yishun Ave 4



## Highlights along the Loop



Disclaimer: Map is not drawn to scale. Information is correct as of April 2012. Version 3 (1st print)