

SINGAPORE

Rent:

Ex pats all tend to rent out Condos in Singapore and like to live very close to the city – many of them in District 10. You can go onto www.iproperty.com.sg to see what is currently available to rent. I have been told that you can get a 1 bed apartment of around 1,000 sq ft for between SG\$3-4k per month. A larger place of 2,500 sq ft will be from SG\$6k upwards.

(Remembering that this role pays up to SG\$15K perm month will help put this in perspective.)

Typically they ask for a 2 year lease although people do manage to negotiate a 1 year lease. They ask for 2 months rent as a bond and the first month upfront.

Living costs:

This is very much dependant on whether or not you eat out at western or local places – there is 7% GST on everything.

Tax:

This is 15% (unless you spend more than 90 days of the year outside of Singapore in which case you are eligible for the NOR scheme and can apply for a tax benefit / reduction as it is not your usual country of business).

Tax is not deducted at source – you have to save / accrue it yourself and then pay it to the Government in one lump sum at the end of each financial year.

Healthcare:

You will need to purchase cover as nothing is free in this regard. It can be around SG\$2k per year.

Visas:

This would be organised by an employer but you can read more about the various visas at the Ministry of Manpower website: <http://www.mom.gov.sg/publish/momportal/en/home.html>

How much will it cost for essentials?

A latte - \$4

A bottle of wine - \$60

A movie - \$7

An apartment - \$3,000 - \$6,000+ p/mth

Useful links...

www.expatsingapore.com

www.visitsingapore.com

To convert your currency:

www.xe.com

