

NS Community Resources

Here is a list of curated resources compiled by the NS community.

Very Detailed: [NS Member Handbook](#) by Michael Skinner

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Extra files and photos can be found and added here: [NS Community Wiki](#)

Transport

List of taxi services:

15-person Van - The driver stays with you for the day and is very prompt for pickups. Spacious, comfortable, with luggage space. Whatsapp **+60 17-738 6881** - [More Information](#)
Shawn - Local Forest City Driver: \$ 5- 10 RM per trip to coworking space +60 11-1423 1423

Carol: 75SGD between Singapore and Forest City and 5SGD for each additional stop. They can also help pick up/drop off stuff in Singapore for a reasonable price. Whatsapp **+60 19-255 1688** - website: <https://www.sgmytaxi288service.com/>

Rideshare services:

Grab - The default choice for rideshare, lots of supply for drivers.

Indrive - You need cash for this, but it's sometimes cheaper since they have a bidding system.

Track time to cross board crossing in a car using the app Beat The Jam. [Play Store](#), [Apple Store](#)

Activities

Paintball. Learn more [here](#). There are no group discounts. You can rent clothes to get paint on them. Paint does wash off in the bathtub with soap. It recommends going right at sunset to reduce heat and fog your mask.

GoKarting:

[RDU Karting](#) Track is okay. Racing with default carts is \$300 RM per cart. Outdoor and wear sneakers with socks

[X Park](#): Covered track with the ability to drift. Same spot as paintball.

Boat Rentals. Learn more [here](#).

[Escape Room](#): No Group discounts, and you must sign up online. Check out with 2 people; others can be added once you arrive. Live actors included

Medicine and Supplies

Contact Solution - [📍 KK Concept Store Johor, Forest City 1 \(JFC1\)](#)

Ibuprofen - [📍 KK Concept Store Johor, Forest City 1 \(JFC1\)](#)

Menstrual cramp medication - [📍 KK Concept Store Johor, Forest City 1 \(JFC1\)](#)

Upgrade your running shoes for Burn at [📍 Sports Direct](#) around 30 minutes away.

Dining and Cafes

Thai Place - [📍 Kampung Carabao Thai Restaurant @Forest City](#) Amazing Crab and Coconuts.

Buying alcohol from the distributors in Forest City? You need a passport and there are limits to the amount you can buy per month.

Need an extra snack? Head to the cafe, nearby KK general store or stock up on boiled eggs from breakfast.

Coffee pod machines are on level 13 and in the library, and there is a coffee machine at the coworking.

A nice local cafe with tasty cake [📍 Tom&Danny Coffee @ Forest City](#)

[Durians all you need to know:](#) Don't bring them back to the hotel 😊 Highly recommend going to Nusa Bestari durian street to get the durian.

Wellness & Recreation

[Bloomi](#) Spa

[Pretty nails, Eco Botanica](#)

Massage around the building is cheap and of **varying** quality. (Recommends Anne the masseuse)

Hair Cut: 100M to the left of the Marina Hotel. Only takes cash and speaks Chinese. 30 minutes for a men's cut around \$40RM

80-100RM for a men's cut in Eko Galleria ([The Hair.com](#)). Accept credit cards and Alipay. Slightly better than the Marina Hotel option.

Emergency & Safety

Childcare & Family Support

Playgrounds and Pools

On-Site Playground at Forest City Marina Hotel

The Forest City Marina Hotel itself offers a children's playground, located on the 1st floor near the pool and entrance to the breakfast dining room, as part of its family-friendly amenities. In addition to the playground, the hotel features a children's pool and a beachfront location, providing ample recreational options for families.



Forest City Water Park

Adjacent to the hotel, Forest City offers a public water playground that includes water slides, splash zones, and interactive features suitable for children. This facility is part of the larger recreational area in Forest City and provides a fun environment for kids to enjoy water-based activities.



Attractions

LEGOLAND® Malaysia

Approximately a 15-minute drive / grab car ride from the Marina Hotel, LEGOLAND® Malaysia Resort offers extensive play areas and attractions designed for children of various ages. LEGOLAND® Malaysia has three distinct parks: Main Park, Water Park, and Sea Life Park. For kids who are staying for longer periods or who may be returning, the annual pass for all three parks is a cost-effective option.



Babysitting and Day Care

Kiddocare for Parents (Thanks to Boonsri for the find!)

Kiddocare is Malaysia's first and preferred on-demand babysitting platform, connecting parents with trained and vetted Malaysian babysitters, known as Kiddocarers. The service is designed to provide reliable childcare solutions based on parents' preferred time and location. Services are available for Johru Bahru and Forest City.

Kiddocare provides a range of on-demand services to cater to different childcare needs:

- **Stay-at-Home Babysitting:** Round-the-clock care within the comfort of your home, starting from a minimum of 2 hours.
 - **Out-of-Home Babysitting:** Assistance at locations like malls, offices, hospitals, or events, allowing parents to manage their activities while ensuring their children are cared for.
 - **Pop-up Nanny Services:** Childcare support during events such as birthdays, weddings, or corporate functions.
- Special Needs Care:** Specialized care tailored for children with unique needs, provided by trained babysitters.

Download the Kiddocare for Parents app. Open Sessions and Set Your Session.

Kiddocare for Parents

Kiddocare

100K+
Downloads

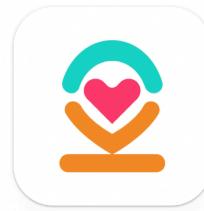
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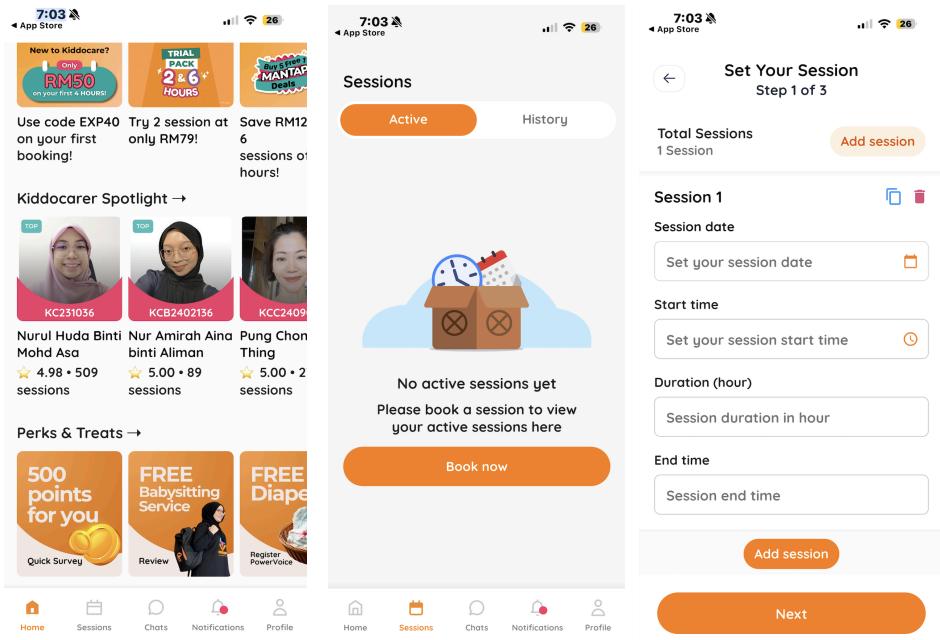
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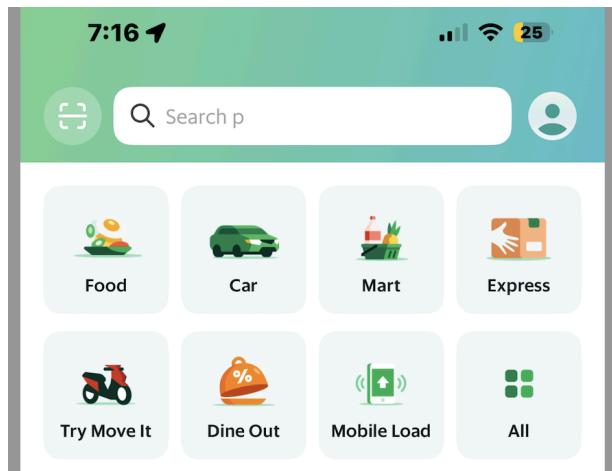




Nearby Groceries and Snacks for Kids

Siang Tai Grocer (downstairs in the Marina Hotel corridor): sells ice cream, cookies, and toys for kids.

Grab: Use the Grab Mart functionality in the Grab app (SE Asia's Uber) to purchase needed kids' items for same hour delivery to the Marina Hotel or apartment.



Lazada/Shoppee: Use the Lazada app or Shoppee app (SE Asia's Amazon) to order essentials such as diapers, kid's clothing, etc (Lazada and Shoppee orders typically take 3-4 days to arrive at the hotel or apartment)

Pediatric Clinics and Hospitals Near Forest City

Glenelagles Hospital Medini (Iskandar Puteri)

- **Location:** Approximately 20–25 minutes from Forest City.
- **Services:** Comprehensive pediatric care, including treatment for common childhood illnesses, vaccinations, allergy management, and developmental assessments.
- **Notable Specialist:** Dr. Goh Chuan Yong, a consultant pediatrician with qualifications from the UK.

Columbia Asia Hospital – Iskandar Puteri

- **Location:** Approximately 25–30 minutes from Forest City.
- **Services:** General pediatric services, vaccinations, developmental assessments, and management of common childhood illnesses.

Growell Baby & Child Specialist Clinic (Mutiara Rini)

- **Location:** Approximately 30 minutes from Forest City.
- **Services:** Specialized care for infants and children, including vaccinations, developmental screenings, and treatment for common pediatric conditions.

Schools

Forest City International School (FCIS)

FCIS provides comprehensive education for children aged 3 to 18. With emphasis on the American AP curriculum, the school emphasizes English language development, literacy, and creative expression, preparing children for K-12 progression.

FCIS school admissions and tour contact: ashley.wong@cats-fc.org

School website: <https://cats-fc.org/>



Hotel Specifics

Is the water too hot in your shower?

Quick fix: switch to the mist setting on your shower head when the water becomes too hot for a manageable stream of hot water.

Long-term fix: Ask the hotel to send maintenance to adjust the valves outside your room.

If you want your own space in the hotel room, you can turn on the do not disturb switch between the beds - otherwise, cleaners will come in and strip linens and clean every day.

Banking & Shopping Services

The hotel's ATM is a great place to get cash since it charges a very low currency conversion fee.

Shopee App setup -

1. Change app store to Malaysia on Apple - <https://support.apple.com/en-my/118283>
2. Use NS NS-provided phone number and ensure your number is in the cellular my number section, including country code +60
3. Buy cheap items, pay with cash or at KK store. With cash you must meet the driver at the exact time they are coming.

Legal & Visa Assistance

Tech & IT Support

How to Use the TV in the Library Without a Remote. Plug an HDMI cable into any laptop with an HDMI port and let it connect. Then unconnect it and plug it into the main computer using the usbc connect.

Spiritual & Religious Services

Local Governance & Community Boards

Nearby JB Towns Tips

Eco Botanic

Eco Botanic is the closest town to Forest City, around 20 minutes away by car and typically costs 20 RM for a ride. It's an easy day trip for grabbing a good meal, wandering around modern malls, or enjoying a change of scenery. You'll find fresh fruits, a variety of restaurants, cafés, and even massage options. Jaya Grocer inside Eco Galleria is well-stocked with high-quality produce like papaya, strawberries, grapes, mangoes, and jackfruit. The mall also has beauty salons, escape rooms, and game arcades. It's clean, convenient, and comfortable—though notably, there aren't any durian stalls in the area.

Gelang Patah

Gelang Patah feels more rustic and less developed but offers some local gems. You'll need a car to get there even from Eco Botanic. While the town doesn't feel as polished, it has a few durian stalls like JB Durian ChengXin Fruit Trading. The durians I tried there weren't particularly impressive, but other vendors might be worth exploring. One special find in Gelang Patah was a tiny roasted bun (shao bao) shop—totally unassuming, but their buns were incredibly delicious and made the trip memorable.

Bukit Indah

Bukit Indah is busier and more developed, with a broader range of food options. The town is known for great Bak Kut Teh, with E Pin Restaurant serving a dry-style version that tastes like clay pot braised pork and pairs well with mushrooms. Another long-standing favorite is Shun Fa, where the sesame oil chicken and ginger chicken dishes are standouts. The area is also home to AEON Mall, which has a large, high-quality grocery store stocked with an impressive variety of fresh fruits and snacks. The mall is also a good spot for brand-name clothing and fitness supplements. If you're interested in durian mochi, you'll find it here too—though a full box can be a bit much unless you're sharing.

Nusa Bestari

Nusa Bestari, located next to Bukit Indah, is slightly older and less polished but has one big draw: the best durian street I've seen in the area. Around the Uncle Han Durian corner, you'll find five to seven vendors lined up together. Based on my experience, the pre-packaged durians in plastic containers tend to be of better quality than the freshly opened ones, possibly because sellers reserve the best for these packs. Prices are generally listed as RM28 per box but can often be bargained down to RM15–20. You'll find all the popular varieties—Musang King, Red Prawn, Black Pearl, Black Thorn, Green Thorn, and Creamy Bun (Nai You Bao)—each with their own flavor profiles, from sweet and creamy to bitter and complex. If you're up for a massage afterward, the Healthland outlet here is quite decent.

Taman Sutera Utama

Taman Sutera Utama is a bit further but worth the extra distance if you're after Johor's best lala pot. 5PM Lalapot is a popular seafood hot pot place that fills up right when it opens. The kampong chicken combo is a great pairing, and their marshmallow-biscuit dessert is a fun touch. Next door, Four Beans Soy Desserts serves fresh tofu pudding with a rich flavor.

[Original Source:](#)

Other Tips

There is something about single women being a bit more careful outside hotel bounds on public holidays (especially) and weekends (sometimes).

If you swim laps in the pool, it's often fine, though sometimes on public holidays/weekends, there may be tourists and sometimes groups of men taking photos, and it can feel uncomfortable in a bikini. Either go with a friend, wear a rash vest, or be prepared.