

When it's 2 AM in Singapore, and you need dried apricots, fresh dill, baby knee pads, a souvenir from London, a winter coat, printer paper, and a new shower head, you head to [Mustafa](#). It's kind of like a 24-hour Super Walmart, but with an Indian cultural flair. It is a place where you can get it all, and it is a Singapore institution. From its humble beginnings in 1973 with a 900 sq ft shop, to its current 150,000 sq ft location, the store dazzles, amazes and frustrates its 15,000 visitors that come every weekend. They even have a rooftop restaurant that I find to be very good. Anthony Bourdain has visited Mustafa on his visits to Singapore, and he likens it to "an eternity of kitsch: a Costco, Ikea, Dress Barn, grocery store, and souvenir stand all in one."

Personally, I like to avoid those 15,000 weekend visitors, though I am sure they are all very nice people. I have found weekday mornings before 11 and mid-afternoons to be the best times to shop, though I am sure the wee hours of the morning are very good as well. No matter the hour, Mustafa visits have always exhausted, due to the enormous selection of products, hidden elevators that don't go to B2, and stairways that only go to certain levels. I generally only go when I need specialty items that I cannot find at my nearby stores, or when I need to stock up on beans and spices. The prices on groceries and electronics are good, great on beans, spices, olives, and dried apricots, but I don't find the rest of the products there all that competitive for price. I wish they would change that. Their stock levels are overflowing—better prices would turn over A LOT of merchandise.

I feel very badly for my friends who have inflexible work schedules and must visit on a weekend. So, I have created a guide. All the entrances, stairways, and elevators are mapped out, along with a general location for items. Please let me know if you find they have shifted things around. There are a few things you need to know besides the map:

- You can find the **bathrooms** near the elevators between entrances 5 and 6 on all levels (on levels 2 and 3 nearer to escalator above entrance 6). There is a ladies-only bathroom on level B1, below entrance 2. Also in line with entrance 2, there is a bathroom on level 2 (WITH A BABY TABLE!), and also on levels 3 and 4. Bring your own tissue or have some coins to buy it in the machine.
- If you are a **tourist** in need of typical traveler items like luggage locks, plastic ponchos, umbrellas, etc, go to entrance 6, level 1, for the most easily accessible selection of stuff.
- **Level one** is *dèjà vu* land, with a nearly completely repeating selection of toiletries between the first building and the second, especially toothpaste. From entrances 2 to 6, things keep repeating, so no need to walk the entire level to see all, unless you really love squeezing through crowded corridors (building 1 more than 2).
- Utilize the **luggage check** areas by bringing a rolling cart and storing there before you shop. As you make purchases that are too large to carry, stop by the luggage area to store them. Then collect on your way out.
- Travel to Mustafa by taking the **purple NE MRT line to Farrer Park**. Walk through City Square Mall, stopping at the bathroom then for coffee or bubble tea, then head up to level one at the escalators at the other end. Go out there then right on Kitchener Link/Verdun Road to hit the middle of Mustafa between entrances 3 and 4.
- THERE IS ALSO A **MINI MUSTAFA!** Serangoon Plaza, along Serangoon Road, has an entrance to what I call "mini Mustafa," as it seems to have everything but the groceries, bookstore, hardware, kitchen-wares, and fabric. This is much faster if you are not looking for groceries, and is probably far less crowded on an average day. Here is a quick smattering of what each level contains:
 - Level 1: Electronics, watches, jewelry, pens, appliances, some food, cold drinks, nuts, snacks, chocolate, souvenir type foods. The bathroom is a long walk from here; you should have gone at City Square Mall.
 - Level 2: Umbrellas, hair dye, hair accessories, shoes, Toiletries, supplements, pharmacy, medical supplies and braces/canes, wheelchairs, cosmetics, body shapers, sports equipment, helmets, pads, shoes, traveler stuff, hats, backpacks, luggage, ladies bags, men's bags, swimwear, coats.
 - Level 3: Mens' clothes, belts, underwear, slacks, coats, jackets, dress shirts, ALL KIDS and BABY STUFF, gift sets for babies, toys, kids' clothes for winter too, trivets, coasters, blankets, rugs, towels, linens, a few pillows, bathroom accessories, random home accessories, and dress up clothes for kids (western and eastern styles). You can connect to Big Mustafa near the kids clothes and toys section here.

Serangoon Road Side (Not Flush To The Road)												
Entrance Number	Level B2	Level B1	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Other					
1 *Luggage Check *Money Changer		Fabric--all kinds	Watches	Luggage	Bras & Undies	Party Stuff						
		Ladies Bras, Undies, PJ's	Random Small Electronics	Backpacks, Bags for M/F	Indian Ladies Clothes (Dressy and Casual)	Magazines & Books						
		Ladies Clothes Men's Trousers & Jeans	Hair Accessories, Fancy Pens, Costume Jewelry	Keychains Traveler Goods Souvenirs	Curtains, Linens, Towels, Mats, Blankets, Trunks	Stationary & Office Supplies]						
		Mens... Clothes	Kids Clothes	Hearing Aids, DVD's, Make-Up, Traveler Goods	CHOCOLATE! More Ramen & Noodles Than You Can Imagine	Plates, Glasses, Food Storage, Tiffins, Metal Cups, Coffee Urns, Thermoses.	Floral, Gifts/Décor, Hardware, Lock Boxes.					
		Casual and...	Baby Clothes	Toiletries Toiletries Toiletries	Nuts Snacks Snacks Snacks...	Cookware, Jars, Silverware, Tools, Coolers, Platters, Bakeware.	Kitchen and Bathroom Scales, Roller Carts, Rugs.					
		Dress Shirts	Baby Stuff	Continued Black Hole of Toiletries & Supplements	Sweets Coffee, Tea, Oats, Baby Milk	Bins, Cleaning Brushes, Sponges. No sprays or detergents	Car Stuff & Accessories, WD40, more.					
2 *Mustafa Cafe	Toys, strollers, Instruments	Coats, Belts Underwear	Supplements Aromatherapy	Bob's Red Mill Lentils	Plastic Bags, Bin Liners, Hangers,	Gardening & Pots/Hoses						
	SingPost Travel Services	Shoes, Shoes, Shoes, Shoes.	Canes, Braces, Wheelchairs, & Hydro Massage Water Bed Thing	Beans Chia Seeds	Paper Products, Ironing Stuff, Stools, Laundry	Plumbing & Anti-Slip Mats						
	SPORTS/OUTDOORS -Equipment	Shoes, Shoes, Shoes, Shoes.		Grains, Flour, Rice	Hawker-Style Plastic Bags, Diapers, Hooks.	Bathroom Fixtures						
3	-Clothing	More Shoes.	PHARMACY	Bread	Car Park							
	-Shoes	Still Shoes.	Axe/Tiger Balm	Baking Needs								
	Swimwear & Toys	Yep, Shoes.	Supplements	Bakery, Juice								
4 *Luggage Check	Copiers/Printers	BLOCKED	VERDUN ROAD	Condiments	Car Park							
	GST Counter	Jewelry	Perfumes	Nuts, Dried Fruit								
	Computer Stuff	GST counter	Toothpaste	Dairy/Juice								
5	Cords, Computer Memory, Printer Ink, Camera stuff, Selfie Sticks, Fax Machines, Computers, Calculators, Cell Phones, Kitchen Appliances (Small), Vacuums, Lights, Lanterns, Fans, Bulbs, & Batteries.	Mens' Clothes: -Casual & dress shirts -Suits -Shorts -Jeans -Slacks A few brands for ladies, & some kids' dresses/suits.	-Makeup, Hair Dye, Toiletries, TCM, Razors, Pricey Honey, Supplements, Baby Formula, Bandages. OPTOMETRIST OTC Drugs, Adult Diapers, Medicinal Teas, Traveler Goods	Frozen Stuff Meat, Eggs, Soda Jarred & Canned Goods, Honey, Olives, Vinegar, Oils, Nut Butters, Juice...	Mixed Produce	Car Park						
	Power Strips, Converters, Electric Flyswatters	Hush Puppies Jockey	Wheelchairs, Hot Water Bottles, Mats.	Pickles, Jarred Sauces	Veg					Cleaning Tools, Detergents & Sprays, Shoe Racks.	Nothing	Rooftop Level 7
	Sewing Machines, Door Chimes, Water Heaters, Air/Water Filters	Ladies Underwear & Some Bras	"As Seen on TV" Braces, Canes Medical Supplies	Ghee, Ginger/ Garlic Paste	Veg					Drying Racks, Hooks, Ironing Boards, Bins, Containers, Paper Products.	Nothing	Restaurant: Kebabs 'n Curries
6 *Someti mes Luggage Check (Weekends Only?)	Large Appliances, Mics, Stereos, Speakers, & Televisions	Mens' Socks, Undershirts, Underwear, Belts, etc.	Trimmers (hair), Body Shapers, PHARMACY Umbrellas	Ghost Chili!!! Spices of all kinds	Fruit	Pet Care, Sanitary Pads, Diapers, Incense & Oils for Prayer & Pooja	Nothing	Open from 11am-1am				

The last escalator here splits at level 2. You can continue up to level 3 and all the way up to the roof, but it is in the back right corner of level 2 to continue up.

Legend:	Elevator	Escalator	Stairs	No Shopping Here
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