

DPS Indore students Singapore Extravaganza!

DPS students accompanied by three teachers, set off to explore magical Singapore. The excited students bade adieu to their parents. For most, it was the first time away from home and parents. For many, it was the first trip abroad. Exhibiting confidence, capability and self reliance, the students took charge of their luggage and cameras.

Arrival at Singapore's Changi International Airport, itself opened a whole new world to all of us. The spacious, beautiful, spotlessly clean, silent airport lounge was a welcoming sight.

The drive to the resort was breathtaking! Wide avenues lined with a variety of colourful flowers, beyond which lay verdant greens, with dense thickets of trees. The lush greenery and spaciousness was soothing and welcoming.

That evening we visited the Night Safari – which is a magnificent nocturnal zoo, spread over 40 hectares of rain forest. It houses 1040 animals from 120 species. We enjoyed the tribal dances, and as the sun set, moved on to the Creatures of the Night performance. We travelled through eight geographical zones. The sounds and sights of a night forest, left an indelible impression on our minds. The message was to conserve nature, reduce, reuse and recycle things.

On the next day we visited Singapore Flyer, the world's largest observation wheel. Safely enveloped in a capsule, cameras clicking, we gradually ascended to what seemed the top of the world, the highest point being 165 metres above ground, to a spectacular view of the garden city, shimmering seas and indigo blue skies. It was a 360° visual treat!

Sentosa Island was packed with a variety of fun filled, exciting treats. At the Underwater World, we saw aquatic creatures swimming alongside us, above us also, as we walked through the tunnel lined with aquariums. This oceanarium is home to more than 2,500 marine animals from 250 species.

The mesmeric and stunning Songs of the Sea show, a superb blend of sound and lights, fireworks, lasers, unique projection, water fountains, water jets and performing artists – unfolding a story at the open air theatre on the beach. The extraordinary special effects made the characters come alive. State of the art technology implemented the brilliant concepts.

At Jurong Bird Park, we enjoyed the fascinating view of exotic birds from an elevated tramcar ride. Cameras clicking busily, we didn't want to miss a single sighting. At Penguin enclosure, we saw penguins swimming and groups of penguins moving on land. We also visited Singapore's famous MerLion statue, spouting water.

We visited DPS International, Singapore. Set in green, lush environs, the school was cool and inviting.

Our students had one question 'When will our country be like this?' The answer: When we make it, with a greater sense of self discipline and civic awareness.

Travel is more than the seeing of sights, it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of the living. A voyage never ends, but is played out over and over again in the quietest chambers of our minds.

Let us also resolve to transform our country!