

Singapore's competitiveness

Chart 1

How Singapore compares with other key retail destinations in Asia

	HONG KONG	S'PORE	SHANGHAI	BEIJING	KUALA LUMPUR
Air transport infrastructure ¹	5.52	5.29	4.31	4.31	4.55
Safety & security ¹	6.47	6.45	4.99	4.99	5.75
Prioritisation of travel & tourism ¹	5.77	6.03	4.80	4.80	4.74
Tourist service infrastructure ¹	4.39	5.42	3.23	3.23	4.66
International openness ¹	3.89	5.21	3.00	3.00	4.08
Average scoring based on tourism competitiveness	5.44	5.71	4.34	4.34	4.71
Affordability of retail and F&B services ²	2.20	2.00	1.80	4.00	5.00
State & pace of digitisation ³	2.02	2.35	3.95	3.95	3.81
Ease of tax refund ⁴	5.00	4.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Total score	4.55	4.54	3.61	4.05	4.47
Overall ranking	1	2	5	4	3

Note: The higher the score value, the better the city fares as a retail destination. Weightage of each factor is based on Knight Frank's assessment and scoring. These shortlisted cities are based on a pre-selected basket of cities tracked by Knight Frank Research.

1. Only key factors, which reflect the Tourism Competitiveness from the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Report 2017, by the World Economic Forum, were shortlisted for purpose of this study.
2. Knight Frank Research studied the affordability of Retail and F&B services based on a pre-selected basket of goods and services.
3. State and pace of digitisation is assessed by the Digital Evolution Momentum Score Index in 2017 by Mastercard.
4. Knight Frank Research assessed the ease of tax refund, measured by studying the tax refund policies of the respective cities, according to the various government agencies' websites.