



## FRONT COVER

Location: Singapore Botanic Gardens

Tree: Kapok or White Silk-cotton Tree (*Ceiba pentandra*)

The broad trunk, horizontal main branches and buttress roots of this Heritage Tree give it a distinctive shape recognisable from a distance. The buttress roots are nature's way of providing more support to a very tall tree. When the tree flowers and fruits, matured seedpods will split to release hundreds of seeds that float on fluffy parachutes of white fibre. This water-resistant fibre, called kapok in Malay, was previously used to stuff pillows, mattresses and life-jackets.

## OTHER PHOTOGRAPHY LOCATIONS

Pages 6 – 7: Punggol Promenade Riverside Walk

This is part of the North Eastern Riverine Loop, Singapore's fourth Park Connector Network loop, which was officially opened on 25 February 2012.

Pages 10 – 11: Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park

The upgrading of the 62-hectare Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park included transforming a concretised canal into a river teeming with life. This involved a series of bioengineering techniques and the use of a combination of natural materials such as vegetation and rocks.

Pages 18 – 19: Pulau Ubin

Volunteers and staff from NParks and National University of Singapore worked hand-in-hand to collect specimens from mudflats in Pulau Ubin, in a marine biodiversity expedition conducted as part of NParks' Comprehensive Marine Biodiversity Survey.

Pages 26 – 27: Butterfly Garden in HortPark

The Butterfly Garden in HortPark is frequented by visitors every last Saturday of the month when it is open to the public from 9am to 12pm.

Pages 34 – 35: 158 Cecil Street Singapore

This office block won the top prize at the SIA-NParks Skyrise Greenery Awards 2011. From the second level to the ninth, plants such as ferns and money plants grow along its columns, beams and walls.

## INSIDE COVER AND PAGE 1

The photos on these pages were winning entries selected from the City in a Garden photography competition, a year-long contest organised in 2011 to capture Singapore's biodiversity and rich greenery.

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