

SEARCHOFFSHORE.COM

Singapore

Professional Services Guide 2026

The specialist directory of law firms, wealth managers, fund managers, corporate service providers, and professional advisers operating in Singapore — for UHNW individuals, family offices, and their professional advisers.

428

PROFILED FIRMS
SINGAPORE

5,500+

FIRMS ACROSS
30+ JURISDICTIONS

1,100+

SINGLE FAMILY
OFFICES

USD 4tn+

ASSETS UNDER
MANAGEMENT

This guide is published by SearchOffshore for general informational purposes only. It does not constitute legal, tax, financial, regulatory, or professional advice of any kind. Always seek qualified professional advice before making any decisions relating to offshore structures or jurisdictional arrangements.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The SearchOffshore Singapore Guide

SearchOffshore is the specialist directory for offshore and international professional services, connecting UHNW individuals, family offices, and professional advisers with profiled firms across 30+ jurisdictions. This guide provides a structured overview of Singapore as a leading international financial centre and family office hub.

Financial services activities in Singapore require appropriate licensing or registration from the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). Certain activities may require licensing, regulatory approval, or substance depending on the nature of the business.

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SECTION 1

Singapore: Jurisdiction Overview

Singapore is one of Asia's leading international financial centres, combining a stable political environment, English common law, a sophisticated regulatory framework, and a strategic location at the heart of Southeast Asia. With a population of approximately 5.9 million, Singapore has developed one of the world's most competitive economies, with financial services forming a core pillar of its economic strategy.

The past decade has seen Singapore emerge as the preeminent family office hub in Asia, driven by significant wealth migration from mainland China, Indonesia, India, and other Asian markets, as well as growing interest from European and Middle Eastern families. The combination of tax incentives, professional infrastructure, lifestyle quality, and political stability continues to attract wealth flows, though the regulatory environment has tightened substantially since 2023.

KEY FACTS

Status	Sovereign city-state and republic
Capital	Singapore
Legal System	English Common Law
Currency	Singapore Dollar (SGD)
Corporate Tax	17% standard corporate tax rate; various exemptions and incentive regimes available
Capital Gains Tax	No capital gains tax
Withholding Tax	Varies by payment type; treaty reductions available
Regulator	Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)
Time Zone	SGT (UTC+8)
Major Legislation	Securities and Futures Act, Financial Advisers Act, Payment Services Act, Income Tax Act

"Singapore is selected for its political stability, common law framework, depth of professional services, and its unique combination of Asian connectivity and international financial centre infrastructure."

SECTION 2

Legal and Regulatory Framework

Singapore operates under English common law with a sophisticated legislative framework for financial services. The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) serves as both central bank and integrated financial regulator, supervising banks, capital markets intermediaries, insurance companies, and payment service providers.

PRIMARY LEGAL VEHICLES

Variable Capital Company (VCC)

Introduced in 2020, the VCC has achieved strong adoption as a fund vehicle for Singapore-domiciled investment funds. Its flexibility — multiple sub-funds with segregated assets and liabilities, variable capital, and a range of investment strategies — has made it a competitive alternative to Cayman and other offshore fund structures. VCCs benefit from Singapore's network of tax treaties, which offshore structures cannot access.

Singapore Limited Partnership

Used for private equity, venture capital, and fund structures. Offers flexibility in profit allocation and management governance.

Private Limited Company

The standard corporate structure for trading, holding, and investment activities. Singapore companies benefit from a favourable tax regime and Singapore's extensive tax treaty network.

MAS LICENSING FRAMEWORK

Capital markets activities require a Capital Markets Services (CMS) licence or exemption under the Securities and Futures Act. Fund managers managing assets from no more than 30 qualified investors and below SGD 250 million in AUM may qualify as Registered Fund Management Companies (RFMCs). Family offices managing only proprietary assets may qualify for an exemption from fund management licensing, but the application of the exemption requires careful analysis given MAS's increasingly scrutinous approach.

SECTION 3

Key Service Categories

Law Firms

Singapore's legal sector is one of the most sophisticated in Asia, with both leading Singapore-headquartered firms and the Singapore offices of major international law firms. Practice areas relevant to private wealth and family offices include corporate law, trusts and estate planning, tax, regulatory, and dispute resolution.

Wealth Management

Singapore is Asia's leading wealth management centre, with the private banking arms of global institutions and a growing number of independent wealth managers and multi-family offices serving the region's UHNW population. MAS licensing is required for discretionary portfolio management and most advisory activities.

Tax Advisors

Tax advisory firms provide Singapore corporate tax, international tax structuring, Section 13O/13U incentive application support, transfer pricing, and CRS/FATCA compliance services. The complexity of Singapore's interaction with home-jurisdiction tax rules — particularly for mainland Chinese, Indian, and European families — is a significant advisory area.

Accountancy Firms

The Big Four and a deep market of specialist Singapore accounting firms provide audit, compliance, financial reporting, and advisory services to funds, family offices, and corporate clients.

Corporate Services

Corporate service providers offer company formation, registered office, company secretarial, and administration services for Singapore entities, including VCCs and fund structures.

Fund Administration

Fund administrators service Singapore-domiciled funds, including VCCs, with NAV calculation, investor record-keeping, regulatory reporting, and AML/KYC services.

Trusts and Fiduciary Services

Singapore-based trust companies and fiduciary firms provide trustee and estate planning services for Asia-Pacific private clients. Singapore trust law has been modernised to support the growing family office and private wealth market.

SECTION 4

The Current Compliance Environment

Singapore operates one of the most sophisticated and well-resourced financial regulatory frameworks in Asia. The MAS serves as both central bank and integrated financial regulator. Singapore's regulatory framework is broadly aligned with international standards and MAS has been an active contributor to global financial regulatory development through the Basel Committee, IOSCO, and FATF.

AML/CFT FRAMEWORK — POST-2023

Singapore's AML/CFT framework was severely tested by the S\$2.8 billion money laundering case in 2023 — the largest in Singapore's history — involving ten foreign nationals who used Singapore companies, properties, and bank accounts to launder proceeds from overseas criminal activity. MAS implemented enhanced supervisory measures, issued additional guidance on high-risk customer segments, and significantly increased its enforcement posture.

FAMILY OFFICE TAX INCENTIVES — SECTIONS 13O AND 13U

Singapore offers two primary tax incentive schemes for family office investment structures. Section 13O provides an income tax exemption for investment holding companies managed by fund managers in Singapore, subject to minimum AUM, local investment requirements, and minimum local business spending. Section 13U provides a broader exemption for larger fund structures with a minimum fund size of SGD 50 million and higher local spending requirements. MAS significantly tightened the Section 13O and 13U application criteria in 2023, including minimum AUM requirements, mandatory investment in local assets, and at least one investment professional who is a Singapore citizen or permanent resident.

CRS AND FATCA

Singapore participates in the OECD Common Reporting Standard and has exchange relationships with over 100 jurisdictions. Singapore financial institutions report financial account information of reportable persons to the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) for onward exchange. Singapore's FATCA compliance is implemented through a Model 1 intergovernmental agreement with the United States.

SECTION 5

Regulatory Considerations for 2026

Family Office Sector — Post-2023 Reality

Singapore attracted over 1,100 single family offices by end-2023, driven by significant wealth migration from mainland China, Indonesia, and other Asian markets. The 2023 money laundering case and subsequent MAS enforcement actions prompted a significant reassessment of due diligence standards. Family office establishment now requires more substance, higher costs, and longer timelines than before. For clients who can meet these requirements, the combination of tax incentives, professional services infrastructure, and lifestyle offering remains world-class.

Variable Capital Company — Growing Adoption

The VCC, introduced in 2020, has achieved strong adoption as a fund vehicle for Singapore-domiciled investment funds. The number of registered VCCs has grown rapidly and the structure is supported by Singapore's network of tax treaties, making it a genuine competitive alternative to Cayman and other offshore fund structures.

Digital Assets — MAS Payment Services Act

Singapore regulates digital payment token services, including cryptocurrency exchanges, under the Payment Services Act (PSA). Digital payment token service providers must hold a Major Payment Institution licence or exemption from MAS. MAS has taken a measured approach to digital asset regulation, seeking to support regulated innovation while preventing Singapore from becoming a centre for illicit digital asset flows.

Global Minimum Tax

Singapore has enacted legislation to implement the OECD Pillar Two global minimum tax, including a Domestic Top-up Tax and an Income Inclusion Rule effective for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2025. For family offices, investment funds, and most Singapore holding structures, Pillar Two has limited direct impact.

KEY QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE WITH A QUALIFIED ADVISER

1. What MAS licence or registration is required for the proposed fund management or advisory activity, and does any exemption apply?
2. Does the family office structure qualify for the Section 13O or 13U tax incentive, and can the substance and spending requirements be met on an ongoing basis?
3. What is the source of wealth documentation available for the principal family members, and has this been assessed against Singapore's current enhanced due diligence standards?
4. Does the structure involve digital assets or digital payment token services, and if so, what PSA licensing is required?
5. What CRS/FATCA reporting obligations apply to the Singapore entities and their account holders, and has the home jurisdiction tax position been confirmed?
6. Has banking been confirmed in principle, given the enhanced due diligence applied by Singapore banks to family office and international structures post-2023?

SECTION 6

SearchOffshore Directory

SearchOffshore profiles 428 professional firms across 10 service categories in Singapore. All profiled firms are either self-registered or sourced from public professional registers.

SERVICE CATEGORY	FIRMS	DIRECTORY
Law Firms	129	View Listings
Corporate Services	44	View Listings
Fund Administration	20	View Listings
Fiduciary Services	16	View Listings
Trusts	16	View Listings
Wealth Management	92	View Listings
Accountancy Firms	65	View Listings
Tax Advisors	67	View Listings
Notary	37	View Listings
Property Services	12	View Listings



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SearchOffshore is the specialist directory connecting UHNW individuals, family offices and their advisers with professional firms across 30+ offshore jurisdictions — from the Cayman Islands and BVI to Jersey, Singapore and Dubai.

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[List Your Firm](#)

SECTION 7

Important Notices and Disclaimer

General Disclaimer

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Accuracy and Currency

The offshore regulatory environment changes frequently. Information reflects the position as understood at the time of publication in May 2026 and may become outdated. Information should not be relied upon without independent professional verification. Always seek advice from qualified legal, tax, and financial professionals in all relevant jurisdictions before making any decisions relating to offshore structures, trusts, or jurisdictional choices.

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No Solicitation

Nothing in this guide constitutes a solicitation or recommendation to establish any offshore structure, invest in any jurisdiction, or engage any particular service provider. Offshore and international financial structures involve complex legal, tax, and regulatory considerations that vary significantly by jurisdiction and individual circumstance. The consequences of incorrectly structured arrangements can be severe. SearchOffshore strongly encourages all users to obtain qualified professional advice in all relevant jurisdictions.

No Warranty

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