

Tom Allin: **Goodby Singapore**

All good things must come to an end and so we had to prepare to leave Singapore. However, before we left there were two things we had to do: (1) drink a Singapore Sling at Raffles' Long Bar and (2) dine on Chille Crab.

So about four o'clock in the afternoon (Monday, Jan. 16, 2016) we stepped out of a taxi onto the grounds of the Raffles Hotel.

Visitors are allowed to walk the grounds, shop the shops, and have a drink in the Long Bar. But the hotel lobby is off limits to the common person.



As we were waiting for our Singapore Slings to arrive I tried to remember the last time I drank a S Sling. Best my memory came up with was an SAE fraternity party about 1971 or 72. It obviously isn't one of my favorite drinks but I was of the mind, "How could you say you had visited Singapore but hadn't had a Singapore Sling?" We only had one drink each because two would have busted the travel budget for at least a year's worth of travel.



After our “must do” drinks we headed toward a “must do” dinner of Chili Crab. Being we were eating at a Chinese restaurant we just naturally ordered too much food: Chili Crab, a vegetable dish, a prawn dish, and stir fried rice plus a beer. The Chili Crab isn’t that spicy (Tom talking not Nancy), the crab is cooked and served in a sweet tomato/chili sauce that I ate like a soup. It was good, not great, and I thought too much work (cracking the soup soaked crab legs) for the amount of crab you eat.



A surprise – cooked peanuts that were so soft I didn't think they were peanuts. I was thinking it was a bean. Nancy and I both thought this was a very good dish.



We typically eat with chopsticks but neither of us were too proud to not use the supplied fork, spoon and knife provide (without our asking) to eat the Chili Crab.

Kent, please note the “black” silverware – a great weight and ever so good looking.

Cream shrimp on the left and our vegetables on the right. No one else in the world cooks vegetables as well as the Asian cultures. It is so easy to eat vegetarian in India, China, Japan and other Asian countries. (Tonight we are in Kuala Lumpur and a taxi driver took us to Little India for: (a) the taster plate of non-vegetarian foods and (b) the taster plate of vegetarian foods. Overall I liked the vegetarian better than the non-vegetarian.)



And may your food be as good as ours.

Before I forget our first meal in Malaysia were Burger King hamburgers – yes, you are reading that correctly: Burger King hamburgers. We stopped for gas and food and Burger King was what was available.