



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **KUSU PILGRIMAGE 2016**

**Singapore, 26 September 2016** – The 2016 Kusu Pilgrimage Season will be from 1 October to 30 October. This annual pilgrimage to the legendary ‘Tortoise’ or Kusu Island attracts thousands of devotees who pay homage at the Da Bo Gong (Tua Pek Kong) Temple.

During this period, ferries to Kusu Island will depart from the Marina South Pier, starting at 6.30am on weekends and public holidays, and 7.00am on weekdays. The last ferry will depart from Marina South Pier at 5.00pm and leave Kusu Island at 7.00pm daily. All regular ferry services to St John’s Island will be temporarily suspended during this time.

The public is advised to use public transportation to get to Marina South Pier. Due to limited parking lots at Marina South Pier, those who drive are advised to park their vehicles at the Marina Bay Cruise Centre (MBCC) and take the SBS Transit Bus 402 to Marina South Pier. Alternatively, they can use the pedestrian linkway and walk from the MBCC to Marina South Pier (approximately 500 metres). On Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays, free shuttle bus services will be available for the public from the MBCC to the Marina South Pier.

Below are some useful tips for guests going on the pilgrimage:

- Devotees and visitors are encouraged to visit Kusu Island during weekdays and off-peak hours
- Wear comfortable attire and shoes for walking around the island
- Stalls serving vegetarian food will be available on the island
- As a mark of respect for the Muslim shrines on the island, please refrain from bringing any food items which may contain pork or lard to the island
- Do not bring your pets

Please refer to **Appendix 1** for more information on the Kusu Pilgrimage.

### About Kusu Pilgrimage

One of Singapore's Southern Islands, Kusu Island is home to the popular Da Bo Gong (Tua Pek Kong) Temple and the Kramats built to commemorate the 19<sup>th</sup> century pious man Syed Abdul Rahman, his mother Nenek Ghalib and sister Puteri Fatimah.

Every year during the ninth lunar month, tens of thousands of devotees make their way to Kusu Island for the annual Kusu Pilgrimage. This year's Kusu Pilgrimage period is from 01 October 2016 to 30 October 2016.

### Getting To Kusu Island:

To get to Kusu Island, you can take a ferry from Marina South Pier. During the Kusu Pilgrimage period, the ferry arrangements are as follows:

#### Sale of Ferry Tickets

Singapore Island Cruise & Ferry Services Pte Ltd  
No. 31 Marina Coastal Drive, #01 – 04, Marina South Pier  
Tel: 6534 9339, Fax: 6534 9119

Opening hours:

7:00am to 5:00pm (weekdays)

6:30am to 5:00pm (weekends and public holidays)

#### Ferry Fares

Per Adult	Per Child (Age 1 – 12)
S\$16 (Monday to Friday)	S\$12 (Any day)
S\$18 (Weekends and Public Holidays)	

#### Ferry Schedule

The first ferry departs Marina South Pier at 7.00am from Monday to Friday, and at 6.30am on weekends and public holidays.

The frequency of ferry departures is approximately 1 hour.

Last ferry departs Marina South Pier at 5.00pm daily

Last ferry departs Kusu Island at 7.00pm daily

### **Getting to Marina South Pier – Public Transportation:**

The public is encouraged to use public transportation to get to Marina South Pier.

#### Bus

SBS Transit Bus 402 runs a service between Shenton Way Terminal, Anson Road, Cecil Street, Marina Boulevard, Marina South Pier, Marina Bay Cruise Centre (MBCC) and Marina South Pier daily. Some of the bus stops along the service route are at International Plaza, The Sail and Marina Bay Financial Centre.

More details of Bus 402 can be found on [www.sbstransit.com.sg](http://www.sbstransit.com.sg).

#### MRT

Alight at Marina South Pier MRT station (N28).

#### Taxi

Alight at the taxi drop-off point located at the Marina South Coastal Drive. Taxis are not allowed to wait or park in the Marina South Coastal Drive on weekends and public holidays during the Kusu Pilgrimage period.

### **Getting to Marina South Pier – Driving:**

In view of limited parking lots at Marina South Pier, motorists are advised to park their vehicles at the MBCC car park.

#### Parking at Marina South Pier

On weekdays, there are limited parking spaces available at Marina South Pier (EPS parking). Motorists may also park at MBCC car park and board SBS Transit 402 which plies between MBCC and Marina South Pier.

There will be controlled entry into the Marina South Pier carpark from 6.00am to 6.00pm on weekends and public holidays. Only authorised vehicles, with valid parking labels, will be allowed entry and to park at the carpark. Motorists are advised to park their vehicles at the MBCC carpark, and make use of the free shuttle-bus services plying between MBCC and Marina South Pier. Alternatively, they can use the covered pedestrian linkway from MBCC to Marina South Pier.

#### Free Shuttle Service on Weekends and Public Holiday

A free shuttle-bus service will run between MBCC and Marina South Pier from 6.00am to 8.00pm on weekends and public holidays during the Kusu Pilgrimage period (see dates below). The frequency of the shuttle service is approximately 15 minutes.

The table below shows the dates and times when controlled entry to Marina South Pier carpark will be imposed, and the availability of the free shuttle services between MBCC carpark and Marina South Pier.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Controlled entry to Marina South Pier Carpark</b>	<b>Availability of Free Shuttle Services</b>
Saturday, 01 October	6.00am to 6.00pm	6.00am to 8.00pm
Sunday, 02 October		
Saturday, 08 October		
Sunday, 09 October		
Saturday, 15 October		
Sunday, 16 October		
Saturday, 22 October		
Sunday, 23 October		
Saturday, 29 October		
Sunday, 30 October		

### **Public Enquiries**

Please call the Sentosa Hotline at 1800–SENTOSA (736 8672) between 9.00am – 6.00pm daily.

### **For media queries, please contact:**

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