



**MEDIA ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

KUSU PILGRIMAGE 2011

Singapore, 14 September 2011 – This year, the Kusu Pilgrimage Season falls between 27 September and 26 October 2011. The 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 season, 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 the 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. They should take note of the road closure at Marina Coastal Drive (between Marina Mall and Marina South Pier) from 6.00am to 5.00pm on weekends and public holidays. During the road closure, motorists are advised to park at the carparks listed below and make use of the free shuttle bus services that will be available to ferry visitors between Bestway Building (Prince Edward Road) and Marina South Pier.

- Prince Edward Road URA Carpark (Coupon parking)
- Bestway Building Carpark (EPS parking)

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 and Appendix 2 for a map of parking facilities for devotees who plan to drive to Marina South Pier.

For media enquiries, please contact:

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Appendix 1

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 19th 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 27 September to 26 October 2011.

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\$14.00 (Monday to Friday) S\$16.00 (Weekends and Public Holidays)	\$12.00 (Any day)

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 thereafter is approximately 30 minutes.

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 loop service between Marina South Pier and Anson Road daily. Some of the bus stops along the loop are Shenton Way (opposite MAS Building), Anson Road (Hub Synergy Point) and Marina Station Road (outside Marina Bay MRT station).

More details of Bus 402 can be found on www.sbstransit.com.sg.

MRT

Alight at Marina Bay MRT station (NS27) and take SBS Transit Bus 402 at the bus stop outside the station.

Taxi

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

Free Shuttle Service

A free shuttle service will run between the Bestway Building (Prince Edward Road) 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 every 15 minutes.

Getting to Marina South Pier – Driving:

In view of expected congestion and limited parking space at Marina South Pier, motorists are strongly encouraged not to drive to Marina South Pier.

Road Closure (Weekends and Public Holidays)

Marina Coastal Drive, between Marina Mall and Marina South Pier, will be closed to vehicular traffic from **6.00am** to **5.00pm** on weekends and public holidays during the Kusu Pilgrimage period (please see dates below). Only authorised vehicles with parking labels will be allowed to enter and park at Marina South Pier during the road closure.

Free Shuttle Service & Road closure dates	
Saturday, 1 October	Sunday, 2 October
Saturday, 8 October	Sunday, 9 October
Saturday, 15 October	Sunday, 16 October
Saturday, 22 October	Sunday, 23 October
Wednesday, 26 October	

During the road closure, motorists are advised to park at the following car parks (please refer to the map below) and make use of the free shuttle service from Bestway Building (Prince Edward Road) to Marina South Pier:

- (1) Prince Edward Road URA Carpark (coupon parking)
- (2) Bestway Building Carpark (EPS parking)

Motorists are reminded to park only at designated parking spaces.

Parking at Marina South Pier (Weekdays)

On weekdays, there are very limited parking spaces available at Marina South Pier (EPS parking) and along Marina Coastal Drive near Marina South Pier (coupon parking). Motorists are reminded to park only at designated parking spaces.

Public Enquiries

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

