

STB takes over running of Chinatown Heritage Centre

Outgoing operator is a consortium comprising local companies Singapore River Cruise, Journeys and Splash Entertainment. **BY LYNETTE TAN**

THE Singapore Tourism Board (STB) has taken over the management of the Chinatown Heritage Centre from its current operator, a consortium among local companies Singapore River Cruise, Journeys and Splash Entertainment.

STB said on Monday that both parties "mutually agreed" to end the group's contract to operate and manage the museum, which has been impacted by Covid-19 and prolonged restrictions on international travel.

Also, the museum, which has been closed since September last year for renovation and enhancement works, will stay closed until further notice instead of reopening this month.



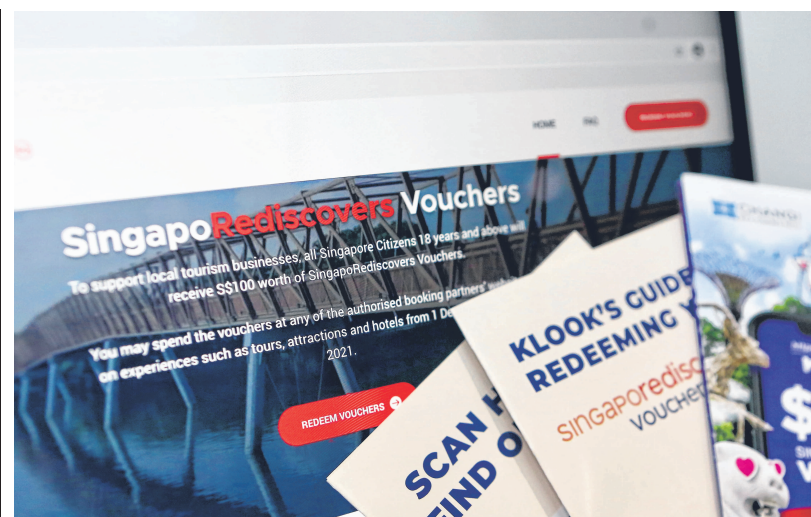
The museum, which has been closed since September last year for renovation and enhancement works, will stay closed until further notice instead of reopening this month. BT FILE PHOTO

Said STB: "We will use this time to review the centre's operating model, and will announce future plans in due course."

The Chinatown Heritage Centre was opened in 2002. It closed for rejuvenation in October 2014 and reopened about a year later under the consortium of tourism players.

Singapore River Cruise operates river boat and trishaw rides, while Journeys is a tour operator. Splash Entertainment manages events and festivals. The revamp had included a new space for exhibitions and community events, a food and beverage and retail section, as well as a new line-up of immersive tours.

tanlyn@sph.com.sg
@LynetteTanBT



GlobalTix is one of the five booking platforms engaged by the Singapore Tourism Board to handle redemptions under the Singapore Rediscover Vouchers scheme to boost domestic tourism. BT FILE PHOTO

GlobalTix gets S\$3m in fresh funds from Tin Men Capital, SEEDS Capital

By Lynette Tan
tanlyn@sph.com.sg
@LynetteTanBT

SINGAPORE LOCAL tour and attractions ticketing platform GlobalTix has received a S\$3 million injection from Tin Men Capital and SEEDS Capital, the investment arm of Enterprise Singapore.

The fresh funds will allow the firm to continue investing in developing technological capabilities suited for the post-pandemic "new normal", such as contactless entry into attractions and capacity management.

The amount will also allow the firm, which has offices in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, to deepen its footprint in the region, GlobalTix said in a press statement.

GlobalTix last raised S\$12.5 million in a Series A round led by Tin Men Capital in 2018.

The firm was founded by brothers Chan Chee Kong and Chan Chee Chong, a former general manager at the Mount Faber Leisure Group under

The fresh funds will allow the firm to continue investing in developing technological capabilities suited for the post-pandemic "new normal".

Sentosa Development Corporation, in 2014.

Pre-pandemic, it recorded US\$100 million in gross merchandise value, and issued more than three million tickets yearly, Tin Men Capital's website showed.

GlobalTix is one of the five booking platforms engaged by the Singapore Tourism Board to handle redemptions under the S\$320 million Singapore Rediscover Vouchers scheme to boost domestic tourism.

Honouring homegrown companies with strong branding messages

THE Singapore Prestige Brand Award (SPBA) 2020/21 will launch officially on Wednesday.

Now into its 20th year, the award honours homegrown brands with strong brand messages and strategies.

It is jointly organised by the Association of Small & Medium Enterprises (ASME) and Lianhe Zaobao.

SPBA 2021 will feature four categories – Promising Brands for those established for three to eight years; Established Brands for those established for more than five years; Heritage Brands for those established for more than 25 years; and Special Merit for government agencies and not-for-profit organisations that have made strides in branding efforts.

Participation in the latter category



SPBA 2021 will feature four categories: Promising Brands, Established Brands, Heritage Brands and Special Merit. BT FILE PHOTO

is strictly by invitation only from the Award Organising Committee.

Except for Special Merit, an overall winner will be picked from each award category and the public can also cast their votes for the Most Popular

Brand in those three categories. The Regional Brands category will not feature in SPBA 2020/21.

Eatery chain White Restaurant was the overall and most popular brand winner in the Promising Brands cat-

egory at SPBA 2019, while imaging solutions company Fotohub picked up both the overall and most popular brand award in the Established Brand category that same year.

All participants will be judged by a panel comprising representatives from statutory boards and multinational corporations, as well as brand consultants. The winners of the SPBA 2020/21 will be announced at an awards presentation ceremony at a later date.

■ The Singapore Prestige Brand Award (SPBA) 2020/21 launch will be held on April 28 from 2-4pm. To watch via Zoom, register at <https://tinyurl.com/47n9zpp5>. For more information, check www.spba.com.sg

Asean Lookout: The best way to stay ahead in the region.

ESSENTIALS ONLY:
Breakdowns of key regional trends in **succinct points**

MUST-KNOW:
BT's best South-east Asia **exclusives** to prepare you for the week

EXCLUSIVE PROFILES
on Asean's movers and shakers, and commentary by BT's experts including Mindy Tan, Ben Paul and Kalpana Rashiwala

Delivered straight to your inbox on Fridays at just **S\$3.90 a month.**

Scan the QR code or visit **BTSUB.SG/ASEANLOOKOUT** to subscribe.

Terms and conditions apply.

ART OF THE DEAL

Investment Disrupted: Navigating Safely in Unpredictable Times

LIVE

28 April, Wednesday 7:30PM

SEAN SEAH
BUFFETT ONLINE SCHOOL

JP ONG
MONEY FM 89.3
FINANCE PRESENTER

FIND OUT MORE