

6 April 2020

## **[UPDATED] OPERATIONALISATION OF FURTHER SAFE DISTANCING MEASURES FOR TOURISM STAKEHOLDERS**

1. The Ministry of Health issued a press release on “Circuit Breaker to Minimise Further Spread of COVID-19” on 3 April that outlined an elevated set of safe distancing measures to pre-empt the trend of increasing local transmission of COVID-19. The aim is to reduce much more significantly movements and interactions in public and private places. The Singapore Tourism Board (“STB”) is providing further elaboration in this circular. Information in this circular supersedes those in any previous advisories or statements.
2. The measures outlined in the circular include closure of workplace premises, recreation venues, attractions and retail outlets except those necessary to support the daily living needs of the population. Food and beverage establishments are limited to takeaway or delivery only. Essential services and their related supply chains can continue to operate but must keep the number of staff on the premises to the minimum. Please refer to <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/essentialservices> for the latest list of essential activities that will be allowed to continue.
3. You are receiving this document as a tourism stakeholder. Tourism stakeholders include travel agents, river boat operators, event organisers, event promoters of arts, culture and sports, and operators of attractions, precincts, entertainment, F&B and retail establishments, MICE venues, hotels and integrated resorts. We are aware of the frequency and volume of information being circulated to all our tourism stakeholders, and we seek your understanding and cooperation for these fast-moving efforts to combat COVID-19.
4. The requirements applicable to tourism stakeholders are set out below. These measures will remain in force from 7 April 2020 to 4 May 2020 (inclusive), but this period may be extended if necessary. The previously announced safe distancing measures on capacity limits and physical separation remain in force and must be strictly complied with.

### Events and certain activities

5. Between 7 April 2020 and 4 May 2020 (inclusive), events and activities listed below are to be deferred. If this is not possible, they must be cancelled. This applies regardless of the number of participants in attendance. The list of affected events and activities are as follows:
  - a. Any competition, sporting event or sporting contest in a public place
  - b. Any consumer event in a public place
  - c. Any convention, exhibition, trade fair or sales event in a public place
  - d. Any organised guided tour to one or more places or points of interest, whether indoors or outdoors

### Public venues

6. **F&B establishments.** Operators of F&B establishments are to implement further measures as set out in the circular “[Updated] Tightening Safe Distancing Measures at Food & Beverage Establishments” dated 4 April 2020.
7. **Retail establishments, malls and standalone stores.** Operators of retail establishments, malls and standalone stores are to implement further measures as set out in the respective circulars “[Updated]

Tightening Safe Distancing Measures at Retail Establishments” and “[Updated] Tightening Safe Distancing Measures at Shopping Malls and Standalone Stores” both dated 4 April 2020.

8. **Hotels.** All licensed hotels, transit hotels located in Changi Airport terminals 1, 2 & 3 supporting persons on Stay-Home Notice, government quarantine facilities, community isolation facilities and accommodation catering to the needs of students, foreigners and foreign workers affected by travel restrictions as well as existing occupants may continue to operate. However, new reservations must not be accepted (except for SHN guests or guests who are unable to leave Singapore because of travel restrictions) and all on-site fitness and recreational facilities like gyms and swimming pools are to be closed. Measures to ensure safe distancing for guests (e.g. 1m spacing between patrons in queues) must be implemented. Hotels wishing to continue operations are required to submit details of their plans to operate with enhanced safe distancing measures in place at <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg> by end of 13 April 2020, and may continue operations while waiting for the Government’s response.
9. **Other public venues.** As announced on 24 Mar, bars and entertainment venues like pubs, karaoke lounges, night clubs, discotheques, cinemas and theatres must remain closed. From 7 April 2020 to 4 May 2020 (inclusive), all attractions (including museums, theme parks, museums and casinos) are to close as well. Venues that are able to comply immediately are strongly encouraged to do so. Essential services to support critical functions such as care of wildlife, security services and pest and vector control can continue to operate on the premises. Businesses that provide these essential services are required to submit details of their plans to operate with enhanced safe distancing measures in place at <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg> by end of 13 April 2020 and may continue operations while waiting for the Government’s response.
10. Where a public venue of a tourism stakeholder falls into more than one category (e.g. the hotel operates F&B establishments and manages a mall within its premises), the tourism stakeholder must comply with the requirements for all relevant categories.
11. STB will refer any tourism stakeholder that does not comply with the above to the relevant regulatory authority for appropriate action. The Infectious Diseases (Measures to Prevent Spread of COVID-19) Regulations 2020 requires individuals, event organisers, and owners and occupiers of various premises and public spaces to comply with safe distancing measures. Non-compliance with the regulations is punishable with a fine of up to \$10,000 or imprisonment of up to six months or both. Further, tourism stakeholders which do not implement or comply with the Government’s safe distancing measures may be ineligible for government grants and loan assistance. Finally, additional penalties may be imposed on those which are found to have been a place of transmission of COVID-19, if the venues are found not to have adhered to these requirements.
12. Every tourism stakeholder is encouraged to participate in the SG Clean programme to have its establishment certified. For more details on the programme, please refer to [www.sgclean.gov.sg](http://www.sgclean.gov.sg).
13. We hope this circular is helpful to you, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to these fast-moving changes to combat COVID-19. As the situation develops, please visit MOH’s website regularly for the latest updates arising from further review based on the global situation. The health and safety of Singaporeans, visitors and those who work in the tourism industry are STB’s priority, and we thank you for your continued support and understanding.

#### SINGAPORE TOURISM BOARD

