



Penang Port Announces Free Ferry Rides on the 24th and 25th of January 2024 in Celebration of Thaipusam Festival

In an uplifting announcement for the Thaipusam festival, Penang Port Commission (PPC) & Penang Port Sdn Bhd (Penang Port) will offer **24 hours of free ferry rides on the 24th and 25th of January 2024** from 12.00 AM to 11.30 PM. This gesture aims to support the cultural festivities and ease travel for celebrants during one of Malaysia's most significant events.

Thaipusam has been celebrated with grandeur, culminating at the Arulmigu Balathandayuthapani Temple. To seamlessly manage the influx of passengers and ensure a memorable experience for all, Penang Port meticulously prepares each year for this surge.

The statistic data in 2023 celebrations highlights the scale of ferry usage during the festival period. That year, an impressive count of over 12,528 passengers for both ways relied on the ferry services, with the fleet making more than 52 round trips for 2 days to accommodate the enthusiastic crowds. These figures underscore the significance of the ferry system as a crucial vein of transportation, uplifting the spirits of the community and facilitating a key part of the Thaipusam observance.

The free ferry rides on 24th and 25th of January 2024 aim to outdo the success of previous years, endorsing cultural vitality, community connections, and shared celebrations. This initiative also reflects Penang Port enduring commitment to service excellence and community engagement, reinforcing its status as a pivotal participant in the nation's most cherished festivities. Taking the ferry during this festival helps alleviate congestion, as well as reduce traffic on the island. This initiative promotes passengers to use public transportation, encouraging a more sustainable and efficient means of transportation.

The excitement around this year's announcement stems from not just the cost savings for passengers but also the company's readiness to handle the potential increase in ridership. PPC & Penang Port assures its commendable preparedness to offer enhanced services. The ferry terminals will be suitably staffed, and the ferry services will be closely monitored to ensure that efficiency and safety remain paramount even as we accommodate a larger volume of passengers.



In anticipation of the surge the company will also be implementing extra safety & security measures.

This gesture of goodwill from PPC & Penang Port exemplifies the very essence of Thaipusam – a demonstration of faith, a promise of burden eased, and an affirmation of journeys shared. We hope that by providing free rides, we not only celebrate this revered tradition but also imbue the spirit of unity and harmony amongst all Malaysians.

In preparation for the festival, the public is encouraged to plan their travels in advance & check the ferry schedules on Penang Port's website & social media for the ferry. The free ferry service is expected to not just facilitate physical journeys but also be a bridge connecting people from various walks of life during Thaipusam. In these moments, the ferries are more than just transportation; they symbolize the unity, diversity, and cultural wealth of Malaysia.

As Penang Port looks forward to contributing to the success of Thaipusam 2024, it extends a warm invitation to all Malaysians to partake in this celebratory travel experience, where togetherness and tradition sail side by side. Let us gather under the banner of Thaipusam, a testament to the power of faith and community.

Together, let us make Thaipusam 2024 a memorable and joyous journey for everyone.

About Penang Port Sdn Bhd

Penang Port Sdn Bhd (PPSB) (a member of the MMC Group) is a port operator for Port of Penang which is located in the Penang State, in the north-west of Peninsular Malaysia. Port of Penang paved a boutique role by serving as the primary gateway to the Northern region of Malaysia and Southern Thailand, serving the basins of the Straits of Malacca and the Gulf of Bengal.

Penang Port is fully equipped to handle all types of cargo, namely containerised and conventional cargo such as liquid, dry bulk, and break-bulk.

PPSB also promotes Seamless Cruise-to-Tourism Access through our leverage at the Swettenham Pier Cruise Terminal – which has emerged as the busiest port of call in Malaysia for cruise.



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About MMC Corporation Berhad

MMC Corporation Berhad (MMC) is a leading utilities and infrastructure group with diversified businesses under four divisions, namely Ports and Logistics, Energy and Utilities, Engineering, and Industrial Development.

Its key businesses under the Ports and Logistics division include the port operations of Pelabuhan Tanjung Pelepas Sdn Bhd, Johor Port Berhad, Northport (Malaysia) Bhd, Penang Port Sdn Bhd, Tanjung Bruas Port Sdn Bhd and Kontena Nasional Berhad, a logistics provider. Internationally, MMC has presence in Saudi Arabia via Red Sea Gateway Terminal Company Limited, a container port terminal within the Jeddah Islamic Port.

Under the Energy and Utilities division, MMC is the single largest shareholder of both Malakoff Corporation Berhad, the country's largest Independent Power Producer and Gas Malaysia Berhad, a total energy solutions provider. Through Aliran Ihsan Resources Berhad, we are a pioneer in wastewater recycling technology and a water treatment specialist.

MMC's Engineering division has played a leading role for the implementation of the entire project including the underground works package in completing the 51 km Klang Valley Mass Rapid Transit (KVMRT) Kajang Line (formerly known as Sungai Buloh-Kajang Line) and is now the main contractor for the entire KVMRT Putrajaya Line (formerly known as Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya Line). MMC is also currently, undertaking key civil and infrastructure projects in the country namely Langat Centralised Sewage Treatment Plant and Langat 2 Water Treatment Plant.

Notably, MMC completed the 329 km Ipoh-Padang Besar Electrified Double Tracking Project and the innovative Stormwater Management and Road Tunnel (SMART) motorway, the first of its kind, dual-purpose tunnel in the world.

MMC's Industrial Development division develops and manages approximately 5,000 acres of industrial developments namely Senai Airport City (SAC) and Tanjung Bin Industrial Park (TBIP) in Iskandar Malaysia, Johor and Northern Technocity (NTC) in Kulim, Kedah. The SAC, TBIP and NTC developments come under the ambit of MMC's Industrial Development Division, operating under three companies namely Senai Airport City Sdn Bhd, Seaport Worldwide Sdn Bhd and Northern Technocity Sdn Bhd.

In other business, MMC wholly-owns Senai Airport Terminal Services Sdn Bhd, the operator of Senai International Airport in Johor Bahru – an emerging southern aviation hub and important gateway to Iskandar Malaysia.

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