



THE KALLANG STORY

A Sports, Arts and Heritage Trail

For Immediate Release

SINGAPORE SPORTS HUB LAUNCHES THE FIRST SPORTS, ARTS AND HERITAGE TRAIL

Members of the public can now discover the rich history of Kallang, sporting achievements and art through 18 heritage markers, artefacts, architecture and new artwork.



Mr Baey Yam Keng, Senior Parliamentary Secretary (SPS), Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Transport unveiled the iconic Merdeka lions which have ‘returned’ to Kallang.

Photo credit: Singapore Sports Hub

More photos can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/2Vq5YyZ>

Singapore, 12 May 2019 – The Singapore Sports Hub launched the first sports, art and heritage walking trail titled ***The Kallang Story: A Sports, Arts and Heritage Trail*** today, with the unveiling of the Merdeka Lions by Guest-of-Honour, Mr Baey Yam Keng, Senior Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, and the Ministry of Transport. Mr Baey was joined by some 11 community groups for a guided tour of the trail, where they were taken on a journey of Kallang’s landmarks and the area’s vibrant history.

Mr Baey said: “There is a treasure trove of stories at Kallang. This was where many of our nation’s sporting memories were forged, and is also home to Singapore’s first civil international airport. I am heartened by this Kallang Story project, which documents some interesting elements of our heritage

in the year of Singapore's Bicentennial. I encourage everyone to come explore the area with family and friends, relive old memories, and reflect on our Singapore Story."

The new three-kilometre educational walking trail tells the story of Kallang through 18 heritage markers, artefacts, architecture, and new artworks sited around Singapore Sports Hub. These artworks are commissioned by Singapore Sports Hub to celebrate Kallang's heritage and local talents. The artworks will be rolled out in phases. This walking trail is a community project supported by the National Heritage Board (NHB) in partnership with Sport Singapore and Republic Polytechnic. The launch is part of the Singapore Bicentennial commemoration 2019.

Mr Bryn Jones, Chairman of Singapore Sports Hub, said, "Singapore Sports Hub sits on an important historical site not just in relation to its sporting history and achievements. To peel back the layers within the site, there are many prominent landmarks which were unknown to many visitors. We hope that with this public trail, more people and families can discover this facet of Singapore's sports, arts and heritage scenes.

Mr Lim Teck Yin, CEO of SportSG, said: "The story of Kallang is more than a backdrop to many significant moments in our sporting history. It tells stories of generations of Singaporeans coming together to achieve extraordinary feats. These shared memories and experiences continue to define the people we are today, pride in excellence and a vision for our future."

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TRAIL

18 markers take visitors through *The Kallang Story: A Sports, Arts and Heritage Trail*

Members of the public can explore the 18 markers as one whole, or in three separate smaller walking trails - The Waterfront Trail, The Stadium Trail and The Park Trail. Each of the trails tells the Kallang story by highlighting prominent landmarks in the area, both past and present. ***The Waterfront Trail*** faces the Kallang Basin, a body of water with a rich history going back at least 400 years and reveals the riverine communities who once called this area home, the traditional industries that contributed lasting place names, and the legacy of water sports. ***The Stadium Trail*** explores the grounds of the National Stadium and covers major architectural icons which played key roles in sports, politics, energy, aviation and entertainment in Singapore. ***The Park Trail*** ventures into the former grounds of Kallang Park, journeys through memories of the old Wonderland Amusement Park and ending in front of the Singapore Indoor Stadium.

The Merdeka Lions

The Merdeka Lions now sited at Stadium Roar, facing the Kallang Basin, are replicas of the original artefacts that were initially commissioned by the Public Works Department (renamed 'CPD Corporation') as part of the Merdeka Bridge that was built in 1955. With the widening of Nicoll Highway, the sculptures were then moved to Kallang Park, before being shifted to The SAFTI Military Institute.



Left: A close-up of one of the Merdeka Lions on Merdeka Bridge in 1956, before their relocation to Kallang Park in the 1960s. (Source: Wong Kwan Collection, courtesy of National Archives of Singapore)

Centre: One of the Merdeka Lions standing guard at the entrance to Merdeka Bridge. (Source: Unknown)

Right: The Merdeka Lions are currently standing guard at the base of the 17-storey observatory tower at SAFTI Military Institute. (Source: Singapore History Consultants Pte Ltd)

Re:Bench

Members of the public can look forward to spotting 14 uniquely designed repurposed benches made from the timber seats in the former National Stadium (bench locations in the **Annex A**). The installation of the 14 benches has enlivened Sports Hub's public spaces to build community interactions and create shared memories. This underscored the intent of this "Re:Bench" Community Project, a collaboration between Singapore Sports Hub and the Urban Redevelopment Authority.

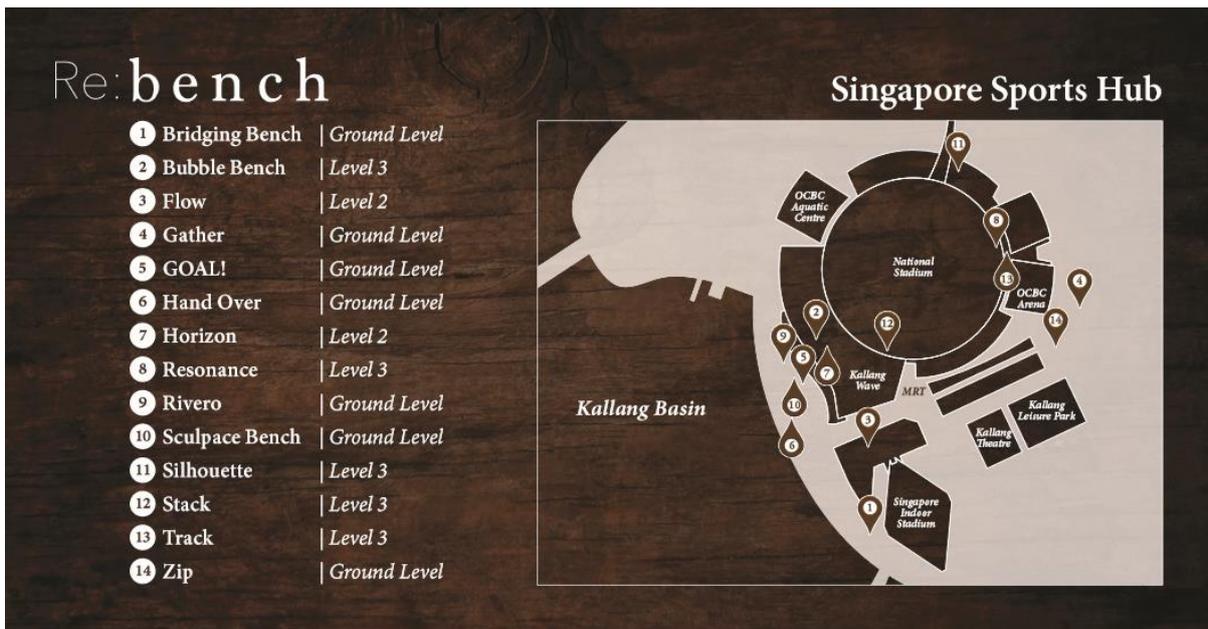
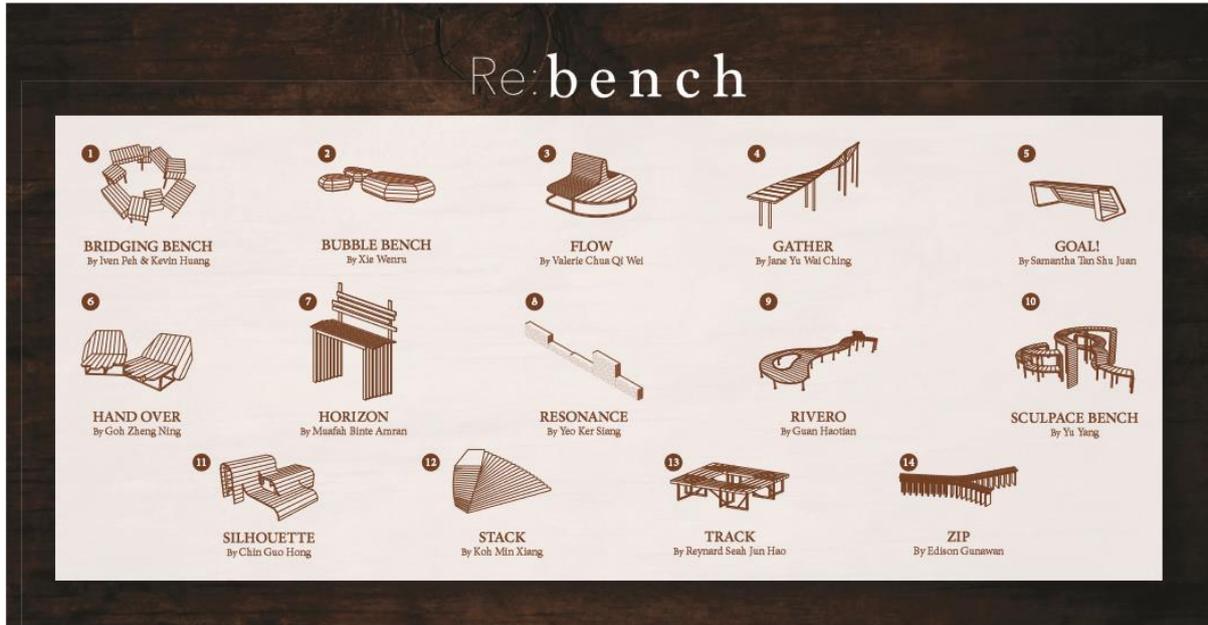
Visitors can pick up self-guided tour maps of The Kallang Story: A Sports, Arts and Heritage Trail (**Annex B**) at the Sports Hub's Visitors Centre at OCBC Square.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

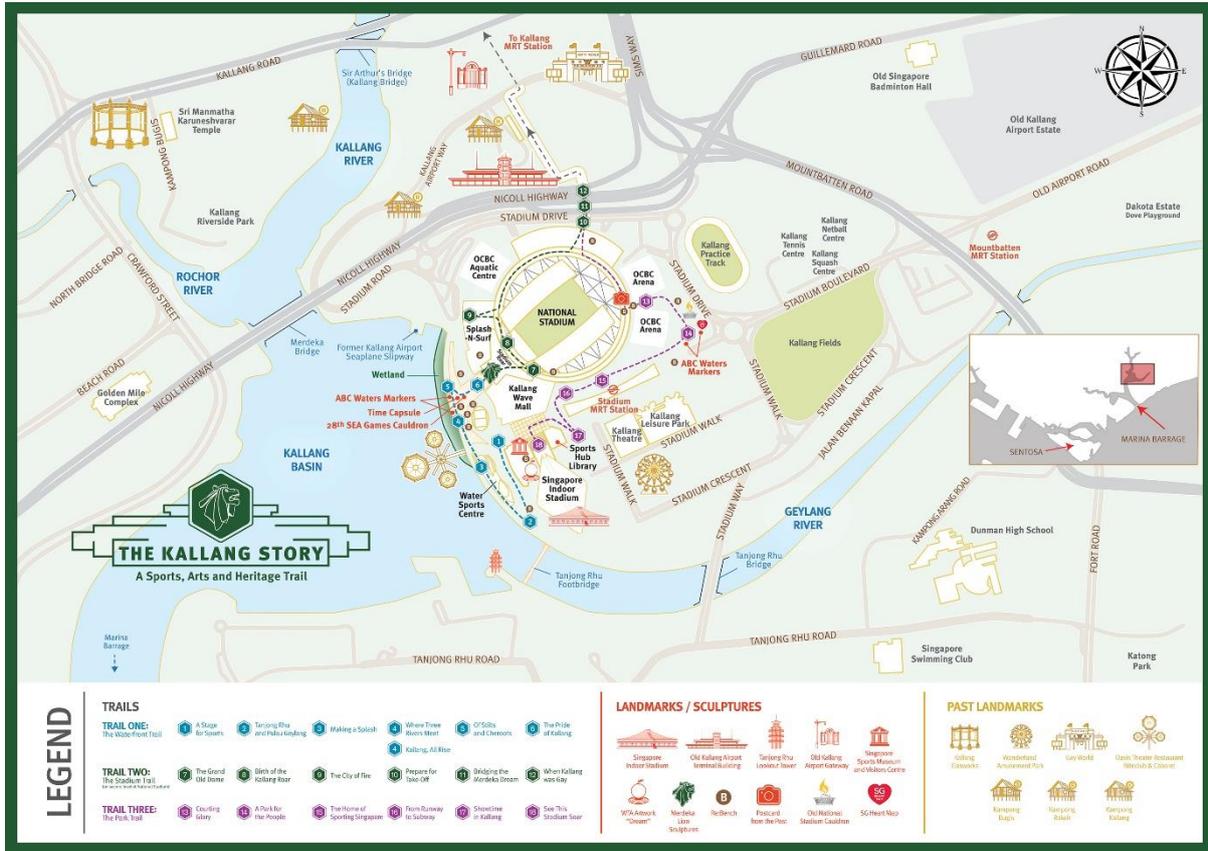
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Annex A – Re:bench locations



Download high resolution catalogue of Re:bench here: <<https://bit.ly/2H3DJy7>>

Annex B– Sports, Arts and Heritage Trail Map



Download high resolution map here: <https://bit.ly/2LoZw7v>

ABOUT SINGAPORE SPORTS HUB

The Singapore Sports Hub is a fully integrated sports, entertainment and lifestyle hub, with programming that comprises world-class recreational and competitive events, as well as community events, to serve children, youth, working adults, seniors, families, and less privileged population segments in Singapore and tourism sectors. Consisting of a unique cluster development of world-class sports facilities within the city, it plays a critical role in accelerating the development of Singapore's sports industry, excellence and participation. Its vision is to be the region's premier sports, entertainment and lifestyle destination.

Located on a 35-hectare site in Kallang, the Singapore Sports Hub includes the following facilities:

- A new 55,000-capacity National Stadium with a retractable roof and movable tiered seating
- The iconic Singapore Indoor Stadium
- A 6,000-capacity OCBC Aquatic Centre that meets FINA standards
- A 3,000-capacity OCBC Arena which is scalable and flexible in layout
- Water Sports Centre featuring kayaking and canoeing
- 41,000 sqm Kallang Wave Mall, including indoor climbing wall and Splash-N-Surf facility (Kids Waterpark, Stingray and Lazy River)
- 100PLUS Promenade that encircles the National Stadium
- Singapore Youth Olympic Museum & Singapore Sports Museum
- Sports Hub Library
- Shimano Cycling World
- Daily community facilities and activities, including beach volleyball, hard courts (futsal, basketball and netball) lawn bowls, giant chess, skate park and running & cycling paths

The Singapore Sports Hub, which is managed by SportsHub Pte Ltd, is one of the largest sporting Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects in the world. It is also Singapore's largest flagship PPP project of this nature and has won the Project Finance International (PFI) award in London in 2011, World Architecture Festival Awards for Best Future Project in the leisure-led development category in 2013 and Sports Building of the Year in 2014.

For more information, please visit the Singapore Sports Hub:

- Website: www.sportshub.com.sg
- Facebook: [sporesportshub](https://www.facebook.com/sporesportshub)
- Twitter: [@sgsportshub](https://twitter.com/sgsportshub)
- Instagram: [sgsportshub](https://www.instagram.com/sporesportshub)

The Public-Private Partnership includes:



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