

新聞稿

Press Release

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5 January 2023

Lok Ma Chau on East Rail Line to Serve Cross-boundary Passengers from 8 January

The MTR Corporation announced today (5 January 2023) that following the Government's announcement about reopening the Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point on 8 January 2023 (Sunday), the East Rail Line will resume train service for cross-boundary passengers. Train service between Sheung Shui and Lok Ma Chau stations will be stepped up, running at an interval of around 4-8 minutes for most parts of the day. Daily train frequency connecting the two stations on weekdays will be enhanced from a total of about 90 pairs before the closure of the Lok Ma Chau control point to a total of 135 pairs. Train service between Sheung Shui and Admiralty stations will also be enhanced.

Since the pandemic, East Rail Line train service to control points has been adjusted to a level to serve only residents in border areas due to the suspension of control points. The Corporation welcomes the reopening of the control points and eagerly looks forward to serving passengers again. The Corporation will closely monitor the situation and cooperate fully with the government's boundary reopening arrangements. Appropriate level of train service will be deployed to facilitate smooth passenger flow. (Please refer to Annex 1 for train service details)

"After fighting the pandemic together with the public for almost three years, we are pleased to see Lok Ma Chau Station serving cross-boundary passengers again. Following the commencement of the East Rail Line Cross-Harbour Extension, cross-boundary passengers can now travel to Hong Kong Island faster and more conveniently without the need for interchanges. The MTR network becomes more efficient with evenly distributed passenger flow. The stations, the trains and the East Rail Line team are all set to serve passengers.

Since the cross-boundary train services were suspended in early 2020, the MTR team has been remaining steadfast and professional, keeping the stations and facilities in good condition. We have been keeping the station clean and hygienic all the time and making good preparation for resumption of control points. We will fully support the Government to resume cross-boundary rail connections in a gradual and orderly manner," said Ms Jeny Yeung, Hong Kong Transport Services Director of MTR Corporation.

Cross-boundary passengers can now use QR code payment, such as Alipay, WeChat Pay and UnionPay App etc., to ride on the MTR heavy rail network (except at Airport Express stations).

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The Government has implemented reservation arrangements for cross-boundary traffic and requires outbound passengers to provide a negative COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test (PCR test) result obtained within 48 hours of their journey. The Corporation would like to remind passengers who go to the Lok Ma Chau check point via the East Rail Line to confirm they have brought along valid travel documents, obtained the necessary advance reservation arrangement and negative nucleic acid test result before departing.

To provide better health protection for passengers and staff, Lok Ma Chau Station will undergo another full-scale disinfection and cleaning exercise before reopening, while the enhanced cleaning and disinfection measures already in place will continue. To raise the protection for passengers and staff, East Rail Line train compartments have been sprayed with nano photocatalyst coating which provides continuous disinfection against many kinds of bacteria and viruses. (Please refer to the Annex 2 for details.)

On the day the Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Point reopens, MTR will strengthen signage and public announcements in stations and train compartments and will deploy more staff to assist passengers. Passengers can look up the latest train service information released via MTR Mobile and the official MTR website.

In addition, the Government has announced that the High Speed Rail (HSR) is expected to provide short-haul train services between West Kowloon Station and Futian, Shenzhenbei, Guangzhounan and the new destination of Guangzhoudong, no later than next Sunday (15 January 2023). Details of advance ticket sales and HSR train service will be announced early next week.

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About MTR Corporation

To Keep Cities Moving, MTR makes encounters happen and rendezvous for a more connected tomorrow. As a recognised world-class operator of sustainable rail transport services, we are a leader in safety, reliability, customer service and efficiency.

MTR has extensive end-to-end railway expertise with more than 40 years of railway projects experience from design to planning and construction through to commissioning, maintenance and operations. Going beyond railway delivery and operation, MTR also creates and manages dynamic communities around its network through seamless integration of rail, commercial and property development.

With more than 40,000 dedicated staff*, MTR carries over 13 million passenger journeys worldwide every weekday in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Australia and Mainland China. Together, we Go Smart and Go Beyond.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit www.mtr.com.hk.

*includes our subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures in Hong Kong and worldwide

Annex 1

(1) Train Service at Lo Ma Chau Station (From 8 January 2023)

	Origin	Terminus	Departure Time
First Train	Admiralty	Lok Ma Chau	6:10am
	Hung Hom	Lok Ma Chau	5:35am
	Mong Kok East	Lok Ma Chau	5:28am
	Lok Ma Chau	Admiralty	6:38am
Last Train	Admiralty	Lok Ma Chau	9:29pm
	Lok Ma Chau	Admiralty	10:55pm

East Rail Line	Average Train Frequency (Mins)	
	Weekdays	Weekends and Public Holidays
Sheung Shui - Lok Ma Chau	6:38am to 9:30am	
	10-14	5-14
	9:30am to 8:00pm	
	4-8	
	8:00pm to 10:55pm	
	5-10	

(2) East Rail Line Train Service Enhancement (From 8 January 2023)

East Rail Line	Weekdays		Weekends and Public Holidays	
	Train Frequency (Mins)		Train Frequency (Mins)	
	Current	After Adjustment	Current	After Adjustment
Sheung Shui - Admiralty	9:30am to 10:55pm		7:00am to 10:55pm	
	3.3 – 7.5	3.2 – 6	5-7.5	4-6

Annex 2

Cleaning and Disinfection Measures at Lok Ma Chau on EAL

Station

- Use of new model cleaning and disinfection robots to clean the station areas with disinfectant
- Station facilities frequently touched by passengers such as ticketing machines, elevator buttons and escalators will be cleaned and disinfected with 1:99 detergent every two hours
- Introduced contactless elevator buttons
- Station ventilation will be strengthened by pumping in more fresh air to make better air circulation
- Disinfection stations will be installed to provide hand-sanitizer

Train Compartment

- Trains will be fully cleaned with 1:99 detergent after end of service every night
- Cleaning workers will use 1:99 detergent to clean the train compartments after arriving at the terminal station
- Air fillers will be cleaned by large automatic cleaning machines and changed more frequently
- Areas in train compartment frequently touched by passengers have been sprayed with nano photocatalyst coating which can disinfect many kinds of bacteria and viruses continuously
- Hydrogen peroxide nebulization disinfection robot will be deployed for extra deep-cleaning and disinfection when necessary.