

MEDIA RELEASE



***Shipwrecked: Tang Treasures and Monsoon Winds* exhibition
extended till 2 October 2011 at ArtScience Museum**

Complimentary entry to exhibition during the week of National Day

Singapore, 28 July 2011 – Visitors and residents who have yet to catch the Singapore exhibition - *Shipwrecked: Tang Treasures and Monsoon Winds* - will now have more time to do so. Originally slated to end its run on 31 July 2011, this spectacular exhibition at the ArtScience Museum, Marina Bay Sands, has now been extended until 2 October 2011.

Shipwrecked tells the remarkable story of a journey undertaken by a ninth-century Arab dhow transporting an astonishing cargo from Tang Dynasty China to parts unknown in the Middle East and Asia. It offers the first-ever significant proof of the existence of a maritime silk route. As such, it has tremendous archaeological and historical significance to Singapore, resonating with the island's long and distinguished maritime history and strategic role at the cross-roads of maritime trade routes.

Of the some 60,000 Tang artefacts that were retrieved, the exhibition showcases some of the more unique and key items ranging from exquisite gold and silver wares, to wonderfully crafted ceramics.

To date, the nearly six-month long exhibition has been well-received by the general public, which prompted the decision to extend its showing.

To allow even more people to enjoy the exhibition, in celebration of Singapore's 46th National Day, all museum visitors will enjoy free access to the Shipwrecked exhibition from 8 to 14 August. For full promotional and ticketing details, please refer to www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum.

On the prospect of allowing a wider audience to view this spectacular collection, Mr. Tom Zaller, Museum Director, ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands, says, "As the Tang Collection is a priceless treasure significant to Singapore, it is only fitting that we invite all Singaporeans to enjoy this spectacular exhibition on the anniversary week of our country. With the extension of *Shipwrecked: Tang Treasures and Monsoon Winds* and our National Day promotion, we hope even more visitors will have the opportunity to enjoy this distinctive and important exhibition."

Ms Ranita Sundra, Director, Attractions, Dining & Retail, Singapore Tourism Board (STB) shares the same sentiment, "We are deeply encouraged by the public interest in and reception of this remarkable exhibition in the past months. Sharing this collection with the public was a key mission in making this exhibition a reality. We are delighted that the ArtScience Museum shares our commitment to enable more Singaporeans to catch the exhibition before it ends."

Dr Violet Chia, a retired associate professor from NUS, believes the *Shipwrecked* exhibition is a collection Singaporeans should be proud to visit and call their own, "I visited the Shipwrecked exhibition with my son and we were amazed by the sheer scale and presentation of the treasure. The way these 400 objects from a collection of over 60,000 pieces were displayed was very impressive. As keen museum-goers, we feel very proud that Singapore had the foresight to acquire and exhibit this treasure that was retrieved from a 1,000 year-old shipwreck from the Tang era. It is an exhibition all Singaporeans – and all visitors here - should make a point to see."

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About the Singapore Tourism Board (STB)

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) is a leading economic development agency in tourism, one of Singapore's key service sectors. Known for partnership, innovation and excellence, STB champions tourism, making it a key economic driver for Singapore. The STB aims to differentiate and market Singapore as a must-visit destination offering a concentration of user-centric and enriching experiences through the "YourSingapore" brand. For more information, please visit www.stb.gov.sg or www.yoursingapore.com.

About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a casino, Paiza Club for premium players and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment acts and will include our resident performance, "The Lion King". Completing the line-up of attractions is the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which will play host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com.