Bangkok MRT Stored-Value Cards Ended on 1 June: What Tourists Use Now

Description

A Bangkok visitor carrying an old MRT or MRT Plus card can no longer assume it will open the Blue or Purple line gates. From 1 June 2026, MRTA and BEM moved those lines away from the retired stored-value media while expanding EMV contactless use across the four MRTA-supervised lines.

This guide is for a Singapore visitor planning to use Bangkokâ??s MRT Blue, Purple, Yellow or Pink lines after 1 June 2026. The decision is to choose an accepted EMV contactless, Mangmoom EMV or current single-journey payment route and avoid relying on retired MRT or MRT Plus stored value.

The retirement had two stages

MRTAâ??s announcement says top-ups for MRT and MRT Plus cards stopped from 1 April 2026, remaining value could be used through the end of May, and the cards stopped being accepted for fares on Blue and Purple lines from 1 June 2026. A tourist should not buy or rely on an old card offered as current stored value. MRTA payment transition notice.

EMV contactless is the main through-line

The same notice says eligible EMV contactless cards can be used across the Blue, Purple, Yellow and Pink lines under MRTA supervision. Visa and Mastercard credit cards are prominent examples, with other listed card products and Mangmoom EMV options. Use the same physical card or device for entry and exit.

A foreign card still needs a fallback

An EMV logo does not guarantee that a foreign issuer, wallet token or offline transaction will work. Carry a second eligible card and enough local payment for a current single-journey option. Do not hand a declined card to a stranger or repeatedly separate entry and exit across different cards.

Refund and concession branches differ

MRTA described refunds for old card balances and a Mangmoom EMV replacement route, including arrangements for eligible students and older passengers. Those administrative routes are not automatically convenient for a short-term visitor, so check identity, fee and station requirements before joining a queue.

Tokens have their own future date

MRTAâ??s transition notice projected a move from single-journey tokens to QR tickets from 1 January 2027. That is a planned later step, not the rule for every journey in August 2026. The current ticket FAQ and station staff remain the day-of-travel authority. [MRTA ticket FAQ](#).

The two working tools

The first original unit is a dated before-and-after timeline from top-up closure to stored-value retirement and the later planned token change. The second is a four-line matrix that asks whether one payment medium works on every line in the itinerary and what the traveller will do if the first tap fails.

Passenger	Primary option	Fallback
Visitor with eligible contactless credit card	Tap the same card in and out	Second eligible card or current single-journey media
Visitor using a phone wallet	Confirm the network and use the same device token	Physical contactless card
Holder of old MRT or MRT Plus card	Do not expect gate acceptance after 1 June	Ask station staff about refund route
Concession user	Check Mangmoom EMV eligibility and documents	Station guidance for the specific category

Keep the decision usable after today

A first check can go stale before the task is finished. Put the retirement had two stages, emv contactless is the main through-line and a foreign card still needs a fallback on separate dated lines instead of combining them into one â??doneâ?• box. Attach the authority page or document beside the line it supports, record the person who checked it, and write the exact event that will force another check. That event may be a changed account, amended filing, new appointment, revised timetable, altered access route, later test run or updated dataset. The format matters because a future reader must be able to see which fact changed without repeating every part of the exercise.

Next, give the two original tools different owners. The person maintaining a before-and-after payment timeline from top-up closure to stored-value retirement and planned token change should preserve the inputs and arithmetic or branch logic. The person maintaining a four-line payment matrix separating accepted media, transfers and foreign-card failure fallbacks should confirm that the final action followed the chosen route. One person may perform both roles, but the evidence should still distinguish calculation from execution. This prevents a correct plan from being mistaken for proof that the payment, filing, trip, report, repair, training or release actually happened.

Before relying on the result, ask a second reader to reproduce the conclusion from the saved material without being told the preferred answer. They should be able to match the right person, entity, account, property, route, service or software version; identify the controlling date; and explain the strongest stop condition. If they reach another branch, do not average the two answers. Reopen the disputed source, definition or input. A decision that cannot be reproduced is not ready for a consequential step.

Worked example

A Singapore visitor plans Blue, Yellow and Pink line journeys. The visitor chooses one physical Visa card, keeps a second eligible card separate and records which card was used to enter. An old MRT card remains at home. If the first card is declined, the visitor asks staff for the current single-journey route rather than tapping a different card only at exit.

The example is a calculation or decision illustration, not a report of an interview, purchase, visit, transaction, taste test or personal outcome. Replace its inputs with the readerâ??s own current evidence.

Where this can go wrong

- Confusing the April top-up stop with the June gate-acceptance stop.
- Tapping into a journey with one card and trying to exit with another.
- Assuming every foreign debit card or mobile wallet token will be accepted.
- Treating the planned 2027 QR change as if tokens have already vanished everywhere.

Before acting

1. Map the Blue, Purple, Yellow and Pink lines in the itinerary.
2. Choose one eligible EMV medium and a separate fallback.
3. Keep the same card or device for entry and exit.
4. Ask about refund or concession requirements before travel day.
5. Reopen MRTAâ??s current ticket guidance before the trip.

Limits and useful next reading

Card networks, issuer approvals, station equipment and fare rules can change. MRTA and the line operator control acceptance. Bank foreign-exchange fees and card security settings are separate from transit eligibility.

For the next related decision, use the broader Bangkok MRT contactless guide. It is also useful to plan an Airport Rail Link interchange.

Date Created
31/08/2026
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