

RTS Link February 2027: what the delay means for your JB trip

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The **RTS Link February 2027** target is now official: the Land Transport Authority (LTA) and Malaysiaâ??s Ministry of Transport said on 2 October 2026 that passenger service is expected to start in February 2027. That pushes it past the end-2026 date LTA had been quoting. If you were planning to skip the Causeway jam on a December trip to Johor Bahru, you will need a backup.



Source: Land Transport Authority

What the RTS Link February 2027 target really means

The joint news release says RTS Operations Pte Ltd (RTSO), the SMRT and Prasarana joint venture, needs more time for its remaining testing and commissioning. RTSO expects to finish final system tests and trial runs by 31 December 2026. After that, an independent safety assessor has to certify the system, and both governments must then grant regulatory approval.

So February 2027 is a target, not a promised opening day. LTA says the timeline stays subject to safety certification and final approvals. Infrastructure works in both countries are described as substantially complete, which is why the remaining wait is about testing and sign-off rather than construction. For commuters who cross often, that distinction matters: the hard part is done, but the safety checks cannot be rushed.

What the RTS Link will be like once it opens

- A 4km line between Woodlands North in Singapore and Bukit Chagar in Johor Bahru, with a journey of about five minutes.
- Capacity for up to 10,000 commuters an hour in each direction at peak.
- A connection to the Thomson-East Coast Line at Woodlands North station, joined at the basement level.
- Co-located customs and immigration facilities: you clear both Singapore and Malaysia at the point of departure, then walk off at the other end with no second queue.
- A 25m-high bridge over the Straits of Johor, with the Singapore station built up to 28 metres underground.



Source: Land Transport Authority

Fares and ticketing are still blank

Neither government has published a fare or ticketing method for the RTS Link. You may see figures floating around online, but they are estimates from media reports and not official prices. LTAâ??s project page says nothing on fares, so treat any number as a guess until Singapore and Malaysia announce it jointly.

The same goes for operating hours and how often trains will run. Until those are out, you cannot compare the ride against a bus or taxi on cost or total time, so do not plan a budget around it yet.

Your December JB plan: what to use instead

For the year-end school holidays, you are still crossing by the Causeway or Tuas Second Link, or by bus or taxi. The usual advice holds: avoid Friday evenings, Saturday mornings and the weekends right before Christmas and New Year, and keep your passport validity and Malaysia entry steps sorted before you leave.

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Two recent LBRD guides help here. Our piece on the Zig cross-border taxi to JB, with 24-hour booking and upfront fares covers one way to skip the bus queue. Malaysia is also aiming for QR immigration clearance, which we explain in our MyNIISe guide for Singaporeans.

How to follow the opening date

Check LTAâ??s newsroom and the RTS Link project page for the joint announcement of the opening date and fares. Since both are bilateral decisions, expect them to be announced together.

If you are booking a January or February trip around the RTS Link, hold off on non-refundable plans until the date is fixed. A five-minute ride sounds lovely, but a safety certificate comes first.

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