



Your \$100 SG Culture Pass: 96% Of Singaporeans Have Not Spent A Cent

Description

Roughly three million Singaporeans were given \$100 each under the **SG Culture Pass** on 1 September 2025. As at the start of January 2026, about 136,000 had spent any of it. That is around 4.5 per cent of everyone eligible, and just under \$10 million of a pot worth about \$300 million.

The credits sit in GovWallet, they do not need claiming, and they run until **31 December 2028**. If you have not checked your balance since the SMS landed last September, it is almost certainly still \$100.



Source: Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, Singapore

Who has it, and how to check

Eligibility was simple and one-off. You qualify if you were born on or before 31 December 2007 and were a Singapore Citizen as at 31 December 2024. No income test, no housing test, no application.

Go to sgculturepass.gov.sg, log in with Singpass, and open the credits tab. You will see your balance and every transaction. For tickets, browse the events page, hit Get Tickets, and you will be handed to an authorised partner where SG Culture Pass appears as a payment option at checkout.

The partners are SISTIC, BookMyShow, Klook, Pelago, GlobalTix and Trip.com. For books, there is a Pay in Store option that generates a QR code for the cashier to scan.

The three things it covers

- Ticketed local arts and heritage events, since 1 September 2025. Seven categories: heritage, visual arts, theatre, music, dance, films and literary arts.
- Selected local film screenings, since 7 November 2025.
- Eligible Sing Lit books, since 1 March 2026, in store only.

Sing Lit here means fiction, poetry, plays, literary short essays and children's literature in English, Chinese, Malay or Tamil, written by a Singapore Citizen or PR at the point of publication. Participating shops include POPULAR across 25 outlets, Kinokuniya, Maha Yu Yi, Woods in the Books, Wardah Books, Basheer Graphic Books, Book Bar, Littered with Books and City Book Room, among others.

What will get rejected

This is where people give up, so it is worth reading properly.

- Non-fiction is out. Financial planning, self-help and technical guides do not count as Sing Lit.
- No online book purchases and no ebooks. Physical books, in store, full stop.
- No virtual or online events. The scheme is for turning up in person.
- No merchandise. Paintings, sculptures, scores and instruments are excluded.
- Credits cannot be pooled with anyone else's, transferred to family, or sold. You can buy tickets for other people out of your own balance.
- Credits apply in full and automatically. If the ticket costs more, you top up by card or PayNow.
- Split your payment between credits and a credit card and you forfeit the card's discount. Promo codes still work.

One more trap. Only listed events count. A programme running at an eligible venue does not automatically qualify, because the organiser has to apply for it. Always check the portal listing before you buy.



Source: Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay

The museum paradox

Here is the awkward bit nobody mentions. The national museums are already free for Singaporeans, so there is nothing for the credits to offset.

National Museum of Singapore currently states plainly that there are no eligible programmes. Singapore Art Museum has none listed. ArtScience Museum is not a partner at all.

National Gallery Singapore does have a few, including GalleryToddlers at \$15 on the first Saturday of each month and How to Art with Friends at \$2, though general admission itself is not eligible.

Where the credits genuinely work in the heritage space is the paid attractions: Chinatown Heritage Centre from \$12, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at \$17, Hellâ??s Museum at Haw Par Villa at \$22, MINT Museum of Toys at \$28, and the tea experience at The Intan at \$64.

What to book between now and December

There are around 451 eligible events on the portal right now. A shortlist worth your \$100:

- *3 Queens*, The Necessary Stage, 3 to 13 September, Ngee Ann Kongsi Theatre at Wild Rice, Funan. \$45 to \$85, rated R18.
- *The Studios: MONSTRESS*, Esplanade with ART:DIS, 4 to 6 September, Esplanade Theatre Studio. \$34 to \$42.
- *Come From Away*, Pandemoniumâ??s final season, 11 to 27 September, Victoria Theatre. \$25 to \$125.
- SSO Presidentâ??s Young Performers Concert, 12 September, Victoria Concert Hall. \$15 to \$75.
- *da:ns focus â?? BATU*, 16 to 18 October, Esplanade Theatre Studio, from \$27.20.
- *La Traviata*, The Opera People, 29 October to 1 November, Wild Rice at Funan. \$20 to \$108.
- *Passages*, Singapore Ballet, 5 to 8 November, SOTA Studio Theatre. \$50 to \$65.
- SCO30 Closing Gala, 21 November, SCO Concert Hall. \$20 to \$90.
- *Eureka Day*, Singapore Repertory Theatre, from 18 November, KC Arts Centre. \$28 to \$78.
- SSO Christmas Concert, 11 and 12 December, Esplanade Concert Hall. \$48 to \$228.

Two family-friendly picks if you are spending it on the kids instead: *Junior and the Holiday Magic* at Drama Centre Theatre from 21 October, \$22 to \$52, and GalleryToddlers at the National Gallery.



Source: SG Culture Pass, Government of Singapore

Do not wait for a top-up

There is no announced top-up and no announced extension. Budget 2026 did not add to the pot, and MCCY's Committee of Supply highlights went elsewhere. What has changed in 2026 is scope, not money: films were added last November, Sing Lit books in March, and the in-store QR payment came with them.

MCCY has also ruled out transferring unused credits within families, and declined in August 2026 to extend the scheme to Singapore-authored cookbooks. Treat 31 December 2028 as a hard line.

Usage so far skews young. Half of all spending came from the 18 to 35 group, a third from 36 to 54, and 17 per cent from seniors. Live events took 42 per cent of the spend, workshops 23 per cent, tours

and talks 16 per cent.

If you want a lower-commitment way in, the free stuff still runs alongside. Our night out at the [Singapore Night Festival](#) and our [Qixi Fest guide](#) cover a couple of them.

Three years sounds generous until you remember it has already been one. Spend ten minutes on the portal this week and pick one thing.

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