

Public Bath

(original title unknown) [Eoksutang]

South Korea : 1997 : dir. Kwak Kyung Tak :

: 80 min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

Ban Eun Hee; Kim Eui Sung; Lee Jeong Wook; Lee Seok Joon; Seo Tae Wha

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	≠	M	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
6102	1.5	1	1	400	-	3	-	-	-	No	<i>unseen</i>



CVMC video retail/rental website review:

“In a "SHORTCUTS"-like fashion, this decently done film follows a group of people

as they make their way to and try to relax at a neighbourhood public bath. Two boys on the verge of puberty who are playing hooky from school have significant roles, as does a tyke of

about five who wishes to be circumcised and a female peer of his he desires to marry, but who will only marry him if he gets himself "cut"; a chunky lad [sic] of about fourteen has a smaller role towards the movie's end.

Subtitles for an Asian language coexist with the English subtitles; some of the subtitling is grammatically incorrect. The print includes minor speckling, blotching and related problems.

Rated NR: sexual themes; profanity; frequent nudity; brief/mild violence; sexual scene
Language: Korean (with English subtitles)
Categories: Boy Films, Little to Preteen, Adolescent, Comedy, Drama, First Love, Girl Films, Little to Preteen."

[no listing in "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001" or "Radio Times Guide to Films"]

No further information currently available. Films set in and around public swimming baths can almost be counted on the fingers of one finger – "**DEEP END**", with Jane Asher and John Moulder Brown. A few more – such as the disappointing "**THAT SUMMER OF WHITE ROSES**" with Tom Conti – have been set at outdoor spas and bathing resorts, but there is something of the Turkish baths about indoor pools and the predictable life theatre that plays out in them. The pungent aroma of antiseptic, the communal changing rooms, the parade of self-conscious, unathletic bodies, the chorus of people having fun *loudly* – all contribute to a seedy ambience that is less obvious at a lido or public beach. They are interesting places for that very reason, imbued with the nervousness of people in a state of communal undress.

Those interested in South Korean cinema should see also "**DHARMAGA TONGJOGURO KAN KKADALGUN?**" (89) and "**SPRING IN MY HOME TOWN**" (99).

See subject index under [ASIA](#), **NUDITY** and **SWIMMING**.