

# in PENANG

Penang's Best Travel and Business magazine

# 周年庆

## G H E E H I A N G

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義香



## A N N I V E R S A R Y



SCAN TO ORDER



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# CONTENTS

## 03 FOREWORD

## 04 EVENT CALENDAR

## 06 PENANG FESTIVAL

Galloping into Chinese New Year 2026

## 07 Thaipusam: A Festival of Devotion and Colour

## 08 SPECIAL FEATURE

Penang's Pride Unveiled at the INPenang International Awards

## 14 COVER STORY

Ghee Hiang Marks 170 Years with a Fresh Chapter on Macalister Road

## 16 WHAT'S NEWS

Connecting Penang's Rising Stars to the World

## 18 Heritage in Porcelain: The Launch of Rare or Outcast Straits Chinese Porcelain by Dato' Chng Huck Theng

## 20 A Feast Worth the Journey at Penang Marriott Hotel

## 24 Savour the Esplanade

## 27 PENANG FESTIVAL

The Joy of Hari Raya Aidilfitri

## 30 ECO TOURISM

Tread Lightly, Wonder Widely

## 33 Flame Restaurant Ignites Penang's Dining Scene with Aged Steaks, Grilled over open fire

## 36 ECO TOURISM

Sungai Juru's New Life

## 38 USEFUL CONTACTS



## FOREWORD

# MESSAGE

*from*

**YB WONG HON WAI**

*Penang State Executive Councillor for  
Tourism and Creative Economy (PÉTACE)*



### **Penang on the Move:**

#### *Where Tourism, Sport and the Creative Economy Converge*

With the successful conclusion of Penang Bridge International Marathon (PBIM) 2025 and Penang International Dragon Boat Regatta (PIDBR) 2025, Penang once again demonstrated its ability to host world-class sporting events that inspire, unite and move people, both literally and emotionally. More than a race, PBIM and PIDBR has become a defining symbol of Penang's global outlook and organisational capability.

Recognised as the longest bridge run in Southeast Asia, PBIM offers runners an iconic experience across one of Penang's most recognisable landmarks. In 2025, the event entered a new chapter with a new venue, renewed energy and stronger international participation, reflecting Penang's evolution as a dynamic, forward-looking destination. More than 23,000 runners and their supporters arrived from across Malaysia and overseas, generating meaningful impact for hotels, local dining, transportation and cultural experiences. Supported by strong air connectivity, PBIM has become Penang's signature marathon, an annual celebration of endurance and international camaraderie that reinforces the state's position as an ideal hub for major sporting and lifestyle events.

Complementing this modern sporting showcase, the Penang International Dragon Boat Regatta (PIDBR) 2025 brought vibrant tradition to life

on Penang's waters. Celebrating teamwork, discipline and cultural pride, the regatta attracted local and international teams while reinforcing Penang's rich maritime heritage. More than a competition, PIDBR is a living cultural expression, one that brings communities together, energises creative industries and strengthens Penang's reputation as a destination where tradition and contemporary experiences coexist seamlessly.

Looking ahead, Penang is well-positioned to build on this momentum as Malaysia prepares for Visit Malaysia Year 2026 and Malaysia Year of Medical Tourism 2026. 2026 will be a peak period for tourism, while Penang's reputable healthcare services, vibrant culture and strong creative industries place the state at the intersection of tourism, wellness, sport and innovation.

*Malaysia is ready. Penang is ready.*

As Penang continues to grow as a destination of choice, our commitment remains clear: to curate experiences that are authentic, inclusive and globally competitive experiences that leave lasting impressions long after the finish line is crossed.



# EVENT CALENDAR

**2025**

**10 Nov 2025 - 15 Jan 2026**

## 'Frames of Penang' Photography Competition

Calling photographers of all levels...  
Capture the beautiful scenes of Penang  
in 3 categories: Culture & Food, Art &  
Lifestyle and Nature & Adventure. Free  
Entry! Submissions close on 15 Jan 2026.

**15 Nov 2025 - 30 Jun 2026**

## B.Duck City Funs

Venue : Auto-City, Penang  
Time : 5pm to 12midnight daily  
(except Tuesdays)

B.Duck City Funs is a pop-up outdoor  
carnival at Auto-City Penang, running  
until 30 June 2026, bringing the playful  
world of B.Duck to life. Created by One  
Universe, the event features fully themed  
rides, games and merchandise in the  
character's signature cheerful yellow style.  
[www.facebook.com/AutoCityJuru/](http://www.facebook.com/AutoCityJuru/)

**13 - 21 Dec 2025**

## Klipka Orchid Show 2025

Venue : Klipka Shopping Centre  
@ Ikea Batu Kawan

Time : 10am-10pm

Organised by the Federation of Malaya  
Orchid Society (FOMOS), this is the  
inaugural edition on the Mainland. Be  
dazzled once again by more than 60  
classes of orchids. Admission is free.

**12-14 & 19-21 December 2025**

## FaLaLa 2.0 Christmas Market

Venue : E&O Gallery on Andaman Island  
Time : 4pm to 11pm

A larger Christmas market, which runs  
across two joyful weekends in December  
2025 (12-14th & 19-21st), features a  
'Snowy Nutcracker Wonderland' with lots  
of family activities, carollers, live music,  
a Christmas Lucky Draw with attractive  
prizes, K-Pop Dance Competition,  
Treasure Hunt and more!



**20 Dec 2025**

## Penang Chingay Parade 2025

Venue : Parade from Padang Brown  
to Padang Kota Lama

Time : 6pm - 11pm

Step into the magic of the Penang  
Chingay Parade 2025 as the streets of  
George Town burst into colour with  
lion and dragon dances, school bands,  
and vibrant multicultural performances.  
Highlights include awe-inspiring displays  
of performers balancing towering  
bamboo poles and giant fluttering flags,  
celebrating unity, tradition,  
and Penang's spirited heritage.



**25 Dec 2025**

## CHRISTMAS

Christmas in Penang is a  
vibrant and joyous season,  
with city streets glowing in  
colourful lights and festive decorations.  
From Insta-worthy displays at hotels,  
churches, malls and marketplaces to  
open-house feasts brimming with  
Malaysian and Yuletide flavours, the  
celebration is a treat for all the senses.  
Merry Christmas!

**27 Dec 2025**

## Perarakan Chingay Seberang Perai Pulau Pinang Kali Ke-15

Venue : Padang MBSP Bagan Luar

Time : 7pm - 11:30pm

The magic of the Penang Chingay Parade  
2025 extends to the Mainland! Join the  
parade and continue to be awed by the  
prowess of the performers in balancing  
the poles!

**31 Dec 2025**

## NEW YEAR COUNT DOWN

Venue : Auto City, Juru

Time : 7pm to 12midnight

Count down to the new year at Auto-City  
Juru, Penang and get ready for a night  
with fireworks, fire show, good music,  
good food & good vibes!  
Happy New Year 2026!



2026

12 Jan 2026 - 23 Feb 2026

**Great British Circus**

Venue : Auto-City, Juru

Time : 11am - 10:30pm

Great British Circus is a modern travelling circus from the UK, touring internationally and regularly delighting audiences in Malaysia. Presented under a big tent, its family-friendly shows feature international performers, acrobatics, stunts, dance, comedy and themed productions, all without live animals.



1 Feb 2026

**THAIPUSAM**

Venue : Arulmigu Sri Mahamariamman Temple, Queen Street to Sri Balathandayuthabani Waterfall Hilltop Temple

Thaipusam, the second-largest Hindu festival in Malaysia, is a powerful celebration of faith, prayer and penance. In Penang, the streets come alive with elaborate chariot processions, coconut-smashing rituals, and devotees bearing milk pots and colourful kavadis in thanksgiving to Lord Subramaniam (Lord Murugan).

17 -18 Feb 2026  
**CHINESE NEW YEAR**

Gallop into the Year of the Horse this Chinese New Year in full speed with vibrant lion and dragon dances, fireworks, feasting, family gatherings, open houses and more!



21 Feb 2026

**Penang Miaohui 2026**

Venue : George Town Heritage Zone

Time : 4pm - 11pm

Penang Miaohui 2026 returns on the fifth day of Chinese New Year, transforming the George Town Heritage Zone into a lively Year, transforming the George Town Heritage Zone into a lively celebration of tradition and creativity. With this year's theme, "The Journey of Decoding," visitors are invited to explore the stories and wisdom behind Penang's cultural heritage through performances, installations, and interactive experiences brought to life with vibrant designs by Equator College.

3 Mar 2026

**Chap Goh Meh Celebration  
Bukit Tambun**

Venue : Jeti Bagan, Bukit Tambun

Time : 6pm - 10pm

Celebrate Chap Goh Meh (15th day of the Chinese New Year, also known as Chinese Valentine's Day) with a lantern parade, Teo Chew Drum performance and more!

[www.facebook.com/BukitTambunChapGohMeh](http://www.facebook.com/BukitTambunChapGohMeh)

21 Mar 2026

**HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI**

Hari Raya marks the end of Ramadan and the celebration begins with morning prayers at mosques, followed by visits with family and friends, open houses, colourful decorations, and a festive display of local hospitality and cultural diversity.





# PENANG FESTIVAL

## *Galloping into Chinese New Year 2026*

Chinese New Year, also known as the Lunar New Year or Spring Festival, is a time of immense significance for Chinese communities worldwide—and Penang is no exception.

Following the 12-year Chinese zodiac cycle—Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, Pig—2026 marks the Year of the Horse, beginning on 17 February.

Preparations start early, as families anticipate the New Year's blessings. Festivities kick off on the eve with the reunion dinner, bringing

loved ones together. Over the next fifteen days, celebrations continue with feasts, lion and dragon dances, prayers, red packets, and joyful gatherings and open houses, culminating in the lively Chap Goh Meh on the fifteenth day.

For many, it is also a time for spiritual devotion. Temples across Penang, particularly Kek Lok Si Temple in Air Itam, draw crowds of devotees. Known as the Temple of Supreme Bliss, Kek Lok Si is transformed during this season into a dazzling spectacle, with thousands of lights and colourful lanterns illuminating the hilltop.

From bustling streets and festive rituals to serene temple visits, Penang truly comes alive during Chinese New Year—a vibrant celebration of culture, family, and tradition that visitors will never forget.

# Thaipusam: *A Festival of Devotion and Colour*

Thaipusam, which falls on 01 February 2026, is Malaysia's second largest Hindu festival. Observed on the full moon of the tenth month of the Hindu calendar, the festival honours Lord Subramaniam, or Lord Murugan, revered for vanquishing three evil demons in the name of divinity. Devotees gather to offer prayers, seek blessings, fulfil vows, and express gratitude.

In Penang, the celebration begins with a vibrant procession, unique for its two chariots: the silver chariot carries Lord Murugan's statue, while the golden chariot bears his vel, the divine spear used to defeat the demons. Setting off from Little India in the city's heritage enclave during the early morning, the procession winds its way to the Arulmigu Balathandayuthapani Temple

(Waterfall Hilltop Temple). Kavadi-bearers, milk-pot carriers, and devotees accompany the chariots, while drums, devotional music, and traditional dances fill the streets with energy and devotion. The chariots return to the city three days later, completing the ritual journey.

Along the route, devotees—Hindu and Chinese alike—pause to perform ceremonial acts, such as breaking coconuts, a symbolic act of humility, purification, and the shedding of negative habits.

Penang's Thaipusam is vibrant and deeply multicultural. It is a feast for the senses and experiencing it is to witness a unique blend of faith, culture, and devotion in full colour.





**SPECIAL FEATURE**

# *Penang's Pride Unveiled at the* **INPenang International Awards**

*Penang dazzled as the 7th INPenang International Awards 2025 took centre stage at St Giles Wembley, drawing over 400 distinguished guests from around the world. Held biennially, this glamorous affair celebrates Penang-born talents and home-grown brands that have made their mark both nationally and internationally.*





Honoured guests at INPenang International Awards 2025 (from left): Dr. Annuar bin Mohamed - Director, Ministry of Tourism and Culture Penang (MOTAC Penang), Dato' Tony Goh - Chairman, Malaysian Association of Hotels (MAH - Penang Chapter) & General Manager, St Giles Wembley Penang, YB Mr. Joseph Ng Soon Siang - Member of the Penang State Legislative Assembly for Air Itam, YB Dato' Seri Sundarajoo Somu - Penang State Executive Councillor for Housing and Environment, Dato' Chng Huck Theng - Founding President, CHT Network & Founder and President of the INPenang International Awards, YB Mr. Steven Sim Chee Keong - Minister of Human Resources, Malaysia, Tan Sri Tan Khooon Hai - Chairman, Penang Chinese Town Hall, H.E. Mr. Psusist Wongsurawat - Consul General, Royal Thai Consulate - General, Penang, Dr. Calvin Goon - Head of Wealth Management, Affin Bank Berhad, Dato' Seri Lee Teong Li - Chairman, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers - Penang Branch, Dato' IR Rajendran P. Anthony - City Mayor, Penang City Council

The prestigious INPenang Lifetime Achievement Award went to Datuk Andrew Lim Tatt Keong for his leadership in Malaysia's retail industry, while international honourees hailed from Hong Kong, Thailand, Myanmar, and Malaysia. National awards recognised excellence across healthcare, women's leadership, tourism, fashion, and F&B.

Adding flair to the evening, an AI-powered robot from UB Group delivered trophies, delighting

guests. A charity auction brought heart and sparkle to the celebration, with exquisite jewellery from ONE EAST MUSEUM's Heirloom Series; the gem-studded Heritage Mosaic and the elegant Descendant of Grace, a Hublot Classic Fusion watch, custom Nyonya kebaya from Kenny Loh Couture, a vivo X200 series phone and a painting titled Blossom Wonderland by artist Dato' Chng Huck Theng, which also adorned the cover of the commemorative coffee-table book.



INPenang International Awards 2025 is proudly organised by CHTNetwork with AFFIN INVICTA as the main sponsor followed by supporting partners: The Hour Glass, Air Asia, vivo, AIM Max Media, UB Group and One East Museum, with ATAP (Association of Tourism Attractions Penang) as the strategic partner and supported by MATRADE (Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation).



# SPECIAL FEATURE

## THE guests

## THE event



## THE gala dinner

# THE auction



THE news



## THE awards winners



**INPENANG LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**  
**DATUK ANDREW LIM TATT KEONG,**  
 P.J.N., P.J.K., J.P.  
 Owner, Macrovalue Sdn Bhd  
 Deputy Chairman, GCH Retail Sdn Bhd  
 Executive Chairman, GAMA Group  
 Group Deputy Chairman, SOGO Department Store  
 Sdn Bhd. President, Malaysia Retailers Association



**DATO' RASCHADA JIWALAI,**  
 D.S.P.N.  
 former Consul General of  
 Thailand in Penang  
**INPENANG**  
 International Outstanding  
 Achievers Award (THAILAND)



**DATO' SERI  
 CHEAH CHENG HYE,**  
 D.G.P.N., MAoF.  
 Honorary Chairman and Non-Executive  
 Director of Value Partners Group  
**INPENANG**  
 International Outstanding  
 Achievers Award (HONG KONG)



**DATO' LAU BENG LONG,**  
 D.S.I.S.  
 President, Sunway  
 Healthcare Group, Malaysia  
**INPENANG**  
 International Outstanding  
 Achievers Award (MALAYSIA)



**CHEAH CHAY TIONG**  
 Group MD, Imperium Group Asia  
 Managing Editor, Inovatif Media Asia  
 (The SmartInvestor Asia)  
**INPENANG**  
 International Outstanding  
 Achievers Award (MALAYSIA)



**TANES KUMAR**  
 CEO & CCO of Myanmar  
 Airways International & Mingalar  
**INPENANG**  
 International Outstanding  
 Achievers Award (MYANMAR)

## iNPENANG National Achievers Awards...

1. **GENESIS IVF & WOMEN'S SPECIALIST CENTRE (BEST FERTILITY & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INNOVATORS)**  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award  
DR. NG PENG WAH, *Medical Director*



1

2. **GHEE HIANG MANUFACTURING CO. SDN BHD (BEST HERITAGE BRAND)**  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award  
OOI SIAN TAT, *Executive Director*



2

3. **SUNWAY CARNIVAL MALL (BEST RETAIL MALL)**  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award  
CHAI WEN YEW, *Senior General Manager*



3

4. **DR. MARY CH QUAH (WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP)**  
Chief Executive Officer & Person In Charge,  
*Loh Guan Lye Specialists Centre*  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award



4

5. **GSD LAND (M) SDN BHD (BEST PROPERTY DEVELOPER)**  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award  
DANNIEL TAN,  
*Director, Sales & Marketing*



5

6. **DR. KENNY LOH (TOP CULTURAL FASHION DESIGNER)**  
Founder & Chief Executive Officer, *Kenny Loh Couture*  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award



6

7. **WONDERFOOD MUSEUM PENANG (BEST TOURISM EXPERIENCE - MUSEUM)**  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award  
SEAN LAU & CHERYL NG  
*Creative Director & Art Director*



7

8. **SHAN POORNAM SDN BHD (TOP ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, INNOVATION & CIRCULAR ECONOMY)**  
iNPENANG National Achievers Award  
THINESH KUMAR &  
ADI SAUFI MOHAMAD DAUD  
*Deputy Chief Executive Officer & Chief Executive Officer*  
*Space Ace Elite Sdn Bhd*



8

## iNPENANG Emerging Entrepreneur Awards...



10



9

9. **ALAN LIM HIN LOONG & CATHERINE LEE SIOW MEI**  
Founder Of *Fusion* 翠香園  
iNPENANG Emerging Entrepreneur Award

10. **SPACE ACE ELITE SDN BHD**  
iNPENANG Emerging Entrepreneur Award  
PEH KEAN TECK, *Founder*



## **GHEE HIANG** Marks 170 Years with a Fresh Chapter on Macalister Road

Penang's beloved heritage brand Ghee Hiang ushered in a landmark year with a triple celebration that honoured its 170-year legacy while looking firmly to the future. The occasion marked the unveiling of its 170th anniversary signboard, the launch of its 2026 Chinese New Year Gift Box, and the reopening of its newly renovated Macalister Road outlet.



Graced by Penang Chief Minister YAB Tuan Chow Kon Yeow, the event showcased Ghee Hiang's enduring cultural significance. First opened in 2005, the Macalister Road outlet has undergone its first major refurbishment, now blending traditional charm with contemporary elegance for a more inviting retail experience.

A vibrant lion dance and ribbon-cutting ceremony set a festive tone, welcoming auspicious beginnings. Inside, visitors can explore Ghee Hiang's full range, from time-honoured pastries to premium sesame oils and festive favourites.

Adding to the celebration is the newly unveiled 2026 Chinese New Year Gift Box, featuring refreshed designs and signature flavours — a festive keepsake that captures the spirit of Penang's living heritage.





In his speech, Dato' Chng Huck Theng, Executive Director of Ghee Hiang, said: "As we celebrate 170 years, we are deeply grateful to generations of Penangites who have walked this journey with us. This milestone is more than a new signboard or an upgraded space, it reflects our commitment to honour our heritage while embracing the future. We hope Ghee Hiang continues to be part of every family, young and old alike, bringing warmth, familiarity, and trust with every bite."





## WHAT'S NEWS

# THE LAUNCH OF PENANG YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS 2026



## Connecting Penang's Rising Stars to the World



Penang is solidifying its position as a hub for innovation and enterprise with the launch of Penang Young Business Leaders 2026, an initiative by CHTNetwork. This special publication spotlights 27 trailblazing young achievers shaping the future across diverse industries. With its rich culture, strong industrial foundation, and robust economy, Penang continues to attract talent, investment, and enterprise.



The launch event, officiated by Chief Minister YAB Tuan Chow Kon Yeow, celebrated these young leaders and their contributions to Penang's growth and global standing. According to YBhg Dato' Chng Huck Theng, Editor-in-Chief of Penang Young Business Leaders 2026, the publication aims to connect these achievers, promote them globally, and encourage them to invest in Penang.

The initiative recognises excellence, nurtures talent, and positions Penang as a competitive, forward-looking state on the global stage.



## WHAT'S NEWS

# HERITAGE IN PORCELAIN: THE LAUNCH OF RARE OR OUTCAST STRAITS CHINESE PORCELAIN BY DATO' CHNG HUCK THENG



Renowned art advocate and antique collector Dato' Chng Huck Theng has unveiled his latest book, *Rare or Outcast Straits Chinese Porcelain: A Discussion on Chinese Famille Rose Export Porcelain*, a work that brings together over four decades of study, passion, and critical insight.

*Dato' Chng Huck Theng, Dato' Yeoh Soon Hin - Deputy Chairman of Tourism Malaysia & Mdm Ding Qiao - Deputy Consul General of Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Penang.*

Malaysia's youngest antique collector, who began his journey at just 14, Dato' Chng explores the cultural and artistic significance of Straits Chinese porcelain—also known as Nyonyaware—within the Peranakan communities of South Thailand, Penang, Malacca, and Singapore. Bold in its perspective, the book challenges traditional assumptions, sparking fresh conversations about the heritage and identity of the Baba Nyonya culture.



The official launch, held at St Giles Wembley, Penang, was graced by The Honourable Dato' Yeoh Soon Hin, Deputy Chairman of Tourism Malaysia, as Guest of Honour. The evening brought together collectors, historians, and cultural enthusiasts for an evening of lively discussion, heritage appreciation, a preview of the book's insights from the author, and a Nyonya-themed dinner that echoed the traditions celebrated in the book.



In his remarks, Dato' Chng stressed that the book aims not to criticise, but to share knowledge and encourage deeper appreciation of this unique culture. Dato' Yeoh, in turn, highlighted its timeliness, noting that cultural preservation plays an important role in enriching tourism as Malaysia prepares for Visit Malaysia Year 2026.

Already stirring interest among collectors, the book has been praised for its thought-provoking approach. Singaporean collector Glen Chee called it "radical, controversial, but with merit," recognising its contribution to the ongoing conversation about heritage and identity.

Priced at RM250.00 per copy, *Rare or Outcast* is available from One East Museum & Art.

For purchase enquiries, please contact:

Ms Yeoh | T: +604 228 2390 | E: [gsloke@chtnetwork.com](mailto:gsloke@chtnetwork.com)



## WHAT'S NEWS

# A Feast Worth the Journey AT PENANG MARRIOTT

Indulge in a culinary escape at Penang Marriott Hotel, where unforgettable dining experiences await both day and night. As evening falls, dive into our Seafood Buffet Dinner, a lavish spread celebrating the ocean's finest. From freshly shucked oysters and succulent prawns to flavourful local seafood favourites and international delights, every dish is crafted to satisfy seafood lovers and adventurous palates alike. Live cooking stations and indulgent desserts complete a dinner designed to impress.

Come Sunday, slow down and savour the comfort of our Sunday Roast Buffet

Lunch — a timeless tradition with a modern touch. Enjoy perfectly roasted meats carved to order, golden potatoes, hearty sides, and rich gravies, complemented by fresh salads, appetisers, and sweet endings. It's the perfect way to gather with family and friends, soaking in a relaxed weekend atmosphere.



# HOTEL



Whether you're a traveller seeking memorable flavours or a foodie exploring Penang's vibrant dining scene, these signature buffets promise warmth, indulgence, and moments worth savouring. At Penang Marriott Hotel, every meal becomes part of your journey.

# GEORGETOWN



# MAP-1

INPG Best Guide Shops & Attractions

Place of Interest

World Heritage Buffer Zone

World Heritage Core Zone

Shopping

Food

Hotel

Tourist Info Centre

Education

Bank

Hospital

Gallery/Museum

Church

Temple

Mosque

Hindu Temple



# Savour the Esplanade

Astaka Kota Selera





Penang is world-famous as a gourmet's paradise, where irresistible flavours await at every corner, day or night. From sizzling street food to comforting classics, the island's culinary landscape is as vibrant as its culture—and nowhere captures this spirit quite like the Esplanade.

Adding fresh energy to this beloved waterfront precinct is the newly renovated Esplanade (Padang Kota Lama) Food Court, which recently reopened following a much-anticipated RM300,000 facelift. The upgrades introduce modernised stall spaces and a breezy new al fresco dining area, while thoughtfully preserving the familiar charm that has long made it a favourite among locals and visitors alike.

Set against sweeping sea views, the food court is a showcase of Penang's most iconic flavours. A must-try is Hameed Pata Mee Goreng, famed for its fiery Mee Sotong. Elsewhere, smoky Char Kway Teow, tangy Penang Laksa, freshly grilled satay, and hearty rice sets featuring Ikan Bawal Hitam or Nasi Ayam Berempah tempt every palate. Those craving Western comfort fare will find familiar favourites at the Western and Local Hainan Food stall, serving Hainanese Chicken Chop, Fish and Chips, Lamb Chop, Lam Pui (gravy rice), fried noodles and more.



No visit is complete without something cooling or sweet. The crowd-favourite coconut shake is a perennial hit, while Ice Kacang, Cendol, and freshly squeezed fruit juices offer welcome relief from the tropical heat. With its convenient location and lively atmosphere, the Esplanade Food Court draws a steady mix of office workers, families, and travellers throughout the day. Peak hours may come with a short wait, but the generous portions, bold flavours, and waterfront setting make it well worth it.



# WHAT'S NEWS



## *Esplanade (Padang Kota Lama) by night...*

As evening falls, the Esplanade takes on a different kind of magic. The waterfront promenade transforms into a luminous spectacle as trees and walkways shimmer with LED installations, and colourful projections dance across the open field between the Cenotaph and Medan Renong. Framed by the stately Town Hall and City Hall, the light show casts Penang's colonial-era architecture in a fresh, contemporary glow.

The atmosphere is unhurried and serene. Families stroll beneath illuminated canopies, couples linger by the sea, and visitors pause to capture the glow against the night sky. For the most enchanting experience, arrive just after dusk, when the sky still holds its colour and the lights gradually intensify—creating the most photogenic moment of the evening.

From flavourful feasts by the sea to a captivating play of light after dark, the Esplanade offers the true taste and tempo of Penang—best enjoyed slowly... and best enjoyed often.



## *The Joy of Hari Raya Aidilfitri*



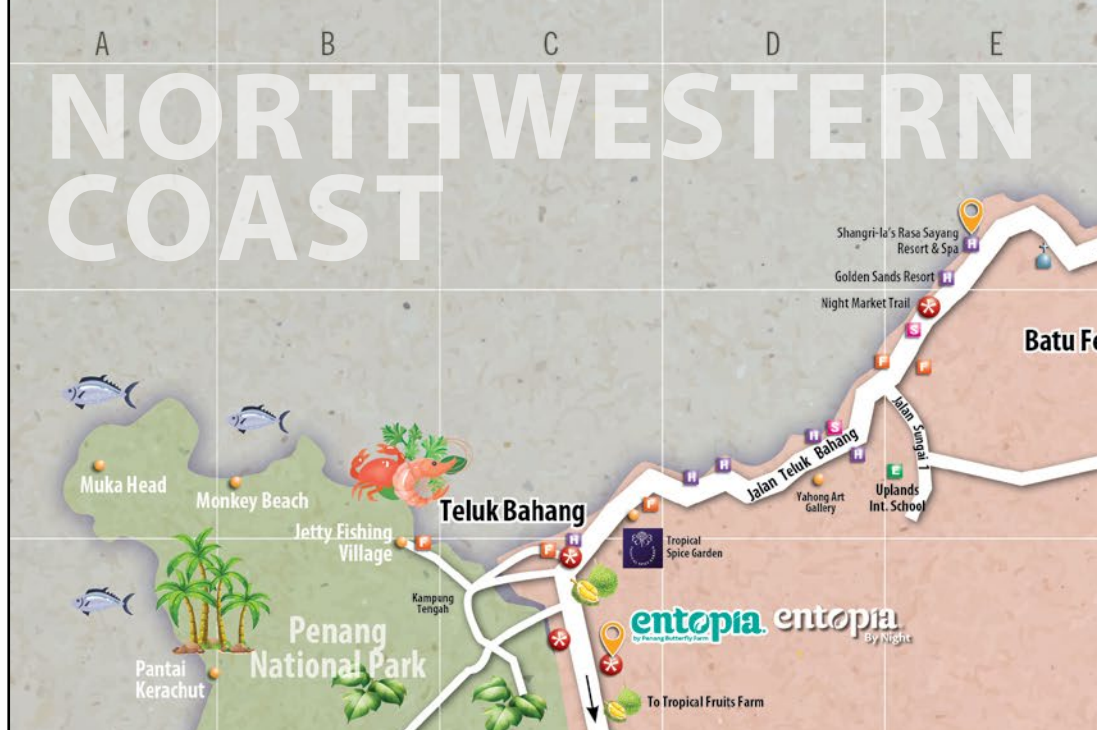
Hari Raya Aidilfitri, the joyous Muslim celebration marking the end of Ramadan, is one of Malaysia's most cherished festivals — a time of reflection, gratitude, and togetherness. Celebrated as a two-day nationwide holiday, many families return to their hometowns to celebrate with extended family and loved ones.

Festivities begin with morning prayers at mosques, followed by visits to family elders to seek forgiveness — a meaningful tradition that reflects humility and unity. Homes are opened wide for rumah terbuka (open house), where friends, neighbours, and members of the community are welcomed regardless of race or religion, embodying Malaysia's spirit of harmony and inclusiveness.



Tables are laden with festive favourites such as ketupat, lemang, rendang, and an array of traditional kuih, while children delight in receiving duit raya (money packets). New clothes, often in coordinated family colours, add to the celebratory atmosphere, accompanied by laughter and warm conversations.

A celebration of family, community, and gratitude, Hari Raya Aidilfitri reminds Malaysians of the joy in coming together.



## BEACHSIDE BLISS &



Batu Ferringhi, located along the northwestern coast is one of Penang's most beloved beach destinations known for its laid-back charm and sun-soaked activities. Enjoy water sports like jet skiing, parasailing, and windsurfing, as well as leisurely strolls along the beach or a drink at beachfront bars. The latest hotspot along this coastline is Ferringhi Bay, a unique container-style boulevard

designed with modern tropical flair, offering a lively mix of dining, shopping, and entertainment. Accommodations cater to all tastes, from luxurious beachfront resorts to budget-friendly stays.

For foodie buffs, Batu Ferringhi is a culinary haven, offering a variety of options from street food to upscale beachfront dining and fine

## MAP-2



INPG Best Guide



Place of Interest



Tourist Info Centre



Shopping



Food



Hotel



Gallery/Museum



Education



Bank



Hospital



Hindu Temple



Church



Temple



Mosque



# TROPICAL TRAILS

cuisine within hotels. Test your bargaining skills at the vibrant Batu Feringghi Night Market (pasar malam) - a must-visit if you are seeking local treasures such as souvenirs, artwork, batik crafts, clothing, and accessories.

Just a short drive away lies Teluk Bahang, a peaceful retreat, offering nature-centric attractions such as the Penang Tropical Fruit Farm, Tropical Spice Garden and Entopia by Penang Butterfly Farm. Nature enthusiasts can explore the Penang National Park, home to Malaysia's only meromictic lake, a variety of bird species, flora, and fauna. Adventurers can hike jungle trails to secluded beaches like Monkey Beach or visit the Penang Turtle Sanctuary. Other nearby highlights include the Teluk Bahang Dam, and the Penang Batik Factory, where visitors can witness the traditional art of batik-making.





Penang is a destination known not only for its rich cultural heritage and delectable street food but also for its lush landscapes and scenic outdoors. For the eco-conscious traveller, there are countless ways to experience both the island and mainland sustainably—by foot, bicycle, or simply slowing down to appreciate nature's charms.

Start your green journey in the heart of George Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where the best discoveries are often made on foot or by pedal power. Rent a bike from one of the many local operators and explore vibrant streets lined with colonial-era shophouses, colourful murals, metal rod art installations, and hidden cafés.

## Tread Lightly, Wonder



*Penang Botanic  
Gardens, fondly  
known as the  
"Waterfall Gardens"*

*Kapitan Mosque at Street of Harmony*



# Widely

Don't miss the Street of Harmony, Khoo Kongsi, Armenian Street, the Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion, Fort Cornwallis and the Esplanade for some historical highlights. Or go museum-hopping—visit the Penang State Museum and Art Gallery, which documents the island's history through an eclectic mix of exhibits, the award-winning Wonderfood Museum with life-sized replicas of Penang's favourite dishes; and the Pinang Peranakan Mansion, showcasing the opulent lifestyle of the Baba-Nyonya community. For a change of "scenery", dare to step into The Ghost Museum for a spine-tingling experience, or head to Chew Jetty, for a glimpse of Penang's maritime past.

For a breath of fresh air, head to the Penang Botanic Gardens, fondly known as the "Waterfall Gardens". Discover a wide variety of flora and fauna, wander along leafy trails (keep a lookout for monkeys!), and enjoy the peaceful surroundings. Or take the scenic train ride up Penang Hill for panoramic views and cool breezes. At the top, explore The Habitat; a rainforest discovery park offering treetop walks, canopy bridges, and stunning sunset vistas. (Fun Fact: The park is a part of the UNESCO Penang Hill Biosphere Reserve, which spans 12,481 hectares of protected marine and terrestrial ecosystems). For nature lovers, trek through Penang National Park in Teluk Bahang—its trails lead to pristine beaches like Pantai Kerachut and the Muka Head Lighthouse.



*Penang Hill in bird eyes view*



*A statue dedicated to Sir Francis Light at Fort Cornwallis in George Town*

# ECO TOURISM

Kampung Agong

On the mainland, head to Bukit Mertajam Forest Park, popular for hiking, jogging, and downhill biking. Or swing by Kampung Agong, an agro-themed park where you can stroll or cycle through paddy fields, pose on giant swings, and learn traditional crafts.

Prefer a slower pace? Explore Seberang Jaya's Street of Harmony, an enclave of eight houses of worship located just a stone's throw from the award-winning Sunway Carnival Mall. Discover the creative art installations along the Butterworth Art Walk or pack a picnic and unwind at Robina Recreation EcoPark, where sea breeze, greenery, and scenic boardwalks offer a tranquil escape. Ending your day in Juru? Take a post-dinner stroll along the Mangrove Walk@Riverpark in Auto-City, where the soft glow of lights and the sounds of nature create the perfect close to your eco-adventure.

*Happy Exploring! Penang's many eco trails await!*



## Travel Tips:

- Wear light clothing, a hat or cap, sunscreen, and bring insect repellent. Don't forget a refillable water bottle.
- Download a map app or trail guide if heading into large parks or hill areas.
- Support local eco-conscious cafés and green businesses.
- Respect local wildlife—avoid feeding or disturbing animals.
- Help preserve these natural havens: bring reusable containers, avoid single-use plastics, and dispose of waste responsibly.



## FLAME RESTAURANT IGNITES PENANG'S DINING SCENE WITH AGED STEAKS, GRILLED OVER OPEN FIRE



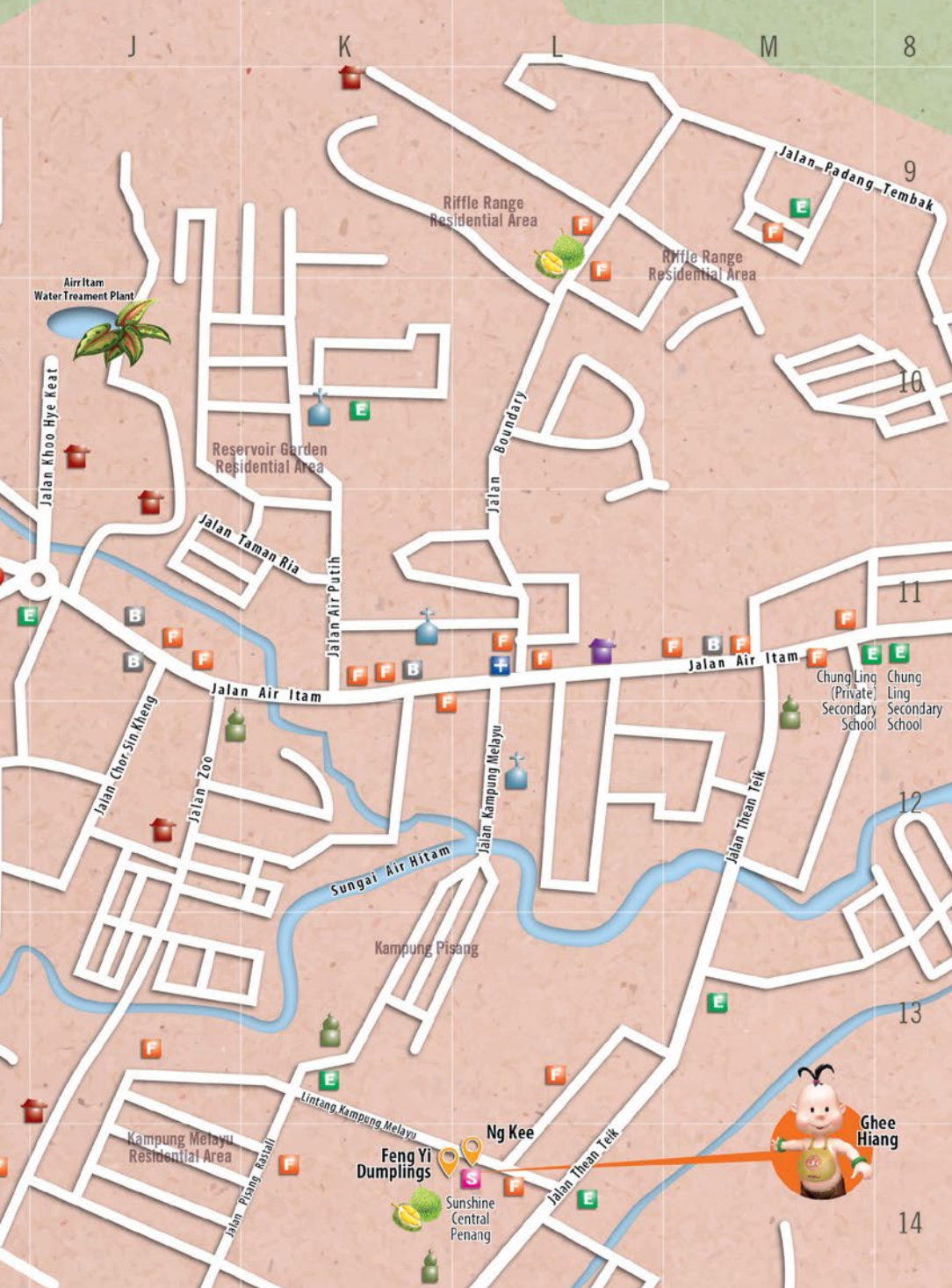
Sitting atop Kingston 13 Hotel in Ayer Itam, Flame Restaurant offers one of Penang's most stunning rooftop dining experiences—where the glow of Kek Lok Si Temple meets the drama of open flame grilling.

Here, the fire isn't just for cooking—it's the heart of the show. Guests can savour 10-days aged salmon, 42-days aged tomahawk, and 32-days butter-aged Angus rib eye steak, all grilled to smoky perfection over open flames. Each dish bursts with depth and character, made even more memorable by Flame's signature flaming performance and dry ice presentation, adding a theatrical touch to every plate.

Whether you're here for the view, the fire, or the food, Flame promises more than dinner—it delivers an experience that ignites all your senses.









# Sungai Juru's New Life



Once notorious as one of Malaysia's most polluted rivers, Sungai Juru is now charting a remarkable comeback as a nature and tourism hub. With the opening of River Park at Autocity Juru, this long-neglected waterway has been reimagined as a destination on conservation, sustainability and discovery.

The highlight is a 12-kilometre guided river cruise, running every Friday to Sunday. Departing from the River Park jetty, the journey covers six distinct habitats - birds, mammals such as langurs (leaf monkeys), insects, reptiles (including monitor lizards and forest frogs) and aquatic life while drifting past lush mangroves, nipah palms, and berembang trees. All ticket proceeds are channelled directly into river restoration efforts, making each ride both an adventure and an act of support.

Visitors can also try hands-on activities like catching crabs, gathering shellfish, or casting nets—experiences that connect them with traditional fishing practices while supporting the local community.



The initiative, led by Autocity founder Gary Teoh, is driven by three goals: positioning Sungai Juru and nearby Bukit Juru as an eco-tourism hub, reviving green spaces surrounded by development, and uplifting fishing families. The project has backing

from the state government, Seberang Perai City Council (MBSP), Department of Drainage and Irrigation (DID), Penang Global Tourism (PGT), the constituency office and environmental NGOs with research from the Malaysian Nature Society and local universities.

While challenges remain, Sungai Juru's revival proves how nature, tourism, and community can thrive together. From a polluted past to an eco-paradise, Sungai Juru is now a living classroom and a symbol of renewal for Penang.



Images credit to Wong Hong Wai

For further information, contact +6016-559 6458. Group Size: 12–20 persons per cruise.

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General Enquiries	102
Directory Service	103

## TOURISM CENTRES

Tourism Malaysia Pulau Pinang	+604-261 0058
Tourist Information Centre	+604-264 3456
Penang Global Tourism	+604-264 3456

## CONSULATE-GENERAL OFFICES

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Hospital Lam Wah Ee	+604-652 8888

Georgetown Specialist Hospital	+604-827 5118
Hospital Seberang Jaya	+604-382 7333
Island Hospital	+604-238 3388
KPJ Penang Specialist Hospital (Bukit Mertajam)	+604-548 6688
Bagan Specialist Centre (Butterworth)	+604-371 0000
LohGuanLye Specialists Centre	+604-238 8888
Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital	+604-892 3999
Northern Heart Hospital	+604-217 5588
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Penang Adventist Hospital	+604-222 7200
Penang General Hospital	+604-222 5333
Sunway Medical Centre Penang	+604-373 9191
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### Seberang Perai

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## OTHERS 🔍

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