

PENANG BEST GUIDE 2025

NEW BRAND & ATTRACTION

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By Night

dré

The Private Collection of Vintage Bags







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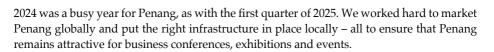
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MESSAGE from YB WONG HON WAI

Penang State Executive Councillor for Tourism and Creative Economy (PETACE)





Since taking office 18 months ago, my proudest achievement is adding 12 international direct flights to Penang from cities like Xiamen, Dubai, Bangkok, Shanghai, Chongqing, Shenzhen, Doha, Hong Kong, Chennai and Xi'an. We now have international direct flights coming in from 21 cities around the world covering multiple international cities across Greater China, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and South Asia.

We have achieved a significant milestone becoming Malaysia's second busiest airport after Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in 2024. This achievement is a testament to Penang's growing role as a key hub for both business and tourism.

Such direct accessibility will open the doors and make it easier for tourist and business travellers to visit Penang.

Penang is blessed with a rich culture and heritage and is endowed with geographical beauty. Its people are resilient, hardworking and creative. Let's make use of what we already have and improve on existing resources and talent.

2025 looks set to be an even busier year, with Penang playing host to a series of exciting events, 13 major ASEAN meetings, festivals and activities throughout the year, such as Yosakoi Parade, Bon Odori, George Town Festival, Penang International Dragon Boat Regatta and Penang Bridge International Marathon, to name a few.

These events, along with our ongoing efforts to enhance infrastructure and connectivity, will ensure that Penang remains a top destination for both leisure and business travellers alike.



EVENT CALENDAR

MAY 3-12

10th Annual Penang Wesak Day Celebration 卫塞节庆典

Themed "Foster True Compassion and Wisdom, Forge True Peace and Harmony", this year's Wesak celebration will be

held from 03 May to 12 May 2025, featuring craft-making, float procession and lotus-themed exhibition showcasing calligraphy, paintings, presentations and other Buddhist items.

Venue: Wisma Malaysian Buddhist Association, Burmah Road

For updates on the schedule and event details, visit "Penang Wesak Celebration Day 2025" Facebook page.



The Best Nyonya An Immersive Cultural Experience Like No Other

Step into a Peranakan household with this lively, interactive musical filled with drama, laughter, and Nyonya kueh! Presented in English with Peranakan flair and subtitles. Dress up and join the fun!

Venue: Georgetown Mansion, Lebuh Clarke, Penang Time: 3:00pm & 8:30pm

Tickets at cloudjoi.com | Call 012-669-3422



Penang Yosakoi Parade 槟城夜来节大游行 A vibrant Japanese festival featuring traditional dances, lively drum performances, and a carnival-like atmosphere with Japanese food stalls, fireworks, Japanese souvenirs, and games. Join the celebration at Esplanade, Penang!

Venue: Esplanade, Penang. Time: 5.00pm to 11.00pm

JUN 14-15

Malaysia International Miniature Hobby Show & MALCOM 2025 马来西亚国际微缩模型展及竞赛 MALCOM 2025, showcases miniature displays, competitions, and live workshops. With top professionals and global brands, it's a mustattend event for model enthusiasts!

Venue: St. Giles Wembley Penang Time: 10.00am - 5.00pm



JULY 5-7

George Town World Heritage City Day 乔治市世界遗产城市日

This public holiday celebrates George Town's 2008 UNESCO World Heritage Site inscription, honouring the city's culture, heritage, and history.



Penang Bon Odori 槟城盆蛹

This beloved annual event celebrating Japan's rich traditions, culture, music and cuisine is supported by the Penang State Government and Japanese associations.

Venue: Esplanade, Penang. Time: 5.00pm to 11.00pm

IULY 18-20**

Penang Hill Festival 2025 升旗山嘉年华

AUG 17 **

Penang Hill Heritage Forest Challenge 2025 升稹山古迹森林竞跑

** Details of events, please refer to page 38-39

JULY 26

abroad.

St. Anne's Festival 圣安妮节

Held at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, this 10-day

festival includes a candlelight procession, prayer services, and a nine-day Novena, attracting Catholics from all over Malaysia and

Venue: St Anne's Church, Bukit Mertajam

AUG 02-10

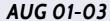
George Town Festival 乔治市节

The 16th edition of the George Town Festival (GTF), one of Asia's premier arts and culture events, will be held from 2 to 10

August 2025, featuring the theme

"Connection," which explores the link between art and human experiences. Through a dynamic mix of visual art, theatre, music, dance, film, and photography, the festival aims to ignite our senses and inspire new thoughts.

Venue: George Town Heritage Enclave



40th Penang Bridge Anniversary Exhibition 槟城大桥四十周年纪念展 The 40th Penang Bridge Anniversary

Exhibition commemorates the bridge's role in Penang's growth while positioning this milestone as a major attraction to draw tourists and boost the local economy.

Venue: 1st Avenue Mall Penang

AUG 31

Merdeka Day 国庆日

Malaysians celebrate Hari Merdeka (National Day) with events fostering patriotism, highlighted by the National Day Parade at Penang Esplanade, featuring different government contingents.

Venue: The Esplanade, Penang







Marking the anniversary of George Town's 2008 UNESCO inscription, George Town World Heritage City Day celebrates the city's unique multicultural legacy. The highlight is the George Town Heritage Celebrations, organised by George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI), where historic streets come alive with cultural performances, artisan demonstrations, and interactive workshops.

Explore traditional crafts like beadwork and rattan weaving, join guided tours of clan houses and colonial landmarks, or savour authentic street food while storytellers, batik painting, and games add to the festivities, offering immersive ways to connect with Penang's living heritage.

More than a commemoration, this annual event unites communities to showcase their traditions—inviting travellers not just to observe, but to participate. Join the celebration on 7 July 2025 and experience George Town's history in vibrant motion.



Dancers in colourful yukatas move in perfect harmony to the rhythmic beats of taiko drums, filling the air with energy and excitement. A highlight of the evening is the Miss Yosakoi 2025 competition, where the newly crowned winner will serve as the parade's official ambassador. The festival also features an exciting mix of cultural performances, fun-filled games, and family-friendly activities. Food stalls line the venue, offering a feast of Japanese delicacies alongside Penang's own culinary delights, bringing the essence of the Land of the Rising Sun to Malaysia's heritage city.

creativity, making it a spectacular experience

for both locals and visitors.

beloved festival brings the timeless beauty of Japan's Obon tradition to the heart of George Originating centuries ago as a Buddhist-Confucian custom to honour ancestors, Bon Odori has evolved into a joyous summer festival of dance, music, and unity. In Penang, the festival transforms The Esplanade into a lively cultural playground, where visitors can dance under the lanterns, savour authentic flavours at food stalls offering Japanese street favourites alongside Penang's own

mouthwatering delicacies, enjoy traditional and

modern performances and partake in activities

such as yukata dress-ups, origami workshops,

and family-friendly games. As the sea breeze

carries the sounds of celebration, experience an

unforgettable evening of tradition and festivity!

Follow updates at: www.facebook.com/penangglobal.tourism

PENANG FESTIVAL

GEORGE TOWN FESTIVAL 2025 THEME: "CONNECTION"

Celebrating its 16th edition, the George Town Festival (GTF 2025) returns from 2nd to 10th August 2025, inviting audiences to explore the profound ties between art and human experience. Themed "Connections", this year's festival will transform Penang—from the island to Seberang Perai-into a dynamic canvas of creativity, with 70% of programmes free to the public.



Highlights to Discover:

- Kick-off Spectacle: When Night Falls' at Armenian Park, Armenian Street (Lebuh Armenia)—a mesmerising evening of projection mapping, digital art galleries, immersive installations, and live
- Diverse Art Forms: Theatre, music, dance, film, photography, and visual arts, alongside pop-up performances in unexpected spaces.
- Community & Dialogue: Thoughtprovoking talks, sharing sessions, and engagement initiatives that bridge artists and audiences.
- Unique Venues: Experience art in unconventional settings across Penang, curated to surprise and inspire.

From ticketed showcases to free exhibitions. GTF 2025 celebrates art as a universal language. Mark your calendars and connect with Penang's thriving creative soul!

Follow updates at: www.facebook.com/penangglobal.tourism





cheers to celebrate Malaysias 68th Hari Merdeka (Independence Day in the Malay language).

The celebration builds up from early August right through to Malaysia Day on 16 September. Throughout this Merdeka month, Malaysians proudly display their national pride by flying the Jalur Gemilang on vehicles, home balconies, offices and along the streets, decorating This year's Merdeka Day transforms Penang's historic waterfront into a grand celebration of national unity. The highlight will be the annual National Day Parade, organised by the Penang State Government. Witness the spectacular marching contingents from government agencies, schools, and cultural groups, their synchronised Malaysia's steps echoing enduring spirit of unity, history, and shared national pride that brings generations together.





iNPENANG Honours Penang's Timeless Brands





The iNPENANG BEST GUIDE 2025 Old Brands Presentation Ceremony was held at Hong Yee, Tropicana 218 Macalister, honouring six iconic Penang establishments for their enduring contributions to the state's heritage and culture. These brands, celebrated for their legacy and innovation, have stood the test of time, upholding the essence of what made them exceptional from the start.

The honourees included Feng Yi Dumplings (1975), Koon Kee Coffee (1950), Ghee Hiang (1856), Shangri-La Rasa Sayang Resort (1973), GAMA Supermarket & Departmental Store (1967), and Jeruk Madu Pak Ali (1985). Each was recognised for their dedication to quality and tradition.

The event was officiated by YB Wong Hon Wai, Penang State EXCO for Tourism & Creative Economy, who praised the brands as pillars of Penang's identity. Dato' Chng Huck Theng, Editor in Chief of iNPENANG and founder of the iNPENANG BEST GUIDE Series, highlighted the initiative's role in showcasing Penang's finest since 2017.

Attended by industry leaders and community figures, the ceremony highlighted importance of preserving Penang's cultural and economic legacy. The iNPENANG BEST GUIDE remains a driving force in elevating local businesses while positioning the state as a premier destination for tourism and lifestyle.





Pice to meet you

Penang's tourism and lifestyle scene is constantly evolving, with new brands and attractions redefining the city's vibrant identity. In this edition of the iNPENANG Best Guide, we spotlight the freshest and most innovative establishments that are shaping the future of travel, leisure, and entertainment in Penang.

From cutting-edge hospitality and F&B concepts to immersive cultural experiences, these featured brands and attractions bring a new dimension to the city's ever-growing appeal. Each selection represents creativity, excellence, and a promise to enhancing Penang's status as a must-visit destination.

Join us in exploring the newest additions that are redefining experiences and elevating Penang's dynamic tourism scene.



The Private Collection of Vintage Bags

Strangelut Cool

The Private Collection of Vintage Bags



The Private Collection of Vintage Bags is the world's 'only one' that is open for public viewing. Located in Georgetown's heritage district, the Collection of over 350 vintage pieces, occupies a restored shophouse where a carefully curated selection of handbags are displayed in themed, climate-controlled galleries.

Founder Tina Lim (left) established her first gallery in 2013 after 25 years of collecting, and her second one in Penang opened its doors in 2024. The collection spans the 1920s to the 1990s, documenting the evolution of handbag design

through major historical periods. Collectively, these vintage bags from 92 different design houses, showcase not only iconic collector's handbags, it captures changing materials, construction techniques, different artistic approaches that present fashion and design innovations through the times.

Each bag is thoroughly documented with its historical context and significance and visitors can choose between self-guided tours and private viewings with Tina Lim when she is in town! The intimate gallery space accommodates small groups, ensuring an up-close experience with these historical pieces. The Private Collection of Vintage Bags is opened Wednesdays to Sundays from 11am to 6pm (with last entry at 5pm) with a standard admissions price of MYR100 per person. Enquiries for Private Events and Workshops can be made at the Reception.





Kiss the Bag!



The Private Collection of Vintage Bags

.. "where old bags bang"

A 'must-see' in Penang - the world's only Private Collection of Vintage Bags with over 350 handbags, 92 labels spanning 85 years in fashion and design history.

Opening Hours:

Wednesday - Sunday 11.00am to 6pm (last entry at 5pm) Admission tickets are purchased at the reception

To enjoy the discount of MYR20 off the standard admission price of 100MYR - please bring this flyer with you!

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3 Lebuh Klang. 10200 Georgetown. Penang. Malaysia



dré Coklat, a Sarawak-based chocolate company, is making waves with its handcrafted chocolates that beautifully encapsulate the rich flavours and cultural essence of Borneo. Known for its premium creations, dré Coklat is bridging the vibrant cultures of Sarawak and Penang, offering a unique chocolate experience that celebrates tradition and innovation.

Among its exquisite offerings is its signature product, Coklat Salji—a decadent treat made with Sarawak's finest cocoa powder and dusted to resemble snow. This melt-inthe-mouth delight is perfect for gifting or personal indulgence, capturing the authentic taste of Borneo in every bite.

in its Penang outlet, dré Coklat has created a warm, inviting space that harmoniously blends Sarawak's heritage with Penang's dynamic culture. Backed by a state-of-the-art central kitchen, the brand is well-positioned to expand its presence while maintaining the highest quality standards.

dré Coklat's dedication to heritage, creativity, and sustainability shines through in every creation. As the brand looks to the future, it aims to share the flavours of Sarawak with a wider audience, offering licensing opportunities for passionate entrepreneurs.

Join dré Coklat on its journey of discovery and indulgence, where every bite is a celebration of culture, flavour, and the rich traditions of Borneo.





Wander through the outdoor garden, open for visits from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM (last entry at 9:00 PM), and uncover nature's unseen beauty. Through engaging station-based explanations, discover how geckos, scorpions, frogs and unique plant species react under ultraviolet illumination, revealing patterns and colours invisible during the day. Observe these remarkable creatures in action and learn about the science behind biofluorescence through interactive exhibits and hands-on activities from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

their fascinating natural fluorescence.

(first-come, first-served).

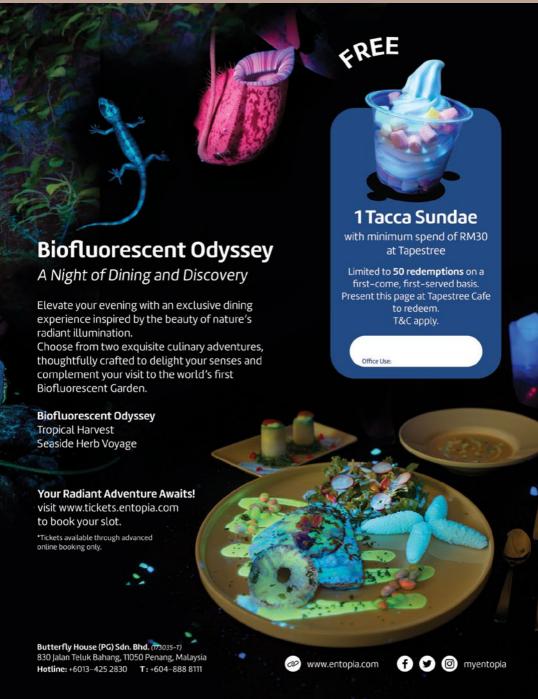
For those seeking an unforgettable dining experience, Biofluorescent Odyssey offers a feast that delights 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, welcomes walk-in diners looking to savour delicious fare amidst the nighttime ambiance.

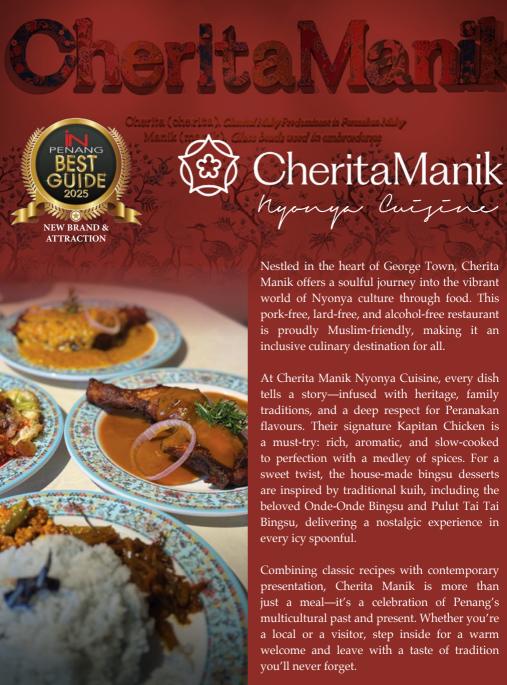
Ticket Prices Entopia By Night RM 40 per adult RM 30 per child or senior citizen

Biofluorescent Odyssey Themed Dining RM 98 per pax (includes entrance to Entopia By Night)

Tickets are available through advanced online booking, ensuring a seamless experience.

Secure your spot in advance and get ready for an extraordinary night of discovery, adventure, and dining at Entopia By Night.





Nestled in the heart of George Town, Cherita Manik offers a soulful journey into the vibrant world of Nyonya culture through food. This pork-free, lard-free, and alcohol-free restaurant is proudly Muslim-friendly, making it an inclusive culinary destination for all.

At Cherita Manik Nyonya Cuisine, every dish tells a story—infused with heritage, family traditions, and a deep respect for Peranakan flavours. Their signature Kapitan Chicken is a must-try: rich, aromatic, and slow-cooked to perfection with a medley of spices. For a sweet twist, the house-made bingsu desserts are inspired by traditional kuih, including the beloved Onde-Onde Bingsu and Pulut Tai Tai Bingsu, delivering a nostalgic experience in every icy spoonful.

Combining classic recipes with contemporary presentation, Cherita Manik is more than just a meal—it's a celebration of Penang's multicultural past and present. Whether you're a local or a visitor, step inside for a warm welcome and leave with a taste of tradition you'll never forget.





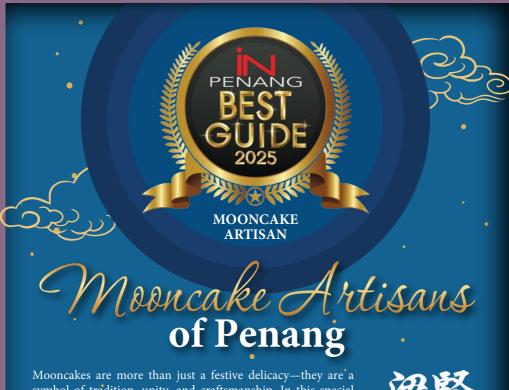
Celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month, the Mid-Autumn Festival—also known as the Mooncake Festival—is a beloved occasion and tradition steeped in themes of family reunion, gratitude for the harvest, and Chinese folklore.

At the heart of the festival lies the captivating legend of Chang-E, a woman of extraordinary beauty and grace, and her husband, Hou Yi, a renowned archer and loyal guardian of the Imperial Court. Hou Yi became a hero when he saved the earth from devastation by shooting down nine of the ten scorching suns that once blazed in the sky. As a reward for his bravery and skill, the Queen of Heaven bestowed upon him an elixir of immortality—but it was only enough for one. Unwilling to leave his beloved wife behind, Hou Yi entrusted the elixir to Chang-E for safekeeping.

Tragedy struck when Hou Yi's treacherous apprentice, Peng Meng, attempted to steal the potion in his absence. To prevent it from falling into the wrong hands, Chang-E made the ultimate sacrifice—she drank the elixir herself. In an instant, she ascended to the moon, destined to remain there for eternity, forever separated from her heartbroken husband. Stricken with grief, Hou Yi began honouring her memory each year by offering mooncakes and her favourite delicacies beneath the moon's glow. Over time, this act of devotion blossomed into a cherished tradition, with families gathering to pay tribute to Chang-E, the Moon Goddess, and to admire the moon in all its brilliance.

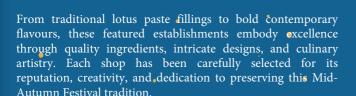
On the night of the Mid-Autumn Festival, the moon shines at its fullest and most luminous, casting an ethereal glow over those who celebrate. This year, the festival falls on 6 October 2025—a perfect occasion to come together, share mooncakes, and bask in the moon's timeless radiance.

Editor's Note: For the finest mooncakes this season, check out our Best Guide Series on Mooncake Artisans from pages 23 to 29



Mooncakes are more than just a festive delicacy—they are a symbol of tradition, unity, and craftsmanship. In this special edition of the iNPENANG Best Guide, we celebrate Penang's finest mooncake pastry makers, artisans who have perfected the balance of heritage and innovation to create these timeless treats.

• INPENANG BEST GUIDE • INPENANG BEST GUIDE • INPENANG BEST GUIDE • INPENANG BEST GUIDE • INPENANG



Whether you seek classic flavours that evoke nostalgia or modern twists that surprise the palate, our guide highlights the best places to experience authentic, handcrafted mooncakes.

As the Mid-Autumn Festival approaches, let's savour the magic of tradition—one mooncake at a time—and embrace the joy of celebration!













LEONG YIN PASTRY SDN BHD

For over 40 years, Leong Yin Pastry Sdn Bhd has been a household name in Penang, evolving from a modest pastry shop into Malaysia's foremost manufacturer of traditional mooncake pastes and premium artisanal mooncakes. What began as a local passion for confectionery has blossomed into an international success story, with each mooncake carrying the legacy of Malaysian craftsmanship to tables worldwide.

Guided by its vision to become a global leader in quality food production, Leong Yin Pastry masterfully blends time-honoured recipes with modern innovation, crafting mooncakes that bridge tradition and contemporary tastes.

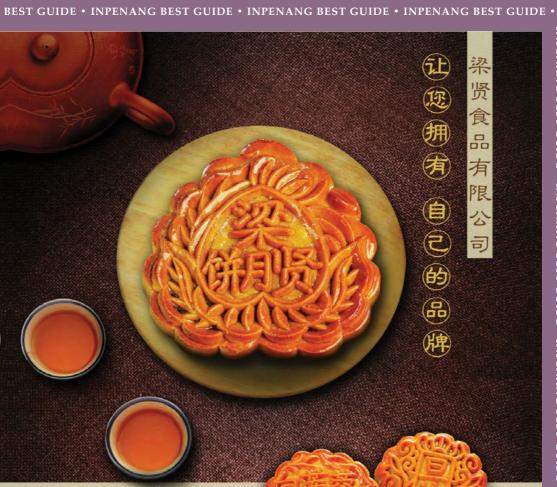
This ambition is anchored in its mission to deliver safe, wholesome, and exceptionally fresh delicacies—ensuring every bite reflects their uncompromising standards.

The company's evolution from artisanal bakery to industry leader balances technological progress with authentic craftsmanship. Today, state-of-the-art facilities collaborate with master pastry chefs, preserving the handmade soul of each mooncake while achieving world-class consistency. Rigorous quality controls underscore this commitment, evidenced by HALAL, HACCP, ISO 22000:2018, and MeSTI certifications, alongside strict Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) compliance.

A pioneer in its field, Leong Yin Pastry made history as Penang's first producer of HALAL-certified mooncakes, earning accolades like the Golden Eagle Award and recognition in the Malaysia Book of Records. Under the leadership of Managing Director Dr. Leong Kok Fei, the brand's influence now spans Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and the UK—a tribute to its dedication to quality and cultural connection through cuisine.







Leong Yin Pastry is Malaysia's pioneer manufacturer for premium lotus seed paste and mooncakes, in conjuncture with providing **OEM** and **ODM** services.

We serve both local and international clients spanning across at least 18 countries by offering assistance to them in creating their own brand products.



Office: 81, Jalan Patani, 10150 Georgetown. Penang.

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Email: talk2us@leongyinpastry.com











NG KEE Cake Shop



Tucked along Penang's Cintra Street, Ng Kee Cake Shop is a treasured name in traditional Cantonese pastries, with roots stretching back over 120 years. Established in the early 1900s by Mr. Loh Ng as a humble food stall, the shop has since flourished under three generations of family custodianship. Today, it is helmed by Mr. Loh Mun Loong and his daughter Esther Loh May Wei, who continue the family's artisanal legacy.

Renowned for its old-school Chinese confections like wedding ceremonial biscuits, coconut tarts, red bean buns, and pepper biscuits, Ng Kee remains a local favourite for handmade treats. But it is during the Mid-Autumn Festival that the shop truly shines, offering a delectable range of mooncakes that celebrate tradition in every bite.

Handcrafted from ancestral recipes passed down through generations, their mooncakes are made entirely by hand and come in classic flavours such as red bean paste, lotus seed paste with single yolk, tau (mung bean) paste with single yolk, and the best-selling coconut paste. Available in packs of two or boxed sets of four, these mooncakes are not only popular among loyal locals but are also shipped across Malaysia and Singapore through online and WhatsApp orders.

Ng Kee Cake Shop is a living piece of Penang's culinary heritage, where each pastry is a legacy of Cantonese pastry craftsmanship that tells a story of time-honoured skill and devotion to flavour.









Ghee Hiang Mooncake Sets 義香月饼・情满中秋

GHEE HIANG







Order 40 sets & above and we will incorporate your branding on the box

Good Fortune Set 好运来礼盒

- · Flaky Yam Pastry with Single Yolk 芋香金黄酥
- · Flaky Lotus Pastry with Single Yolk 莲香金黄酥
- · Lotus Mooncake with Melon Seeds 莲蓉瓜仁月饼
- · Black Sesame Walnut Lotus Mooncake 芝核莲蓉月饼
- · Big Tau Sar Pneah 大圆满豆沙饼

Yuan Yang Set 鸳鸯礼盒

- · Flaky Yam Pastry with Single Yolk 芋香全黄酥
- · Flaky Lotus Pastry with Single Yolk 莲香金黄酥 · Red Bean Mooncake with Mixed Peel 豆沙橙香月饼
- · Pu Er Tea Lotus Mooncake 茶韵莲蓉月饼
 - · Assorted Tea 综合花果茶包







Penang Classic Set 槟城经典礼盒

- · Flaky Yam Pastry with Single Yolk 芋香金黄酥
- · Flaky Lotus Pastry with Single Yolk 莲香金黄酥
- · Red Bean Mooncake 玫瑰红豆月饼
- · Mixed Nuts Mooncake 伍仁月饼

RM168



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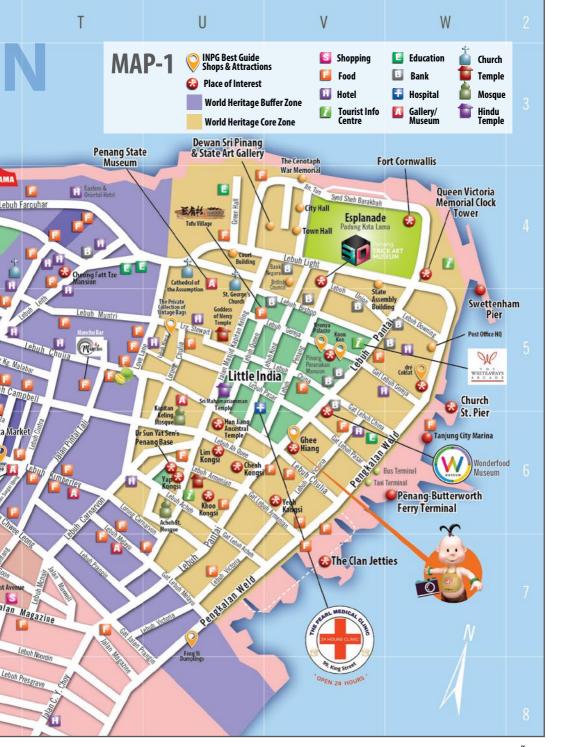


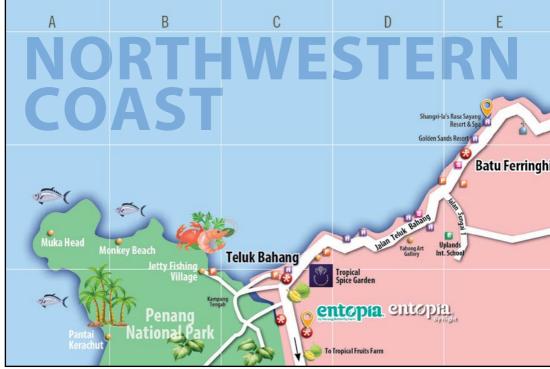
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** INPENANG

Beachside

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 cuisine within hotels. Test your bargaining skills at the vibrant Batu Feringghi Night Market (pasar



Bliss & Tropical Trails



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.

MEDICAL TOURISM

Medical Pursuits in Penang



Penang is a premier medical tourism destination, renowned for its world-class healthcare facilities, skilled professionals, and advanced treatment options at competitive prices.

Leading hospitals such as Penang Adventist Hospital, LohGuanLye Specialists Centre, Island Hospital, Gleneagles Penang, Pantai Hospital, Sunway Medical Centre, Georgetown Specialists Hospital, and Lam Wah Ee Hospital offer a comprehensive range of services, including cardiology, oncology, orthopaedics, and cosmetic surgery.

Penang also embraces a holistic approach to wellness, integrating traditional healing practices, wellness retreats, and serene recovery environments. Patients benefit from internationally trained specialists, cutting-edge diagnostic tools, and innovative treatments. Advanced medical technologies, from robotic surgery to state-of-the-art imaging, enhance precision and efficiency, making Penang a preferred choice for medical tourists.

Affordability is a key factor in its appeal. Despite maintaining high healthcare standards, treatment costs are significantly lower than in many Western countries. The state's rich cultural heritage, scenic beaches, and renowned culinary scene further enhance the recovery experience.

Penang's rise as a medical tourism hub is driven by its commitment to exceptional healthcare, technological advancements, and a welcoming environment. With its blend of high-quality treatment, expert care, affordability, and vibrant surroundings, Penang remains a top choice for medical travellers worldwide.



WHAT'S NEW

Hop On and Ride Easy... Discover Penang with

rapidPenang On-Demand

On-Demo

Exploring Penang just got easier—and greener! Rapid Bus Sdn Bhd has extended its popular Rapid Penang On-Demand van service to three new zones, alongside its existing routes in George Town, Jelutong, Bayan Lepas, Farlim and Ayer Itam.

Think of it as your personal ride-share—but better. This smart, affordable first-mile/last-mile solution connects you effortlessly to major bus routes or straight to your destination, especially in areas where regular public transport doesn't reach.

Booking is simple: just use the Kummute app and enjoy a promotional fare of RM1 per trip. Leave your



cash at home—digital payments are accepted via Pas Mutiara My50, OKU Smile Pass, credit/ debit cards, DuitNow QR, and e-wallets.

Operating daily from 6 am to 11 pm, the van routes are as follows:

- T110B Gurney/Tanjung Bungah
- T710B Sunway/Butterworth
- T111B George Town
- T210B Farlim/Paya Terubong/Air Itam
- T311B Jelutona
- T312B Bayan Lepas

Seamlessly integrated into Penang's public transport network, these on-demand vans offer a comfortable, low-cost alternative to driving. So why not skip the parking hassle, reduce your carbon footprint, and give it a try?

Penang's streets are calling—let's ride smarter!

How to book Rapid Penang On-Demand service



For further enquiries please call 03-7885 2585 or visit www.myrapid.com.my.





Penang will step into the global spotlight as a key destination during Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship this year, hosting 13 major meetings across key sectors, such as security, trade, education, and youth development. These high-profile meetings, organised by seven federal

ministries, will bring together delegates from across Southeast Asia to discuss strategic cooperation and regional growth.

As the coordinating body, the Penang State Government is ensuring a seamless and unforgettable experience for international delegates. From flawless event logistics to thoughtfully curated cultural visits, every detail is being meticulously planned to highlight the state's unique charm. Delegates

will be treated to a sensory journey, featuring cultural exhibitions, tours of iconic landmarks, and official dinners showcasing Penang's world-famous cuisine.

To elevate the experience, Penang is undergoing a stunning transformation. Beautification projects along key routes and ASEAN-themed billboards are enhancing the cityscape, promoting Penang as a global destination that seamlessly blends rich history, modern infrastructure, and vibrant culture. Delegates will enjoy stays in luxury hotels and receive bespoke traditional souvenirs, such as exquisite Penang Batik, as heartfelt tokens of the island's renowned hospitality.

Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship, themed "Inclusivity and Sustainability," marks the country's fifth time leading the regional bloc, having previously chaired it in 1977, 1997, 2005, and 2015.

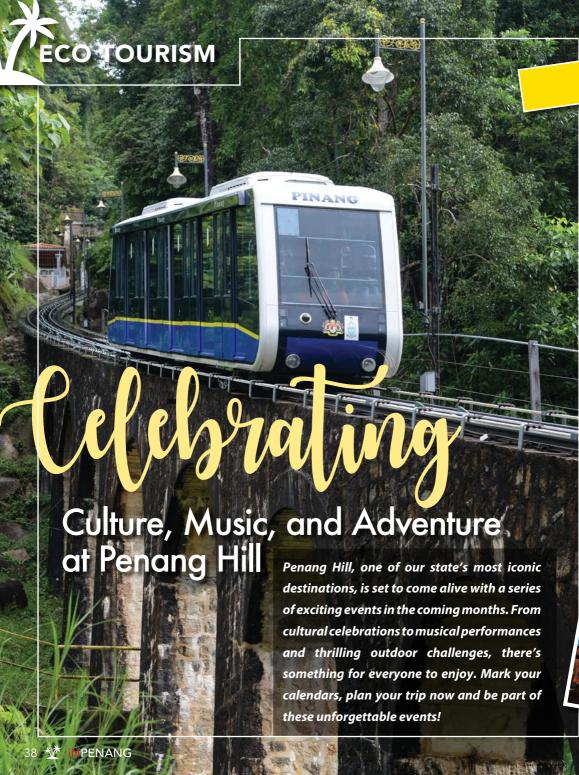
Penang Tops Safety Charts



Leading the nation in security innovation, Penang was the first state to implement facial recognition technology through cameras operated by the Penang Island City Council (MBPP) and Seberang Perai City Council (MBSP). With 1,100 cameras on the island and 240 on the mainland, these Al-powered eyes that provide round-the-clock monitoring don't just watch—they respond. If someone flagged by the authorities enters the state, the system immediately notifies the police. By 2027, mainland Penang will see a significant boost in surveillance with nearly 1,000 new cameras.

Upcoming enhancements include automatic vehicle number plate recognition, traffic volume monitoring, and speed detection. Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow has also announced plans to further expand the network across the mainland, ensuring continuous improvement in public safety.

Grateful for Penang's global recognition as Malaysia's safest state, Chow emphasised that crime rates, including road offenses and robberies, have remained consistently low. For residents, this recognition reinforces confidence in their daily lives, while for tourists, it enhances Penang's appeal as a secure and attractive destination.



HAPPENINGS AT PENANG HILL



Trash Free Hill

(2025年升旗山零垃圾活动) Trash Free Hill (TFH) returns for its 6th edition, raising environmental consciousness on protecting Penang Hill and its biodiversity. Let us all join this fun, impactful clean-up drive and contribute to the preservation of Penang Hill.

JULY 18-20

Penang Hill Festival

(2025年升旗山嘉年华) Kicking off the festivities is the Penang Hill Festival (PHF) 2025, a three-day celebration which promises an enriching and educational experience for visitors! Look forward to a vibrant showcase of exciting programmes, including Talks, Heritage and Nature Discovery Walks, Exhibitions, Photography Workshops, and the signature "Music on the Hill - East meets West" on 20 July 2025.



JULY 20

Music on the Hill - East meets West

(2025年中西交汇的升旗山音乐飨宴)

As the grand finale of the Penang Hill Festival, Music on the Hill - East Meets West 2025, is a captivating musical event featuring talented local musicians, bringing you a fusion of Eastern and Western tunes, with the hill's lush greenery and cool climate as its backdrop. Save the date and join us for a unique auditory experience!



AUGUST 17

Penang Hill Heritage Forest

Challenge (2025年升旗山古迹森林竞跑)

For adventure enthusiasts and nature lovers, the Penang Hill Heritage Forest Challenge (PHHFC) 2025 is a mustparticipate event. Back for the 10th edition, participants will have the opportunity to compete and challenge themselves amidst the stunning Penang Hill Biosphere

Reserve (PHBR), while exploring and appreciating the environmental and heritage conservation initiatives within the Penang Hill Biosphere Reserve. The race commences at Padang Serbaguna, Youth Park (Taman Bandaraya), and concludes at the summit area of Penang Hill.

For further details: +604 828 8880 • inquiries@penanghill.gov.my • www.facebook.com/mypenanghill



A FEAST OF THE KING OF FRUITS

Every year, from June to July, Penang transforms into a durian lover's paradise, celebrating its renowned Durian Festival. Famed for producing some of Malaysia's best durians, Penang—particularly Balik Pulau—is home to sought-after varieties like Musang King, Black Thorn, Red Prawn, Green Skin, Xao Hong, Ganja, Susu and Hor Lor, amongst others.

This two-month festival attracts both locals and tourists eager to indulge in the 'King of Fruits' at its freshest. Travel agencies organise farm visits, where visitors can learn about durian cultivation, taste different varieties, and even stay overnight in orchard accommodations for a full farm-to-table experience. Some orchards offer guided tours, detailing the unique flavours, textures, and aromas that set each variety apart.

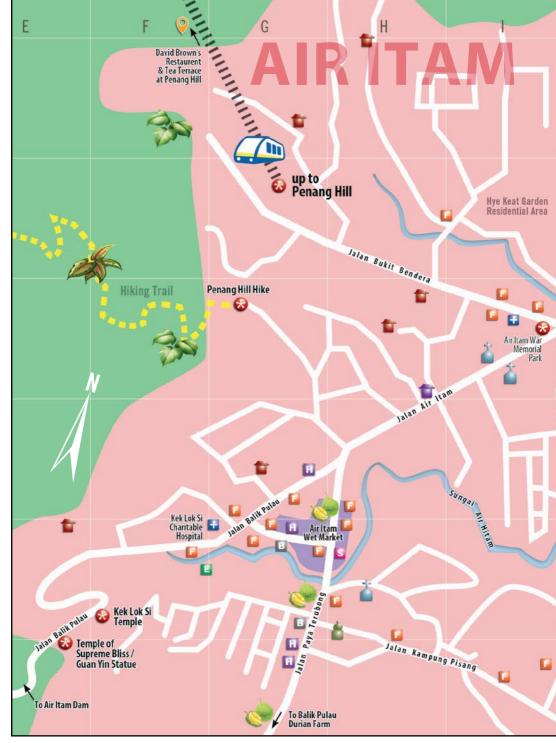
For those who prefer to enjoy durians in the city, street vendors along Jalan Burma, Jalan Macalister, and Jalan Anson serve up freshly opened fruits, perfect for a quick fix without venturing into the farms. Durian aficionados can also try an array of durian-infused treats, from cakes, ice cream, pizzas and pastries to tempoyak, a traditional fermented durian dish.

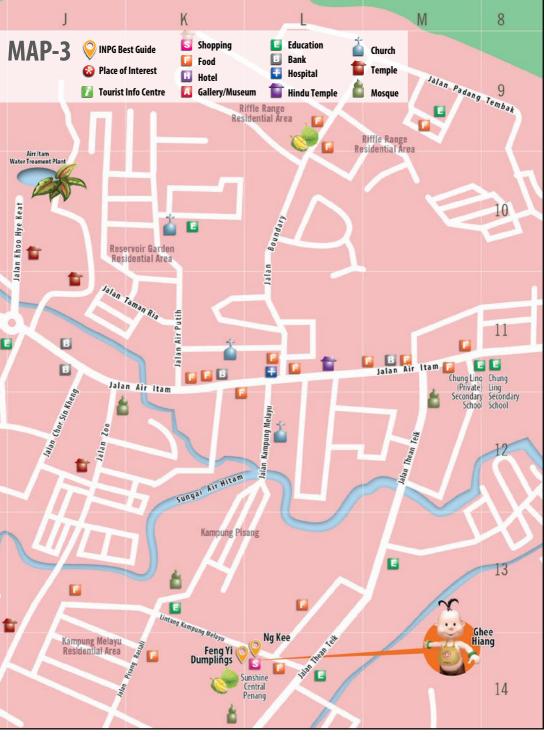
Whether you're a seasoned durian lover or a curious first-timer, there's no better place than Penang to experience this iconic fruit at its peak.

For any durian lover, it IS the reason to travel to Penang!



- Durian is banned in hotels, airplanes, and public transportation due to its strong aroma.
- To counter body 'heat' after consuming durian, drinking salt water from an empty, unwashed shell may help.
- Durian seeds are edible just ensure that they are cooked thoroughly before consuming, either boiled, roasted or deep-fried as chips.









The Street of Harmo

Did you know that just a stone's throw from the Sunway Carnival Mall in Seberang Jaya on the mainland, there is an enclave dedicated to eight houses of worship, comprising Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist, Sikh Gurdwara temples, a Christian Church, with a Muslim mosque across the Butterworth-Kulim Expressway (BKE)? The Penang State Government, through Penang Harmony Corporation, has named this enclave the "Street of Harmony Seberang Jaya" to reflect the harmonious spirit within the area, echoing the spirit of George Town's iconic Street of Harmony.

1. KU CHENG TSE TEMPLE

Ku Cheng Tse Temple Butterworth, established in 1963 in Kampung Gajah is a Thai-Chinese Buddhist temple. The main Deities of worships are the Lord Buddha, Venerable Luang Phor Thout, and the 18 Arahants. The temple moved to their present premise in 2003 and also provides regular charity and medical aids for the poor.

2. ARULMIGU SRI BALA MURUGAN TEMPLE

Arulmigu Sri Bala Murugan Temple, a Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Murugan, was established in 1968 and moved to its current location in 2009. Its activities include annual prayers, Thaipusam Paal kudam, monthly Karthigai and Sasthi, Kanda Shasthi, Thiru Karthigai, and daily prayers.

3. SRI SRI RADHA KRISHNA

Kanhaiva Temple of Devotion &

Understanding (TODU)
The Temple of Devotion & Understanding (TODU) in Malaysia was opened in 2015 by the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) Malaysia, fulfilling the aspiration of ISKCON Founder-Acarya, A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, to have a Hare Krishna Temple in Malaysia. The temple features Sri Sri Radha Krishna Kanhaiya and Sri Sri Nitai Gauranga Rai, with three ornate domes, two glass skylight pyramidal domes, and 16 pavilions.

4. GURDWARA SAHIB BUTTERWORTH

Gurdwara Sahib Butterworth, has a long history dating back to the early 20th century when the Sikh community settled along Jalan Pantai. Established in 1934, it moved to its current location at Jalan Todak in 2019, making it the latest house of worship in the Street of Harmony Seberang Jaya.

5. PERSATUAN BUDDHIS SEBERANG JAYA

Persatuan Buddhis Seberang Jaya, established in 1985, is a Mahayana Buddhist organisation in Seberang Jaya. Construction for the new building began in 1995 and the organisation officially moved in in 2000. Activities and prayers are led by lay Buddhists and volunteers, and the association also engages in community work and Chinese medicine





6. PENIEL CHRISTIAN **FELLOWSHIP**

Peniel Christian Fellowship is a Pentecostal organisation with decades of history and over 100 members from all over Penang. The name 'Peniel' refers to the biblical encounter between prophet Jacob and God. The congregation celebrates Christmas, Easter, and Good Friday annually.

7. MASJID SEMBILANG

Masjid Sembilang Seberang Jaya, located at Taman Sembilang, was constructed in 2006 across the Butterworth-Kulim Expressway. It features a unique blend of Moorish architecture, Islamic geometric details, and local building layout, with a prayer hall at its core. Priorly, the Muslim congregation in the area gathered at a surau (Muslim prayer hall) nearby for prayers.



8. ARULMIGU **KARUMARIAMMAN TEMPLE**

Arulmigu Karumariamman Temple is a South Indian Hindu temple, originally a wooden shed in a rubber estate. Relocated by community efforts, it was consecrated on 6 July 2003. Goddess Karumariamman is the presiding deity. The temple boasts one of Malaysia's tallest rajagopuram towers, standing at 72 feet.

9. GUANG YIN TEMPLE **SEBERANG JAYA**

Guang Yin Temple Seberang Jaya is a Taoist temple dedicated to the Goddess of Mercy, established in 2003. Its expansion began in 2017 and is managed by Persatuan Penganut Dewi Bodhisatha Guang Yin Seberang Jaya. The temple's main celebration is the Goddess of Mercy's Birthdays, which occur on the 19th day of the 2nd, 6th, and 9th Chinese lunar months.







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