

Penang Tourism

Calendar of Events

2018

Penang
Tourism
www.visitpenang.gov.my



MALAYSIA

IT'S ALL IN
penang
experience it MALAYSIA

PENANG

georgetown



Penang is popular for its food, culture, art and heritage. Situated in the northern region of Malaysia, the State consists of Penang Island and Seberang Perai which were formerly known as Prince of Wales Island and Province Wellesley respectively during the reign of the British.

Penang embraces modernity while retaining its traditions and old world charm. These are reflected in its harmonious multiracial populace and well-preserved heritage buildings which led to George Town being accorded a listing as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site on 7 July 2008. CNN has ranked Penang No. 2 in their list of “Best Places to Visit” in 2017.

Penang is now aiming to promote its 10 key thrusts,

namely, culture, heritage & arts, food paradise, medical tourism, MICE (Meetings, Incentive, Conventions & Exhibitions), nature & leisure, education, sports, cruise, religious festivals, business & regional hub. Our vision is to transform Penang into an international and intelligent city. Our mission is to make Penang the preferred destination that is clean, green, safe and healthy.

Holiday makers will be amazed by the exciting activities, cultural events and religious festivals being celebrated all year round. Do discover what we have lined up for you from January to December 2018. You will be thrilled with all the exciting upcoming events. Mark your calendar now!

* All event information is correct at time of printing and subject to change without prior notice.

* All images are not intended for commercial use.

Lion Dance Championship 2018

13
JAN



Bukit Jambul
Complex



The annual KBJ Lion Dance Championship is back again in 2018. This championship is the kick off point for the Chinese New Year celebrations. This Lion Dance Championship is organized as part of KBJ's efforts to preserve the traditional culture and ensure that the lion dance performances will maintain its pomp and glory from generation to generation. The Championship will feature many renowned teams from all over Malaysia and this will be the highlight of the competition.

Organiser :

Kompleks Bukit Jambul
T : +604-645 6788
W : www.kbj.com.my

14
JAN



Pongal Festival

Pongal is a Hindu "Thanksgiving" festival traditionally dedicated to the Sun God Surya to thank the solar deity for a bountiful harvest. The word Pongal literally means "boiling over" and refers to the ritual of boiling freshly harvested rice and milk until it spills out of the pot. The boiling over is believed to bring good luck and prosperity to the household. The Penang State Government will be organizing a Pongal celebration on 21 January 2018 at Kuil Dewi Sree Veerapthra Maha Kaliamma, Bagan Ajam, Butterworth at 4pm.

Organiser : Penang Hindu Endowment Board
T : +604-226 2593 W : www.hebpenang.gov.my

26 - 28
JAN

10.00am - 8.00pm



SPICE Arena



Penang International HALAL Expo & Conference 2018

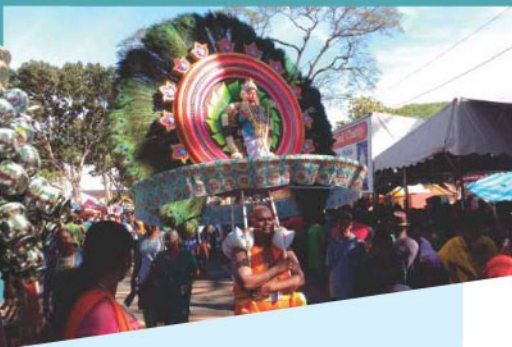
The Premier Platform for Halal Industry! Take part in this event and showcase your Halal products and services to more than 60,000 visitors from Malaysia, as well as international countries. PIHEC 2018 will play host to a total of more than 350 booths represented by local and international industry players from Southern Asia, West Asia & Europe and create an opportunity to establish potential businesses with the global Halal industry players.

Organiser :

PIHH Development Sdn Bhd (Halal Penang)

T : +604-262 5444

W : www.halalpenang.com E : pihec@halalpenang.com



31
JAN



Little India to Waterfall
(Jalan Kebun Bunga) via
Jalan Dato
Keramat

Thaipusam Festival

Thaipusam is celebrated during the full moon of the 10th month in the Hindu calendar and signifies the victory of good over evil. During this celebration, a

pilgrimage procession takes place to bring the statue of Lord Muruga on a golden chariot worth RM3 million led by more than 60 kavadis from Little India to the Arulmigu Balathandayuthapani hilltop temple off Waterfall Road. On Thaipusam day, devotees go through a physical endurance of being skewered and pierced on the back and front of their bodies as an act of penance.

Organiser : Penang Hindu Endowment Board

T : +604-226 2593

W : www.hebpenang.gov.my

Kek Lok Si Display of Lights



11 - 15
FEB - MAR

 Kek Lok Si Temple

Temple of Supreme Bliss in the Hokkien dialect, the Kek Lok Si Temple is a crowd puller and famous tourist attraction, especially during the Chinese New Year.

Devotees from far and near flock to this 127-year-old temple for its annual lighting display which showcases more than 20,000 lights. It is believed this art of faith will bring them peace, luck and prosperity. The display of lights starts from 11 February to 15 March.

Note:

15-17 FEB: 7.00pm - 1.00am
18 FEB - 2 MAR: 7.00pm - 12.00am
3 MAR - 15 MAR: 7.00pm - 11.00pm

Organiser :

Kek Lok Si Temple
T: +604-828 3317

16-17
FEB

Chinese New Year Celebrations



Chinese New Year is celebrated on the first day of the Lunar Calendar with each year ushering in a zodiac animal ruling sign. 2018 is the year of the Dog. As Penang is the home of a sizable Chinese population, Chinese New Year is one of the most significant celebrations here. Celebrations usually start on the eve of Chinese New Year where family members gather for a Reunion Dinner to enjoy traditional Chinese delicacies. The public is invited to be part of the celebrations by attending the Chief Minister's Chinese New Year Open House at SPICE Arena on 16th February (1st day of CNY) from 10.00am to 12.30pm.

20
FEB

6.00pm-12.00am



Snake Temple
(Ban Ka Lan)

Festival of Cheng Chooi Chor Soo Kong Birthday



Organiser : Hokkien Kongsì T: +6012-433 1918

The "Fire Watching" ceremony is a traditional ceremony to predict the economic outlook of Penang. This special prayer is also conducted to commemorate the birthday of Cheng Chooi Chor Soo Kong Deity of the temple which falls on 21 February. The ceremony is an annual event that attracts dedicated devotees not only from Penang but also other states in Malaysia and foreign countries to this famous Snake Temple which was formerly known as Ban Ka Lan in Hokkien. Besides the Fire Watching ceremony, devotees and visitors will also be entertained by various cultural dances, food stalls, exhibitions and exciting performances.

Pai Ti Kong Festival



23
FEB

8.00pm-12.00am



Ti Kong Tua Temple at
Foothill of Bukit Bendera &
Chew Jetty at
Weld Quay

The 9th day of Chinese New Year, also known as Ti Kong Seh in Hokkien (Jade Emperor God's birthday), is celebrated on a grand scale by the Hokkien clan to commemorate their forefathers' escape in ancient China. This day is also the first day of the Hokkien New Year. At the stroke of midnight, prayers are performed with much gaiety with offerings of food, fruits, liquor and sugarcane stalks to the Jade Emperor God.

24-25
FEB

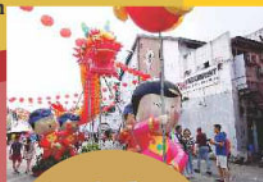
 Padang Polo



Penang Hot Air Balloon Fiesta 2018

It's a one-of-a-kind experience and the only hot air balloon festival on an island in Malaysia. The Penang Hot Air Balloon Fiesta will see 15 hot air balloons by international and local balloonists over the 2-day festival, together with family-friendly activities, creative workshops and more! Aside from the balloon displays and workshops, there will be "night glow" shows, free flying balloons and cold inflation activity where anyone can walk into a balloon envelope that's filled with cold air as it lies on the ground.

Organiser : Penang State Government & Penang Global Tourism
T: +604-264 3456
E: info@penanghotairballoonfiesta.com



25
FEB

4.00pm-11.00pm

 King Street

Organiser :
Penang CNY Celebration
(Miao Hui) 2018 committee
T: +6016-426 0602

Penang CNY Celebration (Miao Hui) 2018

Every year during Chinese New Year, the public looks forward to the annual Chinese New Year event-Penang Chinese New Year Celebration. It has become a norm for Penangites to take to the streets and soak in the festive mood throughout the island with friends and family. There are abundant fun and interesting activities during the Penang CNY Celebration (Miao Hui) 2018. Not only would you be able to visit the ancient ancestral temples of the different clans, you could also experience the traditional and cultural games and performances. Mouth-watering street food and tantalizing treats await you along streets within the George Town World Heritage Site namely King Street, Bishop Street and Armenian Street.

2
MAR

7.00pm-11.00pm

 Esplanade



Chap Goh Meh

Celebrated on the 15th night of the Lunar New Year, Chap Goh Meh is also known as the Chinese Valentine's Day. On this night, with the full moon shining down, young ladies of marrying age venture out to popular sea promenades to throw oranges into the sea, wishing for a good soul mate. There will be various performances from different schools and ethnic groups on Chap Goh Meh at Esplanade. The highlight of the performance will be the Tibetan dance group from Jiuzhaigou, Sichuan, China. The finale will be a fireworks display, sponsored by Penang Chinese Chamber of Commerce, at 10.30pm on that night.

Organiser :

Penang State Tourism
Development Office

T : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012

W : www.visitpenang.gov.my

E : info@visitpenang.gov.my

PSC International Soccer Tournament



Organiser :

Penang Sports Club (PSC)

T : +604-229 4376

W : www.pgssportsclub.com.my

3-4
MAR

 Penang Sports
Club

This is a Veterans 7-a-side football tournament that attracts the stars of yesteryears including some former international players who are still actively involved in the game to demonstrate their skills and abilities as well as being a role model for upcoming footballers. A total of 44 teams from around the world will participate in this tournament namely teams from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Australia, Maldives, China, Brunei, Hong Kong and Europe.

St. Patrick's Festival

8-11
MAR

 Straits Quay
9th: E&O Hotel

Organized by the Penang Irish Association, the

Penang St. Patrick's Festival celebrates the very best of Irish culture and traditions. The festival will showcase a parade, exhibition and performances from Ireland. St. Patrick's Day Parades are held in 160 countries worldwide and the event helps promote Irish culture and puts Penang on the map. Besides that, it is also a great opportunity for friendship and networking amongst Penangites and the local Irish community.

Organiser : Penang Irish Association W: www.penang-irish-association.com
T: +6012-462 5596 E: penangpia@gmail.com

16-18
MAR

10.00am-9.00pm

 SPICE Convention
Centre

Penang International Wedding Expo 2018



Penang International Wedding Expo 2018, better known as PIWE 2018, is the first wedding expo launched to boost and promote wedding tourism in Penang, as well as its flourishing bridal products and service industry. PIWE is the first large scale wedding expo held in the northern region, offering high end, quality products and unique services from local and international celebrated vendors catering to the demands of the many soon-to-be brides and grooms.

Organiser :
Penang Global Tourism
T: +6016-416 0638
E: secretariat@piwe.my
W: www.piwe.my



13-14
APR



Wat Chayamangkalaram
Thai Buddhist Temple &
Dharmikara Burmese Buddhist
Temple (Lorong Burma,
Pulau Tikus)

Songkran Festival

Songkran or Water Festival is a traditional festival celebrated by Thai and Burmese devotees to wash away bad luck by liberally splashing water on each other. The Festival will not only be taking place at Wat

Chayamangkalaram Thai Buddhist Temple and Dharmijara Burmese Buddhist Temple in Pulau Tikus but also at Batu Ferringhi beach side on Penang Island. In Seberang Perai, the Songkran devotees celebrate at Wat Rajaphohong Buddhist Temple at Ara Kuda, Bukit Mertajam and also other Thai temples.

14-22
APR



Gurney Paragon
Mall

Penang Fashion Week



Organiser :

Gurney Paragon
Mall

T: +604-228 8266

Organized by Gurney Paragon Mall, Penang Fashion Week is the annual event that brings Penang's fashion industry into the limelight. The runway show will once again feature some of the prominent names in the fashion industry including Penang-born designer Jonathan Liang, Illiza Ho from Taiwan, Kev Yiu (KEVOLIE) from Hong Kong, international brands such as Chow Tai Fook, Save My Bag and homegrown retailers. From influential and innovative designers, stylists and the entire media buzz, each show is a notable fashion event. Apart from that, an innovative collaboration between the designers and SpongeBob GOLD will make a splash on Penang Fashion Week 2018, featuring a line of SpongeBob GOLD fashion collection, for the first time ever in Malaysia in line with this worldwide campaign.

14-29
APR

📍 Various Locations
in Penang



Penang International Food Festival (PIFF)

The Penang International Food Festival 2018 is a 16-day event, bringing you an exciting experience on Penang food and eating in Penang. Highlighting endless delectable choices and Penang's cooking and food traditions, PIFF2018 will celebrate Penang as a food capital, food haven and most importantly, the recognition of our food heroes. PIFF2018 will be the place for food, stories, experience, culture and traditions.

Organiser : Penang Global Tourism
FB: Penang International Food Festival
E: info@piff.com.my
W: www.piff.com.my

21
APR

📍 Queensbay Mall



Vogue For Virtue 2018 Charity Fashion Show & Model Search

The highly-anticipated model search is back! Turning the month into a kaleidoscope of glitz and glamour, the model search will get to the heart of fashion by raising funds for selected charitable organisations that support the development and education of underprivileged children. This is a not-to-be missed star-studded event that will showcase the latest exquisite collection of the season.

Organiser : Queensbay Mall T: +604-619 8989
W: www.queensbaymall.com.my

Vaisakhi Celebration

The Sikh feast marks the harvest festival and the religious Khalsa Janam Divas. It is usually celebrated with singing and dancing in a colourful carnival-like atmosphere. The open house gives visitors a rare glimpse of insight into the beliefs, customs and practices that are sacredly practised by the Sikhs to this day.

28
APR

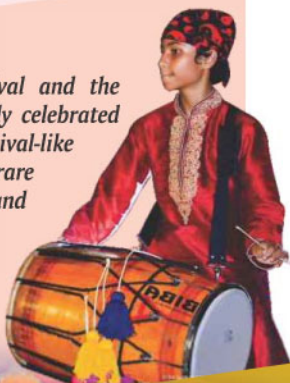
6.30pm-10.30pm



Fort Cornwallis

Organiser :

Wadda Gurdwara Sahib
Penang & Sikh Naujawan
Sabha Penang
T: +6012-489 9204



Penang World Hoops FIBA 3x3 Challenger

3X3 basketball is now an Olympic Sport and the world has seen a dramatic increase in what has been recorded as being the fastest growing sports in history. The Penang World Hoops FIBA 3x3 Challenger is part of the professional 3X3 global circuit which features the top teams in the world coming to Penang to compete in this exciting professional basketball event. The 2018 Penang Challenger, rated as one of the top professional basketball events in the world, will feature the world's best players competing against Malaysia's best talent for an opportunity to make it to the World Tour.

Organiser :

World Hoops T: +6016-466 3926
E: chuck@world-hoops.com
W: www.world-hoops.com

5-6
MAY



Gurney Paragon
Mall main atrium





Ramadan Bazaar

17-14
MAY JUN



KOMTAR Pedestrian Walk & along many streets of Penang

During the Muslim Fasting Month, a sumptuous array of food, local delicacies, festive cookies, clothing and religious items will be sold at the month-long evening Ramadan Bazaar. A jovial mood pervades the bazaar as people go about their merry business of shopping for food to break fast and also to hunt for the best bargains. After the month-long fasting, Hari Raya will be celebrated by visiting relatives and friends.

29
MAY



Malaysian Buddhist Association

Wesak Day



Organiser : Malaysian Buddhist Association **T:** +604-226 2690

Wesak Day is observed by devotees to celebrate Buddha's birthday, enlightenment and achievement of Nirvana. From very early in the morning, devotees flock to temples to meditate as well as participate in candle-lit processions. As a sign of benevolence, doves are set free and other charitable acts are also performed by devotees such as providing free vegetarian meals. The pinnacle of the celebration is in the evening where there is a procession of floats decked with colourful flowers and bright lights accompanied by children singing and monks chanting prayers while sprinkling holy water throughout the journey.



2
JUN

Nuzul Al-Quran

On the 17th day of the holy Ramadhan month, a national-level celebration called the Nuzul Al-Quran is held to commemorate the day Prophet Muhammad S.A.W first received the revelation from Heaven. It is observed as a public holiday in most states in Malaysia.

Hari Raya Aidilfitri

In Malaysia, the Muslims celebrate the start of the month of Syawal by having open houses for their families and friends. Guests can enjoy a variety of

traditional Malay cuisine and mouth-watering selection of local delicacies. During this joyous celebration, it is also customary for Muslims to wear their traditional Malay attires. Another popular practice is the giving of "duit raya", money gifted to children, elders or to the poor in little green packets.



30-1
JUN JUL
10.00am-6.00pm

 Cititel Penang



Malaysia Miniature Hobby Show

Malaysia Miniature Hobby Show 2018 (MMHS) and Malaysia Competition (MALCOM), an annual hobby exhibition held over two days, is free entry and open to all. This miniature model show focuses on military, automobile, science fiction and anime subjects; there is also a 'Military Cosplay' during the show. This International Hobby Show will be the third of its kind within the South East Asian region and it is expected to draw hundreds of scale modelers and hobby enthusiasts. The show will also feature a diverse range of Hobby Manufacturer exhibitors and modeling clubs from over 20 countries.

Organiser : World Hobby Miniatures T: +6012-497 7712
Email: malysiaminiaturehobbyshow@gmail.com



George Town World Heritage Day

7
JUL

George Town World Heritage Day is a public holiday in Penang, to commemorate the inscription of George Town as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This community-centered festival features a diverse range of acts, from traditional dances and martial arts demonstrations, to exhibitions and street performances; from the reenactment of street life in the 1900s, to food fests and special tours and talks; all devised and conducted by members of the communities of historic George Town.

Organiser : George Town World Heritage Incorporated (GTWHI)
T: +604-261 6606 / +6016-490 2780
W: www.heritagecelebrations.info
E: heritagecelebrations@gmail.com

6-8
JUL

 Auto-City Carnival



Auto City Carnival

The Auto-City Carnival promises fun, excitement and a little bit of something for everyone. A galore of activities such as contests, shows and entertainment are held throughout this period. You can participate in the hive of activities or if you wish to relax as a bystander, you will be equally enthralled by the sheer excitement of it all.

Organiser : Auto-City T: +604-501 1222 W: www.autocity.com.my



Penang MITM Travel Fair

14-15 JUL
10.00am-9.00pm
📍 SPICE Arena

Planning your next trip? The MITM Travel Fair is an anticipated annual travel event in Penang, where consumers can purchase flight tickets and travel packages at promotional pricing. Visitors can expect more than 500 booths from tour agents, airlines and National Tourism Organisations (NTOs). There will also be special giveaways and lucky draws at the event. Entrance is free.

Organiser :
Malaysian Chinese Tourism Association (MCTA)
T: +604-2622 333
E: mcta.penang@gmail.com



St. Anne's Festival

20-29 JUL
📍 St. Anne's Church, Bukit Mertajam

A 10-day Novena that draws many believers from all walks of life. In conjunction with the

annual St. Anne's Feast which falls on 26th July, a candlelight procession is usually conducted at the church grounds during the night. Built in 1957, The Church of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam is a significant part of Penang's history. Many historical relics can be found at the church compound such as the beautiful stained glasses at the altar.

Organiser : St. Anne's Church T: +604-538 6405
E: stanne@stannebm.org W: www.stannebm.org

Penang Bon Odori Festival



21 JUL
6.00pm-10.30pm
📍 Esplanade

A traditional and merry Japanese festival that is celebrated with dances and lively drum performances to welcome the homecoming of ancestral spirits. This festival is a Japanese Buddhist observance that honours the spirit of ancestors, who return once a year to visit their families. The carnival-like atmosphere at Esplanade is made even merrier with stalls selling a variety of local and Japanese food, fireworks display, Japanese souvenirs, lively performances and games.

Organiser : Penang Bon Odori Organising Committee
T: +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012

22
JUL

Kompang Competition



The Kompang is a well-known traditional musical instrument among the Malays. It comes in many sizes with diameters ranging from about 22.5 to 35 centimetres. The musical instrument is persistently played in a group when all the players are sitting, standing or walking. The Kompang is played by using both hands and is normally presented at the welcoming party of important guests and wedding receptions. A total number of 25 teams participated in last year's Kompang Competition with resounding success! Therefore, we look forward to more teams participating with their own interesting performances in 2018.

Organiser : Penang State Tourism Development Office
T: +604-650 5136

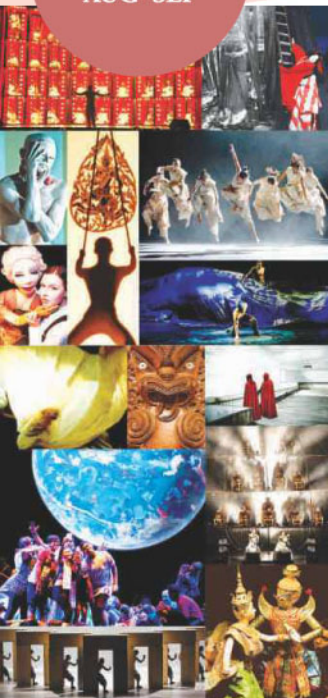
4-2
AUG SEP

George Town Festival 2018

George Town Festival is an annual, month-long celebration of arts, culture, heritage and community. Inaugurated in 2010 in honour of George Town's designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Festival transforms the city into a global stage, showcasing world-class performances, installations and collaborations from international and local artists alike. With over one hundred unique events each year, the Festival seeks to create new and vibrant connections between the traditional and the contemporary, the past and the future. Drawing thousands of visitors each year to Penang, George Town Festival is quickly becoming one of Asia's must-see events.

Organiser :

George Town Festival Secretariat
T: +604-261 6308
E: info@georgetownfestival.com
W: www.georgetownfestival.com



Hungry Ghost Festival

The Hungry Ghost Festival which falls during the Seventh Lunar Month is celebrated on a grand scale in Penang. During this month, it is believed that the Gates of Hell are thrown open for spirits and ghosts from the nether world to roam freely in search for food. Thus, makeshift altars are erected at roadsides where giant joss sticks are lit and food is offered to appease their hunger. Staged opera performances and puppet shows are also conducted at these venues for the entertainment of the ghosts, spirits and the public on a nightly basis.



Contact : Penang State Tourism
Development Office
T: +604 650 5138 /
+604 261 9012

11-9
AUG SEP



18-26
AUG

 Fort Cornwallis

Penang Floral Festival

The Penang Flora Festival 2018 will showcase various flower species and landscaping designs which include various species and hybrids of orchids. In addition to that, there will be workshops, various contests, exhibitions and classes on floral related topics along with the sales of different varieties of plants and gardening equipment.

Organiser : Federation of Malaya Orchid Society (FOMOS)
T: +6012-489 1577

18-19
AUG

 Han Chiang Stadium

Penang International Lion Dance On Stilts Championship

An action packed and exhilarating competition with teams from all over Malaysia, Vietnam, China and more battle it out for the championship title with their most creative and original lion dance performances. The objective of the competition is to promote Lion Dance as a healthy sport and a tourism product. Lion Dance has also become a multicultural sport and is recognised as a National Heritage of Malaysia.

Organiser :

Penang State Tourism Development Committee &
Tiong Hua Sports and Cultural Association,
Kepala Batas
T: +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
W : www.visitpenang.gov.my



Merdeka Parade & 55th Malaysia Day Celebration

The annual Merdeka Day Parade organised by the Penang State Government will be held on 31 August 2018. Over 150 contingents representing various government agencies such as the State Secretariat, PDRM, BOMBA and Angkatan Tentera Malaysia will be taking part in the parade. The Penang State Government will also be holding a celebration to commemorate the establishment of the Malaysian Federation, also known as "Malaysia Day". It is a significant date in the history of Malaysia as it marks the joining together of Malaya, Sabah and Sarawak to form Malaysia in 1963.

31
AUG

16
SEP

Awal Muharram

11
SEP



Awal Muharram or also known as Maal Hijrah marks the first day in the Islamic Calendar (Hijrah Calendar). It is equivalent to the 1st of January in the Gregorian Calendar. It is a public holiday in most states of Malaysia. Awal Muharram also marks a very significant event in Islamic history- Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) emigration from Mecca to Medina. The event is known as "Hijrah" which directly translates to "Migration".

24
SEP



Kepala Batas



Mid-Autumn Lantern Festival

The Lantern Festival or Mid-Autumn Festival is celebrated widely by the Chinese community in Penang and is a time when family and friends gather together to admire the full moon while savouring Moon Cakes, Chinese Tea and parading around with colourful Chinese lanterns. Penangites and visitors can enjoy the festival at various locations such as Butterworth, Bukit Mertajam, Nibong Tebal and Kepala Batas.

9-17
OCT



Various Locations



Nine Emperor Gods' Festival

The Nine Emperor Gods' Festival (Kew Ong Yeah) is celebrated on the 1st till the 9th day of the ninth month in the lunar calendar. Throughout this festival, many rituals such as skewering and fire walking ceremonies are carried out. Devotees also practise vegetarian diet for these nine days. On the last day, the Gods are sent off through a procession leading to the sea on an "Emperor Boat".

Organiser : Tow Boo Kong Association E: info@visitpenang.gov.my
T: +604-331 8717 W: www.visitpenang.gov.my

10-18
OCT



Navratri Festival

The Navratri Festival is a Hindu religious festival similar to the famous Chinese Nine Emperor Gods' celebration. For 9 days, devotees pray to the Goddess Thurga, Goddess Laxmi and Goddess Saraswathy in hopes of power, wealth and education. Chariot processions also take place during the festival.



18-19
OCT

 SPICE Convention
Centre

22nd ITOP Forum 2018



For the first time, Penang will host the 22nd Inter-Islands Tourism Policy (ITOP) Forum 2018. The ITOP Forum consists of 10 member regions which are Malaysia, Korea, Indonesia, China, Japan, the USA, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, the Philippines and 3 General Participants which are Canada, Cambodia and Sweden. The purpose of the establishment of the ITOP Forum is to create a foundation of cooperation in tourism among member regions which will contribute to regional and national developments.

Organiser : Penang State Tourism Development Office
T: +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
E: info@visitpenang.gov.my
W: www.visitpenang.gov.my

6
NOV

This colorful festival is also known as "The Festival of Lights" and is celebrated by the Hindus. Oil lamps are lit and decorated in their homes on Deepavali morning as a way of thanking the gods for happiness, knowledge, peace and wealth. Many cultural performances and activities will take place on this day and also delicious cuisine will be served during the celebration.



Deepavali



17-18
NOV

 Bayview Beach
Hotel

Penang International Open Ballroom Dancing Championship



The Penang International Open Ballroom Dancing Championship returns in swirling success for another year of exciting competition and performances on the dance floor. This annual premier dance competition is anticipated to attract over 800 participants from more than 30 countries around the globe.

Organiser : Malaysian Dancers Association
T: +6012-471 3266
W: www.mbda.com.my

24-1
NOV JAN

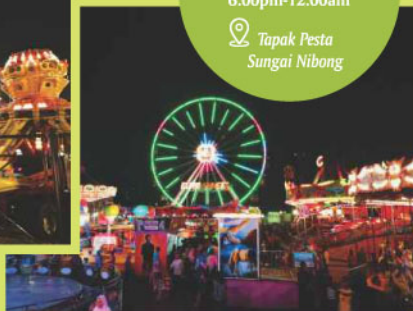
6.00pm-12.00am

 Tapak Pesta
Sungai Nibong



Organiser :

JKN Pulau Pinang
W: www.jkn.penang.gov.my



Pesta Pulau Pinang

Highlights of the month-long Pesta Pulau Pinang include Boxing, Muay Thai, interesting exhibition of antique keris, International Cat Show and various stalls selling local products. The popular Euro Fun Park will also make a comeback this year with the usual rides such as Vortex, Sky Rider and Top Gun. There will also be over 300 vendors selling popular Penang cuisines and snacks, including souvenirs from Malaysia and other parts of the world.

25
NOV



Penang Bridge
(first bridge)

Penang Bridge International Marathon



The annual Penang Bridge International Marathon 2018 will be held at Penang Bridge (first bridge). This world renowned running event is the most awaited sporting event in Penang. There are 3 categories: Full Marathon, Half Marathon and 10km run (non-competitive). The Penang Bridge International Marathon has been listed in the Malaysia Book of Records as the "Largest Marathon in Malaysia" for four consecutive years.

Organiser : Penang State Tourism Development Office
T: +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
E: info@penangmarathon.gov.my
W: www.penangmarathon.gov.my



22-25
NOV

George Town Literary Festival

George Town Literary Festival highlights the best of literature, music, arts and culture in Penang, featured alongside the annual In-between Arts Festival and Penang Island Jazz Festival, in conjunction with the '10 Days 3 Festivals' programme. The objective of these back-to-back festivals is to draw in visitors from all over for a holistic arts festival experience in Penang.

Organiser : Penang Convention & Exhibition Bureau
T: +604-261 6161 W: www.pceb.my
E: info@georgetownlitfest.com





26-28
NOV

In-between Arts Festival

Wedged between the George Town Literary Festival and the Penang Island Jazz Festival, the In-between Arts Festival (IbAF) aims to showcase words, food, music, culture and everything in between. IbAF aims to connect people from around the region to experience, explore and collaborate in Penang. It's truly a festival for Penangites, as much as it is for visitors from near and far.

Contact : Penang Global Tourism T: +604 264 3456
E: info@piff.com.my W: www.piff.com.my



29-2
NOV DEC

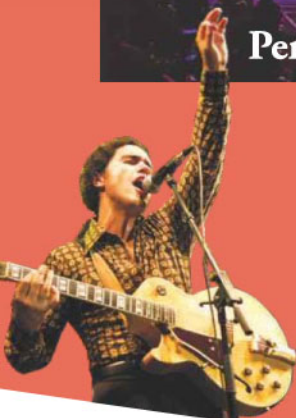
 Bayview Beach
Hotel

Penang Island Jazz Festival

This festival features local and international performers from the USA, the UK, Australia, South Korea, Japan, Brazil, Hungary, Indonesia and more performing in the main festival at Bayview Beach Resort and other fringe stages at various selected venues throughout the island. The festival also houses charity concerts, forums and workshops for music lovers.

Organiser :

The Capricorn Connection
T: +6012-296 7800 / +6012-356 5544
W: www.penangjazz.com



8-9
DEC

9.00am-5.00pm

 Teluk Bahang
Dam



Penang International Dragon Boat Festival

This event is held in conjunction with Pesta Pulau Pinang and is a tradition to honour the "spirit of the dragon" and the spirit of unity as the participants work together as a team for one common purpose. Enjoy a weekend of pulsating thrills and spills to the tune of the vigorous beating of drums, strong thrust of oars and various stage performances as the dragon boat teams battle it out in the water to be the champions.

Organiser : Penang International Dragon Boat Festival (PIDBF) Committee
T: +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
W: www.penangdragonboat.gov.my

16
DEC

7.00pm-11.00pm

 Jalan Gurdwara
to City Hall,
Esplanade



Pesta Chingay, Lion & Dragon Dance Parade

The Chingay and Lion Dance troupe members will display their skills in balancing stilt poles during this annual street parade. The parade begins from Jalan Gurdwara and passes through

the main streets of George Town before ending at Esplanade. There will also be giant colourful flags and floats, lion and dragon dance performances.

Organiser :

Penang State Tourism Development Office
T: +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
W: www.visitpenang.gov.my
E: info@visitpenang.gov.my

Seberang Perai Chingay Parade



23
DEC

7.30pm-11.30pm

📍 Nibong Tebal



A cultural and colourful parade, following the Pesta Chingay Parade on the island, which consists of a mix of Chingay groups, Lion and Dragon Dance teams, Lion Dance on stilts, colourful floats, traditional drums, martial arts team and school marching bands. The parade begins at Bagan Ayam Market and ends of the MPSP Field at Jalan Bagan Luar.

Organiser :

Tiong Hua Sports and
Cultural Association, Kepala Batas
T: +6016-421 1196 / +6012-560 0598

24 | 31
DEC | DEC

7.00pm-11.00pm

📍 Hotels &
shopping complexes /
Auto-City, Juru

Christmas Eve Celebrations & New Year Countdown

Christmas Day is celebrated on 25th December to commemorate the birth of Lord Jesus Christ. It is also a public holiday in Malaysia. Many exciting events and activities will be held on Christmas eve and Christmas Day especially in shopping malls.



On 31st December, be a part of the annual countdown parties happening in various popular spots such as The Top Komtar, Queensbay Mall, Gurney Paragon, Straits Quay, Auto-City Juru and more. Visitors can also enjoy a brilliant display of fireworks at these venues to usher in the new year!





PENANG

Awards & Recognitions

1. CNN listed Penang as No 2. Must Visit City in 2017 out of 17 cities in the world.
2. International Living listed Malaysia, in particular, Penang, as No. 4 Best Country in the World for medical tourism (healthcare) in 2017.
3. George Town is the only Asian city listed in the Lonely Planet Street Art Book 2017 along with other 42 cities in the world such as New York, London, Barcelona, Berlin and San Francisco.
4. Forbes ranked Penang as the No. 1 Budget Travel Destination among the other top 10 cities in the world in 2016.
5. Los Angeles Times listed Penang as one of the 16 Must Visit Destinations in the World in 2016.
6. The Culture Trip listed Penang as one of the 15 Best Cities in the World for food in 2016.
7. Lonely Planet selected Penang as No. 1 Food Destination in the world in 2014.
8. George Town was selected as having the World Best Street Art among the other top 15 cities in the world by The Guardian in 2013.

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