



The Tourist Information Centre in George Town handles tourist enquiries, provides brochures/directional maps and highlight the latest events and happenings in Penang.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

Monday-Friday
9.00am to 5.00pm

Saturday
9.00am to 3.00pm

Sunday & Certain Public Holidays
9.00am to 1.00pm

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Photographer: Huang Yi Ming

PENANG

GEORGE TOWN

Welcome to the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site. Situated on the northeast quarter of the Penang island, George Town is the capital of Penang and perhaps the second busiest city in Malaysia after Kuala Lumpur. Every year, thousands of people who visit Penang start their journey here. Whether you touch down at sunrise or step down from your cruise-liner in the evening, the experience will be just as unique.

For centuries, George Town has been the port of call for ships from all over the world. Today, the sense that overwhelms every traveller here is no different from when the founder Captain Francis Light and his first settlers made land here in 1786 - the desire to explore, discover and indulge.

Map of George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site

Core Zone (109.38 hectares)

Buffer Zone (150.04 hectares)

On 7 July 2008, George Town, together with Malacca, was nominated and inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as Historic Cities of the Straits of Malacca.

Both cities constitute a unique architectural and cultural townscape unparalleled anywhere in East and Southeast Asia.



EVERY CULTURE UNDER THE SUN

The George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site features Malaysia's best restored and readapted traditional architecture. Malay, Chinese, Indian, Peranakan and European - a rich blend of influences built this city. Together with the multitude of traditional trades and crafts, George Town is a living museum best viewed in the day.

Spread just over 2.5 square kilometres from the port, the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site is a compact grid of streets and buildings best explored on foot, bicycle or trishaw.

FESTIVITIES BY THE MOON

It depends on which month you arrive. The night streets of George Town are a constant bustle of festivities old and new. Traditional festivals include Chinese New Year in January or February, Thaipusam in January, the Hungry Ghost Festival in August and September, the Mid-Autumn Festival in September, the Nine Emperor Gods Festival in October.

Modern festivals line up the calendar year with arts and culture events such as the month-long George Town Festival, George Town Literary Festival and Penang Island Jazz Festival.



SUNNY DELIGHTS

To beat the heat, the locals recommend Cendol and Ais Kacang, icy-cool desserts made on the spot. As with most local foods, the mix of ingredients and colours are itself a feast for the eyes and they're everywhere. Trays of red curries and dahls at a Nasi Kandar shopfront. Nyonya cakes of all shapes and colour combinations neatly parked on a mini table in the shaded five-foot way. Plates and plates of savoury Peranakan dishes seen through a house window. Everything almost looks too good to eat.

Penang's street food is famous the world over for its incredible variety and taste. The must-eat street food in Penang are Char Koay Teow, Assam Laksa, Rojak, Mee Goreng, Nasi Lemak, Curry Mee, Hokkien Mee, Oyster Omelette and Roti Canai to name a few.

NEVERENDING NIGHT STALLS

At Kimberley Street, local Chinese foods are being served until midnight. Some Indian restaurants along Chulia Street and Penang Road stay open throughout the night. Boutique cafes and western diners open till late, with offerings of light events and music throughout the week. As the locals say, you'll never go hungry in Penang.



DAYLIGHT WONDERS

Bicycle and trishaw are the most convenient ways to see the city. It's also easy to stop at any point of interest for photo-taking. Trishaw riders retell stories of the places and streets they take you through. However, it is walking that gives you the absolute freedom to get the best angle and composition of the city's architectural wonders.

Selfies and wefies happen at every corner of the city - simply because the more you explore, the more nice people you meet. They are your most precious souvenirs.



COOLING NIGHT WALKS

Temperatures here drop to around 26°C in the night, making it perfect for walkabouts. At sundown, young and old, visitors and locals, adjourn to the Esplanade promenade to enjoy the breathtaking breeze from the sea. At the same time, prominent historical buildings around this area and street art like the Marking George Town steel-rod sculptures are purposefully lit up for night time photo-taking.



GEORGE TOWN BY DAY & NIGHT

FREE COPY

FROM SUN UP



The UNESCO World Heritage Site of George Town at day is a living, breathing museum of colours and culture, from architectural wonders to quaint little shops, from the traditional to arts and fusion.

We recommend:
- Lebu Pantai financial district & The Whiteaways Arcade

- Court Buildings and Town Hall along Lebu Light

- 'The Street of Harmony' or Jalan Masjid Kapitan Keling

- Teochew Cendol, the icy-cool dessert of Jalan Penang

- Lorong Love, boutique cafes and diners

- Little India, quaint and colourful shops and restaurants

- Lebu Armenian and the surrounding area, the best preserved heritage buildings live here, together with modern public art and famous wall murals



With a compact grid of streets and buildings spread just over 2.5 square kilometres from the port, the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site is easy to get around and it is almost impossible to lose your way. Its unique heritage buildings also make useful landmarks.

Rent a bicycle or ride the Free CAT Bus for a free ride around the city. You may choose to stop or board at any point of the route shown on the map here.



MAP OF GEORGE TOWN

- i Tourist Information Centre
- ☀ Places to eat (Day)
- 🌃 Places to eat (Day & Night)
- Places to eat (Night)
- ▶ Places to visit
- 🔨 Traditional Trades
- Hotels
- Essentials
- + Clinics
- 🚓 Police Station
- ♿ Public Toilets
- ⋯ Little India
- Daytime
- ▨ After Dark

- 10 Free CAT Bus Bus Stops from Ferry Terminal to KOMTAR
- 10 Free CAT Bus Bus Stops from KOMTAR to Ferry Terminal

* No stops made at bus stop no. 10
** No stops made at bus stop no. 3 every Sunday from 7am - 1pm
*** State Museum will be closed for 3 years from 2017

* Map is not drawn to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.
* The boundaries and names shown and the landmarks used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by Penang Global Tourism. Penang Global Tourism disclaims, and shall not be held liable for any and all damage, loss, or liability, whether direct, indirect or consequential, which arises from the map or the use thereof by any person or entity.

AFTER DARK



George Town after sundown offers a breezy feel of open streets and beautifully-lit buildings by the sea. Beyond that, thoroughfares of food and music await.

With main roads lined with brightly-lit food stalls and bustling with people, it's easy to venture around town. If you're looking around for a place to stay, it is best to get one by midnight - some guesthouses and boutique hotels take walk-in registrations till late and some do not. You can also park your bags and get directions to late food places and convenience stores.

If you just want a quick tour of the city, ride the Free CAT Bus for a 20-30 minute ride around the main roads plying the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We recommend:

- Esplanade promenade

- Court Buildings and Town Hall along Lebu Light

- St. George's Church

- Jalan Penang, the main road of the city

- Lebu Chulia & Lorong Love, bustling thoroughfare of music, food and drinks

- Nasi Kandar Beratur, Indian-Muslim cuisine by the street, opens 11pm

- Lebu Kimberley, a Chinese street food haven