



Penang  
Tourism  
www.visitpenang.gov.my

# Penang Tourism Calendar of Events 2017



# Malaysia

THE **PENANG** **TRIP**  
where the festivities never end



# 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; both formerly known as Prince of Wales Island and Province Wellesley during the British occupation.

Today, Penang offers you its splendor which comprises of the iconic Penang Bridge, exotic beaches, panoramic sceneries, quaint architecture, heritage shop houses and mouth-watering spread of street food. Penang has been transformed

into an artistic state where lots of murals and wire arts are mushrooming around the streets of George Town with significant historical stories behind each art work.

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.

14  
JANUARY

- **Organiser :**  
Penang Hindu  
Endowment Board  
T : +604-6505136



## 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.



23-24  
JANUARY FEBRUARY  
Kek Lok Si Temple

## Kek Lok Si Display of Lights

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 125-year-old temple for its annual lighting display which showcases more than 10,000 lights. It is believed this act of faith will bring them peace, luck and prosperity.



- **Organiser :**  
Kek Lok Si Temple  
T: +604-828 3317

26-26

JANUARY FEBRUARY



Vicinity of Dewan  
Sri Pinang

## Penang CNY Lanterns 2017

The Penang state annual Chinese New Year event – Penang CNY Lanterns was first launched in year 2016 in conjunction with the annual Penang Chinese New Year Celebration. It has successfully attracted Penangites and tourists to visit and to take photos of various kinds of giant lanterns with friends and family. In year 2017, the Penang State Government has decided to organise the lantern festival for the second time. There are more than 38 unique lanterns that are grouped into 4 major sets to be displayed at vicinity of Dewan Sri Pinang, Lebu Light for 32 days during Chinese New Year 2017.



• Organiser :

Penang State Government  
Co-organisers:

George Town World Heritage  
Incorporated (GTWHI), City Council  
of Penang Island (MBPP), Penang  
Global Tourism (PGT)  
E: [pgcny2016@outlook.com](mailto:pgcny2016@outlook.com)

27

JANUARY

9.00pm – 1.00Am



Tow Boo Kong  
Butterworth Temple



## Chinese New Year Eve Countdown Celebrations

Celebrate Chinese New Year Eve at Tow Boo Kong Temple Butterworth with exciting cultural performances, variety of entertainment shows and a grand display of fireworks at the stroke of Midnight to welcome the New Year. Apart from that, more than 100 pieces of Taiwanese lanterns will be displayed at the temple from 27/1/17 until 11/2/17.

Besides that, the temple will also be organizing a massive Lou Sang tossing ceremony on 3 Feb 2016 in conjunction with Renri (Human Day). The enormous Lou Sang can accommodate more than 1000 persons who will perform the prosperity toss simultaneously. Visitors will also be entertained with cultural shows and activities.

28-29  
JANUARY



## Chinese New Year Celebration

Chinese New Year is celebrated on the first day of the Lunar Calendar with each year ushering in a zodiac animal ruling sign. 2017 is the year of the Rooster. 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. Public is invited to be part of the celebration by attending the Chief Minister's Chinese New Year Open House on 28th January at SPICE Arena.

1

FEBRUARY



Snake Temple  
(Ban Ka Lan)

## Snake Temple Celebration



- **Organiser :**  
Hokkien Kongsi  
T: +604-262 0202  
H/P: +6012-433 1918

The "Fire Watching" ceremony is a traditional ceremony to predict the economy 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 13 February. The ceremony is an annual event that attracts dedicated devotees not only from Penang but also Indonesia and Thailand 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.

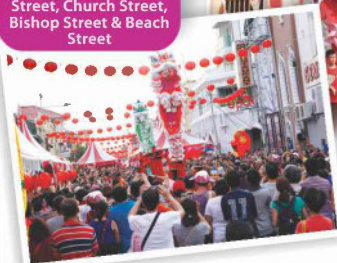
3

FEBRUARY

4.00pm-12.00am



Esplanade, Light Street,  
King Street, Penang  
Street, Church Street,  
Bishop Street & Beach  
Street



## Chinese Cultural Heritage Celebration

Every year during the Chinese New Year, the public looks forward to the state's 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 families. There are abundant fun and interesting activities during the Penang Chinese New Year Celebration 2017. Not only you would be able to visit the ancient ancestral temples of different clans, you could also experience traditional and cultural games and performances. Mouth-watering street food and tantalizing treats await you along the streets.

● **Organiser :** Penang State Government  
T: +6017-414 5989

FB Fan Page: [pgcnycelebration](#)

4-5

FEBRUARY



Padang Polo

## Penang Hot Air Balloon Fiesta 2017

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 numerous hot air balloons by international and local balloonists over the 2 days festival, together with family-friendly activities, creative workshops and more!



● **Organisers:**

Penang State Government & Penang Global Tourism

T: +604-264 3456 E: [info@penangglobaltourism.com](mailto:info@penangglobaltourism.com)

W: [www.penanghotairballoonfiesta.com](http://www.penanghotairballoonfiesta.com)

**4****FEBRUARY**

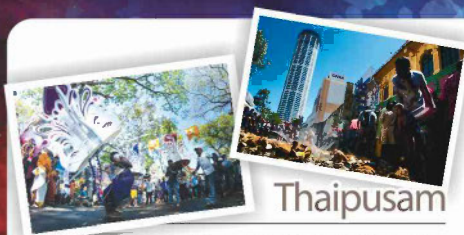
Jade Emperor God's  
Temple (Ti Kong Tua),  
Bukit Bendera

## Pai Ti Kong Festival

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 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.

**9****FEBRUARY**

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



## Thaipusam

Thaipusam 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 at 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 act of penance.

• Organiser :

T : +604-6505136

Penang Hindu Endowment Board

W : [www.hebpenang.gov.my](http://www.hebpenang.gov.my)

**11****FEBRUARY**

Fort Cornwallis

## Chap Goh Meh Celebration

Celebrated on the 15th night of the Lunar New Year, it 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.

• Organiser :

[Penang State Tourism Development Office](http://www.visitpenang.gov.my)

T : +604-650 5136 / +604-2619012

W : [www.visitpenang.gov.my](http://www.visitpenang.gov.my)

E : [info@visitpenang.gov.my](mailto:info@visitpenang.gov.my)



12  
FEBRUARY



Balik Pulau



## Hakka's Cultural Festival

The Hakka Cultural Festival will be held at Balik Pulau, Penang featuring the tradition of Hakkas, in relation to the myth of the "Nu Guo". During the festival, Hakka community will be having variety of interesting activities such as traditional Hakka games, handicrafts, dances, singing performances and many more. The Hakkas offer prayers and goodies to the goddess on the 20th day of the 1st month of the lunar calendar. It is on this "Sky-Patched Day" that the Hakkas refrain from working, which is depicted by the Hakka saying of "Men don't plow and neither women do weave on the Sky-Patched Day".

• **Organiser :** Sin Chew Daily & Penang Hakka Association  
T: +604-2299603

24-26

FEBRUARY  
10am – 8pm



SPICE Arena

## Penang International Halal Expo & Conference 2017

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 2017 will host more than 350 booths represented by local and international industry players from Southern Asia, West Asia & Europe and create an opportunity to establish potential business with the global Halal industry players.

• **Organiser :** PIHH Development Sdn Bhd (Halal Penang)  
T: +604-262 5444  
W : [www.halalpenang.com](http://www.halalpenang.com)  
E: [pihec@halalpenang.com](mailto:pihec@halalpenang.com)



4-5  
MARCH



Penang Sports Club



## Penang Sports Club International Soccer Tournament

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, including teams from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Australia, Maldives, China, Brunei, Hong Kong and Europe.

• **Organiser :** Penang Sports Club (PSC)

T: +604-229 7834 / +604-229 4541

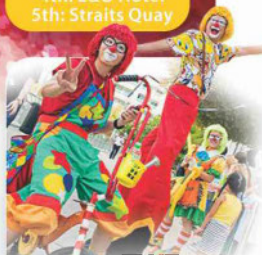
Web: [www.pgssportsclub.com.my](http://www.pgssportsclub.com.my)

10-11  
MARCH



4th: E&O Hotel  
5th: Straits Quay

## St. Patrick's Festival



Organized by the Penang Irish Association, the Penang St. Patrick's Festival celebrates the very best of Irish culture and traditions. The two-day 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](http://www.penang-irish-association.com)

T: +6012-462 5596

E: [penangpia@gmail.com](mailto:penangpia@gmail.com)



# 13

MARCH

9.00am – 5.00pm



Fort Cornwallis

## Cruise Food & Cultural Fiesta 2017



**\* Organiser :**

Penang Global Tourism

T: +604 264 3456

E: info@piff.com.my

W: www.piff.com.my

The festival is organized to welcome 15,000 cruise passengers from 5 cruise ships; Diamond Princess, Mein Schiff, Superstar Gemini, Star Clipper and Leisure World to Penang. Cruise passengers and members of the public are welcomed to join the various fun activities, vibrant cultural performances, savour Penang's world famous local cuisines and purchase handicrafts by local Penang artisans while enjoying the historical Fort Cornwallis.

# 25

MARCH



Start and finish at  
1st Avenue Mall

## Earth Hour Night Walk 2017



Join the Earth Hour Night Walk 2017 and take a stand against climate change. Earth Hour is a global initiative led by WWF. In 2016, Earth Hour was celebrated in a record-breaking 178 countries and territories across seven continents and aboard the International Space Station, serving as a strong reminder of the globe's determination to tackle our planet's biggest environmental challenge yet. Registration fee will be RM65 where participants will receive an Earth Hour 2017 100% organic cotton T-shirt as well as a medal made from recycled remnant wood and Forest Stewardship Council wood veneers. All funds raised will be channelled to WWF-Malaysia's conservation efforts.

Activities from 6:00pm to 10:00pm, Night Walk from 8:30pm to 9:30pm

**\* Organiser :** WWF-Malaysia

Website: [www.pandashop.my](http://www.pandashop.my)

Email: [contactus@wwf.org.my](mailto:contactus@wwf.org.my)

26-27  
MARCH



SPICE Arena

## World Tourism Cities Federation Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference

The World Tourism Cities Federation is a city-based international tourism organization which is guided by the vision of a "Better City

Life through Tourism." The inaugural WTCF Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference aims to facilitate exchanges and cooperation amongst members and promoting sustainable growth in the tourism sector particularly in the Asian region. There will be more than 500 delegates from member cities which comprises of government officials, policy makers, travel agents, hoteliers, media and many more attending this conference.

• **Organiser :**

Penang State Tourism  
Development Office  
T: +604 650 5138  
+604 261 9012  
E: [info@visitpenang.gov.my](mailto:info@visitpenang.gov.my)  
W: [www.visitpenang.gov.my](http://www.visitpenang.gov.my)



8-23  
APRIL



GF Central Atrium,  
Queensbay Mall

## Vogue For Virtue 2017 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: +604-646 8888

W: [www.queensbaymallmalaysia.com](http://www.queensbaymallmalaysia.com)

13-14

APRIL



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



## Thai Water Festival

Songkran or Thai Water Festival is a traditional Thai Festival that is also celebrated in Penang by devotees to wash away bad luck through liberally splashing water on each other. Songkran in Thai means to move or change place and it also denotes the Sun change of place in the zodiac system. The Festival will not only be taking place in Penang Island but also on the other side of Penang such as Wat Rajaphohong Buddhist Temple located at Ara Kuda, Bukit Mertajam and other temples in Seberang Jaya.

• **Organiser :** Penang Thai Community

15-30

APRIL



SPICE Arena

## Penang International Food Festival (PIFF)



• **Organiser :**

Penang Global Tourism

T: +604 264 3456

E: info@piff.com.my W: www.piff.com.my

Themed Past, Present and Future, the Penang International Food Festival promises a gastronomic feast that celebrates diverse flavours from amazing talents of Penang's culinary scene. With an intention to convert your culinary dreams to experiences, PIFF will take you through a gourmet journey right in the food capital of Asia, Penang!

15-23

APRIL



Gurney Paragon Mall

## Penang Fashion Week

Organised by Gurney Paragon Mall, Penang Fashion Week is the annual event that brings Penang's fashion industry into the limelight. Themed Colours of Spring/Summer 2017,

the runway show will once again feature some of the prominent names in the fashion industry including Vietnamese designer Minh Hanh, international brands and homegrown retailers. From influential and innovative designers, stylists and the entire media buzz, each show is a notable fashion event.



● **Organiser :** Gurney Paragon Mall

T: +604-228 8266

22  
APRIL



Fort Cornwallis

## 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.

● **Organiser :**

Wadda Gurdwara Sahib Penang  
& Sikh Naujawan Sabha Penang  
H/P: +6012-4899204



25-27

APRIL



SPICE Arena



## SEMICON Southeast Asia 2017

SEMICON Southeast Asia 2017: The Biggest Congregation of Semiconductor Ecosystem – focusing on the uniqueness of Southeast Asia®. We will focus on the key trends and solutions in semi-conductor design and manufacturing, including emphasis on serving the needs of expanding applications markets many of which require development of specialized materials, packaging, and test technologies, as well as new architectures and processes- solutions to industry challenges that can best be addressed at SEMICON Southeast Asia.

- **Organiser :** SEMI Southeast Asia  
W: [www.semiconsea.org](http://www.semiconsea.org) E: [semiconsingapore@semi.org](mailto:semiconsingapore@semi.org)

10  
MAY



Malaysian  
Buddhist Association



## Wesak Day

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 with colourful flowers and bright lights accompanied by children singing and monks chanting prayers while sprinkling holy water throughout the journey.

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

11-14  
MAY

Gurney Paragon Mall

## Penang World Hoops FIBA 3x3 Challenger

One of the most exciting sporting events of the year in Malaysia, the Penang World Hoops FIBA 3x3 Challenger is an International basketball competition that features the top ranked teams from all over the world competing in FIBA's professional 3x3 basketball circuit. The 2017 Challenger will feature top world ranked teams from around the world competing against the top teams from Malaysia for a chance to make it to the World Tour. This tournament will be held at Gurney Paragon Mall and this is sure to be a fun event for all ages to attend and participate.

• **Organiser :**  
World Hoops  
T: +60164663926  
E: [chuck@world-hoops.com](mailto:chuck@world-hoops.com)  
Web: [www.world-hoops.com](http://www.world-hoops.com)



17-19  
MAY

Straits Quay  
Convention  
Centre (SQCC)

## WTM® Connect Asia

WTM Connect Asia is an exciting new event bringing together suppliers of South East Asia and international travel products to

meet with outbound Chinese, South East Asian and international Hosted Buyers. Taking place in the beautiful island of Penang in Malaysia, exhibitors and buyers will meet in a private setting



for pre-scheduled business meetings, education sessions, networking events and interactive evening functions.

• **Organiser :** Reed Travel Exhibitions T: +44(0)20 8271 2168  
E: [wtmconnectasia.help@reedexpo.co.uk](mailto:wtmconnectasia.help@reedexpo.co.uk)  
W: [www.wtmconnectasia.com](http://www.wtmconnectasia.com)

27-28

MAY  
(tentative)



Esplanade



## Penang Anime Matsuri



The Penang Anime Matsuri returns this year with the biggest outdoor anisong concert, all-day stage programs, Cosplay Competitions and more!

- **Organiser :** Penang Global Tourism  
T: +604-264 3456 / +6016-422 8200  
E: [jasonsim@penangglobaltourism.com](mailto:jasonsim@penangglobaltourism.com)

27

MAY



KOMTAR Pedestrian  
Walk & along many  
streets of Penang

## Ramadan Bazar



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.

27-4  
MAY JUNE

Expo Seberang  
Jaya

## Penang Floral Festival



The Penang Flora Festival 2017 will showcase various flower species and landscaping designs which includes 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 variety plants and gardening equipments.

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

30 - 31  
MAY JULY



## Penang Durian Festival

Durian, also known as the King of Fruit is immensely popular here in Penang. The Durian season in Penang is from June to August. It is a chance for locals and tourists to sample exotic Penang durians of different varieties such as Musang King, Ochee, Hor Lor, Red Prawn, Kun Poh, Ang Bak and many more. The festival will be held mainly in Nibong Tebal, but durians can also be purchased at various markets around Penang. Through the efforts of Penang State Government, Penang Durian Festival attracts a large number of durian enthusiasts from Hong Kong, China and even Europe annually.

• **Organiser :** Nibong Tebal, South Seberang Perai  
T: +6011-3602 0202

12  
JUNE

## 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 Scriptures from Heaven. It is observed as a public holiday in most states in Malaysia.



25-26  
JUNE

## 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 them 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.

7-9  
JULY



Auto City, Juru



## 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](http://www.autocity.com.my)



8-9  
JULY



SPICE Arena

## MITM Travel Fair

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 300 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](mailto:mcta.penang@gmail.com)

7

JULY

9.00am – 5.00pm



The Wembley

## 2nd AIMS Asia Pacific Conference

The 2nd AIMS Asia-Pacific Conference 2017 will be organized by the Penang Bridge International Marathon Committee with the objective to promote and develop distance running events in the Asia-Pacific region. The conference will be attended by AIMS Board of Directors, race directors, running events organizers, government agencies, members of the media and students from all over Asia-Pacific. Renowned speakers from Australia, Prague, South Africa and



Organiser :

Penang State Tourism Development Office

T: +604-650 5136 / +604-2619012

W : [www.penanghalfmarathon.gov.my](http://www.penanghalfmarathon.gov.my)

E : [info@penangmarathon.gov.my](mailto:info@penangmarathon.gov.my)

Japan will share their knowledge and experience in organising marathons.

9

JULY

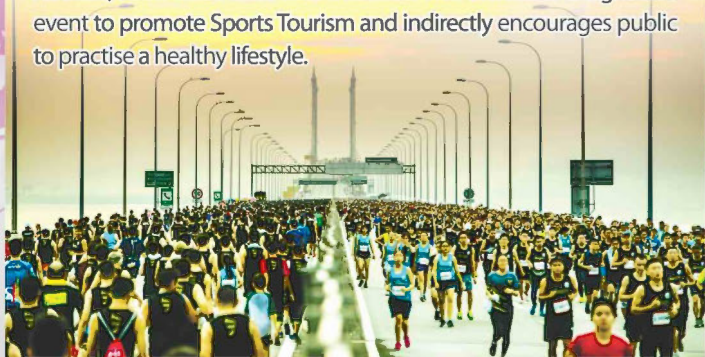
4.30am – 10.00am



Penang Bridge

## Manulife Penang Bridge Half Marathon (PBHM) 2017

Penang Bridge International Marathon Committee presents to you Manulife Penang Bridge Half Marathon (PBHM) to be held on 9 July 2017 at the iconic Penang Bridge. The Manulife PBHM is dedicated to the Half Marathon (21km) with an additional 10km run category. PBHM Committee is targeting a total of 20,000 runners, from both local and overseas. This is indeed a signature event to promote Sports Tourism and indirectly encourages public to practise a healthy lifestyle.



Organiser : Penang State Tourism Development Office

T: +604-650 5136

+604-2619012

W : [www.penanghalfmarathon.gov.my](http://www.penanghalfmarathon.gov.my)

E : [info@penanghalfmarathon.gov.my](mailto:info@penanghalfmarathon.gov.my)

7  
JULY



## George Town World Heritage Day

George Town World Heritage Day is a public holiday in Penang, to commemorate the inscription of George Town as a World Heritage City by UNESCO. This community-centered festival features 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      W: [www.heritagecelebrations.info](http://www.heritagecelebrations.info)  
+6016 490 2780      E: [heritagecelebrations@gmail.com](mailto:heritagecelebrations@gmail.com)

8 - 9  
JULY

10.00am - 6.00pm

 Cititel Hotel  
Penang



## Malaysia Miniature Hobby Show 2017 (MMHS)

Malaysia Miniature Hobby Show 2017 (MMHS) is free and open to all. The show will focus on military subjects and automobile only. This International Hobby Show will be the second of its kind within the South East Asia region and it is expected that to draw hundreds of scale modellers and enthusiasts from within this region. It is an exhibition of renowned international Hobby Manufacturers from Spain, Hong Kong, Macau, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Japan, Thailand, Singapore and New Zealand who will showcase and also launch their new products. There will be also Model Competition during the show and will be the first International South East Asia Model Competition "MALCOM (Malaysia Competition)".

- **Organiser :** World Hobby Miniatures & Hong Kong Model T: +6012-497 7712  
E: [malaysiaminiaturehobbyshow@gmail.com](mailto:malaysiaminiaturehobbyshow@gmail.com)

15  
JULY

Esplanade

## Penang Bon Odori Festival

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 :**  
The Consulate-General of Japan,  
Penang State Tourism Development  
Office & Bon Odori Organising Committee  
T: +604-650 5136, +604-261 9012  
W : [www.visitpenang.gov.my](http://www.visitpenang.gov.my)

21-30  
JULY

St. Anne's Church,  
Bukit Mertajam

## St. Anne's Festival

A 10 days Novena prayers 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](mailto:stanne@stannebm.org)  
W : [www.stannebm.org](http://www.stannebm.org)

28- 3  
JULY SEPTEMBER

## George Town Festival

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



19 - 20  
AUGUST

**BFF**  
BUTTERWORTH FRINGE FESTIVAL

## Butterworth Fringe Festival

Butterworth Fringe Festival is under George Town Festival's umbrella and it will ferry its annual celebrations to the mainland featuring pop-up bookstores, movie screenings, creative crafts, exhibitions, presentations, live performances and much more.

• Organiser : George Town Festival Secretariat T: +604-2616308  
E: info@georgetownfestival.com  
W: www.georgetownfestival.com

22-19

AUGUST SEPTEMBER

## 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 E: info@visitpenang.gov.my  
+604 261 9012 W: www.visitpenang.gov.my

24-27

AUGUST



Expo Site  
Seberang Jaya

## Penang Agro Fest 2017

Penang Agrofest is a yearly event that is eagerly awaited by farmers, breeders, fishermen and people who are either directly or indirectly involved in agriculture. This is because of the uniqueness, vibrancy and diversity of activities featured during the event. The event is also a platform for government agencies, the private sector and also entrepreneurs to highlight their latest technology, innovation and success stories in the agricultural industry. Visitors who come will be able to buy fresh produce from the farmers and fishermen.



- Organiser : Penang Agriculture & Agro-based Industries, T: +604-650 5386  
Rural Development & Health Office

31  
AUGUST

16  
SEPTEMBER

## Merdeka Parade

### 55th Malaysia Day Celebration

The annual Merdeka Day Parade will be organised by the Penang State Government on 31 August 2017. Over 150 contingents representing various government agencies such as the State Secretariat, PDRM, BOMBA, Angkatan Tentera Malaysia and many more 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.



• **Organiser :**

Penang State Secretariat Office  
T: +604-262 1957  
W: [www.penang.gov.my](http://www.penang.gov.my)

21

SEPTEMBER

## Awal Muharram

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".



21-29  
SEPTEMBER

## 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 Sarawathy in hopes of power, wealth and education. Chariot processions also take place on the final days of the festival.



4

OCTOBER



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.

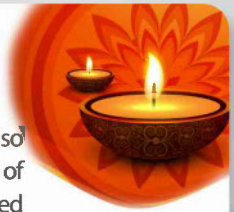


18  
OCTOBER

## Deepavali

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 cuisines will be served during the celebration.



20-28  
OCTOBER

Hong Kong Street

## 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". The procession will take place on Hong Kong Street.



Organiser: Tow Boo Kong Association  
T: +604-331 8717

E: [info@visitpenang.gov.my](mailto:info@visitpenang.gov.my)  
W: [www.visitpenang.gov.my](http://www.visitpenang.gov.my)

26

NOVEMBER



Sultan Abdul Halim  
Mua'dzam Shah Bridge  
(second bridge)

## MBI Penang Bridge International Marathon

The annual Penang Bridge International Marathon 2017 will be held at the Sultan Abdul Halim Mua'dzam Shah Bridge (second bridge). This world renowned running event is the most awaited sporting event in Penang. There are 4 categories; Full Marathon, Half Marathon, 10KM and Fun Run. 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: +604-6505136

W: [www.penangmarathon.gov.my](http://www.penangmarathon.gov.my)



24-25  
NOVEMBER



Bayview Beach Hotel

## World Professional Latin 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. The WDC Professional Latin World Championship 2017 will be held in conjunction with the annual Penang International Open Ballroom Dancing Competition. The total cash prize to be won for this competition is USD 150,000.

• **Organiser :**

Malaysian Dancers Association  
T: +6012-471 3266  
W: [www.mbda.com.my](http://www.mbda.com.my)



**25 - 31**  
NOV DEC  
6.00pm - 12.00am

Tapak Pesta  
Sungai Nibong

## Pesta Pulau Pinang



Highlights of the month-long Pesta Pulau Pinang includes 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 the 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.

• **Organiser :** JKN Pulau Pinang    **W:** [www.jkn.penang.gov.my](http://www.jkn.penang.gov.my)

**30 - 3**  
NOVEMBER DECEMBER  
10.00am - 11.00pm

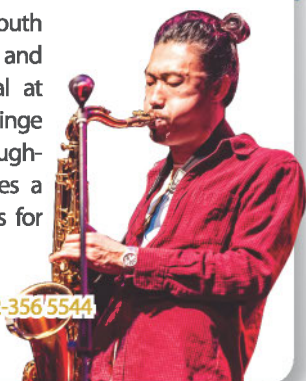
Bayview Beach Hotel

## Penang Island Jazz Festival



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

• **Organiser :** The Capricorn Connection  
**T:** +6012-296 7800 / +6012-356 5544  
**W:** [www.penangjazz.com](http://www.penangjazz.com)



2-3

DECEMBER

9.00am - 5.00pm



Teluk Bahang Dam

## Pesta Dragon Boat Race



This event is held in conjunction with Pesta Pulau Pinang and is a tradition to honor the "spirit of the dragon" and the spirit of unity as they work together as a team for one common purpose. Enjoy a weekend of pulsating thrills and spills to the tune of 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](http://www.penangdragonboat.gov.my)

10

DECEMBER

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 be giant colourful flags and floats, lion and also dragon dance performances.

- **Organiser :** Penang State Tourism Development Office  
T: +604-650 5136  
W: [www.visitpenang.gov.my](http://www.visitpenang.gov.my)  
E: [info@visitpenang.gov.my](mailto:info@visitpenang.gov.my)  
+604-261 9012

17

DECEMBER

7.30pm - 11.30pm



Padang MPSP  
Bagan Luar

## Seberang Perai Chingay Parade

A cultural and colourful parade, following the Pesta Chingay Parade on the island, which consists of a mix of Chingay groups, Lion dan Dragon Dance teams, Lion Dance

on stilts, colourful floats, traditional drums, martial arts team and school marching bands. The parade begins at the MPSP field on Jalan Bagan Luar and ends at the Temple of the Nine Emperor Gods on Jalan Raja Uda.



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

24

DECEMBER

6.00pm - 11.00pm



Hotels & shopping  
complexes /  
Auto-City, Juru

## Christmas Eve Celebrations

Like in many parts of the world, the Christian population in Malaysia celebrates Christmas Day on 25th of December to commemorate the birth of Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas is a public holiday in Malaysia. Christmas here is usually spent with families and friends. On Christmas Eve, families gather and feast on a mix of western and local delicacies. It is customary to attend midnight mass or Christmas

service at the local churches. Many exciting activities and events will be held during Christmas, especially in shopping malls. The Penang State Government will also be organising an "Open House" to celebrate this joyous occasion.



# 31

DECEMBER



Various Locations

## New Year Countdown



New Year Countdown celebrations will be held at various places such as The Top @ KOMTAR, M Mall, Gurney Paragon, Queensbay Mall, Kompleks Bukit Jambul, Sunway Carnival Shopping Mall, Auto City Juru, Design Village Batu Kawan and many more. These night-long celebrations are filled with exciting entertaining performances and activities. Before the stroke of midnight, take part in the countdown towards a new year at these venues and enjoy a brilliant display of fireworks to usher in the new year!

## PENANG Awards & Recognition

Penang has been selected as World **No.4** for the Top 10 Cities to visit in 2016 — by the Lonely Planet

Penang was listed as one of the **16** Must Visit Cities in the world — by Los Angeles Times

Penang ranked **No.1** for the World Top 10 Best Budget Travel Destination in 2016 — by Forbes

Penang has been selected as **No.6** for the World Best Place to retire in 2016 — by CNN Money

Penang has been named among the **Top 10** best places in the world to “Retire” in 2016. — by travel magazine Conde Nast Traveler

Penang has been listed as one of the **15** Best Cities in the World for Food in 2016 — by The Culture Trip



Penang State Tourism Development Office

Level 53, Komtar, 10503 Penang, Malaysia.

Tel: 604-650 5136 / 261 9012 Fax: 604-261 8744

Email: [info@visitpenang.gov.my](mailto:info@visitpenang.gov.my) Web: [www.visitpenang.gov.my](http://www.visitpenang.gov.my)

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

\* All images are not intended for commercial use.