

奇遇槟城 感官之旅

“若你没来过这里，那你就不算看过世界。”

英国作家毛姆曾给过槟城极高的赞誉，
不知道他在这里经历了哪些奇遇，以至于发出这样的感叹。

但对大多数中国游客来说，
槟城随处可见的华裔文化，
那些浓郁着历史感的街道、路牌、文字和表达，
让人仿佛一头撞入了旧时光。

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槟城是马来西亚第二大城市，1786年英国人弗朗西斯·莱特上尉到槟榔屿后开始致力于槟城的建设，从此这个鲜有人烟的小岛慢慢热闹起来。来自不同地区的人定居于此，大部分是下南洋的中国人。槟城先后成为吉打以及东印度公司第四大管区的属地，拥有和马德拉斯及孟买相同的行政架构。不同的历史阶段和先后定居的侨民丰富了这个城市的文化，这里不仅保留了大量英国殖民地时期的遗迹，还有很多马来裔、印度裔和华侨留下的精美建筑。伊斯兰教和佛教共存，不同文化完美融合在一起。金光熠熠的缅甸佛寺，通体蓝色的张弼士故居，古铜色圆顶的亚齐街清真寺，

通体洁白的圣安纳天主教堂，再配上海港城市连绵的黄金海滩和碧蓝的天空与海水……走在槟城街道，没有大都市的冲击，更多是温柔的娓娓道来，但又随时会有惊喜。

多元的建筑吸引你的眼球

和许多东南亚城市类似，槟城也是个移民聚居的城市。这些人远渡重洋携家带口，来此定居，还带来了自己的信仰。于是一座座风格各异的庙宇教堂林立于此，丰富了这里的旅游资源，交汇出一幅别样的城市风光。

极乐寺（Kek Lok Si Temple）位于槟岛的亚依淡（Air Itam），是东南亚最

大的佛寺建筑群。极乐寺建于1890年，历经40年修建完成。其后又不断扩建，现在仍在不断改造。结合了中、泰、缅不同的建筑风格，是马来西亚的最重要佛教寺庙之一。

寺院内有“海天佛池”的牌楼，石壁上还刻有许多题咏。后院有高30米、共有7层的万佛宝塔，塔身素白，塔顶是缅甸式，中层是泰式，而底部则是中式的，外形和白蛇传中的雷峰塔相似。塔内每层都摆有大理石制，或是贴有全身金箔的佛像，四大金刚和弥勒佛相当引人注目，坐、立、卧姿态各异。每到新年，极乐寺都要举办万佛光明吉祥灯会，数以万计的灯光将古刹照得灯火辉煌。



极乐寺

位于缅甸街的缅甸佛寺是马来西亚唯一的一座缅甸佛教的寺院，缅甸佛教徒称为“大众拜佛寺”。据寺内碑文记载，该寺始建于1803年8月1日，但据学者考证，1828年5月才正式登记注册为佛寺。寺庙建筑风格为地道道的缅甸形式，寺塔一体，上半部是四方锥形塔，下半部为方形建筑，与印度著名的菩提伽耶大塔式样相近。两座边塔紧靠立塔，对称有致。每级塔沿装饰了波浪形饰物，华丽多姿，塔顶葫芦形圆锥体突兀而出，风格独特。缅甸人一直在此举行传统的节日庆典，泼水节和出雨安居是他们最为重要和最热闹的节日。

高恩沃利斯要塞位于乔治城的海岬

之上，据说这里就是莱特上尉在槟城的第一个府邸。城堡最初是用木头建成的，1805-1810年，这里被用作囚犯劳动场所，并被改建成石结构城堡。现在要塞几成废墟，惟有几门旧炮面海而立。其中最著名的一门叫斯里兰白炮，是17世纪荷兰造的。这门炮原属于荷兰保护下的苏丹柔佛，后来为海盗所掠，最后又被英国夺走。当地人相信这门大炮有送子之功用，因此不时可以看到当地妇女将鲜花供奉在炮身或大炮周围。要塞内有一个小纪念馆，陈列着要塞平面图和有关莱特上尉的一些资料。

槟城盛产蓝花，花汁经加工后变成浆汁，将浆汁晒制之后可酿制成颜料，

然后涂于墙身。上世纪二十年代，莲花河路一带居民将染料涂于墙身，到处都是蓝宝石般的屋宇。但如今只剩张弼士故居这一座，由此得名蓝屋。蓝屋建于1897年，占地5万3千平方英尺，建筑面积3万4千平方英尺，共有38间房、5个天井、7个楼梯及220扇窗，是东南亚现存最大的清代中式园林建筑。张弼士过世后，房屋疏于照顾，一度损毁严重。1989年，槟城一群古迹保护人士买下这栋古屋并从1991年起进行全面整修。1995年焕然一新的“蓝屋”正式对公众开放，除供人参观外，蓝屋也开放客房供游客住宿、婚礼、宴请及会议等。



缅甸佛寺



抗日纪念碑



蓝屋



这几张照片上的壁画是艺术家 Ernest Zacharevic 在檳城的作品，体现檳城人随遇而安的性格。

转角的温情留住你的心

2012 年，立陶宛籍艺术家 Ernest Zacharevic 在乔治城艺术节期间创作了六幅街头艺术，被称为“乔治市镜像计划”。他把檳城市民的生活拍下，以此为素材，再用壁画和实物结合的方式在古迹区呈现出最贴近生活的真实艺术品。浓郁的生活气息，引得游客争相留影，在壁画前自由发挥，摆出或逗趣或搞笑的姿势，一改“旅游照”的刻板。随着岁月的沉淀，有些壁画日渐斑驳，倒也应和了古城的怀旧韵味。

其中最著名的一副“姐弟共骑”，现在也是檳城旅游局官方微信的头像。壁画中姐弟俩坐在一辆“二八大杠”，脚不着地，玩得不亦乐乎，这一幕也让很多人回想起自己的童年。

另一幅代表作机车少年原本也是一副摩托车和少年的 3D 壁画，后来有人随手在机车少年后面涂鸦了一只恐龙，画家看到后，又在恐龙后面画了一个拉恐龙的小孩。

摸得到旧时光 触手可及的幸福

檳城旧城区一些早期壁画作品已开始脱落、模糊，如果想欣赏这些作品还得要趁早去。当然现在也不断有新的壁画作品出现，但大部分来自不同的街头艺术家，风格也不尽相同。

除了 2012 年的“乔治市镜像计划”的作品外，檳城还有一个“标志乔治市计划”。这一系列是以铁塑壁画的形式展现老街坊间传奇或市民生活的漫画作品。“标志乔治市计划”的铁塑作品总共 52 幅，画作都来自 SculptureAt Work——一个檳城本地的艺术团体。漫步在檳城街头，那些在转角发现的许多生动漫画，增添了檳城的温情和童趣，让来此旅行的游客倍感幸福。

檳城壁画和铁塑漫画分布在乔治市古迹区的各个角落，时间充裕的话漫步街头寻找惊喜，在某个转角遇到心爱的作品，不失为一趟奇遇冒险。因为散落分布，对匆匆而过的旅行者来说要想看

个全面也确实有难度。如果时间紧迫，最好有当地人带，或者在机场拿一份 Marking George Town 的地图，里面有 20 多幅壁画及 52 个铁塑漫画的图片及位置图。可以根据地图，把檳城的景点、古迹和壁画连起来，设计一条合理的游玩线路。

香味四溢填满你的胃

曾有游客说，如果没到过著名的“小印度”，就不算到过檳城。檳城“小印度”位于乔治市的东北方，最早曾是中国移民的聚居区，是当地著名的唐人街。后来当地华人迁移，印度的移民、商人和劳工慢慢在这里聚集，落地生根，形成了檳城庞大的印度裔社群，造就了今日的“小印度”。皇后街（Lebuh Queen）的马哈马里安曼庙是“小印度”最著名的旅游景点。这座寺庙始建于 1833 年，融合了印度教特有的文化内涵和建筑风格。在这个檳城“小印度”的中心区，你可以感受到纯粹的印度人对于宗教信仰的虔诚。

马哈马里安曼庙的吉宁仔街一直往前走，是一条不长的街道。虽然不长，但这里有“小印度”著名集市，从早到晚人气都很旺。在人头攒动的集市上摆满了印度特色的手工艺品、服装和首饰，最吸引人的是街上琳琅满目的甜品、糕点、茶叶、鲜花和大包小包的印度香料。可以说麻雀虽小，五脏俱全。游客到这里，随便逛一逛，就像完成了一趟完整的印度之旅。随手买一些手办和纪念品带回家馈赠亲朋，也是不错的选择。

印度美食是吃辣人的挚爱，于是到了“小印度”就等于进入美食天堂。路边摊、素食餐馆，甜品店，这里汇集了印度各民族的口味，绝对不虚此行。因为食品安全问题，很多到过印度的人都

抱怨过不敢尝试印度当地的路边摊，但檳城的食物明显干净很多，跟着当地人放心大胆地手抓米饭，搭配印度豆子和蔬菜咖喱，让你能亲身体会到檳城纯粹特色的移民文化。

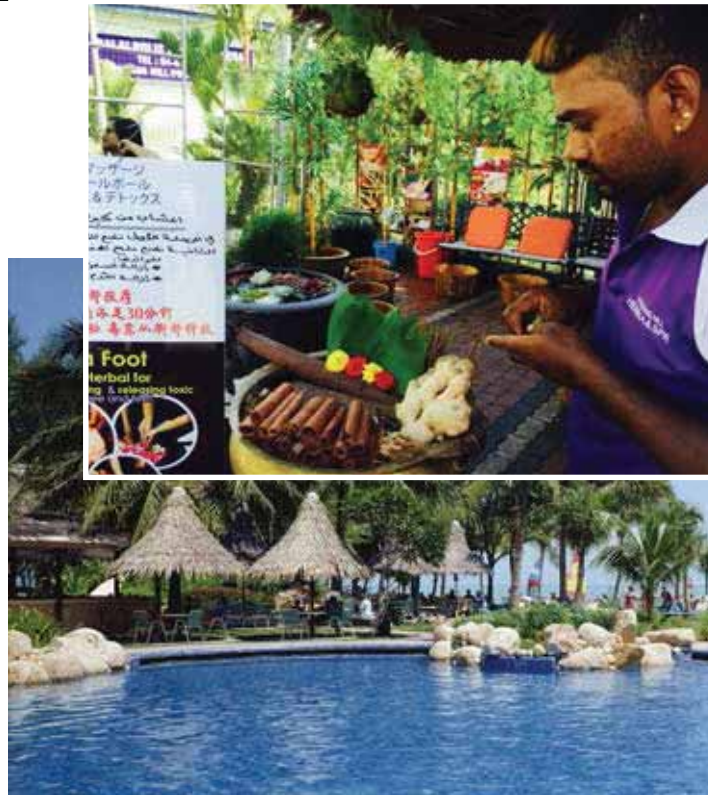
耳边回响的是印度迷幻音乐、鼻子嗅到的是印度辛香料、眼里晃着绝艳的色彩。听觉、嗅觉和视觉在同一时间被冲击着，脑海自然浮现出一派印度景象。这就是神奇的乔治城小印度，这就是神奇的檳城。

到海边我们去洗肺

巴珠菲冷宜（Batu Ferringhi）是马来西亚远近闻名的海滨胜地。它位于檳榔岛北端，是世界各地的游客到檳岛的

必游景点。巴珠菲冷宜海滨因兼具山海之景而驰名，连绵数公里的黄金海滩，秀美清幽的山峦，让这里自上世纪 70 年代末起就辟为快乐山别墅景区。除了酒店别墅，海滩附近的很多民居也是众多游客的挚爱。这里有一种被称为“Malay Kampong”的高脚屋，是 100 多年前马来人的传统房屋；房屋高架起来，可以保持凉爽、干燥，清清的院子里种有各色热带花木，房前放一盆水，供上楼进屋之前脱鞋洗脚使用，室内窗明几净、整齐舒适。伴着马六甲吹来的海风漫步沙滩，满眼碧海蓝天，让身心都能一扫阴霾。

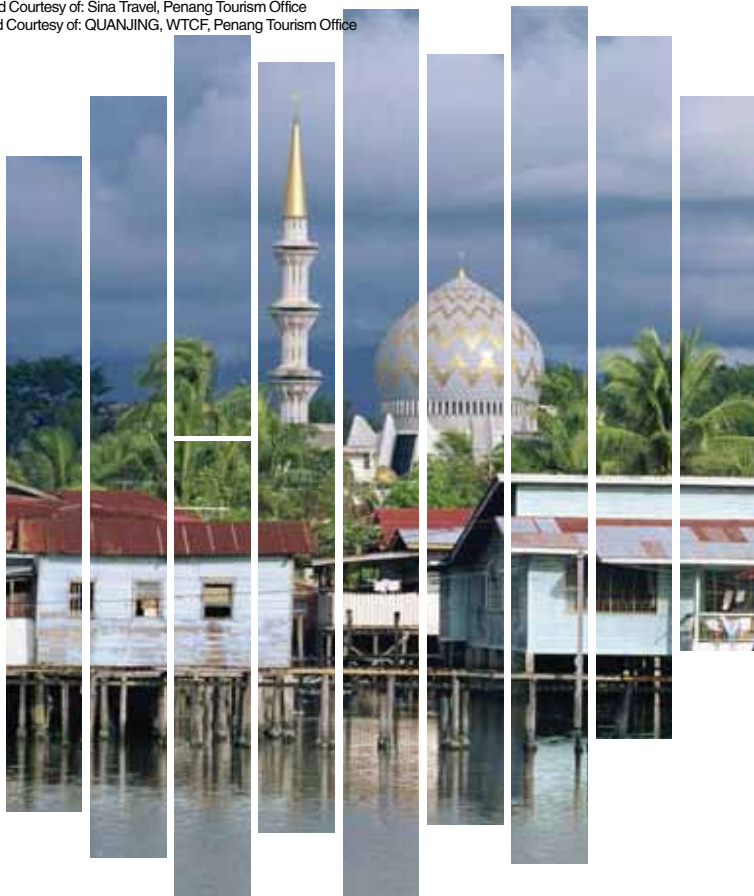
檳城是一座“富有”的城市，不是指经济资源，而更多的是关于其旅游资源、历史资源以及多样的文化资源。这是第一个鼓励华人移民的城市，英国人在这里建造了白色的教堂和市政厅，闽南人在这里建造祠堂会馆，印度教、缅甸佛教、伊斯兰教在这里留下身影。这是一个融合现代都市情怀、散发旧日光彩、弥散文艺情怀的城市，一个能从视觉、听觉、触觉、味觉、嗅觉满足你所有感官好奇的城市。来到这里，你就算见过了全世界。



Adventures in Penang

English writer W. Somerset Maugham highly praised Penang, stating that "you haven't seen the world until you've been to Penang." We can only imagine the adventures he had experienced here in Penang to make him feel this way. For the majority of Chinese tourists, visiting Penang, with its prominent characteristics of Chinese culture and historically rich streets, road signs, and scripts and expressions, is like running into a time machine and travelling back to the olden days.

Content Provided Courtesy of: Sina Travel, Penang Tourism Office
Images Provided Courtesy of: QUANJING, WTCF, Penang Tourism Office



Penang is the second largest city in Malaysia. After Captain Francis Light, an English trader-adventurer (governor of the British East India Company), landed on Penang Island in 1786, he began to devote himself to the construction and development of Penang. Penang gradually transformed from a scarcely inhabited island into a region bustling with activity due to people from various regions coming to settle there. Among these new settlers, Chinese people who had immigrated to Southeast Asia took up the largest proportion. Penang was later possessed by Kedah and the fourth presidency of British India consecutively, sharing the same administrative system as Madras and Bombay (present day Mumbai). Different historical periods and the constant influx of expatriates greatly enriched the culture of Penang. Not only does the city boast a fair amount of British Colonial traces, but it also contains a multitude of refined buildings that were left



highlights such as the lustrous golden Dhammikarama Burmese Temple, the all-blue Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion, the bronze domed Lebuh Aceh Mosque, and the pure white St. Anne's Church. These wonderful pieces combined with the scenery of this coastal city's ever continuous golden beach against the dark blue ocean and sky make for a dazzling view. Walking through the streets of Penang you are not likely to experience the fierce and tense flow of a metropolis, rather, the atmosphere is more gentle and easy going with occasional nice surprise.

A Multitude of Buildings Will Catch Your Eye

Like many other South-eastern Asian cities, Penang is a city of immigrants. These immigrants came from far and wide to settle in Penang, bringing with them their entire family and even their own religious beliefs. As a result, Penang boasts a great variety of churches

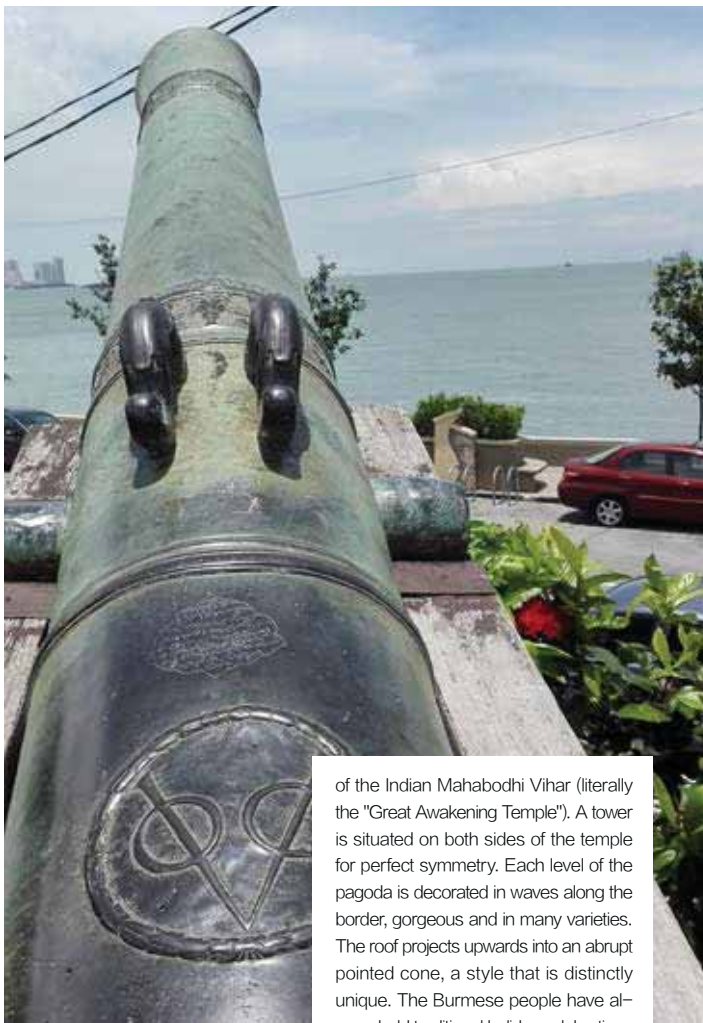
behind by the decedents of Malaysians, Indians, and Overseas Chinese. Penang is a city where different cultures mix together and Islamic and Buddhist religion co-exist. Everywhere you glance at is covered in beautiful architecture including

and temples that enrich one's travel experience, creating a different scroll of city landscape.

Located in Air Itam, Penang, the Kek Lok Si Temple (the Temple of Supreme Bliss) is the largest Buddhist temple complex in Southeast Asia. Commissioned in 1890, the Kek Lok Si Temple took 40 years to be completed and was endlessly expanded, and it's still undergoing reconstruction today. Combining architectural styles from China, Thailand, and Burma, the Kek Lok Si Temple is one of the most important Buddhist temples in Southeast Asia.

Located inside the temple is the "Liberation Pond" archway on top of which are many inscriptions and poems. The rear court contains the 30-meter high, seven-storey Ban Po Thar (the Ten Thousand Buddhas Pagoda). The exterior of the pagoda is pure white while the apex is of Burma design with the middle tiers of the pagoda sporting Thai design. The pagoda further exhibits a unique fusion of architectural styles with its Chinese octagonal base. The external structure of the pagoda mirrors that of the Leifeng Pagoda as depicted in the Legend of the White Snake (also known as Madame White Snake). Each level inside the pagoda displays statues of the Buddha carved from alabaster as well as statues of the Buddha covered in gold leaf, all in various sitting, standing, and laying positions. The statues themselves are a sight to be reckoned with, measuring up to the statues of the Four Heavenly Kings and the Maitreya Bodhisattva. Every New Year, the temple hosts the Kek Lok Si Temple Display of Lights, lighting up thousands of lanterns that illuminate the whole temple.

Located at the enclave of Burmah Lane, the Dhammikarama Burmese Temple



of the Indian Mahabodhi Vihar (literally the "Great Awakening Temple"). A tower is situated on both sides of the temple for perfect symmetry. Each level of the pagoda is decorated in waves along the border, gorgeous and in many varieties. The roof projects upwards into an abrupt pointed cone, a style that is distinctly unique. The Burmese people have always held traditional holiday celebrations at the complex, amongst these the most important and festive are Songkran (Thai New Year) and Vassa.

Fort Cornwallis is located above the headland of George Town, Penang, and is said to be the first official residence of Captain Francis Light. The fort was initially built using nibong (Malay for palm trunk). During 1805–1810 the fort was used as a place for convict labourers who rebuilt the fort using brick and stone. Now the fort remains in sections of ruins with only a few old cannons facing the sea. Amongst

these lone cannons the most famous is the Sri Rambai cannon, manufactured in 17th century Holland. The Sri Rambai cannon originally belonged to the Sultan of Johor who was under Dutch protection, and was then seized by pirates only to be seized again by the British and returned to Penang. The local people believe that the cannon has the ability to grant children, as a result you can occasionally see local women offering fresh flowers to the

This paint is then applied to walls. During the 1920s, residents of the Gat Lbhregion used the bungatelang to paint the walls of the buildings, creating a sea of sapphire. However, the only surviving complex today is the Cheong FattTze Mansion, also known as the Blue Mansion. Constructed in 1897, the Blue Mansion spans an area of 53,000 square feet with a building surface area of 34,000 square feet. The Blue Mansion has a total of 38

addition to allowing spectators, the new Blue Mansion also offers guestroom/traveller lodging and hosting services for wedding ceremonies, entertainment campaigns, and meetings.

Let the Streets Warm Your Heart

In 2012, multidisciplinary Lithuanian artist Ernest Zacharevic created six street art murals during the Georgetown Arts and Culture Festival. The murals are collectively known as "Mirrors George



Sri Rambai cannon by placing them on its barrel or in its surroundings. The fort contains a small memorial hall dedicated to displaying the blueprints of the fort and materials pertaining to Captain Francis Light.

Penang is rich in blue flowers known as "bungatelang". After the flowers are processed via boiling, they become a liquid dye which is often left to dry-out. The dried form of the dye can then be used to produce paint after going through the process of fermentation.

rooms, 5 granite-paved courtyards, 7 staircases, and 220 windows and is the largest existing Qing-dynasty Chinese-style landscape architecture in Southeast Asia. After the passing away of Cheong FattTze, the complex fell into negligence causing serious damage over a period of time. In 1989 the mansion was purchased by a group of Penang historical preservationists who began to carry out a complete renovation of the complex in 1991. In 1995, the brand new "Blue Mansion" was officially opened to the public. In

Town". Zacharevic photographed the daily lives of Penang residents and used these photographs as source materials for his murals. Combining fresco and real life props, Zacharevic created the most life-like artistic depictions of the Penang people and their daily lives. With their striking resemblance to everyday life, the murals attract a large number of tourists who wait in line for hours just to take pictures with them, challenging the stereotypical "travel photo" and freely striking a variety of amusing and hilarious poses. Some of the murals

have degenerated over time, reflecting the nostalgic charm of the ancient city.

Amongst the murals the most well-known is the "Little Children on a Bicycle" mural. The mural is the profile picture of Penang Tourism Office's official WeChat. The mural depicts two siblings sitting on a large bicycle (wheel diameter of 28 inches, generally with a girder in front of the saddle for carrying people) with their feet dangling above the ground, gleefully fooling around. The mural has prompted many people to recall their own childhood.

Another representative work of Zacharevic is the "Boy on a Bike" mural, a 3D mural featuring a youth on a motorbike. An unknown individual decided to place graffiti, specifically a dinosaur, behind the youth on the motorbike. After seeing the addition of the graffiti to his mural, Zacharevic then painted a small child with a leash attached to the dinosaur, making it look as if the child was pulling the dinosaur away.

Grasp the Happiness of Antiquity

A few of the murals in the older districts of Penang have already started to fade, leaving behind indistinct figures. If you want the opportunity to view these artistic works then you'd better get there as soon as possible. Although there is a constant stream of new murals being created in Penang, they largely come from multiple street artists resulting in inconsistency of styles.

In addition to the 2012 "Mirrors George Town" mural series, Penang is also home to the "Marking George Town" series of iron caricatures. The sculptures are made of iron and are cartoons that depict historical happenings or the daily lives of Penang residents. There are a

total of 52 iron caricatures in the "Marking George Town" project headed and managed by SculptureAt Work, a local art group in Penang. Wandering the streets of Penang and coming across the many vivid caricatures at street bends adds a touch of warmth and delight to a traveler's experience, making them feel much more blessed.

The Penang murals and iron caricatures are distributed all throughout George-town's main points of interest. If you find yourself with a lot of time on your hands then there is nothing better than taking a stroll through the streets and looking for these hidden gems. Somewhere out there around a bend you'll come across a work of art that will instantly be your favourite, a rather positive encounter to say the least. As the murals and sculptures are scattered throughout the streets it is very hard for the time-pressed traveller to "catch them all". If you find yourself in such a situation then it is best to enlist the help of a local to act as a guide or grab a Marking George Town map from the airport. The map contains the images and locations of more than 20 different murals and all 52 iron caricatures. With this map, you can take in some of Penang's scenic spots, historical places of interest, and murals all in one go, making for a fulfilling and comprehensive journey.

Overwhelm Your Senses

A traveller once said, "If you haven't been to famous Little India, then you haven't been to Penang." Located in north-eastern Georgetown, Penang's "Little India" was initially inhabited by Chinese immigrants and a locally famous Chinatown. Later on the local Chinese people who had settled the region moved and Indian immigrants, businessmen, and labourers slowly began to gather in the region and establish Penang's



largest Indian ethnic community which evolved into today's Little India. The Sri Mahamariamman Temple, located in Queen Street (Lebuh Queen), Georgetown, is Little India's most famous tourist attraction. Built in 1833, the Hindu temple exhibits a fusion of distinct cultural connotations and architectural style. In the central district of Penang's Little India you are sure to sense the pure devotion of the Indian people to their religious beliefs.

Walking straight along Market Street (LebuhPasar) of Sri Mahamariamman Temple will take you to a short street market. Although not very long, the street market hosts Little India's famous bazaar. The bazaar is lively day in and day out. Attracting people from all over the bazaar offers Indian specialty handicrafts, clothing, and jewellery. The key selling point for people is the dazzling line-up of deserts, cakes, teas, fresh flowers, and large and small packages of Indian spices. In accordance with an old Chinese saying, "the sparrow may be small but all its vital organs are there"; in other words, although small the market



has all the essentials that one needs. By coming here and taking a stroll tourists feel as if they've travelled all of India. In passing, purchasing a few handicrafts and souvenirs to bring back home and gift to friends and family is by all means a good choice.

Indian Cuisine is true love for those who enjoy spices. Walking into Little India is like walking into a gourmet paradise. A trip to Little India is definitely well worthwhile with its roadside food stalls, vegetarian restaurants, and dessert shops representing a collection of every ethnic Indian flavor. Due to food safety issues, many people who have been to India dare not try local Indian roadside food stalls. However, in Penang there is an abundance of distinctly clean food and many people follow the locals in fearlessly taking scoops of rice in their hands, pairing it with Indian beans and vegetable curry. This combination is enough for you to personally experience the completely unique immigrant culture of Penang.

Echoing in one's ears is the sound of Indian psychedelic music, flowing through

one's nose is the scent of hot Indian spices, dancing before one's eyes is a splash of colour; when the three senses of hearing, smell, and sight are simultaneously activated the mind automatically projects an Indian scene. This effect is precisely the magic of Georgetown's Little India and the magic of Penang.

Cleanse Your Lungs by the Seaside

BatuFerringhi is a famous scenic ocean spot in Malaysia. Located along the northern coast of Penang Island, it is the prime beach destination for tourists from all over the world. The BatuFerringhi seaside is famous for its mountain and ocean scenery. The continuous stretch of golden beaches and elegantly secluded mountain range have served the purpose of making the area a happy mountain villa getaway since the late 1970s. In addition to hotel villas, many folk dwellings near the beach are also the love of many tourists. BatuFerringhi features a tall house by the name of "Malay Kampung". The Malay Kampung is a traditional house built by Malaysians more than 100 years ago: the house is tall and can maintain dry and cool tem-

peratures, the clean courtyard houses all kinds of tropical plants, a basin of water is placed in front of the entrance to the house because one is required to wash their feet before climbing up and entering, and the interior is bright and clean with a cozy and organized feel. The ocean breeze of Malacca sweeping across the sandy shore and a vast expanse of blue skies right before your eyes is enough to clear your mind in one sweep.

Penang is a "rich" city. It is rich not in terms of the economy, but rather in the areas of tourism, history, and multiculturalism. Penang is a city that encourages immigration, a place where the British constructed white churches and the city hall, a place where the Minnan people constructed their ancestral temple, and a place where the religions of Hinduism, Burmese Buddhism, and Islam have left their impressions. Penang is a city that dissipates its art and literature, a modern metropolis that exudes the luster of antiquity. Penang is a city that can satisfy all five of your senses and your curiosity. Once you've been to Penang, then you've seen the world.