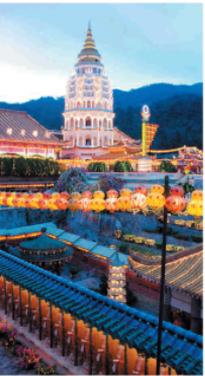


MyPenang



PENANG TOURISM

CALENDAR of EVENTS 2011/12

visit *Penang*
2010-2012

George Town · Penang
UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CITY

www.visitpenang.gov.my



OVERVIEW OF EVENTS

June 2011-April 2012

- 2011**
- June 1-30** Penang Durian Fair
- June 3-5** Battle of the Chefs
- June 4 & 5** 2nd Malaysia International Guppy & Betta Charity Competition 2011
- June 10-12** Auto-City Carnival
- June 11 & 12** Penang International Dragon Boat Festival (PIDBF)
- June 19** 15th National Lion Dance Championship 2011
- July 1-31** Penang UNESCO World Heritage Celebration
- July 16** Penang Bon Odori Festival
- July 22-24** Matta Fair
- July 22-31** St Anne's Festival
- July 31-Aug 28** Penang Hungry Ghost Festival
- Aug 1-31** Ramadhan Bazaar 2011
- Aug 17** Nuzul Al-Quran
- Aug 28-Sept 4** Penang Orchid Show
- Aug 30** Merdeka Countdown
- Aug 30 & 31** Hari Raya Aidilfitri
- Sept 11** Mid-Autumn Lantern Festival
- Sept 16** Paradise Classical Film Festival
- Sept 24 & 25** Thai Food, Fruits and Cultural Festival
- Sept 27-Oct 5** Nine Emperor Gods Festival
- Sept 27-Oct 6** Navarathiri Festival
- Oct 15 & 16** Mean Machines 2011
- Oct 15 & 16** Indonesia Food, Handicraft and Cultural Festival
- Oct 26** Deepavali
- Nov 20** Penang Bridge International Marathon 2011
- Nov 26** 18th Penang International Open Ballroom Dancing Competition
- Nov 27** Awal Muharram
- Dec 1-4** Penang Island Jazz Festival
- Dec 10 & 11** Pesta Dragon Boat Race
- Dec 17** All-Star National Chingay Competition
- Dec 18** Pesta Chingay, Lion & Dragon Dance Parade
- Dec 24** Christmas Eve and Christmas Parties at Upper Penang Road
- Dec 24-31** Auto-City Christmas & New Year Countdown Fiesta
- Dec 25** Penang Pesta Chingay, Lion & Dragon Dance Parade - Butterworth
- Dec 31** New Year Countdown 2012
- 2012**
- Jan 14** Ponggal
- Jan 23** Chinese New Year Celebration
- During Chinese New Year** Kek Lok Si Display of Lights
- Jan 28** 'Chor Sor Kong' Deity Birthday
- Jan 28** Chinese New Year Cultural and Heritage Celebration
- Jan 30** Hokkien New Year
- Feb 6** Chap Goh Meh Celebration
- Feb 6-8** Thaipusam
- Mar 23-25** Penang World Music Festival 2012
- Apr 21 & 22** Penang International Travel Mart 2012

PENANG



Penang or Pulau Pinang in Bahasa Malaysia, is also known throughout the world as the Pearl of the Orient. And just like the precious pearl which is formed with layers that give it beautiful luster, Penang has many splendours to offer those who fall under her spell. From its pristine beaches, exotic cultures, rich heritage, quaint architecture to a mouth-watering spread of food.

Penang is everything you'd expect and a whole lot more and was chosen by Yahoo! Travel as 1 of top 10 islands in the world to explore before you die.

Situated in the northern region of Malaysia, the state consists of Penang Island and mainland Province Wellesley, also known as Seberang Perai.

Holiday makers will be amazed by the exciting activities, whimsical practices, cultural events and religious festivals being celebrated the whole year round. Take a peek and discover what we have lined up from June 2011 to April 2012.

You may be so enthralled that staying on to indulge in it all may be the most natural thing to do.



PENANG DURIAN FAIR

Date : 1-30 June 2011
Time : 11am-6pm, Daily
Venue : Anjung Indah, Balik Pulau

Eating durian in Penang is an experience by itself. Here, you can choose from the kings of the crop. Tease your taste buds with the legendary 'Ang He', 'Hor Lor' and more at Anjung Indah, Balik Pulau with sales from stalls of famous Penang Durian estates who will also exhibit their prized Durians there.

Organiser : Penang Tourism Development & Culture Office
Tourism Hotline : +6016-411 0000
Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Email : info@visitpenang.gov.my
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



13TH BATTLE OF THE CHEFS

Date : 3-5 June 2011
Time : 8am-6pm
Venue : Straits Quay, Tanjong Tokong

The 13th Battle of the Chefs will see over 40 categories of competition events to be competed. More than 1000 chefs and food & beverage personnels will battle it out for the various top honors. Many events are lined up such as Ice, Vegetables & Butter Carvings for competition including buffet platters, platted displays and hot cooking sessions, Modern Nyonya Cuisine, Malay Traditional Ethic Ketupat & Rendang Challenge and our Penang favorite Char Koay Teow competitions.

Organiser : Chefs Association of Malaysia, Penang Chapter
Tel : +604-226 8569
Website : www.penangchefs.com



2ND MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL GUPPY & BETTA CHARITY COMPETITION 2011

Date : 4 & 5 June 2011
Time : 11am-10pm
Venue : Gurney Plaza New Wing

In conjunction with the mid-year school holidays, the Malaysia International Guppy & Betta Competition will be launched to much fanfare and anticipation. Bring along the kids for an interesting family outing and visit the exhibition showcasing hundreds of colourful guppy and betta fish. Buy a pet fish, or join in the lively fundraising activities aimed at benefiting charities and promoting fish culture & rearing as a wonderful hobby that can be enjoyed by all.

Organiser : Guppy Society Malaysia & Penang Betta Club
Tel : +6016-418 8228 / +6018-461 8018 (guppy)
+6012-429 5231 / +6012-449 9661 (betta)



AUTO-CITY CARNIVAL

Date : 10-12 June 2011
Time : 4pm-12midnight
Venue : Auto-City, Juru

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 if you wish or relax as a bystander and be equally enthralled by the sheer excitement of it all.

Organiser : Auto-City
Tel : +604-501 1222
Website : www.autocity.com.my

PENANG INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL (PIDBF)

Date : 11 & 12 June 2011
Time : 9am-6pm
Venue : Teluk Bahang Dam

Although Dragon Boat racing has been around in Penang since 1950s, it has only gained international popularity in the last few years. For the first time ever the dragon boat sport has been included in the Asian Games in 2010. Dragon boat is a team-focused sport which promotes discipline, harmony, physical fitness and mental toughness. For Penangites it is an honoured sport that inculcates racial harmony.

Organiser : Penang International Dragon Boat Festival (PIDBF) Committee

Tourism Hotline : +6016-411 0000

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

Email : secretary@penangdragonboat.gov.my

Website : www.penangdragonboat.gov.my



15TH NATIONAL LION DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP 2011 - NORTHERN REGION

Date : 19 June 2011
Time : 10am-5pm
Venue : Han Chiang Indoor Stadium, Penang

Held biennially, the 15th Malaysia National Lion Dance Championship is set to thrill Lion Dance enthusiasts yet again. This landmark cultural event filled with fiery colour and blazing energy, will see over 40 of the country's best lion dance troupes fighting for the honour to be named champion in various categories of the competition and will deliver non-stop excitement and a spectacular display of athletic skill, artistry and choreography.

Organiser : Resort World Genting
Co-organiser : Penang Tourism Development & Culture
Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



JULY 2011

PENANG UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Date : 1-31 July 2011

Organiser : George Town World Heritage
Incorporated (GTWHI)

Tel : +604-261 6606

George Town was accorded the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List of Cities and Sites for its "outstanding universal value" on 7th July 2008. This award showcases Penang's unique historical and architectural buildings, multi-ethnic cultural heritage, old "colonial townscape" and landscapes. In conjunction, every 7th July is announced as a public holiday for the state of Penang.

In line with its 3rd year anniversary, a month-long celebration filled with cultural and music shows, traditional crafts demonstration and exhibitions around Penang awaits you.



PENANG BON ODORI FESTIVAL

Date : 16 July 2011
Time : 6pm-11pm
Venue : Esplanade, Penang

A traditional and merry Japanese festival that is celebrated with dance 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, firework displays, Japanese souvenirs, lively performances and games.

Organiser : The Consulate-General of Japan, Penang Tourism Development & Culture Office & Bon Odori Organising Committee

Tel : +604-538 6405
Email : info@visitpenang.gov.my
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



MATTA FAIR

Date : 22-24 July 2011
Time : 11am-9pm
Venue : Penang International Sports Arena (PISA)

Staged annually in Penang, the MATTA (Malaysian Association of Tour & Travel Agents) Fair is a vibrant must-attend 3-day expo. It gives consumers the opportunity to holiday in diverse destinations at fabulous discounts.

Here, you'll find value-added tour packages and other great travel incentives. Specialised travel agents will also help with flights, hotels and ground transportation to any destination around the world.

Organiser : MATTA
Tel : +604-890 0106
Email : secretariat.penang@matta.org.my



ST. ANNE'S FESTIVAL

Date : 22-31 July 2011
Time : 7am-9pm
Venue : St. Anne's Church, Bukit Mertajam

A 9-day prayer ritual that draws many believers from all walks of life. In conjunction with the annual St. Anne's Feast, a Night of Candle Light Procession is usually conducted at the church grounds.

Organiser : St. Anne Church
Tel : +604-538 6405
Email : stanne@stannebm.org
Website : www.stannebm.org



PENANG HUNGRY GHOST FESTIVAL

Date : 31 July-28 August 2011
Venue : Along Streets of Penang,
- mainly George Town -

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.

This practice is believed to ward off bad luck. 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.

Organiser : Tiong Guan Association
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



RAMADHAN BAZAAR 2011

Date : 1-31 August 2011
Time : 5pm-8pm
Venue : KOMTAR, Pedestrian Walk and 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 a month-long evening Ramadhan 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.



NUZUL AL QURAN

Date : 17 August 2011

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.



PENANG ORCHID SHOW

Date : 28 August-4 September 2011
Time : 9am-7pm
Venue : Penang Botanic Gardens

Enjoy a breathtaking display of over 300 orchid varieties comprising 35 species, showcased especially by dedicated orchid growers and enthusiasts from all over the country. The 8-day roadshow will allow orchid lovers to indulge in buying new plants for their collection, exchange the latest information on orchid culture, or simply just immerse in the beauty of these enchanting tropical blossoms.

Organiser : Penang Botanic Gardens
Tel : +604-227 0428



MERDEKA COUNTDOWN

Date : 30 August 2011
Time : 7pm-12midnight
Venue : Auto-City, Juru

Merdeka countdown is part of the Merdeka Celebration and one such countdown not-to-be-missed is held at Auto-City. This countdown is festive, fun and feature performances by local and international artistes as well as spectacular fireworks at the stroke of midnight.

Organiser : Auto-City
Tel : +604-501 1222
Website : www.autocity.com.my



HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI

Date : 30 & 31 August 2011

In Malaysia, the Muslims celebrate the start of the month of Syawal by having open houses for their family 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.



MID-AUTUMN LANTERN FESTIVAL

Date : 11 September 2011

The Mid-Autumn Festival is commonly known in Malaysia as the Lantern and Moon Cake Festival. It is a popular East Asian celebration of abundance and togetherness. Dating back 3,000 years to China's Zhou Dynasty, this moon gazing and lantern parading is celebrated in honour of Chang Er, the beautiful wife of tyrannical ruler and archer Hou Yi.

It's a time for family members and friends to gather around to gaze at and admire the full moon while savouring moon cakes, mini yams, water caltrops, ground nuts, pomeloes and Chinese tea. The actual date for the Mid-Autumn Lantern Festival falls on 12 September 2011.



PARADISE CLASSICAL FILM FESTIVAL

Date : 16 September 2011

Time : 7.30pm

Venue : Paradise Sandy Beach Resort Penang.
Laguna Ballroom (3rd Floor)

The Paradise Classical Film Festival is held to commemorate the golden age of Malay cinema, coinciding with the Hari Raya and Malaysia Day festivities. A dazzling array of cultural shows, musical repertoires and special appearances by renowned film legends of years past and popular celebrities of today will be the highlights of this event.

Organiser : Paradise Sandy Beach Resort Penang

Tel : +604-899 9999

Website : www.paradisehotel.com



THAI FOOD, FRUITS & CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Date : 24 & 25 September 2011
Time : 11am-10pm
Venue : Fort Cornwallis

An exotic cultural experience coupled with the most appetising Thai food and fruits await visitors at the Thai Food, Fruits & Cultural Festival, which is set to become another great event for the year.

With two whole days of delicious cuisine to whet your appetite and fabulous Thai entertainment to watch, this festival is sure to be a hit with food lovers and cultural fans.

Organiser : Penang Tourism Development & Culture Office
Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Email : info@visitpenang.gov.my
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



NINE EMPEROR GODS FESTIVAL

Date : 27 September-5 October 2011

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. It's celebrated for the spirits of the Nine Gods to descend upon the earth by possessing spirit mediums and putting them in a trance. Throughout this festival, many rituals such as skewering and fire walking ceremonies are carried out. Devotees also practise a 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" accompanied by many other colourful floats.

EVENT >

NINE EMPEROR GODS FESTIVAL

Date : 27 September-5 October 2011
Time : 9am-11pm
Venue :
• Rumah Berhala Tow Boo Kong • Burmah Road
• Macallum St Ghaut • Jelutong • Noordin Street
• Farlim • Butterworth • Bukit Mertajam

Organiser : Tow Boo Kong Association
Tel : +604-331 8717
Website : www.towbookong.org.my
Contact : Penang Tourism Development & Culture Office
Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012



NAVARATHIRI FESTIVAL

Date : 27 September-6 October 2011
Time : 6pm-10pm
Venue : Along the Streets of George Town

The Navarathiri 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. A chariot procession also takes place on the final day of the festival.

Organiser : Penang Hindu Endowment Board
Tel : +604-650 5215



MEAN MACHINES 2011

Date : 15 & 16 October 2011
Time : 12noon-12midnight
Venue : Auto-City, Juru

Organiser : Intrenasionale
Tel : +604-646 7866
Web : www.meanmachines.my

The Mean Machines is the largest outdoor motorsport and motoring event in Malaysia. More than 500 modified cars, supercars, classic cars and club cars will be on display together with more than 50 of the leading after-market auto-accessories company exhibiting at the event. Some notable events at Mean Machines include the Meanest Modified Car Competition, SuperCar Charity Drive and Showcase, Classic Car Gymkhana, Drift Demonstrations, Superbike and Classic-Bike Gathering and the Search for Miss Mean Machines.

INDONESIAN FOOD, HANDICRAFT & CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Date : 15 & 16 October 2011
Time : 11am-11pm
Venue : Queensbay Mall Open Carpark

The Indonesian Food, Handicraft & Cultural Festival brings you an experience that is truly and quintessentially Indonesian. The festival will feature a vibrant and bustling bazaar offering traditional delicacies and handicraft items from all over the vast archipelago of Indonesia. Come savour the resplendent cultural offerings such as Indonesian food, traditional dances and performances, and also join in the highlight lucky draw event for an unforgettable weekend of fun and excitement.

Organiser : Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia
Tel : +604-227 4686

DEEPAVALI

Date : 26 October 2011

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, activities and delicious Indian cuisine will be served and will take place during the celebration.



PENANG BRIDGE INTERNATIONAL MARATHON

Date : 20 November 2011
Time : 2am-10am
Venue : Queensbay, Penang
& Penang Bridge

Organiser : Penang Tourism Development & Culture Office
Marathon Hotline : +6016-411 0000
Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Fax : +604-261 8744
Email : info@penangmarathon.gov.my
Website : www.penangmarathon.gov.my

The Penang Bridge International Marathon (PBIM) has been held every year since 1985. This marathon attracts people from all over the world to come together in Penang to run across the Penang Bridge which at 13.5km, is one of the longest bridges in South East Asia. The Penang Bridge International Marathon is the biggest running event in Malaysia and on this day it is the only time the bridge is ever closed to public.

This thrilling event is much-anticipated by sport enthusiasts as trophies, finisher medals, and certificates are given out among other prizes.



18TH PENANG INTERNATIONAL OPEN BALLROOM DANCING COMPETITION

Date : 26 November 2011
Time : 8am-11pm
Venue : Bayview Beach Resort, Penang

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. An equally strong turnout of international adjudicators and diehard fans of dance sport championships is also expected for this glittering gala event.

Organiser : Malaysian Dancers Association
Tel : +6012-471 3266
Website : www.mda.com.my



AWAL MUHARRAM

Date : 27 November 2011

Ma'al Hijrah is an Islamic festival that is celebrated by the Muslim population in Malaysia with much joy.

It falls on the 10th of January in the Gregorian Calendar and marks the beginning of the Islamic month of Muharram.



PENANG ISLAND JAZZ FESTIVAL

Date : 1-4 December 2011
Time : 11am-11pm
Venue : Batu Ferringhi, Penang

The 8th Edition of the Penang Island Jazz Festival will be held on 1st to 4th of December 2011.

Artists from the jazz and big band genre use this event as a platform to showcase their performances in a fun-filled and joyous atmosphere.

The Annual Music Festival features local and international performers participating in programmes and activities in the Main Festival venue at Bayview Beach Resort and various other selected venues throughout the island.

Organiser : The Capricorn Connection
Tel : +6012-296 7800 / +604-356 5544
Email : paul@penangjazz.com / chincy@penangjazz.com
Web : www.penangjazz.com



PESTA DRAGON BOAT RACE

Date : 10 & 11 December 2011
Time : 9am-6pm
Venue : Teluk Bahang Dam, Penang

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
Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Email : secretary@penangdragonboat.gov.my
Web : www.penangdragonboat.gov.my



ALL-STAR NATIONAL CHINGAY COMPETITION

Date : 17 December 2011
Time : 7pm-11pm
Venue : Esplanade, Penang

Look forward to chingay star contestants showing off their creativity, flexibility and superb skills with stunts in balancing the towering flag poles on their fingers, foreheads, shoulders and teeth.

Organiser : Penang Tourism Development & Culture Office

Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Email : info@visitpenang.gov.my
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



PESTA CHINGAY, LION & DRAGON DANCE PARADE

Date : 18 December 2011
Time : 7.30pm-11pm
Venue : Padang Brown to City Hall, Esplanade

The Chingay and Lion Dance troupe members will display their skills in balancing stilt poles during this annual street parade. The parade begins from Padang Brown and pass through the main streets of George Town before ending at Esplanade.

There would also be giant colourful flags and floats, lion and dragon dance performances and a procession of decorative trishaws.

Organiser : Penang Tourism Development & Culture Office

Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Email : info@visitpenang.gov.my
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my

CHRISTMAS

Christmas season is always celebrated with much festivities by hotels and shopping malls as massive Christmas trees with glittering decorations are put up. Special promotions and events are also offered to give people a myriad of choices that are fun-filled.

EVENTS >

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS PARTIES AT UPPER PENANG ROAD

Upper Penang Road, a hotspot for festive happenings literally lights up with activities including live band performances and dance shows to ensure patrons have a jolly good time.

Date : 24 December 2011
Time : 6pm-12midnight
Venue : Upper Penang Road
Organiser : Upper Penang Road Committee
Tel : +604-228 8078

AUTO-CITY CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR COUNTDOWN FIESTA

Auto City is another choice venue for party revellers to hang out and celebrate in its many fun-filled activities.

Date : 24-31 December 2011
Time : 7pm-12midnight
Venue : Auto-City, Juru
Organiser : Auto-City
Tel : +604-501 1222
Website : www.autocity.com.my



PENANG CHINGAY, LION & DRAGON DANCE PARADE - BUTTERWORTH

Date : 25 December 2011
Time : 7.30pm-11pm
Venue : MPSP Field, Butterworth,
Jalan Bagan Luar to Jalan Raja Uda

The Chingay, Lion and Dragon Dance troupe members will once again perform, this time in Butterworth, Penang. They would be passing through Jalan Bagan Luar to Jalan Raja Uda.

Come, watch the parade and start off the year-end celebrations, all happening in the Mainland.

Organiser : Penang Tourism Development
& Culture Office

Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



NEW YEAR COUNTDOWN 2012

Date : 31 December 2011
Venue : Esplanade, Penang; Queensbay Mall;
Penang Pesta Site, E&O Straits Quay;
Auto City

New Year Countdown is held every year at Esplanade, Penang, Queensbay Mall and Penang Pesta site. 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! Enjoy a brilliant display of fireworks to usher in the new year.

PONGGAL

Date : 14 January 2012
Venue : Penang Waterfall Carpark

Ponggal, the Harvest Festival believed to have originated in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu some 5000 years ago, centres on the ritual of cooking rice and milk in a clay pot to symbolize the overflow of wealth and abundance. Celebrated over a period of 4 days, the festival which is steeped in ancient culture and tradition, also involves rituals of spiritual renewal, thanksgiving, worship and prayers for matrimonial blessings.

Organiser : Malaysian Indian Chamber of
Commerce and Industry Penang
Tel : +604-262 0960



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Date : 23 January 2012

Chinese New Year is celebrated on the first day of the lunar calendar with each year ushering in a zodiac animal ruling sign. The 2012 is the year of the Dragon. Celebrations usually start on the eve when family members gather for a Reunion Dinner. This is followed by having an open house for family and friends to visit one another and give Ang Pows. Lion dances are also performed to welcome auspiciousness into the household and workplace.

For updates on Chinese New Year events in Penang, visit www.visitpenang.gov.my or check out the "George Town, Penang" Facebook page.



KEK LOK SI DISPLAY OF LIGHTS

Date : During Chinese New Year
Venue : Kek Lok Si Temple, Air Itam

Literally translated as the 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 wide flock to this 120-year-old temple for an annual lighting ceremony. It is believed that this act of faith will bring them peace, luck and prosperity.

Organiser : Kek Lok Si Temple
Tel : +604-899 8222



'CHOR SOR KONG' DEITY BIRTHDAY

Date : 28 January 2012
Time : 7am-11pm
Venue : Snake Temple

Penang is famous Snake Temple is dedicated to the deity Chor Sor Kong, and attracts throngs of devotees from far and wide who come to offer prayers especially on the 6th day of Chinese New Year. Chor Sor Kong is regarded as a protector of jungle snakes, and upon establishment of the temple in the mid-19th century, snakes have appeared within the temple building, appearing to seek refuge at the shrine which bears a popular name in reference to these serpentine creatures.

Organiser : Hokkien Kongsu
Tel : +604-262 0202



CHINESE NEW YEAR CULTURAL & HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Date : 28 January 2012

Time : 3pm-12midnight

Venue : UNESCO World Heritage Site, George Town: Chulia Street, Armenian Street, Soo Hong Lane, Ah Quee Street, Acheen Street, Cannon Street, Kampung Kolam & Jalan Kapitan Keling

Initiated by Penang State Government & Penang Chinese Clan Council, this event is celebrated in conjunction with George Town being bestowed the prestigious Unesco World Heritage City status.

This event not only features a historical touch of the art & cultures of all the clans in Penang but also an understanding of the core moral values of the Chinese. Locals and tourists alike throng these streets to partake in the merry-making festivities.

Organiser : Clan Association Youth Committee, Penang

Tel : +6012-487 3278 / +6012-478 8302



HOKKIEN NEW YEAR

Date : 30 January 2012

Time : 7pm-12midnight

Venue : Chew Jetty

The 8th day of Chinese New Year, also known as Thni Kong Seh (Jade Emperor God's birthday) is celebrated on a big scale by the Hokkien clan to commemorate their forefathers escape in ancient China. At the stroke of midnight, prayers are performed with much gaiety, offering food, fruits, liquor and sugarcane stalks to the Jade Emperor God.

Organiser : Chew Jetty Committee

Tel : +6012-412 6809



CHAP GOH MEH CELEBRATION

Date : 6 February 2012

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.



THAIPUSAM

Date : 6-8 February 2012
(Main celebration on 7 February 2012)

Time : 6am-11pm

Venue : From Little India to Waterfall
(via Jalan Dato Keramat)

Thaipusam is celebrated during the full moon of the 10th month in the Hindu calendar and is normally held during the last week of January or the beginning of February. During this celebration, a pilgrimage procession takes place to bring the statue of Lord Muruga on a silver chariot led by more than 60 Kavadis from Little India to the Nattukottai Chettiar Temple atop the hill of Waterfall Road.

The tradition of breaking of coconuts is carried out the day before to "clean" the roads for this divine journey. The devotees then go through a physical endurance of being skewered and pierced on the back and front of their bodies as an act of penance.

Thunderous loud music, singing, dancing and the beating of drums of devotional songs are the norm during this festival. Upon reaching the temple, devotees will fulfill their vows, offer thanksgiving prayers and do penance as required.

Organiser : Penang Hindu Endowment Board

Tel : +604-6505 136

Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



MARCH 2012

PENANG WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL 2012

Date : 23-25 March 2012
Time : 7-11pm
Venue : Quarry Recreational Park, Botanical Garden

Penang World Music Festival celebrates diversity in world music. It features a repertoire of performances ranging from traditional to fusion and contemporary music. Outstanding artistes from Penang and other states of Malaysia, as well as from other countries around the world are invited to showcase their talent. The Penang World Music Festival promises to deliver the ultimate experience for music lovers and is undoubtedly a unique event not to be missed.

Organizer : Penang State Tourism Development
& Culture Office

Tel : +604-650 5136 / +604-261 9012
Email : info@visitpenang.gov.my
Website : www.visitpenang.gov.my



APRIL 2012

PENANG INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MART 2012

Date : 21 & 22 April 2012
Time : 10am-8pm
Venue : Penang International Sports Arena

Penang International Travel Mart 2012 is set to create a dynamic platform for business-to-business exchanges besides playing a role as a vibrant consumer fair. The host venue at Penang International Sports Arena (PISA) has a spacious floor area of 3,000 square meters with a maximum carrying capacity of approximately 10,000 people. The travel mart houses an international hall, a domestic hall, and many more on-site event areas within. The fair is targeted to broaden your horizons and open your eyes to the world.

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Menang CAT Mascot



Competency



Accountability



Transparency



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

Designed by : Innovation Zone (M) Sdn. Bhd. (75721-H)

Printed by : Delimax (M) Sdn. Bhd. (261418-M)

Printed on June 2011