



P E R A K TOURISM NEWS



Volume 4

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THE ROYAL TOWN OF KUALA KANGSAR BECKONS



The place must have had a strange effect on Sultan Yusuf Shariffuddin Mudzaffar Shah (1877-1887) who, unlike other sovereigns who would select their vantage points carefully so they could detect approaching enemies easily, the Sultan had his first palace built beside the river bank. He named it "Istana Sri Sayong".

Apart from being exposed to the threat of invasion, the other problem was Nature, which led to numerous flooding, as water overflow the tributaries during the monsoon season. The name Kuala Kangsar is believed to be derived from "Kuala Kurang-Sa" (estuary less one), interpreted as "the 99th small tributary to flow into the Perak River". Finally, after the "Bah Besar" (Big Flood) of 1926, Yusuf's successor, Sultan Idris Murshidul Al-Adzman Shah (1887-1916) decided to move the palace onto the knoll, Bukit Chandan, where Istana Iskandariah now stands.

The town maintains a strong link with its colonial past. Icons such as the Padang (Esplanade), Malay College Kuala Kangsar, Kuala Kangsar Club, Victoria Bridge etc. bear testimony to this attachment. Kuala Kangsar or KK is also the site of the first rubber tree planted in Malaysia. The person responsible was English botanist Henry Nicholas Ridley. He helped Malaya and eventually Malaysia become the largest rubber producer in the world. The tree still stands today.

Getting around the royal town is easy. We shall now take you on a trip to Kuala Kangsar. First, find you a place to stay then places to visit and finally, where to eat and rest.

Kuala Kangsar Rest House



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Kuala Kangsar Rest House has undergone a thorough face-lift and is no longer like the colonial rest house of yore. It has 19 rooms of which only 15 are open for booking. The rooms facing Sungai Perak provide a breathtaking view of the river. The rates are RM80 (Superior) to RM170. The KK Rest House is located on the same loop as Masjid Ubudiah, Istana Iskandariah and Sultan Azlan Shah Gallery.

**For details and reservations
call: 05-7764262**



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Developer/Service No.: 110991/11-2014/1208
Defect Period: 30/11/2009/29/11/2014
Advertising Period No.: 110991/2456/2011(112)
Defect Period: 11/12/2010/10/12/2011
Completion Date: Nov 2012 • Sumpung Dec: 3%
Approving Authority: Nipah Sandang (pdt)
Approval Ref.: B11331616 (JOSCO57A)
1/10/23/236/008
Land Tenure: Freehold 19/08/2108
No. of Units: 457 units
Building Area: 668 sq ft 8.510 sq ft
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Double Lion Hotel

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Double Lion Hotel is an ideal Bed and Breakfast joint for the budget-conscious traveller. It started as a *kopitiam* with lodging on its upper floor, a popular mode of accommodation in the 50s through to the 70s. The hotel's *Roti Kaya* is well known throughout the country. This quaint little hotel has 29 rooms ranging in rates from RM60 to RM100 and is located at 74, Jalan Kangsar.

For details and reservations call **05-776 1010** or Manager Sunny Leong at **013-513 5054**.

Sultan Azlan Shah GALLERY

3



The gallery is the former Istana Hulu also known as Istana Kota was built during the reign of Sultan Idris Murshidul Al-Adzman Shah (1887-1916). It served as the royal residence until 1954 when it was taken over by the Ministry of Education. Since 2003 it is being known by the present name having been transformed into a gallery providing an insight into the life of the present ruler, Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah (1984 - present). The grounds of the gallery are richly landscaped and adorned with fountains.

The gallery is open daily between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
For details call: **05-7776362**.

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Masjid Ubudiah



Sultan Idris Murshidul Al-Adzam Shah (1887-1916) commissioned in 1913 the construction of a mosque of great beauty to fulfil a vow made upon his recovery from an illness. The Ubudiah Mosque was completed in 1917, after the death of Sultan Idris, and was opened by his successor, Sultan Abdul Jalil Kamaratullah Shah (1916-1918). Additions have been made recently to accommodate a larger congregation. However, details of the original design were retained to preserve the mosque's character.

Istana Iskandariah

5



When Sultan Idris Murshidul Al-Adzam Shah (1887-1916) ascended the throne he moved to the western part of the Perak River. Located on the high ground of Bukit Chandan, a new palace known as Istana Negara was completed in 1895. It remained the official palace until the reign of Sultan Iskandar Shah (1918-1938). In 1930, Istana Negara was demolished to make way for a new palace, named Istana Iskandariah. The new palace was completed in 1933. Istana Iskandariah remains the official residence of the Sultan of Perak to the present day. The renovated *Balairong Seri*, part of the new wing of the palace, was first used for the installation ceremony of Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah.

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Istana Kenangan (Royal Museum)



Built in 1926, Istana Kenangan served as a temporary residence for Sultan Iskandar Shah (1918-1938) until Istana Iskandariah was completed. Malaysia's first premier, Tunku Abdul Rahman was involved in restoring the palace and making it a heritage building. The palace was later converted into the Royal Museum. It was officially opened to the public in 1988 by Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah. Exhibits on display include regalia, photographs, documents and artifacts relating to the present sultan and his predecessors.

Keris and Embroideries



A tar road just after the Royal Museum takes visitors to Kg Padang Changkat, Bt Chandan where Malay blacksmiths skilled in the making of *keris* and *golok* (machete) and craftsmen apt at crafting traditional embroideries are found. Abdul Mazin Abdul Jamil, 62, has been making *keris* and *golok* since he was a kid. It is an art he learned from his father. An assortment of *keris* and *golok* are available for sale. They are priced between RM1,000 to RM5,000, depending on the designs. Mazin makes replicas of the *Keris Taming Sari* too.

For details call Mazin's son, Azrin Abdul Mazin at 017-596 3052

Restoran Laksa Pak Ngah



Laksa Pak Ngah is unlike the ubiquitous laksa stall you come across in Kuala Kangsar. It is in fact a full-blown Malay restaurant located behind the Tsung Wah Secondary School along Jalan Dato Sagor. You can enjoy the tasty laksa made famous by Pak Ngah or order a Ramly Burger for your lunch break. A plate costs RM2.20 with a hard-boiled egg thrown in. The lunch crowd is huge.

For details call 012-684 7986. The eatery is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily except Wednesdays.

Masjid KUALA DAL



A once decrepit and disused mosque located a short distance after the Kuala Kangsar-Taiping junction along Route A 3 (old trunk road) is one of its kind in the whole country. Masjid Kuala Dal has been restored to its former glory by the Department of National Heritage in 2008. Visitors can access the mosque and see it in its entirety. You can easily miss the building if you are not too observant. It is just by the roadside beside a new mosque built as a replacement.

Restoran Yat Lai



A typical *kopitiam* of the Double Lion genre, it is located at: No. 51, Jalan Kangsar, on the same street as Double Lion. The coffee shop is so plain, locating it may offer some difficulties. But locals will not hesitate to point it out when asked. It serves breakfast till noon and lunch beginning from 1.00 p.m. onwards. *Roti Kaya* and *Roti Telur* are the two popular breakfast dishes on the menu. At lunchtime, Fried Rice, *Fried Keow Teow*, *Mee Hailam* and *Meehoon Goreng* seem to be the favourites with the crowd. The prices range between RM4 to RM5 a plate.

For details call 05-7766369

The Kuala Kangsar Tourist Information Centre is ideally located and easily accessible to all. The centre is manned by staff from the Kuala Kangsar Municipal Council. They are pretty handy with the right kind of information – brochures complete with road maps.

Tourist Information Centre



The centre is located at: No. 1A, Jalan Kangsar, adjacent to the town's clock tower. Phone: 05-777 7717



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12 Ulu Kenas Forest Reserve



Ulu Kenas Forest Reserve is located 15 kilometres west of Kuala Kangsar on the road to Manong. Gunung Bubu Besar and Gunung Bubu Kecil, which form the southern reach of the Bintang Range, are the two popular mountain features in the area. Gunung Bubu Besar at 1,657m (5,437 ft.) above sea level is the higher of the two. Both mountains are accessible from Ulu Kenas. The cascading waters of Sungai Kenas which flow through the area is very scenic and pleasant. Chalets and camp sites are available for rent. This recreational spot is managed by the Kuala Kangsar District Forestry Department.

For details call 05-776 1089



Hamidah's Audit



The state government's seriousness in preparing for Visit Perak Year (VPY) 2012 is evident by Tourism Executive Councilor, Dato' Hamidah Osman's physical audit of some popular tourist destinations in the state. To date, she and her team have visited the following places and have made some interesting observations and recommendations:

Taiping Zoo on Thursday, October 13.

Kellie's Castle and the Tg Tualang Tin Dredge on Saturday, October 18.

Lata Kinjang Waterfall, Teluk Intan's Leaning Clock tower and Pasir Salak Complex on Friday, October 21.

Kuala Kangsar on Tuesday, October 25.

ORIENTAL EXPRESS'S KUALA KANGSAR ESCAPADE



Forty nine international travellers on the luxury Eastern and Oriental Express were pleasantly surprised when they stopped briefly at the Kuala Kangsar railway station recently. They were greeted on arrival with the beating of gongs and drums. On hand to welcome the entourage was Tourism Executive Councilor, Dato' Hamidah Osman who presented the bemused visitors with a goodie bag each. The passengers, who paid USD5,000 each to travel in style, were taken on a bus around Kuala Kangsar to savour the royal town's architectural beauty.

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