



A MARITIME TOWN IN TRANSITION



Finding a place to park during the holiday season is a problem but which seaside town isn't? If you intend on staying in Pangkor you have to leave your car in Lumut and take a ferry to the island. But if your objective is to simply enjoy the ambiance, throw caution to the wind and leave your prized jalopy by the roadside and wander. Believe me, there is plenty to see, to eat, to buy and to do in Lumut. Beside resorts and white beaches, Lumut and Pangkor are noted for salted seafood and snacks. There are heaps of them on sale.

foreword



I am certain with a little push and plenty of support from ordinary Perakeans, we will reap a bountiful harvest. Perakeans, help me realise VPY 2012 Yours to Discover. *Jom Terokai Perak...*

Continued on page 2



Our first stop is the remarkable Marina Island:



This one and only functional marina in Perak has 82 wet and 70 dry slips for boats measuring 72 feet and 65 feet respectively. It is equipped with modern lifts which can haul and launch boats weighing up to 45 tons. Guests of the marina can enjoy land and water sports such as snorkeling, diving, kayaking, jungle trekking, etc. The marina’s jetty is another take-off point to Pangkor Island. In fact, it is much nearer to Pangkor from here then from Lumut town.

Call James Khoo, the Marina’s Operations Director at 605-580 588/6016-512 4088 for details.



Coral Fishing Resort. The resort is located on reclaimed land that juts out into the sea. Its 26 cozy chalets face the open blue sea making it an ideal home away from home. The chalets are priced between RM215 to RM430 depending on seasons.

For details call 012-5229555/016-5504888



Our next stop is Teluk Batik. It is about 6 km away from Marina Island. This well-known beach front is a Mecca for Perakeans. The beach is packed on weekends and public holidays. It is a good spot to relax provided one is prepared to put up with the “mayhem”.

Scuba Diving



Scuba Diving. You can learn to scuba dive at Marina Island. The Quiver Dive Team, a PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) accredited entity operates on the island. Professional diver, Kin Voon heads the team.

Call Kin at 6012-213 8885 for details.



Salted seafood and snacks are a major product of Lumut and Pangkor. You will be spoilt for choice. Dried anchovies (ikan bilis), salted ikan talang, dried squid (so-tong) and fish and prawn crackers are some of the much sought-after stuff. Puan Jamilah operates from a council-owned stall along Jalan Iskandar Shah, Lumut. Her roadside stall is a favourite with visitors.

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Next is Lumut Town. Some of the attractions available are:

Foos Steak House

For details and bookings call Megat Irwan at 605-688 1709 or 6012-551 4623



Foos Steak House in Sri Manjung is an ideal stopover for many, especially steak and soup lovers. Its ample menu offers some very tantalizing dishes for discerning foodies.

Pangkor is never short of surprises. The holiday island is accessible by ferry from Lumut and from Marina Island. Fare – RM10 one-way from both terminals. Be forewarned, the ferry point on Marina Island is privately owned and managed. Now what has Pangkor to offer?

TIGER ROCK



The BEST of MALAYSIA AWARDS 2011 TRAVEL AWARDS Lifestyle

Call 605-6854154 for details and reservations.

Tiger Rock Resort is a boutique hotel though its owners describe it as an “artist’s exotic island retreat”. It is located to the south of Pangkor Island and within a forest reserve. It has 8 rooms and 2 houses and a swimming pool surrounded by virgin jungle. You are real close to nature. Rates begin from RM400 onwards per person.

Lumut Waterfront



Lumut Waterfront is one of the latest additions to this maritime town. The promenade begins at the ferry terminal and ends where the iconic KD Rahmat is now docked – a distance of about two kilometres. It offers strollers a magnificent view of the estuary, the northern tip of the hinterland and Pangkor Island.



KD RAHMAT



KD Rahmat, the decommissioned Royal Malaysian Navy frigate, which was on active service from 1967 to 2004, is now a floating museum. Originally named KD Hang Jebat, it underwent a name change after a series of mishaps beginning with engine problems that delayed its delivery. The 1,250-ton vessel was the first Malaysian naval ship fitted with sea-to-air missiles. Visiting hours are between 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. daily except on Tuesdays. Entrance fee: RM10 for adults and RM6 for children. Visitors can stay onboard the craft for a fee – RM 95 per person per night.

For details call Stephanie Loi Xhin at 605-688 7707 or 6019-322 2556.

Batu Bersurat



Batu Bersurat is a huge stone on the beach a short distance from the Dutch Fort. Inscribed on the rock are drawings of a tiger mauling a boy and the words “If Carlo 1743”. A boy, believed to be the son of a dignitary, disappeared and was believed to have been killed by a tiger.



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Daddy's Café & Island One Café



Daddy's Café located at Coral Bay serves western food and visitors can have their meals on the beach. Similarly, Island One Café next door offers western and local cuisines. Both cafés exude charm and comfort, a choice place to chill at sunset.



For details call Daddy's Cafe at **012-3346292** and Island One Cafe at **012-2355 666**

Hai Seng Hin



Hai Seng Hin Fish Satay factory at Sg Pinang Kecil produces a variety of sea-food snacks for sale locally and worldwide. Pop into the factory to see how the snacks are processed and packed for export.

Pangkor's White Sandy Beaches



The beaches of Pasir Bogak and Teluk Nipah are white, idyllic and gentle. Taking a dip here helps soothe your nerves.

ANNOUNCEMENT

1. Pesta Pangkor December 9 to 11.
For details call Manjung Municipal Council at **05-6871363**.
2. Pesta Tanjong Malim. December 17 and 18.
For details call Tourism Perak at **05-5290894**.
3. Perak Tourism Festival. December 24 to 31.
For details call Tourism Perak at **05-5290894**.

VPY 2012 FLAG ON TOP MT KINABALU



Sixteen members of the Perak Media Club will plant the Visit Perak Year (VPY) 2012 flag on top of South East Asia's highest mountain, Gunung Kinabalu on Monday, November 28. Reporter Kalavaani Karupiah received the flag from the Perak Chief Minister, Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr Zambray Abd Kadir on behalf of his team at a brief ceremony held in front of the State Secretariat Building Ipoh on Thursday, November 24.

Zambray hoped all Perakeans, especially those from the private and public sectors would willingly support VPY 2012 and make it a success. "We should take every effort to promote the various touristic spots in the state to visitors," he implored.

Executive Councillor for Tourism, Dato' Hamidah Osman was optimistic of its success. "Steps are being taken to publicise the event far and wide. The Kinabalu expedition is aimed at promoting VPY 2012 to the world," she exclaimed.

A total of 19 billboards have been erected along highways and the Plus Expressway to announce the momentous occasion to motorists. "It'll have an impact on tourist arrivals."

KLEDANG SAYUNG FOREST RESERVE



Efforts are underway to make part of the Kledang Sayung Forest Reserve an eco-tourism cum eco-educational site for both local and foreign tourists. The Kledang Range has been a favourite haunt for health enthusiasts for many years.

Gunung Kledang, at 2,650 ft above sea level, overlooks Ipoh. A road leads up to the radio station located at the summit. Fitness buffs make a beeline to the hill in the morning and evening to make their ritual climb. A number of footpaths and trails are available for use by climbers.

"These paths and trails will be upgraded," said Dato' Hamidah Osman to reporters when met after witnessing a training session by members of the Mt Kinabalu expedition team recently.

An area close to Meru Raya covering over 2,000 hectares has been identified for the exercise. RM1 million will be allocated to develop the said site.

"Tourism Perak will conduct courses to train eco-tourism guides," said Hamidah. "These guides must be proficient enough to impart the right kind of information to their charges."