

Our Picks

Melaka's Historical Sites



A City's Intangible Cultural Heritage

Melaka with its 600 years of history as a key entrepot in the spice trade sea route, was jointly inscribed as a UNESCO world heritage site alongside Georgetown, Penang on the 7th July 2008.

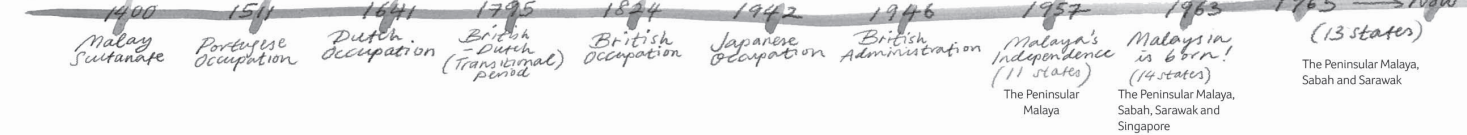
Given its strategic position along the Straits of Melaka, it attracted traders and along with them cultures, and traditions from both the East and West.

This unique blend in heritage is seen through the local lifestyle, historical landmarks, architecture and traditional trades that form the basis of our map. We hope that your patronage or visit to these recommended sites would serve to continue the support of our local identity as Melaka now faces developmental pressure upon the old heritage town.

Brief History of Melaka

A small fishing village, Melaka (Malacca or Malaga) grew to become one of the region's most important ports by the early to mid 1400s. The Malay Sultanate's fair trade policies and efficient port management helped maintained political stability with Ming China. It was not before long that Melaka's fame brought a downfall, as the western nations clamored to gain dominance over the Eastern Spice Trade in the beginning of the 16th century.

Melaka's Timeline



for History Buffs

- O The Royal Press
- P Baba & Nyonya Heritage Museum
- Q No. 8 Heeren Street Heritage Center
- R Christ Church
- S Stadthuys Ethnography Museum
- T Melaka's Sultanate Palace Museum
- U Hakka Community Association

for Craft Lovers

- V Clog Maker
- W Bucket Maker
- X Black Smith: Chin Sim
- Y Signboard Carver: Fwu Chang Trading
- Z Shoe Maker: Wah Aik

for Foodies

- 1 Long Fatt's Teochew Porridge
- 2 Sri Kaveri Catering's
- 3 Banana Leaf Rice
- 4 Lung Ann Refreshments'
- 5 Park Satay, Coffee & Bread
- 6 Pin Pin Hiong's Longevity (Mee Suah) Noodles
- 7 Chung Wah's Hainanese Chicken Rice
- 8 CAFE 1511's Spring Rolls (Popiah) & Laksa
- 9 ELEVEN's Portuguese Food
- 10 Nyonya Kuihs in front of Cha Yang Association

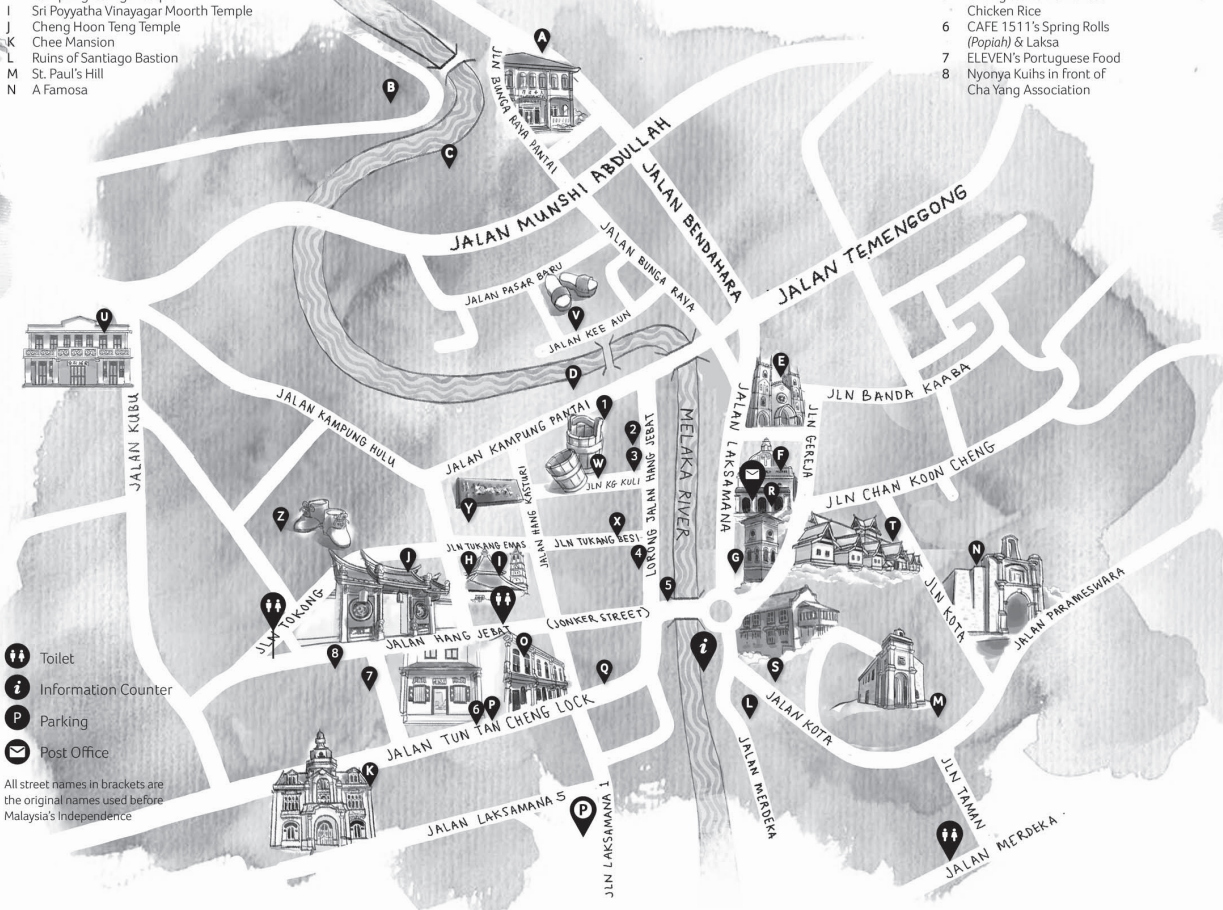
Good to Know

| EMERGENCY | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Emergency | 999 |
| Emergency (for mobile phone) | 112 |
| Immigration | 06 232 2662 |
| Customs | 06 231 2355 |
| Melaka Tourism Police | 06 288 4803 |
| HOSPITALS | |
| Melaka General Hospital | 06 289 2344 |
| Mahkota Medical Centre | 06 285 2999 |
| Putra Hospital | 06 283 5888 |
| Pantai Hospital | 06 231 9999 |
| TOURISM INFORMATION | |
| State Tourism Office | 06 288 3304 06 288 1549 06 288 3785 03 8991 8000 |
| Tourism Malaysia | |
| TAXI SERVICES | |
| Melaka Taxi | 016 682 2281 |
| Melaka Limo Taxi | 013 302 1101 |
| Executive Taxi | 010 275 9816 |
| Taxi Peong | 012 257 6476 |
| Azizul Tan Taxi | 012 611 3473 |
| SKK Taxi | 06 283 3831 |

Acknowledgements

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- Baba & Nyonya Heritage Museum
- Guide Melissa Lua
- Guide Ho Peck Choo
- Colin Joseph Goh



- ii Toilet
- i Information Counter
- P Parking
- Post Office

All street names in brackets are the original names used before Malaysia's Independence

洛陽 印務局
THE ROYAL PRESS™
EST 1938, MELAKA



- 📍 Address
- 🕒 Opening Hours
- 📞 Contact
- 🌐 Website
- 🎫 Ticket Fee

The Royal Press

- 📍 No. 29 Jalan Hang Jebat (Jonker Street)
- 🕒 Closed for Restoration
- 📞 +6012 351 7540
- 🌐 www.theroyalpress.my

Founded by Ee Lay Swee in 1938, The Royal Press takes pride in being one of the oldest surviving letterpress companies in the world. This establishment features age-old, still functioning printing machineries as well as a vast collection of old newspapers, receipts, publications, packaging and calendars printed for the local businesses and townsfolk. The printing room reflects the multiculturalism of Malaysia as one would find printing blocks and typeset alphabet and characters in the many languages spoken in Melaka, eg. English, Chinese, Jawi and Tamil.



Baba & Nyonya Heritage Museum

- 📍 No. 48 & 50 Jalan Tan Tan Cheng Loo
- 🕒 Daily, 10am - 1pm (last morning tour 11.45am) 2pm - 5pm (last evening tour 4pm)
- 📞 +606 283 1273
- 🌐 www.babanyonyamuseum.com
- 🎫 Adult RM16 | Children RM11

The 'Straits Chinese' are also called Peranakan Cina or the Baba & Nyonya. It is a hybrid culture of Malay customs, Chinese traditions and Colonial influence. The three terrace lots were acquired as a house in 1861, and was once home to four generations of the Chan family. The interior of the house showcases the eclectic preferences of the late Mr. Chan Cheng Siew (1869 - 1919), a Baba (an honorific term meaning Gentlemen).



No.8, Heeren Street Heritage Center

- 📍 No. 8 Jalan Tan Tan Cheng Loo (Heeren Street)
- 🕒 Mon - Sun, 11am - 4pm
- 🎫 By Donation (towards No. 8's maintenance) Guided Tour upon request

A must for historical architecture buffs! The unassuming No. 8 is a model restoration project by the Malaysian Heritage Trust of an early Dutch era shophouse built in the 1700s. The house would introduce visitors to examples of the early Dutch form of building materials and engineering through its locally baked bricks, tiles, gables, breathable lime plaster walls and beams stabilised by the usage of wall anchor.

Stadhuy's Ethnography Museum

- 📍 At the junction of Jalan Kota (Fort Road) and Jalan Gereja (Church Street)
- 🕒 Mon - Thu, 9am - 5pm Fri - Sun, 9am - 8:30pm
- 📞 +606 284 1934
- 🎫 Adult RM5 | Children RM2

A former Town Hall of the Dutch Administration, the Stadhuy's currently houses an impressive array of artifacts from the Portuguese, Dutch and British eras. Stroll through the old Dutch bakery and the hallways where 600 years of history unfold in a series of visual paintings and miniatures. Visit sections dedicated to live size panoramas, depicting the lifestyles of the different races, cultures and religions that still exist in Melaka. A gallery featuring the contribution of Chinese-Muslim Admiral Cheng Ho also showcases Ming Dynasty China's patronage to Melaka.



Christ Church

- 📍 Jalan Gereja (Church Street)
- 🕒 Mon - Sat, 9am - 5pm
- 📞 +606 284 8804
- 🎫 Free Admission



Commissioned by the Dutch for their centenary celebration, Christ Church was completed in 1753 as a Dutch Reform church. It was reconsecrated to an Anglican church in 1838, where it remains till today a functioning church with Mass conducted in English, Tamil, Mandarin and Malay. Several modifications and additions such as a porch, resizing of the windows and installation of the bell upon the front facade were made throughout the British occupation, however most of the church remains in its 18th century setting. Do not miss the oddly placed tombstone on the ground - they are certainly not Dutch!

Note: A donation is much appreciated to help the restoration and maintenance of the church.

Melaka's Sultanate Palace Museum

- 📍 Jalan Kota (Fort Road), at the foot of St. Paul's Hill (Melaka Hill), Complex Warisan
- 🕒 Tue - Sun, 9am - 6pm
- 📞 +606 282 6526
- 🎫 Adult RM2 | Children RM1

The museum is a replica of the old Melaka Sultanate Palace before it was razed to the ground during the Portuguese attack of 1511. It was built to the specifications as detailed in the Malay annals. The museum is an excellent testimony of Malay traditional architecture with its usage of local timber ie. shingles made from the highly prized iron wood or 'belian wood'. It also highlights the culture, hierarchy and administrative system of Melaka during the Malay Sultanate era.



Clog Maker

- 📍 Jalan Kee Aun, opposite a Food court

A lifestyle necessity for the locals. The bright red wooden clogs called 'terompah' are not only durable, but immensely functional (anti-slip). Best used when walking on the wet floor of an asian kitchen or bathroom. While other stores gear their designs to appeal to tourists, the production in this little shack remains true to its original form.



Bucket Maker

- 📍 No. 35 Jalan Hang Kasturi (2nd Cross Street) opposite Makam Hang Jebat

A forgotten means of storage once used by traders and households, that is now being replaced by plastic buckets. The good, old-fashioned hand-crafted bucket is a dying craft. The last of his trade in the old quarters, Mr. Chan Cheok Tiam inherited his father's craft, and singlehandedly soldiers on, despite his advanced age. Timber is carefully selected for its quality, hewn, cured and carefully shaped into watertight staves that are held together by thin strips of metal hoops.



Blacksmith

- 📍 No. 5 Jalan Tukang Besi (Blacksmith Street)

Mr. Chin Sim is one of the last blacksmiths in Melaka. He has been in this trade since he was only twelve years old, and continues to do so 54 years later despite suffering from hearing loss and scarred hands. Sim used to make ship anchors for clients who came all the way from India. The butchers and fishermen used to send their knives to me for repairing and polishing. Today, they prefer to just get a new one. I guess this is why such a trade is really dying in Melaka. Nobody needs a blacksmith anymore," Mr. Sim says.



Shoemaker

- 📍 No. 56 Jalan Tokong (Temple Street)

Established in 1918, Wah Aik is managed by generations of shoemakers that specialise in the now extinct tradition of making shoes for bound feet. The bound feet or lotus feet (ideally 3 inches in adulthood) is traditionally a symbol of beauty and status as the Chinese ladies who could bind their feet are those who would never have to work in their lifetime. The foot is tightly bound to crush the bones at a young age to reshape it. Visitors can still purchase a pair as a souvenir. Wah Aik makes their lotus shoes in brightly colored silk and leather soles. They have also expanded their repertoire to include the delicate nyonya beaded shoes.

Signboard Carver: Fwu Chang Trading

- 📍 No. 87 Jalan Hang Kasturi (2nd Cross Street)
- 🌐 www.fwuchang.com

Fwu Chang was established just before the Japanese Occupation in 1939 specialising in traditional stone tablets and wooden signboards. Signboards in Chinese characters used to be placed above main doorways to indicate the business or a household, the family name and/or the province they originate from. Signboards by the side of doors and on pillars often time are well wishing chinese phrases. This is a complex craft that requires a knowledge of classic chinese, refined calligraphy skills, and a mastery in wood carving.



Kampung Keling Mosque

- 📍 Jalan Tukang Emas (Harmony Street)

A Japanese-styled mosque. The original structure was built by Indian Muslim traders in 1748 as a wooden building, then in 1872 it was rebuilt in brick.



Cheng Hoon Teng Temple

- 📍 No. 25 Jalan Tokong (Temple Street)
- 🕒 Mon - Sun, 7am - 7pm
- 📞 +606 283 2127
- 🌐 www.chenghoonteng.org.my

Built in 1645 by Kapitan Lee Wei King, this temple served as main place of worship for the Hokkien community. In 2003, Cheng Hoon Teng was awarded a UNESCO award for outstanding architectural restoration. Across the road is a traditional Chinese Opera Theatre that forms a part of the Cheng Hoon Teng temple complex. If you are in Melaka early August, try to catch the Fujian Chinese Opera that happens here.



Melaka Stories Hall at Hakka Association

- 📍 No. 145 Jalan Kubu
- 🕒 Sat - Sun, 1pm - 5pm
- 📞 +606 2822170 or +6016 6669101
- 🎫 By Donation



Situated on the second floor of Hakka Community Association, the hall illustrates the social and cultural living of Hakka Chinese in Melaka. Their comprehensive gallery strives to preserve stories of dying trades with the help of donated tools and artefacts by local residents for heritage preservation. For groups of 12 or more, please book in advance.

Jom Makan!

Hungry and thirsty after exploring the old town? Visit our local coffee shops (kedai kopi) and hawker stalls to get a taste of our cultural delights.

**"Jom makan" is a Malay phrase that means "Let's eat" in English.*

Pork Satay & Coffee at Lung Ann Refreshments

- 📍 No. 807 Lorong Hang Jebat
- 🕒 Mon - Sun, 8am - 4pm, Closed on Thurs
- 📞 +6012 292 3157

Take a stroll here for breakfast and get a local taste of coffee and bread. Or hop on over in the afternoons for a delicacy that can only be found in Melaka: Pork Satay with a special belimbing (star fruit/ carambola) sauce!

Nyonya Laksa & Popiah at Cafe 1511

- 📍 No. 52 Jalan Tan Tan Cheng Loo (Heeren Street)
- 🕒 Wed - Mon, 9am - 8pm
- 📞 +606 286 0150

Once the servants quarters to the family who lived in No. 48 & 50 Baba & Nyonya Heritage Museum. Cafe 1511 serves a respectable Nyonya Laksa (ask for sambal belacan chilli for added spiciness), and authentic Nyonya flour-based Popiah (spring rolls).

**Air-conditioned.*

Teochew Porridge at Long Fatt

- 📍 No. 15 Jalan Kampung Pantai
- 🕒 Daily, 8:30am - 3pm
- 🕒 Closed on Sun & Public Holidays
- 📞 +6019 364 6682

An 80 year old establishment that serves traditional Teo Chew porridge. Ask for the Assam Pedas fish that is boiled slowly for over 10 hours. Another must-try is their pickled sour vegetable stew. A good time to go is for breakfast or lunch.

Mee Suah at Pin Pin Hiong

- 📍 No. 786 Corner of Jalan Tukang Besi & Lorong Hang Jebat (Jonker Street)
- 🕒 Daily, 8am - 2pm

A place where some families have been eating at, for three generations. Mee Suah is a noodle which the Chinese believe signifies longevity in life, when eaten. Order an individually prepared bowl of hot, steaming pork soup, oysters and noodles (without innards if you prefer) and be blessed!

Banana Leaf Rice at Sri Kaveri Catering

- 📍 No. 81 Lorong Hang Jebat
- 🕒 Daily, 7am - 10pm
- 📞 +606 286 0344

Named after a famous river in Tamil Nadu, Sri Kaveri Catering offers an authentic South Indian cuisine. Banana leaf rice is a local favorite dish that consists of white rice served with an assortment of vegetables, placed on a banana leaf. A satisfying treat for lunch. Be sure not to eat the banana leaf!

Other Makan - Makan Shops

- Portuguese Food at ELEVEN
- 📍 No. 11 Jalan Hang Lekir

- Nyonya Snacks at Cafe 1511
- 📍 No. 52 Jalan Tan Tan Cheng Loo

- Hainanese Chicken Rice at Chung Wah
- 📍 No. 8 Jalan Hang Jebat (Jonker Street)

- Tandoori Chicken at Pak Putra
- 📍 Jalan Laksamana 4

- Nyonya Kuihs
- 📍 In front Char Yong Fui Kuan (Cha Yang Association) on No. 89 Jin Hang Jebat

**the act of eating.*

Tips & Reminders

The old town is now strictly a smoke free zone. If caught, a compound of up to RM5,000 could be imposed.

Keep in mind when visiting traditional establishments that the trades are the crafts-men's livelihood rather than tourist attractions. To get the best out of your local experience, a group size of 6-8 persons is ideal for some of the listed traditional trade establishments to ensure minimal interference.

The old quarters is very much a living heritage area. It is considered good practice to be respectful when dealing with the local residents.

The old quarter is accustomed to tourist presence hence photography is permitted in major temples and mosques, however when in doubt, it is recommended you seek permission, eg. photographing a funeral ritual. For cases that would be inappropriate to ask, discretion is appreciated.

If you are sensitive to street food in foreign countries, we would advise taking precautionary measures. All of the places recommended to eat have been tried and tested.