

*Travelwise*



# MELAKA

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**Travelwise™**

**MELAKA**

**TRAVEL GUIDE**

Published by Wizio  
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# **CONTENTS**

**Introduction**

**Quick Facts**

**Orientation**

**Climate**

**When to go**

**Languages**

*Common Phrases in Malay*

**Religions**

**Money**

*Credit Cards*

*ATM*

*Traveler's Cheques*

*Currency Exchange*

**Communications**

*Internet*

*Telephone*

*Mobile phones*

*Postal Service*

**Electricity**

**Water**

**Health**

**Smoking**

**Tipping**

**Visa Information**

**Getting There**

*By Air*

*By Train*

*By Bus*

[By Car](#)

## **[Getting Around](#)**

[By Bus](#)

[By Taxis](#)

[By Trishaws](#)

[By Bicycles](#)

## **[Attractions](#)**

[Stadthuys](#)

[Christ Church](#)

[St. Paul's Church](#)

[Porta de Santiago \(sole surviving gate of A' Famosa fortress\)](#)

[Melaka Sultanate Palace Museum](#)

[Jonker Street](#)

[Cheng Hoon Teng Temple](#)

[Kampung Kling Mosque](#)

[Sri Poyyatha Vinayagar Moorthi Temple](#)

[Baba Nyonya Heritage Museum](#)

[St. Francis Xavier's Church](#)

[Poh San Teng Temple](#)

[St. John's Fort](#)

[Portuguese Settlement](#)

## **[Accommodations](#)**

[High-end options](#)

[Mid-range options](#)

[Budget options](#)

[Backpackers' Hostel](#)

## **[Festivals and Events](#)**

[Chinese New Year](#)

[Vesak Day](#)

[Hari Raya Puasa \(Eid al-Fitri\)](#)

*Deepavali (Diwali)*

**Food**

**Useful Contacts**

*Emergency numbers*

*Tourist Information Centre*

*Embassies/Consulates*

**Safety Tips**

# Introduction

Melaka (or Malacca) is the most historic city in Malaysia. It is the seat of the first Malay sultanate, the Sultanate of Melaka, which rose in power during the 15th century to dominate the important international trade route along Straits of Malacca. Melaka then served as the most important entrepôt for the lucrative maritime trade between China, India and Arabia.

The prosperity of the sultanate lasted for a century, then came to an abrupt end with the arrival of the Portuguese. In 1511, the Portuguese, with their more sophisticated weapons and superior firepower, conquered Melaka, thus paving the way for over 4 centuries of European colonial rule. The Portuguese used Melaka as an important port for the highly profitable spice trade. However, they were defeated by the Dutch in 1641 after a prolonged siege and Melaka fell under Dutch rule.

Under Dutch rule, Melaka's importance as a trading port was eclipsed by Batavia (present day Jakarta), another city controlled by the Dutch. The administration and control of Melaka was handed over to the British in 1798 due to the Napoleonic Wars in Europe. Melaka was formally ceded to Britain in 1824. The British ruled Melaka, and together with Singapore and Penang formed the Straits Settlement.

Today, Melaka is a lively and colourful city with a well-preserved colonial charm. Buildings and architectures from the different colonial era co-exist in a unique harmony - a British water fountain standing right in front of Dutch government headquarters building which is adjacent to a military fort built by the Portuguese, with Chinese shophouses bustling right across the river.

Melaka city centre was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site along with Georgetown, Penang in July 2008.

## Quick Facts

Size: 1,664 square kilometres

Population: 800,000

Ethnic groups: Malay (63%), Chinese (25%), Indian (6%), Eurasian

Languages: English, Chinese, Malay, Tamil

Religions: Islam (66%), Buddhism (24%), Hinduism (5%), Christianity (3%)

Currency: Malaysian Ringgit (MYD)

International dialing country code: 60

Area code: 06

Postal code (Zip code): 75000 to 78999

Time zone: UTC+8

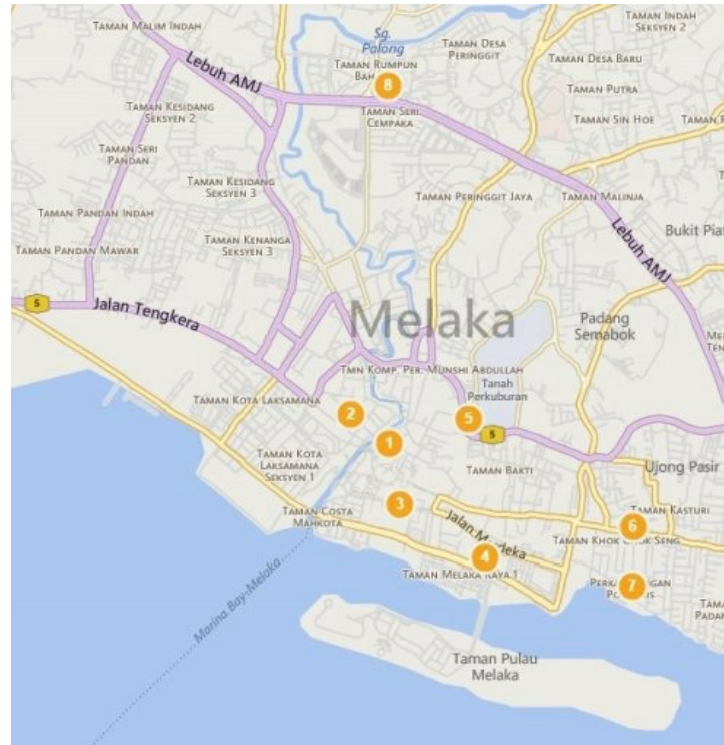
Internet TLD: .my

Coordinates: 2.2000° N, 102.2500° E



# Orientation

Melaka sits on the southwestern coast of Peninsula Malaysia, facing the Straits of Malacca. It is about 150km south of Kuala Lumpur and 250km northwest of Singapore. It is the name of a city, as well as a state – the state of Melaka is one of the 13 states that make up modern-day Malaysia and the state capital is called Melaka City (*Bandaraya Melaka*).



Melaka:

1. [Stadthuys](#), [Christ Church](#), [St. Paul's Church](#), [Porta de Santiago](#)
2. [Jonker Street](#)
3. Dataran Pahlawan Megamall, Mahkota Parade Shopping Centre, Hatten Square
4. Melaka Raya commercial area
5. [Poh San Teng Temple](#), Bukit Cina
6. [St. John's Fort](#), St. John's Hill
7. [Portuguese Settlement](#)
8. [Melaka Sentral Bus Terminal](#)

Melaka started from the estuary of the Melaka River, right on the coast of the Straits of Malacca. For centuries, the Sultans and European colonialists established their administrative centres, official residences and religious sites on the southern side of the river; whereas traders, labourers and ordinary folks built their shophouses, temples and residences on the northern side.

Today, one can find the historic old city, and thus the core zone of the UNESCO World Heritage Site, occupying both sides of the river mouth; while the modern new city with bustling shopping malls, high-rise office towers and residential apartments grows on its outer perimeter.

The modern bus terminal - Melaka Sentral – is situated 4km to the north of the city centre.

## Climate

Melaka, like the rest of Malaysia, has an equatorial climate. This means temperatures of between about 23°C/73°F during the night and 32°C/89°F during the day, between 70% and 90% humidity, and an annual total rainfall of about 2400mm.

The driest months are usually December and March. The wettest period is usually from August to October, with frequent thunderstorms and heavy downpours during these months.

## **When to go**

Due to its equatorial climate, Melaka is popular with tourists around the year – there is no high and low season in the true sense. The more popular times are around Christmas, New Year's Day, and Chinese New Year (falling between the end of January to mid-February) when the local Malaysians are having their holidays. During these times, accommodation tends to be packed, and prices go up.

Besides, Melaka is also a popular destination for Malaysians during the school holidays. There are two main school holiday periods in Malaysia, which usually falls between end of May to middle of June, and middle of November to end of December.

## Languages

Almost all Malaysians are able to converse in simple English as learning English is compulsory in all Malaysian schools. Most service staffs working in hotels and tourist attractions are able to speak English fluently.

Malay (*Bahasa Malaysia*) is the national language and almost all locals in Melaka are able to speak Malay. The ethnic Chinese in Melaka (who form the majority in the city area) also speak Chinese (Mandarin or *putonghua*) and several of its dialects, notably Hokkien and Cantonese. Ethnic Indians usually converse with each other in Tamil as most of them originate from Tamil Nadu in southern India.

## Common Phrases in Malay

Malay is a relatively easy language to pick up for English speakers. It uses the same 26 Roman alphabets as English. Many Malay vocabularies are adapted from English, for example, *hospital*, *klinik* (clinic), *polis* (police), *bas* (bus), etc.

Here are some commonly-used phrases:

Good Morning – Selamat Pagi (*Se-la-mat Pa-gi*; literally *Safe Morning*)

Good Afternoon – Selamat Petang (*Se-la-mat Pe-tang*; literally *Safe Afternoon*)

Good Night – Selamat Malam (*Se-la-mat Ma-lam*; literally *Safe Night*)

How are you? – Apa Khabar? (*A-pe Kha-bar*; literally *What News*)

I am fine – Khabar Baik (*Kha-bar Ba-ek*; literally *News Good*)

Thank you – Terima Kasih (*Te-ri-ma Ka-seh*; literally *Accept Love*)

This – Ini (*I-ni*)

That – Itu (*I-tu*)

Where is? – Di Mana? (*Di Ma-ne*)

When? – Bila (*Bi-le*)

What – Apa (*A-pe*)

How much – Berapa (*Be-ra-pe*)

Price – Harga (*Har-ge*)

One – Satu

Two – Dua

Three – Tiga

Four – Empat

Five – Lima

Six – Enam

Seven – Tujuh

Eight – Lapan

Nine – Sembilan

Ten – Sepuluh

Eleven – Sebelas

Twelve – Dua Belas

One Hundred – Seratus

One Thousand – Seribu

Road – Jalan (Ja-lan)

Lane – Lorong (Lo-rong)

River – Sungai (Su-ngai)

City – Bandar (Ban-dar) or Bandaraya (Ban-da-ra-ye)

Town – Pekan (Pe-kan)

Village – Kampung (kam-pong)

Mosque – Masjid (Mas-jid)

Church – Gereja (Ge-re-je)

Temple – Kuil (Ku-il)

# Religions

The official religion in Malaysia is Islam, but other religions are freely practiced. These include Buddhism, Taoism, Hinduism, Christianity, Catholicism, Sikhism and traditional Chinese folk religions.

For many places of worship, such as mosques and temples, visitors are required to remove their shoes before entering. Some mosques even provide female visitors with robes to cover up. Also, photography is prohibited in some places of worship, so it is advisable to check first before taking any photographs.



# Money

The Malaysian Ringgit (MYR) is the official currency. It is often abbreviated locally as RM. One ringgit is subdivided into 100 cents (*sen*).

Banknotes: RM1, RM5, RM10, RM20, RM50, RM100

Coins: 5, 10, 20, 50 cents

## Credit Cards

Credit cards are widely accepted in hotels, shopping malls, high-end restaurants and big stores, but generally not accepted in backpackers' hostels, hawker centres, fast food restaurants and local cafes. Some shops require a minimum spending before accepting credit cards.

Visa and MasterCard are the most widely accepted cards; American Express and Diners Club are less commonly accepted.

## ATM

Almost all ATM machines accept Visa, MasterCard, Cirrus, Maestro, PLUS and UnionPay network. All ATM machines display in English language or offer English as one of the language options.

It is not easy to find an ATM operating after midnight as most ATM machines are non-operational from 12 midnight to 7AM the following day. If you are desperate for cash, try ATM machines of international banks, such as HSBC and Standard Chartered Bank.

## Traveler's Cheques

Traveler's cheques, on the other hand, are not very useful in Melaka. Many places do not accept them; even if they do, the exchange rate is often depressing. Most banks will not cash your traveler's cheques unless you maintain a bank account with them.

## Currency Exchange

Money changers can be found in most tourist destinations, such as Jonker Street area, and major shopping malls. Most banks provide currency exchange service as well, but the rates are less favourable.

Approximate conversion rates with major currencies as of July 2015:

USD 1 ~ RM 3.70

€ 1 ~ RM 4.20

£ 1 ~ RM 5.90

¥ 100 ~ RM3.10

SGD 1 ~ RM 2.80

# Communications

## Internet

Internet connectivity is good in Melaka. Most hotels and hostels offer free internet access for their guests without any extra charge. Free internet access is also widely available in many restaurants, cafes and eating outlets. These include all Starbucks, CoffeeBean, and some McDonald's and KFC.

Cybercafés usually charge RM1 to RM3 per hour for Internet access (depending on which part of Melaka you are in).

## Telephone

The country code for Malaysia is 60. The area code for Melaka is 06.

To call a landline number in Melaka within Malaysia, dial 06 followed by the phone number.

To call a landline number in Melaka from overseas, dial your international access code followed by 606, then the phone number.

To call an international number from Melaka, dial 00, followed by the country code and phone number.

## Mobile phones

Malaysia has four major mobile network operators, namely DiGi, Maxis, Celcom, and U Mobile. All of them provide excellent network coverage in Melaka.

Mobile networks in Malaysia utilize the GSM 900 and GSM 1800 systems. 3G (WCDMA) and HSPA networks, which offer speedier mobile data transmission, are available in most parts of the Melaka city centre.

International roaming onto these networks is possible if your operator allows it. However, roaming charges can be exorbitantly high. A cheaper option is to buy a local pre-paid SIM card. This gives you a Malaysian phone number and enables you to enjoy local rates when making calls (around RM0.35 per minute for calls within Malaysia), sending SMS (around RM0.10 per SMS to Malaysian numbers) and accessing the Internet (around RM1 to RM3 per day for mobile data). Receiving calls and SMS is free.

To apply for a local pre-paid SIM card, go to any shop selling mobile phones

or mobile accessories (there are many of them around) or the outlet of one of the mobile operators. Each SIM card costs around RM5 to RM10 with some airtime credit preloaded in it. You need to bring your passport along for registration. Registration is free. Pre-paid reload cards are widely available in newsstands and convenience stores, such as 7-Eleven.

The standard way of making international calls using mobile pre-paid SIM cards is expensive. For cheaper international calls, dial the following prefix before the country code of the number you are calling:

DiGi – 133

Maxis (Hotlink) – 132

Celcom – 131

U Mobile – 1310

The mobile operators also offer a wide variety of mobile Internet plans which provide data connection via 3G or HSPA network. These plans are rather affordable and can be a big money saver if you use popular smartphone apps, such as WhatsApp, WeChat, Viber, Line, etc. to communicate.

Mobile phone numbers in Malaysia do not carry an area code, but are prefixed by 01.

## **Postal Service**

The sole postal service provider is Pos Malaysia which provides postal services to most countries in the world. Besides, many international courier services, e.g. FedEx, DHL and UPS, are also available in Melaka.

A local alternative to the international courier companies is Poslaju, which provides just as reliable a service but at a fraction of the costs. Poslaju is available at all Pos Malaysia outlets.

Non-urgent letters and postcards can be dropped in postboxes inside post offices or red postboxes found outside post offices and along main roads. If there are two slots in a postbox, use the one that says "*lain-lain*" for international post.

# Electricity

Almost all places in Melaka are connected to the national electricity grid and get reliable electricity supply through the grid. Electricity supply in Melaka operates at 230V/50Hz, similar to countries like Singapore, the United Kingdom, etc.

Power sockets in Melaka are mostly British 3-pin rectangular socket as shown in the picture below. You need an adaptor if your plugs are of a different type.



## **Water**

It is not advisable to drink the water straight off the tap in Malaysia. You should always boil the water first before consuming it. An alternative is bottled drinking water, which is widely available and very inexpensive in Melaka.

## Health

There are no vaccinations legally required to travel to Malaysia. Nevertheless, it is advisable to get your vaccinations in order before starting your trip. The general vaccination against diphtheria, tetanus and polio (DTP) is recommended. Besides, hepatitis A and typhoid vaccinations are also recommended if traveling for more than 2 months.

There are very few cases of malaria in Melaka. The main threat, however, is dengue fever. So, to be cautious, use mosquito repellent (50% DEET).

## **Smoking**

Smoking is prohibited in Melaka city. This ban encompasses all indoor and outdoor areas. Offenders can be fined RM300.



## **Tipping**

Tipping is generally not practiced in Melaka. But a 10% service charge is sometimes included in restaurant and hotel bills.

## **Visa Information**

All visitors to Malaysia must hold a passport that is valid for at least six months on arrival.

Nationals of EU countries, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, South Africa and Japan are not required to obtain visas in advance and will be given a social visit pass upon arrival, that allows them to stay in Malaysia for a period of up to 90 days (extendable).

Citizens of ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) countries and Hong Kong are not required to obtain visas in advance and will be given a social visit pass upon arrival that allows them to stay in Malaysia for a period of up to 30 days (extendable).

# Getting There

## By Air

There is a small airport in Melaka, but it is currently not serviced by any commercial airlines. To get in by air, fly to Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) (IATA: *KUL*), and take an express bus (coach) or taxi from there. The journey by road takes about 1.5 hours.

## **By Train**

Melaka is not served by any railway lines. The nearest train station is about 30km away. To get to Melaka City from the station, you need to take a taxi, which can be costly. Train service in Malaysia is rather antiquated, slower and more expensive than express buses.

## By Bus

This is the most popular mode of public transportation to Melaka. All long distance express buses to Melaka terminate at the Melaka Sentral Bus Terminal, about 4km from Melaka city centre.

To get to Melaka from Kuala Lumpur, go to the new Southern Integrated Terminal (*Terminal Bersepadu Selatan*), which is located next to the Bandar Tasik Selatan LRT and KTM Komuter stations. There are many bus companies providing services to Melaka. Bus ticket costs around RM13. The journey takes about 2 hours.

To get to Melaka from Singapore, go to Golden Mile Complex (505 Beach Road), which is located near Lavender MRT station. There are many bus companies providing services to Melaka. Alternatively, go to Textile Centre (100 Jalan Sultan) where *Maju Express* and *Malacca-Singapore Express* operate. Bus tickets cost around SGD18. The journey takes about 3.5 to 5 hours depending on traffic condition at the Singapore-Malaysia border.

You can also purchase your tickets online and check the bus schedule at the following websites:

<http://www.easibook.com>

<http://www.busonlineticket.com>

<http://www.eticketing.my>

## By Car

Melaka is well-connected by road to most parts of Malaysia and Singapore. The main road transport artery in Peninsula Malaysia - the North South Expressway (PLUS) - passes through the town of Ayer Keroh, about 10km to the north of Melaka city. When coming from Kuala Lumpur or Singapore, take the exit at Ayer Keroh and follow the signboard indicating “*Pusat Bandaraya*” to the Melaka city centre.

## Getting Around

The public transportation system within Melaka is in a sorry state. Trains are non-existent; buses are chaotic; taxi drivers refuse to use meter; a multi-million ringgit monorail system broke down and stopped operation after only a few years.

The good news is: most of the tourist attractions in Melaka are concentrated in a small area, within easy walking distance. Given the fact that public transportation in Melaka left much to be desired, walking may be the best option.

## By Bus

The intra-city bus system in Melaka is confusing and chaotic. There is no schedule; even if there is, the bus drivers simply do not bother to follow them. Having said that, there are a few buses that are useful for tourists:

**Panorama Melaka Red Double Decker Bus (“*Bas London*”):** a hop-on hop-off bus service that caters for tourists; operates in a loop around the UNESCO World Heritage zone and Melaka city centre. *Tickets: RM5 per day for adults; RM2.50 per day for children.*

**Malacca Town Bus No. 17:** operating in a loop starting from Melaka Sentral Bus Terminal to the UNESCO World Heritage Site, Mahkota Parade Shopping Centre, Melaka Raya commercial zone and the Portuguese Settlement.

**Malacca Town Bus No. 50:** Melaka Sentral Bus Terminal to Mahkota Parade Shopping Centre and seafood restaurants nearby



## **By Taxis**

Taxis are easily available, but most do not use meters. You need to negotiate and haggle with the taxi drivers before the journey. Be careful as tourists get ripped off often.

Most drivers speak simple English. Some will even give you their business cards to solicit for repeat business.

## **By Trishaws**

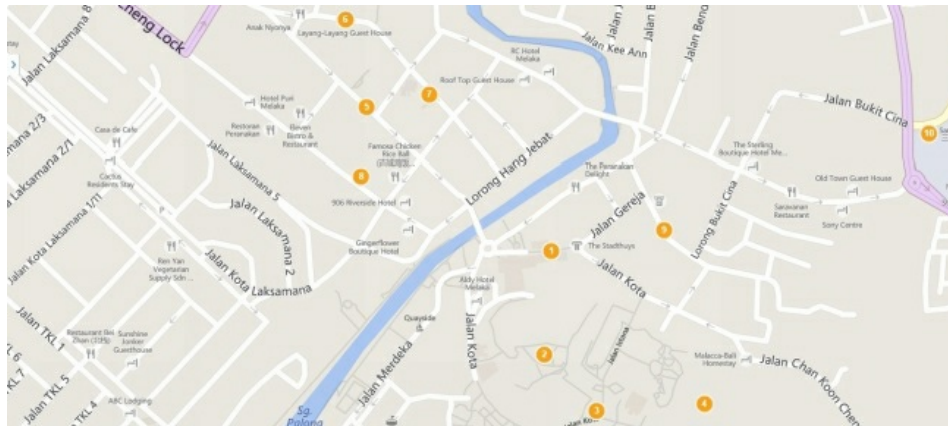
Trishaws are available for short trips within the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Most are colourfully decorated and equipped with speakers blaring pop music. The riders generally speak simple English. The fare is about RM40 for an hour, but negotiate and agree on a price in advance.

## **By Bicycles**

A good option for moving within the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Bicycles can be rented cheaply in the vicinity of Jonker Street. Be extra careful though because there is no dedicated bike lanes and Malaysian car drivers do not have the habit of giving way to bicycles.

# Attractions

Most of the attractions in Melaka are concentrated in the core zone of the UNESCO World Heritage Site, which are all within easy walking distance. Farther attractions, such as Poh San Teng Temple and St. John's Fort, can be reached easily by bicycle.



Melaka City:

1. [Stadthuys](#), [Christ Church](#)
2. [St. Paul's Church](#), St. Paul's Hill
3. [Porta de Santiago](#) (only surviving gate of A' Famosa fortress)
4. [Melaka Sultanate Palace Museum](#)
5. [Jonker Street](#)
6. [Cheng Hoon Teng Temple](#)
7. [Kampung Kling Mosque](#), [Sri Poyyatha Vinayagar Moorthi Temple](#)
8. [Baba Nyonya Heritage Museum](#)
9. [St. Francis Xavier's Church](#)
10. [Poh San Teng Temple](#), Bukit Cina

## Stadthuys

*Jalan Gereja, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-284-1934*

Stadthuys, which means Town Hall in Dutch, is located right at the heart of the UNESCO World Heritage Site. This eye-catching red-coloured building was built in 1650 as the office of the Dutch Governor. It is a fine example of colonial Dutch architecture of that period and is believed to be the oldest surviving Dutch building in the Far East. The original colour of the building is white. It was changed to red during the 1820's and had been popularly known as the "Red Building" until today.

The British continued to use Stadthuys as the administrative centre when they took over Melaka from the Dutch. After Malaysia gained independence, the building continued to serve as the administrative centre of the state of Melaka until 1979.

Stadthuys currently houses the Museum of History and Ethnography. Among the displays are traditional bridal costumes and relics throughout Melaka's history.

*Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00AM to 5:30PM. Saturday and Sunday, 9:00AM to 9:00PM*

*Tickets: RM5 for adults, RM2 for children*



## Christ Church

*Jalan Gereja, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-284-8804*

Christ Church is situated right beside [Stadthuys](#) and sports the same distinctive red-colour paint. It was built between 1741 and 1753 by the Dutch to commemorate the centenary of their capture of Melaka. Today, Christ Church is the oldest functioning Protestant church in Malaysia.

The building bears all the hallmarks of 18<sup>th</sup>-century colonial Dutch architecture: a rectangular floor plan, huge walls, granite plinths, and roof covered with Dutch tiles. The floors incorporate several tombstones with Portuguese and Armenian inscriptions. The church bell was inscribed with the year 1698, which suggests that it had been used for other purposes before being installed in the church. On the altar you will see sacramental silverware, still bearing the Dutch coat of arms.

*Opening hours: 8:30AM to 5PM, Monday to Saturday.*

*Admission is free. Photography is forbidden*



## St. Paul's Church

Sitting at the top of St Paul's Hill, right behind [Stadthuys](#), St. Paul's Church is one of the oldest church built by Europeans in Asia.

The church was built by the Portuguese in 1521 as a way of giving thanks for surviving enemy attacks while sailing. It was originally named Nossa Senho (Our Lady of the Hill).

The church accommodated the Jesuit missionary St. Francis Xavier during his visits to Melaka between 1545 and 1553. When he died in Sancian, Macau, he was laid to rest here for 9 months before his body was moved to Goa in India.

When the Dutch conquered Melaka, the Dutch turned it from a Catholic church to a Protestant one and renamed it St. Paul's Church. The hill on which it sits atop came to be known as St. Paul's Hill. However, it fell into disuse following the completion of [Christ Church](#) in 1753.

A pearl white statue of St. Francis Xavier still stands in front of the church today.

*Opening Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week*

*Tickets: Free Admission*





## ***Porta de Santiago (sole surviving gate of A' Famosa fortress)***

*Jalan Kota, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-286-6011*

Located within short walking distance of [Stadthuys](#), *Porta de Santiago* is probably the most-photographed icon of Melaka. It was one of the 4 main gates of *A' Famosa*, a fortress built by the Portuguese in 1512 after their capture of Melaka. It is today one of the oldest surviving European architectural structures in the Orient.

The Portuguese used forced labour to construct the fortress, with 3-metre thick walls using parts from demolished palaces, mosques and royal mausoleums. A 40-metre high watch tower was also built in the northwest corner of the fortress.

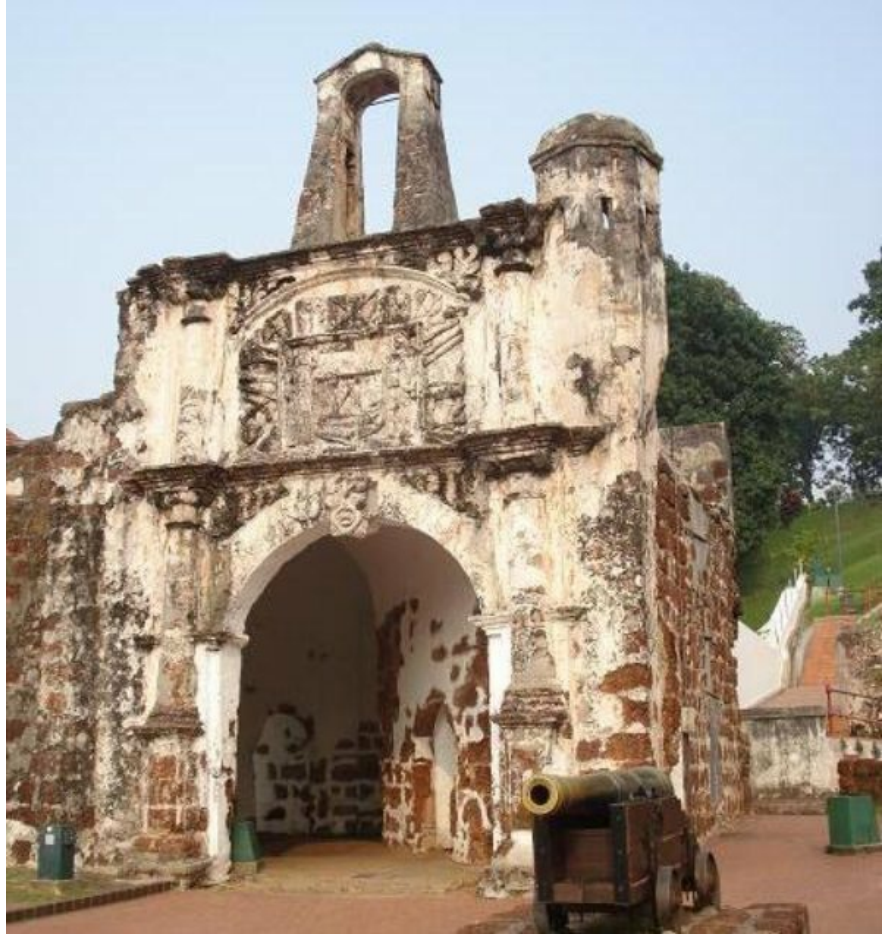
The fortress changed hands when the Dutch captured Melaka in 1641. The Dutch renovated the fortress in 1670, hence the inscription "ANNO 1670" on the arch of the surviving gate. Above the arch is the coat of arms of VOC (also known as the Dutch East India Company).

*A' Famosa* falls into the hands of the British when the Dutch handed the control of Melaka to the British during the Napoleonic Wars in Europe. This arrangement was made with the understanding that Melaka would revert to Dutch rule when the war in Europe ended. However, fearing the resurgence of a Dutch-held Melaka, the British started a systematic demolition of defence facilities in Melaka in 1806. *A' Famosa* was almost completely destroyed when Lord Minto and Stamford Raffles (the founder of modern-day Singapore) intervened. Unfortunately, by the time demolition was stopped, only *Porta de Santiago* was left standing.

*Opening Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week*

*Tickets: Free Admission*





## Melaka Sultanate Palace Museum

*Jalan Kota, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-282-7464*

Located beside [\*Porta de Santiago\*](#), this building is a replica of the royal palace of the Melaka Sultanate. It was built in 1985 based on the descriptions in the Malay Annals (*Sejarah Melayu*), a literary work that chronicles the history of the Melaka Sultanate. The timber structure is reminiscent of the architectural style during the reign of Sultan Mansur Shah (1456-1477). No nails, only wooden pegs, were used in the construction.

The building currently houses a cultural museum. The exhibits include a huge diorama depicting the sultan's court, and ceremonial and traditional costumes, weaponry, jewelry, instruments and works of art.

*Opening hours: 9:00AM to 5:30PM daily. Closed on Tuesdays*

*Tickets: RM 2 for adult. RM 0.50 for children*



## Jonker Street

*Jalan Hang Jebat, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-284-8282*

Renamed as Jalan Hang Jebat some decades ago, Jonker Street is at the heart of the traditional residential area of Old Melaka. The word 'Jonker' originates from the Dutch word "*Jonkvrouw*", which means Dutch nobles, so the street literally means Dutch Nobles' Street. Historically, Jonker Street served as the residential area for rich Baba Nyonya families.

Jonker Street is the focal point of activities in the UNESCO World Heritage Zone after nightfall, especially on weekends (Friday to Sunday) when vehicle traffic is barred and it is turned into a pedestrian-only street market. The narrow street is lined with stalls selling all kinds of delicious local food, knick knacks and exotic items. There is a stage at one end of the street where cultural performances are staged occasionally by local communities.

Jonker Walk Weekend Night Market:

*Opening Hours: 6:00PM to 12 midnight (Friday, Saturday and Sunday)*

*How to get there:*

*Jonker Street is situated right across the Melaka River from [Stadthuys](#). Just walk across the bridge towards Hard Rock Café.*



## Cheng Hoon Teng Temple

25, Jalan Tokong (Harmony Street), 75200 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2829343.

Cheng Hoon Teng (literally *Green Clouds Temple*) is the oldest Chinese temple in Malaysia. Construction started in 1645 with materials brought from Fujian and Guangdong provinces in southern China. The temple currently occupies a built-up area of over 60,000 square feet. It is the product of fine traditional Chinese craftsmanship. The main temple building is decorated with intricate carvings and exquisite lacquer works, with ornate mythological figurines on the eaves of the curved roof ridges

The central altar is dedicated to Kwan Yin, the Goddess of Mercy. Beside her is Ma Zhu, the patron diety of fishermen and seafarers.

*Opening hours: 7AM to 7PM.*

*Admission is free.*





## Kampung Kling Mosque

*Jalan Tukang Emas (Harmony Street), 75200 Melaka*

Completed in 1748, the architecture of this beautiful mosque is Sumatran with strong Hindu influences. It features a unique 3-tiered pyramidal roof and a 6-tier Chinese pagoda-style minaret. On closer inspection, you will find an unusual blend of English and Portuguese glazed tiles and elegant Corinthian-style columns with symmetrical arches supporting the exquisitely carved wooden ceiling. You can also find a Victorian chandelier, a wooden pulpit with Hindu and Chinese carvings, and a Moorish cast iron lamp post in the place of abulation for pre-prayer cleansing.



## **Sri Poyyatha Vinayagar Moorthi Temple**

*Jalan Tukang Emas (Harmony Street), 75200 Melaka*

This Hindu temple is more than 230 years old and is one of the oldest Hindu temples in Malaysia. It is dedicated to Lord Viyanagar, the elephant diety with human body and 4 hands and is sacred to the Chettiar and Chitty (an Indian sub-group) community in Melaka.

## **Baba Nyonya Heritage Museum**

*Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock (Heeren Street). Tel: +60-6-283 1273.*

This well-preserved Baroque-style building is typical of the homes of wealthy Chinese families in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was the ancestral home of a Baba Nyonya family for 3 generations.

Baba Nyonya, also known as the Peranakan people or Straits Chinese, are descendants of the earliest Chinese migrants to Melaka. The term *baba* refers to the man; while *nyonya* refers to the woman.

The house is furnished with antique rosewood furniture with a mix of Chinese, Dutch and Victorian designs. The interior opens into a courtyard that serves as an inlet for sunlight.

*Opening hours:*

*Monday to Thursday 10AM – 1PM, 2PM – 4:30PM*

*Friday to Sunday 9:45AM – 4:30PM*

*Tickets:*

*RM15 for adult. RM10 for children.*

*Guided tours only. No photographs allowed.*





## **St. Francis Xavier's Church**

*12, Jalan Banda Kaba, Melaka 75000. Tel: +60-6-2824770, +60-6-2824817*

Located a short walking distance from Stadthuys further up the Melaka River, this church was built in 1856 in honour of St. Francis Xavier. It was once the largest church built by the MEP (*Missions étrangères de Paris* or Paris Foreign Missionary) in the Malay Peninsula.

The church was believed to be modeled after the Cathedral of St. Peter in Montpellier as it follows closely the older church's original construction, except for a portico which was later added in 1963.

To date, St Francis Xavier Church still serves its function as a Catholic church, with regular mass services being held from time to time.

## Poh San Teng Temple

Also known as Sam Poh Kong Temple or Sam Poh Teng Temple, this historic Chinese temple was built in 1795 by Kapitan Chua Su Cheong, the same year he was appointed as the *Kapitan* (leader of the local Chinese community) by the Dutch colonial government. It is located at the foot of Bukit Cina (literally Chinese Hill), which is the oldest and largest Chinese graveyard outside China, the earliest grave found dating to 1622.

The well located right next to the Poh San Teng Temple is called Hang Li Poh Well. It is believed to be the oldest existing well in Malaysia. Legend has it that it was dug on the orders of Sultan Mansur Shah, purportedly for his consort, Hang Li Poh, a princess from China. However, so far, historians have not found any evidence of a Princess Hang Li Poh in Chinese history and imperial records, and there is a great likelihood that she is not of royal blood.

The well was nevertheless an important source of water supply for the people in Melaka. Throughout the centuries, poisoning the well was often an effective strategy for attackers to weaken the defence of Melaka. Realising such importance, the Dutch built a wall around the well complete with cannons and a guard post to protect it from sabotage. When Melaka was ceded to the British, the well was neglected and consequently fell into disrepair.



## **St. John's Fort**

*Jalan Ujong Pasir, 75000 Melaka*

St. John's Fort was constructed by the Dutch in the 18th century on a site once served as a private chapel dedicated to St. John the Baptist. Built from laterite stones and bricks, it had only one entrance and its outer walls were between 10 to 12 feet high.

The cannons in the fort are placed to face inland, instead of facing the sea. This is because most of the attacks on Melaka during the Dutch colonial era came from the hinterland.

Come here in the evenings and you will be treated with a fantastic sunset view of Melaka.

*How to get here:*

*Take Malacca Town Bus No. 17 (green colour; destination: "Ujong Pasir" and "Bandar Hilir") from Melaka Sentral Bus Terminal*



## Portuguese Settlement

*Perkampungan Portugis, Ujong Pasir, 75050 Melaka*

The Portuguese Settlement is located in Ujong Pasir, about 5km southeast of the Melaka city centre. The 1000-plus residents here are mostly descendants of intermarriages between colonial Portuguese and local Malays. Many of them speaks a unique language known as *Kristang* (or *Cristao*), which is a creole mixture of archaic Portuguese from the 16th century combined with Malay elements and is found only in Malaysia. They are devout Catholics and still maintain some of the Portuguese traditions such as food, costume and dance.

In the 1930s, the British colonial government, at the request of a French missionary, allowed the establishment of a fishing village of wooden huts on an area of swampy land next to the sea. It was originally called St. John's Village and became a bastion for those with Portuguese ancestry to preserve their religion, language, culture and traditions.

Today the settlement comprises a few streets with names like *D'Alberquerque*, *Sequera*, *Eredia*, *D'Aranjo* and *Texeira*. At its heart is *Medan Portugis* (literally Portuguese Square), which comprises a courtyard with a number of seafood restaurants, and a couple of bars.

On 29th June every year, the residents here hold a colourful celebration for the Feast of Saint Pedro with processions, cultural shows, dancing and banquets.

In recent years, this area has become rather touristy, with many seafood restaurant staff pestering you to have a meal at their restaurants. The quality of the food left a lot to be desired; and the prices are expensive. Many consider this a tourist trap. Consider giving this place a miss, especially if you do not have your own transportation since the location is rather out of the way.

*How to get here:*

*Take Malacca Town Bus No. 17 (green colour; destination: "Ujong Pasir" and "Bandar Hilir") from Melaka Sentral Bus Terminal*

## **Accommodations**

Being one of the major tourist destinations in Malaysia, Melaka has a wide variety of accommodation choices, from luxurious five-star hotels, to basic backpackers' hostels for the budget-conscious. The price of accommodation in Melaka is relatively cheap even by South East Asian standards.

## High-end options

### **The Majestic Malacca**

*188, Jalan Bunga Raya, 75100 Melaka. Tel: +60-3-27831000 or +60-6-2898000.*

*Email: [travelcentre@ytlhotels.com.my](mailto:travelcentre@ytlhotels.com.my)*

This is a luxury 5-star hotel with a great view of the Melaka River. It is located in commercial centre of Melaka city, about 15-minute walk from the core UNESCO World Heritage Zone. The reception is housed in a refurbished 1920's colonial mansion, with original porcelain flooring, intricate artwork, antiques, teakwood fittings and use of beautiful silks. Exceptional service.

Prices start from RM500.

### **Casa Del Rio**

*88, Jalan Kota Laksamana, 75200 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-289 6888. Fax: +60-6-289 6999.*

*Web: <http://www.casadelrio-melaka.com> Email: [reservation@casadelrio-melaka.com](mailto:reservation@casadelrio-melaka.com)*

This Mediterranean-inspired boutique hotel is situated at the mouth of the Melaka River, a stone's throw away from Jonker Street. The architectural design pays tribute to the Portuguese heritage of Melaka as well as the Melaka Sultanate.

Prices start from RM450.

### **Vintage Eleven Guesthouse**

*11 Jalan Tokong 75200, Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2820295 or +60-12-3358459.*

*Web: <http://www.vintageeleven.com.my> Email: [enquiries@VintageEleven.com.my](mailto:enquiries@VintageEleven.com.my)*

Strategically located in the middle of Jonker Street, this guesthouse is surrounded by colonial buildings, art galleries, antique shops, bars and other tourist attractions. The building, a typical 19th-century Baba-Nyonya tenement, was restored and perfected with modern interiors while retaining the impressive wealth of old Melaka charm.

Prices start from RM1000.

### **45 Lekiu Melaka Guesthouse**

*45, Jalan Hang Lekiu, 75200, Melaka. Tel: +60-12-6234459.*

Web: <http://www.45lekiu.com>

Located near the popular Jonker Street, this 1941 pre-war art deco building has been painstakingly restored into a stylish and luxurious abode. The outdoor patio on the roof offers beautiful panoramic view of old Melaka.

Prices start from RM1000.

### **Hotel Equatorial Melaka**

*Jalan Parameswara, Bandar Hilir, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2828333*

Web: <http://www.equatorial.com/mel> Email: [info@mel.equatorial.com](mailto:info@mel.equatorial.com).

This is a modern international business hotel located right beside Dataran Pahlawan Megamall, a popular shopping mall. It features 496 luxuriously furnished rooms with each room offering a generous view of the Straits of Melaka or the historical St. Paul's Hill. It is only 5-minute walk from the core UNESCO World Heritage Zone.

Prices start from RM250.

## **Mid-range options**

### **Hatten Hotel**

*Hatten Square, Jalan Merdeka, Bandar Hilir, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2869696*

Web: <http://www.hattenhotel.com>

This is a brand-new 4-star hotel located above Hatten Square Shopping Mall, opposite the popular Dataran Pahlawan Megamall and Mahkota Parade Shopping Centre. Equipped with modern facilities, it offers spacious suite rooms with nice views of Melaka. It is about 5-minute walk to the core UNESCO World Heritage Zone.

Prices start from RM240.

### **Holiday Inn Melaka**

*Jalan Syed Abdul Aziz, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2859000*

Web: <http://www.holidayinn.com/Melaka>

Situated near the waterfront overlooking the Straits of Malacca, Holiday Inn offers easy access to shopping around Melaka Raya commercial area. Free shuttle buses to popular historical sites within the UNESCO heritage zone are provided.

Prices start from RM210.

### **Mahkota Hotel Melaka**

*Jalan Merdeka, Bandar Hilir, 75000 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2812828.*

Web: <http://www.mahkotahotel.com.my> Email: [reservation@mahkotahotel.com.my](mailto:reservation@mahkotahotel.com.my)

Good location near the Mahkota Parade shopping centre and Dataran Pahlawan Megamall. It offers apartments with one to three bedrooms. Great for families or large groups. About 10-minute walk to core UNESCO World Heritage Zone.

Prices start from RM200.

### **Ramada Plaza**

*Jalan Bendahara, 75100 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2848888. Fax: +60-6-2849269*

Web: <http://www.ramadaplazamelaka.com>



This is a 4-star business hotel situated in the commercial centre of Melaka city. Newly-refurbished. Lots of shops and restaurants around. It is about 15-minute walk to the core UNESCO World Heritage Zone.

Prices start from RM210.

### **The City Bayview Hotel**

*Jalan Bendahara, 75100 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2839888.*

Web: <http://www.bayviewhotels.com> Email:  
[bayviewmelaka@bayviewhotels.com](mailto:bayviewmelaka@bayviewhotels.com)

Located at the heart of Melaka's commercial centre, with many shops and restaurants around, this 4-star hotel offer 192 rooms, including studio suites with private Jacuzzis. It is about 15-minute walk from the core UNESCO World Heritage Zone.

Prices start from RM200.

## **Budget options**

### **Jonker Boutique Hotel**

*82, Jalan Tokong, 75200 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2825151*

Web: <http://www.jonkerboutiquehotel.com>

This boutique hotel is housed in a well-preserved 3-storey historic building featuring an imposing curved art-deco facade. It is surrounded by numerous antique shops, quaint eateries, cosy bars, and traditional Chinese coffee shops. Unbeatable location right at the heart of Jonker Street, with all the bustling activities literally at your doorstep.

Price start from RM190.

### **Hotel Puri**

*118 Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock. Tel: +60-6-2825588.*

Web: <http://www.hotelpuri.com>

This boutique hotel is housed in a carefully restored Baba Nyonya house, which once belonged to the descendants of an eminent plantation tycoon and philanthropist, Tan Kim Seng.

Extending 100 metres long, its distinct characteristics are its beautiful and intricately decorated façade and the impressive length of the house. It is located along Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock, previously known as Heeren Street, which runs right next to Jonker Street.

Prices start from RM140.

### **Heeren House**

*1, Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock, 75200 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2814241.*

Web: <http://www.heerenhouse.com>

This small hotel is located right beside the Malacca River at one end of Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock (Heeren Street) in the Jonker Street vicinity. It is refurbished from an old traditional shophouse. All accommodation overlooks the Melaka River, with most rooms having a full river view. The furnishings have been selected to reflect the authenticity of Baba Nyonya style. Nice cafe and handicraft shop downstairs.

Prices start from RM140. Breakfast included (sausage, egg, beans and toast).

**Baba House**

*127 Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock, 75200 Melaka. Tel: +606-2812168.*

Web: <http://www.thebabahouse.com.my>

Antique furniture, an interior with Chinese, Victorian and Dutch design are features that set Baba House apart from other hotels. It is housed in a nicely-restored traditional Baba Nyonya house. The rooms exude old-world charm with its detailed carvings and classic dark wood furnishings.

Prices start from RM130.

## **Backpackers' Hostel**

### **The Cardamom Hostel**

*43A, Jalan Kota Laksamana 1/2, Taman Kota Laksamana, 75200 Melaka.*

*Tel: +60-12-6359786. Web: <https://www.facebook.com/thecardamom>*

Located about 10-minute walk from Jonker Street, this hostel provides dorm rooms with air-conditioning, shared bathrooms with hot shower. Wi-Fi is free and strong signal throughout the hostel. Free filtered water. Friendly owner. Clean and comfortable.

Dorm beds start from RM20.

### **Old Town Guesthouse**

*119-1, Jalan Temenggong, Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2860796, +60-19-7059899.*

*Web: <http://www.melakaguesthouse.com>*

Located near Bukit Cina, about 10-minute walk from the UNESCO World Heritage Zone, this is a simple, family-run guesthouse that offers a relaxed atmosphere. It offers private rooms that fit 2 to 5 people. Free Wi-Fi. Free breakfast.

Private fan rooms start from RM48. Private air-conditioned rooms start from RM58.

### **Layang Layang Guesthouse**

*24 & 26, Jalan Tukang Besi, 75200 Melaka. Tel: +60-6-2922722, +60-18-2002525*

*Web: <https://www.facebook.com/layanglayangguesthouse>*

This guesthouse is housed in a refurbished traditional Chinese shophouse with a beautiful courtyard. Great location on Jalan Tukang Besi, which is a relatively quiet street running right next to Jonker Street. Cons: due to the traditional nature of the building, sound-proofing is very poor, bring ear-plugs.

Private rooms start from RM70.

# **Festivals and Events**

## **Chinese New Year**

*Month: January or February*

Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival, is the biggest festival of the year for the Chinese community in Melaka. The festival falls in the month of January or February every year - the exact date depends on the traditional Chinese lunar calendar. Celebrations last for 15 days.

In preparation of this traditional event, Chinese families clean their homes thoroughly to “sweep away” any ill fortune, and gather for reunion dinners on the Eve of Chinese New Year. It is also customary for the parents and grandparents to give their children little red packets containing money, which symbolizes good fortune. Chinese New Year also brings people together, and is marked by visits to kin, relatives and friends. The focal point of the celebration is Jonker Street with its colourful street light-ups, night markets and decorations.

## **Vesak Day**

*Month: May*

Vesak Day is the most significant day of the year in the Buddhist calendar and is celebrated by Buddhists all over the world. The day commemorates the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha. In Malaysia, Vesak Day usually falls in the month of May, on the first full moon of the fourth month of the Chinese lunar calendar.

On this day, devout Buddhists and followers congregate at their various temples before dawn for the ceremonial. Devotees often bring simple offerings of flowers, candles and joss-sticks to lay at the feet of their spiritual teacher..

## **Hari Raya Puasa (Eid al-Fitri)**

*Month: The date of this festival follows the Islamic calendar and can fall on any month of the year*

Hari Raya Puasa, also known as Eid al-Fitri, is the most celebrated festival for the Muslim community in Melaka. During the month of Ramadan in the

Islamic calendar, Muslims fast (*puasa in Malay*) from day-break till sunset. Hari Raya Puasa marks the end of Ramadan and this religious fasting. Hari Raya Puasa is celebrated by family gatherings, lavish dinners, and general merriment. The date of this festival follows the Islamic calendar and “moves” forward by around 11 days every year.

## **Deepavali (Diwali)**

*Month: October or November*

Deepavali, also known as Diwali, is the most anticipated Hindu festival of the year. It is celebrated by the Indian community in Melaka, which make up about 5% of the city's population. Deepavali is known as the "Festival of Light", where Hindus hold candle lighting rituals to ward off evil spirits and celebrate the victory of good over evil.

## Food

Being a melting pot of food culture from all over Asia, eating is one of the favourite pastimes for people in Malaysia. Melaka is no exception and is famous for the mouth-watering satay celup and chicken rice ball.

## Chicken Rice Ball

This is one of the signature food of Melaka. This dish consists of bite-sized pieces of steamed chicken, served with specially-prepared fragrant rice squeezed into a ball shape. It is mixed with light or dark soy sauce, and a delicious ground chilli and ginger paste. The cooks prepare the delicious rice by first frying it in chicken fat before cooking in chicken broth. The method of cooking the chicken is unique too: the chicken is first steamed until it is fully cooked, then immediately removed from the steamer and soaked in cold water. This stops the cooking process and ensures that the meat remains tender.

Chicken rice ball can be found in many hawker centres, coffee shops and food courts throughout the city. The popular ones are:

1. Chung Wah Coffee Shop (*Kedai Kopi Chung Wah*) at 18 Jalan Hang Jebat (white building on the right after crossing the bridge towards Jonker Walk; next to Hard Rock Cafe). 8AM to 1PM.
2. Hoe Kei Chicken Rice Ball at Jonker Walk (a short distance after Chung Wah Coffee Chop, also on the right hand side). 9AM to 6PM.





## Satay Celup

A popular local delight, satay celup is essentially steamboat in satay sauce. A wide variety of meat, vegetables and seafood are skewered on bamboo sticks. Customers choose what they like and dunked it into a pot of boiling satay sauce until it is cooked. The key is the satay sauce which gives the food a unique taste. You pay for what you eat and at the end of the meal, the skewers are counted. The current price is RM1 per skewer.

The most popular place for satay celup is Capitol Satay Celup at 41, Lorong Bukit Cina. (short distance away from city centre; opens 5PM till late). Another popular outlet is Ban Lee Siang Satay Celup at Jalan Ong Kim Wee.



## Cendol

A famous local dessert. Cendol is a mixture of blended ice with big mushy red beans and greenish noodles colored by pandan leaf, topped with coconut milk and *gula melaka* (brown coconut sugar syrup). It is delicious and cooling. Price: RM2 to RM3. Cendol can be found in many places in Melaka.



## **Bak Kut Teh**

Literally “meat bone tea”, this is a soup of meaty pork ribs simmered for hours in broth with a variety of Chinese herbs and spices. It is usually eaten with white rice, preserved vegetables and braised beancurd skins. The dish evolved as such in order to supplement the meagre diet of the coolies of yesteryear. It is now a signature dish of Malaysia, popular among the locals and tourists alike.



## Satay

Slices of marinated meat on bamboo skewers grilled over hot charcoal and served with spicy-sweet peanut sauce for dipping. This is a popular Malay traditional food. It is usually served together with a fresh salad of cucumbers, onions and glutinous rice cubes.



## Laksa

Thick rice noodles in a spicy gravy of curry and coconut milk, with prawn, egg, chicken, beancurd puffs or fish cake. Raw or lightly blanched cockles are sometimes added to the dish. One of the most popular places for laksa is *Jonker 88* at Jonker Street (88 Jalan Hang Jebat, 75200 Melaka; opposite Geographer's Café).





## **Nasi Lemak**

Rice steamed in coconut milk. There are two versions of this classic: the Malay version has a simpler offering of fried anchovies, fried peanuts, cucumber, hard-boiled egg and sambal; whereas the Chinese version have a whole bunch of things like deep fried drumstick, chicken franks, fish cake, curried vegetables and luncheon meat in it.

Nasi lemak is commonly found in coffee shops and hawker centres throughout Melaka, and some stalls still retain the tradition of wrapping the rice in a banana leaf to enhance its flavour.



## **Rojak**

There are a few variation to this popular snack. The Chinese version is essentially a salad of cucumber, pineapple, beansprout, deep-fried beancurd, mixed with a spicy fermented prawn paste, and topped with a generous sprinkle of finely chopped roasted peanuts. The Indian version consists of various vegetables and fruits, beancurd, seafood deep-fried in batter, crushed peanuts, crispy dough crullers, mixed with a spicy and sweet peanut sauce. You can also choose to add squid, sausage, tofu, local crackers, crabs, potato, eggs, and fish cake, among other possibilities.



# Useful Contacts

## Emergency numbers

Ambulance, Police, Fire. Tel: 999

Rescue (Civil Defense). Tel: 991

All the above-mentioned numbers, Tel: 112 from mobile phones

Tourist Police, Tel: 06-288-3732

Melaka General Hospital, Tel: 06-282-2344

International and domestic operator assisted service, Tel: 101

Directory enquiry service, Tel: 103

Multilingual international service, Tel: 198

## Tourist Information Centre

Pusat Penerangan Pelancongan,

Jalan Kota, 75000 Melaka

*\*right beside Melaka River, opposite [Stadthuys](#)*

Tel: +60-6-2836220

Tourism Info Hotline: 1300-885050

Email: [enquiries@tourism.gov.my](mailto:enquiries@tourism.gov.my) or [mtpb.melaka@tourism.gov.my](mailto:mtpb.melaka@tourism.gov.my)

Opening Hours:

9AM to 6PM, Monday to Saturday (excluding Public Holidays),

## Embassies/Consulates

Australia, 6 Jalan Yap Kwan Seng, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60-3-21465555.

Austria, Wisma Goldhill, Suite 10-01, 67 Jalan Raja Chulan, Kuala Lumpur.  
Tel: +60 3 2057 8969.

Belgium, Suite 10-02, Menara Tan & Tan, 207 Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2162 0025.

Brazil, 20-01, Menara Tan & Tan, 207 Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2171 1420.

Canada, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Menara Tan & Tan, 207 Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur.



Tel: +60 3 27183333.

China, 229 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2163 6815 (extension 102~106). Also handles Hong Kong/Macau visas.

Croatia, 3 Jalan Mengkuang, Off Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 42535340.

Czech Republic, 32, Jalan Mesra, Off Jalan Damai, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2142 7185, +60 3 2141 3205.

Denmark, Wisma Denmark, Denmark House, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 86 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2032 2001.

Finland, Wisma Chinese Chamber, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 258 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 4257 7746.

France, 192-196, Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2053 5561.

Germany, 26<sup>th</sup> Floor, Menara Tan & Tan, 207 Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2170 9666.

India, 2 Jalan Taman Duta, Off Jalan Duta, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2093 3510.

Ireland, Ireland House, The Amp Walk, 218 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2161 2963.

Italy, 99 Jalan U Thant, Tel: +60 3 4256 5122, +60 3 4256 5228.

Japan, 11, Persiaran Stonor, Off Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 4256 5122, +60 3 2177 2600.

South Korea, No. 9 and 11, Jalan Nipah, Off Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 4251 2336, +60 3 4251 5797.

Mexico, Menara Tan & Tan, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 207 Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2164 6362.

Netherlands, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, South Block, The Ampwalk, 218 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2168 6200.

New Zealand, Level 21, Menara IMC, 8 Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2078 2533.

Norway, 53<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Empire Tower, Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2175 0300.

Russia, 263 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 4256 0009, +60 3

4256 7252.

Saudi Arabia, 4F Wisma Chinese Chamber, 258 Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60-3-4257-9831, +60-3-4257-9433.

Spain, 200 Jalan Ampang. Tel: +60-3-2148-4868, +60-3-2148-4655.

Sweden, Wisma Angkasa Raya, 123 Jalan Ampang, Tel: +60-3-2052-2550.

Switzerland, 16, Pesiaran Madge, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60-3-2148-0622, +60-3-2148-0751, +60-3-2148-0639, +60-3-2142-8766.

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Level 7, Menara Yayasan Tun Razak, 200 Jalan Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60-3-2161-4439.

United Arab Emirates, 12, Jalan Kenanji 2, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60-3-4253-5221, +60-3-4253-5420.

United Kingdom, 185, Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60-3-21702200.

United States, 376, Jalan Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +60 3 2168 5000.

Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (walk in).

## Safety Tips

Melaka is a relatively safe place for travellers. Nevertheless it has its fair share of crime. Apply common sense as you would in your home country. Precautions should always be taken to guard against snatch-thieves, pickpockets and scams. Some notable precautions:

1. Avoid walking alone in deserted places, alleys, or streets, especially after dark.
2. Do not accept rides from unlicensed and unmarked taxis known as “*kereta sapu*”. Be wary of strangers offering a ride in their car.
3. Be careful when carrying valuables (camera, handbags, etc.) in motorbike or bicycle baskets. Thieves (usually also on motorcycles) may target these when you are stopped at a traffic light.
4. Use the safe in your hotel room, if available, to store your valuables.
5. Be careful when placing your cellphone, handbag, camera, and valuables on tables when dining at roadside stalls, food courts, or open-air restaurants. Thieves may walk by and grab them when you are not looking.
6. Beware of snatch thieves, especially when you are wearing jewelry and/or carrying bags. These felons practice the art of 'ride-by' grabbing which can result in serious injury to the victim. If possible, walk against the traffic and keep handbags on the side away from the road. Better still, do not carry one.
7. Look out for men who grope people on the bus (it happens to both male and females!). In the event this happens, get off the bus at a fairly populated, well lit area, lest the perpetrator choose to follow you. You can easily look for help from other locals or the police.
9. Look both ways before crossing the road. Do not assume vehicles will stop for you at pedestrian crossings.

Last but not least, do not be too paranoid and enjoy Melaka!