



# TELUK INTAN'S ROYAL LINKS



## foreword

**Dato' Hamidah Osman**

State Executive Councillor for Tourism



I take this opportunity to wish readers a belated Happy New Year and a belated Chinese New Year. The year of the dragon coincides remarkably well with Visit Perak Year 2012 and I am proud to announce that measures are already underway to make the occasion a success. I have of late initiated actions to make ambassadors out of students, youths and even taxi drivers who would in turn pass on the word to all and sundry. The drive for excellence is relentless and I must admit it is not without hindrance, real or imagined. But regardless of the flaws, I am certain with time these obstacles will be surmounted. What we all need now is to remain focused on the mission ahead. There is plenty to be done and I will not rest on my laurels until all these are done professionally and judiciously, with the blessing of Perakeans, of course.

**T**eluk Intan, a town located in South Perak, was founded on the banks of the Perak River. It is the largest town in Hilir Perak District and is also the district's capital. During the British protectorate era, the town was renamed Teluk Anson by the third British Resident, Hugh Low (1877-1889) in honour of the Lieutenant-Governor of Penang, Major-General Sir Archibald Anson who, in 1882, drew up the plan of the modern township. In 1982, during the centenary of the town's establishment, the original name was reintroduced.

Over 120, 000 people or about half of Hilir Perak District's population live here. It was here that the Perak rulers held court from 1528 to 1877 before Kuala Kangsar came into prominence.

During high-tides, parts of the town will be inundated although water gates and banks are aplenty. This is because the town is located within an ox-bow meander of the Perak River, making flooding a common occurrence. Flood mitigation measures taken by the government have successfully reduced flooding in Teluk Intan today. Speculations are rife however, that the river's flow will erode the narrow neck of land in between the loops of the meander, effectively turning Teluk Intan into an island.

Teluk Intan has a rich cultural and heritage background. Many parts of this town play a pivotal role in the history of Perak.

The town is on Federal Route 58 (Jalan Changkat Jong and Jalan Maharaja Lela), Route 151 (Jalan Sultan Abdullah) and Route 147 (Jalan Padang Tembak). This in itself is a significant attribute of Teluk Intan.

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# Teluk Mak Intan

In the early days Teluk Intan was named Teluk Mak Intan after a rich Mandailing woman from Sumatra. It was widely believed that she was a trader from across the Straits of Malacca although some claimed that she was in actual fact a pirate.

## Batu Tengggek

(War Memorial)



Another attraction is “Batu Tengggek” (Sitting Boulder) which is located at a junction in the town centre. According to local legend, the rock was placed there by a British soldier and was originally the size of a matchbox.

Over the years, the rock grew to its present size. The boulder is now part of a local war memorial built to commemorate World War I and World War II.

## Ruin of Raja Muda's Palace

This palace was once the official residence of the Raja Muda of Perak. After the demise of the Raja Muda of Perak, the palace was neglected and drug addicts took over and stripped the palace.

The palace is believed to be haunted. It is located next to the mansion of Dato' Mah, near Jalan Sekolah.



## Restoran Mastan Ghani



The scrumptious *mee rebus*, *laksa*, curry mee and *rojak* are the main attractions of this famous Teluk Intan restaurant which is located at Jalan Sultan Abdullah in Taman Ros. Accompanied with a liberal serving of *cendol* or *ice kacang* it will leave you feeling extremely satisfied with your order. The unique taste of the restaurant's food is linked to traditional recipes belonging to the owner. The likeable concept of Malaysia observed by Mastan Ghani has attracted people of all races. It is open every day except on Fridays between 8.00 to 6.00 p.m. For reservations call Mohd Dani at 012-588 2608.

# Leaning Tower of Teluk Intan



Visitors never miss an opportunity for a photograph



Built by Leong Cheong in 1885, the edifice was originally a water tower to supply water to the nearby population. As the name suggests, the tower leans to one side and is often compared to the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy. The 85-foot tower serves as a beacon to guide ships into Teluk Intan Port. Currently it is a local tourist attraction, and no longer stores water. The area around the tower was paved with bricks and became a plaza. The main street at the centre of Teluk Intan, Jalan Ah Cheong, is named after Leong Choon Cheong to commemorate his contribution.



Harga Jualan Rumah 1 Tingkat 4 Bilik (LOT BIASA - 22' X 70')  
 Dari **RM160,000**

Pinjaman	100%	90%	80%	70%	60%
	RM 160,000	144,000	128,000	112,000	96,000

**BAYARAN BALIKBULANAN (ANGGARAN)**

		707	634	561	415
- BANK (40 TAHUN)	-				
- KERAJAAN (30 TAHUN)	788	720	651	582	513

**GAJI BULANAN UNTUK LAYAK PINJAMAN (ANGGARAN)**

		1,800	1,600	1,400	1,200
- BANK	-				
- KERAJAAN	1,500	1,400	1,300	1,200	1,000

Rumah Teres 1 Tingkat | 4 Bilik  
 22' x 70'

**SIMPULAI LAND SDN BHD**

05 - 241 2339 / 012 - 507 8825 / 012 - 500 9513 / 019 - 555 8231  
 9A, Medan Chateau, Taman Chateau, 30250 Ipoh, Perak.

## Fragrant Biscuit



The local Chinese community produces many famous delicacies. One of them is 'Heong Peah' (Fragrant Biscuit). Heong Peah has a crispy pastry layer outside and a sticky filling inside. It contains a mixture of flour, oil, maltose, sugar, sesame, and shallots. The 'Heong Peah' market in Teluk Intan is dominated by two family-run enterprises viz Sin Guan Tin and Sin Joo Heong. Locals fondly refer to the latter as "Tiger Biscuit". The former's trademark is a butterfly.

## Beting Beras Basah



Located in Bagan Datoh, Beting Beras Basah is of historical and cultural significance to Perakans despite its obscurity. This area, near the mouth of the Perak River, has a long history. The first Sultan of Perak, Sultan Muzaffar Shah, was stranded on a sand bank at the mouth of the river. Legend has it that only after casting away his crown into the Perak River was his boat freed from the sand bank.

On the coronation of a new Sultan of Perak, a visit to this area is a must. Following tradition, it is at the river mouth where the installation of all Perak sultans enters the final stage whereby the new ruler dips his foot into the river in a symbolic gesture to formalise his coronation.

## Tourism Roundup



Imagine yourself time travelling back into history to around the 1920s. The sight of dulang washers panning manually in a stream at the edge of colossal "palings" is envisioned, as classical music permeates the air. Picture this no more, as the past is manifested into reality at the Lost World of Tambun's Tin Valley. This replica of a tin mining site, with a functional "palong", is superimposed against a backdrop of luxuriant green and awe-inspiring limestone hills.

The objective of the feature, according to Calvin Ho, the General Manager, is to impart information on history to the younger generation in the most appealing way possible. The impact is obvious.

While walking along the trail, one becomes aware of the importance of the metal to Perak. Visitors were truly excited when Lingam, the narrator, offered visitors, the opportunity to "dulang-wash" in the nearby pond. After panning vigorously some found traces of tin in their "dulang". The entire area was once a tin mine, as were many other areas in Tambun.

Huge elephant replicas along the trail are not decorative pieces to ogle at. We clambered on one of the "beast" to feel how miners transported tin in those days. The



## TAMBUN'S TIN VALLEY



entire trail was an educational journey into the process of tin mining. We then delved into the books of history by visiting the "Galleria" which showcases numerous tin-mining devices, such as monitors used to wash sludge containing tin.

The carefully constructed tin trail goes past limestone caves which are 400 million years old. History has come alive amidst a verdant but laidback landscape.

## TAXI DRIVERS AS TOURISM AMBASSADORS



Executive Councillor for Tourism, Dato' Hamidah Osman met with taxi drivers from the various associations in the city and in the state at MH Tower, Ipoh recently. The purpose was to inform the drivers of the significance of Visit Perak Year (VPY) 2012 and the role taxi drivers have to play in promoting the auspicious occasion. Hamidah urged them to be mini ambassadors of the state. By doing so they could then make a meaningful contribution to the tourism

industry. She encouraged the drivers to be conversant with touristic sites in the state, especially the 10 iconic spots identified for promotion. Of interest is Royal Belum, as this is a nature park which is much older than the Amazon jungles. She asked that the associations assist in making this a reality by organising short courses to better prepare their members for the task ahead.



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## PERAK'S GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM



The Geological Museum of Perak, located along Jalan Sultan Azlan Shah and facing Sekolah Tunku Abdul Rahman, is a treasure trove of geological samplings. Upon entry, visitors can learn about the hydrological research and development of our country, including details on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas of which Malaysia is a signatory.

The museum has on show explosives and detonators used for rock blasting in quarries, including the Magnum 365 explosive, which is sure to blow visitors away, figuratively that is.

The extensive display of minerals and precious stones is the icing on the cake as they glistened beautifully under the soft lights. They include fluorescent minerals which are sensitive to ultra-violet light, such as 'scheelite' which emits a radiant sun yellow when exposed to ultra-violet light. High-end jewellery outlets cannot match the museum's display of organic gemstones, including black pearls and the mother of pearl.

Visitors can view the by-products of minerals such as granite slab flooring designs from different parts of the world. Information on the mining of minerals, especially tin and its artifacts are on display. Few are aware that back then, people made use of coconut shells for mining purposes. Walk through a make-believe limestone cave and you will be spurred to visit the real thing soon enough. This geological museum, incidentally, houses over 600 samples of minerals and ores found in the state of Perak. Make a date with the geological museum and be enthralled.

Visiting hours: 8.00 a.m. to 4.15 p.m., Monday to Friday and 8.00 a.m. to 2.45 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is free.

For details call 05-557644 and 05-557685

## Old Town Heritage Trivia



Han Chin Pet Soo



House on Concubine Lane



Concubine Lane

As you walk through the the Ipoh Heritage Trail Map 1 take note of icon (23) Han Chin Pet Soo miners club. Formed by miner Leong Fee and Yau Tet Shin. Leong Fee's tin mine the Tambun Mine earned its owner over \$5 million Straits dollars during its heyday. On the wall of the club is a gambling permit dating back to 1897.

Diagonally across the road is Panglima Lane, icon (24) though it was better known as Concubine Lane then. It was a place known for opium smoking, gambling and brothels and later where the concubines of rich Chinese tycoons were kept.

At the end of the lane look for icon (21) the Dramatist Hostel a three-storey building that housed Chinese opera actors who performed at the theatre next door (long since demolished). The hostel beside had dormitories for the actors on the first floor while the entire second floor was a studio for the actors to rehearse.

All the three icons were built at the turn of the 20th century and viewed together provide an heritage insight of the community that thrived during the tin-producing era in the Old Town area at that point in time.

## VPY 2012 AMBASSADOR



At a ceremony held at Stadium Indera Mulia, Ipoh recently, Dato' AC Mizal was appointed ambassador for Visit Perak Year (VPY) 2012. AC Mizal (real name is Mizal Zaini) was chosen because of his popularity. He will help to promote Perak through his TV shows. Tourism Perak will also collaborate with TV3 to produce a programme on Perak. It will be hosted by AC Mizal. Mizal promises to do his best. He already has forty activities planned for the year. This will be announced in due time.

At the same event, fifteen motorcycle convoys from all districts in Perak converged at the stadium. Each convoy consisted of 200 participants or more. The objective was to involve the young in a VPY programme to instil a sense of belonging in them and create a feeling of pride for Perak which will invariably motivate them to promote the state through word of mouth. All participants were appointed junior ambassadors for a good cause. A competition will be organised to seek the district that best promotes their local attractions.

Executive Councillor for Tourism, Dato' Hamidah Osman, later told media representatives that Tourism Perak is working hard to put Perak on the world map. This will be realised when Lenggong, where the "Perak Man" was discovered in 1991, is declared a United Nations World Heritage site in June. Tourism Perak, meanwhile, will be promoting the state overseas, starting with Medan in Indonesia where medical tourism is the main focus, followed by Singapore and then Australia.

## TOURISM CALENDAR – FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2012

1. Chap Goh Meh Open House at Perak Kwan Yin Tong, Jalan Gopeng, Ipoh on February 5 and 6.
2. International Prawn Fishing Competition in Sg Perak, Teluk Intan on February 18 and 19.
3. Royal Belum World Drums Festival in Ipoh/Manjung on February 18 to 27.
4. VPY 2012 Golf Invitational Challenge in Ipoh on March 8 to 10.
5. Padi Field Run/Menara Condong Run in Teluk Intan on March 11.
6. International Conference on Biodiversity and Tourism in Ipoh on March 13 to 14.
7. National-level World Water Day 2012 Celebration at Sg Kerian, Parit Buntar on March 24.

For details please call Tourism Perak at 05-5290894

## CHINESE STUDENTS AWED BY CAVES



Ninety three students, comprising boys and girls and aided by a group of adults, hailing from Guangzhou, China visited Gua Tempurung recently.

The group was met at the site by Executive Councillor for Tourism, Dato' Hamidah Osman who expressed her pleasure in welcoming them. She hoped the students would return home with fond memories of Perak and would pass the news around. The group's leader Professor Chow, a renowned archaeologist, expressed his gratitude for hospitality shown. Chow revealed that he had found a unique stone formation which is many million years old. The stone according to Chow is more unique than the one in the Taiwan museum.

The tour ended with a hearty lunch courtesy of Tourism Perak.