



**Local Currency** The unit of currency in Malaysia is called the Ringgit, sometimes called the Malaysian Dollar (M\$). There are 100 Sen to the Ringgit. Notes are available in the following denominations: 2, 5, 10, 50, 100 and 1,000.

**Office/Telephone Facilities** The General Post Office is on Leboh Downing in Georgetown.

A Telephone Office (Telekom Malaysia) can be found on Burmah Road. Open 24 hours daily.

AT&T: 1 800-80-0011 / MCI: 1 800-80-0012 / SPRINT: 1 800-80-0016

**Tourist Information** A Tourist Information Office is located on level 3 in the Komtar Building **6** on Penang Road in Georgetown. Another is located in the Fort Cornwallis area of the town at Leboh Pantai and Leboh Light.

**Transportation** Taxis are available at the pier and drivers may accept U.S. Dollars. Prices should be set or metered. The main bus terminal is on Jalan Prangin, in the basement of Komtar Tower. Trishaws (3-wheeled, human powered vehicles) are numerous. Establish a price before starting your journey.

**Useful Words**

Yes – Ya No – Tidak Thank you – Terima kasih  
 You're welcome – Sama sama Good morning – Selamat pagi  
 How much? – Berapa harga  
 Where is the toilet? – Di mana tandas

The official language of Malaysia is Bahasa Malaysia, but English is widely spoken.

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# Penang Malaysia

**Port Explorer**

## General Information

Located two miles (3.25 km) off the northwest coast of peninsular Malaysia, Penang is situated on the northern end of the Straits of Malacca. It is one of Malaysia's most popular tourist destinations and boasts the best beaches on Malaysia's west coast. Formerly known as "Prince of Wales Island" by the British, it is a small, lush, hilly and tropical island, 15 miles (24 km) long and 10 miles (16 km) wide. The highest point on the island is Penang Hill at 2,270 feet (681 meters).



The natural beauty, tropical forests, spice plantations and graceful colonial architecture has earned it the name of "Pearl of the Orient." However, the Malay name is "Pulau Pinang," which means "Island of the Betel Nut." The population of just over 1 million inhabitants consists of Chinese, Malay, Indian and Europeans. This multi-racial society has left its ethnic mark on Penang's architecture, cuisine and lifestyle.

Georgetown was named by the British in honor of King George III and is a bustling metropolitan city that occupies the island's northeast corner. It is the capital of the island, the seat of administration and the commercial center of the state. Its fascinating collection of fine old buildings, colonial past, temples, mosques and red roofed Chinese shops combine the best of Eastern and Western cultures.



## Places of Interest



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The **Penang Museum and Art Gallery 1** was built in 1821 and houses a fine collection of old photographs, maps, charts and historical relics as well as traditional Malaysian arts. Admission charge.

**Kapitan Keling Mosque 2** was named after the Indian Muslim Merchant, Caudeer Mohudeen (Kapitan King) and was built in the early 19th century. The dome shaped and ochre-yellow painted mosque serves the Indian Muslim community.

