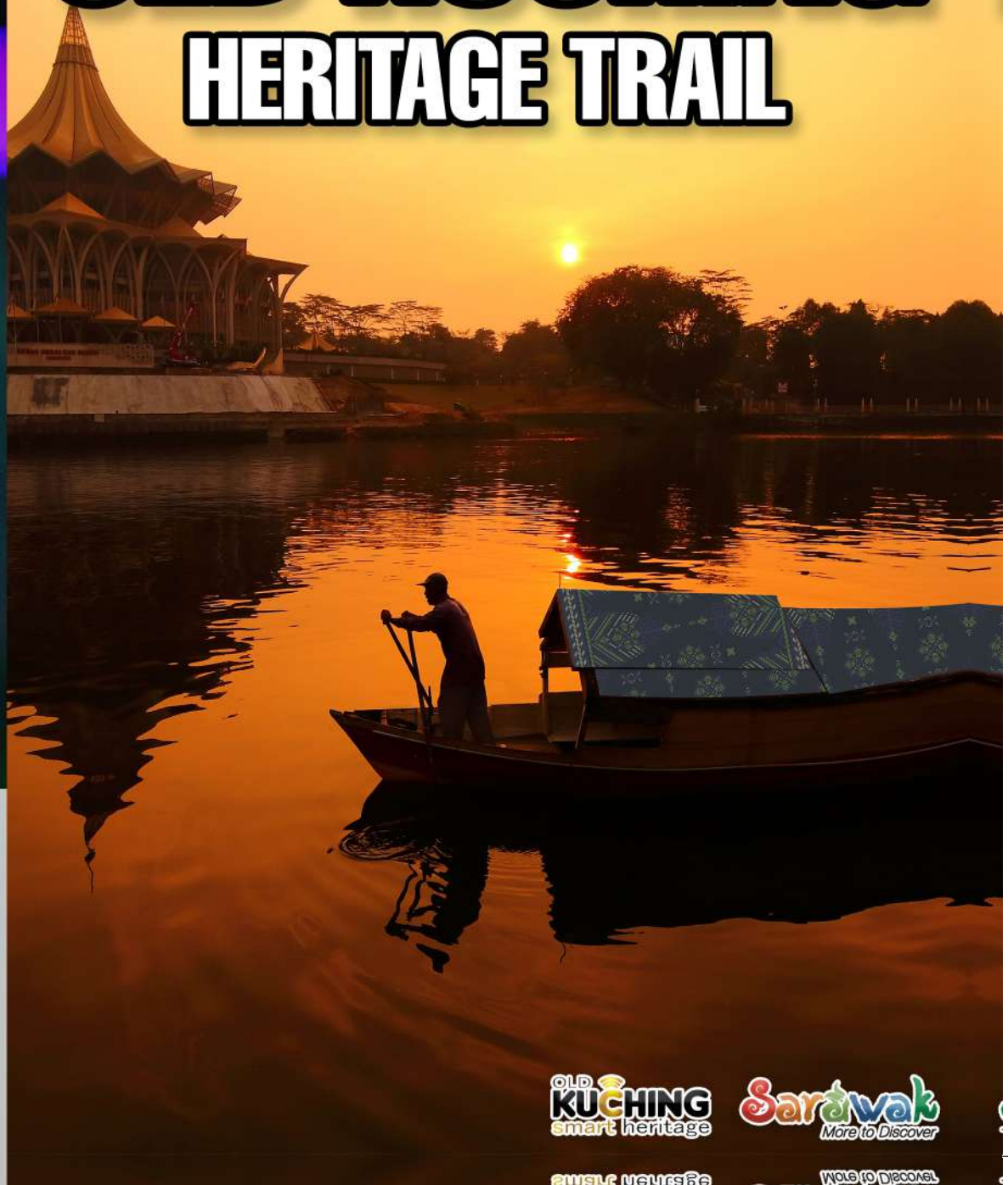


OLD KUCHING HERITAGE TRAIL



OLD
KUCHING
smart heritage

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CAWANGAN CAWANGAN

MIRA CAKE HOUSE

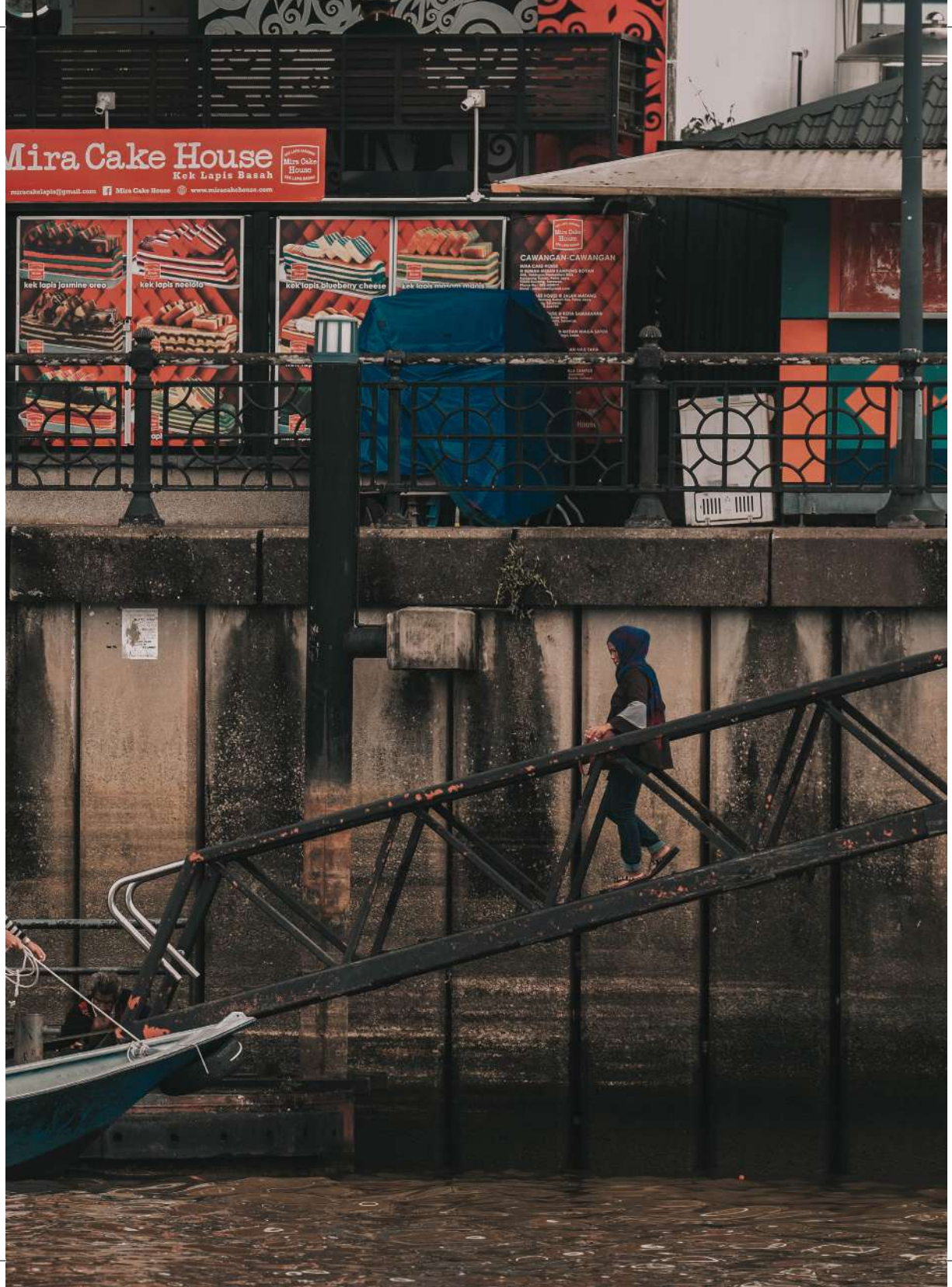
• KEDAI KAJANG & LAMPUNG KOTA
• KEDAI KUALA LUMPUR
• KEDAI KUALA TERENGGANU
• KEDAI KOTA BAHARU
• KEDAI KOTA MELAKA
• KEDAI KOTA JOHORE

kek lapis jasmine oreo

kek lapis neclolo

kek lapis blueberry cheese

kek lapis muslim miah



INTRODUCTION

Old Kuching has its own uniqueness based on its history as Sarawak's government administrative centre, as well as the hub for the earliest community business activities along Sungai Sarawak. Through its tangible and intangible historical, heritage and cultural values, Old Kuching has become a gateway to other cities in Sarawak.

Old Kuching Smart Heritage (OKSHe) was established as one of the 47 strategic actions under the States' blueprint Sarawak Digital Economy Strategy 2018-2022. OKSHe's vision is to achieve Kuching as a smart heritage city through driving community economic growth and improving quality of life.

These can be achieved by enabling smart heritage development, empowering communities through stakeholder inclusivity, and delivering deliverables of high impact outcomes based on the strategic goals of its five thrusts, i.e., Smart Heritage Infrastructure; Smart Community and Innovation; Socio-Economy and Financial Sustainability; Prominence and Inclusivity; and finally, Strategic Management and Good Governance.

OKSHe is divided into four components or areas of development, namely Kampung Heritage, Historical Building Heritage, Historic Business Heritage and Riverfront Heritage.



KAMPUNG HERITAGE

HISTORY OF KAMPUNG NOMBOR (LITERALLY TRANSLATED AS “NUMBERED VILLAGE”)

.....

Similar to Kampung Baru in Kuala Lumpur, Kampung Nombor is a Malay kampung rich in history and heritage in the middle of a bustling city. The only difference is that the Malay Village in Kuching comprises of six numbered areas identified as Kampung Nombor 1 up to Kampung Nombor 6, whose original names were changed by the British colonial government in 1946 as they had difficulties pronouncing them.

Due to this, Kampung Munggu Kubur and Kampung Segoleng were merged into one village, namely Kampung Nombor 1, while Kampung Bintangor and Kampung Bandarsah became Kampung Nombor 2. Kampung Muhibbah was changed to Kampung Nombor 3 and partly changed to Kampung Nombor 4 while Kampung Sungai Lajem became Kampung Nombor 5 and Kampung Patingan was renamed to Kampung Nombor 6. Today, many Kuchingites still refer to these villages by their original names.

Kampung Nombor is not only known for its centuries-old history, exquisite architectural heritage, and traditional Sarawakian Malay cultural values, it is also home to many of Sarawak prominent statesmen. The most renowned being former Sarawak Chief Minister the late Pehin Sri Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan bin Haji Satem and his successor the current Premier of Sarawak Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, both from Kampung Bandarsah (Kampung No. 2) and Kampung Patingan (Kampung No. 6) respectively, notable mentions are former Federal Minister Tan Sri Datuk Amar Dr. Sulaiman Daud, former acting Governor and State Cabinet Minister Tan Sri Ikhwan Zaini and former Sarawak Muftis Datuk Haji Abdul Kadir Hassan and Dato Sri Haji Mortadza Haji Daud.

Jalan Datuk Ajibah Abol, a famous road in Kampung Nombor, was named Sarawak's first female Cabinet Minister Datuk Ajibah Abol, for her contribution towards Sarawakian Malay women's empowerment in community-building, education and the local economy.





KUCHING CITY MOSQUE (MASJID BANDARAYA KUCHING)

Having existed before the arrival of James Brooke in Kuching, Masjid Bandaraya stands proud as the oldest symbol of Islam and the Muslim community in Sarawak. Its earliest incarnation was constructed on the banks of the river at the foothills, and was made entirely of wood, with the characteristics of traditional Malay house construction of that time.

The mosque had gone through several reconstructions and enlargements to keep up with the rising population over the years. Its most current incarnation is Mughal-inspired as evident from the domes and minarets, yet still infused with Malay tradition and philosophy. It remains one of the most iconic buildings in the heart of Kuching City.



TAPAK PERSAUDARAAN MASJID BINTANGOR HAJI TAHA (MBHT)

Masjid Bintangor Haji Taha (MBHT) was founded by Datok Haji Abang Safuani bin Abang Juini. MBHT is a social organization in Kuching with the aim of empowering the Malay community following the cessation of Sarawak from the British Empire. In order to bring people together again (whose communities were fractured due to differences in political ideology), MBHT began organizing a series of live performance shows known as “Bangsawan Kampung” at various sites in different villages.

The shows, comprising amateur theatres, live band and song performances were often performed voluntarily by singers in a generous spirit of goodwill that was unprecedented. Proceeds from these shows were then donated to the Malay education development project in Sarawak, making it possible to build Sekolah Rakyat (public-funded schools that were not vernacular nor missionary schools) in hopes of providing education to the younger generation.



HERITAGE HOUSE OF DATUK BANDAR ABANG HAJI KASSIM

Built in 1863 by Kuching Mayor Datuk Bandar Abang Haji Kassim, this building was the biggest palatial-sized Malay house in Kuching at the time. It is said that this house was able to fit up to 20 families at any given time.

Known to the locals as “Rumah Batu” (The Stone House), it was the first Malay house built using stones and concrete, the first of its kind in a time where houses were primarily built using wood. Having survived a sacking by the Japanese army during the Japanese Occupation in Sarawak, this building remains standing as an indomitable part of Sarawakian history.



HERITAGE HOUSE OF BENTARA DARUL MAZIAH

The heritage house “Darul Maziah”, situated at Kampung No. 6, was built in the late 1880s by Datu Bentara Abang Hj Hashim bin Arif who was conferred the title Datu Bentara by Charles Vyner Brooke and joined the Rajah’s Court of Malay nobles.

The local Malay craftsmen at the time constructed the entire house using ironwood, decorated with Moorish-style carvings. The house not only showcases Malay architecture at its best - with its high windows, wide awnings and intricately carved lattices - it is also home to various artifacts, photos and memories of significant points in Sarawak’s history.

“Darul Maziah” consists of two gates, eight bedrooms, a large kitchen and a large room at the forefront where the owner used to hold court. Due to its unique architectural features and historical significance, the house was listed as a Malay Heritage Building in December 2015.



HERITAGE HOUSE OF TAN SRI DATUK AMAR ABANG AHMAD URAI

This beautiful palatial-style home was built by Sarawak’s veteran statesman, Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abang Ahmad Urai bin Datu Hakim Abang Hj. Muhideen, who served as the Senate President in Parliament in the 1980s. The house features elaborate Minangkabau-style roof arches with sophisticated nature-inspired carvings, an open courtyard and a large common hall used for public festivities and religious programs. A significant highlight of the house is its unique keris-shaped “Tunjuk Langit”, a defining feature found in Malay architecture to signify the oneness of God.





HERITAGE HOUSE OF DARUL KURNIA

Darul Kurnia is a colonial-style mansion built in the 1930s by Datu Patinggi Abang Haji Abdillah. A Sarawakian independence patriot, Datu Patinggi Haji Abdillah was a highly influential leader of his time, most known for spearheading the anti-cession movement. The anti-cession movement is a fight against the British Empire's attempt to govern Sarawak as a crown colony without sufficient consultation with native residents. This house is historically significant as witness to a peaceful protest by hundreds of civil servants, at the risk of losing their jobs, to demonstrate their unwillingness to be colonized.



PERTUBUHAN ANAK SENI BANDARSAR KUCHING (PASBK)

The Pertubuhan Anak Seni Bandarsar Kuching or PASBK building in Kampung Bandarsar acts as a beacon to all talented art performers, singers, and musicians whilst indirectly becoming a centre or platform to preserve the art and heritage for future musicians to come. The building also consists of a banquet hall which will cater to the needs of the community and also provide space for music and art performing classes or training.

MADRASAH ORANG MELAYU ISLAM / SEKOLAH RENDAH RAKYAT

A humble house with an esteemed history, Madrasah Orang Melayu Islam or Sekolah Rendah Rakyat was established as a learning institution for kampung children when an existing school in the area was demolished. It later became a public school which served as a preliminary education centre for many aspiring leaders. Among some of its esteemed teaching staff are Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib bin Mahmud, Cikgu Midai Zakaria, Cikgu Annuar Abdul Razak and Fatimah Dahari. This heritage house is now inhabited by Hajah Aminah, the current living heir.

The structure of the house is absolutely iconic of the traditional Malay architecture with large awnings, copious and high windows with lattices within the house to allow air ventilation, and other aspects that reflect the lifestyle and philosophy of the time.





RUMAH KERINGKAM KAMPUNG NOMBOR 5

Keringkam is a luxurious gold-embroidered head covering and scarf, traditionally worn by Sarawakian brides and aristocrats for special occasions. It is usually paired with the equally luxurious Sarawak Songket. This luxurious fashion piece once afforded only by the Malay nobles of Kuching is meticulously embroidered with gold thread and a special needle and is priced according to either thread count or overall workmanship.

This craft is usually dominated by women, a skill passed down from mother to daughter for generations. To witness first-hand how the traditional Keringkam is made, you can visit Sazali Warisan Craft at Kampung No. 5 and see for yourself how keringkam experts Hjh Salbiah Hj Muhi, Zainap Hj Muhi and Norhajiah Hj Osman work on their masterpieces. Both Hjh Salbiah Hj Muhi and Zainap Hj Muhi were awarded as Living Legends during World Craft City status by World Craft Council International (WCCI) 2019.



HERITAGE HOUSE OF JALAN MASJID / HERITAGE HOUSE OF HAJAH RAPIAH

Rumah Warisan Jalan Masjid or Rumah Warisan Hajah Rapih is located on Jalan Ajibah Abol. This house is believed to have been built in 1903. Hajah Rapih Heritage House embodies the philosophy and values of the time and is a typical example of traditional Malay architecture. Made from precious belian wood, it has 16 windows with elaborate lattices to accommodate air ventilation to cool down the house in the hot tropical climate. The place is also known as a Quranic learning centre for young children around the villages of Jalan Ajibah Abol, where the teacher, Haji Yaman, was brother to the namesake of the house, Hajah Rapih.

Designed by: Noraini Narodden Architect



SUNGAI LAJEM GALLERY

Sungai Lajem Community Heritage project is one of the upcoming projects at the kampung to establish a community heritage gallery to be used as a platform for the community to display, demonstrate, showcase, and sell their respective heritage products and souvenirs. At the same time, the platform can also be used for community projects or programmes that will attract tourists and locals to visit.

HISTORICAL BUILDING HERITAGE



**RAJAH CHARLES BROOKE
MEMORIAL**

The Second Rajah, Sir Charles Brooke, died in England on May 17, 1917 and was buried in the churchyard of Sheepstor, Devon. This memorial to Sir Charles is a 6 metre granite obelisk with a bas-relief of the Rajah in marble, with bronze panels on each corner depicting Malay, Iban, Chinese and Kayan members of Sarawak. During the unveiling ceremony, on October 16, 1924, Kuching received its first ever visit from an aircraft, a British navy seaplane. When it landed in the Sarawak River, some of the more superstitious members of the audience fled for cover, thinking it was the spirit of the Rajah who had ruled Sarawak from 1868 to 1917.



OLD COURT HOUSE

The Old Court House was built in 1871 as the seat of the Sarawak Government, replacing an earlier wooden court house of 1847 on this site. Along with government offices, the Court Room alternately housed both the Council Negeri (State Legislature) and the Supreme Court from 1878 until 1973. The massive brick columns support a roof made of ironwood (belian) shingles. The colonial-baroque Clock Tower was added in 1883. The Old Courthouse has recently been transformed into a cultural and art space, with frequent exhibitions, concerts and other cultural activities.



THE SARAWAK MUSEUM

The Sarawak Museum Old Building was opened in 1891, and was designed in the Queen Anne style. It was built by Rajah Charles Brooke to exhibit the cultural material of the people of Sarawak and local zoological collections.



THE ASTANA

The Astana, across the river from the Kuching Waterfront, was built in 1870 by Charles Brooke as a wedding gift to his wife Margaret. Laid out in the style of an English manor house, it is the third and last residence built by the Brooke Rajahs. The Astana has occupied a significant place in the history of Sarawak as it was also the venue for various meetings of the Supreme Council from 1873 to 1937. Now, this is the Official Residence of the Governor of Sarawak.



RANEE MUSEUM

Housed at the historic Old Court House, Kuching Ranee: Margaret of Sarawak (1849-1936) explores through a unique collection of artefacts the extraordinary life, legend and legacy of Margaret de Windt who, aged 19, married the second Rajah of Sarawak and embraced a new life as queen of this remarkable kingdom, a role she fulfilled for almost half a century.

Inside, we follow Margaret on the journey, during which she finds meaning, purpose and identity here in Sarawak, after they had eluded her everywhere else. An exiled foreigner, then devoted wife and dedicated mother, to the outside world she was the wife of the Rajah, but to local people, she was simply “the Ranee” or “Mem Ranee”, the first queen of the Raj of Sarawak.



THE SQUARE TOWER

Built in 1879, the Square Tower was originally intended as a fort and jailhouse, with its stout walls and massive gun emplacements. Fortunately, it has never been used in defense. It has served as a jail house, an administrative office, a restaurant, and even a dance hall.



GENERAL POST OFFICE

This magnificent building has been in continuous use as the General Post Office since its completion in 1931. Designed by Denis Santry of Swan and Maclaren Architects, Singapore, it is the only building in Sarawak to employ the use of Corinthian columns in its facade treatment, along with semicircular arches and ornamented column capitals and friezes. Deep parapet walls hide the pitched roof while the colonnaded portico serves as a corridor, while the rear of the building is austere simple.



SARAWAK STEAMSHIP BUILDING

The Sarawak Steamship Company and its predecessor, the Sarawak and Singapore Steamship Company, helped build the infrastructure of Sarawak and encouraged trade since 1875. The Sarawak Steamship Building was built to house its offices in 1930. Today, it is used as a restaurant, with retail and display space.

The Sarawak Steamship building was built in 1930 during the reign of Charles Vyner Brooke, the third and last White Rajah of Sarawak. It has previously served as the offices and warehouse for the Sarawak Steamship Company. Today, it is home to Kuching Waterfront Bazaar, with a dozen stalls selling a wide selection of Sarawak's handicrafts and souvenirs for you to take a piece of Sarawak home.



ROUND TOWER

The Round Tower is a fort-like building and may have been originally intended for military use. From 1886 to 1947 it housed the Public Dispensary. Later, it was home to the Labour Office of the Education Department and the Subordinate Courts Registry.



ST. THOMAS CATHEDRAL

The current St. Thomas' Anglican Cathedral was completed in 1956, exactly 100 years after Francis Thomas McDougall was consecrated as the first Bishop of Sarawak. It replaced the old neo-Gothic wooden structure, built by McDougall with the assistance of a German carpenter in 1857.



CENTRAL POLICE STATION

The Central Police Station was built in 1931. It stands out prominently among other buildings lining the Padang Merdeka (Freedom Field) thanks to its blue and white colour scheme, common to all police stations in Malaysia.



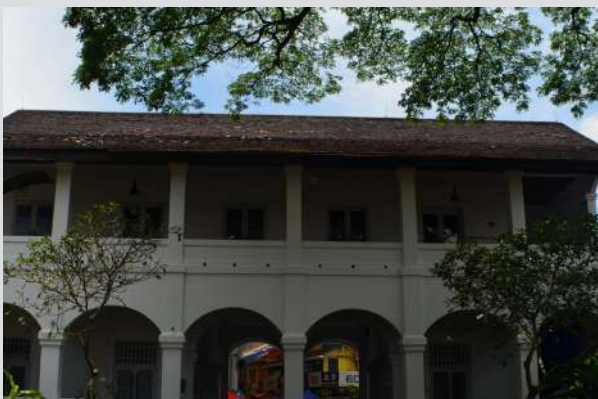
**OLD GOVERNMENT
PRINTING OFFICE**

The old Government Printing Office was built in 1908. In 1951, the building was renovated to house the newly-formed Kuching Municipal Council and later Kuching City South Council. Until 2014, it was the Kuching Resident's Office.

TEXTILE MUSEUM (PAVILION)

The Pavilion Building was the first building in Sarawak to use reinforced concrete. Completed in 1909, it housed the Medical Headquarters and Hospital for Europeans until the mid-1920s. It was then occupied by various government departments and was the Japanese propaganda centre during the Occupation. It was renovated in 2005, and opened to the public as a Textile Museum, housing a remarkable collection of traditional Sarawak textiles.





THE JAPANESE BUILDING

The Japanese Building was the only administrative building constructed during the Japanese Occupation of Sarawak (1941-1945). Prisoners of war from Sabah and Sarawak (detained at Batu Lintang Camp) were marched daily to the site to provide the labour force for its construction. It now functions as an art exhibition space.



INDIAN MOSQUE (MASJID BANDAR KUCHING)

Built in 1876, Masjid Bandar Kuching is the oldest intact mosque in Sarawak. It was built on the site of a small wooden surau which was erected in about 1838 by Indian Muslim traders. In the early 20th century, after settling in Kuching, they constructed the surrounding shophouses and donated them to the mosque as a source of revenue. The Indian Mosque is accessible via a narrow lane from India Street or through its main entrance on Gambier Road. Inside is a huge drum or bedok which accompanies the call to prayer. This mosque is close for the public because the new Indian Mosque (Masjid India Bandar Kuching) was built right in front of it.



KUCHING CITY MOSQUE (MASJID BANDARAYA KUCHING)

The first Kuching State Mosque was built in 1968 on the site of an older wooden mosque, the Masjid Besar built in the 1840s. It served as the Sarawak State Mosque until the current State Mosque was constructed in Petra Jaya in 1990. It is enclosed by one of the oldest Muslim cemeteries.



OLD FIRE STATION TOWER

The Old Fire Station was constructed to house the first coal-powered fire engine delivered from the UK in 1917. It was later demolished when the new Fire Station at Jalan Padungan was completed, but the fire watch tower survives as a notable local landmark as a food court sprang up around it. Even though it is now roofed-over, locals still fondly refer to the location as the “open-air market” and it is a local favourite eating establishment.



**SIKH TEMPLE
(GURDWARA SAHIB KUCHING)**

Originally, the Sikh Gurdwara was built in 1912 on this site for Sikh families living in the police barracks nearby. The gurdwara was rebuilt in 1982 and is still the religious and cultural centre of Kuching’s Sikh community. The entrance holds an exhibition on the history of the Sikhs in Kuching.



CHINESE HISTORY MUSEUM

Completed in 1912, the Chinese History Museum (1993) was originally the Chinese Courthouse. It was taken over by the Sarawak Chinese General Chamber of Commerce in 1930. The museum portrays the rich and fascinating history of the diverse Chinese of Kuching, their respective traditional skills and cultural heritage.



**TUA PEK KONG TEMPLE
(SIEW SAN TENG TEMPLE)**

The Siew San Teng Temple is popularly known as the Tua Pek Kong Temple after the name of its principal deity. The name translates to “Big Grand Uncle” in Hokkien. The temple has existed on this site since 1770, undergoing several major reconstructions in 1856, 1965 and 2002. The site was carefully chosen in accordance with feng shui principles, and it is believed the temple brings peace, harmony and eternal prosperity to the Chinese community of Kuching.



**HIANG THIAN SIANG TI TEMPLE
(LAO YA KENG)**

Built in 1889, the Hiang Thian Siang Ti Temple (also called Lao Ya Keng in Teochew) is dedicated to the Taoist deity of the same name. The original smaller temple on this site was burned in the Great Fire of Kuching in 1884. It features a small turtle pool and has a stage erected directly across the street for opera performances. An annual procession is held by the temple devotees on its feast day, which falls on the 4th day of the 12th lunar month.



HONG SAN SI TEMPLE

The Taoist Hong San Si Temple is one of the most ornately decorated temples in Kuching, with beautiful ceramic artwork, including carp and other creatures adorning its rooftop. Dedicated to the Hokkien child deity Kong Teck Choon Ong and it is widely believed that the child deity appeared on the rooftops of Ewe Hai Street during the Great Fire of Kuching in 1884, warning the people and summoning the rain to put out the fire. The temple’s annual procession, to commemorate the birthday of the child deity falls on the 22nd day of the 2nd lunar month.



FORT MARGHERITA

The Fort Margherita was built in 1879 to guard Kuching from the pirates' river approaches. Named after Rajah Charles Brooke's wife, Raneë Margaret, it was never put to the use for which it had been originally intended. The only attacks on the fort, though unsuccessful, came from the air when the Japanese bombed Kuching on Friday, 19 December 1941. This imposing landmark served as a Police Museum from 1971 until being handed over to the State Government. After extensive restoration work, it now houses the Brooke Gallery which showcases the history and legacy of Sarawak under the Brooke era.



SARAWAK ISLAMIC HERITAGE MUSEUM

The Sarawak Islamic Heritage Museum is housed in the former Maderasah Melayu, which was built in 1930 as a secondary school for Malay boys. The school was closed in 1964, the building was renovated and reopened as the Islamic Heritage Museum in 1992. It consists of seven galleries set around the central courtyard garden, each with a different theme.



UNITY PARK (RESERVOIR PARK)

Reservoir Park is a green lung in the heart of the old city, centred around two small lakes that were created in 1895 to serve as reservoirs for Kuching's piped water supply. By the 1930s, the reservoir fell into disuse, replaced by a much larger installation at Matang, but it remained as a popular recreational area. In 1975, the entire area was landscaped, and footbridges, pavements, and walkways were built. It is now known as Unity Park, in line with the declaration of Kuching as a Unity City on 1st August 2015.

ISLAMIC HERITAGE



KUCHING CITY MOSQUE (MASJID BANDARAYA KUCHING)

The Kuching City Mosque, more affectionately known as Masjid Lamak (meaning Old Mosque), was first built by Datu Patinggi Ali in 1840. It was originally a small wooden structure which was then expanded in 1852 to support the growth of the Muslim population at the time.

In 1930, Rajah Charles Vyner Brooke and the Muslim community of Kuching joined hands to build and improve the mosque with a new huge door, windows, “mimbar” or “pulpit”, topped with a majestic black dome.

In February 1966, Malaysia’s first Prime Minister, the late Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj, visited Sarawak and ordered the old mosque to be replaced with one suitable for the growing population, and he laid the foundation stone for the new mosque.

A year later, the old mosque was demolished using bombs, the first time such a technique was used in construction work due to its tough structure. The new mosque’s design emulated Mughal-style architecture, with a main dome in the centre and smaller domes surrounding it.

The Kuching City Mosque was officially opened in 1968 and has become a distinctive building for the local Muslim community. Best seen from a river view, especially at sunset, the mosque’s combination of pink, white and yellow colour tones make it one of Kuching’s most striking landmarks.

INDIAN MOSQUE LANE ARCH (GERBANG LORONG MASJID INDIA)

The original Masjid India is situated on India Street and is the oldest intact mosque in Sarawak. It is called Masjid Bandar Kuching or Masjid Tambi by the locals. It was used as a resting place for Malay traders from coastal areas and islanders who came to trade in Kuching.

The walls and roof of the original structure were first built in 1837 by Indian Muslim traders from Southern India who needed a place to worship. It was then upgraded with belian wood planks and a cemented floor in 1876. By 1871, the Indian Muslim community bought the land where the mosque stood from the Rajah Charles Brooke administration for 60 Sarawak Dollars. With its strategic location in the middle of Kuching's business centre, Friday prayers at the mosque were constantly overcrowded with city dwellers. The mosque was also the centre of the first religious school in the state, the Madrasah (Arabic for Education Institute) Islamiah, in the 1940s.

To enter the mosque, one must walk through the narrow passageway at Masjid India Lane (also known as Lorong Sempit) or through its main entrance via Gambir Street. Both lanes are lined by shops selling aromatic spices and other local traditional and essential goods.

When the new Masjid India at Kuching Waterfront opened in 2019, the old mosque was declared a historical site by the Sarawak State government. It remains as a madrasah to learn more about Islamic knowledge. It is planned to turn it into a library packed with information on the establishment of the Indian Muslim community in Sarawak and the rich history of the mosque itself.





SARAWAK ISLAMIC HERITAGE MUSEUM

The Sarawak Islamic Museum is housed in what used to be Madrasah Melayu Sarawak, a school built by the Brooke administration in 1930 to train teachers in higher-level Malay education. The school was closed in 1964 and the building taken over by the Education Department. Later it was extensively renovated into the museum, which consists of seven galleries set around the central courtyard garden, each with a different theme.

The themes of the galleries are History of Islam in Sarawak (Gallery 1), Islamic Architecture (Gallery 2), Science, Technologies, Economics, Education & Literature (Gallery 3), Music, Costume and Personal Ornaments (Gallery 4), Weaponry (Gallery 5), Decorative Arts & Domestic Utensils (Gallery 6) and the Holy Quran Collection (Gallery 7).

In May 1992, the building was announced as the Sarawak Islamic Heritage Museum and was officiated by then Chief Minister Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud. The Islamic Museum stores rich information on the rich historical heritage and special culture of the Sarawak Muslim community and throughout the Malay archipelago, tracing connections with the development of Islam in the rest of the world.



INDIAN MOSQUE (MASJID INDIA BANDAR KUCHING)

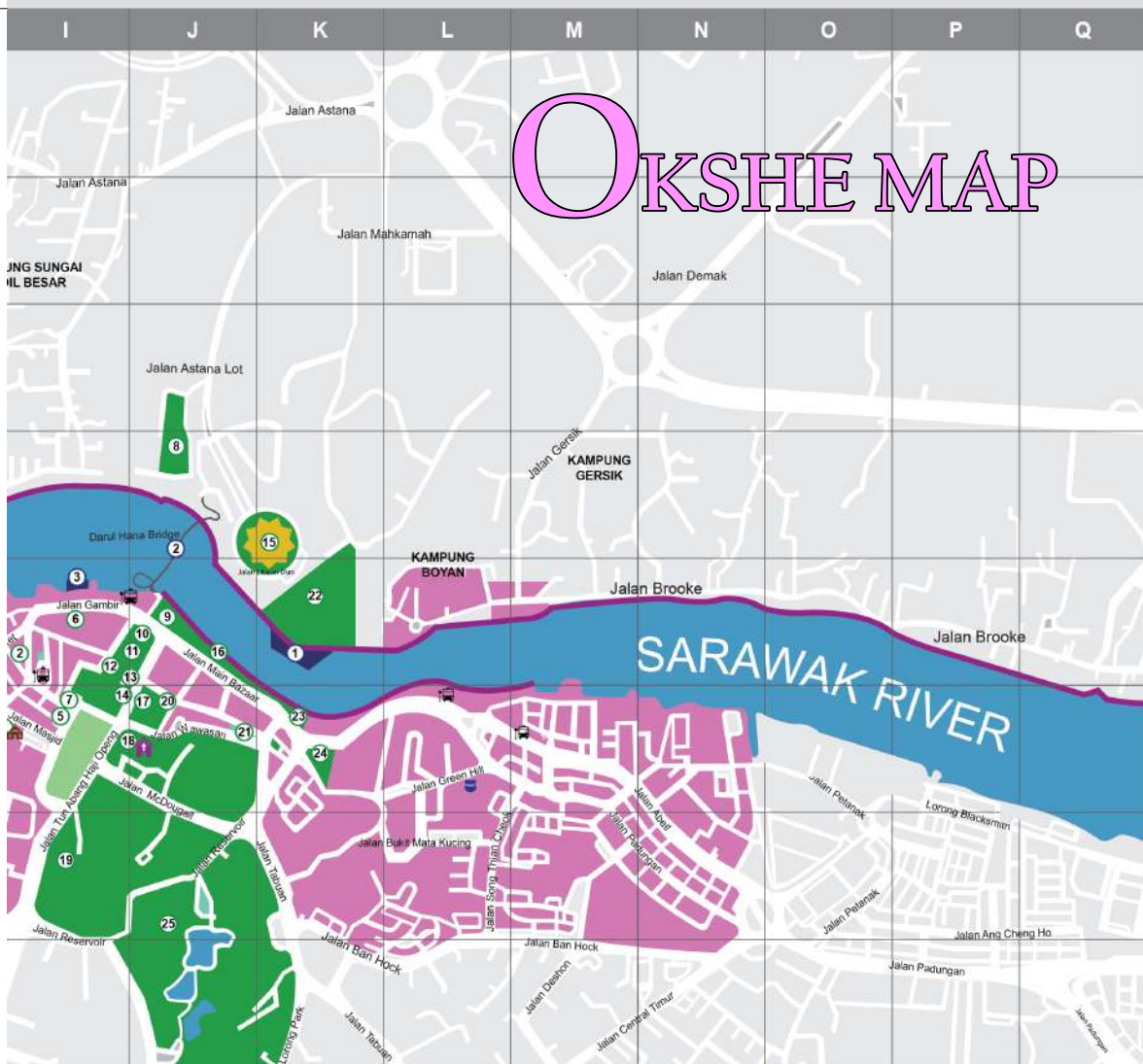
The new Indian Mosque (Masjid India Bandar Kuching), Sarawak's first floating mosque, stands majestically over the Sarawak River at Kuching Waterfront. The mosque is decked with Turkish and Middle-Eastern architectural concept design and showcases more modern and innovative features.

It was officially opened on March 1st, 2019 by Tuan Yang Terutama Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud together with the Premier of Sarawak Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg.

The RM 21-million mosque has a capacity of 1,600 worshippers and its structural design complements the nearby Kuching attractions such as the Darul Hana Bridge, Darul Hana Musical Fountain and the Sarawak Legislative Assembly Complex on the other side of the river.







xtile Museum (The Pavilion Building)
 irawak State Legislative Assembly Building
 angunan Dewan Undangan Negeri)
 irawak Steamship Building
 eneral Post Office
 . Thomas Cathedral
 e Sarawak Museum
 ang Thiang Siang Ti Temple
 ong San Si Temple
 ert Margherita
 inese History Museum
 a Pek Kong Temple
 eservoir Park / Unity Park



1. Kuching City Mosque (Masjid Bandaraya Kuching)
2. Heritage House of Bentara / Darul Maziah
3. Heritage House of Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abang Ahmad Urai
4. Heritage House of Datu Bandar Haji Mohd Kassim
5. Heritage House Darul Kurnia @ Haji Taha Road
6. Heritage House of Jalan Masjid/ Heritage House of Hajah Rapiyah



1. Musical Fountain
2. Darul Hana Bridge
3. Masjid India Bandar Kuching @ Indian Mosque Kuching
4. Suspension Bridge
5. Kubah Ria
6. Pontoon :
 i) Pontoon Sungai Lajim
 ii) Pontoon Sungai Bintangor
 iii) Pontoon Kubah Ria

HISTORIC BUSINESS HERITAGE



SONGKET & KERINGKAM GALLERY

The Songket and Keringkam Gallery located at Jalan Masjid was established in 2019 and aims to promote and popularise Songket-weaving and Keringkam embroidery-making. It is part of Sarawak's effort to protect and preserve the heritage of city folk and the city's ecosystem that comprises the culture of the Songket weavers and Keringkam embroiderers. The gallery is set to be a popular destination that displays heritage-linked products.



INDIA STREET

India Street remains one of the busiest streets in Kuching and it carries a whopping history of over 140 years. It is a covered pedestrian area lined with shops selling all kinds of goods, particularly textiles and fabrics. The street was originally called Kliing Street which means 'Indian' in Hakka and was later changed to India Street by Brooke's administration in 1928. It started as a trading street and was then turned into a pedestrian mall in 1992.

As you walk mid-way down India Street or Jalan India, you will find a narrow passageway called Masjid India Lane that passes by the entrance of the Indian Mosque and leads to Jalan Gambier, home to Kuching's Indian spice traders and Chinese hardware merchants.





CARPENTER STREET

The iconic and vibrant Carpenter Street is located at the heart of Kuching and is one of the oldest and most historic streets in Kuching. It was originally called “Attap Street” due to the thatched houses in that area. In 1884, more than 160 shops along the Main Bazaar were destroyed by the Great Kuching Fire. These shophouses were then rebuilt with brick, the same structures that are still standing today. After the reconstruction, it was renamed Carpenter Street due to the many woodworking workshops set up in the area.

Carpenter Street has preserved much of its authenticity, alongside the Main Bazaar. Lining this street are stores and small traders offering a wide variety of products such as goldsmiths, tinsmiths and furniture shops. Some of the shops are still occupied by the same family for generations. With such a rich cultural heritage and historical buildings, this street is also a venue for the Mooncake Festival every year. For aficionados of heritage buildings, there is a row of perfectly preserved 19th-century Chinese houses on the nearby Upper China Street (off Leboh China).

This is also a popular place for visitors to savour the locals’ favourite cuisines, where most of the eateries and hawker stalls are still following recipes that were passed down from generation to generation.





MEDAN NIAGA SATOK

The affectionately-called Satok Market, which is operational on Saturday and Sunday, has now moved from Jalan Satok to new purpose-built premises just across the river, Medan Niaga Satok, effective January 1st, 2013.

It is renowned for the native ladies who set up shop here selling fruits and vegetables, but there are also many good Chinese and Malay stalls. Goods on offer include handicrafts, forest produce (including delicious wild honey), pets of all descriptions, orchid plants, live fish and a whole range of local snacks and delicacies.

The market is a must for weekend visitors, as it is very colourful and always teeming with shoppers. The best time to go is Saturday night or early Sunday morning. It is now located adjacent to Kubah Ria Complex, a popular eatery fronting the Sarawak River.



RIVERFRONT HERITAGE



WATERFRONT, PENAMBANG & DARUL HANA BRIDGE

The Kuching Waterfront is one of the most iconic gathering places in Kuching city. The beautifully landscaped esplanade stretches about 900 metres along the south bank of the Sarawak River and is dotted with food stalls, restaurants, bistros, and street food. This is where you can find historical buildings from the Brooke era such as the Court House, Fort Margherita, and Square Tower, which have now been re-purposed for modern use.

It offers excellent views of Astana, Fort Margherita, and the New Sarawak State Legislative Building. At night, the whole stretch of the esplanade comes alive with buskers, filling the air with ethnic and contemporary music, as well as vibrancy from the Darul Hana Musical Fountain's colourful display. Hop onto Kuching's version of a water taxi, also called Penambang to get across the Sarawak River from Kuching Waterfront to visit the Brooke's Gallery at Fort Margherita and Boyan-Gersik-Sourabaya Malay kampung, which resides near the panoramic and scenic Sarawak River.





NEW SARAWAK STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BUILDING (DEWAN UNDANGAN NEGERI)

Dominating the north bank of the Sarawak River, the nine-storey Sarawak State Legislative Assembly Building is where Sarawak's 82 elected state assemblymen and assemblywomen meet and preside over debates and the passing of laws.

It is fully equipped with high-tech information and communication technology. It is an iconic landmark of Sarawak which is described as one of the most beautiful buildings in Southeast Asia, with its distinctive payung (umbrella) roof. It is also reminiscent of the Bidayuh Longhouse and resembles the Melanau tribe hat.



DARUL HANA MUSICAL FOUNTAIN

An iconic attraction that kick starts waterfront's night life – Darul Hana Musical Fountain features colorful and whimsical light art which combines the elements of music, water and lights to create an awe-inspiring view. It was declared open on October 14, 2018. The fountain has hundreds of nozzles that shoot water as high as 25 metres upwards!

The Darul Hana Musical Fountain offers a water and light show that dances to the rhythm of the music played. It is best viewed directly from the Kuching Waterfront or from the Darul Hana Bridge. This attraction is considered the highlight of visits among tourists both domestically and internationally. The Darul Hana Musical Fountain runs daily at a scheduled time for a period of 15 minutes.

Schedule time:

Sunday - Thursday: 8.30 pm & 9.30 pm

Friday & Saturday: 8.30 pm, 9.30pm & 10.30 pm

DARUL HANA BRIDGE



Darul Hana Bridge, also known as the golden S-bridge is a new landmark in Kuching and a popular lepak spot among Kuchingites, especially in the evening. The picturesque bridge, which was officially opened in 2017, is one of Kuching's landmarks and latest attractions. The Darul Hana Bridge, measuring 3.25 m in width and looming 12 m above the water, is the only pedestrian bridge that links the North and South of Kuching.

The distinctive S-shape structural design of the bridge was inspired by the meandering rivers in Sarawak and the two towers are designed to look like the hornbill-inspired structures of the traditional Bidayuh bamboo bridge. Other sources state that it was constructed to resemble the letter "S" for Sarawak. Take your time to cross the bridge to the other side of the Waterfront while enjoying the majestic view of the Sarawak River and an up-close view of the iconic Sarawak State Legislative Assembly (DUN) building and Indian Mosque (Masjid Bandar Kuching).

SATOK SUSPENSION BRIDGE (JAMBATAN GANTUNG SATOK)

Jambatan Gantung Satok is a famous suspension bridge stretching out over the Sarawak River in Kuching.

It was built in 1926. The building of the suspension bridge was proposed by an engineer from the Public Works Department during the Brooke era in the year 1902 while the Matang Reservoir was in the planning stage. The project was then suspended and revisited after his death in 1917.

In 1992, the bridge was closed for safety reasons and collapsed in 2004 during a storm. The bridge was then reconstructed to enable pedestrians to cross the Sarawak River to a new market at Medan Niaga Satok



in Kubah Ria Complex and was opened to the public in 2021. The Premier of Sarawak, Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg declared that, the Satok Suspension Bridge was a symbol of the state's racial harmony. The new bridge is also set to become a tourist attraction due to its historical value and vibrant light installation. The bridge is a popular choice for the locals to enjoy the sunset.



KAYAKING AT PANGKALAN SUNGAI LAJEM

If you're up to seeing Kuching's beautiful attractions from another level, try kayaking from Pangkalan Sungai Lajem to the Waterfront. As you paddle your way down the river, get ready to be captivated by the picturesque view of Malay Villages (Kampung Nombor, Kampung Masjid, Kampung Tupong, Kampung Tanjung, Kampung Lintang, Kampung Sungai Bedil Besar), Masjid India, Astana, Sarawak State Legislative Building, Darul Hana Bridge, Kuching Waterfront and the Brooke Dockyard.



THE SQUARE TOWER

As you stroll along Kuching Waterfront, you will notice the magnificent white Square Tower overlooking the waterfront of the Sarawak River. The Square Tower was built during the colonial era in 1879 and was originally intended as a prison. Later, it was turned into a fortress with its stout walls and massive gun emplacements, which fortunately never fired a shot. Throughout its history, it has also served as an administrative office and a dance hall. Currently, it is occupied by a fine-dining restaurant.

BROOKE DOCKYARD INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE MUSEUM

The Brooke Dockyard includes a dry dock, workshop, and training school. The oldest component in the Brooke Dockyard is the dry dock. The construction commenced in 1908, and the dock was officially opened on 31st May 1912 by Ranees Muda Sylvia, the wife of Charles Vyner Brooke. It is the oldest shipyard in Malaysia. It was originally built to repair the Rajah's boats.

The Brooke Dockyard evolved over time from repairing ships and machinery to the oil and gas industry. It also provided training related to engineering and was the earliest form of industrial employment in Kuching.

Today, the Brooke Dockyard is under an ongoing state government project. This will create a vibrant new industrial heritage museum to preserve and showcase the history of the Brooke Dockyard, the early machines used in Sarawak, and the socio-economic impact of the dockyard through engaging and immersive exhibitions. It will attract tourists and locals to learn about Sarawak's industrial heritage.



FOOD HIGHLIGHTS



HERITAGE CENTRAL CAFÉ & GALLERY

The Heritage Central Café provides Sarawak local traditional cuisine in the centre of Kuching city, just right in front of Padang Merdeka. The cafe, which aims to preserve Sarawak's finest delicacies that were passed down through generations, serves many traditional cuisines you can enjoy. Among them are Sarawak Laksa, Bubur Pedas, Umai, Kaleng Kuih, and more! You can also opt to have your favourite local cuisines delivered right to your doorstep through their delivery partners, Grab Food and Food Panda.

For those who are interested in getting their hands on Sarawak's heritage products, you can shop at the Heritage Central Gallery that sells a wide collection of heritage products by Sarawak's very own entrepreneurs, such as textiles, handcrafts, rattan bags, bead accessories, and local Sarawak food products like Sarawak Laksa Paste and Kuih Septit.

The Heritage Central Café & Gallery is open every Monday to Saturday from 09:00 am to 06:00 pm.





Laksa Sarawak



Kek Idola



Kuih Serabei



Kuih Penyaram



Bubur Pedas



From Left : Kek Evergreen, Kek Ati Parek, Kek Buah



Suntong Tutok



Kek Holiday Inn



Nasi Goreng Ikan Terubok



EATERIES

**MEDICAL**

LODGINGS



SHOPPING MALL



**CONVENIENCE
STORE**



**MASSAGE
PARLOR/SPA**



KEK LAPIS



TERUBOK

PERHENTIAN TEKSI



SCAN THE QR CODE
ABOVE FOR THE
KAMPUNG HERITAGE
TRAIL
DIGITAL MAP

*Scan, Go &
Explore!!*



TAXI STAND



