

peranakan

MUSEUM

ANNEX I

Fact Sheet

The Peranakan Museum at 39 Armenian Street is the latest addition to the National Heritage Board's family of museums. It will operate under the Asian Civilisations Museum.

Peranakan Museum presents a Southeast Asian-wide view of Peranakan culture. Its rich material legacy and heritage are enhanced by state-of-the-art display technology, coupled with educational interactives for the young.

Unique features and highlights of the Peranakan Museum are:

- 1 It houses the world's finest and most comprehensive Peranakan collection (Please refer to Annex II for Star Pieces)
- 2 It is a museum featuring a living culture
- 3 It features 10 permanent galleries fitted with state-of-the-art lighting and other cutting edge interactive features. The galleries will feature the following:
 - a. Gallery 1 (Level 1) : Origins
This gallery introduces visitors to the world of the Peranakans, focusing on the communities in Singapore, Malacca, Penang – and beyond.
 - b. Galleries 2 – 5 (Level 2) : Wedding
Four galleries are devoted to the story of the traditional 12-day Peranakan wedding, where significant ceremonies like the *lap chai* (exchange of gifts) and *chiu thau* (coming of age) are presented. Visitors can also see the elaborate wedding chamber and a wedding procession taking place indoors.
 - c. Gallery 6 (Level 3) : Nonya
This gallery showcases textile arts like beadwork, along with a display on the Nonya *kebaya*. The role of literary forms like childhood ditties in transmitting cultural values to Peranakan children will be explored as well.
 - d. Gallery 7 (Level 3) : Religion
Religion and beliefs of the Peranakans in a series of spectacular displays are explored in this gallery.
 - e. Gallery 8 (Level 3) : Public Life
This section brings visitors into the realm of commerce, politics and social affairs. Prominent Peranakans in Singapore's history will be featured in a changing display.

- f. Gallery 9 (Level 3) : Food and Feasting
Food and feasting in Peranakan culture are orchestrated with a grand banquet setting, and the world's best collection of *nonya* porcelain.
- g. Gallery 10 (Level 3) : Conversations
This concluding section explores how today's Peranakans feel about their heritage and the future of their culture.
- h. Special Exhibitions Galleries
These two galleries will feature changing specific-themed exhibitions. The inaugural special exhibition, "Junk To Jewels: The Things that Peranakans Value", is guest curated by by Peter Lee, a Peranakan art historian.

About The Peranakans

For centuries, the riches of Southeast Asia have brought foreign traders to the region. While many returned to their homelands, some remained behind, marrying local women.

The Peranakan Chinese are descendants of Chinese traders who settled in Malacca and around the coastal areas of Java and Sumatra, as early as the 14th century. In the 19th century, the Peranakan Chinese drawn by commerce, migrated to the bustling ports of Penang and Singapore. Theirs was a unique hybrid culture, which is still part of Singapore's living heritage.

The Malay term 'Peranakan' which means 'locally born' is used to refer not only to the Peranakan Chinese but also other Peranakan communities that developed in Southeast Asia like the Chitty Melaka and Jawi Peranakans.

Interesting Facts about the Peranakan Museum:

- 1 Star pieces include the Wedding Bed, which once belonged to Mrs. Quah Hong Chiam of Penang. She gave birth to the first seven of her 11 children on this bed!
- 2 Creative graphic design, eye-catching displays and state-of-the-art lighting
- 3 Visitors will be introduced to the heritage of Nonyas (the ladies) and Babas (the men) through music, stories and rituals
- 4 Peranakan and other restaurants next door to the museum for convenient dining after your visit
- 5 Museum shops with Peranakan-themed merchandise
- 6 Ample car-parking space adjacent to the museum
- 7 Prominent Peranakans played a key role in setting up the Tao Nan School building. They include Indonesian Peranakan tycoon, Oei Tiong Ham, who donated \$10,000 toward the land purchase on which the school was built.



Educational Interactives for Children

The Peranakan Museum is specially designed for family-friendly visits, with 20 interactive multimedia stations for children (sponsored by JPMorgan) providing a seamless journey through the exhibits. Examples of such interactive stations include:



Family Treasures Embossing Stations

All visitors under 12 years of age will be offered a complimentary FAMILY TREASURES card where they can emboss eight motifs and learn more about the Peranakan culture.

They will be challenged to locate these Family Treasures embossing stations which are scattered through the galleries.

The embossing stations also feature Braille captions and “touchable” images for the visually challenged.



The Wedding Portrait

Children will be introduced to the costumes of a Peranakan wedding couple and their page boy and girl in the interactive learning game. Children can dress up the characters with magnetic wedding costumes and headdresses.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address

39 Armenian Street
Singapore 179941

Museum Front Desk:
(65) 6332 7591

Opening Hours

Mon: 1pm to 7pm
Tues to Sun: 9.30am – 7pm (to 9pm on Fridays)

Admission Charges

	Adult	Concession [#]
Individual	\$6	\$3
Group of 20 pax and more	\$5	\$2.50
Family*	\$25	
Asian Civilisations Museum & Peranakan Museum Joint-ticket**	\$10	\$5

full-time students and those 60 years and above

* for maximum of 5 persons (Applicable only during special exhibitions)

** Joint-ticket must be used within 7 days of purchase

Notes on Admission Charges

1. Admission charges may vary during special exhibitions
2. Free admission for visitors aged 6 years and below
3. Free admission for visitors aged 60 years and above every Monday
4. Free admission on Fridays, 7-9pm, during non-special exhibition periods
5. 50% off regular admission prices on Fridays, 7-9 pm during special exhibition periods

Guided Tours

Guided tours are conducted by the Museum's volunteers. Tours are not available during volunteers' annual break in mid-Dec to mid-Jan and on public holidays.

English

Fri (starts May 2008, exact date TBC)

11am

Sat & Sun (starts 26 Apr 2008)

11am, 2pm, 3pm

Mandarin

Sat (starts 26 Apr 2008)

2.30pm

Sun (starts 27 Apr 2008)

11.30am, 2.30pm

Japanese

Tue & Fri (starts mid-June 2008, exact date TBC)

10.30am

Getting To Us



By Train

We are about a 10-minute walk from City Hall MRT Station.

By Car

Paid parking is available next to the Peranakan Museum.

By Bus*

7, 14, 16, 36, 97, 124, 131, 147, 162, 166, 174, 501 Express, 511 Express, 77, 167, 171, 190, 700, 700A and 857

*Bus stop opposite Singapore Management University

TENANTS

Retail

Museum Shop By Banyan Tree

39 Armenian Street

Tel: (65) 6339 2011

True Blue Shoppe

39 Armenian Street

Tel: (65) 6440 0449 / (65) 6440 4548

Email: stfranciset@yahoo.com

Food & Beverage

True Blue Cuisine

47/49 Armenian Street

Tel: (65) 6440 0449 / (65) 6440 4548

Email: stfranciset@yahoo.com

Momentum Café

51 Armenian Street

Tel: (65) 6338 1518

Opening Hours: 8am – 11pm (daily)

Email: info@cafemomentum.com