

## 0001 Photos of the year (2022-2023)

These photos show some of everyday scenes that I see regularly in Malaysia and Thailand, photographed by myself when I happened to see them. This listing was started in Dec 2022 and each section covers several months.

**BW**



Scroll down to see the photos, arranged in date order.

All images are © Brian Walling 2022-2024.

## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### BREAKFAST AT THE AIRPORT

Breakfast at Starbucks as we arrive early for our mid-morning flight to KL.

3 Dec 2022, Penang Airport, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### THE PLANE ARRIVES

...and parks right by this door, from where we walk out to it.

3 Dec 2022, Penang Airport, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KL's GIANT ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE

Outside the main city-centre shopping mall, close to our hotel. The tree is 32m high (around 100ft)

3 Dec 2022, at Suria Mall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANOTHER CHRISTMAS TREE

A more conventional one , inside our hotel.

3 Dec 2022, at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### TRAVELLER'S PALMS (*Ravenala madagascariensis*)

A couple of these unusual-looking trees in the vegetation seen from our hotel swimming pool. These are not true palm trees in the strictest botanical sense, but are from a related species. These trees have been given the name "traveller's palm" because the sheaths of the stems hold rainwater, which supposedly could be used as an emergency drinking supply for needy travellers. Another plausible reason for the name is that the fan tends to grow on an east-west line, providing a crude compass. The scientific name *Ravenala* comes from Malagasy *ravinala* or *ravina ala* meaning "forest leaves".

4 Dec 2022, at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### READY FOR LUNCH

4 Dec 2022, at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KLCC Park

A view out of the Suria Shopping Centre into the KLCC Park and Gardens.

4 Dec 2022, at Suria Shopping Mall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KLCC FOUNTAINS

The synchronised fountains in the KLCC Park.

4 Dec 2022, KLCC Park, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KLCC FOUNTAINS

The Twin Towers reflected. This reflection, visible early morning at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel swimming pool, goes unnoticed by most visitors.

5 Dec 2022, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Another KL shopping mall has gone all out with red colour this time.

5 Dec 2022, at Avenue K Shopping Mall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VIEW ACROSS THE KLCC PARK TREETOPS

As seen from the hotel's elevated swimming pool

6 Dec 2022, at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### EARLY MORNING VIEW EAST TOWARDS THE HILLS

View through the nearby buildings at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel. Seen 3.5 km away across the Penang Harbour, looking from Penang Club seafront

6 Dec 2022, from the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### “OFFICIAL” BIRTHDAY PHOTO

Taken at an art exhibition in one of the KL city centre art venues.

6 Dec 2022, Ilham Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ART EXHIBIT

One of the permanent exhibits at the art gallery that we visited today.

6 Dec 2022, Ilham Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LIKE A TROPICAL JUNGLE OUTSIDE

#### View of the vegetation outside the hotel in the KLCC Park

6 Dec 2022, from the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LUNCH-TIME TREAT

Ready for this dessert treat at the hotel. It's called "Not an apple crumble" but in fact has overtones of the old traditional American "Knickerbocker Glory" concoction that used to be popular in ice-cream parlours at English seaside resorts.

6 Dec 2022, at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### BIRTHDAY DINNER

#### Starting the meal

6 Dec 2022, at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LAST BREAKFAST

Last breakfast at the hotel before flying home to Penang today

7 Dec 2022, at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



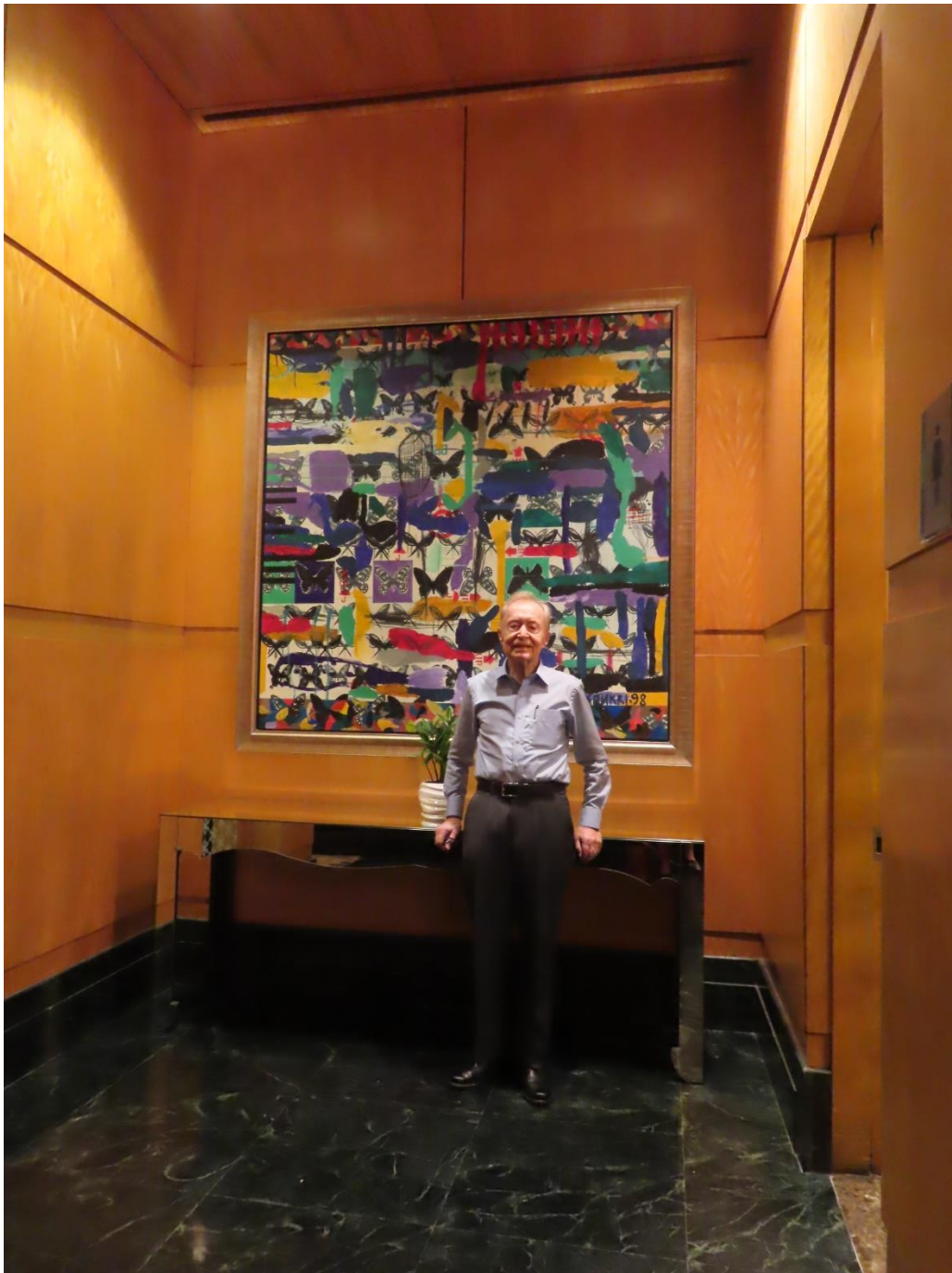


## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A FAVOURITE MALAYSIAN ARTIST

In the hotel, in front of one of the many modern Malaysian artworks that are displayed there. This is a 1998 piece by Ahmed Shukri Mohammed.

7 Dec 2022, from the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### GINGERBREAD HOUSE

It is only 7 December, but the hotel's Christmas decorations are already well in place. This house is in fact built entirely from gingerbread made in the hotel's kitchens.

7 Dec 2022, at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia







## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LANDING AT PENANG AIRPORT

The usual approach, over the sea from the south, gives you views like this.

7 Dec 2022, Penang Airport, Malaysia



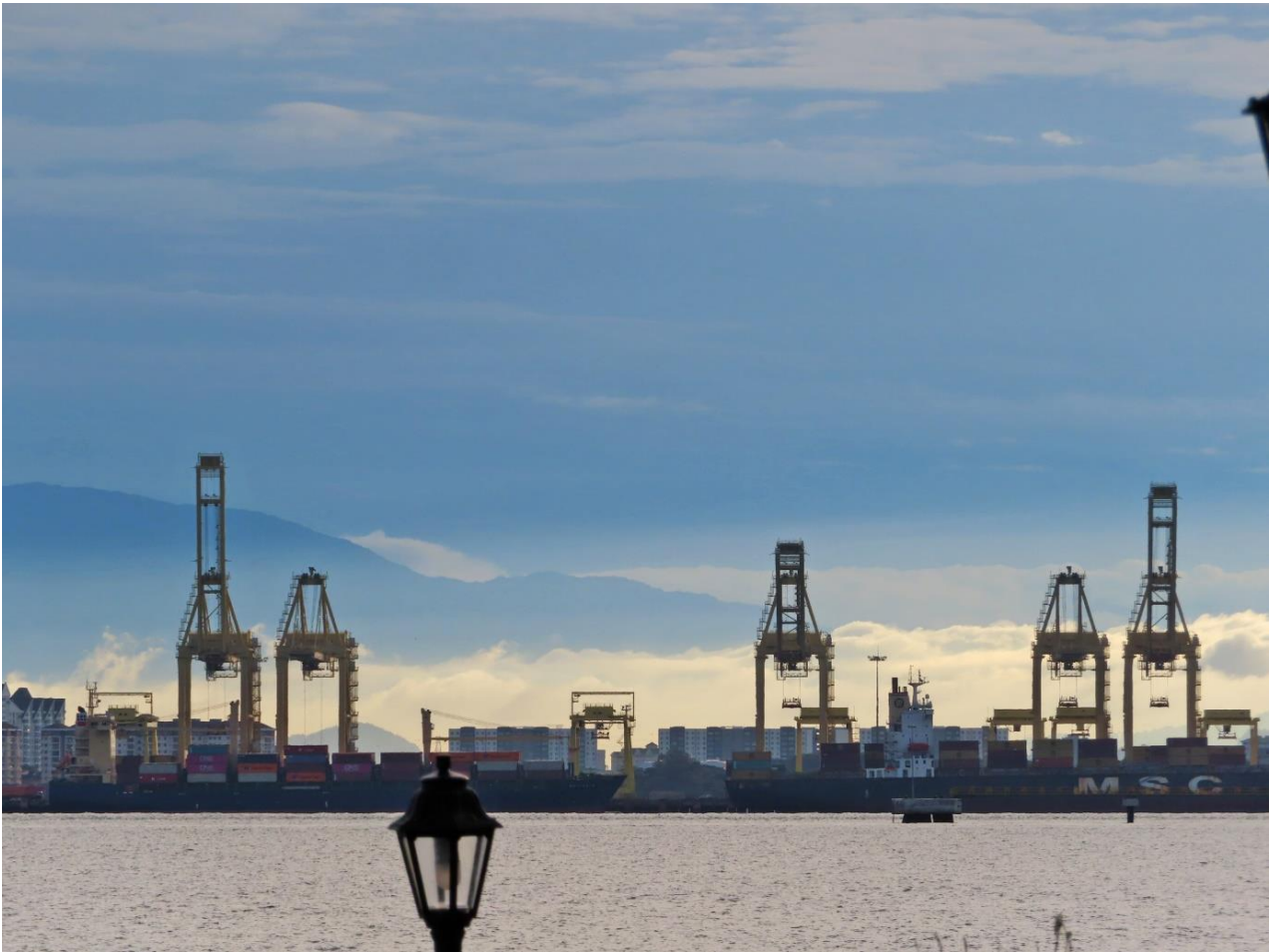


## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### EARLY MORNING, PENANG CONTAINER TERMINAL

Seen 3.5 km away across the Penang Harbour, looking from Penang Club seafront

9 Jan 2023, at Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

**EARLY MORNING, KEDAH PEAK (Gunung Jerai, 1217 metres)**

**Seen 40 km away across the North Channel, looking from Penang Club seafront**

10 Jan 2023, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PENANG CRUISE SHIP TERMINAL

Giant cruise ship berthed at Penang's cruise ship pier, seen from Penang Club seafront. Ship is Genting Dream, which entered service in 2016, being 1,120 feet long with capacity up to 3,350 passengers.

10 Jan 2023, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

**EARLY MORNING, KEDAH PEAK (Gunung Jerai, 1217 metres)**

**Seen 40 km away across the North Channel, looking from Penang Club**

10 Jan 2023, at Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE NEW YEAR DECORATIONS

**A cherry tree with blossoms (artificial) – one of the traditional symbols of Chinese New Year  
Seen at the entrance to our condominium, two weeks ahead of the holiday**

10 Jan 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SUNSET FROM OUR BALCONY

Looking west out across the Andaman Sea

10 Jan 2023, at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE NEW YEAR DECORATIONS

Display of Chinese New Year decorations, showing the new year's rabbit symbol  
Seen in the atrium at Gurney Plaza Shopping Mall in the week ahead of the holiday.

15 Jan 2023, at Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SAND DREDGER/SAND HOPPER BARGE

Working at the reclamation area off Penang Island

16 Jan 2023, seen from Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LOCAL FISHING BOAT

Returning with the morning's catch, seen from Penang Club seafront

16 Jan 2023, at Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LOCAL FISHING BOAT

A fishing boat sets out for the day, under a menacing storm cloud, seen from Penang Club seafront.

17 Jan 2023, at Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### **PENANG HARBOUR IN A CONTEMPORARY IMAGE OF 1808**

A 200+ year old contemporary print (later hand-coloured) from an engraving showing a view of the island from the harbour. This is just 22 years after the British East India Company took over the island in 1786. Development was little at that time, being centered around and just inland from Fort Cornwallis, seen centre with flagstaff and light coloured ramparts. A ship is under construction in a yard immediately to the left of the Fort (see detail on next page).

19 Jan 2023, in the museum display at St Jo's, Gurney Paragon Mall, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PENANG HARBOUR IN A CONTEMPORARY IMAGE OF 1808

A 200+ year old contemporary print (later hand-coloured) from an engraving showing a view of the island from the harbour. This is just 22 years after the British East India Company took over the island in 1786. Development was little at that time, being centered around and just inland from Fort Cornwallis, seen centre with flagstaff and light coloured ramparts. [A ship is under construction in a yard immediately to the left of the fort \(detail below\).](#)

19 Jan 2023, in the museum display at St Jo's, Gurney Paragon Mall, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ST JO'S CHAPEL INTERIOR

**Interior of 1925 chapel, part of the old St Joseph's Noviate (Catholic seminary) complex in Pulau Tikus.**  
(The chapel and other parts of the old Noviate complex have been preserved within the Gurney Paragon retail and dining complex.)

19 Jan 2023, at St Jo's in Gurney Paragon Mall, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ST JO'S CHAPEL INTERIOR

**Interior of 1925 chapel, part of the old St Joseph's Noviate (Catholic seminary) complex in Pulau Tikus. Some of the stained glass windows around the altar.**

(The chapel and other parts of the old Noviate complex have been preserved within the Gurney Paragon retail and dining complex.)

19 Jan 2023, at St Jo's in Gurney Paragon Mall, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ST JO'S CHAPEL INTERIOR

Interior of 1925 chapel, part of the old St Joseph's Noviate (Catholic seminary) complex in Pulau Tikus. One of the stained glass windows around the altar, this one of the infant Jesus in a traditional stable scene.

(The chapel and other parts of the old Noviate complex have been preserved within the Gurney Paragon retail and dining complex.)

19 Jan 2023, at St Jo's in Gurney Paragon Mall, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ST JO'S CHAPEL INTERIOR

Interior of 1925 chapel, part of the old St Joseph's Noviate (Catholic seminary) complex in Pulau Tikus. One of the glass windows, this one of St Gabriel. The style suggests the English pre-Raphaelite style, and strongly recalls the German Munich school of stained glass portraiture of the 1920s, although the windows are said to have come from Italy.

(The chapel and other parts of the old Noviate complex have been preserved within the Gurney Paragon retail and dining complex.)

19 Jan 2023, at St Jo's in Gurney Paragon Mall, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PENANG CRUISE SHIP TERMINAL

The giant Genting Dream cruise ship berthed at Penang's cruise ship pier, seen from Penang Club seafront. Ship entered service in 2016, being 1,120 feet long with capacity up to 3,350 passengers (also seen 10 Jan).

24 Jan 2023, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KEDAH PEAK, EARLY MORNING

View of Kedah Peak (Gunung Jerai, 1217 m high and 40 km away) across the North Channel.

17 Jan 2023, at Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

**MALAYSIAN SEA OTTER (Smooth coated otter, *Lutrogale Merspicillata*)**

**Sea Otter catches a large fish just off-shore and eats it without waiting.**

26 Jan 2023, seafront just off Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE NEW YEAR

Decoration for the Year of The Rabbit, seen in a Penang Shopping Mall.

27 Jan 2023, Midland Park Centre, Pulau Tikus, Penang.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PENANG CRUISE SHIP TERMINAL

**Spectrum of the Seas, a giant cruise ship of Royal Caribbean Lines, berthed at Penang's cruise ship pier, seen from Penang Club seafront. Ship entered service in 2020, being 1,155 feet long with capacity up to 4,900 passengers.**

27 Jan 2023, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year decorative display in Penang's premier shopping mall.

28 Jan 2023, Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE NEW YEAR

Another view of Chinese New Year decorative display in Penang's premier shopping mall.

28 Jan 2023, Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### HILL SCENERY

The view of Penang hills from the top floor of Gurney Plaza Mall.

28 Jan 2023, Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PENANG SCENERY

The view of Penang Island's north-east tip and some of the red roofs of the development where we live.

28 Jan 2023, from top floor of Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LAND RECLAMATION

**Panorama of the land reclamation work in progress off the north-east tip of Penang Island.**

28 Jan 2023, from top floor of Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE LION DANCERS

The lion dancers enter our favourite coffee shop as part of their “good luck” visitation to Straits Quay during the Chinese New Year festival.

28 Jan 2023, Full of Beans coffee shop, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE LION DANCERS

Carolyn accepting a traditional mandarin orange from the mouth of one of the lions.

28 Jan 2023, Full of Beans coffee shop, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE LION DANCERS

Some other pictures of the lion dancers visiting our favourite coffee shop as part of their “good luck” visitation to Straits Quay during the Chinese New Year festival.

28 Jan 2023, Full of Beans coffee shop, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE NEW YEAR DECORATIONS

Yet another colourful example of the decorations, with good example of the rabbit year-symbol.

1 Feb 2023, Granite Hotel, Magazine Road, Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANTHER FAVOURITE PENANG BAKERY-CAFE

1 Feb 2023, Four Leaves Café, Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CELEBRATION

Celebrating yesterday's 27th anniversary of our final departure from Saudi Arabia and the Saudi Arabian Oil Company on 31 Jan 1996 – revisiting the Company newspaper (The Arabian Sun) of that week and with drinks served on the Lebanese memorial silver tray engraved with my details and presented to me by the Company on that occasion. The wine is also appropriate, coming from Australia's renowned Barossa Valley, which owes its name to a Penangite, William Light, in 1837.

1 Feb 2023, Our home at Quayside, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PENANG CLUB

A corner of the Penang Club, where we breakfast every day, showing the newly renovated gym behind the swimming pool.

2 Feb 2023, Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### STRAITS QUAY HARBOUR

A corner of the yacht harbour at Straits Quay, a retail and dining “destination” next door to where we live.

2 Feb 2023, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHINESE NEW YEAR DECORATIONS

Pink cherry blossom and red chinese lanterns feature in this display in the central atrium in Gurney Plaza Mall in Penang.

3 Feb 2023, Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANOTHER EARLY MORNING VIEW

View across the misty channel at breakfast time to Gunung Jerai (Kedah Peak).

4 Feb 2023, Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### DRAGON BOATS – PADDLING PRACTICE

Chinese communities traditionally hold races on the fifth day of the fifth Chinese month – a date that usually falls in June. Boats are long and narrow, with between 10 and 50 paddlers arranged in pairs and races are typically held over a distance of 250m in sheltered waters. Seen from our home balcony.

4 Feb 2023, Tanjung Tokong, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VIEW OF OUR HOME

The 4 kilometre view across the bay from Penang Cub to our home – in the cluster of towers right in the centre of the photo.

5 Feb 2023, from Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KEDAH PEAK

**A view of the Kedah Peak massif on the mainland, looking north from the shore at Straits Quay, adjacent to our apartment complex.**

6 Feb 2023, Straits Quay shorefront, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### EARLY MORNING ATMOSPHERIC VIEW

An unusually clear view this morning – no rain clouds, no air pollution..

7 Feb 2023, from Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A LOCAL FISHERMAN

An almost daily view just off-shore: a local inshore fisherman in his small boat tending to his fish traps and baited lines.

7 Feb 2023, from Penang Club shorefront, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANOTHER CAFE

A simple local cafe that we frequent in Pulau Tikus, a middle-class commercial and shopping area on Penang Island.

7 Feb 2023, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### BELISSA COURT

Next to the cafe shown earlier, this is the apartment complex where we lived for our first six years in Penang up to 2014. This is not on the seafont, so no sea views, but we had a nice view out into the complex's inner courtyard with its swimming pool.

7 Feb 2023, Bellisa Court, Pulau Tikus, Penang, Malaysia

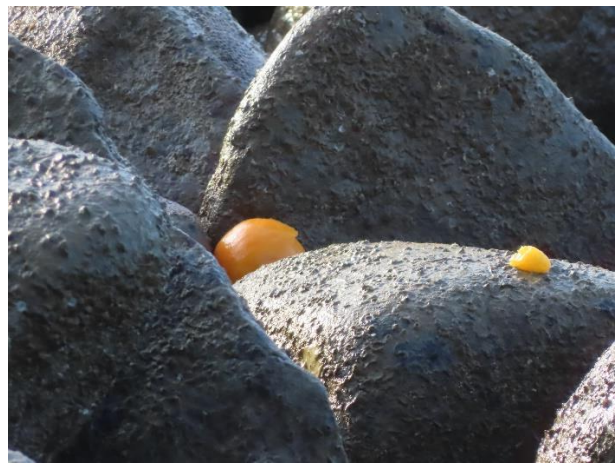


## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CHAP GOH MEH

The 15th and last day of the Chinese New Year festival is Chap Goh Meh, or lantern festival day. In some Chinese communities, including those in Malaysia and especially Penang, the day is also regarded as the Chinese Valentine's Day. One of the day's traditions is for unmarried girls who are looking for a husband to throw mandarin oranges bearing their name and contact details into the sea or a river, in the hope that this will attract some lucky finder. The festival this year fell on 5 February. By 8 February, oranges could still be seen washed up on the beach and in the rocks.

8 Feb 2023, Shorefront at Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### TANJUNG TOKONG

Morning view from our balcony, 100 feet above the sea, in Tanjung Tokong, the area in Penang where our apartment complex is situated. (Tanjung Tokong means temple point/promontary, named after an old Chinese temple and a traditional fisherman's village surrounding it.) The village lies to the left in the first photo below; the second photo looks further left and shows more of the village.

8 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia







## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### RETURNING FISHERMAN'S BOAT

A local inshore fishing crew return with their catch to moorings at Tanjung Tokong, Penang.

8 Feb 2023, Seen from our balcony, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANOTHER GIANT CRUISE SHIP

The Holland-America line is another of the cruise ship operators that has now returned to visiting Penang port, following the relaxing of the previous travel restrictions. This vessel, although large, carries only 2,400 passengers, much less than many of the other large cruise ships visiting here.

9 Feb 2023, seen early morning from Penang Club shorefront, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### HOLLAND-AMERICA CRUISE LINE

The striking, retro 1930s style logo used by Holland-America cruise line. (H-A line is now one of the brands owned and operated by the large Carnival Cruises Group).

(Detail from previous image)

9 Feb 2023, seen at Penang Cruise Terminal, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### DEPARTMENT STORE, PENANG

A somewhat risqué design of heel on this giant mock-up of a ladies' platform shoe in the shoe department of a local department store

9 Feb 2023, Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### TIME FOR A NEW HANDBAG

In the leather handbag department of a local department store in Penang.

9 Feb 2023, Gurney Plaza Mall, Penang, Malaysia





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SEAFRONT PROMENADE

The seafront walkway beside our apartment complex in Tanjung Tokong, Penang.

9 Feb 2023, outside Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SHORT-BANDED SAILOR BUTTERFLY (*Phaedyma Collumella* Singa)

Seen in our gardens today. It is about 6cm or 2½ inches across). Butterflies like these are becoming increasingly rare as a result of indiscriminate insecticidal “fogging”. This fogging is aimed at control of mosquitoes and prevention of the spread of diseases that mosquitoes can pick up and transmit to humans (Dengue, Chicungunya, Zika, Malaria). The fogging, which is very visible and looks politically good is in fact the wrong solution for the mosquito-borne diseases problem. It also kills a lot of beneficial insect life such as butterflies.

9 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia







## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### **ORIENTAL GARDEN LIZARD (*Calotes Versicolor*)**

Two photos of one of these lizards, seen enjoying the sunshine in the grounds of our apartment complex. It is about 30cm or 1 foot in overall length.

9 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### **ORIENTAL GARDEN LIZARD (*Calotes Versicolor*)**

Two photos of one of these lizards, seen enjoying the sunshine in the grounds of our apartment complex. It is about 30cm or 1 foot in overall length.

9 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### QUEEN MARY 2 VISITS PENANG

The large luxury cruise ship, Queen Mary 2, operated by the US cruise company Carnival Cruises under its Cunard brand, is moored for a day at the Penang cruise terminal. The vessel carries up to 2,700 passengers, with 1,300 crew and entered service in 2004. This visit to Penang was part of a lengthy cruise from UK to Australasia and back. The vessel is diesel-electric powered: the screws are driven by electric motors; diesel generators provide the electric power for this and for all the housekeeping requirements on board and there are gas-turbine generators as back up for this. The vessel is faster and more streamlined than most other large cruise ships, with its design reflecting somewhat the family of “Queen” transatlantic ocean liners from which it has evolved.

11 Feb 2023, seen from Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### QUEEN MARY 2 LEAVING PENANG

The QM2 leaves Penang in the early evening for its next destination after a brief half-day stop here.

12 Feb 2023, from our balcony at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PRACTISING THE USE OF THE CIRCULAR CASTING NET

This type of net is still widely in use among shore communities in Penang. (See also 9 Apr)

12 Feb 2023, from the shore at Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### MV NAUTICA CRUISE HIP ENTERS HARBOUR

The MV Nautica, a middle-size cruise ship operating under the Oceania cruises brand of Norwegian Cruise Lines, approaches the Penang cruise terminal at breakfast time. The vessel carries up to 670 passengers with 400 crew.

13 Feb 2023, from Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### MV NAUTICA CRUISE SHIP

A close-up image.

13 Feb 2023, from Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CUSTARD TARTS

A local delicacy from the Four Leaves bakery cafe that we visit from time to time when shopping downtown in Geirgetown, Penang.

13 Feb 2023, Four Leaves café in Gama Department Store, Penang, Malaysia.







## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### THAI RESTAURANT

Our local Thai restaurant inside the shopping arcade close to where we live.

13 Feb 2023, Straits Quay, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### FISHING IN THE SEA

A local person fishing with rods from the breakwater that is visible (500m away) from our balcony.

14 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SPECTRUM OF THE SEAS – APPROACHING PENANG

One of the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines' (part of Carnival Cruises) ultra large cruise vessels, the 347m (1,156ft) long Spectrum of the Seas, emerges from the afternoon haze and approaches Penang.

14 Feb 2023, seen from our balcony at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SPECTRUM OF THE SEAS – APPROACHING PENANG

One of the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines' (part of Carnival Cruises) ultra large cruise vessels, the 347m (1,156ft) long Spectrum of the Seas, near Penang. The vessel is truly massive, has 18 decks and can carry up to 4,900 passengers.

14 Feb 2023, seen from our balcony at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SPECTRUM OF THE SEAS – APPROACHING PENANG

The Spectrum of the Seas dwarfs a local in-shore fishing boat as it passes.

14 Feb 2023, seen from our balcony at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SPECTRUM OF THE SEAS – APPROACHING PENANG

A nearer and clearer view of the vessel as it reaches Penang Island and passes within .

14 Feb 2023, seen from our balcony at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VALENTINE'S DAY 2023

A small indulgence before dinner today.

14 Feb 2023, At home at Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

**KEDAH PEAK (Gunung Jerai, 1,217m or 3,992 ft), A PROMINENT LOCAL COASTAL LANDMARK.**

**Seen in early morning light, 40 km away, looking north across the North Channel. For centuries used as a navigation marker by seafarers crossing the Indian Ocean south-eastwards and heading to the Strait of Malacca**

15 Feb 2023, Penang Club seafront, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

**KEDAH PEAK (Gunung Jerai, 1,217m or 3,992 ft).**

**Seen around dawn, while returning from our morning swim. The peak is 40km (25 miles) distant and the telecom towers on its summit are clearly visible in the photo.**

15 Feb 2023, Looking north from grounds of Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### DAWN COLOURS OVER GUNUNG BINTANG

The outline of Gunung Bintang (Star Mountain) seen around sunrise time from one of our windows, while returning from our morning swim. The mountain is 63km (40 miles) distant and rises to 1,862m (6,109ft). The water of the North Channel, separating Penang Island from the mainland, is just visible in the in the photo.

16 Feb 2023, Looking north from grounds of Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SERI TANJUNG PINANG

**This is the name for the cluster of residential developments built on the reclaimed land at the north-east tip of Penang Island and opened from around 2008.**

16 Feb 2023, Looking from the Penang Club seafront along the coastline of the north-eastern tip of Penang island. The buildings are 4km (2½miles) away in the photo. The tall towers in the rear with red roofs are all part of the apartment complex where we have lived since 2014.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### FISHING BOATS

Local inshore fishing boats moored at the Tanjung Tokong fishing village near our home, seen from our balcony.

16 Feb 2023, Tanjung Tokong, Penang, Malaysia



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### TANJUNG TOKONG FISHING VILLAGE

The village and its boats seen from our balcony at Quayside Condominium.

16 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CRUISES TO NOWHERE

The Aegean Paradise, a 33 year old cruise liner (with a capacity of up to 650 passengers), with a long cruising history in Europe and Asia, now operates out of its home port Penang in a “retirement” role as a casino and entertainment vessel. It offers both daytime and nighttime short cruises that travel outside the 12-mile limit and thus allow gambling and various duty-free privileges to be enjoyed. These trips are popularly called “cruises to nowhere”. The photo shows the vessel returning to Penang early evening after the day-time cruise. Pulau Bidan, one of several very small islands just off the mainland coast of Malaysia here, which rises steeply to some 80m (270ft) above sea level, can be seen in the image some 20km beyond the vessel.

16 Feb 2023, seen from our balcony at Quayside Condominium.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ASIAN WATER MONITOR LIZARD (*Varanus Salvator*)

A large monitor lizard seen in the water foraging among the rocks on the Penang shorefront. This one was about 2m long (including tail), but they can grow up to 2.5 to 3m long. The lizard has a long, prominently forked tongue, typically 30cm long, which serves as a sensory antenna (see further images of it on following page).

17 Feb 2023, Penang Club shorefront, Penang, Malaysia.



The monitor lizard's tongue, 17 Feb 2023

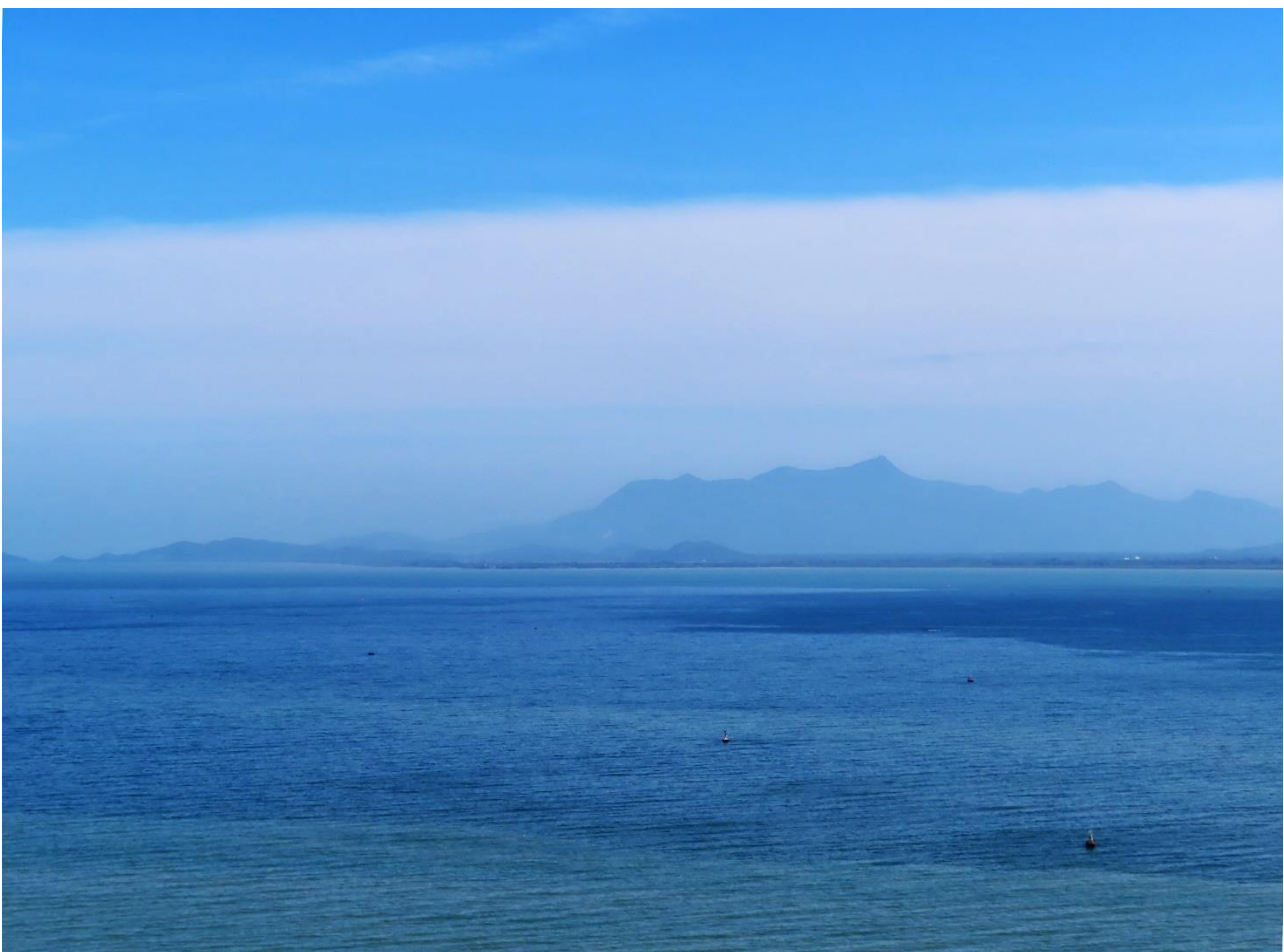


## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VIEW FROM 100M (340 FT) UP ON THE 28TH LEVEL

View from a top-floor apartment in our apartment complex, looking north up the Malaysian coast. The Gunung Jerai (Kedah Peak) massif stands out in the background. It rises to 1,217m or 3,992 ft and is 40km (25 miles) away. The low hills and some small offshore islands to the left of Gunung Jerai are remains of an old volcano caldera (crater ring).

18 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VIEW DOWN FROM THE 28TH LEVEL

This shows the edge of the Quayside grounds and the seafront walkway outside the fence.

18 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VIEW DOWN FROM THE 28TH LEVEL

This is what coconut palm trees look like from above.

18 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VIEW DOWN FROM THE 28TH LEVEL

The Ketapang trees (*Terminalia Catappa*), known locally as sea almond trees, on account of their almond-like seed pods, are now entering one of their two brief annual leaf-shedding periods. The large leaves turn red at this point and leave the trees bare for a short time. These trees grow wild near the water around the coast of Penang, being tolerant to bright light, drought, salinity and windy conditions. The tree here is self-seeded and grows in the rocks of the sea-wall.

18 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### DRAGON BOATS

Two boat crews warming up before practice in the small harbour at Tanjung Tokong. Seen from our balcony. The white boat in the background contains a women's team.

18 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### EARLY MORNING VIEW

The classic early morning view at breakfast time from Penang Club .

19 Feb 2023, Penang Club, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A DIFFERENT BREAKFAST

Departing early morning for a trip to Kuala Lumpur, we have to take breakfast at Penang Airport today.

20 Feb 2023, Penang Airport, Penang, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A DIFFERENT VIEW

Breakfast today at the Airport, before an early flight to Kuala Lumpur, provides us with a different view from the usual one of the sea at Penang Club. Sunrise today was at 07.29, as we waited for the plane.



20 Feb 2023, Penang Airport, Penang, Malaysia.

## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### THE PLANE ARRIVES

The plane from KL arrives at 08.00 and will do a quick 20 minute turn-around before we depart on it for the 60 minute flight to KL .

20 Feb 2023, Penang Airport, Penang, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### VIEWS FROM THE HOTEL ROOM ON ARRIVAL

View of KLCC Park and the hotel pool, seen from the 19th floor. The park was created out of the old Selangor Turf Club horse-race track. Horse-racing took place here until 1988. The KLCC Park and associated building developments, including the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, were completed in 1997-98.

20 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.







## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### LUNCHTIME INDULGENCE

A much anticipated lunch snack on arrival. Simply labelled “Not Apple Crumble” on the menu, but somewhat resembling the classic, old-fashioned Knickerbocker Glory of English seaside tradition.

20 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A FAVOURITE PIECE OF SCULPTURE

We always enjoy seeing this sculpture of climbers on the building next to the hotel .

20 Feb 2023, outside Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SEEN FROM OUR ROOM

**A small building of art deco style (but probably a new creation) stands out among the office and hotel towers of KL that can be seen from our window .**

20 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SEEN FROM OUR ROOM

Jungle type vegetation in the KLCC Park next to the hotel .

20 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### THE PRE-DAWN SWIM

Maintaining our usual routine of swimming each day before the sun comes up, with the clock at the top of the Phone company's building next door showing 06.48 today. Sunrise today was 07.21. In KL, sunrise gets later until end-January when it reaches 07.27. However, 22 December (the Winter Solstice) is still the shortest day here (counting the daylight hours) here. The day's lengthening after 22 December is – for a month and a half – generated solely by the much later sunsets; earlier sunrises do not start happening here until after mid-February.

21 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### THE PRE-DAWN SWIM

21 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A DIFFERENT BREAKFAST

More comfort here than at the airport yesterday.

21 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PANDAS AT IKEA

An amusing display at the IKEA store in the out-of-town shopping complex that we visited today near KL .

21 Feb 2023, IKEA at Mutiara Damansara, Selangor, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A VIEW IN KL SUBURBS

View from the platform at the MRT station (here above-ground and elevated) that serves Damansara Mutiara .

21 Feb 2023, seen from MTR station at Mutiara Damansara, Selangor, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANOTHER HIGH-RISE SUBURB BEING DEVELOPED

High-rise development – a typical mixture of commercial , retail and residential properties – under way at Damansara City Centre .

21 Feb 2023, seen from MRT train approaching Damansara City Centre station.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### OLD HAUNTS

**We used to stay at the Royal Commonwealth Society's clubhouse in this suburb of Bukit Damansara, when we first started visiting KL and when we drove by car from Penang. The club premises are in the very centre of the photo, immediately above the house with the pink roof. Seen from the MRT train.**

21 Feb 2023, near Damansara City Centre MRT station, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KUALA LUMPUR SKYLINE

The impressive skyline, showing several of KL's iconic towers and roofs, seen from the MRT train just before it leaves the elevated track and goes underground as it nears the city centre. Visible from left to right are: Petronas Twin Towers (452m), Menara KL Tower (421m), Malaysian Parliament Building with pointed roofs, TRX Exchange Tower (454m), Merdeka 118 Tower (679m)

21 Feb 2023, just after Semantan station, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KUALA LUMPUR'S ICONIC OLD RAILWAY STATION

The Indian Mogul style architecture of KL's original central railway station, built during the British colonial period in Malaya, in 1910.

21 Feb 2023, from Pasar Seni LRT station, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### THE CHANGING FACE OF KL

The mixture of buildings seen from Pasar Seni LRT station in central KL. These range from the 100 year old Chinese style 2-storey shop-houses (seen at lower right) to the latest skyscrapers seen at top centre: the Tun Razak Exchange tower, 454 m high (the narrow tower seen behind the two pink buildings), and the Merdeka 118 tower, 679m high, still being completed, whose base looms to the right of the TR Exchange tower.

21 Feb 2023, from the platforms of the LRT line at Pasar Seni station, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANOTHER INDIAN MOGHUL STYLE HERITAGE BUILDING

Seen from the platform at Pasar Seni LRT station: the National Textile Museum, whose 1896 structure has previously housed a variety of government offices and functions over the years.

21 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A TOP SHOPPING MALL

Inside the KL Pavilion, one of KL's top luxury shopping malls.

22 Feb 2023, The Pavilion, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ARTISTIC CEILING PANEL

Seen in one of the pedestrian passages connecting buildings in the centre of KL.

22 Feb 2023, Pavilion to KLCC walkway, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### ANOTHER ARTISTIC CEILING PANEL

Seen in one of the pedestrian passages connecting buildings in the centre of KL.

22 Feb 2023, KLCC to Pavilion to KLCC walkway, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### FLOWERS IN THE HOTEL LOBBY

22 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

The Convention Centre seen from our hotel room.

22 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KL'S PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS

Seen from our hotel room, some of the walkways providing pedestrian connection in the centre of KL. The ones here are built above the street; others are underground.

22 Feb 2023, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### SYNCHRONISED FOUNTAINS

Seen from our hotel room, the fountains in the KLCC Park outside the hotel.

22 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### BUILDING ILLUMINATIONS

Intersting coloured display seen pre-dawn on the side of the EQ Hotel in the KL city centre.

23 Feb 2023, seen from Mandarin Oriental Hotel swimming pool, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### IMAGE OF THE TWIN TOWERS AT DAWN

The Petronas Twin Towers seen reflected, in the dawn twilight, in the facade of another nearby building, seen from our hotel swimming pool deck.

23 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### DAWN VIEW

Looking eastwards across the hotel pool and the KLCC Park.

22 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### DAWN VIEW

Looking eastwards across the KLCC Park, with the central hills in the distance (Titiwangsa Range).

22 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-23

### SEALING WAX PALMS (CYRTOSTACHUYS RENDA)

Seen from the breakfast lounge at the hotel, a cluster of the distinctive red-stemmed palms outside in the KLCC Park. This is the only palm with red stems and owes its popular name to its resemblance to the old sticks of red sealing wax. This is a slender, multi-stemmed palm tree that is native to this region (northern Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand) – although it has been exported to many other tropical countries.

23 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### NATIONAL ART GALLERY (BALAI SENI NEGARA)

23 Feb 2023, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### MODERN ART

A corner of the National Gallery's exhibition. Seen here are a painting by Syed Ahmad Jamal and a metal sculpture by Raja Shahrman.

23 Feb 2023, National Art Gallery, Malaysia.







## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PENANG SEEKS TOURISTS

Even in 1934, Penang and Malaya (as it then was, before the formation of Malaysia) were pushing hard to attract visitors. This 1934 poster was seen in the National Art Gallery's 2023, exhibition of art works with a connection to Malaysia's history. It is likely that this poster was designed to target British and European residents in places such as Singapore and Hong Kong.

23 Feb 2023, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### THE KL SKYLINE

The Petronas Twin Towers dominate the KL skyline in the central part of KL. Here they are seen from outside the National Art Gallery in Jalan Tun Razak..

23 Feb 2023, National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



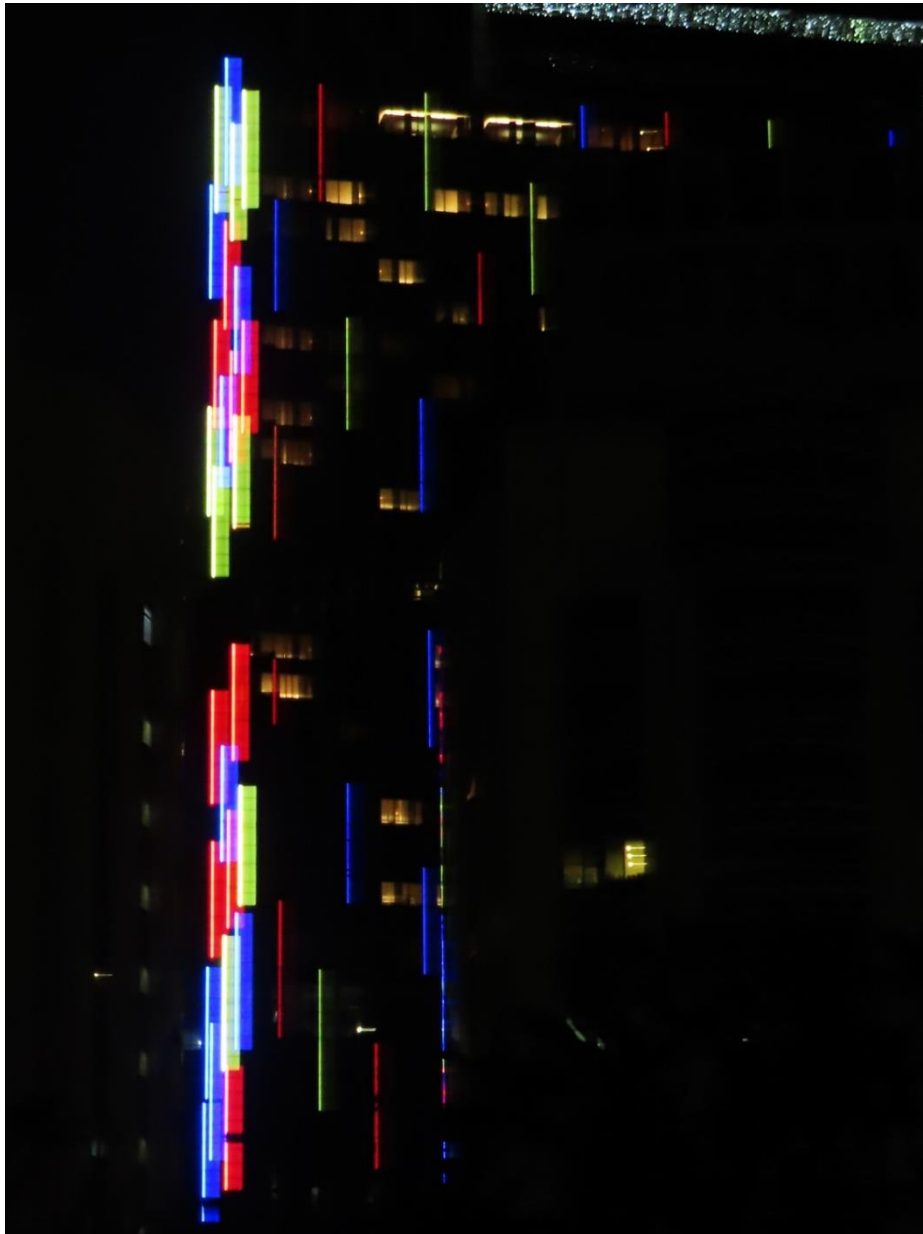


## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### BUILDING ILLUMINATIONS

The coloured display seen again pre-dawn on the side of the EQ Hotel in the KL city centre.

24 Feb 2023, seen at Mandarin Oriental Hotel swimming pool, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### CITY VIEW FROM THE MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ARTS

The museum lies on a hill near the centre of the city. The photo shows the spires of some of the old Mughal style buildings associated with the colonial-era railway station close-by.

24 Feb 2023, Museum of Islamic Arts, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ARTS

A view from the museum windows.

24 Feb 2023, Museum of Islamic Arts, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KL'S NEW MERDEKA 118 TOWER

The new government-owned tower will start receiving occupants during 2023. It is a typical mixed-development with several floors of shopping mall at the base, a wide range of office floors above and a 12-floor Park Hyatt-branded hotel and 5 floors of hotel residences at the top. 118 in the name reflects the number of floors. The top of the spire is 679m above ground (2,227ft), making it the highest building and structure in Malaysia and south-east Asia and the second tallest in the world – after Burj Khalifa (828m) in Dubai. There is a public observation deck at level 116. The minaret of the national Mosque can be seen in the foreground, just 0.2 km from the camera; the 118 Tower is 1km further away.

24 Feb 2023, seen from Museum of Islamic Arts, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### INSIDE THE MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ARTS.

A modern building for an interesting collection of materials relating to the international history of Islam.

24 Feb 2023, Museum of Islamic Arts, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### OFFICIAL BIRTHDAY PHOTO

Carolyn's official birthday photo this year. It shows the so-called "Ushak Carpet" – a historic example of the celebrated rugs long made in the Turkish city of Ushak, in western Anatolia, 250km south of Istanbul.

24 Feb 2023, Museum of Islamic Arts, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS , KL

24 Feb 2023, seen from Jalan Ampang in front of the Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### KL'S LEAFY STREETS

Many parts of the city centre still have old trees from up to a century ago.

24 Feb 2023, Jalan Ampang in front of Suria Mall, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.





## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT THE HOTEL

24 Feb 2023, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



## Photos of the year 2022-2023

### A DIFFERENT POOL AGAIN

Back home in Penang again, we return to our usual pool for the pre-dawn swim.

28 Feb 2023, Quayside Condominium, Tanjung Tokong, Penang, Malaysia.

