



FABLES OF THE PENINSULA

7 Days / 6 Nights

Departure : 3 October 2016



TOUR ITINERARY

Take your seat for the ultimate journey into the heart of Southeast Asia aboard the Eastern & Oriental Express luxury train; Singapore to Bangkok, with stops in Penang and Kuala Lumpur.

Day 1 - Arrive Singapore

Please make your way to the Raffles Hotel, where overnight accommodation in an elegantly-furnished Courtyard Suite has been reserved for you. The rest of the day is at your leisure – to discover the old world charm of this Grande Dame with a visit to the hotel's museum, or take a stroll in its tropical garden of gingers, palms, ferns and frangipani trees. A Singapore Sling is a tradition for most first-time visitors to Singapore, and you can enjoy this drink at the Long Bar of the Raffles - the only corner in the clean city-state where littering is allowed

Check-in time at the Raffles Hotel is 2.00 pm and check-out time is between 11:00 am and 12 noon. Any room extension outside of these times is subject to the discretion of the hotel.

Raffles Hotel, Singapore

Day 2 - Depart Singapore

Enjoy breakfast at leisure in the charming Tiffin Room and explore Singapore for the rest of the morning. From 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm, Eastern & Oriental Express staff are on hand to assist you with the check-in arrangements for the train, which will be conducted at the Long Bar Steak House on Level 2 of the Raffles Hotel. A group transfer brings you from the hotel to the Woodlands Train Checkpoint where the gleaming green carriages of the Eastern & Oriental Express await your embarkation.

Be welcomed by stewards in exquisite Thai uniforms; their hands pressed together in a gracious *wai* - a promise of the journey to come. A cool drink is served as you settle into your luxurious cabin. The whistle blows and the train trundles off towards the Causeway bridge into Malaysia.

Dress up for this formal evening and make your way to the Bar Car for a cocktail reception hosted by the Train Manager. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet other guests and the on-board speaker who will enrich your journey. After cocktails, enjoy dinner in one of the opulent dining cars before you relax with a nightcap while listening to the resident pianist playing nostalgic melodies in the Bar Car.



On your return to your cabin after dinner, you will find an overnight bag for the following day's off-train stay in the Cameron Highlands. Please consider packing appropriate dinner wear, excursion and travel attire. We encourage you to bring a light wrap – shawl, jacket or sweater - as the evening and early morning temperatures can be chilly. Your cabin steward will assist you with the overnight luggage transfer from the train to Cameron Highlands Resort.

Day 3 - Kuala Lumpur & Overnight at Cameron Highlands

After breakfast, the Eastern & Oriental Express arrives at the impressive Indian Mughal-style Kuala Lumpur Railway Station, built in 1885. Kuala Lumpur, often referred to as KL, is nestled in the urban sprawl of the Klang Valley. It is the federal capital of Malaysia and the most populous city with over 1.6 million people. The city's rich, polyglot heritage harks back to the 19th century when it was transformed in thirty short years from a tin-mining trading outpost in the jungle into a bustling boomtown.

Enjoy this lively capital city with your choice of morning tours. You can choose to make an early morning visit to one of KL's largest wet markets or be enticed by the city's history and heritage museums. Return to the train after your selected tour and savour lunch on board as we depart KL, climbing past rubber and oil palm plantations towards Malaysia's emerald-hued uplands. Upon arriving at Tapah Station, disembark the train for the coach transfer to the Cameron Highlands.

Relax on the two-hour scenic drive over rolling hills and through dense jungle where you may spot tiny settlements of the *Orang Asli*, Malaysia's indigenous people. The Cameron Highlands hill station, at about 1,500m above sea level, is the highest area in peninsular Malaysia stretching along a plateau overlooking lush river valleys. The cool temperate air is fresh and crisp, with a blanket of easy fog that veils the hill jungles almost every morning. This is perfect for the tea plantations which the Highlands are famous for.

We proceed to the Cameron Highlands Resort where you will be greeted with a welcome colonial cocktail before you are escorted to your well-appointed room. The interior of the resort complements the Highland's settings, resembling a genteel English colonial home with welcoming fireplaces in the Reading Room and Highlands Bar. Tall French doors, timber-beamed ceilings and plantation shutters add to the colonial charm.

Dinner is served at The Dining Room of the Resort. It is a casual evening and you will feel most comfortable in smart casual wear – a wrap for the ladies and a light jacket for the gentlemen will be fitting for the Highland's cool, even chilly, evening air.

Hotel

Cameron Highlands Resort





Day 4 - Cameron Highlands

After breakfast, you may choose to visit the famed BOH (Best of Highlands) tea plantation for a guided tour of the factory with opportunities to sample a variety of aromatic brews. Or, join the resort's naturalist, Mr S. Madi, on the Jim Thompson trail through the Cameron Highlands jungle to discover the flora and fauna of this tropical gem. Mr Madi, a Highlands native, may even share his personal take on Jim Thompson's disappearance.

Return to your room late morning for a final packing of your belongings, and check out at 12 noon. Enjoy lunch at Gonbei Restaurant where you have the choice of a Western or Japanese menu.

After lunch, depart from the resort by coach to Ipoh Station to re-board the train.

Settle into your cabin before getting dressed in formal attire for this evening's dinner. *Please note that shorts, blue jeans and sports shoes are not appropriate in the dining cars in the evenings.* Relax with an aperitif in the Bar Car before enjoying a sumptuous dinner as the train glides through the night to our next destination.

Day 5 - Penang

Butterworth Station is our morning stop on the mainland, where you will disembark from the train to board the transfer to the island of Penang. Several excursions are available - choose to explore colonial George Town to see its rich blend of Chinese, Malay and Indian cultures, or visit the Peranakan Heritage Museum. You can also choose to enjoy the outdoors at the Tropical Spice Garden Gallery, which showcases the origins of the spice trade and how spices are used today.

Following your tour, gather at the Eastern & Oriental Hotel for a late morning tea on the elegant terrace before heading back to the train.

Back on board the E&O for lunch, we pass rice fields with limestone outcrops on the horizon, as we continue towards the border town of Padang Besar, where Malaysia meets Thailand. Immigration and customs formalities are conducted here while passengers remain onboard the train. Crossing into Thailand, the time difference is one hour behind Malaysia.

Spend a relaxing afternoon at leisure, in your cabin catching the scenery out the window or in the observation car watching the colours of the sky change with the setting of the sun. Dinner is served and afterwards enjoy a digestif in the Bar car.





Day 6 – Huay Yang

The early morning brings you to the small rural community of Huay Yang, located about 300 km south of Bangkok in the province of Prachuap Khiri Khan on the east coast of Thailand.

Hop on to the local *song thaew* for your ride to the pier in the village of Baan Huay Yang, This is a small fishing town and features charming scenery of gently swaying coconut palms on miles of white beaches surrounded by majestic mountains. Following a stroll through a fishing village, you will be transferred across to the island of Koh Chaan. Here you can enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of a beach club setting and spend the morning snorkelling or sunbathing. At mid-day we will proceed by boat ride to the coastal resort of Nishaville for a seafood barbeque lunch by the beachside.

Return to the E&O in the afternoon, with the rest of the day is at leisure as the train continues travelling north.

This is our final night on the train and dinner is a formal affair. Join the Train Manager and staff for a farewell cocktail reception before dinner. Afterwards, exchange addresses with fellow guests over digestifs in the open air Observation car, and spot stars in the night sky.

Day 7 – Bangkok

Arrive and disembark in Bangkok as the on-board team wave you goodbye and wish you a pleasant onward journey.

For more information and reservation,
please contact us at quote.asia@asiaworld-travel.com

