



EASTERN & ORIENTAL
HOTEL

Opulent OLD WORLD CHARM

The classic grandeur and fascinating story behind the majestic Eastern & Oriental Hotel in Penang never fails to mesmerise guests from all over the world.

Steeped in rich history, the hotel located in the heart of George Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the favourite destination for royalties, ministers, businessmen and many more.

In its early days as an outpost of the East India Company, Penang also drew travellers of every shade and description – merchants, missionaries, mercenaries, sailors and adventurers.

The Armenian Sarkies brothers, Martin and Tigran, who settled down in Penang are credited in establishing the Eastern Hotel in 1884.

Encouraged by its success, they opened another hotel, the Oriental in 1885, on an adjacent piece of land facing the sea. Combined, these two hotels became the largest hotel in Penang, offering 80 comfortable and tastefully appointed rooms.

In 1891, another Sarkies brother, Arshak, joined the business. More flamboyant than his brothers, he added a large ballroom in 1903. Before long, the E&O (as it came to be fondly called) became the centre of the social life and gaiety of Penang and its surroundings.

It was the venue for the island's major

functions, such as weddings, banquets and the annual St. George's Day Ball. Visiting musicians and cabaret acts also found their way to the E&O.

Famous guests who enjoyed its hospitality included Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, Noel Coward, Rudyard Kipling, Somerset Maugham and Hermann Hesse.

In 1922, Arshak secured a large plot of land for the hotel which extended its already impressive sea frontage. On this piece of land was built the magnificent Victory Annexe, which added another 40 rooms.

By 1927, the E&O was pronounced in advertisement as 'The Premier Hotel East of the Suez', boasting more than 100 rooms, 40 of them with adjoining bathrooms, hot and cold running water, individual telephones and a 842-foot seafront, 'the longest of any hotel in the world'.

Sadly, as the Great Depression set in, Arshak's extravagance and mismanagement of his hotel also caught up with him, and the E&O slipped into a slow decline. After Arshak's death in 1931, it changed hands several times.



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However, even at its lowest point, the E&O retained its charm and weathered the passage of time with character and grace.

Today, more than a century since its establishment, the E&O has reclaimed its heritage. And with its return to elegance, it would not be a matter of wonder, as a writer once put it, that 'those who have once visited this famous hotel, regard the E&O as a haven to be sought again and again, as the traveller returns to the home of his affection.'

The hotel is fully owned and managed by the Eastern & Oriental Berhad Group. After a major refurbishment, the E&O Hotel reopened its doors to the public on Tuesday, 3 April 2001.

Standing majestically along Farquhar Street and intersecting with Penang Road, the E&O Hotel is 20 kilometres from the Penang International Airport.

Located conveniently near local eateries, shopping and the entertainment area of downtown George Town, the financial district of Beach Street and surrounding cultural quarters, the hotel is again positioned as an exclusive 100 all-suite grand hotel, evoking an aura of place and time, maintaining strong historical links and traditions yet coupled with the facilities of present day.

All suites are magnificently furnished, extravagantly spacious and come in eight different types, with either city or sea views. Each suite comes with modern day amenities and every guest who stays at the E&O Hotel receives individual attention.

Set amidst lush tropical greenery in a beautifully manicured garden is the swimming pool that faces the sea and the

focal point for guests seeking to unwind or to energise the body, mind and spirit.

This is also where the oldest 'Java' tree, which was planted before 1885, still stands (only three other smaller trees of this kind exist in Penang).

One can savour the old world grandeur as you conduct your events in its 400-seater Grand Ballroom with full stage, royal boxes and gallery.

Among the outlets at the hotel include the '1885' diner which was awarded one of Malaysia's best restaurants for 2012 by Malaysian Tatler. The Sarkies Corner is a colonial coffee shop that offers à la carte local and international cuisine.

The Farquhar Bar is a little piece of colonial Malaya, serves great pub fare with the Poolside Terrace offering al fresco dining and drinks by the pool side with spectacular views of the sunset and the Andaman Sea.

The Victory Annexe, the new wing of The Eastern & Oriental Hotel (E&O Hotel) in George Town, Penang was opened on March 15, 2013.

The Planters Lounge caters exclusively for guest staying in the Victory Annexe and serves complimentary continental breakfast and evening cocktails.

There are 118 Studio Suites measuring 55sq m each and 14 Corner Suites spanning 123sq m each. All Studio Suites feature a bedroom, bathroom with twin vanities and private balcony. A separate living room, unique rainforest shower and dining area with 270° view of the sea are standard in the Corner Suites.