

A Sparkling Start to Christmas: E&O Unveils Its Iconic Tree in Georgetown, Penang



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By V. Sivaji

December 1st in Penang marked the magical return of the traditional Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony at the iconic Eastern & Oriental Hotel in Georgetown.

As the first hotel in Penang's hospitality scene to introduce a formal tree-lighting tradition, the E&O once again drew an impressive crowd of locals, expatriates, and the city's notable personalities—all eager to usher in the festive season together.

Guests mingled amidst the hotel's elegant holiday décor while enjoying a cheerful free flow of festive bites and drinks.



The evening's canapés added to the Christmas spirit, featuring delights such as Lobster Louie, Spiced Prawn Croquettes, Mince Pies, and Traditional Fruit Cake.

General Manager Ms. Alison Fraser welcomed guests with a heartfelt speech, sharing updates on the hotel's renovations and its significant 140th anniversary celebrations.

“As we celebrate 140 years of heritage and hospitality, we are deeply thankful for the continued support of our guests and community. This tree lighting is not just a festive tradition, but a heartfelt reminder of how far we have come—and also a celebration of the bright year ahead,” she said.



Ms. Fraser then led the spirited countdown to the illumination of the magnificent six-metre Christmas tree, which burst to life in a radiant array of colours. Adorned with glittering ornaments and twinkling fairy lights, the tree stands as a shining symbol of joy and togetherness for the holiday season.

The atmosphere grew even more enchanting as the Penang Island Chorus filled the grand lobby with their melodious carols, wrapping the evening in pure Christmas cheer.



