

7D/6N Malaya at War History Tour 2019
12th to 18th August 2019

Programme & Itinerary:

Date	Itinerary	Hotel
<p>Day 01 12Aug19 Monday</p>	<p>Kuala Lumpur – Melaka (L)</p> <p>Leaving Kuala Lumpur, we travel south by both modern expressway as well the old trunk road and where Gemenchah borders Gemas, we arrive at Kelamah riverine battle site, demarcated as Battle of Gemas and commemorated by the <i>Sungai Kelamah War Memorial</i>. The environs are where over two days the Australian Imperial Forces fought with valour, inflicting heavy casualties on the Japanese troops.</p> <p>See the remnants of the <i>broken bridge</i>, blown up by the Australians to set up the perfect ambush strategy. Strewn in the roadside bushes are some <i>anti-tanks cylindrical concrete blocks</i> with some bullet markings, visible with closer scrutiny. The well maintained Memorial, amongst others, has Murray Griffin's painting, a horrific depiction of the Battle of Gemas.</p> <p><i>Old Gemas Railway Station</i> - actual site where the Japanese soldiers were crawling in anticipation of enemy engagement, as depicted in an old wartime photograph. The old locomotives, carriages and an old water pump - all left abandoned - are testament to Gemas' century old role, connecting rail travel to the East Coast States.</p> <p><i>Gemas Broken Bridge & Buloh Kasap Bridge</i> – the former at outskirts of Gemas, a stone's throw from Negri Sembilan and Johor States borders and the latter at time-warped Buloh Kasap, Johor State. Both concrete-built bridges were intentionally destroyed by the Australian forces to slow down the advancing Japanese Army. The Buloh Kasap bridge spanning Muar River has unique British Union Jack motifs and at the river bank vicinity, are bullet hole markings discovered on the walls of some of the shop houses after more than 75 years.</p> <p>Included lunch en route the day's journey.</p> <p><i>Segamat Iron Bridge</i> – similarly, the railway bridge was intentionally destroyed by Australian forces during the Malayan Campaign to sabotage the advancing Japanese forces heading southbound by train towards Singapore. Post WW II, repair works were done by the British upon their return and today the Segamat Iron Bridge continues to serve KTM – Malayan Railway's southbound trains.</p> <p>On completion of the day's visitations, we take the road heading to Melaka. Arrive Melaka town, check in and rest of the evening is free at leisure.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	<p>Ramada Plaza Hotel</p>

<p>Day 02 13Aug19 Tuesday</p>	<p>Melaka – Muar – Bakri – Parit Sulong – Bukit Kepong – Melaka (B/L/D)</p> <p>Breakfast at hotel. We then travel 40 km southwards to Muar, a river mouth town served by river-crossing ferry boats up to as late as mid 1960's. During the Malayan Campaign, it was Muar's strategic riverine location, at which a photo stop is scheduled. Then continue a further 35 km through Bakri's crossroads and onwards to Parit Sulong - hellish battlefields that witnessed continual heavy engagements between Australian and Japanese forces.</p> <p><i>The Final Retreat in Bakri – The Battle of Muar 1942.</i> Experience being on the precise documented roadside spot as depicted by the famous photo of Allied soldiers aiming the artillery cannons on the advancing Japanese tanks. This was the last battle site in Malaya before the Allied Forces retreated to Singapore.</p> <p>Onwards, we pay homage with a stop at <i>Parit Sulong Memorial</i> – scene of the infamous Parit Sulong Massacre in 1942 which is on record as being part of The Battle of Muar. There were a combined 150 Australians and support Allied units, who were mercilessly tortured and massacred. A stone's throw from the Parit Sulong Memorial, there still exists the slightly above-ground and pillared barracks-like structure where the massacre took place. There are two infamous rooms where the extremely inhumane tortures took place by the Japanese soldiers, as well as the site under the shade of the then big tree, where the massacred bodies and remains were allegedly disposed.</p> <p>Included lunch en route the day's journey.</p> <p>For our last visitation, we journey the road less travelled through Malay heartlands to the "Malayan Alamo." Arriving at the <i>Emergency Gallery at Bukit Kepong</i> – we are at the Malayan Emergency battle-site where the police and civilians resisted and fought valiantly against the Communist Terrorists. The attack was made on the Bukit Kepong Police Station.</p> <p>On completion of the day's visitations, we again take the road heading back to Melaka.</p> <p>Included dinner with return transfers.</p> <div data-bbox="386 1480 1139 1765" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>Ramada Plaza Hotel</p>
<p>Day 03 14Aug19 Wednesday</p>	<p>Melaka – Port Dickson – Kampar – Sungai Siput – Ipoh (B/L)</p> <p>Breakfast at hotel. Today, we traverse four states through Melaka, Negeri Sembilan, Selangor and Perak. Our day begins with a 62 km secondary road drive, with parts of the journey close by or hugging the coastline to the garrison town of Port Dickson. Our first stop the <i>Army Museum (Muzium Tentera Darat)</i> has an extensive collection of decommissioned military assets – tanks, artillery guns, APCs and other militaria. The Museum has replicated in fine detail, a</p>	<p>Weil Hotel</p>

	<p>communist cavern hideout depicting the tough living conditions and operatives of the Communist Terrorists in the web of cave tunnels.</p> <p><i>*Green Ridge – historical war site of The Battle of Kampar, a four day onslaught between British forces and Allied support units crossing over 1941/42 New Year’s Day. The Japanese suffered massive casualties and a major morale breaking loss and even had frantic reinforcements brought in by coastal sea vessels from northern Malayan ports, to beef up their depleted strength. The Battle of Kampar remains one of the more outstanding battles for the British Battalion and with pride of successfully holding the relentless might of the Japanese Army in their advances down the Malay Peninsula.</i></p> <p><i>*Note: As this is an unchartered battle site and the terrain is rather challenging, serious caution must be taken at all times. Participants would need to be relatively healthy and fit to attempt this terrain.</i></p> <p>Included lunch en route the day’s journey.</p> <p><i>Monument & Gallery - commemorating Elphil Estate Manager’s cold blooded murder by Communist Terrorists in Sungei Siput, Perak. This incident triggered the start of the Malayan Emergency lasting 12 years from 1948-1960. Here we have a rare photograph of the interior of the Manager’s bungalow. This picture was taken after Walker’s death, with whom we believe is the new Estate Manager and his family. This picture is part of Arthur Waters’ collection - Arthur Waters was a former policeman who served during the Malayan Emergency.</i></p> <p>After completion of the day’s visitation, we proceed onwards to Ipoh. Check in and rest of day and evening at leisure.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	
<p>Day 04 15Aug19 Thursday</p>	<p>Ipoh – Papan - Taiping (B/D)</p> <p>Breakfast at hotel. We commence the day by proceeding to <i>Ipoh War Memorial - The Cenotaph</i> was erected and unveiled in 1927 commemorating Remembrance Day and to honour fallen soldiers of World War I 1914 to 1918, World War II 1939 to 1945, The Emergency 1948 to 1960 and Indonesia-Malaysia Confrontation 1962 to 1966, as well as thousands of war prisoners and civilians who perished at the Thailand-Burma Death Railway between 1943 and 1945.</p> <p><i>Gurkha Cemetery</i> - The cemetery lies in a military camp, formerly known as Suvla Lines. The camp is now a very large installation, straddling both sides of the road and is home to various military units, each of which have their own entrance and guard house. The cemetery, now known as The Gurkha Cemetery, is the resting place for close to 100 Non World War service and dependent burials here, 10 being unidentified dependents of Gurkha soldiers.</p>	<p>Novotel Hotel</p>

	<p><i>Sybil Kathigasu's Home</i> – A house located at Papan, where Sybil Kathigasu lived - the only Malayan woman to be awarded the George Medal. A Eurasian of Irish-Indian parentage, she was married to Dr Abdon Clement Kathigasu. They had two daughters (Olga and Dawn) and an adopted son (William). The Kathigasu's ran a clinic at 141 Brewster Road (now Jalan Sultan Idris Shah) in Ipoh from 1926 until the Japanese invasion of Malaya. For a period of close to two years, Sybil helped the resistance forces in their fight against the Japanese. Although the family was fearful of what they were doing, they supported her in providing medicine and medical services to the guerillas.</p> <p><i>Taiping War Memorial</i> - The final resting place for Allied personnel who were killed during World War II, and particularly the Malayan Campaign and the Japanese Occupation of Malaya. Servicemen who died after the war or during their posting in northern Malaya prior to the Malayan Emergency are also interred here. The cemetery is located at the foothills of Bukit Larut formerly Maxwell Hills Taiping, Perak and was erected and, till current times, maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. There are more than 850 World War II casualties interred in this cemetery, including more than 500 men who remain unidentified.</p> <p>After completion of the day's visitation, we proceed onwards to Taiping town. Check in and rest of day and evening at leisure.</p> <p>Taiping, once a former capital of Perak State during the early tin mining boom era, is historically a town with a long list of firsts – totalling 33 overall in Malayan / Malaysian history. Amongst others, 1st railway station and railway line, 1st public wet market, 1st golf club and golf course, and 1st airstrip with the distinction of having the great aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart doing a refueling stop between her flight from Bangkok to Singapore ... certainly a standout WOW !!</p> <p>Included dinner with return transfer.</p> <div data-bbox="256 1395 592 1646"> </div> <div data-bbox="603 1395 938 1646"> </div> <div data-bbox="949 1361 1198 1646"> </div>	
<p>Day 05 16Aug19 Friday</p>	<p>Taiping – Kuala Sepetang – Penang (B)</p> <p>Breakfast at hotel, then proceed to <i>Matang Museum</i>. The exhibits cover the discovery of tin, interestingly, by Long Jaafar's pet elephant, <i>Si Larut</i>. The animal turned up with its legs covered in hard muddy lumps which turned out to be tin. Long Jaafar, subsequently enlisted the help of 20 Chinese miners from Penang to start his mining operation. The mine was so lucrative it created an influx of Chinese migrants, which resulted in the creation of two feuding clans, Ghee Hin and Hai San. The two clashed and triggered the three Larut Wars from 1861 to 1874, causing the British to intervene. The Japanese Imperial Army used the fort as its headquarters during the War years.</p>	<p>Royale Chulan Hotel Georgetown</p>

	<p>Next, we proceed with a stop en route at Kuala Sepetang, formerly Port Weld, a unique producer, till current modern day, of the bulk of the nation’s top quality mangrove charcoal. Visit a charcoal kiln for an educational experience to observe the charcoal production processes. Onwards to Penang crossing from mainland Penang by her iconic Penang Bridge that links the Malay Peninsular with Penang Island. After completion of the day’s visitation, we proceed onwards to Georgetown, Penang. Check in and rest of day and evening at leisure.</p>	
<p>Day 06 17Aug19 Saturday</p>	<p>Penang (B/D)</p> <p>Breakfast at hotel, then proceed to <i>Cenotaph War Memorial</i> - located at the Esplanade in George Town, Penang, Malaysia. The site of the Cenotaph is situated at the shoreline of the Esplanade.</p> <p><i>Fort Cornwallis</i> - the largest standing fort in Malaysia, named after Marquis Charles Cornwallis, only a set of ten-foot high outer walls remain, with an enclosed park within. It is a surreal experience to hear the 1812 Overture playing over the speaker system while a Malaysian man dressed in full British regalia stands at the gate. Inside the fort is a variety of vaguely-informative exhibits.</p> <p><i>Convent Light Street (Former Prisoners Of War Camp)</i> – now a classroom in oldest girl’s school in Southeast Asia. This school room, at the Convent Light Street, must be the most notorious class in the entire Convent as it served as the internment camp for a group of prisoners of war who were captured by the Japanese after the USS Grenadier was sunk in the Straits of Malacca. I wonder whether the present girls who use the classroom are fully aware of the history that their classroom carries. During their incarceration, the prisoners scratched their names with their belt buckles on various parts of the classroom walls.</p> <p><i>Penang War Museum</i> - The former British bastion was manned by British, Sikh and Malay soldiers after its completion. It fell during WWII when the Japanese launched an attack against the fort from inland, rather than from the sea, as was expected by the British. From that day onwards (17 December 1941) the Japanese commandeered the stronghold and the army base became chequered with a dark past. It was used as a prison base for acts of torture and other cruelties. As a result of these war atrocities, the garrison was dubbed ‘Bukit Hantu’ (Ghost Hill) by locals due to the hundreds of people who were brought here and beheaded.</p> <p>After completion of the day’s visitation, we proceed back to hotel, and rest of day and evening is free at leisure for your own activities to self-explore Penang’s culturally rich UNESCO certified enclave in Georgetown’s old quarter.</p> <p>Included dinner with return transfer.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	<p>Royale Chulan Hotel Georgetown</p>

Day 07 18Aug19 Sunday	Departure Penang Breakfast at hotel. Day free until your departure transfer to Penang Airport for your homeward bound flights.	(B)	---
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Bon Voyage!!! ~ End of Program ~

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7D6N Malaya at War History Tour	Early Bird Offer		Normal Price	
	Booking with Payment made before 15 th May 2019		Booking made with Payment after 16 th May 2019	
Per Person Per Package Price (Twin Share)	MYR 1,855.00	USD 475.00	MYR 2,015.00	USD 515.00
Per Person Per Package Price (Single Occupancy)	MYR 2,810.00	USD 720.00	MYR 2,970.00	USD 760.00

The above program INCLUDES:

- 06 nights accommodation at selected hotels in twin sharing basis – room inclusive of breakfast
- Vehicle: Air-conditioned standard coach with English speaking battlefield guide
- Excursions and tours including entrance fees as per program
- 03 Lunch and 03 Dinner with return transfers
- Bottle drinking water in coach
- Malaysia Tourism Tax of MYR 10.00 nett per room per night, as imposed by Government of Malaysia
- Heritage Tax of MYR 3.00 nett per room per night, as imposed by State Governments of Malacca & Penang

The above package EXCLUDES:

- All airfare, flight arrangements and airport tax (Domestic and International flights).
- Meals that not indicated, beverages, tipping & personal expenses.
- All others that are NOT mentioned in the program itinerary
- Bank charges, if any incurred through payment mode by Bank Telegraphic transfer will be strictly borne by tour members. Credit Card payment by AMEX to include additional 3% processing fee, however nil processing fee by VISA & Mastercard.