

ESSENCE OF MALAYSIA

From Singapore, embark on the voyage of a lifetime, taking in an idyllic Langkawi island and UNESCO-listed George Town, in Penang, among other gems. Offering the perfect blend of relaxation on board and inspiring exploration off the train, our magnificent journey includes an island wellness escape and fascinating cultural tours.

Day 1: Singapore – Kuala Lumpur

Board the handsome green and gold carriages of the Eastern & Oriental Express at Woodlands Station, Singapore, and settle into your air-conditioned cabin. Cherry Wood panelling, Thai silks and Malaysian embroidery create the perfect sanctuary. As the train travels through the wild, green landscapes of Malaysia, it sets the scene for your immersion in nature. Weave through tangled jungle, rubber and palm plantations, soaking up the vistas as your steward serves an exquisite afternoon tea in your cabin. Soon, evening falls and it's time to dress for dinner. We invite you to join the Train Manager and your fellow travellers in the Piano Bar for a welcome cocktail. Afterwards, savour sumptuous Asian fusion cuisine in the Restaurant Car, followed by engaging entertainment – such as Malaysian jazz – on board.

Day 2: Kuala Lumpur – Langkawi

After breakfast in your cabin, soak up the vistas as the train courses past the rice paddies and timeless rural villages of western Malaysia. Following lunch, alight at Alor Setar station for a cruise to Langkawi's Pulau Payar Marine Park, renowned for its vibrant underwater life, from parrot and angelfish to moray eels. Alight on an idyllic, secluded island, where you are invited to get in touch with nature, enjoying low-impact barefoot bliss and wellness on the beach. Unwind with yoga and massage, go snorkelling or kayaking, plant coral to help with conservation efforts or stride off on an island walk to spot skinks and water monitor lizards. Alternatively, engage in a mindfulness activity. Focus and be in the moment by creating mesmerising, ephemeral beach mandalas. With a friendly welcome from the locals and access to tropical fruit, skewered delicacies and healthy drinks, this is a true glimpse of paradise. At the end of the day, cruise back, absorbing the spellbinding views, and return to the train. An evening of lively celebrations with local entertainers awaits in the Piano Bar Car, preceded by a delicious dinner.

Day 3: West-coast Line – Butterworth

Today you arrive in Penang Island, Malaysia's cultural melting pot, where you have a choice of excursions. Art lovers can explore George Town Old Quarter with a guide, discovering its vibrant architecture and cultural influences before visiting some brilliant local artists in their studios. Food aficionados can head to the market to be awed by the range of spices, then journey up Penang Hill for breathtaking views and a cooking lesson in the magnificent, Art Deco-influenced Eythrope Bungalow. Or, for those who prefer to explore independently, we present you with a trishaw, a driver and a map, so that you can wind through George Town's enchanting streets and visit stores, coffee shops and attractions at whim.

Rejoin the train at Butterworth for lunch and a leisurely afternoon on board. Later, continue relaxing on the train or take the opportunity to stroll through the Malaysian city of Ipoh, gateway to the Cameron Highlands, where old-world charm meets contemporary street art. The former tin capital boasts a wealth of splendid architecture due to its iron ore mining industry. Back on board, a final celebratory evening beckons with irresistible cuisine, entertainment and company. If you're still up shortly after midnight, you'll glimpse Kuala Lumpur as the train passes through.

Day 4: Johor – Singapore

Enjoy breakfast in your cabin as you travel through Johor, the southernmost state of Malaysia, known for its beaches and rainforest. Soon afterwards, the train crosses the strait to Singapore, where you disembark with your magical memories.