

# Floor Plan

3

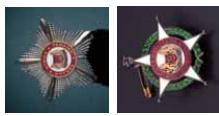
## Gallery 9 - Food & Feasting

Kamcheng (Covered Container)  
China  
Late 19th - early 20th century  
Gift of Mrs Khoo Soo Behn in memory of her husband  
Kamchengs were used as serving containers for food, desserts and water. They varied in size, from a few centimetres to 40 cm in diameter. They are amongst the most recognised form of Nonyaware - Chinese porcelain made in colours favoured by the Peranakans.



## Gallery 8 - Public Life

Order of Temasek Medals conferred on Mr Lim Kim San  
Singapore  
Mid-20th century  
Gift of Mr Lim Kiat Seng  
The Order of Temasek is Singapore's highest award recognising the merit and service of individuals to the nation. Besides Mr Lim Kim San, other prominent Peranakans conferred this honour include former President, Dr Wee Kim Wee and Singapore's first Finance Minister, Dr Goh Keng Swee.



2

## Gallery 5 - Wedding

Bridal Wedding Garment  
Malacca  
Late 19th - early 20th century  
This wedding garment of heavily embroidered silk was part of an elaborate ceremonial wedding gown worn by Peranakan Chinese brides in Singapore and Malacca. It is decorated with pairs of auspicious phoenixes and peonies.

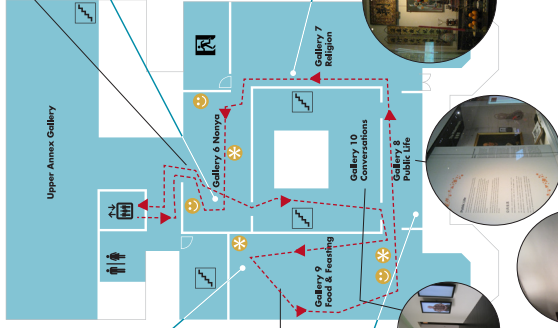


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## Gallery 1 - Origins



Food cover  
Palembang, Indonesia  
c. 1900  
One of the earliest Peranakan Chinese communities in Southeast Asia is found in Palembang, Indonesia. Food covers from Palembang like this one were exported regionally and used by Peranakan households in Malacca and Singapore as well.



## Gallery 6 - Nony

Beaded nipah case  
Indonesia  
Late 19th - early 20th century  
This beaded slipcase was used to contain leaves of the nipah palm which were used to make hand-rolled cigarettes. Such beaded items were usually sewn by brides-to-be for their grooms.



## Gallery 7 - Religion

Catholic Altar  
Singapore  
Early 20th century  
Purchase with funds from Friends of ACM through Gala Dinner, 2005  
This massive piece of furniture was formerly a Basil altar. Following the family's conversion to Catholicism, the styling of the Holy Family was added.



## Gallery 2 - Wedding

Pagoda Trays  
Singapore  
Late 19th - early 20th century  
Gift of Mr and Mrs Morris Lee  
These trays are unique pieces made specially for a Peranakan family in Singapore. They were used to give gifts in a wedding ceremony where the gifts are passed between families of the bride and groom.



## Gallery 3 - Wedding

Hup Soo Ee (Blackwood Chair)  
Perang  
Late 19th century  
Fine quality chairs such as this one would have been part of a bride's trousseau, and would have taken pride of place in the main hall of a Peranakan home.



## Gallery 4 - Wedding

Ranjang Kahwin (Wedding Bed)  
Perang  
Late 19th - early 20th century  
Gift of Mrs Quai Hong Chiam  
Ornately carved with auspicious motifs and lavishly decorated with beadwork and embroidered hangings, the wedding bed was one of the largest pieces of furniture found in wealthy Peranakan homes.



### Legend

- Information & Ticketing
- Lift
- Baths
- Restroom
- Baby care facility
- Lockers
- Restroom with Easy Access
- Entrance/Exit

### Children's Interactives

- Kids Interactive
- Embassing Station

# PERANAKAN MUSEUM



## Peranakan Museum at a Glance

One of Singapore's newest museums (opened April 2008), the Peranakan Museum boasts Southeast Asia's most comprehensive collection of Peranakan artefacts. It is a must-visit for Peranakans who are lacking in knowledge about their own culture and also for non-Peranakans wanting more knowledge and understanding of the differences between Chinese from China and Chinese from the Malayan Peninsula.

The museum houses traditional artefacts with state-of-the-art display technology in a restored colonial building on Armenian Street. The architecture of the museum's venue is by itself, impressive.

Entrance fees are only \$6 per adult and free for children 6 years and below. Seniors 60 years and above can visit for free every Monday. Coupon parking at the URA lot next to the museum is convenient and free at night. (\$1 per half hour during the day.) However, you can only take advantage of the free parking on Friday nights when the museum is open till 9pm. During non-special exhibition periods, entrance to the museum on Friday nights is also free between 7-9pm so mark your calendars to visit then. Visit the website for the schedule for English, Mandarin and Japanese guided tours.

### 1. Kid-Friendliness

The museum is very child and stroller-friendly. Ramps and an elevator provide access to every level and exhibition galleries. There are opportunities to touch-and-fee

exhibits at allocated kiosks. Children can also pick up a "Family Treasures" activity card where they search out exhibits and eight embossing stations throughout the museum. The multi-media booths also offer activities that captivate the attention-span of our tech-savvy youths as well. This certainly injects more fun in their learning and discovery of the museum.

### 2. Learn the Origins

Start your journey here at Gallery 1 on the ground floor after purchasing your tickets at the reception area. Upon entering, be welcomed by a row of friendly Peranakan faces of today from children to adults. This helps explain what is a Peranakan with a more personal, intimate appeal.

Continue on to a seating area where you can watch a 3-minute introduction video to get you prepped for your visit of the exhibits. Then make your way upstairs to level 2 or 3.

### 3. Wedding Wonders

The entire second level of the museum is dedicated to weddings! Apart from impressive Peranakan-style ornate furniture, decor and accessories that may hold your child's interest for say, a few seconds, there are displays to help explain the traditions in a fun way that your children will appreciate just a tad longer. Look for the 20 interactive multimedia stations found throughout the museum and start off on the second level "Wedding" gallery.

Here, a magnetic board provides children the opportunity to play dress up of the wedding



couple and their page boy and flower girl. By playing this simple dress-up game, children learn about the various pieces of garments in traditional Peranakan attire.

### 4. Stop and Touch

In most museums, you're expected to see and not touch. However, at the Peranakan Museum, curators have really maximised the experience by providing Stop and Touch stations to satisfy every visitor's (adults included) need to touch something. This is particularly exciting for children and certainly helps pique their interest.

### 5. The Beaded Wall

Don't miss the wall of beadwork and embroidery exhibits as you visit the Wedding gallery on the second level. The intricate designs and the colour vibrancy of the beautiful glass beads will mesmerise you. It's hard to imagine that Peranakan women were expected to and could produce such beautiful beadwork.

### 6. Witness a Wedding Procession

These life-size mannequins displaying a traditional Peranakan wedding will surprise some of you. The traditional garb seems to be a combination of Malay and Chinese customary costumes. The groom's wedding attire looks like Justice Pao's black robe! While the wedding party looks dressed in Chinese apparel, the lantern bearers don what look like traditional Malay attire.

### 7. Join the Feast

Who needs food when you have a feast for your eyes! Take a seat at this Peranakan

table and marvel at the porcelain dinnerware on display. The porcelain dishes are so intricate and pretty, and probably a nightmare for the Corelle-junkie mum to use and maintain. You start questioning practicality and how convenient everything is today at the expense of losing our traditions. What captures your attention at this exhibit is the chair outside the display that you can actually sit on! No worries, your kids can't break anything. The glassware is all glassed-up. It's see and no touch here.

### 8. Exquisite Kamcheng Collection

You've probably seen a Kamcheng before but not known it's called a Kamcheng. The museum boasts quite a collection of Kamchings. Used as serving containers by only very wealthy Peranakans, the Kamcheng is supposedly the "most recognised form of Nonyaware". Did you also know that most Nonyaware are made in pairs? Near the Kamcheng collection, you can also see a chronological display of Nonyaware and see how the design has evolved from generation to generation.

### 9. Religious Diversity

Gallery 7 displays religious beliefs of the Peranakans. You might be surprised to see an ancestral shrine on one side and a Catholic altar on the other, indicating roots in both religions among this group. As some Peranakans converted to Catholicism, they simply converted their former Taoist altars to Catholic ones by switching the religious symbols on it.

Visit [www.peranakanmuseum.sg](http://www.peranakanmuseum.sg) for details.

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