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PRESS RELEASE

PENANG HILL GALLERY@EDGECLIFF OPENS ITS DOORS TO THE PUBLIC!

Penang Hill Corporation (PHC) is proud to announce the launch of the long-awaited Penang Hill Gallery@Edgecliff on 8 July 2022! A must-see for all visitors at Penang Hill, this latest tourist attraction on the hill is PHC's second conservation project after our Hillside Retreat which was completed and launched in 2018.

The magnificent Edgecliff bungalow is a state-owned category II heritage bungalow which is located approximately 200 meters from the Upper Station. Perched on the edge of a cliff, the Gallery is surrounded by a serene and lush rainforest located within the Penang Hill Biosphere Reserve. Its ideal location treats visitors to a breathtaking view overlooking the George Town UNESCO World Heritage Site and the bustling Air Itam town.

This antique building now houses various unique artifacts and displays aimed at generating interest and understanding of Penang Hill; from its iconic funicular to its natural biodiversity and heritage assets. PHC and the consultant architect, BEu Tan Architect, worked to put together an array of carefully curated displays which are exhibited at 4 chambers within the Gallery; each bearing a theme: Funicular, Heritage, Cultural and Biodiversity. To cater to a wide range of visitors, the Gallery's contents also come in Mandarin, Tamil, Japanese and Arabic translations – all readily accessible by scanning the QR-codes located within the Gallery using their mobile devices.

The unforgettable and engaging journey begins from the moment visitors set foot into the building as the Time Tunnel transports them back to the past. The journey continues as visitors trek within an indoor forest in the Biodiversity chamber followed by an exploration on some of the alluring heritage architectures on the hill at the Heritage section. The journey continues to the Funicular gallery where visitors unravel the great engineering feat of constructing the funicular on the hill a century ago. Last but not least, visitors may relive the vibrant life-on-the-hill as they wander into the Cultural gallery. To complete the experience, visitors can shop for souvenirs to bring home mementos of Penang Hill.

In addition to the excitement of this grand opening, PHC is honoured to have Ric Francis, author of "Penang Hill Funicular Railway: Remembering an Engineering Feat 1923 – 2010" and "Penang Trams, Trolley-Buses & Railways: Municipal Transport History, 1880s – 1963" from Perth, Australia to attend and share his knowledge on the marvels of the Penang Hill funicular during the event.

"Penang Hill has been around for hundreds of years but many are unaware of its tales and charms. The Penang Hill Gallery@Edgecliff is a great starting point for the public to learn more about Penang Hill and to enjoy the spectacular view of George Town city and beyond. Suited for both young and old, this gallery is in line with the **Penang2030** vision. We hope to intrigue and invoke awareness among the public on the importance of learning and treasuring our wondrous natural and heritage treasures that can be found within the Penang Hill Biosphere Reserve," says

Penang Chief Minister Y.A.B Tuan Chow Kon Yeow, who is also the Chairman of Penang Hill Corporation.

“It is indeed a proud moment for all of us to see this brainchild materialised after almost 4 years in the making. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the State Government for their strong support and the project team who poured in countless hours to make this iconic place a reality. Also not forgetting the generous contributors who shared both valuable knowledge and artifacts with us. This Gallery is unique as it demonstrates features of sustainable development with green-conservatism efforts including the use of solar panels, rain harvesting system and automated motion sensor lighting. We truly appreciate the solar panels contribution from First Solar Malaysia Sdn Bhd in support of PHC’s green initiatives. Another notable highlight of this historical building is that it is the first project in Malaysia to obtain the Non-Residential Existing Building (NREB): Historic Building Tool certification from Green Building Index.” says PHC General Manager, Dato’ Cheok Lay Leng.

As part of PHC’s mission to educate the public about Penang Hill, the entrance fee to the Gallery is fixed at a nominal rate. Tickets are priced at RM10/pax for adults and RM5/pax for children and senior citizens aged 60 and above. Differently abled person and children below the age of 4 may enter for free. Currently, visitors may only purchase your tickets at the Gallery’s ticket counter.

The Gallery operates daily from 9.00am to 4.30pm except for Tuesdays. The last ticket sale is at 3.45pm. PHC may reschedule the weekly closure subject to the funicular’s periodic maintenance schedule. Visitors are advised to follow PHC’s social media pages (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) to receive the latest updates on our operating hours.

For enquiries, please contact Penang Hill Corporation at 04-828 8880 or email to inquiries@penanghill.gov.my.

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About Penang Hill Corporation

Penang Hill Corporation was established in 2009 through an enactment passed by the Penang State Legislative Assembly. Its main focus is to manage the funicular system, maintain and develop Penang Hill as a major ecotourism destination, and its vision is to make Penang Hill the hill resort of choice in Malaysia and the region.

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