

Hospitality News Malaysia

March 2013

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*Macalister Mansion – Hotel (Penang, Malaysia)

1. MACALISTER MANSION

Project Overview

Macalister Mansion is located in Penang's George Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site city. Owners Dato Sean and Datin Karen worked with Colin Seah of Singapore's renowned Ministry of Design to renovate and revitalize a 100-year-old colonial mansion, preserving the building's heritage aspects and original elements while adding modern-day amenities and contemporary design touches. The hotel is the first project under Heritage Redefined, a conservation initiative spearheaded by Dato Sean to showcase the regeneration of Penang's old colonial buildings into useful and practical, contemporary spaces.

Each room has its own bespoke features and artwork, from the privately commissioned love sonnet in the Bridal Suite, to the spiral staircase and turret room in Room 4, to the Grace Tan textile piece in Room 7 that pays tribute to the tartan colors of the Macalister clan.

Project Details

1. Developer/Owners: Dato Sean and Datin Karen
2. Type of Business: Boutique hotel
3. Open Date: 11/2012
4. Concept: Re-design of a 100-year-old historic mansion into a contemporary hotel.
5. Location: George Town, Penang, Malaysia
6. Target Customer: Upscale and design-conscious travelers
7. Number of Rooms: 8 rooms
8. Room Rate: Starting at MYR 800 night (around US\$ 265)
9. Architect & Interior Designer: Colin Seah from Ministry of Design (Singapore); www.modonline.com
10. Website: www.designhotels.com/macalister_mansion

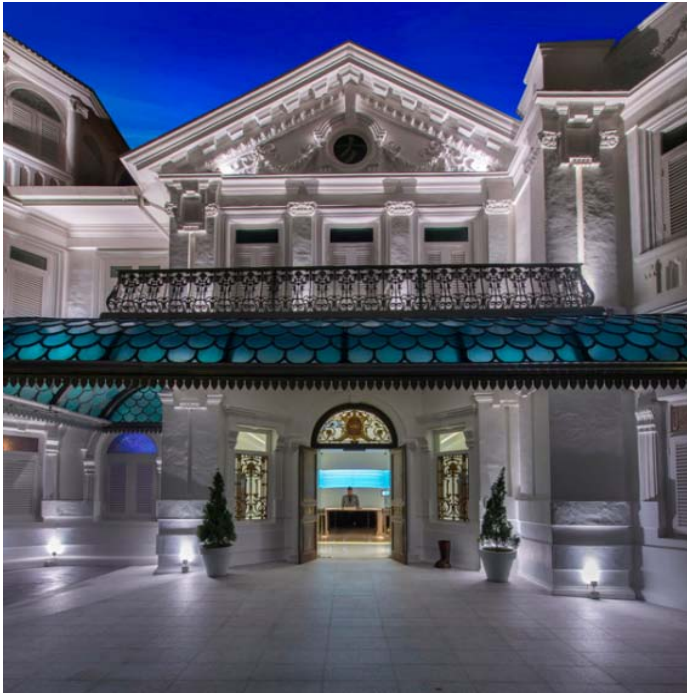
Location Map



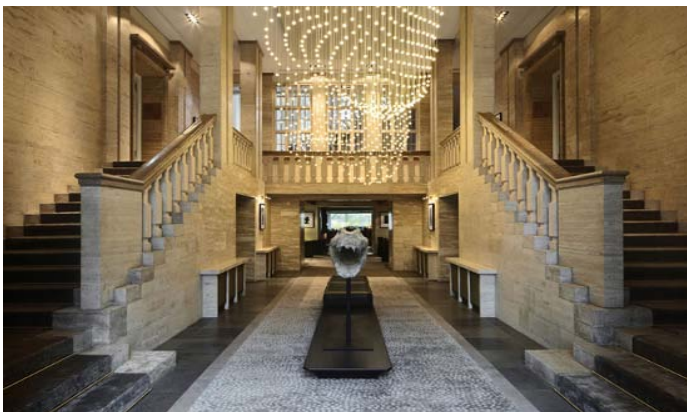
The UNESCO World Heritage Site city of George Town is the capital of the state Penang Island and is one of the largest cities in Malaysia. Macalister Road is a main road in Penang, around 5 minutes by car to the heart of George Town. It has convenient access to tourist attractions, shopping areas and heritage zones.



Housed in a majestic-looking 100-year-old colonial mansion, the hotel is the first project under Heritage Redefined, a conservation initiative to showcase the regeneration of Penang's old colonial buildings into useful and practical, contemporary spaces. The owners preserved the building's heritage aspects and original elements while adding modern-day amenities and contemporary design touches.



Many of the building's heritage aspects and original elements were preserved.



Local owners Dato Sean and Datin Karen are avid art collectors and commissioned pieces throughout the hotel's public spaces and rooms. Each of the 8 themed rooms traces 4 periods of Colonel Macalister's life and various Southeast Asian artists were commissioned to create works.



The dining room is a good example of how the designer has married Penang's colonial past with its colorful present.



The splashes of blue liven up the predominantly white, colonial ambiance.



Modern, clean lines dominate the guestrooms but with a colonial touch as seen in the blue/white tiling on the balcony.



Many of the mansion's original features were restored to their former glory including a wrought iron spiral staircase in the middle of one of the guestrooms leading to a viewing tower.



The rooms are dressed in bespoke furniture pieces and carpets, such as this modern-day version of the traditional canopy bed.



Bathrooms are fitted out with filigree inspired silver and white mosaic, and circular mirrors are suspended from the ceilings at a distance from the walls.