

# Penang prepares for 12,000 tourists

> Four cruise ships instead of five to dock at Swettenham Pier on March 13

BY EDMUND LEE  
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

GEORGE TOWN: Only four cruise ships will make a port call at Penang next month after another originally scheduled made a last minute change of schedule.

State Tourism Development Committee chairman Danny Law said he was told that the fifth vessel was going to another place, but he was not sure why it rescheduled its programme.

Cruise ships *Superstar Gemini*, *Superstar Libra*, *Diamond Princess*, *Star Clipper* and *Mein Schiff 1* were initially scheduled at the Swettenham Pier Cruise Terminal on March 13, theSun is trying to establish which cruise ship had changed its schedule.

About 12,000 passengers are expected to visit the state that day.

The state has become a popular destination among

tourists with the George Town Unesco World Heritage site being an additional highlight and the state being named as the second top tourist destination for 2017 by CNN last month.

Earlier, Law said the Penang government will be ironing out the logistics with the police, Rela and Penang Port at a March 2 meeting.

He was confident everything would run smoothly as the ships will make their port-of-call from 7am until 5pm.

"There will be traffic policemen on duty," he said.

Law had attended a Zumba session organised by the Batu Lanchang Briged Wanita.

On the Penang Bridge International Marathon, Law said 7,300 have signed up so far and that some 35,000 are expected to take part for the 2017 edition.

"We expect more to sign up over the coming months," he added.



MASRY CHE ANW  
THESUN

Tourists from cruise ships riding trishaws after arriving at Port Swettenham Pier.