

# THE PENINSULA

M A N I L A

7 April 2008

## THE PENINSULA MANILA PENINSULA ACADEMY PROGRAMMES

Vacations are no longer the languid holidays of sun, sea and sand of the past. These days travelers want more from their trips: an education, an immersion in history, an experience of something beyond themselves; an evocative adventure – sensual, intellectual or physical – that enriches the spirit. No discerning traveler is content to lie under the sun anymore. But that doesn't mean everyone wants to go rock-climbing either. Travelers today are looking for more from their holidays – a feeling of achievement, an insight into the past and a truly unique experience.

Guests of The Peninsula Manila have always been assured of unparalleled service, exquisite food and beautiful surroundings. Anyone staying at The Manila Pen, as it is fondly referred to by locals, is guaranteed an even more unique perspective on the Filipino way of life with the introduction of The Peninsula Academy.

Choosing from any one of the many modules offered by The Peninsula Academy, visitors will gain an insight on what makes The Pen the hotel that it is today. The Peninsula Manila's version of the Academy will offer opportunities to challenge the mind, body and spirit. Guests may choose to learn how to whip up a *halo-halo*, take instructions in drawing their initials in the manner of *letras y figuras* or go on a wild and irreverent "Walk Back In Time" tour of Manila. These are but a few of the options available under The Peninsula Academy.

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## Filipino Culinary Experience

### **The Peninsula Hopper**

Enjoy a superb dinner in not one but four of Manila's most highly-acclaimed restaurants – all in the same evening. Indulge in a tempting array of menus from Spices, Mi Piacce, Old Manila and The Lobby. It's The Peninsula Hopper, where you have the opportunity to go on an exciting and innovative culinary adventure that will have you tasting the exotic, tropical cuisines of Asia to the classic and rustic cooking of France and Italy. From nouvelle to trendy to fusion, from appetizer to dessert, in four restaurants, all in one evening.

Duration: Three hours (dinner only)

Price: PHP4,750 per person (minimum of two participants, maximum 12)

Remarks: Four-course dinner. Price includes drinks (bottled water, juice, soda or wine, one per person in each restaurant.)

### **The Healthy Gourmet – *Naturally Peninsula* Cooking Classes**

A gourmet is a lover of good food, but all too often our food choices are based upon familiarity and availability, lack of time, convenience and ease of preparation, and unaware of their effects on our health and wellbeing. The *Naturally Peninsula* method teaches the relationship between our food choices and our physical, mental and emotional health. At every *Naturally Peninsula* cooking class, Executive Chef Adam Mathis promises to immerse participants in the hands-on preparation of health-supportive foods as well as an ever-expanding array of nutritional approaches to cooking without compromising flavour. Participants may join an Old Manila (Modern European), Mi Piacce (Italian) or Spices (Asian) *Naturally Peninsula* cooking class.

Duration: Three hours (9:00 am – 12 noon)

Price: PHP4,500 per person (minimum of two participants, max of 12)

Remarks: Three-course dinner. Price includes drinks (bottled water, juice, soda or wine.)

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## **Naturally Peninsula Culinary Journey**

It is a long-standing Peninsula belief that the easiest way to enjoy one's food without gaining weight is to eat the Naturally Peninsula way. The *Naturally Peninsula Culinary Journey* is a natural progression of this philosophy of eating lightly and healthily without compromising taste. Enter a world where variety and innovation reign, where an intimate dinner for two to a party of twelve may start with appetizers at our Asian restaurant Spices, then move on to our signature restaurant Old Manila for the main course before calling it a night with coffee and dessert in Mi Piace. Or you may have it the other way around.

Duration: Three hours (lunch or dinner)

Price: PHP4,500 per person (minimum of two participants, maximum 12)

Remarks: Three-course lunch or dinner. Price includes beverages (bottled water, juice, soda or wine.)

## **Filipino Cultural Experience**

### **If These Walls Could Speak and Cocina Filipina**

A crash course on nearly 400 years of Philippine history in a breezy three hours. Right in the heart of Manila is the "Walled City" of Intramuros, constructed in 1571, when it served as the political, cultural, educational, religious and commercial centre of Spain's empire in the east. Take a leisurely morning or late afternoon guided walking tour along the streets of Intramuros and its environs and listen to a humorous analysis of Philippine art, culture, and society during the Spanish period.

The tour ends with either lunch or dinner reminiscent of a bygone era on heirloom china, crystal and silverware at the 1920s art deco Legarda-Montinola mansion in the San Miguel district (near Malacañang Palace where the president of the Philippines resides). A personalised tour of the ancestral home will also be conducted, showcasing works by Filipino artists, displays of antique camera and radio equipment and other interesting pieces from the family collection.

Duration: Three hours (morning or afternoon)

Price: PHP15,000 per person (minimum of two participants)

Remarks: Price includes materials, admission fees and three-course lunch and dinner

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with bottled water, juice, soda or wine. Schedules may vary depending on the availability of the guide

## **Letras y Figuras**

Learn the intricacies of *Letras y Figuras*, a truly Filipino art form that was born in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This artistic genre features the depiction of human figures, along with related objects, within the structure of the enlarged letters comprising the name of a person.

Duration: 2 hours (morning or afternoon)

Price: PHP4,500 per person (minimum of two participants)

Remarks: Price includes materials, snacks with bottled water, juice or soda. Schedules may vary depending on the availability of the instructor

## **Bahay na Bato – 19<sup>th</sup> Century Filipino House**

Escape beyond the constraints of the city and delve into the tranquil realms of Philippine country living in the nearby province of Cavite. Memories of a past lifestyle live on in opulent grandeur at the Museo De La Salle, a large *bahay na bato*-inspired structure that is the Philippines' premier lifestyle and decorative arts museum of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The museum curator's colourful discourse invites visitors to lose themselves in Spanish colonial history and nostalgia. Lunch will be served at Sonya's Secret Garden where the repast is simple country cuisine made with organically grown ingredients.

Duration: Seven to eight hours (half day)

Price: PHP38,000 per person (minimum of two participants, maximum of six)

Remarks: Includes refreshments and lunch.

## **Santos, Objects of Faith**

*Santos* are three-dimensionally carved representations of saints developed from the sixteenth century Spanish colonization of much of what was then the "known world." In the Philippines, the conversion of the native population to Catholicism was a central element of colonization, so images of saints were used to visually reinforce devotions and prayer. Philippine *santos* capture the essence of the local artisans' traditional approach to the spiritual and artistic format while retaining the

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symbolism and elements of European iconography. A respected *santo* collector and dealer will take participants on a tour of his collection, seldom opened to the public.

Duration: Maximum of two and a half hours (morning or afternoon)

Price: PHP14,500 per person (minimum of two participants)

Remarks: Includes refreshments.

## Filipino Lifestyle Experience

### **Estilong Pinoy: The Terno and Barong Tagalog**

Visit the atelier of designer Patis Tesoro and learn the intricacies of making a *terno* (Philippine national dress for ladies) and *barong Tagalog* (native shirt worn by Filipino men, hand-made from banana or pineapple fibre) whose intricately embellished, embroidered and hand-painted style is symbolic of the art, culture and history of the Philippines.

Duration: Maximum of two and a half hours

Price: PHP14,500 per person (minimum of two participants, maximum of six)

Remarks: Includes refreshments. Participants may wish to order a *terno* or *barong Tagalog* but this will be on personal account.

### **Manila Design**

A leafy 1940s compound houses the galleries and atelier of three Manila style setters. Take a leisurely stroll through the rooms of Avellana Art Gallery which boasts an extensive collection of some of the best and the brightest in Philippine art as well as provocative, avant garde and folk pieces by upcoming and newly discovered talents. Next on the itinerary is A-11 Gallery with its limited-edition line of furniture and lifestyle pieces. Last stop is the atelier of Jesus “Joji” Lloren, a fashion designer known for his formidable skills at cutting and fabric manipulation. A Filipino lunch or dinner buffet will be served in the gallery spaces.

Duration: Maximum of three hours (am or pm)

Price: PHP35,000 per person (minimum of two participants, maximum of 10)

Remarks: Includes refreshments and lunch or dinner. Participants may wish to purchase artwork, home accessories or couture but this will be on personal account.

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## THE PENINSULA TEEN ACADEMY

### **Pasalubong, Filipino Souvenirs**

A Filipino would never dream of returning home without bringing some *pasalubong* (souvenirs) for family or friends, especially if he or she had been away after a long absence. A *pasalubong* is a token gift that conveys that loved ones are being remembered. Join a *taka* (papier mache molds shaped like people, horses or carabaos) and *bakya* (wooden clogs carved with floral, geometric or landscape designs) decorating class. Or try a T-shirt or bag painting session. They all make lovely *pasalubong* of arts and crafts from the Philippines.

Duration: Two hours per class (maximum of two crafts per session)

Price: PHP3,500 per person (minimum of two participants, maximum of six)

Remarks: Price includes materials and snacks and refreshments (bottled water, juice or soda)  
Schedules may vary depending on the availability of the instructor

### **Lutong Pinoy: Sweet Cooking the Filipino Way**

Children eager to learn the ABCs of making delicious Filipino desserts will enjoy joining classes to make *leche flan* (egg, sugar and milk custard), *halo-halo* (shaved ice, milk, sugar, sweet beans and fruit), *turrón* (ripe banana wrapped in a spring roll, dipped in sugar and deep-fried) and *buko-pandan* salad (sweet young coconut strips and pandanus-flavoured gelatin folded in cold and thick cream).

Duration: Two hours

Price: PHP3,500 net per person (minimum of two participants, maximum of six)

Remarks: Price includes materials, snacks and refreshments (bottled water, juice or soda) and one souvenir.

Junior Chef uniforms for age 6-12 years, which includes hat, apron and jacket, are available for purchase at an additional PHP500 net per set.

\* Parents/adults may join for the same fee.

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## RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION

For booking, rates and further information, please contact The Concierge on Extension 6527 or e-mail us at [pmn@peninsula.com](mailto:pmn@peninsula.com).

*To avoid disappointment, The Peninsula Academy activities should be confirmed prior to arrival in Manila with at least 48 hours advance notice. Bookings are subject to availability. Prices may change and are subject to service charge and local government tax. Cancellations must be made at least 12 hours in advance, or we regret that the full charge will apply. All Peninsula Academy classes are conducted in English, but an interpreter can be arranged, if required, at an additional cost*

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Incorporated in 1866 and listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, The Hongkong and Shanghai Hotels, Limited is a holding company whose subsidiaries are engaged in the ownership and management of prestigious hotels, and commercial and residential properties in key destinations in Asia and the USA. The hotel portfolio of the Group, The Peninsula Hotels, comprises The Peninsula Hong Kong, The Peninsula New York, The Peninsula Chicago, The Peninsula Beverly Hills, The Peninsula Tokyo, The Peninsula Bangkok, The Peninsula Beijing, The Peninsula Manila, The Peninsula Shanghai (opening 2009), and Quail Lodge Resort and Golf Club in Carmel, California. The property portfolio of the Group includes The Repulse Bay complex, The Peak Tower and The Peak Tramways, St. John's Building and The Landmark in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

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