

A Walk of Harmony

A series of free guided tours along Queen, Waterloo and Bencoolen streets covering seven religious institutions will be launched between Nov 23 and March 31 next year. The Straits Times takes a closer look at some highlights along the trail.



A Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple

- Established in 1884
- Buddhist-Taoist temple dedicated to Guanyin
- It is one of the oldest Buddhist temples in Singapore



B Sri Krishnan Temple

- Established in the 1870s
- Only South Indian Hindu temple in Singapore dedicated exclusively to Sri Krishna and his consort Rukmini

NOTE: Actual trail sequence may vary



C Masjid Bencoolen

- Singapore's second oldest mosque, dating back to 1825
- Currently undergoing progressive renovations
- Founded by settlers from Bencoolen in Indonesia
- Rebuilt into a mosque-cum-commercial development in the early 2000s



D Maghain Aboth Synagogue

- Singapore's oldest synagogue
- Consecrated in 1878 and started out with 100 congregants
- Open to visitors, but the public will need to register beforehand on its website



E Church of Saints Peter and Paul

- A Catholic church initially established to cater specifically to the Chinese and Indian community
- Still conducts masses in Cantonese, although most services are in English
- Building's architecture also contains some cross-cultural elements that speak of its Chinese heritage



F Kum Yan Methodist Church

- Set up by Cantonese-speaking Christians from China in 1918
- "Kum Yan" means gratitude in Cantonese
- Moved to Queen Street after the war in 1946
- Holds services in Cantonese, English and Mandarin



G Cathedral of the Good Shepherd

- The oldest Roman Catholic church in Singapore
- Differs from other Catholic churches as it is the seat of the Archbishop, who oversees the Catholic parishes here
- Built between 1843 and 1847
- Gazetted as a national monument on June 28, 1973