

'Malacca losing its straits charm'

Written by straits-mongrel

Sunday, 01 November 2009 19:50



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We think Melaka's a real neat place. It has that bit of history no Malaysian town can lay claim and the tourism statistics are pretty remarkable. A [Bernama](#) report quotes: "In 2004, 4.0 million tourists visited Melaka followed by 4.7 million a year later. In 2006 the number went up to 5.1 million visitors followed by 6.1 million (2007) and 7.2 million in 2008. The target is 8.0 million for this year."

Cool.

Melaka's longer-term sustainable future is another matter. Much depends on the wisdom of the State government in its development plans. So far it seems headed towards exotic [theme park](#) solutions, while its native jewels like the [Hawksbill Turtles](#) await an uncertain future.

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Too badly disturbed, the Kelang coast has been drastically altered by activity and more

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It might be better to look at the growth in its fine book sales, which have been in a