

Ability Guidebooks  
presents  
**Explore George Town!**



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# **I Am Going To See The Goddess of Mercy Temple!**

**A Step-by-Step Guide On How To Visit This Famous Temple.**

by  
**Brett Bigham**

# The Goddess of Mercy Temple is a historic temple in the center of George Town.



Photo by Gryffindor - Wikimedia Commons

Let's go visit this important part of George Town history!

**To get to the Temple you will have to cross some busy streets. Be careful crossing and stay with your group!**



Photo by Andrew Harvey - Wikimedia Commons

**Watch for cars!**

**Many people come to this Temple to pray and light incense.  
It is a serious place so you must walk and use your quiet  
voice. Shhhhhhhhhh!**



**See those large burners? Do not touch them!  
They are very hot!**

Photo by Gryffindor - Wikimedia Commons

**This woman is burning incense and saying a prayer.**



Photo by yeowatzup - Wikimedia Commons

**Remember, we are visiting a temple and are on our best behavior!**

**You can buy incense at the Temple.**



Photo by yeowatzup - Wikimedia Commons

# This woman is lighting incense by the Foo Dog.



Photo by CEphoto - Wikimedia Commons

**There are very large incense sticks burning. Do not touch these! They can burn you.**



Photo by McKay Savage - Wikimedia Commons

**There is a lot of smoke in the air here. Be ready for some really strong perfumed smoke.**

**There are small birds in cages at the Temple. People buy the birds and let them go as an act of mercy. Shhhhhh... the birds do not like loud noises.**



Photo by Crisco 1492 - Wikimedia Commons



Photo by Ralf Roletschek - Wikimedia Commons

**The Temple was first built in 1728. It has been renovated many times. Take some time to look at the decorations!**



Photo by Kimubert - Wikimedia Commons

**This is the oldest Taoist temple in Georgetown.**

**Inside the temple is a small altar. People come inside to pray and light incense. Be quiet and respectful when you are visiting!**



Photo by Hajothu - Wikimedia Commons

**These two women are doing a very good job of staying together. Stay with your group at the Temple!**

**You will see many dragons at the Temple. There are even dragons on the roof!**



Photo by Gryffindor - Wikimedia Commons

**On holidays the Temple is very crowded. If you visit on a special day be prepared for a very tight crowd. It is important you stay with your group!**

**The Goddess of Mercy Temple is on Pitt Street. This is a very old part of George Town. The surrounding streets have many old historical buildings.**



Photo by CEphoto - Wikimedia Commons

**Are you going to walk around the neighborhood?**

**There are many small markets and food stalls. Maybe you can buy a snack!**



Photo by Jetson - Wikimedia Commons

**I hope you enjoy your visit to the Goddess of Mercy Temple! It is also called "Kuan Yin Teng" or "Kong Hock Keong."**

**Ability Guidebooks are step-by-step instructions on how to access community destinations. For many people with autism and neuro-diversity, new situations can cause stress and discomfort. Ability Guidebooks help prepare people for new experiences. This is why I emphasize the places to sit and areas to relax.**

**This book will also help general ed teachers prepare their young students for a visit to the Goddess of Mercy Temple.**



## **Can You Translate?**

**If you can translate this book into any other language  
I would love to hear from you!**

**Brett Bigham is the 2014 Oregon State Teacher of the Year and an NEA National Award for Teaching Excellence winner. Bigham is the first Oregon Special Education teacher to win these awards.**

**Bigham was named a Global Fellow by the NEA Foundation and traveled to Peru as an ambassador of that program. This allowed Bigham to create his first international Ability Guidebook for the Museo de Inka in Cusco, Peru. He has since made books for twenty countries in five languages.**

**Text and Photos by Brett Bigham unless otherwise noted.**

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