



Panoramic view of Jugra Hill

THE MYSTERIOUS JUGRA LIGHTHOUSE

Jugra Hill or *Bukit Jugra* offers a panoramic view of a horizon that overlooks mountainous divides and stretches beyond the Straits of Malacca. This hill with its spectacular landscape is also the home to the great Sri Jugra Lighthouse.



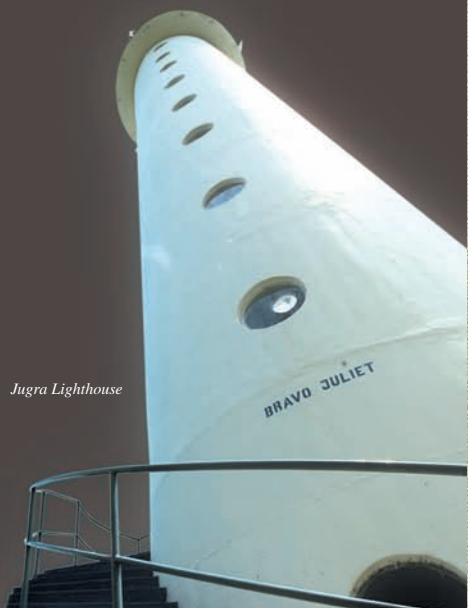
Jugra Lighthouse compound

In the early days, many ships had tried but all of them failed to reach the beach that supports this great Jugra Hill, which locals then called *Bukit Kerang*, directly translated as Cockle Hill. In the late 19th century, British vessels had been travelling for weeks along the Straits of Malacca and each time they closed in, the shores of Bukit Kerang sneakily moved backwards further inland, breaking these mighty fleets as they yielded to mounting frustration. Tired and thoroughly aggravated by the situation, the English constructed a lighthouse on top of the hill to guide their vessels. From then on, deep into the night, when all were asleep a beacon of light would part the darkness searching for ships to welcome ashore.

Violated by the construction of the lighthouse atop its sacred peak, the hill bled continuously for 30 long days. The waters surrounding this great knoll assumed the rusty-red colour of the cockles that resided in the area. Ironically, the cockle population started to dwindle and slowly disappeared not long after the incident.

The immortal Jugra Lighthouse still stands proudly within its idle and unmoving compound that welcomes no visitors. Silence fills the air except for the quiet and unimposing hum the lighthouse makes as its light moves in a circular motion, day and night beckoning ships at sea.

Today, people gather at Jugra Hill to admire the mysterious Jugra Lighthouse. The hill offers a panoramic view of the horizon and of the Langat River that cleaves the lowlands. No other peak in Selangor can boast such spectacular landscape. While in Jugra, tourists can also visit the Sultan Alaudin Mosque built in 1932, which has elements of classical Moorish architecture, the *Istana Bandar* or Town Palace and the Royal Mausoleum. Jugra town is located 10 minutes away from Banting, in Selangor.



Jugra Lighthouse