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AVIATION EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2019



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01 - 07

KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL
SEPT 1 TO 30
VENUE: KUALA LUMPUR

PAMERAN THE GOLDEN MAN/EXHIBITION
SEPT 1 TO OCT 1
VENUE: GALERI 1, JMM

BALLET ILLUMINATIONS
SEPT 6 TO 8
VENUE: PENTAS 1, THE KUALA LUMPUR PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (KLPAK)



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SEP 26 TO 29
VENUE: KL TOWER

STANDARD CHARTERED KL MARATHON
SEP 28 TO 29
VENUE: DATARAN MERDEKA

VOCE FORTE EP.7 - ANDANTE: OUR VOICES, OUR EMOTION
SEP 29
VENUE: TAN YEW SING AUDITORIUM, LEVEL 3, INTI INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE SUBANG



MUST VISIT ART GALLERY



KL LIFESTYLE ART SPACE
KL Lifestyle Art Space (KLAS) is an art gallery that boasts modern and contemporary artworks from Malaysia and around the region. Through its gallery, KLAS intends to inculcate awareness about Malaysian artists and their works. This establishment will also provide the service of receiving consignments from artists or individual collectors, thereby making their artworks available to interested parties. Today, KLAS is one of the leading auction houses in Malaysia that sells high volumes of prized artworks during every auction.

FOR ENQUIRIES CONTACT
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by **KL lifestyle**

What’s Happening in September



Sept 6 to 8
Ballet Illuminations

Immerse yourself in the best of ballets at Ballet Illuminations 2019!

Singapore Dance Theatre (SDT) will return to Kuala Lumpur this September at klpac, presenting two world-renowned works by George Balanchine, Serenade and Theme and Variations, as well as Timothy Harbour’s Linea Adora which was created for SDT’s 30th anniversary. Get your tickets early to get the best seats in the house!

Tickets: RM25 to RM48
Venue: Pentas 1, The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (klpac)

Sept 7 and 8
Viennese Treasures:
Schubert 7

Schubert’s enduring legacy is even more astonishing given his tragically short life. Known as the “other” unfinished symphony, the 7th was completed after his death – a fitting tribute to Schubert’s oeuvre. Benjamin Bayl leads the MPO in an array of Viennese classics, including Mozart’s iconic oboe concerto featuring MPO’s own Simon Emes.

The concert will last approximately 75 minutes with a 20-minute interval.

Tickets: RM56 to RM141
Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

Sept 14
AI:IA & Friends

Allow AIIA (Artificially Intelligent Improvaholics Anonymous) Improv team take you on a hilarious journey of spontaneity with the magic of improvisational comedy. Like the popular TV show, “Whose Line Is It Anyway?”, this show will blend performers’ ingenuity with the audience’s suggestions to form a unique show with challenging games and short sketches, all executed naturally impromptu. You’ll find yourself in stitches from the comedic antics of these young madcap performers. Completely unscripted, dangerous and heartfelt, anything and everything can happen. The players for this edition are ledil Putra, Shamaine Othman, Farah Rani, Ashraf Modee Zain and Tung Jit Yang, who will be joined by a special guest artiste.

Tickets: RM48 to RM80
Venue: The Platform, Menara Ken TTDI

Sept 15
Take me to the Movies
X La Bayadere 2019

Be enthralled and mesmerised by 220 dancers who will be taking you through your favorite movies – Frozen, Mary Poppins, Trolls and The Greatest Showman. In the 2nd half of the show, elite dancers will be perform an excerpt of the ballet repertoire – La Bayadere Kingdom of the Shades.

Tickets: RM65 to RM125
Venue: Pentas 1, The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (klpac)

Sept 14 and 15
Jazz Showcase #3

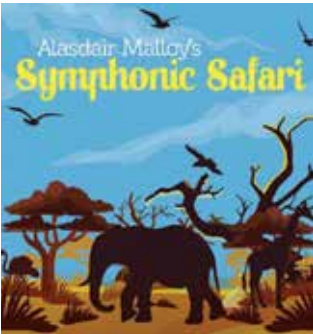
The Penang Jazz Society and Penang Performing Arts Centre will jointly present the third edition of Jazz Showcase which will be a two-day concert on Sept 14 and 15 at Stage 2, penangpac. Jazz Showcase is a concert series which showcased local jazz artists as well as upcoming notable jazz artists.

Tickets: RM38 and RM63
Venue: Stage 2, Performing Arts Centre of Penang (penangpac)

Sept 15
Alasdair Malloy’s
Symphonic Safari

From buzzy bees to enormous elephants, expect to meet exotic creatures on this safari adventure! Alasdair Malloy and the MPO are up to their ears in animal antics – Disney favourites, waltzing cats and even wild bears will keep you mesmerised. Dress up as your favourite animal or bring a cuddly toy to join the fun. The concert will last approximately 60 minutes without an interval.

Tickets: RM47 to RM122
Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas



Sept 19 and 20
The Big LOL Show

LOL celebrates turning 10 years with laughter, by bringing you their most favourite comedians in a show like none before. Culminating in all the years of experience, it presents 12 comedians that will take you on a unique journey of LOL. Expect an extravagant show in creative formats with dance and musical comedy, stand-up, interactive comedy and a new experimental comedy format. Prepare to go back and forth through time as they celebrate comedy through the decade.

Ahmed Ahmed, Joanne Kam, Jon Atherton, Kavin Jay, Keren Bala Devan, Papi Zak, Prakash Daniel, Brian Tan, Ron Josol, Te+ek Sense (singing trio sensation comprising Sherry Alhadad, Shamaine Othman and Farah Rani), and the Mast Millennium Dancers, along with special guest host Kumar, will join forces on stage and showcase the best comedy has to offer!

Tickets: RM80 to RM238
Venue: HGH Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur

Sep 18
Chamber Concert VI

Relax after work and explore the richness and depth of the music repertoire in the Chamber series, featuring the MPO musicians performing in small ensembles.

Ticket: RM28
Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

Sept 19 to 22
YKLS sings the Great American
Songbook feat. WVC Jazz
Ensemble

The award-winning Young KL Singers (YKLS) invite you to dive into the timeless songs of the “Great American Songbook”. In this collaboration with international jazz act, WVC Jazz Ensemble, they will be singing some of America’s most popular songs and jazz standards from the 1920’s to 1950’s. Think Ella Fitzgerald, Frank Sinatra, Ray Charles, Nat King Cole, Duke Ellington, and more.

Expect an intimate jazz performance. Memorable melodies, lyrics that read like poetry, and vocal harmonies will give you the tingles. Join us for #YKLS does the #GreatAmericanSongbook, tickets go fast!

Venue: Pentas 2, The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (klpac)



MUST VISIT MUSEUM



SASANA KIJANG GALLERY

BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

The Art Gallery provides a rotating display of the Central Bank of Malaysia’s art collection. Selected paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures which chart the nation’s milestones and highlight the Central Bank’s support for the arts include works by early masters such as Hossein Enas and Yong Mun Sen, continuing up to the present day.



THE NAUTILUS ICON

One of the most striking features in Bank Negara Malaysia Museum and Art Gallery is the Nautilus Staircase that begins from the lobby and links every floor. This structure is the inspiration for the main graphic icon. The icon is actively applied and prevalent across all of Bank Negara Malaysia Museum and Art Gallery’s communications material.

SASANA KIJANG,
2 JALAN DATO’ ONN,
50480 KUALA LUMPUR

EMAIL: INFOMUSEUM@BNM.GOV.MY
FREE ADMISSION

OPEN DAILY FROM 10AM TO 6PM.
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‘RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK IN CONCERT’
WITH THE MPO



“This is a film concert and not just a regular music concert. I have to study the film as well as the music. There are visual aids meant for conductors to keep in time with the film - there will be a small video monitor in front of the conductor’s stand that shows these, so I get a lot of help there. These are all the same things conductors use during the recording of film scores. More importantly, we need to get the music to work well in a concert hall. In the film, the music is recorded in a studio, and certain elements are highlighted or subdued during the mix, whereas in the concert hall, the orchestra has to achieve these balances manually, and for this much music, it is a challenge. All the energy, suspense, romance and thrill that the music brings will be felt by the audience in a way that they could never experience in another venue.”
- Maestro Gerard Salonga

Sept 21 and 22
Venue: Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS

Orchestra / Conductor:
Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra
Gerard Salonga, conductor

The Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) is evoking the world favourite, action-packed adventure franchise, Indiana Jones, through the screening of the very first Indiana Jones film – accompanied by the MPO ‘live’ in concert! Raiders of the Lost Ark is a 1981 American action-adventure film directed by Steven Spielberg. It stars Harrison Ford as archaeologist Indiana Jones who battles a group of Nazis searching for the Ark of the Covenant. It was the highest grossing film of the year and was nominated for eight Academy Awards in 1982. It bagged the Best Art Direction, Film Editing, Sound, Visual Effects and a Special Achievement Award for Sound Effects Editing. Led by Maestro Gerard Salonga, the MPO will make you relive favourite moments of this Hollywood blockbuster and hum the tune of the famously catchy Raider’s March.

Tickets: RM113 to RM226
Telephone Bookings: 03-23317007
Email Bookings: boxoffice@dfp.com.my

Sept 27
Jay Park 2019 World Tour
Sexy 4Eva in Asia – Kuala Lumpur

Korean-American soloist and worldwide sensation, Jay Park is finally coming to Malaysia for a full concert. Titled the “SEXY 4EVA” Tour 2019, K-pop fans can rejoice because it’s going to get a whole lot hotter.

Tickets: RM330 to RM790
Venue: KL Live, Kuala Lumpur



Sep 28 and 29
Harold in Italy

Like postcards collected on a holiday, the sights and sounds of Italy inspired composers to set their impressions to music. Originally commissioned by Paganini, Berlioz features the viola as melancholy dreamer wandering in the picturesque Abruzzi. Liszt’s electrifying Inferno dazzles with non-stop drama, while Tchaikovsky’s Capriccio Italienne takes viewers on a boisterous, thrilling ride through Rome.

The concert will last approximately 80 minutes with a 20-minute interval.

Tickets: RM56 to RM141
Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

Sept 28 to 29
Standard Chartered KL Marathon

Back for the 11th year, the Standard Chartered KL Marathon takes place this Sept 28 and 29. The marathon, will see the participation of more than 38,000 runners, ranging from elite athletes to first-time distance runners. A truly international event, the Standard Chartered KL Marathon boasts participants from across Malaysia and over 70 countries. This marathon remains as Malaysia’s premier running event with top runners competing for a total of RM500,000 in prize money.

Venue: Dataran Merdeka

Sept 26 to 29
KL Tower International Jump Malaysia 2019

This sporting event was initially organised in conjunction with KL Tower’s 3rd anniversary celebration on October 3, 1999. Since then, it has become an annual event for KL Tower and has been listed in the Malaysia Book of Records as the 1st BASE jump event in Malaysia, highest BASE jump platform, first rope BASE jump and the greatest number of participants in a BASE jump. Previously known as BASE Jump, BASE is the acronym for (B)uilding, (A)ntenna, (S)pan and (E)arth, representing objects, which are mainly used as the BASE jump-off point.

Venue: KL Tower

MUST VISIT
PUBLIC ART GALLERY



ILHAM GALLERY KUALA LUMPUR
ILHAM is a public art gallery committed to supporting the development, understanding and enjoyment of Malaysian modern and contemporary art within a regional and global context.



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SUNDAYS (11AM – 5PM)
CLOSED ON MONDAYS AND
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

MUST-WATCH MOVIES of the month



IT: CHAPTER TWO
SEPT 6

Twenty seven years have passed since the events of summer 1989. The Losers’ Club are all grown up and have moved out of Derry, Maine. But a phone call brings them back to the town as the evil It has returned. They reunite to fulfil their childhood promise of taking It down once and for all, unaware that It is now stronger and has been waiting for their return.

Genre: Horror / Thriller
Cast: Bill Skarsgard, Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy, Bill Hader.



THE GOLDFINCH
SEPT 12

Theodore Decker was 13 years old when his mother was killed in a bombing at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The tragedy changes the course of his life, sending him on a stirring odyssey of grief and guilt, reinvention and redemption, and even love. Through it all, he holds on to one tangible piece of hope from that terrible day – a painting of a tiny bird chained to its perch.

Genre: Drama
Cast: Ansel Elgort, Nicole Kidman, Aneurin Barnard, Willa Fitzgerald.



AD ASTRA
SEPT 19

Astronaut Roy McBride (Brad Pitt) travels to the outer edges of the solar system to find his missing father and unravel a mystery that threatens the survival of our planet. His journey will uncover secrets that challenge the nature of human existence and our place in the cosmos.

Genre: Science Fiction / Thriller
Cast: Brad Pitt, Tommy Lee Jones, Ruth Negga, Donald Sutherland, Jamie Kennedy.



RAMBO: LAST BLOOD
SEPT 19

Almost four decades after they drew first blood, Sylvester Stallone is back as one of the greatest action heroes of all time, John Rambo. Now, Rambo must confront his past and unearth his ruthless combat skills to exact revenge in a final mission. A deadly journey of vengeance, ‘Rambo: Last Blood’ marks the last chapter of the legendary series.

Genre: Action / Adventure / Thriller
Cast: Sylvester Stallone, Paz Vega, Louis Mandylor.

THE WIZARDING WORLD OF THE WANDERLUSTERS

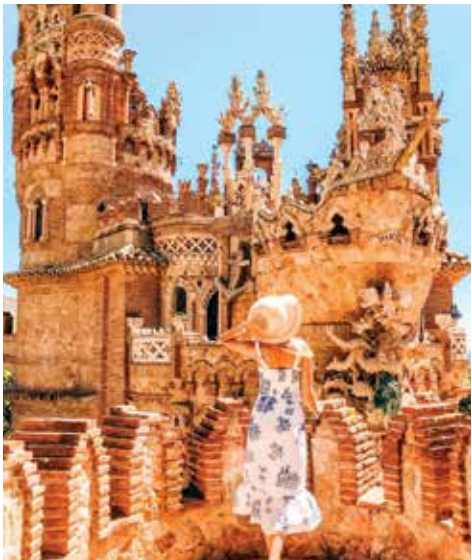
Insta-jetsetters to Follow

BY HIRANMAYII MOHANAN AND SARA YEOH



KANE VATO AND PIA MUEHLENBECK @PIAMUEHLENBECK

Kane Vato and Pia Muehlenbeck have been wanderlusters since they first started dating. Kane, of Malaysian ancestry and Pia, of German descent (both living in Sydney) take their followers on a cinematic experience through their striking pictures on the gram and vlogs. The brilliant pictures on their separate accounts are owed to Kane, whose photography of their travel destinations are digital evidence of his skills. Witness the charm of places such as the Isle of Capri, Sri Lanka, Bali, Maldives and Mexico through Pia's and his eyes. Head to their accounts for the best of #travelgoals and #relationshipgoals.



WEARETRAVELGIRLS

Founded by two ladies, @wearetravelgirls is a hub of stunning pictures, taken from every nook and cranny of the world. Their must-visit Instagram feed is a chronicle of their globe-trotting adventures – from the unique Le Cascate del Mulino in Southern Tuscany to the dramatic landscapes of Isle of Skye in Scotland. With each skillfully-taken picture, they tell a story of their adventures and provide informative travel tips in the captions to inspire, connect and educate female travellers. You can trust @wearetravelgirls to discover the hottest spots and shed light on less travelled, obscure destinations, inspiring us to create our own travel bucket list.



LAUREN BULLEN @GYPSEA_LUST

It's hard not to get wanderlust while scrolling through the photos of Lauren Bullen a.k.a. @gypsea_lust on Instagram. Follow her as she shows her 2.1 million followers her journeys through exotic Middle Eastern sand dunes to deserted temples in Jaipur with her partner Jack Morris (who's a travel blogger too). The places that grace her beautifully-filtered Instagram feed immediately become a box to tick off our wanderlust bucket list. Being a stylish jet setter and the star of her own travel photographs, she gives us major holiday outfit inspirations too, sending us on a shopping spree for a holiday that we may (or may not) have booked.



TARA @TARAMILKTEA

Expect lustworthy hotel interiors, colour-coded destinations, decadent shots of desserts and major outfit moments here and there on Tara's feed. Being a major fashionista that she is, her outfits almost steal the spotlight of the beautiful destinations she set foot on, and her photos look like something out of a fashion editorial. When she is not out and about the cities exploring, you'll see her winding down in the tubs of some of the most beautiful hotel suites in the world. Her colourful feed definitely gives us the wanderlust bug – where's next?

BEACH Please

Malaysia's Underrated Islands

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



PULAU GAYA, SABAH

Situated 10 minutes away from Kota Kinabalu, Pulau Gaya is an enclave surrounded by the majestic Borneo rainforest. Located within the Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park, it features a diverse array of colourful aquatic life – a snorkelers or divers' paradise. On the other hand, for those who feel the call of verdant greenery, a 20km light trekking trail awaits, where one is enclosed by greenery.

It is a well-known fact that Malaysia overflows with comprehensive beauty, translated through its people, food, flora and fauna. That said, what many are uninformed about Malaysia (locals included) are its pristine, sun-dappled and highly underrated islands that could challenge the Maldives and its likes any day. Befitting KL Lifestyle magazine's travel theme and the Malaysia Day celebration, we list the country's underrated islands for your reading pleasure.



PULAU LANKAYAN, SABAH

Lankayan, is a tiny jewel-shaped island located off the northeastern coast of Sabah and joins the Sugud Islands Marine Conservation Area (SIMCA). Surrounded by azure water and coral reefs, it makes for one of Sabah's top diving spots. There are two Lankayan wrecks and over 20 dive sites that you can go explore. Besides the diving crowd, this island attracts families with its 24 beachfront wooden chalets, complete with outdoor chaise lounges for some sweet, family-bonding time.



PULAU KAPAS, TERENGGANU

Defined as cotton, its moniker, 'kapas' aptly describes the characteristics of this paradise. It features white cottony beaches that your feet sink into and a scene of rustic, laid back charm. The island offers a tropical jungle as well as clear, glassy seawater, white sandy beaches and coral reefs. It is promoted as a diving and snorkeling paradise, besides activities such as turtle-spotting and kayaking.



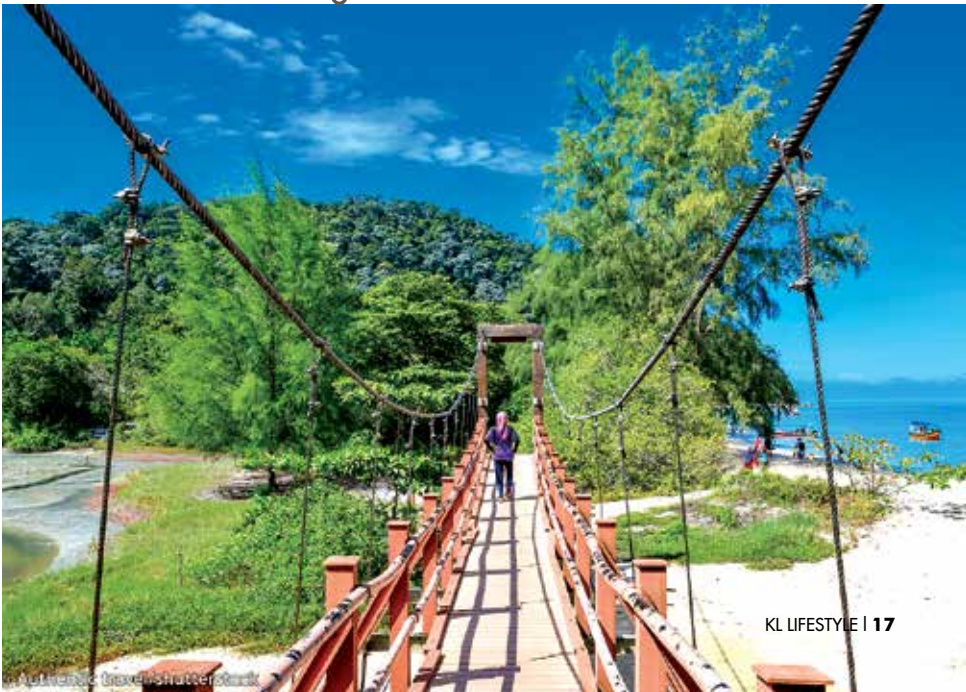
PULAI SAPI, SABAH

Another addition to the Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park in Sabah is Pulau Sapi. The alluring scene here is right out of a postcard; makes for a heavenly getaway to see the underwater ecosystem. Activities for the water babies include snorkeling and diving, and paragliding for the adventurous. Make most of your time at this island by camping and watching a surreal sunrise the morning after.



PANTAI KERACHUT, PENANG

Have you ever pictured lying on the beach, stargazing and sleeping under the starry skies? You can make your dream come true at Pantai Kerachut in Penang. Forget about the overcrowded Batu Ferringhi and Tanjung Bungah and head to this beach instead. Merely 3 km away from Penang National Park, its location is ideal for BBQ nights and camping. It is the abode of the Penang Turtle Sanctuary and a rare meromictic lake.



PULAU TENGAH, JOHOR

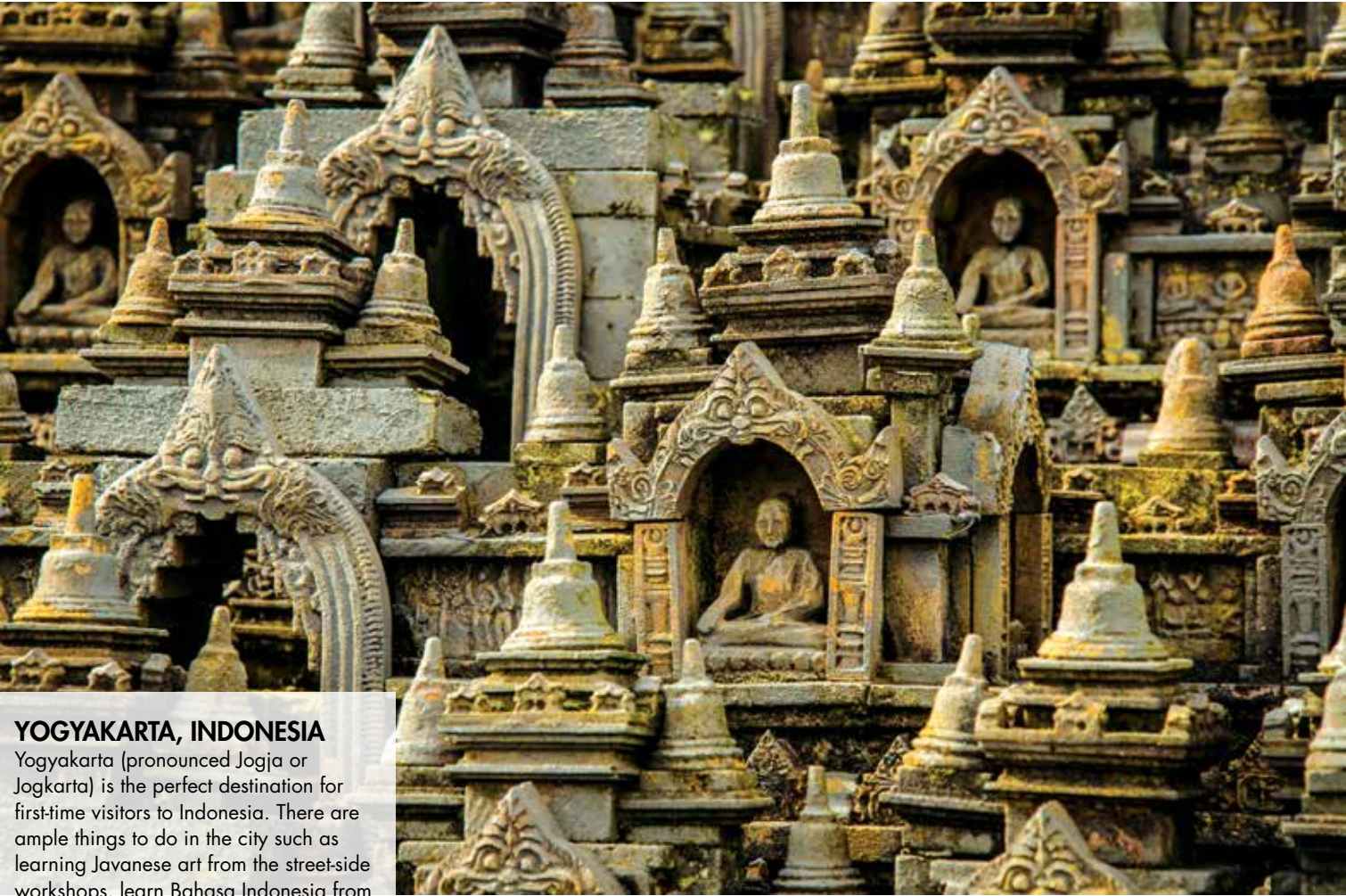
Pulau Tengah is a private island in Johor, gazetted as a marine park. Naturally, it is home to plentiful rare underwater flora and fauna. Its name, Tengah (translated as 'middle' in Bahasa Malaysia) is attributed to its location, nestled between two other islands, Pulau Besar and Pulau Hujung. Besides the usual snorkeling and scuba-diving activities, turtle-watching is highly recommended here. You can also spend some time volunteering at the island's turtle conservation project called Turtle Watch Camp. It is the perfect place to bear witness to the breeding ground of leatherback turtles.

HOTSPOTS FOR SOLO TRAVEL

Safe and Exciting Destinations for Solo Exploration

BY JACQUELINE BENITA PAUL

The thought of solo travelling can be exciting yet daunting. On one hand, there is the crippling fear of the uncertainty, especially for personal safety. On the other hand, you get to discover the world on your own terms. In this issue, we highlight the safest destinations to satiate your wanderlust and what to keep in mind when travelling alone.



YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA
Yogyakarta (pronounced Jogja or Jogkarta) is the perfect destination for first-time visitors to Indonesia. There are ample things to do in the city such as learning Javanese art from the street-side workshops, learn Bahasa Indonesia from the local villagers, work the rice fields or just immerse yourself in the culture with a simple walk through the alleyways and markets. Besides the aggressive salesmen and ‘sweet talkers who will try to separate you from your cash, many solo travellers would attest it is still one of the safest cities to visit in Asia. Arm yourself with a few Bahasa phrases like “Tidak, terima kasih” (no, thank you) or “Jangan” (don’t) and you will be free to enjoy the trip to your heart’s content.

MUST-VISIT LANDMARKS

Borobudur Temple
Bask in the sunset at the iconic 9th century Mahayana Buddhist temple. Borobudur temple is known as the world’s largest Buddhist temple, decorated with 2,672 relief panels and 504 Buddha statues. The temple’s design follows Javanese Buddhist architecture with indigenous scenes and elements to showcase Indonesia’s rich culture and history.

Tamansari
Explore Umbul Pasiraman – a bathing and resting spot for the Sultan and princesses. Incidentally, it was also where the Sultan spent his free time doing what he loved, hunting. He enjoyed two types of hunts, the four-legged and the two-legged kinds and Umbul Pasiraman was meant for the latter. However, there is more to Tamansari than its raunchy history, as travellers can explore various underground tunnels and a mosque as well.



ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND
New Zealand is a popular choice for backpackers due to its high safety rating as indicated by the Global Peace Index. Adrenaline junkies are often drawn towards Rotorua, a town with a rich Maori culture and ample heart-pumping activities to make you feel alive. Travellers can soak their aches away in the natural thermal pool and breath in the sulphur-rich air.

MUST-VISIT NATURAL THERMAL POOLS

1. Waikite Valley Thermal Pool
This pure spring water spot is situated 25 minutes south of Rotorua. Using the natural geothermal water, families can enjoy the splash pool, a garden pool and even two private pools that come with temperature-control options.

2. Kerosene Creek
Located 35 minutes south of Rotorua is Kerosene Creek. Travellers can enjoy the complimentary facilities and fully indulge in the natural bathing experience. However, it is important to exercise caution with personal effects when visiting.

3. Kuirau Park
There is plenty to do at Kuirau Park, whether it is soaking in the bubbling mud, taking a brisk walk through the park or enjoying a foot spa. Expect to be surrounded by a thick fog of steam, breathing the rich sulfuric air and a heightened heart rate knowing you are standing on a volcanic site.



MACAO, CHINA
This one-of-a-kind city is often overlooked for its “Vegas of China” reputation when in fact, it has an immensely rich culture and history. In 1887, Macao became a colony of the Portugese Empire and the colonisation ended in 1999. Colonisation had lead to the inception of Macanese cuisine –a medley of culinary elements resulted from the Portugese settlement and fused with Chinese cooking techniques. This also led to the recognition of Macao by UNESCO as the Creative City of Gastronomy in 2018.

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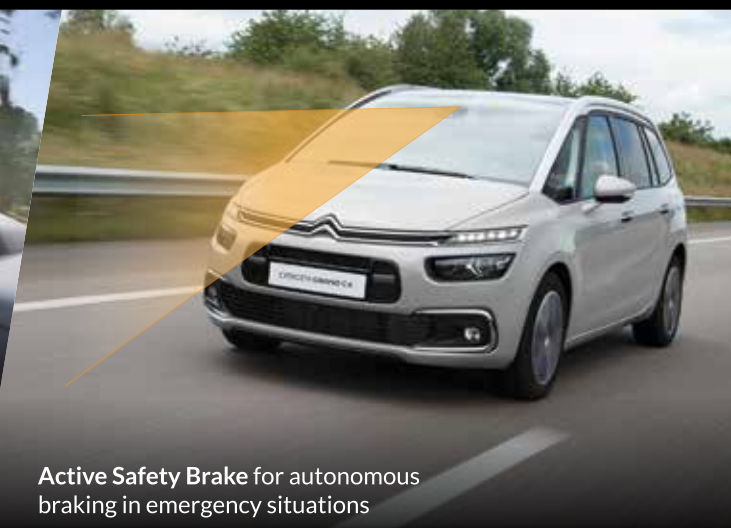
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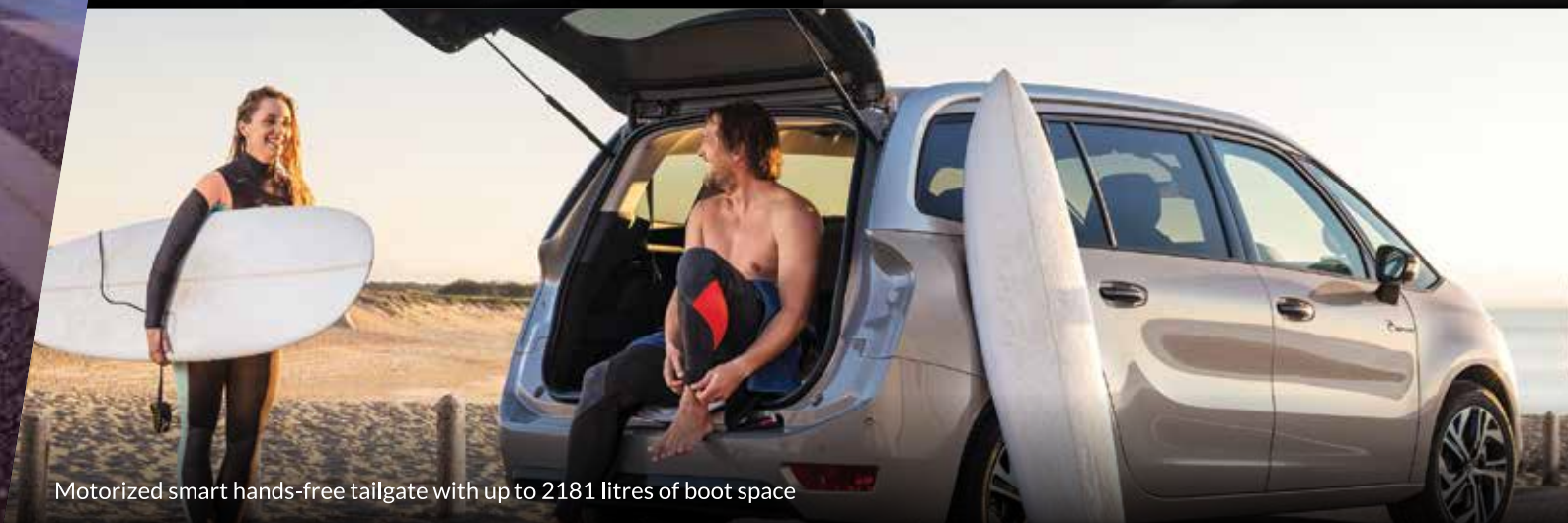
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SPG by Bijan

Modern Malaysian Tapas and Grill

WORD BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN
PHOTO BY PIE PIX PHOTOGRAPHY

The term SPG, an acronym for Sarong Party Girls dates back to the late 1940's, referring to Asian women who exclusively date and prefer white men. SPG by Bijan, the modern Malaysian tapas and grill bar pays homage to the Sarong Party Girls by embodying a playful and carefree spirit. While located in the heart of the city, Bijan's new sister restaurant detaches itself from the hubbub, offering locals and tourists gastronomic solitude.

Walking in, a vibrant al-fresco lounge greets guests, featuring vivacious personality, rattan and vintage lounge chairs, and blue honeycomb tiles, encircled by foliage. The bar, on the other hand, is simply beautiful – boasting Peranakan tiles and deep-hued velvet upholstered bar stools. As you make your way indoors, yet again, the velvet theme is seen throughout, complemented by tasteful accents in the batik napkins, rattan dividers and brilliant colour palette, breathing fun to the dining area.

Tipsy with Tipples

The libations at SPG are not only pretty; it pushes creative boundaries by dolling out cocktails such as the Stinkini. This is a gin-based tippie, supplemented by vermouth and the star of the show – pickled petai. Be adventurous and immerse yourself in a play of head-scratching, interesting flavours – a perfect accompaniment to the bold flavours from the food.

Rose Chan, another brilliant concoction is the perfect Instagram picture – dispensed in different test tubes of triple sec, tequila, pink guava, honey and lime, which are to be poured into a glass containing a pink ball of ice in the centre. Its taste is as good as it looks and dangerously easy to drink.

SPG's Malay Tapas

Nothing pairs better with cocktails than light bites, right? SPG's tapas are locally-slanted, purveying wonderful, reimagined local delights. We take our hats off to Ah Ran Sini, a deep-fried deliciousness of stuffed nasi lemak served with anchovy mayo – a spin on the iconic Malaysian staple.

Then came the Pais Barramundi – three cute parcels of barramundi mixed with turmeric, spices, coconut and finally wrapped with banana 'leather'. Such scrumptious, robust Malaysian flavours with necessary spiciness are introduced here.

Bakar Bakar

It wouldn't be a Malaysian menu without bakar-bakar (grill). We indulged in the sinful Angus Oyster Blade – boasting tender meat and subtle flavours accentuated by the sambal hitam, hijau and merah. Each sambal had distinct effects and flavours on the meat. Thereafter, the grilled calamari called for some attention, also offering tender consistency and power-packed piquancy when paired with sambal belacan.

SPG's Mains

In a true SPG manner, guests are offered a modern interpretation of the local experience through its mains. Cik Siti Wan Kembang, a newly-introduced set lunch menu is presented on a bamboo sieve, shedding light on its glorious offerings – mix of Jasmine and black rice, Cucur Jagung, Gulai Lemak Daging Salai with Sago Gula Melaka for dessert. From its historic-riddled name to exquisite lusciousness, we were engrossed in the experience.

Tun Teja, an equally formidable main also served on a bamboo sieve, comprises a mix of Jasmine and black rice with Otak-Otak Udang Harimau and Ayam Kampung Limau Purut. This dish portrayed sinful and delectable qualities that we didn't want to end. We completed this decadent meal with a local dessert of pandan cream pudding with gula Melaka syrup.

***Modern Malaysian *pork-free**
SPG By Bijan 3A, Jalan Ceylon,
Bukit Ceylon, 50200 Kuala Lumpur.



SPG's Mains



SPG's tantalising tipples



The vibrant al-fresco dining area

Passione Ristorante Italiano

Authentic Tastes of Abruzzo

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Passione Ristorante Italiano is a calm, contemporary, glass-fronted restaurant amid the flurry of activities in Sri Petaling. Modelling its moniker, the restaurant bestows a taste of Italy through quintessential spirit of Italian cooking where every dish is a labour of love, a work of art and true expression of passion. Punchy, fresh flavours experienced here are owed to veteran chef and true-blue Italian, Chef Stefano Cribber who has had over 20 years of international culinary experience. He brings forth 3,000 years of proud food tradition, and recipes from Abruzzo, the oldest city in Italy.

Italian Board
Our Italian escapade commenced with the presentation of an Italian board. This saw two types of cheese (varies daily) and three glorious varieties of cold cuts which immediately worked up an appetite and created anticipation of the following courses.

Funghi and Truffle Soup
Easily shared between two persons, this warm, creamy mushroom soup arrived boasting its tantalising aroma of truffle oil and rich, luscious funghi flavours that warmed our stomachs and soul.

Wild Boar Tagliatelle
Such is the nature of pasta, to exude unending comfort – this resonated in the



A delectable array of Passione's offerings

Wild Boar Tagliatelle. A generous helping of marinated and braised wild boar in tomato sauce bathed the homemade tagliatelle, furnishing it with prominent, well-balanced zesty flavour.

Seafood Linguine
The seafood linguine was a sensual dish, disclosing silky, homemade linguine pasta, supplemented by umaminess from the fresh clams, mussels, baby cuttlefish, squid and scallop. This comforting dish is cooked with a choice of infused chilli and garlic oil or tomato sauce.

Pork Ribs Al Vino Rosso
The showstopper for the evening was without a doubt, the Pork Ribs Al Vino Rosso. Marinated in herbs and spices, the pork ribs were subsequently slow-cooked and grilled to perfection with a red wine reduction.

Meanwhile, roasted potatoes and rocket salad made for a brilliant and necessary accompaniment. What you can expect is sous vide tender meat that falls apart without much teasing and melts in the mouth as soon as you consume it.

Filetto di Branzino Al Forno
Yet again, we experienced Chef Stefano's prowess with this dainty dish. On a square plate, sat an oven-baked seabass fillet with Taggiasche olives strewn about. Creating a vibrant aesthetic was the accompaniment of cherry tomatoes, green capsicum and asparagus. The delicate, sweet taste from the seabass went hand in hand with the white wine and fennel sauce puree.

Pizza 3 Salumi
Staying true to tradition, customers will experience a taste of Italy where pizzas are labured by hand and baked in Passione's very own wood-fired oven. The Pizza 3 Salumi is a sensation at this eatery, featuring spicy salame, honey ham and sausage, interplayed with a natural smoky aroma, onions and mozzarella on a bed of tomato sauce.

Tiramisu
Dessert was a study in comforting sweetness – a classic Italian dessert revealing depths of coffee flavours, ladyfingers with mascarpone cheese and crunchy chocolate.

Passione Ristorante Italiano *Italian *non-halal
19, Jalan Radin Bagus 9, Sri Petaling,
57000 Kuala Lumpur.



La Juiceria Superfoods Signature

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Adding to the conglomerate empire of La Juiceria is the relatively new La Juiceria Superfoods Signature, nesting at Nadi Bangsar. Featuring ceiling-to-floor windows, natural light and space are aplenty here. Its inviting ambience is complemented by marble and golden furnishings, making it a charming nook specialising in healthy fare.

Avo Mashed Greens
From the breakfast segment, the Avo Mashed Greens appealed. What sat before us was humble, yet aesthetically-pleasing. Thw top of a toasted bread was slathered with generous dollops of avocado, while perched atop was a poached kampung chicken egg and feta cheese strewn about, presenting plenty of texture and robust deliciousness.

Fried Rice Quinoa
The Fried Rice Quinoa embodied all the beautiful, sinful flavours of a Nasi Goreng Kampung, leaving us impressed and without an inch of guilt for indulging. A medley of sautéed mushroom, kampung chicken egg, fried shallot, spring onion, cabbage, carrot, coriander and red chilli contributes to comforting flavours. For that extra oomph, we recommend adding on grilled lemongrass chicken thigh and teriyaki grilled tofu.

Sarawak Laksa
The Sarawak Laksa here is hearty, addictive and serves a unique balance of flavours. It sees a combination of vermicelli, tiger prawns, sliced omelette, shredded chicken breast and bean sprouts, and garnished with coriander. Served with a special laksa sambal which lends a spicy and wholesome experience.

Buddha Bowl
“You have now experienced a state of bliss,” the Buddha Bowl cooed, or so was the feeling it reverberated. A balanced bowl comprising roasted pumpkin, roasted seasonal veggies, sautéed mushrooms, tofu, tortilla chips and caramelised cashew brittles cocooned the Japanese turmeric pearl rice and served with a Thai dressing. We now know why it's called a Buddha Bowl.

LJ Superfoods Signature @ Nadi Bangsar * Healthy
G-03, 16, Jalan Tandok, 59100 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03-2303 0921

Xenri Japanese Cuisine

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Xenri Japanese Cuisine in Old Klang Road has stood the test of time, steeped in finesse and known for its flavourful fare. With tatami-styled seating, zen ambience, and an experienced executive chef, they bring forth the delights of the Japanese cuisine.

Sakura Umae Shisho Soba
Pretty as a picture it arrived, embodying the essence of spring, revealing hues of pink in the soba, owed to the sakura. The sakura soba was drenched with a medley of homemade seasonal plum sauce and apple sauce – an invigorating build of appetite.

Aburi Hokkaido Mukimi Hotate
This dish was a matrimony of an uni (purple sea urchin) glaze, Hokkaido diver scallop, caviar and Tatami Iwashii. While one might assume this dish to be too indulgent, prepare to be delightfully surprised at its featheriness – gracing the palate for a moment, to disclose differing textures and wonderful flavours.



Unagi Kama Meshi
The Unagi Kama Meshi stole the show with its glistening, grilled eel on a bed of imported Japanese rice and Sansai (japanese mountain vegetable) enclosed within a traditional Japanese wooden iron pot. It showcased the intrinsic flavours from the Sansai and the Unagi, coming together in perfect harmony.

Wagyu Ishiyaki
Ambrosial slices of A4 grade wagyu, procured from Kagoshima Prefecture is served alongside a hot plate, awaiting further action. Buttery in consistency, the wagyu slices speak of the quality, almost melting in the mouth upon consumption. Dip the freshly-grilled meat in homemade ponzu-based sauce as well as miso-based sauce to elevate the existent scrumptiousness.

*Japanese *Pork-free
Address: 9, Lorong 4/137c, Bedford Business Park,
58200 Kuala Lumpur.



A charming little spot in Oasis Square, Ara Damansara



Chef Gary and his distinguished culinary team



Seared Foie Gras



Duck Breast



Beef Tartare with Bread Chips



Pandan Crème Brulee

Champignon

Jewel in the Oasis

BY JACQUELINE BENITA PAUL

Once, Oasis Square was mushrooming with new eateries but over time more foodies ventured to Kuala Lumpur to visit the Insta-worthy cafes. However, in an ironic twist, Champignon (Mushroom in French) has stood strong over the years. On our visit, we were determined to uncover the reason for Champignon’s longevity.

We entered through monochrome façade furnished with timber, expecting the interior to exude the same rustic charm. Instead, we found ourselves in a contemporary and modern space, with scintillating artworks by the master of colours and lines, Jeremi CA (customers may purchase these works) adorning the crisp white walls. The space does not just transform from outside-in but the settings are vastly different during the daytime and night. Daytime are for the lunch crowd who will get to enjoy the polished timber tables and the dinner crowd may enjoy an evening of elegance with the picturesque French fine dining table setting. Special requests can be made to have the dinner setting during the day, just call ahead and let the staff know.

Founder and head chef of Champignon, Gary is in the midst of creating a new menu but regulars need not fret as he plans to retain the signatures. On our visit, we sampled a mix of crowd favourites and became willing guinea pigs for his new culinary creations. For starters, we had a sizeable Seared Foie Gras presented on sliced, pickled grapes with the aromatic vinaigrette, topped with brioche and shaved almond. Each bite was an explosion of flavours – a mix of sour, pungent and slightly sweet – which offered a delightful aftertaste. More dimensions were added to our dish while taking sips of the house poured white wine, Al Galera Mistico 2017.

A fair rival to Foie Gras was the Chef Gary’s latest addition to the menu, the Beef Tartare with Bread Chips. Finely diced beef blended with chopped onions topped with raw egg created the perfect moisture level to enjoy the dish, balanced with the crispy bread chips. Next was the soup du jour, a sublime crab bisque that lets you have a bit of interactivity by pouring the hot soup into the crab meat mix.

The starters fired our senses, filling us with anticipation and excitement to guess what Chef Gary had in mind for us for the main course. The first of the mains to arrive was my favourite poultry, duck. Evident from its slightly pinkish flesh, the duck was prepared via sous vide and playing by Chef Gary’s strength, a mushroom puree added an earthy depth. Noting the unique aroma emitting from the dish, he pointed out his use of Sichuan pepper, an ingredient he no doubt discovered when he was the executive sous chef at Mandarin Oriental, Macau.

We were further amazed by Chef Gary’s ability to transform the most prosaic of proteins, chicken, to become the star of Champignon’s menu. To fully enjoy this dish, layer your fork in this format: slices of glazed beetroot, cuts of chicken breast dipped with the mushroom puree and chanterelle mushroom cream sauce. For a play on texture, dig in the rosti potato underneath the poultry. Our last main course, the Pan-Seared Black Cod Fish with Streaky Bacon was nothing to scoff at either. The crispy skin and tender flesh of the black cod carried the white wine sauce immaculately. When we didn’t think it could get better, we took a mouthful of the green pea puree flavoured by the streaky bacon strips.

Chef Gary treated us to something special for dessert – Pandan Crème Brulee topped with gula Melaka ice cream. The pandan comes from his fathers own garden which ensures a mild flavour but an explosion of aroma to produce a perfectly balanced dessert. We get it now – Champignon is a gem in oasis square for good reason. Chef Gary’s inimitable interpretation of classic French cuisine and his own twists to fit Asian flavours and modern epicureans is why Champignon will continue to stand against the test of time.

Champignon *Modern european *non-halal
B-G-02, Oasis Square, Ara Damansara, 47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
03-7832 2629



Lemonade and Gensek

Just when I thought the food scene at Old Malaya was due for an upgrade, Mari Ristorante swooped in. At the helm of the kitchen is Italian purist, Chef Cristian Grandi, who began his culinary journey at 15, when he made his first pizza. Having spent the last three years in Malaysia – once helming a beloved Italian restaurant, Luce Osteria, Chef Christian brings together his love for Italian cuisine and Asian flavours to Mari Ristorante’s menu. Now, is it a matrimony we approve of?

We were seated in a bijou space exuding the comforting nature of an Italian home with exposed bricks, large windows to wash the room with natural lighting and the calling card of any Italian kitchen – hanging wooden utensils on the wall. Asian elements are in the choice of furniture – emblazoned floral floor tiles, rattan chairs and faux banana tree. Every nook and cranny involved thoughtful consideration. Customers seated at the upstairs bar are treated to a grandeur view of the iconic KL Tower. Our dinner began with the Brushetta Malese, where one might discern that the inspiration was derived from Malaysia’s national dish, Nasi Lemak. Slathered sambal cream on the toasted slices of bruschetta topped with salted egg, cubes of fried chicken and sliced



Brushetta Malese

Mari Ristorante

Mouthwatering Italian Cuisine with Asian Flavours

BY JACQUELINE BENITA PAUL



Filletto di Barramundi

cucumber offered a tantalising effect to our taste buds. Equally remarkable was the piping hot Zuppetta Di Cozze - a light and robust Tom Yam soup, carrying generous portions of fresh black mussels and squid served with roasted bread.

Crafty libations concocted by Vanya, a Belarusian, stunned us with his ability to work with Asian ingredients despite being a newcomer to the Asian scene. Convivialists with a deep appreciation for medium-bodied cocktails would deeply enjoy the Gensek – made from banana ginseng-spiced rum, lemon and egg white. Melodious classics filled the room as we made our way down, with the whiff of our mains hastening our pace.

It goes without saying, the specialties here are the pizzas that come in 20 varieties. On our table was the thin-crust Mustaffa, a creamy oceanic odyssey in each bite. No doubt the result of using whipping cream and mozzarella cheese as the base, topped with smoked salmon and green zucchini with pops of umami and salty flavours, courtesy of the salmon roe. The star of our visit was the Gnocchi Alla Thaiandese, perfect handmade potato gnocchi bursting with red Thai curry

flavour and a comforting layer of mushroom ragout to balance the heat. Here we conceded that the marriage of Italian cuisine and Asian flavours gave a new lease of life to the Old Malaya food scene.

The Filletto di Barramundi was no less a crowd pleaser than the rest. Cooked in the a la plancha style, doused in olive oil, with carefully placed caper berries and idyllic composition achieved with a red capsicum flower garnish and linear asparagus. This is a remarkable dish that goes beyond visual admiration. At Mari Ristorante, we were also taught to appreciate simplicity in the form of the Pannacotta Al Cocco. The beautiful homemade coconut panna cotta beckoned us to ravage it and with the help of the utterly divine gula Melaka syrup, we did.

Mari Ristorante doesn’t just breathe new life into Old Malaya, their rule-bending approach to Italian-Asian spinoffs, remarkable vintage-meets-modern contemporary interior, and a fiercely passionate team have brought a whole new, fun dining experience to the heart of Kuala Lumpur.

Mari Ristorante *Italian *Asian *pork-free
No 2, Lorong Raja Chulan, 50250 Kuala Lumpur
03-2022 0968

Agrain by Hale

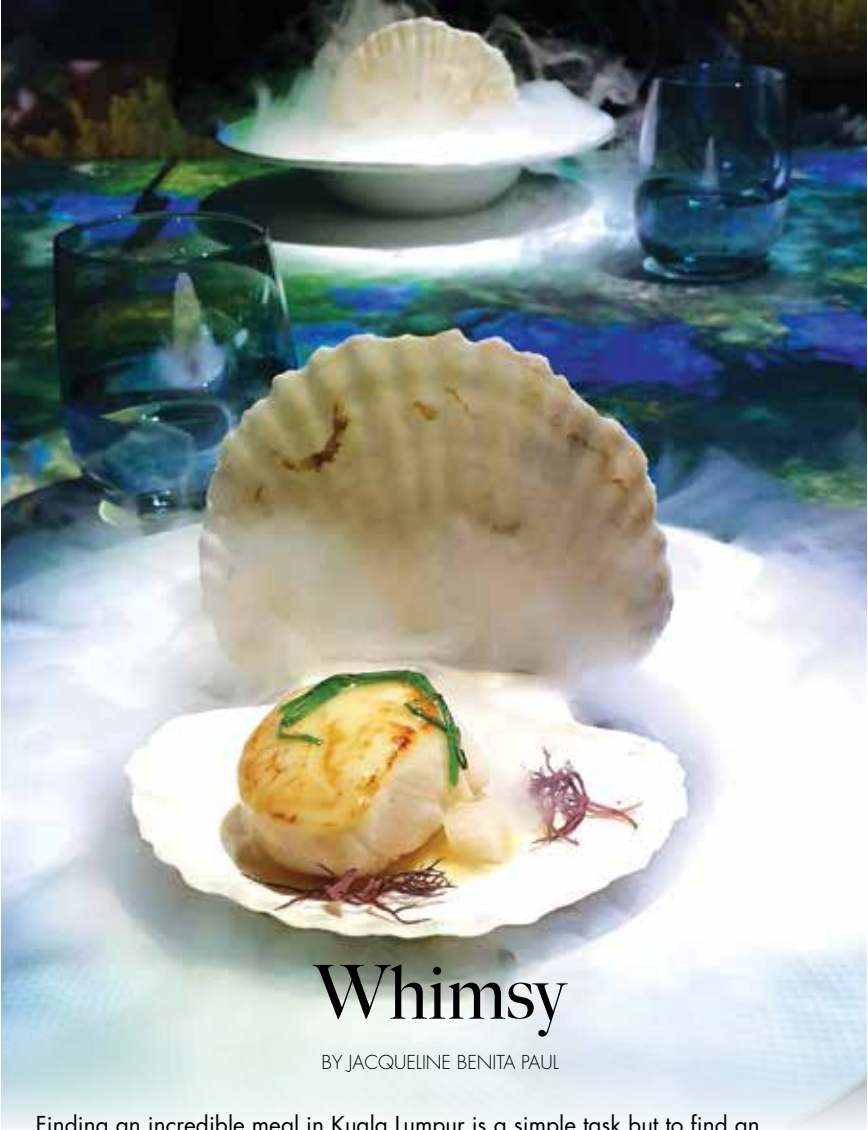
BY JACQUELINE BENITA PAUL

As a good trend should, the pokebowl fad has recently transcended to grain bowl and we have Agrain to thank for that. The food is painstakingly prepared fresh every day and served in cast iron to retain an even temperature for all-day freshness.

On your visit, we recommend that you build your own bowl, though we advise allocating some time as there are ample choices. To save you time, at least order the brown rice vermicelli, honey soy chicken thigh and beef stew. Each bite is even more delicious knowing you are making a healthy choice. You can even get a healthier version of Malaysia’s national dish, Nasi Lemak. The slow-cooked sambal even goes well with the brown rice vermicelli soaked in beef stew.

Opt out of carbs with the Countryside Salad served with herb-crusted fish, scrambled egg white, baby spinach, red cabbage and honey balsamic sauce to add an enticing dose of flavour. Locavores can relish in the fact that most of the ingredients are locally sourced. Also an important fact to note is that Agrain’s menu will change every 3-4 months, depending on the seasonal produce.

Agrain by Hale *Healthy *Asian *pork-free
Suite G.01, Lobby, Ground Floor,
The Gardens North Tower
Lingkaran Syed Putra, 59200
Mid Valley City Kuala Lumpur
www.hale.my/agrain



Whimsy

BY JACQUELINE BENITA PAUL

Finding an incredible meal in Kuala Lumpur is a simple task but to find an unforgettable experience, is a challenge even for the most seasoned gourmets. This mission led us to the much chattered about multisensory experience located in the heart of the city, Whimsy. The location also houses other thematic experiences such as Dining in the Sky and Plane in the City.

We entered into a realm of wonder and magic as our eyes set upon our names on the shiny and glittery arcs. A frisson of excitement emerged as we met with our virtual host, Danielle who was our guide through the five virtual realms and gastronomic adventure. Our gastronomic adventure began with the Biodome – in a starry night setting with ipads at the ready for an interactive experience. The Biodome is a medley of a squid ink risotto moon rock, served with slices of smoked duck with a side of a lentil salad and a pesto and roselle geodesic bubbles to emulate the out-into-space experience.

We get back down to earth with the next course, The Nest. The impeccable presentation with the unique glass plating that portrays a contemporary take of a bird’s nest gave us plenty to talk about. The dish itself which is served with a 63 egg in a broth of mushroom duxelles and chicken jus, provided a palatable flavour to induce a comforting experience.

From land to sea, the transition of the effects and dishes is truly an engaging multisensory experience. The next dish was a breathtaking roast scallop served with Japanese turnip, samphire and red ogo seaweed. The experience became more hands-on on the next course, where we were asked to clap our hands to power up the circus which meant it was time for the Popcorn & Chocolate. The dish is more savoury than the name implies, a pan seared Foie Gras with chocolate perfumed jus, free range chicken with popcorn sauce. Our gastronomic journey ends with The Egg, a white chocolate egg, praline and dark chocolate feuilletine, vanilla crème pate and fresh fruits to cleanse our palate.

Whimsy is best suited for family and friends who are seeking a unique dining experience with limitless conversation starters.

Whimsy *European *pork-free
Skyland, 231, Jalan Bukit Bintang, Imbi, 55100 Kuala Lumpur
+60 16 299 1455





Sushi Ryu

BY SARA YEOH

There are a few luxuries in life, but one that I enjoy immensely comes in the form of an Omakase to indulge in the finest and freshest cuts of fish flown in from Japan. Omakase at Sushi Ryu was a lavish one, overloaded with truffles, foie gras and caviar.

We started off with the Ryu signature appetiser of shima aji sashimi with truffle caviar, but ours were topped with extra uni and shaved truffles – giving it an extra explosion of flavours. Next came a seasonal cold appetiser of mini botan ebi bowl with uni and caviar in a crystal glass. Umami ensued in the seasonal hot dish that was an Alaskan

king crab chawanmushi with tobiko. We had ours with extra foie gras, adding a layer of charred and caramelised taste to it.

Before the raw course, we split open the onsen egg atop the signature mini wagyu don and swirled it around the bowl. I scooped up just the right amount of yolk-coated rice, topped it with a slice of wagyu and some caviar for a heavenly mouthful.

The sushi here was elegant and finessed. But the most memorable ones were a summertime isaki topped with uni, and the aburi botan ebi topped with foie gras and caviar – the

extra toppings “specially for us”, as we were told by the chef.

Dessert was matcha monaka with yuzu sorbet. But before we left, we had to order Ryu’s signature wagyu sando from the a la carte menu for a taste (that comes in a vegan version with Beyond meat too) – now that’s a luxury I can indulge in from time to time.

Sushi Ryu *Non-halal
Platinum Park, Persiaran KLCC,
Kuala Lumpur City Centre



Blackbyrd KL

BY SARA YEOH

We didn’t know taking 50 floors up the Platinum Tower building would take us away from an office surrounding and into a beautiful space where 70s’ modernist interiors meet Malaysiana. “Everything in here including the lamps are flown in from Europe to create a foreign feel,” said the manager. Yet, there are local touches like rattan chairs and terrazzo floors (typical of older Malaysian houses) that strike a nice balance between local and foreign nostalgia. The overall feeling of the restaurant was more of a domestic space, like a dining room, than a commercial one.

In semicircle booths where sheer white curtains veil the sunlight, the afternoon crowd at Blackbyrd were chic ladies who lunch. A glance of these ladies’ tables, the choice of edibles was pretty

morsels of the Crispy Nori Crunch with blue pea flowers, salmon sashimi and ikura with Parmesan shavings. For our appetiser, we had an equally aesthetically pleasing plate of beef Carpaccio with truffles that dissolved like fine mesh in the mouth.

The mains came on beautiful artisan ceramic plates that were sourced from Melaka. On one of them, there was escargot cavatelli, an earthy looking dish with dollops of mushy peas and garlic crumbs, but the rich and creamy flavours with silky textures were definitely a hit around the table. Blackbyrd’s Jakartan roots also brought us Southeast Asian dishes like mee goreng (fried noodles) with sambal matah, which was delightfully flavourful from the aroma of santan.



After the meal, you could choose to have dessert – we had the most decadent rum-infused chocolate brownie with salted caramel sauce. Or better yet, adjourn to the retro-looking bar – furnished with a dark green marble top, leather bar stools with gold details – for some cocktails. You could have their Garry Baldini in your hand, bask in the panoramic views of KL, and imagine it was the 70’s...

Blackbyrd *Non-halal
Platinum Park, Level 50, Naza Tower,
10, Persiaran KLCC, Kuala Lumpur,
50450 Kuala Lumpur

Borneo Restaurant & Bar

BY SARA YEOH



For a place that is so close to home, Borneo cuisine remains mysterious and unfamiliar in this part of Malaysia that it calls for a glossary in this restaurant’s menu. The ingredients fascinate, like the rare vegan butter used in Borneo Restaurant’s Engkabang pasta, which is harvested from the Engkabang flowers that only bloom every five years, or the sambal that is made from tuhau, a wild ginger stem, and eaten with fried pork in the Borneo Rajah rice platter.

Starters were curious. We had crispy cangkuk manis that nestled a soy-cured yolk in the middle. When mixed together, the yolk coats the delicate, crunchy greens for a sweet mouthful. The rainforest salad was a colourful mix of local herbs, arugula, pineapple, dabai (Bornean olive) paste, quinoa and coconut kerisik in lime dressing.

For the mains, the Borneo Rajah rice platter will allow one to taste the unexplored East Malaysian flavours. It came with grilled kacangma (a Chinese motherwort herb)

chicken, Hinava (fish cured in Himalayan salt block), and terubok roe and seafood pancake, among other sides.

The spirit of Borneo lies in tuak, or Bornean rice wine. There are many rules and superstitions when it comes to making tuak. For one, the environment that the tuak is fermented in makes a big difference – the owner insisted that the one fermented here in the city wasn’t up to par with the ones fermented surrounded by natural elements, while making us try both. Also, the tuak brewer must be void of emotions, as any kind of emotions the brewer carries will transfer to the drinker – which is kind of true of all food, anyway. I was intoxicated by the Bed Cat Asap, a smoky tuak with a hint of honey-like sweetness.

From forest butter to spiritual alcohols, Borneo Restaurant is a place where there is an appreciation for the rainforest and Bornean spirit.

Borneo Restaurant & Bar *Non-halal
11, Jalan Telawi 3, Bangsar, 59100 Kuala Lumpur

RAGE

BY SARA YEOH

Coffee meets fight club at RAGE, where neon pink lights and a sandbag set the mood for letting out some steam – but first, we need caffeine. Lactose-intolerants would be spoiled by the choices of alternative milk here that doesn’t cost extra. Beyond coffee, they have some cheeky specialty drinks too. Expect the unexpected – like a combination of matcha and assam in one of the drinks. But there are familiar flavours too, like the Milo Espresso “Dino” (shaken and served with condensed milk and Milo powder sprinkled on top) that would bring back nostalgic flavours for many.

As a huge matcha drinker, I was ecstatic to try their matcha specialties (and to know that their matcha is sourced from Niko Neko). I immediately decided that the Matcha Gula Melaka was my favourite matcha drink in town upon first sip – earthy matcha was paired with rich coconut milk, and flavoured with just the right amount of sweetness from the gula Melaka. On the wild side of matcha, I had the Matcha My Assam, which was a nice contrast of flavours between salty assam boi and bold matcha – despite my skepticism at first.

At the RAGE kitchen in the flagship Bangsar outlet, they like their flavours local. Order the chilli pan mee or sambal aglio e olio to spice things up. If you’d like something less fiery on the taste buds, classic favourites like the chicken avocado sandwich and egg mayo sandwich are good too.

With a RAGE room and communal long tables (one turns into a ping pong table too), the spot is perfect for social butterflies and bustling entrepreneurs. For those who’d prefer having coffee in the comfort of their own desk though, you could pre-order drinks from the DrinkRage app, and have them delivered within a geofence from each RAGE outlet.

RAGE Bangsar
Menara Uoa Bangsar,
Unit LGF-3A, No 5, Jalan Bangsar Utama 1,
Bangsar, 59000 Kuala Lumpur



Bo All Day Dining

Dining in the Beauty of Nature

BY SARA YEOH

Inspired by the century-old trees in the courtyard of Linc KL, Bo created a space that is like a graceful botanical dining club that has jungle-themed wall tiles, Seletti monkey lamps hanging from the ceiling, and a birdcage booth. As the beauty of nature is pretty much a part of Bo, they take their love of flora and fauna seriously here. “We pay quite a sum to make sure that the plants are taken care of and kept in tip-top condition,” Kenny, the marketing director of Bo told us. They even had the florist for the movie sets of ‘Crazy Rich Asians’ to come by and have a look. “We’ll pay whatever!” said Kenny enthusiastically.

The interiors capture the essence of Malaysian colonial heritage. Round tables pay tribute to local dining culture, where families sit together to share large portions of dishes that are to be eaten with white rice. The best dish one could order at one of Bo’s round tables is the red snapper fish head curry, a local favourite. Bo’s version is rich and savoury, and spiced just right. The vegetables in the curry like okra and eggplant that absorbed all the flavours of the curry are perfect to go with plain white rice. Another local dish that is great for sharing is the chicken tikka masala. Chunks of chicken in well-balanced, mild and creamy tomato curry sauce would have you going for more mouthfuls with the rice.

Bo’s western-inspired menu is done right too. Meat eaters would find satisfaction in the tender medium rare lamb rack with parsley hazelnut pesto and curry yoghurt. With a wine cellar 18 and Harriston chocolatier in the restaurant, one could pick up wine to go with the meal, and enjoy artisan chocolate creations afterwards, making a loungey dining experience.

The crowd favourite at Bo, though, is the roast chicken from its rotisserie oven. Brined and air-dried for a day before slowly roasted in its French-made Rotisol rotisserie oven, the chicken goes well with truffle chicken jus which adds a kick to it. And from the elegant deli counter, you can have your pick of two deli salads to go with the roast. “Pizza is just pizza,” said Kenny nonchalantly – but we decided that the artisanal wood-fired oven black truffle pizza with mixed mushrooms and red cheddar was far more superior.

After the meal, I’d suggest having coffee in the al fresco area, where there are rattan stools under the 100-year-old Ficus trees, to spend the rest of the day in serenity surrounded by nature.



Clockwise from above: The interior; Black truffle pizza; Malaysian inspired dishes for sharing.

Bo All Day Dining *Non-halal
LINC, LOT 1-10/1-11,
NO 360 THE, Jalan Tun Razak,
50400 Kuala Lumpur



Whisky ginger clam ramen

Super Ramen By Rudifook

A Trip for the Tongue

BY SARA YEOH

When a restaurant has a neon sign of Astroboy and funky J-pop tunes playing in the background, you’d know that the food is as bold and adventurous. Super Ramen is a hip Japanese-inspired joint in the neighbourhood of Sri Petaling. The patio area of the restaurant makes a cosy corner with glowing neon signs, potted plants and rattan furniture on a Persian carpet, where one could enjoy drinks from the restaurant’s bar, Yoloist.

One with an adventurous soul, Chef Rudi’s travels around the world are reflected in Super Ramen’s menu. One of the daring fusions was a foie gras scrambled egg, where the creaminess of the dish was balanced by the crunchy texture of four-angled beans and popping bits of ebikko too. While the taste was more Asian than Western, we weren’t quite sure what nationality the dish was of, but that was the charm of the food here.

The ramen here were creative hybrids of cuisines. The signature King of Pork Chop ramen is a bulky bowl that comes with a pork tomahawk – very much more majestic than the usual slices of char siu. I experienced ramen like I never did before, having a mouthful of noodles from the chopsticks in my right hand, followed by a bite of the pork I held by the aluminium foil-wrapped bone in my left hand. The rest of the condiments were the usuals of bamboo shoots, corn, black fungus and



King of pork chop



The patio

one half of an ajitsuke egg. The ramen soup though, was a lighter-style broth (rather than the usual thick and greasy ones) made from pork bone and chicken, and was nothing short of umami.

The innovative diversity of ramen here had us eating a dry ramen with duck confit. Classic French food met wantan mee-like dish, complementing each other well too. Then, we had the Whisky Ginger Clam Ramen, which is chef Rudi’s take on Chinese soup noodles – adding whisky on top of shaoxing wine that further brings out the freshness of the clams. The addition of whisky makes an intense soup base that is definitely not for the faint-hearted.

Like everything else here, dessert is a fun fusion of the east and west too – particularly the Papaya Peach Gum Milk dessert. Taking inspiration from nourishing Chinese dessert soups, milk is added into a bowl of oats, white fungus, goji berries, fresh slices of papaya, and homemade peach gum that is rich in collagen.

Super Ramen *Non-halal
65 G, Jalan Radin Bagus, Sri Petaling,
57000 Kuala Lumpur

Mooncakes

The Mid-Autumn Festival essentially celebrates three fundamental concepts, gathering (of family and friends), thanksgiving (gratitude and giving thanks for harvest and reunions) and praying (for prosperity, longevity or material satisfaction). In the spirit of this joyous festival, the ladies of KL Lifestyle share their favourites.

COMPILED BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

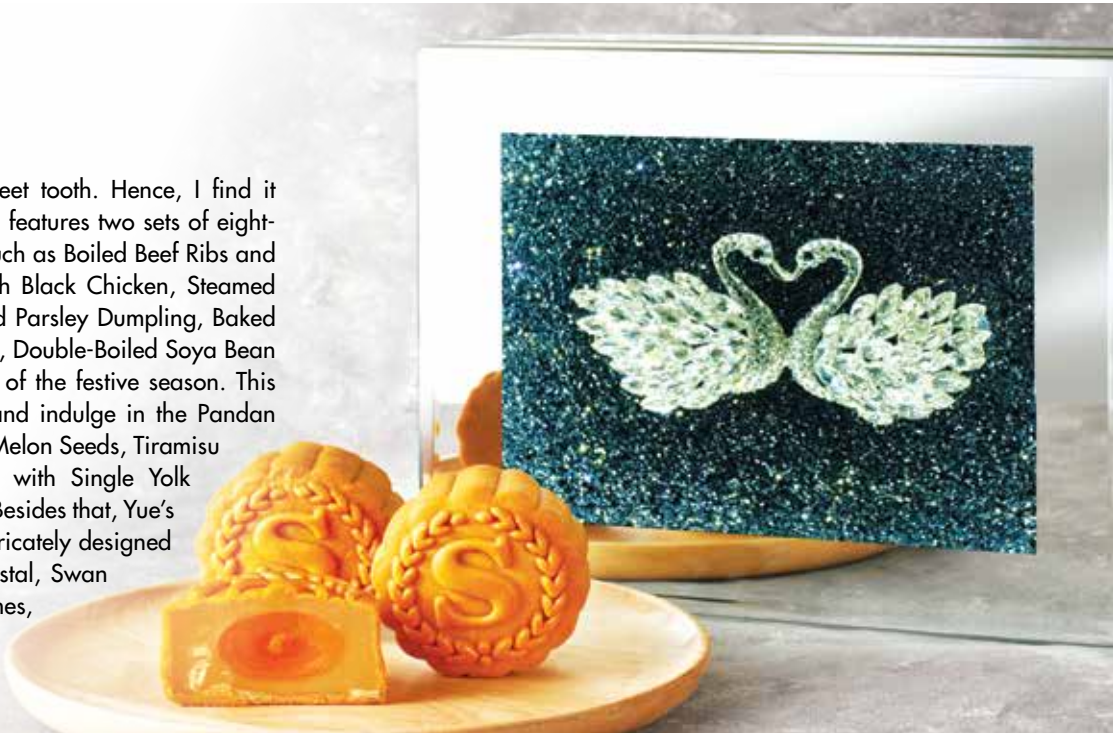


YUE FANTASY AT THE WESTIN KUALA LUMPUR

Hiranmayii Mohanan, Writer
Born during the mid-autumn season, I feel a sense of affiliation to it. So, it's only natural that I would love mooncakes, especially the ones from The Westin Kuala Lumpur. This year, they introduce two new playful flavours, especially crafted for the season, the Purple Sweet Potato and Taro Sensation. I love how each mouthful is proportionately sweet and light on the palate. It doesn't overwhelm the taste buds, rather, bestows intricate flavours exuded from the sweet potato and taro respectively.

AUTUMN JEWELS AT SHERATON PETALING JAYA

Shamila Angoosamy, PA to CEO
To be honest, I'm not much of a sweet tooth. Hence, I find it wonderful that Sheraton Petaling Jaya features two sets of eight-course menu featuring masterpieces such as Boiled Beef Ribs and Flat Noodles, Double-Boiled Pear with Black Chicken, Steamed Egg Pancake with Water Chestnut and Parsley Dumpling, Baked Prawns with Truffles, Braised Garoupa, Double-Boiled Soya Bean with White Fungus and more in view of the festive season. This allows family and friends to gather and indulge in the Pandan Lotus with Single Yolk, Red Bean with Melon Seeds, Tiramisu Paste with Walnut and White Lotus with Single Yolk mooncakes after their decadent meal. Besides that, Yue's mooncake boxes are exclusive and intricately designed with individual elements of Swan Crystal, Swan Pearl, Butterfly and Rainbow Stones, making these beautiful gifts display pieces for your home.



JADE RABBIT SERIES AT HILTON PETALING JAYA

Sara Yeoh, Writer
It's no secret that I'm the 'healthy' girl in the office. I tend to gravitate to anything that is healthy and good for the body. So, my mooncake choice is Hilton Kuala Lumpur's Jade Rabbit mooncake series, which incorporate ingredients rich with antioxidants, such as pomegranate and blueberry to promote overall wellbeing. From the traditional baked mooncakes, I love the Blueberry Blossom and Pomegranate Golden Raisins. The hues are beautiful, rivalled only by their well-balanced fruity flavours. Then, there was the Durian Delights Snowskin, a mooncake so rich and creamy, it deserves every bit of my attention.

OVER THE MOON WITH CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Jacqueline Benita Paul, Director of Digital Media
Crème de la Crème's petit gateaux and ice cream have always appealed to me. Their latest creations, four new petits gateaux in a limited-edition mooncake giftset took us over the moon. Besides the adorable and distinct aesthetics, what is special about them is that they conceptualise a series of iconic and delicious artworks and also tell a story to revive the true meaning of the Mid-Autumn Festival. Enter Chang E's Elixir, inspired by the famed folklore, with layers comprising Kyoto Houjicha ice cream, sesame crunch, white chocolate dip and dark chocolate garnish. At the centre, sakura ice cream and lychee rosemary compote act as the yolk. Another favourite from this series is the Prosperity Lantern, taking the shape of a lantern and concocted from pistachio ice cream, crumble, lemon sponge, dark chocolate garnish and strawberry ice cream as well as homemade strawberry jam as yolk.



ORIENT LUSTRE SERIES AT INTERCONTINENTAL KUALA LUMPUR

Eyda Faidah, Senior Graphic Designer
Anyone who knows me can tell you that I'm a durian lover. The Durian Snow Skin Mooncake with Salted Caramel Chocolate from the Orient Lustre series is in a league of its own – boasting bursts of pure durian creaminess with a medley of salted caramel chocolate, which make for an utterly indulgent treat. At the other end of the spectrum is a healthier and equally seductive mooncakes, the Almond Baked Skin, Pandan, Cream Cheese Salted Yolk and Chestnut Mooncake, designed in a beautiful flower shape. This lusciously-crafted piece pushes creative boundaries, using almond bulbs as its skin for a healthier option.

Best Burnt Cheesecakes in Kuala Lumpur

From a Blunder to Sensation

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

What started off as a blunder at San Sebastian, in Spain’s Basque Country has become an international sensation and a coveted dessert. This is none other than the burnt cheesecake. Its understated flavours, texture and robust creaminess will render you helpless and succumb to its temptation. For September’s sweet indulgence, we list our top four cafes for you to experience this delightful dessert for yourself.

1. BIRCH KL @ DAMANSARA

Tucked away in DC Mall is the popular Birch which shares the same masterminds behind Mezza and Huckleberry. This restaurant offers reinvented comfort food to inspire the global and curious taste buds. The burnt cheesecake at Birch is baked by its sister café, Huckleberry, and speaks to those who seek pleasure in sweet indulgences, conveying a velvety centre of Danish cream cheese, a brulee crust and notes of honey and caramel. This sinful seductress leaves a lingering aftertaste you don’t want to end.



2. THE TOKYO RESTAURANT

Mention burnt cheesecake and many will point you to The Tokyo Restaurant at Lot 10. Besides the mouth-watering offerings of Japanese cuisine, the restaurant’s burnt cheesecake has gathered a loyal patronage and rave reviews. It’s no wonder really, as its creamy consistency and decadent flavours are bewitching. Served with silky-smooth whipped cream, this dessert is every bit as glorious as many have raved. We recommend trying the green tea burnt cheesecake which is equally seductive, emitting subtle washes of green tea piquancy.



3. KOHI YATTA

If there were a cake we could eat for the rest of our lives, the burnt cheesecake would be it. Though carrying the name burnt cheesecake, its flavours does not reflect so. Unlike many full-bodied cheesecakes, this particular one tantalised us with its creaminess, and we immediately loved it for its light and airy texture while still bursting with cheesy essence. Its aesthetics is humble and unassuming, that only when you bite in will you realise the beautiful flavours. We relished in every bite with joy and satisfaction till we realised a clean plate sat before us.



4. LITTLE PEOPLE

Silky on the edges and creamy in the centre is how we would describe the burnt cheesecake at Little People. Straying away from the norm of the original burnt cheese flavour, Little People purveys Hojicha and Matcha flavours accompanied by Hojicha and Matcha sauce derived from the famed Niko Neko Matcha. We love the introduction of these unique, luscious flavours – a different treat for the palate. Whether indulged after a sumptuous meal at Little People or as an afternoon tea snack, you will not be disappointed.



AIRLINK

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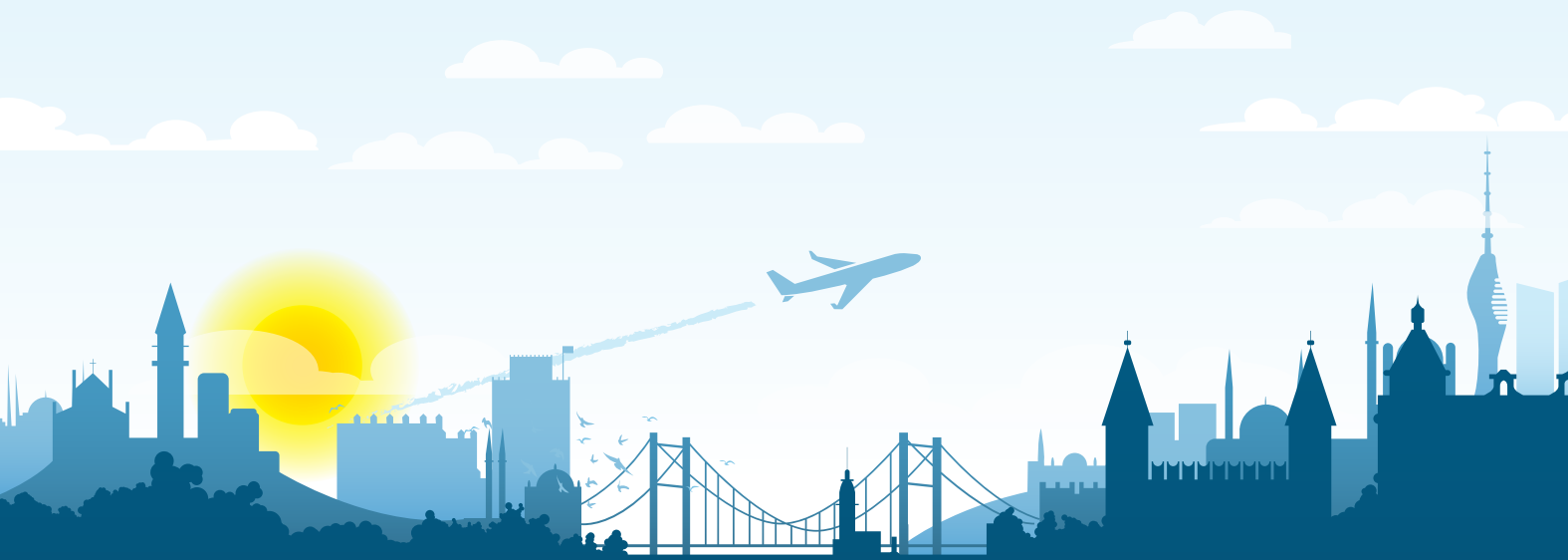
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SIMPLE
as it is accessible

ADVANTAGEOUS
as it is reasonably priced

WORTHY
as it is time-saving



Airport CEO Speaks

A leading corporate leader with strong financial background and extensive experience in various fields, he is currently steering Malaysia Airports to greater heights.

This month, Raja Azmi Raja Nazuddin celebrates the coming of age of its flagship KL International Airport (KLIA) and its continued participation in the prestigious 25th World Route Development Forum 2019 (World Routes), an annual event much anticipated by international aviation players and tourism authorities.

I am honoured to witness how KLIA, Malaysia's leading gateway, which turned 21 years, has evolved to become a strong and modern aviation hub following our relentless efforts to implement the latest technological advancements into our facilities and services apart from expanding our regional and global network connectivity.

Ever mindful of improving our passengers' seamless travelling experience through better distribution flow, we recently worked with our airline partners at the main terminal to redistribute some rows of the check-in counters and relocated several self check-in kiosks.

Another step forward is our launch of a single token passenger journey initiative powered by facial recognition, big data analytics and the Internet of Things as our "guests" go through our electronic gates. So far, 10 new security body scanners have been installed at KLIA and our other terminal at klia2, with 102 more in place by 2022.

We intend next to enhance the airside transfer between KLIA and klia2 and have recently signed a memorandum of business collaboration with ground handler Pos Aviation to design and develop a virtual platform for this initiative. By December, we target to introduce a passenger reconciliation system at these two terminals, which will have improved security features and an "open gate" concept at the boarding lounges. Plans are also afoot to work with Huawei to implement 5G network coverage at KLIA under our Airports 4.0 transformation journey and digitalisation initiatives.

As part of the anniversary celebration, themed KLIA Turns 21: A Precious Legacy, we have on display the original scale model of the main terminal which has been shown at various architectural and art exhibitions held in museums and galleries worldwide. We are grateful to the Japanese firm Kisho Kurokawa Architect and Associates for gifting it to Malaysia as a tribute to our Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's foresight and vision to develop this airport in Sepang when the airport in Subang had reached its capacity.

While you are at our airports, do enjoy the ambience of colourful banners featuring Hibiscus, our national flower, in conjunction with Malaysia Day on 16 September.

On a separate note, our airline marketing team looks forward to its participation at World Routes in Adelaide, Australia later this month to meet the network planners from various airlines exploring new opportunities for connectivity to our airports.

We shall collaborate with Tourism Malaysia at the event to jointly promote our Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 campaign as part of our integrated efforts in boosting the number of travellers into our beloved Malaysia. In addition, we are proud to share that Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen International Airport, Turkey's second largest and busiest airport managed by us will also be playing a pivotal role in creating and intensifying greater awareness for the campaign next year.



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EFFECTIVE AIRPORT AND TOURISM PARTNERSHIP KEY TO ROUTE DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS



With the air transport and tourism sectors being mutually dependent on each other, it is not uncommon to find key stakeholders in the aviation industry such as airport operators and airlines working closely together with government agencies and tourism authorities in destination marketing of a city or route.

Research results presented in a conference paper in February 2017 by Bojana Spasojevic, Gui Lohmann and Noel Scott showed airports to be leading stakeholders in air route development. The three authors, all from Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia also identified Partnership and Strategic Vision as the two most important leadership and governance attributes with high scores of 75% and 73.5% respectively.

In their latest study on Leadership and Governance in Air Route Development, published in the Annals of Tourism Research journal in September, they reinforced the idea of how strong relationships between an airport and city or tourism authority can be a critical success factor in route development.

That is partly because they share certain common goals such as the objective to increase passengers' traffic or visitors count to the destination or country. This can be felt mostly by second-tier and mid-sized airports, according to the study.

One of the authors, aviation lecturer Spasojevic will be moderating two Lightning Talks on 'What do airlines really want from an airport' and 'How airport innovation can attract airlines' on the second day of the 25th World Route Development Forum (World Routes) in Adelaide on 23 September. On our home front, Malaysia Airports and Tourism Malaysia have been working hand in gloves with international airlines and tour operators to increase connectivity and develop attractive holiday packages to Malaysia.

Their successful collaboration under the Joint International Development Tourism Programme (JITDP) last year saw them partnering with 11 airlines. They are namely Malaysia Airlines, AirAsia, Malindo Air, Qatar Airways, Korean Air, Turkish Airlines, Etihad Airways, Condor Airlines, China Southern Airlines, Scoot Air and Mahan Air, as told by Tourism Malaysia Director General Datuk Musa Yusof to Airlink.

The two refreshed their commitment with the signing of a memorandum of understanding for the JITDP in January with Malaysia Airports Group Chief Executive Officer Raja Azmi Raja Nazuddin and Tourism Malaysia Director General Datuk Musa Yusof as the signatories.

Airlines such as Air Busan, Condor Airlines and Air Arabia have benefited from the programme this year in terms of marketing development, inaugural launches of new routes, chartered flights and the promotion of high-yield niche tourism.

Existing and new airlines in the country have been encouraged to tap into JITDP's combined

fund of up to RM20 million from Tourism Malaysia and Malaysia Airports, where each party comes up with RM10 million to help the airlines in their marketing promotions.

Brushing aside the excuse of having no money or limited funds to do promotions, Datuk Musa in a recent engagement session with the local key tourism industry players, had suggested "smart partnership", citing its collaboration with Malaysia Airports in the JITDP.

The government, through the National Key Economic Area initiative, has provided for a total allocation of RM25 million to increase international arrivals and receipts although the JITDP agreement made between Malaysia Airports and Tourism Malaysia was for RM20 million, he explained.

"With the RM25 million allocation last year, we work with the big tour operators abroad and the destination management companies (DMCs) in Malaysia. This helped us bring in RM1.68 billion from the 152 programmes that were implemented.

"This year, we approached Malaysia Airports and they are pumping in RM10 million into our RM25 million fund to develop more tactical and price-driven packages with participating airlines."

Malaysia Airports' collaboration with Tourism Malaysia can also be seen at the major international tourism trade shows such as ITB Berlin, World Travel Market (WTM) London and the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) in Dubai where it joins the rest of the local delegation to promote Malaysia as a destination and to push for greater air accessibility.

Following the inking of a Memorandum of Understanding between the airport operator and Tourism Malaysia to promote, develop and increase inbound tourism globally, particularly from India, China and Europe, the two had to go through several steps before it could savour some of the fruits of its labour which both are reaping currently.

At Tourism Malaysia's recent announcement of Malaysia's first half performance 2019, Germany came in third among the top three countries with the highest average length of stay at 8.3 nights after Saudi Arabia (10.5 nights) and France (8.7 nights).

One of the contributing factors is Condor



Airlines' decision to start its thrice-weekly FrankfurtKL service in November 2018 using Airbus 330-200 that offers 850 seat capacity a week, which was finalised during WTM London in November 2017.

The following month, Tourism Malaysia signed a Memorandum of Marketing Collaboration with the airline at the latter's office in Frankfurt, which marked the start of their joint marketing initiative using the promotional fund set up between Tourism Malaysia and Malaysia Airports.

At ITB Berlin 2019 in March, where Malaysia was the official country partner, the three signed a Memorandum of Joint Collaboration for the summer season after the success of the airline's winter operations. Condor Airlines' twice-weekly service, using Boeing 767-300 configured with 235 seats, will be offering a total of 25,000 seats from May to October.

While Condor Airlines' entry offers the only direct service from Germany to Malaysia, another breakthrough achieved from the missions and strategic meetings by Malaysia Airports and Tourism Malaysia was when IndiGo started its Bengaluru and Delhi services to klia2 on 15 November 2018.

It is not only India's biggest and fastest growing airline but also the only Indian carrier flying into Malaysia. India was ranked sixth in the 1H19, contributing 354,486 to Malaysia's total of 13.35 million international tourists.

Malaysia Airports and Tourism Malaysia are also working closely in other areas. Heading the secretariat for the Committee on Data

Confirmation, the latter has been meeting monthly this year with representatives from Bank Negara, the Finance Ministry, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC) to verify raw data collected by the Immigration Department and Department of Statistics Malaysia.

These data are then cross referenced with figures from Malaysia Airports, Malaysian Aviation Commission, Road Transport Department, Immigration Department's Visa section, Tourism Malaysia's Strategic Planning Division and other relevant sources such as EuroMonitor. The final monthly data approved by MOTAC will then be released to the public.

This will help the various industry players to plan more effectively as they prepare ahead for the Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020. Only the quarterly data will be presented to the Cabinet for approval before they are publicly released.

With the airlines such as Qatar Airways soon introducing more new services to Malaysia in October, Datuk Musa also asked the industry players, DMCs included, to think out of the box and not just limit themselves to the connection offered to Doha alone as the airline serves over 160 destinations worldwide.

With the Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 campaign drawing nearer by the day, Malaysia Airports, which manages a total of 39 airports nationwide, will be playing an important role alongside Tourism Malaysia in welcoming the visitors and tourists alike into the country.

AMAZING OCEANIA

STUNNING REGION WITH GROWTH POTENTIAL FOR TOURISM & TRADE



Spanning the eastern and western hemispheres, the Oceania region has a small land area of 8,525,989 sq km and a combined population of 40 million people, with Australia being the largest country.

It falls into the category of long-haul market of more than six-hour flight time for Malaysia. Oceania is not just a key market for Malaysia in terms of tourism flow but also trade. The Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) views this geographic region, which includes Australasia, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia, as a new emerging market for Malaysian exporters.

MATRADE recently organised an Export Acceleration Mission to New Zealand (NZ) and Fiji. Its Trade Commissioner based in Melbourne, Jamilah Ibrahim, who is responsible for Oceania, cited NZ and Fiji as the second and fourth largest trading partners for the region last year with total trade value of RM8.1 billion and RM325.4 million respectively.

Malaysian brands that have penetrated these two markets include Julie's, Hernan Food and Hup Seng.

Where tourism is concerned, the latest statistics from Tourism Malaysia and the Immigration Department of Malaysia showed that tourism arrivals from Oceania rose 5.7% to 205,291 during the first half of 2019 (1H19).

Australia, Oceania's most populous country, saw 6.3% growth in tourist arrivals to 177,623 for 1H19. While there was only 0.1% increase in tourist arrivals to 351,500 last year from Australia after several years of decline, Tourism Malaysia has set a target to receive 357,700 and 378,500 tourists for 2019 and 2020 respectively.

From January to June this year, the average length of stay (ALOS) from Australia fell 0.7% to 6.1 nights from 6.8 nights compared to the previous corresponding period.

Its average per diem expenditure grew 11.9% to RM718.4 for the first six months of 2019 while its average per capita was up 0.8% to RM4,400.9. Tourism receipts from the Australian tourists also increased by 7.2% to RM781.7 million during this period.

Noor Azlan Abu Bakar, Tourism Malaysia's International Promotion Division senior deputy director for Americas/Europe/Oceania,

attributed the higher figures to the increase in flight frequencies and strategic alliances with various tour operators and airlines.

"Tourism Malaysia will continue to build on these partnerships again this year through the joint promotions with the major tour operators and via the Joint International Development Tourism Programme (JITDP) with airlines," he told Airlink recently.

"We have been working very closely with Malaysia Airlines, Malindo Air and the AirAsia Group over the last few years to promote the Oceania market," Noor Azlan remarked.

Meanwhile, AirAsia X Malaysia CEO Benyamin Ismail has identified Australia to be among its key growth markets besides Northern Asia and India as the long-haul low-cost carrier enters the third and fourth quarter of 2019.

The long-haul brand rationalised its network over the first two quarters, which included the termination of its KL-Auckland service in February. Airlink was told that its flights into Australia operate at an average load factor of 82%. AirAsia X flies to Perth, Gold Coast, Sydney and Melbourne from KL.



NOOR AZLAN BIN ABU BAKAR
Senior Deputy Director, International Promotion
Division (American/Europe/Oceania)
Tourism Malaysia

Malindo Air, which commenced its inaugural flight from KL to Sydney via Denpasar on 14 August, had indicated receiving strong load factor of 75% to 80% for its KL-Sydney service for its first two months.

All its Australian destinations, including Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne and Perth, use the Boeing 737-800 aircraft configured with 12 business and 150 economy class seats.

Malaysia Airlines also flies to the major Australian cities with the national carrier reinstating its KL-Brisbane sector in June 2018. The potential for passenger traffic growth is there with a number of Malaysians studying in Australia and our local businessmen having their investments here.

Australia was Malaysia's 11th largest overall global trading partner last year with total trade between both countries at RM55.13 billion.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Darell Leiking led a trade and investment mission to Australia in August to promote Malaysia as the gateway to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Noor Azlan said, "Another thing we can do is to bring the agents from Australia and NZ for educational trips. Periodically, we bring media from these two countries under our mega familiarisation tours."

Tourism Malaysia works with Australian top operators such as Adventure World, Asia Escape Holidays and Helloworld Travel. Flight Centre Tasmania, Australia's leading travel agent, recently held their out-of-the-country meeting in KL for five days for 200 of their production managers.

Tourism Malaysia Director General Datuk Musa Yusof remarked, "There is a need to focus on the business events market. Our collaborations with these operators are mainly joint promotions, more tactical and price driven."

Tourism Malaysia, which has overseas offices in Australia and NZ respectively (Sydney and Auckland), went on a road show recently to these two cities besides Perth and Melbourne over four days and received quite a good response.

According to Knight Frank's 13th edition of The Wealth Report 2019, these four cities see 20% to 25% percentage increase in their ultra-high net worth individuals for the period 2018-2023. These individuals usually have a net worth of over US\$30 million excluding their primary residence.

New Zealand Market

NZ's relatively small but promising market, shares some similarities with the travelling pattern of Australian tourists to Malaysia with the majority of them here for holidays, enjoying sightseeing in the cities and shopping, according to Malaysia Tourists Profile 2018 By Selected Markets prepared by Tourism Malaysia's Strategic Planning Division.

They also love to experience Malaysian food and find the country value for money. Although NZ's 1H19 tourist arrivals showed a slight 0.1% dip to 24,358, Tourism Malaysia targets to receive higher tourist arrivals of 53,000 and 60,000 from NZ for 2019 and 2020 respectively, up from 50,698 in 2018.

The ALOS from New Zealanders for 2018 was 6.4 nights, down from seven nights in 2017. Currently, only Malaysia Airlines flies to NZ with seven direct flights a week to Auckland offering seat capacity totalling 2,009 per week.

In terms of international passenger movements from Australia and NZ, Malaysia Airports groups them under Southwest Pacific.

Comprising traffic from Adelaide, Auckland, Brisbane, Christmas Island, Darwin, Gold Coast, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney, they represented 5% of the market share out of the total international passenger movements of 51,588,818 for 2018.



SANDAKAN

GATEWAY TO BORNEO'S WILDLIFE

Formerly known as Elopura, which means "beautiful town", Sandakan was also once the capital of the British North Borneo. This active commercial and trading centre soon came to be called 'Little Hong Kong' due to the huge Chinese migration from Hong Kong during the colonial days.

Strategically facing the Sulu Sea, Sandakan, which means "the place that was pawned" in Sulu language, is Sabah's second largest town with an estimated population of about 409,056 after the state's capital city, Kota Kinabalu.

Sited on the East Coast of this East Malaysian state, the port town of Sandakan boasts of many unique eco-tourism and wildlife conservation products. They include its famous Turtle Islands Park, Labuk Bay Proboscis Monkey Sanctuary, Sepilok Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre and the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC), which are crowd pullers among foreign tourists.

Sabah Tourism Board Chairman Ken Pan Ying On, who spent some years growing up in Sandakan, cites wildlife as one of the main reasons tourists flock to Sandakan, especially to the Lower Kinabatangan River on river cruises.

Apart from snorkelling and enjoying the beaches, Pan describes island trips to Sandakan as "unique" as almost daily turtles come ashore to lay eggs at the Selingan Turtle Island. "The experience of witnessing this is quite spectacular," he remarks.

Sandakan is also a paradise for fresh seafood and one of the cheapest in Sabah. Its other specialities include seafood bak kut teh, lobster noodles and UFO tarts.

The Sabah state government has adopted various measures to ensure that Sandakan enjoys sustainable economic growth. It announced, for instance, last December plans to transform the Palm Oil Industrial Cluster area in Sandakan into a furniture manufacturing hub for Sabah.

Meanwhile, the federal government of Malaysia has approved 49 development projects in Sandakan worth RM2.28 billion, including the RM80 million upgrading of Sandakan Airport, to ensure its continuous development as a significant gateway.

In terms of transportation network, Sandakan's town centre is also well connected by roads to the other satellite towns such as Bandar Indah Jaya.

The Sandakan Municipal Council (SMC) is responsible for the construction of infrastructure, maintenance of public facilities and keeping the town clean, among other things. SMC President Datuk Peter Hu Chang Lik @ Hii Chang Lik, in an exclusive interview with Airlink, opens up on how he hopes to expand the local economy and revive Sandakan back to its glorious days.



DATUK HU CHANG LIK @ HII CHANG LIK, J.P.
President
Sandakan Municipal Council

Please share how you wish to spearhead Sandakan's development plans and initiatives.

The Council, in collaboration with the government agencies, is developing Sim-Sim Village under the Sim-Sim Redevelopment Comprehensive Plan as a new tourism network or belt in Sandakan spanning from 2018 to 2030 that emphasizes on sustainable development.

This area was chosen due to its strategic location, rich culture and multiracial ethnicity, which can be experienced especially during festive seasons. Besides its proximity to the town, it is also close to Berhala Island and the Maritime Port, hence safe guarding its security concerns.

The water village will be a strategic development for Sandakan as we envisaged it to be a Sim-Sim Cultural Village in the near future.

In your maiden speech as president in September 2018, you mentioned about tackling the cleanliness in Sandakan among other issues, and improving the town's beauty by "repainting every building in the area" with the latter proposal extended to the government for consideration. Was it accepted?

Yes, I try to ensure the town's cleanliness and beauty are top priorities if we want to attract more tourists to Sandakan. The Council has organised several mutual cooperation programmes which are participated by various government agencies, the private sector, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the locals in order to maintain the cleanliness in Sandakan. We hold at least two or three gotong-royong programmes monthly.

SMC implemented the "Ops Payung" programme on 1 July to instill awareness to the local community on maintaining cleanliness. Individuals found guilty of littering will be liable to a RM30 fine. Failing to pay the penalty, the offender will be directed to do social work such as sweeping the garbage for an hour by wearing a vest that reads, Kutu Sampah or Litter Bug.

The Council also takes the initiative to ensure that the buildings in Sandakan are in good condition and well maintained. Sabah's Local Government and Housing Ministry has advised the authorities to ensure that all buildings in urban areas be repainted by providing an incentive discount on house assessment to the owners who do so. SMC will make the necessary efforts to implement the state government's recommendations.

Tell us more about SMC's Tourism Unit and its current responsibilities in steering Sandakan's tourism industry?

Established since 2000, the Tourism Unit is now headed by Irene Johnny. She runs the Secretariat for the Sandakan Tourism Action Committee and is responsible for providing reports and updates on the tourism products and attractions in Sandakan. The Tourism Unit coordinates and implements tourism programmes and promotions besides monitoring the preparation and maintenance of public facilities in tourist areas.

What are the initiatives to improve Sandakan's tourism potential?

Among the initiatives is to have more direct flights from airlines such as Malindo Air and Royal Brunei Airlines into Sandakan. Another initiative is the federal government's proposal to upgrade Sandakan Airport to not only bring in more tourists but also serve as a catalyst for economic improvement and tourism development in Sandakan.

SMC works closely with Sabah Tourism, other government agencies, the private sector and NGOs to promote tourism in Sandakan. Among these collaborative initiatives throughout the year were the hosting of Sandakan Memorial Day on 15 August, Sandakan Festival from July to August, Agnes Keith Day (6 July) and Anzac Day (25 April).

Any plans to tap into Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 campaign for Sandakan?

The Council plans to hold Visit Sandakan Year 2020 and is proposing programmes such as Colours of Sandakan to promote its various cultures, and an exhibition with the Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents.

What are some of the newer attractions in Sandakan that tourists must not miss?

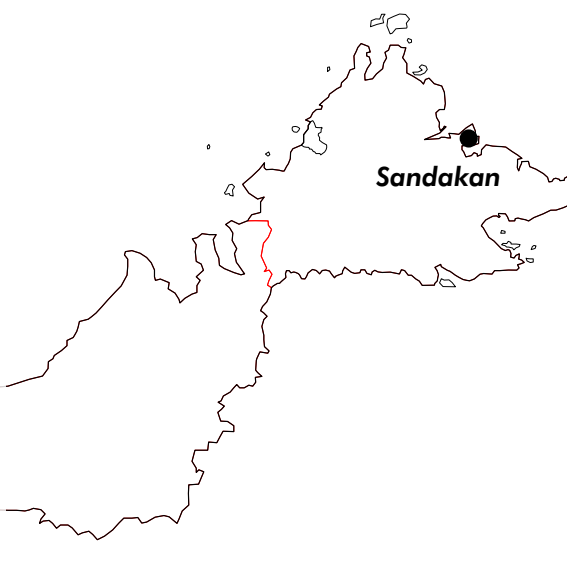
Berhala Island, which is famous for its white sandy beach. We are looking for a potential partner to develop it into a new tourism centre. Another attraction is the BSBCC, a rescue and rehabilitation facility for the Malayan sun bears. Opened to the public since 2014, visitors can learn and observe them in their natural habitat. They are the world's smallest bears and are only found in Southeast Asia.

Owing to the forest degradation and illegal hunting, its population has decreased drastically. The facility has large forest enclosures to provide a natural environment suited to their needs and welfare and to facilitate their rehabilitation back into the wild.

Besides that, Sandakan has ten historical attractions under its Heritage Trail such as Masjid Jamek, the Goddess of Mercy Chinese Temple, St Michael's and All Angels Church, Malaysia Fountain, the Sandakan Heritage Museum and William Pryer Monument.

How do you envision Sandakan five years from now?

Given its infrastructure development, I hope to see an efficient and comfortable airport that can receive more direct flights from other countries to further boost its tourism industry. With Sandakan being upgraded to city status, I envisaged it to become a sustainable city that will be able to create more job opportunities for our youth while at the same time maintaining its true beauty of nature.



Four “S” for Sandakan Tourism

Key to the development of a tourism destination is the close partnership between the public and the private sector. The same is true of Sandakan's tourism industry where the role of the private sector and non-governmental organisations such as the Sandakan Tourism Association (STAN) are recognised as equally vital for its survival and continued growth as a sustainable tourist destination.

Formed since 2015, STAN comprises hoteliers, tour and lodge operators, tour guides, restaurant owners, event planners and other tourism related companies.

It has a four “S” campaign with the first S being the Star wildlife attractions of Sandakan followed by the Stories of this historical town, its Seafood and lastly the Sea as Sandakan is also known for having some of the most beautiful islands and embraces nature conservation as well.

Airlink had the opportunity to touch base with STAN President Teo Chee Kim and some of its members. Teo was recently appointed special officer to Sandakan's newly elected Member of Parliament (MP) Vivian Wong Shir Yee. He is also the managing director of Inspirasi Borneo Sdn Bhd, an event and destination management company.

Below are the replies from Teo to our questions on his outlook of Sandakan's tourism industry.

How do you see Sandakan's tourism growth in 2019 and beyond?

We are cautiously optimistic. Having seen the growing numbers of passengers passing through Sandakan Airport since 2016, we expect to see the industry back on course to achieve growth after the decline in passenger movements in 2014 and 2015.

What would you describe to be Sandakan's tourism assets?

Top on the list are nature and adventure as Sandakan is the gateway to Borneo's wildlife. All the unique flora and fauna of Borneo –

orang utan, proboscis monkey, Bornean sun bear, pygmy elephant, turtle etc - can all be found here and what is more exciting is you can observe them in their natural habitats when you visit Sandakan.

Its other asset is food as Sandakan is known as the “seafood capital” of Malaysia. The seafood comes in fresh and are affordably priced! Complement that with some of our unique eats like the UFO tarts, fresh ingredients from the farm and fusion style of cooking, we have a killer combo here.

Our next asset is heritage. As the former capital of British North Borneo, stories and relics of the bygone era still abound in Sandakan. Heritage sites such as St Michael's and All Angels Church, Sam Sing Kung Temple, Agnes Keith's House and the Sandakan Memorial Park offer a glimpse of how life was in the colonial days.



One of our members, Borneo Sandakan Tour, recently started a free guided walking tour to allow visitors to explore the stories, cultural heritage and history of Sandakan on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to noon.

What are the major issues and concerns affecting its tourism industry?

Like it or not, travel advisory will continue to be an issue even when incidents that happen are nowhere near Sandakan. We have, through our MP, engaged with various ministries and agencies to correct the safety perception, which often times, has been blown out of

proportion by the media. We hope to alleviate this concern in the near future. With insufficient marketing and promotion, we certainly need more destination specific type of promotion to market Sandakan beyond our current market in order to reach a wider audience worldwide. We need to tell interesting stories about Sandakan, use the right imageries and ensure the right people see them. Europe and East Asia are two very different markets. Hence, we need to adopt different strategies when promoting to these two disparate markets.

There is a lack of direct flights to Sandakan. Currently, we have direct links to Kuala Lumpur (KL), Kota Kinabalu (KK), Tawau, Lahad Datu and Kudat. Foreign tourists have to transit via KL or KK in order to get to Sandakan. This inevitably involves spending more time and money on your travel. We are working closely with Malaysia Airports to realise more direct routes to and from Sandakan in order to boost the tourism industry.

Sabah Deputy Chief Minister-cum-Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment Datuk Christina Liew talks about creating hotspots in focus areas like Sandakan, which have the potential to draw tourists to spur the state's tourism sector. How is it succeeding in Sandakan?

We are glad she is encouraging more tourism activities beyond KK to towns like Sandakan and Tawau, which will benefit Sabah.

Sandakan's offerings are different from that of KK but yet they complement each other to make Sabah a truly unique destination. By promoting focus areas away from the west coast of the state, we are in fact realising Sabah's full tourism potential.

Under the ministry's guidance, STAN is collaborating with Sabah Tourism Board on a few fronts. They include the second edition of our tourist guide map and the launch of our Sandakan's essential guide in September. We believe this will assist Sandakan's tourism industry to grow even further.



TEO CHEE KIM
President

Sandakan Tourism Association

According to her, Sandakan is supposed to be prepared for a “busy” year ahead. How are your association members helping to make this happen?

STAN has been busy preparing for our second Sandakan Food & Agriculture Festival, where the best of Sandakan eats are showcased over three days from 13-15 September. We intend to grow this celebration of our food-loving culture to be a signature annual event.

We are working closely with the Sabah Tourism Board and other tourism stakeholders to come up with a Sandakan annual event calendar, where we will have at least one major event each month. This will form part of our association's promotional efforts. We are also targeting beyond just the leisure tourists by collaborating with various associations and clubs to bring their national and regional conferences to Sandakan. Since there are many active associations and NGOs in Sandakan, we believe this is something we can build on.

Besides China, the minister also mentioned about diversifying into other markets such as Europe, America, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Korea. What are STAN's comments on this?

Our top tourist arrivals to Sandakan are from the United Kingdom, Ireland, Holland, Germany, France and Australia. Unlike KK or Semporna, China has never been the main market for us. In fact, we are trying to break into the East Asian market, which includes China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan, in order to have a more diversified market.

Does Sandakan have ample rooms to meet the tourist influx? What is the current hotel room supply like? Will its future supply be able to meet the demand and challenges of the industry?

The average occupancy rate achieved by our members' hotels was only 35%-40% occupancy in 2018. Sandakan has more than ample rooms for tourists. What we lack is a five-star international chain hotel.

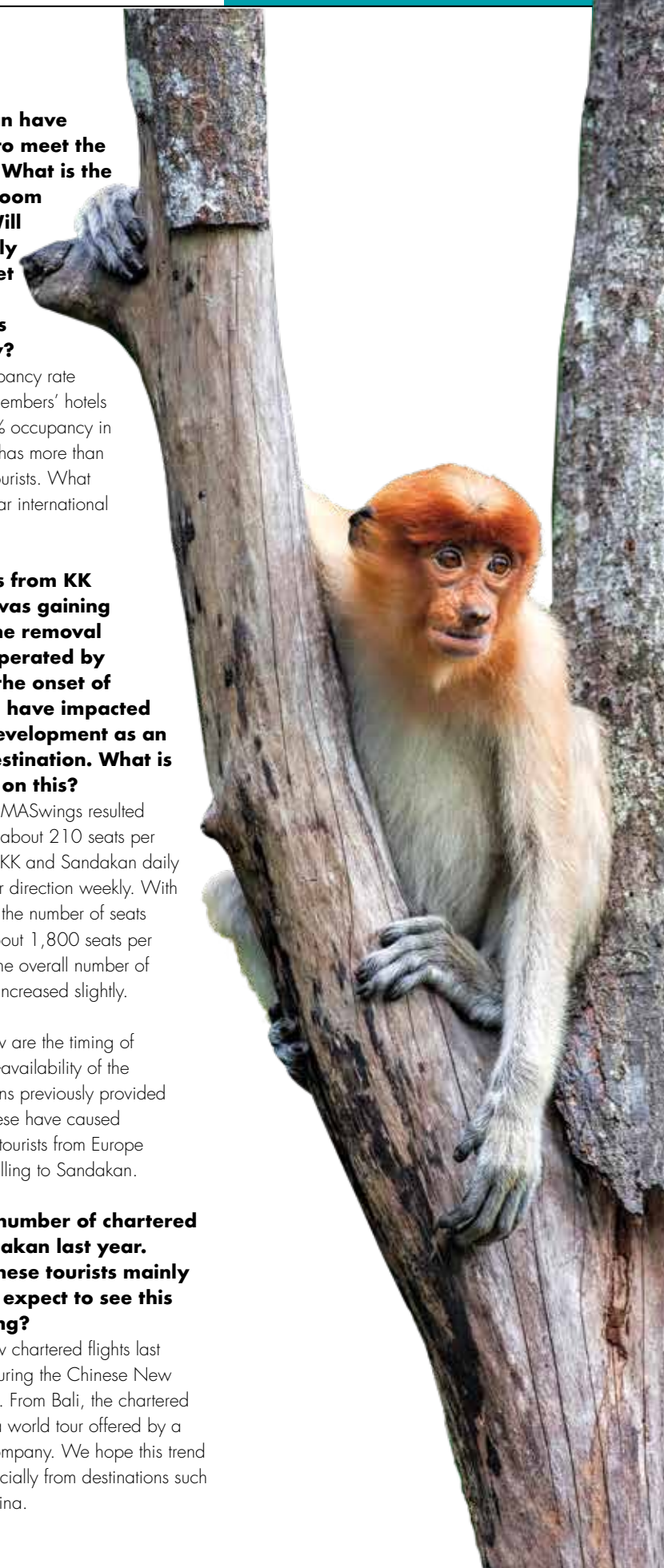
Tourist arrivals from KK to Sandakan was gaining momentum. The removal of this route operated by MASwings at the onset of 2019 is said to have impacted Sandakan's development as an eco-tourism destination. What is STAN's stance on this?

The withdrawal of MASwings resulted in the reduction of about 210 seats per direction between KK and Sandakan daily or 1,470 seats per direction weekly. With AirAsia increasing the number of seats for this route by about 1,800 seats per direction weekly, the overall number of seats has actually increased slightly.

The real issues now are the timing of the flights and non-availability of the inter-line connections previously provided by MASwings. These have caused inconveniences to tourists from Europe and Australia travelling to Sandakan.

There were a number of chartered flights to Sandakan last year. Where were these tourists mainly from? Can we expect to see this trend continuing?

We received a few chartered flights last year from Taipei during the Chinese New Year festive period. From Bali, the chartered flight was part of a world tour offered by a European travel company. We hope this trend will continue, especially from destinations such as Taiwan and China.



Sandakan Airport – Sophisticated Gateway to Nature's Bounty



Sited about 14km west of downtown Sandakan, Sandakan Airport has been recognised as a major gateway to numerous eco-tourism destinations within Sabah in recent years. Besides the Sepilok OrangUtan Rehabilitation Centre, other top attractions located near this domestic airport are the Gomantong Caves, Kinabatangan River, Labuk Bay Proboscis Monkey Sanctuary, Turtle Island and the canopy walk at Rainforest Directory Centre.

Sandakan Airport had a total of 11,561 commercial aircraft movements last year compared to 9,901 in 2017, according to Malaysia Airports.

Malindo Air's recent launch of its four times weekly flights from Kota Kinabalu (KK) to Sandakan using Boeing 737-800, offering 12 Business Class and 150 Economy Class seats, was the latest to join Malaysia Airlines, MASwings and AirAsia at Sandakan Airport.

Besides KK and KL, other domestic destinations served by Sandakan Airport are Lahad Datu, Tawau and Kudat. With Malindo Air's latest route, it now has 186 weekly flight frequencies, with its peak hours from 12.30pm to 2pm.

Its passenger movements have been growing steadily from 618,927 in 2008 to 950,861 in 2018.

The airport has gone through several upgrading exercises since it was built in 1941. Interestingly, it was formerly a military airstrip during World War II (WWII).

Historical records at the Sandakan Memorial Park showed that British and Australian prisoners of war (POWs), "were brought to Sandakan to build an airfield which would be important to the Japanese air force as a refueling point".

According to an information board at the memorial park, "About 4,000 Javanese labourers worked on another part of the airfield". While the POWs were said to slow down the airfield's construction, two airstrips were eventually lengthened to 1,500 and 1,700 metres and used by Japanese aircraft.

The POWs repaired the airstrips when the Allied air raids started in September 1944. Eventually, in early 1945, work on the airstrip was abandoned.

Fast forward to the present, Sandakan Airport currently has five apron bays, of which two cater for the narrow-bodied aircraft while the rest are for the ATRs.

The 44-year-old Airport Manager of Sandakan Airport Haji Suhaimi Abdul Sani, who hails from Melaka, has to-date spent 25 years of his career with Malaysia Airports. He gave some insights into Sandakan Airport's early beginnings, the expansion of its facilities and its growth over the years.

Please share some historical background about this airport.

Sandakan Airport was officially opened after WWII between 1945 and 1947 with a runway length of 1,067 metres. Borneo Airlines was the pioneer carrier using single twin-engines aircraft.

The airport had a new terminal built in 1958. In 1978, it expanded its runway to 1,372 metres. That same year, Malaysia Airlines started its operation here using the Fokker F27 and Britten-Norman BN2 Islander aircraft.

November 1981 saw Sandakan Airport upgrading its terminal, runway and other related facilities. Upon its completion in 1985, the runway was 2,132 metres long.

The last upgrading, which included the provision of two aerobridges, was done in May 2013 to enable the airport terminal to cater to 1.5 million passengers per annum (mppa). For its upcoming expansion, Sandakan Airport's runway is forecasted to be increased to 2,500 metres.

Has Sandakan Airport reached its maximum capacity?

No. We achieved 950,861 passengers last year. Our target is to reach 1.5 mppa by 2023 based on the positive movements of both passengers and airlines. We forecast passenger traffic to grow around 8% to 12% a year after the runway's expansion.

Passenger movements to Sandakan Airport have been increasing for the past few years. What were the reasons for its 6.1% growth in 2018?

Our collaboration with Sabah Tourism Board and non-governmental organisations such as Sandakan Tourism Association to create awareness programmes to promote Sandakan's tourism products for both the domestic or international tourists was one of the contributing factors.

Besides the uniqueness of Sandakan's eco-tourism products, Sandakan Airport's connectivity to the other regions in Sabah also helped in its passenger traffic growth last year. Another reason was the increased in frequencies from AirAsia and Malaysia Airlines.

Encouraging response towards the addition of the new 14 times weekly Sandakan-Lahad Datu route by MASwings in May this year with its all-in one-way RM68 fare valid until December has also boosted passengers' growth.

Tell us more about the future expansion plans for this domestic airport.

Based on our masterplan, we need to expand its terminal six years' ahead of time, that is by 2025. Besides focusing on its runway expansion that will be able to cater to the medium-haul destinations that operate within five hours of flying time, we are also upgrading the airport's apron bays.

Its existing apron bays for the ATRs will be expanded to accommodate more narrow-bodied aircraft. Additionally, we will create another narrow taxiway for smoother and faster aircraft traffic flow.

What kind of improvements can we expect at the airport? How much has been allocated for its expansion?

Our next initiative would be to enhance its landscape as we want to transform it to become a 'mini city' and plan to have facilities for sports and recreations. Malaysia Airports has allocated RM8.6 million under capital expenditure this year to refurbish its cargo building, surau and acquire a new x-ray machine.

The amount will be used, among other things, to relocate our information counter to new location for better accessibility. Plans are also afoot to have more shop lots in the retail area for an enhanced shopping experience.

Additionally, the rehabilitation of certain critical areas of the runway and other works will be looked into in September. Our focus is to improve our facilities and customers' overall experience.

Can we expect to see other airlines fly to Sandakan in the near future?

Following Malindo Air's inaugural flight from KK-Sandakan on 18 August, the next airline that will be flying into Sandakan Airport is Royal Brunei Airlines which announced recently



HAJI SUHAIMI ABDUL SANI
Airport Manager
Sandakan Airport

its first international service from Bandar Seri Begawan to Sandakan from mid-October. Royal Brunei will utilise the all-economy turboprop ATR 72-600 aircraft for this sector.

Meanwhile, we will do our level best to promote Sandakan to other airlines with opportunities to link us with Australia, Singapore and the Philippines.

How do you envision Sandakan Airport's future growth?

Sandakan has huge potential for growth in terms of domestic passenger traffic and even international. We target to achieve one million passengers this year based on positive indicators received from year-to-year since 2013.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, I believe Sandakan Airport can reach two million passenger movements by 2025 with all these improvements being made, which include the expansion of its terminal building, apron, runway and taxiways.

Terengganu,

OLD WORLD CHARM FOR THE NEW WORLD

There has been much excitement and anticipation for Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020, which targets to bring in over 30 million international tourists and approximately RM100 billion in tourist receipts. On the lead up to this, the Director General of Tourism Malaysia, Datuk Musa Yusof led the travel roadshow to three major cities in Australia, and among the major players and sponsors was Tourism Terengganu.

Among the multitude of tourist attractions highlighted at the roadshow, Terengganu's idyllic islands such as Lang Tengah Island and pristine nature spots such as Kenyir Lake as well as cultural destinations such as Terrapuri Heritage Village and Warisan Sari Tok Jembal took their share of the spotlight in seducing foreign tourists to come to Malaysian shores. According to Tourism Malaysia, Terengganu is regarded as having, "a diverse and vibrant mix of history, culture, nature and eco experiences" as well as being, "world renowned for its turtle sanctuaries and pristine, white sandy beaches and islands". It is certainly safe to say that Terengganu possesses many treasures renowned or hidden that will leave a lasting impression.

Additionally, earlier in March 2019, Tourism Malaysia partnered with Terengganu

Tourism in fully capitalising on the social media platform to promote Terengganu. 'Ekspresi Media – Kenyir 2019', as it was called included elements of sightseeing and product inspections, hands-on experiences and product briefings by professionals in the industry to provide a well-rounded experience of Terengganu.

According to state tourism statistics, this form of aggressive advertising is just what this region needs. Last year, Terengganu recorded 4.79 million tourist arrivals out of the 25.8 million nationwide, and now the state government is aiming to reach the next milestone by 2025 - targeting 6.5 million tourist arrivals with a projected revenue of RM6 billion by 2025. In order to achieve this target, Tourism Terengganu has prepared a landmark campaign called the 'Tourism Terengganu Strategic Plan 2019-2023'. This plan emphasises on creating various promotional strategies through conventional and online media platforms, empowering and enhancing staff knowledge particularly on the tourism sector and instill a well-organised tourism and cultural activities along with proper mitigation plan. The main idea is to preserve and conserve a new and existing tourism product to be placed in the eye of the world.

At least for the current year of 2019, the state tourism board is looking to achieve a target

of 5 million tourists, with a windfall from the domestic tourism segment vis-à-vis the hosting of some large scale events such as the Kenyir Festival at Kenyir Lake, Terengganu Beach Carnival at Batu Burok Beach and Cultural Week in several districts around Terengganu between July to September.

Right at the helm, spearheading this team is the new Director of State Tourism Department Ab. Rasid bin Jusoh that has recently succeeded the former Tourism Director, Tun Ahmad Faisal Tun Abdul Razak since January 2019. Eager to hear about how he is going to propel Malaysia's national treasure to global fame, Airlink sat down for an interview in search of a closer glimpse of his vision for Terengganu's tourism industry.

Recently, Terengganu Tourism was represented at World Travel Market in London in 2018 and at the Travel Roadshow in Sydney and Melbourne in Australia in April 2019. What is your strategy and which attractions in Terengganu that you think appeal to foreigners?

First and foremost, Terengganu is not just full of natural wonders, but it is also filled with hidden gems waiting to be revealed to tourists. The great thing is that Terengganu has not been gentrified and commercialised so there are many off-the-beaten path

attractions that one can only find out about when they are here.

Hence, we have worked hard to strategise an effective branding plan to display as much of these attractions via the 'Beautiful Terengganu Malaysia' plan. Through this branding campaign we hope to convey the message that Terengganu is the jewel of Malaysia in every sense of the word.

On the other hand, what I believe is unique with our

approach to tourism is that we possess a multitude of various forms of tourism that can attract all types of tourists. These include: (1) Ecotourism; (2) Agrotourism; (3) Islamic Tourism; (4) Cultural Tourism; (5) Education Tourism; (6) Sports Tourism; and (7) Health Tourism.

In general, Terengganu is well known for its idyllic islands such as Redang and Perhentian Island, perfected by its crystal clear waters. It is a paradise that is not located too far away from the city; anyone looking to escape from their hectic work life will find themselves in blissful escapade.

What are the important tourist source markets for Terengganu?

In the recent years, there have been several markets that have been emerging. The consensus is that China, Singapore, the United Kingdom and Australia are key market sources for foreign tourists in Terengganu. Additionally, other regions are also showing positive developments in their sentiments towards this region. Our hopes are high for these numbers to increase exponentially as Tourism Malaysia launches Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020.

Terengganu is well renowned for its turtle sanctuaries, pristine white sandy beaches and idyllic islands. What are the steps being taken to conserve and sustain these treasures?

A steering committee has been set up to conduct regular and frequent meetings, where pressing issues are put forward and the council deliberates in order to address these issues with other related

parties to ensure these treasures are well-kept, maintained and conserved. For example, this committee works together with the locals in protecting the Green Turtle population by reporting the whereabouts of their nests along the beaches, and shielding them from potential harm from poachers. In addition, our state is enforcing laws against the sale and distribution of turtle eggs and anyone caught selling eggs stolen from turtles in Terengganu will be met with heavy penalties..

On the other hand, the state tourism board works closely with other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the tourism industry in boosting up the tourism sector to be as competitive with the other states.

It is safe to say that conservation efforts places these tourism assets in safe hands. In the case of turtle conservation, we hope that the Leatherback Turtle will one day return to our shores.

What are the sorts of changes that you are envisioning for Terengganu and how are you working to achieve this?

Our dream is to turn Terengganu into a tourism-based state in Malaysia. For us, the positive implications for the socio-economy to which a tourism-based state is extremely important to us and is what we strive for. Hence, we have been gradually implementing our 'Tourism Terengganu Strategic Plan 2019-2023' in order to realise this.

On 11 July 2019, the Terengganu Tourism Department announced the Tourism Strategic Plan 2019-2023 to achieve 6.5 million tourist arrivals by 2025. Please tell us more about this initiative.

Our outline of the 'Tourism Terengganu Strategic Plan 2019-2023' is as follows:

- Showcasing Terengganu's culture, arts & heritage
- Diversifying tourism attractions, mode of transportation and tourism packages
- Upgrading infrastructures & facilities for tourists
- Initiating promotional activities for tourism products and destinations to be more focussed, integrated and continuous through effective rebranding to cater to the domestic & international markets
- Organising quality cultural and tourism events regularly



ABDUL RASID BIN JUSOH
Director
Terengganu Tourism Department

- Strengthening human resources to ensure the delivery of quality service to tourists so that they have a memorable stay in Terengganu

What is your current approach with tourism partners e.g. Tourism Malaysia or the airlines that will contribute to the increase of tourism numbers in Terengganu?

Currently, we are working very closely with the Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture (MOTAC) as well as Tourism Malaysia. In addition, we have a good rapport with other State Tourism Organisations (STOs). For example, with Tourism Productivity Nexus (TPN), we are in the midst of developing an understanding to develop the East Coast Tourism Corridor (ECTC) with the collaboration between the four key states that comprise this region: Terengganu, Kelantan, Pahang and Johor.

Moreover, we are also in frequent discussion with airlines such as AirAsia to augment Terengganu's connectivity by establishing new routes to Sultan Mahmud Airport (TGG). We have our fingers crossed that at least two new routes to Terengganu will be opened

Essentially, we are working together to establish a cohesive and effective strategy with all major tourism players in Terengganu including the airport operations team, as well as the tour guide association, as it is the tour guides that know all the history as well as all the hidden gems in the region at the deepest level.



Reshaping the Tour Guide's Landscape

Encik Mohammad Nor, the current Chairman of the Terengganu Tourist Guide Association (TGGA) who's been at the helm since September 2016 is a man on a mission to change the local tour guide industry in Terengganu. Having previously worked in Kuala Lumpur as a civil servant, he returned to Terengganu to pursue his passion in the tour guide industry; his zeal for the historical and cultural treasures of his hometown is second to none.

A tour guide leads tourists to various landmarks and attractions while explaining the culture and history that underpin the significance behind them. Tour guides play a major role in the tourism industry since tourists need to have a clear picture of the country and its offerings, laws, rules and regulations. Additionally, guides ought to have the ability to turn a tourist visit into a memorable experience.

In Terengganu, Encik Mohammad Nor was quick to point out some of the famous places to eat Terengganu's famous nasi dagang and satar. One of the places that the Chairman of the TGGA was happy to show us was a restaurant called AZ Selera Timur that served great nasi dagang. Nasi dagang is a delicious and wholesome meal, the dish consists of rice, served with gulai ikan tongkol and lightly pickled vegetables. Interestingly, the rice is a mixture of regular rice and glutinous rice.

During our meal he explained to us there are many challenges of the tour guide industry in Terengganu that he is striving to address. It was revealed that many tour guides in general have low education and training, and thus exhibit a lower service quality. Furthermore, the guides' behaviour may negatively impact on the industry's sustainability by forcing tourists to buy things or attend activities at their own expenses. This also includes relying on cliched introductions to the sights, demonstrating insufficient knowledge about tourism products, services, and access routes; not being proficient in English; charging and

demanding tips; harassment of tourists and bad work ethics.

These are just among the challenges that the local tour guides face. So Airlink arranged an interview to pick the Chairman's brain on his approach to tackling these issues.

Please tell us more about the history and significance of TGGA and your term as Chairman.

The Terengganu Tourist Guide Association (TGGA) was founded in 2008 in humble beginnings, when we were a fledgling organisation, we had to occupy a space in another office as our numbers were very small. I became the Chairman of the council as a result of 2016's annual general meeting and I have managed to retain my position since then.

In that same year, TGGA pushed for the 'khidmat tour guide', which is a set of guidelines that tour guides have to adhere to in order to provide high quality tour services to tourists. In order to ensure that our tour guides had the necessary skills to adhere to these guidelines, they have to undergo vocational training. This includes, knowledge of history, speech delivery, and nurturing interest. Currently, I have been spearheading these training programmes and so far I have yielded good results from my students.

In general, tour guides contend with multiple issues and problems including unfair competition with unlicensed tour guides, less respect and recognition from the society and trade, low remuneration, and lack of job security caused by seasonal fluctuations in tourist arrivals in Terengganu.

Currently, in Malaysia there is no major requirement in order to become a tour guide, since only a license is required. However, there are essential skills required: firstly, tour guides meet with tourists from all over the world, so tour guides are required to be reasonably proficient in English. Secondly, tour guides need to exhibit welcoming and positive attitude when they guide tourists. What it does is show good morale not only for the tour guide himself, but for the company he represents as well as Malaysia as a whole. What this means is that they also act as an unofficial spokesperson for the country; how a tour guide treats tourists in a way that reflects what Malaysians generally are like. For example, the famous expression – Malaysian Hospitality.

Lastly, TGGA has implemented mandatory guidelines for tour guides to have good knowledge of the historical sites that they take tourists to, this can include history, politics, the educational system, developments and of course, the local food delicacies.



MOHAMMAD NOR BIN HJ ISMAIL
Chairman

Terengganu Tourist Guide Association

What have you achieved under your term?

Since being Chairman in 2016, I've been striving to bring about many different changes to TGGA. The tour guide guidelines as mentioned, have lifted up the living standards as well as the significance of tour guides in Terengganu. Before my appointment, the local tour guides' historical and cultural knowledge have been found wanting. For example, many tour guides are still unaware of the fact that Terengganu Batik originated from this region in the 9th century.

On the other hand, I'm proud that TGGA has finally found a home. We have established our own office in Dataran Shahbandar in Kuala Terengganu; although it's not very big, there is enough space for us to park our buses. At the moment, the space accommodates to our needs very well and it serves its purpose.

What has been the overall feedback on the tour guides in Terengganu?

So far, the feedback of our tour guides from local and foreign tourists have been very positive. At the moment, we have 57 tour guides that belong to our association and they all have good knowledge and professional work ethic.

How do you envision TGGA in the next few years?

At the moment, there are institutions that provide tour guide training in Kuala Lumpur and Johor, however they are quite expensive and far away for our local tour guides. Thus, what I want to push for a tour guide training institute to be established in Terengganu.

If God willing for me to continue to be Chairman next year, I also want to increase job opportunities for being a tour guide as well as strengthen rapport between all the local tour agencies here. By increasing cooperation between all relevant parties, we can uplift the quality of tourism here, ultimately boosting our state's tourism and the country as a whole.

Tell us which are the latest tourism hot spots in Terengganu you are promoting this year?

At the moment, we are very excited about the new Terengganu Drawbridge that is opening very soon. It is the first of its kind in Southeast Asia and likens to Tower Bridge in London, England. Not only is it a great addition to the many attractions to Terengganu, but it also presents more diversity and development to a town that is generally considered to be in the rural backwaters of Malaysia.

Besides this, Terengganu has two main types of attractions: historical and natural. Historical destinations include the White Mosque, Chinatown, the State Museum, the Crystal Mosque, and the Islamic Civilisation Park. On the other hand, the natural destinations include Redang Island, Perhentian Island, the Kenyir Dam, Penarik Beach, Rantau Abang and the Turtle and Elephant Conservation Centres.

What interests you the most about Terengganu?

Personally, I prefer the cultural and heritage element of Terengganu, due to my passion for its local history. For example, I particularly enjoy explaining the lineage of the Terengganu Sultans as well as the history of when the Kingdom of Terengganu was a maritime civilisation as confirmed by the Portuguese Explorer Ferdinand Magellan when he visited the Malayan Archipelago in the early 16th century.



Sultan Mahmud Airport – An Arm's Reach To The Next Milestone



Previously known as 'Lapangan Terbang Telaga Batin', the upgrading project took place in 2005 and was completed in 2008 under the new name Sultan Mahmud Airport (TGG). It was named after the 16th Sultan of Terengganu, Almarhum Sultan Mahmud Al-Muktafi Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Ismail Nasiruddin Shah that ruled between 1979 to 1998.

Over RM200 million was assigned to upgrade the airport; the funding was used to extend the runway and upgrade the terminal of the airport as well as the architecture of the façade. The airport that now boasts a stunning exterior that is an ode to the Terengganu palaces of old is designed to handle 2 million passengers every year. On the 11th of October 2008, the airport made history by receiving the first Boeing 747-400. The airport also possesses the necessary facilities for international operations and accommodates flights to Jeddah and Medina for pilgrims every year.

There is an indication for better times to come for TGG. Last year, the airport received a whopping 47.1% increase in cargo volumes, rising from 247 to 363 metric tonnes. On the other hand, it was in 2017

that TGG set an all-time high record of 944,000 passengers per annum. However, last year passenger numbers dropped marginally into 894,000, dropping by 5.2%.

Hailing from Kota Bharu, Encik Che Sulaiman is the Airport Manager in charge in spearheading TGG to new milestones. He began his career in Malaysia Airports as an electrical engineer in 1998 in Kuala Lumpur, after which he was transferred to Penang International Airport in 2002 and continued his existing role until 2008. His career took a turn for the better when he was promoted to Operations Manager from 2008 to 2013 back in Kuala Lumpur. It was in 2014, that he was transferred yet again to Sandakan Airport where he served until 2017 as Airport Manager and finally, he was posted to Terengganu where he has tirelessly worked to uplift TGG into the next level.

Airlink was keen to find out how the airport manager is spearheading the next few initiatives in reaching that elusive one million mark and talks to us about his dream for TGG.

Statistics from Malaysia Airports has shown that despite the drop in -5.2% in passengers per annum for 2018, the numbers have increased from 550,000 to 900,000 since 2012. What was the driving force behind this admirable feat?

I believe one of the factors is due to Terengganu's main attraction that continue to be of great popularity to foreign tourists, such as Redang Island and Perhentian Island. Although most tourists do reach Perhentian Island via Kota Bharu Airport, there are plans in the pipelines to increase connectivity that will eventually reduce the traveling time to this island. And of course, the Terengganu State Tourism has done a spectacular job at collaborating with other parties in promoting the attractions here.

Terengganu does suffer from seasonal fluctuations especially during the monsoon seasons. During these times, passenger volumes are significantly lower as the islands are closed. However, in the past few years, numbers have generally been on the rise as there are more tourists coming in to enjoy places such as our beaches and the cultural heritage that are available throughout the year in Terengganu.

On the other hand, during the pilgrimage season, TGG hosts international flights for Hajj and Umrah pilgrims to Jeddah and Medina. We are proud to say that TGG boasts all the necessary facilities such as an International Departures & Arrival Hall and extended runway length to accommodate international long-haul flights. For example, in 2017, Malaysia Airlines conducted six chartered flights to these Middle Eastern destinations with the Airbus 330 planes.

In 2012, Saudi Arabian Airlines used to operate Umrah chartered flights between Kuala Terengganu and Jeddah. It was the airline's first destination in Malaysia outside of Kuala Lumpur back then and they operated with the Boeing 747s. Unfortunately, they have since terminated their operations from TGG. Nonetheless, TGG is still the hub point for the east coast of Malaysia's Umrah market and we have high hopes for other airlines to serve these markets in the future.

What is your strategy to push past the one million mark for 2019?

At the moment, TGG is serving four local airlines: Malaysia Airlines, Malindo Air, Firefly and AirAsia.

Currently, total daily aircraft movements have risen to somewhere between 32 to 34 flights a day. If we are able to maintain these number of flights throughout the year despite seasonal fluctuations, I believe the one million mark is within arm's reach.

Secondly, there is a need for further collaboration between the State Government and airlines, in order to form a feasible promotional campaign as well as in consideration for more strategic flights to bring in more tourists into Terengganu. At the moment, I am delighted to say that there are talks between the State Government and our management team in opening a new route between Terengganu and another state in Peninsular Malaysia as well as to bring in charter flights from China.

Thirdly, I believe that the Umrah market has not been fully capitalised by the airlines. If more chartered flights were to be planned for the Islamic pilgrims, I believe TGG will see more development in the upcoming years. On the other hand, the airport operations team is working on minor upgrades to the facilities in the airport to enrich traveller

experience in three gradual phases. Additionally, we have plans to upgrade WiFi services, and this will be implemented soon, as we are in the midst of finalising the vendor for this initiative.

And lastly, as the airport's architecture is associated with the local heritage in Terengganu, it is essential that we maintain the existing facade as well as ensuring that all interior installations are well-maintained.

Cargo volume reached an all-time high of 363 metric tonnes last year. What was the cause behind this phenomenon and will it continue to increase in the coming years?

We were very delighted to record this spike in cargo volume last year as it has been the highest we have ever had. Most of the cargo comprised of E-commerce products attributed to the sharp increase in online consumer behaviour of the locals here. In order to further increase cargo and logistics traffic, we hope that more players in this department can consider TGG as a local logistics hub.

How many domestic destinations does TGG currently serve?

At the moment, TGG is connected to the country's capital via three points, KLIA, klia2 and Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport (Subang). However, as I have previously mentioned, there are plans to further increase TGG's connectivity in Peninsular Malaysia as well as to Saudi Arabia & China.

Can we expect to see TGG experience the arrival of any international airlines in the future?

The proposals have been put forward to resume international flights to and from Terengganu besides the chartered flights for the Umrah market. Recently, delegates from the provinces of Guangzhou, Xiamen and Shenzhen in China visited Terengganu to see the attractions in consideration for the holiday packages that can be offered to the Chinese market.

Although this does not indicate any further plans for international routes, we must begin from somewhere. The more Terengganu is exposed to the Chinese market, the more they will be attracted to visit some of the most beautiful sites the region has to offer.



HJ. CHE SULAIMAN BIN CHE PA
Airport Manager
Sultan Mahmud Airport

What do you envision to achieve in your time as Airport Manager?

TGG was utilised as a training hub for pilots; however in 2015, KISTAA ceased their operations due to economic circumstances. Currently, demands for pilots are on the increase; we have received proposals to start a pilot academy again. Some of the academies interested are HMA, PVVN, JATOVA and AATA.

Secondly, the state government has land reserved for the airport to provide services for maintenance, repair and overhaul. I believe TGG would be a fitting place to offer these facilities.

These are among the milestones that I want to attain in my time as the airport manager of TGG. For me, the most significant achievement would be to bring life again into the quiet walls of the international departure and arrival halls. That would be a dream come true.

Where do you go for your holidays?

I usually head to my hometown of Kota Bharu to visit my family, and I also prefer to take a trip to Kuala Lumpur. I love to enjoy the beautiful natural beauty of Redang Island when I go there for work purposes since Redang STOLport is under the supervision of Sultan Mahmud Airport.

KLIA – Reimagining the Passenger Experience

Thanks to factors such as affordability, the spending power of the growing middle class, social media and the exponential rise in romantic consumerism, travelling abroad has been rapidly increasing. Indeed, in Southeast Asia, we are travelling more than ever before.

According to the operational statistics of KL International Airport (Klia), the airport has served close to 60 million passengers in 2018. That is equivalent to an increase of over 200% since 2008, with volume continuing to increase every year. In the advent of this phenomenon, are our airports delivering well for passenger experience?

According to research conducted in the United Kingdom, 19% of British passengers find that being at airports is stressful. Another research by McKinsey & Company identified that the number one complaint by passengers is that they “have to wait with nothing to do” at the airport. Other complaints include difficulty navigating the airport, unfriendly security personnel, lengthy security screening process and difficulty finding ground transportation after arrival.

One of the ways that airports can tackle this is to ensure basic levels of comfort for passengers enabling them to feel more at ease. Airports also need to consider thinking about the passenger's overall journey, taking into account various options to make their journey through the terminal as seamless and ‘painless’ as possible. In Klia, ‘Rest N Go’ stations dot the floors of the large terminal, strategically placed in floors where passengers spend time waiting.

In efforts to improve their end-to-end service for medical tourists, the Malaysia Healthcare Tourism Council (MHTC) has set up a ‘Healthcare & Concierge’ lounge in Klia. Where as in the low-cost carrier terminal klia2, there are exclusive lounges equipped with premium massage chairs to reduce passenger stress and anxiety. Additionally, spaces where



passengers can sit and relax represent a real opportunity for airports seeking a new source of revenue while keeping abreast with consumer needs.

Besides this mutual benefit, unused square metres of empty space in terminals constitute opportunities for airports to up the game in the form of transit hotels. In Klia, ‘Sama-Sama Express’ airside transit hotel is conveniently situated in the satellite building next to Gate C5. Meanwhile, in klia2, transit hotels like ‘Aerotel’ and ‘Capsule’ provide rates tailored for passengers in need for a quiet and relaxing atmosphere. In addition, ‘Sama-Sama Express klia2’ is strategically located at the airside area of klia2 terminal to provide transit passengers the convenience of not having to clear immigration and customs.

Moreover, Klia's Jungle Boardwalk offers a little piece of the rainforest for passengers to experience the serenity and peace that can only be found when traversing the lush jungles of Malaysia.

In efforts to increase efficiency in ground transportation for arriving passengers, Malaysia Airports has allocated designated e-hailing pickup points at Klia and klia2. These pickup points are located at Gate 3 and 4 for Klia since August 1, and located at the Transportation Hub, Level 1 for klia2. According to Raja Azmi Raja Nazuddin,

group chief executive officer of Malaysia Airports, the initiative is in line with the organisation's bid to make passenger comfort and convenience a top priority.

He stated, “We have seen a drastic increase in e-hailing rides in the country since they were first introduced to Malaysia. We hope to see our passengers relax on the comfortable seats after a long flight, while waiting for their ride. This initiative will serve our passengers well”.

However, there is still plenty of room to improve for our airports to become more customer-centric. While sustained, long-term growth in air travel is great for airlines' net earnings, it continues to put pressure on the aviation industry to deliver innovative solutions to significantly redefine the customer experience.

According to Ascend, customers and airline executives agree on the top two priorities for improving the airport experience: firstly, “one-time, seamless authentication and security control for the traveller, enabled via a single biometric identification accepted at every security point along the journey”. Secondly, “accurate and efficient baggage processing, delivered through electronic baggage tags linked to the customer profile and offering real-time baggage tracking throughout the journey”.



Furthermore, more than 60% of airline executives and nearly 60% of passengers agree that reducing or completely eliminating human interaction from the boarding process would yield a great improvement in passenger experience. In fact, IATA has indicated that by 2020, it wants 80% of travellers to have the option of total self-service at the airport.

At the moment, it seems that the primary consensus is that the ideal method of travel for many passengers is one in which the airport experience is completely transparent and seamlessly integrated, as well as where the customer feels like they are in control. This implies that our airports need to be dynamic, equipped with communicative intelligent infrastructures that cope with the flexible needs of passengers. In other words, improvements may not lie in building infrastructure but rather in reshaping the technological landscape of existing structures i.e. the creation of an intelligent airport.

There are a number of technologies that are likely to be catalysts for development of an intelligent airport; these include: digital wayfinding, biometric-identifying management, token-based authentication, mobile tracking

and proximity sensing, augmented reality, virtual assistants and predictive analytics.

For an airport that welcomes increasing volumes of passengers every year, Malaysia Airports is well on its way to further improve the passenger's journey. As a form of digital wayfinding, Malaysia Airports has launched a new smartphone app called ‘MyAirports’ as a convenient and simple way for passengers new to the airport to navigate their way around as well as to locate retail and F&B shops as quickly as possible. In addition, new state-of-the-art X-ray scanners at the security checkpoint will be implemented in both terminals.

The good news hasn't stopped here, Malaysia Airports has been evaluating and reworking the check-in counters in Klia to achieve equal distribution of passenger flow during peak periods, reducing the flow by approximately 50%. As a consequence, this initiative will significantly improve passenger experience and increase the chances for a seamless travel journey through the airport.

In further efforts to improve the airport experience, Malaysia Airports has introduced Malaysia's first outdoor plane observation deck. Bringing back the romantic art of planespotting, ‘Anjung Spotter’ is located at Jalan Pekeliling next to Runway 32 Left (32L). This new initiative has been the result of the social media team's efforts, paying close attention to the desires of the aviation community in Malaysia.

The road to success is a long and winding one, but with the ever-growing need for air travel, Malaysia Airports is introducing innovative and cost-effective solutions to Klia and klia2 that not only work well with the existing infrastructure but optimises it to its fullest potential. With constant monitoring of consumer needs and intricate operations of the airport, Malaysia Airports is gradually turning Malaysia's most important airport into an intelligent one.

Royal Brunei Returns to Brisbane



Royal Brunei Airlines (RB) celebrates the return to Brisbane with non-stop services from Brunei starting July this year.

At the official launch in Brunei, RB Chief Executive Officer, Karam Chand said, "RB is delighted to recommence our services to Brisbane for the first time since 2011; this is a very significant milestone that we are incredibly proud of and continues our measured and strategic growth objective that started in 2018. The new direct link will no doubt benefit our guests with a seamless travel as we have very good connections from United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia to/from Brisbane.

"We hope these will encourage our guests to take advantage of our single and dual destination packages in all the cities we serve. With one of the youngest fleets of any airline in the world, our guests will also experience the very best of Bruneian hospitality on-board our all-new game changing A320NEO aircraft".

Chand added, "Serving Brisbane will strategically position RB as a key player on the Kangaroo route in the important UK-Australia market. Coupled with our daily non-stop route between London Heathrow and Brunei, it allows us to open an entirely different part of Australia to our guests in addition to our daily

Melbourne flight which has already proved very popular.

"We are delighted to offer our Bruneian, UK and other guests from our expanding route network an additional Australia travel destination where they will find many attractions and activities on offer in Brisbane city and its surrounds".

The four times weekly flights between Brunei and Brisbane use RB's new fleet of A320NEO aircraft. RB now operates one of the youngest fleets in the world with an average fleet age of just over two years.

At the same event, the airline introduced RB Link flights with services connecting Brunei and new cities in Borneo with the flights operated by Malindo Air.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr Awang Haji Mohd Amin Liew Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of Finance and Economy II and Chairman of RB Board of Directors said, "RB will launch a regional aircraft operation, initially with two brand new ATR aircrafts. The regional aircraft operation will be a key enabler of increased tourism, trade and movement of people within BIMP-EAGA (Brunei Darussalam Indonesia Malaysia Philippines East Asean Growth Area) and will



further strengthen Brunei's economic ties with the many cities of Borneo. RB's investment in developing air traffic in BIMP-EAGA also shows the commitment of Brunei to contribute to regional development and allows the movement of people which today is extremely challenging between the different cities on the Island of Borneo".

RB Link flights will initially connect two existing cities Kota Kinabalu and Kuching and five new cities Sandakan, Tawau, Bintulu, Sibul and Balikpapan subject to government approvals across Borneo Island and link the destinations to RB's global network of twenty-five international destinations via its hub at the Brunei International Airport.

For more information, please call 03 – 2070 7166

KLIA Celebrates 21st Anniversary

Speaking at KL International Airport's (KLIA) 21st anniversary celebration in August, Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad recalled the pride he felt when he officiated its opening in 1998.

Dr Mahathir said, "I was proud then because it was the realisation of a dream and a promise. I am proud today because it is a reality".

He further recalled, "It was indeed amazing to witness the palm oil estate morphing into an airport of such beauty and ability to become an icon. It is an architectural wonder".

Dr Mahathir recorded his appreciation to the late renowned Japanese architect Kisho Kurokawa for the 'Airport in the Forest, Forest in the Airport' Concept. "It wasn't so at first, but after 21 years it is clearly an airport in the forest and a forest in the airport" said Dr Mahathir.

On KLIA's role in the air travel industry, Dr Mahathir said traffic forecasts by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) suggests passenger traffic in the region is expected to grow by an average 5.3 percent annually up to 2045.

He continued, "These trends of growth are certainly to our advantage. As we progress to become a developed nation, the KLIA and Malaysia Airports have an important role to play in facilitating the current economic aspirations of the government".

Dr Mahathir said the digital transformation of KLIA towards Airports 4.0 encompasses advanced technologies such as facial recognition, big data analytics and Internet of Things (IoT), adding that such technologies would give Malaysia a competitive edge in the global economy.

On the Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 campaign, he said there is a need to strengthen Malaysia's position to ensure the success of the campaign, adding, "As part of the campaign, we hope to be able to increase flight connectivity to Malaysia and attract more tourists from ASEAN, China, India, United Kingdom and Germany."

He further thanked Malaysia Airports for its contribution in setting up two Tourism Promotion



Funds totalling RM25 million in collaboration with Tourism Malaysia, adding that Malaysia Airports play a significant role in the national aerospace agenda.

Since the launch of the National Aerospace Blueprint in 2015, MAHB has invested RM50 million in common infrastructure and facilities refurbishment at Subang Airport.

He said the government is also committed in ensuring the growth of the aviation industry is sustainable, "This is evident through the establishment of the Malaysian Aviation Commission (MAVCOM) to regulate the economic aspects of the industry as well as National Aviation Consultative Council (NACC) to address the local aviation development, challenges and direction to aid the country's trade and economy."

Dr Mahathir also said airports should be more than an infrastructure: "It's an economic catalyst, a tourism enabler and often the first impression of a country. Therefore, with a 100 square kilometre landbank, it is the government's hope to see development outpace the demand."

In appraising KLIA Aeropolis, Dr Mahathir said, KLIA Aeropolis should change the landscape of Malaysian aviation to be more integrated and a complete ecosystem.

The strategic plan for KLIA Aeropolis encompasses air cargo and logistics, aerospace and aviation; and meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (MICE) and leisure. Dr Mahathir added, "One of the success of KLIA Aeropolis is the development of its Digital Free Trade Zone Park, a partnership with Alibaba Group, which is set to be operational in June 2020."

Malindo Flies Direct to Varanasi

Malindo Air launched its inaugural flight between Kuala Lumpur and Varanasi, which is regarded as the spiritual capital of India, on 19 July 2019. Nishit Kumar Ujjwal, Counsellor (Community Affairs, Education & Labour), High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur and Mark Anthony, General Manager of Operations, Malindo Air were present in KL International Airport for the send-off ceremony.

Upon its arrival at Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport, the inaugural landing was celebrated with a water cannon salute, followed by a welcoming ceremony to the passengers at the arrival gate.

CEO of Malindo Air, Chandran Rama Muthy said, "India is a significant market to us. Just as its neighbouring cities, the potential is foreseen on both, inbound and outbound travellers on leisure, business, as well as visiting friends & families purposes. However, Varanasi may have the added advantage in terms of demand as it is also primarily a sacred pilgrimage destination for Hindus around the world".

He continued, "We are honoured to be the only Malaysian carrier operating directly between Kuala Lumpur and Varanasi. I



believe our objectives are in line with our government's Tourism and Economic agenda, which is to entice more visitors into Malaysia hence boosting economic conditions and increasing passengers' arrivals at KLIA, which is envisioned to be the main regional hub of Asia".

He added further, "Given our wholesome services that cater for passengers' respective needs, we believe the additional connectivity also creates additional gateway for international travellers to explore beyond Kuala Lumpur".

Group CEO of Malaysia Airports, Raja Azmi Raja Nazuddin said, "I would like to congratulate our airline partner, Malindo Air on the launch of this new destination, Varanasi. Malindo is the first in Malaysia and the 4th in the Southeast Asia to introduce this route. This means that we can expect a

further increase in passenger movements at KL International Airport. Last year, the overall total number of arriving and departing passengers that Malindo served for its India routes via KUL grew by 4.3% from January to June this year as compared to the same period in 2018. Not only that, KUL itself also saw an overall YTD 6.1% increase in passenger movements for the India routes as compared to the previous year. Therefore, I am positive that Malindo Air will do very well with the introduction of this new flight route".

Varanasi is the tenth city that Malindo Air flies to, after Amritsar, New Delhi, Kochi, Mumbai, Tiruchirappali, Thiruvananthapuram, Bengaluru, Kolkata and Chennai (code share with Batik Air).

For more information, please call 03 - 7841 5388



Malaysia Prime Minister Launches Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 Campaign Logo

YAB Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, has officially launched the Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 campaign logo on 22 July at KL International Airport simultaneously calling upon all Malaysians to embrace the campaign as a national mission to ensure its success.

The winning logo selected from a competition by Alfred Phua Hong Fook features various recognisable icons of Malaysia such as the hornbill, the bunga raya (hibiscus), the wild fern and colours of the Malaysian flag. Together, they represent the diversity of Malaysia's culture, heritage, flora and fauna as well as experiences offered as a holiday destination.

Dr Mahathir also witnessed the exchange of Memorandum of Joint Promotion ceremony between Tourism Malaysia and various parties, namely Malaysia Airlines, AirAsia, Firefly, Malindo Air, Malaysia Airports and Sharp (M) Electronics Sdn. Bhd. This was followed by

the unveiling of the Visit Malaysia 2020 aircraft livery on the four airlines.

The year 2020 has been designated as Visit Truly Asia Malaysia with targets of achieving 30 million international tourist arrivals and RM100 billion tourist receipts. The focus of the campaign is on ecotourism, arts and culture.

Spearheading the campaign, Tourism Malaysia has partnered with several private sector corporations such as Sharp (M) Electronics Sdn. Bhd., Malaysia Airlines, AirAsia, Firefly, Malindo Air and Malaysia Airports, to implement marketing and promotional activities utilising their local and international media platforms.

A RM5 million fund called GAMELAN Malaysia has been made available to provide financial support to Malaysian tourism industry players who organise marketing and promotional activities to promote Malaysia as a business and leisure destination.

Tourism Malaysia and Malaysia Airports have also partnered with various international



airlines such as Condor Air, Air Arabia and Air Busan in launching new routes into Malaysia from key international destinations.

To ease tourist arrivals, Visa-on-Arrival facilities have been expanded to 13 entry points in Malaysia, ensuring a hassle-free entry for China and India nationals, two of the fastest growing outbound tourist markets in the world.

In 2018, Malaysia welcomed a total of 25.8 million international tourists, while for the first five months of this year, international tourist arrivals have reached a total of 10,954,014 tourists, recording a growth of +4.8% compared to the same period last year.

The data places Malaysia among the major tourism destinations in the world.

Turkish Airlines Rolls Out New Cabin Crew Uniforms



Cabin crew of Turkish Airlines are taking to the skies with new uniform designed by top Italian fashion designer Ettore Bilotta in celebration of the airline's 85th anniversary.

Passengers on non-stop flights between Kuala Lumpur and Istanbul with Turkish Airlines will now be greeted by cabin crew donning the new attire.

The new uniforms in flag-red and anthracite gray colors, which were rigorously tested on long-range flights in different climates, have been tailored to 25,000 employees in order for cabin crews to serve passengers comfortably.

Inspired by many classical details in Turkish culture, from the currents of the Bosphorus to the artisanal glassware, ceramics and calligraphy patterns produced by local artisans, the cabin, cockpit, ground handling personnel and flying chef uniforms came to life under a single design in order to give their passengers a holistic brand experience.

M. Ilker Ayci, Chairman of the Board and the Executive Committee of Turkish Airlines said, "The elegance and comfort of our cabin crews, which constitute the most important element of our unrivaled service quality, are of great importance for our brand that continues to fly at the top of its industry. I believe that our brand's presence in the skies will be much more impressive when the new cabin uniforms, which bear elements of our culture, are combined with the elegance of our cabin crews".



When explaining the design of the uniform, designer Ettore Bilotta said, "When I started to design for Turkish Airlines, the first thing that inspired me was Istanbul. This city has been a melting pot for art and civilisation for centuries and has a rare richness as a common heritage of many cultures".

He continued, "I wanted to bring elements from traditional calligraphy and mosaics together with the new interpretations of Turkish motifs, which emphasize modern lines, into foulards and ties to reflect a contrast and duality".

Passengers are able to distinguish chief/attendant from the colours of the uniform

as 'chief' uniforms stand out with dark red while the 'attendant' colours are anthracite-grey.

The new uniform sets include some accessories not available in previous Turkish Airlines' uniforms while maintaining the design integrity. Accessories like hats, leather gloves and one-piece dresses in female uniforms and handbags and leather gloves in male uniforms make a holistic collection.

For more information about Turkish Airlines, please call 03 - 2163 0849.

Surprise Celebration on KLIA Ekspres

KLIA Ekspres' 100 millionth passenger received a memorable surprise from Express Rail Link Sdn Bhd (ERL), the operator of the KLIA Ekspres and KLIA Transit services.

On the day, the train that departed at 11 am from KLIA to KL Sentral was decorated with balloons raising an air of expectation among passengers. Amidst the celebrative atmosphere, passengers rummaged through their goodie bags that were distributed earlier at departure, for the winning ticket number.

Sherif Radwan, an Egyptian visitor to Kuala Lumpur was the lucky winner with number 63. His prize, which was presented by Malaysia's Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, YB Muhammad Bakhtiar Wan Chik, includes flights, accommodation and ground experiences worth RM10,000. Goodwill was spread to other passengers with each passenger given a Klook voucher to book travel activities and services, gifts and snacks.

Chief Executive Officer of ERL, Noormah Mohd Noor said: "It is a remarkable achievement and yet humbling for us to be celebrating our 100 millionth passengers today. It is an important milestone and testament to our commitment to providing the best travel experience that is efficient, reliable and safe to our customers. ERL is proud to have maintained an impeccable 99.7% on-time service performance until now. We would like to sincerely thank our customers for their continuous support".

Klook, ERL's event partner and strong valued business partner sponsored the event. Klook is



a leading travel activities and services booking platform with more than 100,000 things-to-do across 300 destinations. Its Head of Marketing in Malaysia, Emily Tan was also onboard to congratulate the lucky winner.

Since 2002 when the train services were first launched, ERL carried 1.04 million passengers within its first year of operations. By the time the trains services extended to klia2 in 2014, ERL had carried 50 million passengers. By

August 2016, ERL had recorded 75 million passengers on both services and carried an average of 9 million passengers annually since then.

KLIA Ekspres & KLIA Transit are rail services offering a fast transfer from KL Sentral to KLIA and klia2. KLIA Ekspres runs express to KLIA in 28mins, and on to klia2. KLIA Transit takes 5 minutes longer, with three intermediate stops between KL Sentral and KLIA.



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Royal Dutch Airlines



ANA Redesigns Luxury Cabin

Staying at the forefront in aircraft cabin design, All Nippon Airways (ANA) announced in July its collaboration with renowned Japanese architect, Kengo Kuma and leading British designers, Acumen to roll out a total of twelve completely redesigned Boeing 777-300ER aircraft cabin interiors. The first redesigned aircraft cabins will serve the Tokyo/Haneda-London route from 2 August.

ANA has effectively redefined the experience of luxury with the new designs which were born out of five years of collaborative design development. The new cabin products 'THE Suite' and 'THE Room' that are featured in First Class and Business Class are inspired by Japanese heritage and Western designs principles.

New First Class Seating, 'THE Suite' features all-new spacious First Class seats that are inspired by luxury Japanese hotels. New elements include the addition of privacy-enhancing doors as well as a crystal-clear 43 inch monitor that is the world's first 4K personal monitor on a commercial airliner. THE Suite also boasts a movable partition which can be adjusted upon request to pair seats as well as a universal PC and USB port. For the ultimate grandeur, a luxury dark wood finish features throughout the cabin.

New Business Class Seating, 'THE Room' has



at its heart a brand new seat design that is inspired by modern, multifunctional Japanese living spaces. THE Room offers for the first time flexible doors for personal privacy that can also be adjusted to share the space with fellow travel companions - from dining together with the family to conducting meetings with colleagues.

Along with the Luxury Cabins, ANA has also made changes to the new Premium Economy and Economy Class seats with upholstery redesigned with Japanese patterns which suggest movement and direction. Non-repeating patterns mean each seat cover, across the Premium Economy and Economy seats will be completely unique. Passengers travelling in these cabins will also enjoy improved touch screen monitors and headrests that are adjustable along six distinct axes.

Complementing these changes, ANA has also created a hotel like reception complete with welcome monitors. The food service area has

been redesigned to embody the Japanese 'Omotenashi' philosophy of hospitality. ANA has also redesigned the self-service bar area, which now boast mini-fridges stocked with beverages and snacks for customers to enjoy at any time. The contemporary design of the galleys integrates a back light panel which incorporates patterns inspired by traditional Japanese hand-made paper (known as 'washi').

Executive Vice President of ANA, Hideki Kunugi said, "In 2010, we were the first in Japan to introduce the full flat seat with all aisle access and in order for ANA to continue to lead and set the global standard for comfort and convenience, we knew that it would be necessary to integrate the latest insights from design professionals as we sought to redesign the flight experience and elevate every aspect of travel for our passengers".

For more information, please call 03 – 2032 1331



MITM Delight Travellers with Irresistible Travel Deals



Travellers were served with one of the most anticipated travel fairs in Kuala Lumpur from 9th to 11th of August. The Malaysian International Travel Mart (MITM) was held in Mid Valley Exhibition Centre with the expectation of being well-received by over 90,000 visitors this year.

The travel and tourism fair was organised by the Malaysian Chinese Tourism Association (MCTA), with a setup of 300 booths and 60 exhibitors. The association aims to promote the best travel deals to Malaysians so that they can trot the globe without having to pay through their nose. Official sponsors include Taiwan Tourism Bureau, Ministry of Tourism Republic of Indonesia, Tourism Authority of Thailand, Genting Cruise Lines, Bank of China and China Southern Airlines and supported by Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture Malaysia as well as Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board.

MCTA began with MITM in 2001 to provide a platform for its members that include over 1,000 members comprising travel and tour companies, airlines, cruise companies, hoteliers, theme park operators, restaurants, transport companies and souvenir companies. In ensuring the benefit and welfare of its members, MCTA places strong emphasis on practicing fair and transparent policies.



Pondering on the future of the travel industry, MCTA President Dato Albert Tan Sam Soon stated, "As the middle-class population is growing steadily accompanied by the exponential rise in technology, the travel industry is certainly growing rapidly. Because of this, we have seen a rise in travel volumes in the domestic and international tourism industry. This phenomenon has been capitalised by the airlines and the growing number of international routes from Malaysia. For example, our national airlines have been aggressively expanding their route network in order to cater for Malaysian's growing need to travel the world. And, that is why we have worked so hard to organise MITM every year. We have been delighted with steady growth in visitors every year and we always strive to curate and improve our list of exhibitors".

The President further added, "That being said, there is still room for more international airlines to come in to the Malaysian market. I believe that our market is in dire need of airlines from the Middle East, Europe and the United States, as the future of the travel industry in Malaysia looks bright. However, in order to accelerate development in the tourism industry, I urge the government to consider reducing visa restrictions from the core markets such as China and India, so that tourists can enter Malaysia hassle-free".

Inside Mid Valley's Exhibition Hall, technology made its place as a driver for an interesting visitor experience. In addition to having photos, videos and live streams posted onto the event's Facebook page, visitors enjoyed having an augmented reality (AR) experience at the trade fair. Visitors were able to download an app and then use it to find hidden content, play games as well as join Buyers' Contests and win prizes worth over RM25,000.



Malaysia Airlines Signs Charter Flight Agreement



Malaysia Airlines signed a three-month agreement with Dorak Holdings, one of Turkish's most prominent tourism players on 27 July to provide charter flights between Kuala Lumpur and Istanbul's Sabiha Gökçen International Airport (ISGIA) from October until December 2019.

The agreement was signed between Hazman Hilmi Sallahuddin, member of the senior management team of Malaysia Airlines and Ahmet Serdar Körükçü, Chairman of the Board, Dorak Holdings. Malaysia Airlines will operate three times weekly charter flights utilising its Airbus A330 aircraft.

Malaysia Airlines Group Chief Executive Officer, Captain Izhom Ismail said, "We are delighted to enter into the agreement with Dorak Holdings to offer charter services between Kuala Lumpur and Istanbul. With this agreement, Malaysia Airlines will be the first Malaysian carrier to land in Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen International Airport, since Malaysia Airports acquired the airport in 2015. As the national carrier of Malaysia, we are the first touch point of Malaysia, and the first touch

point for travellers to experience Malaysian Hospitality. We hope that through this agreement, we are able to promote more of Malaysia to Turkey and at the same time, to attract new markets to visit Malaysia".

Malaysia Airports' involvement in ISGIA started in 2008 when together with its consortium partners, it was awarded the concession to operate the airport for 20 + 4 years. By 2014, the airport operator had acquired 100% stake in ISGIA, making it one of the world's largest airport operator group in terms of passenger numbers. ISGIA is the second largest airport in Turkey and is the world's busiest single runway and terminal. In 2018, ISGIA registered a total of 34.1 million passenger traffic movements and revenue of RM1,154.1 million. As at June this year, the airport registered 16.7 million passenger traffic movements, rising a further 3.4% from the same period last year.

With its long-term growth potential, the airport is a strategic investment for Malaysia Airports. In 2018, ISGIA was the second fastest growing airport in Europe within its category of above 30 million passengers per annum (mppa). It is currently the 12th busiest airport in Europe surpassing Zurich, Manchester, Stansted, Dublin and Berlin.

For more information, please visit www.malaysiaairlines.com.



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American Airlines Adds New Southeast Asia Destinations with Cathay Dragon

In July, American Airlines (AA) announced a codeshare agreement with Cathay Dragon, adding four new destinations to its network while increasing existing service to three other cities, all of which are located in Southeast Asia. The new agreement increases interconnectivity between the two airlines.

The new codeshare destinations added are Dhaka, Da Nang, Chiang Mai and Phuket. Cities with increased services are Hanoi, Penang and Kuala Lumpur. The interchanged flights originate or

terminate at the Cathay Dragon's hub in Hong Kong.

In a press statement, American said, "The codeshare relationship with Cathay Dragon will further strengthen American's existing partnership with the Cathay Pacific Group in the years to come".

This is a boost to American's Hong Kong portfolio – the airline has operated flights on a daily year-round basis since 2013, and provides direct connections to Dallas/Fort Worth and Los Angeles.

Cathay Dragon is a wholly-owned subsidiary airline of the Cathay Pacific Group and is based in Hong Kong, and similar to American is a founding member of the oneworld

alliance. While its parent airline Cathay Pacific mainly operates long-haul routes, Cathay Dragon focuses mainly on China and Southeast Asian destinations with 23 of its 53 destinations located in mainland China.

The airline currently has 49 aircraft, consisting of 15 Airbus A320-200s, eight A321-200s and 26 A330-300s. Cathay Dragon has on order 32 A321neos which will replace its older A321ceo aircraft. It is likely that with the arrival of the new planes the airline will continue expanding its regional network to further destinations.

For more information, please call American Airlines' GSA - Discover the World at 03 - 2715 1122 or Cathay Dragon at 03 - 6207 4989.





Mitsui Outlet Park KLIA Sepang (MOP KLIA), Japan's branded factory outlet shopping is creating exciting events for its customers for the Fourth Anniversary Celebration this year. In July, MOP KLIA announced the winners of the 'Spend & Win a Motorbike Contest'. Three winners walked away with a brand new Vespa; meanwhile, nine winners brought home the latest Honda Beat.

The contest winners Voon Yoke Mei and Nur Hazwani Mohd Hairuddin said they didn't expect to win when they participated in the contest.

Voon said, "I was pleasantly surprised and excited when I received the call as I didn't expect to win. Both my brother and I submitted our entry forms just to try our luck but I guess I got lucky as I won the Vespa! My brother would appreciate the Vespa more so I will be giving it to him."

Nur Hazwani who also won the Vespa was ecstatic. "It's my first time actually winning something from a contest so I'm really excited about it. But I will be giving the Vespa to my brother as his birthday present so he is the one feeling excited about it now," she said.

The celebration included many exciting programmes with plenty of gifts and discounts available. The anniversary celebration is a great opportunity for MOP KLIA to display their appreciation to customers as well as to gain public awareness.

The Anniversary Sale which occurred in conjunction with several holidays such as the

August school holidays, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong's birthday as well as National Day commenced from 26th July to 2nd September. While this was happening, MOP KLIA also held a '4 Days Special Sale' campaign from the 30th of August to 2nd September 2019 where shoppers could seize the opportunity to buy their favourite products at great discounts during the long weekends with public holidays. Additionally, throughout the weekends, public holidays and school holidays, shoppers were able to enjoy exciting instant reward giveaways with a minimum spend of RM200 and above in a maximum of two (02) receipts. Amongst the rewards were the double cash back campaign, 'Spin & Win a Surprise Gift'; shoppers also had the opportunity to get a personalised T-Shirt or a metal straw set. This is not to mention hourly

Celebration at Mitsui Outlet Park KLIA Sepang Fourth Anniversary

specials from 12noon to 9:00pm where one could win a cup of coffee or a dessert.

MOP KLIA is strategically located, just 8 minutes away from KLIA and approximately 45 minutes from KL City Centre. The outlet mall is easily accessible through the various highways namely ELITE, LDP, KESAS, MAJU and NKVE. Getting to MOP KLIA is also convenient via the KLIA Ekspres which departs from KL Sentral every 20 minutes to KLIA and klia2 and thereafter visitors can take the dedicated free shuttle bus that is offered to and from KLIA and klia2.

For more information on upcoming offers, promotions and happenings at MOP KLIA, please visit www.mitsuioutletparkklia.com.my



Sama-Sama Celebrates Merdeka and Malaysia Day with Eat, Pose and Win

Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA celebrates this year Merdeka and Malaysia Day in August and September with a myriad of Malaysia's favourite food and an online contest.

At the all-day dining restaurant, Degrees at Sama-Sama, customers indulge in local delights such as Mee Rebus, Roti Jala, Nasi Lemak and many more over Degrees Merdeka & Malaysia Day Weekend Hi-Tea in the month of August and September.



In conjunction with the food feast, customers can take the celebration up a notch by joining the culinary photo contest organised by Sama-Sama in the 'Eat & Win' online contest.

At Degrees, customers are invited to take a photo with their favourite local dish and post it online on Instagram with their most creative caption of the Malaysian dish they love at the Weekend Hi-Tea.

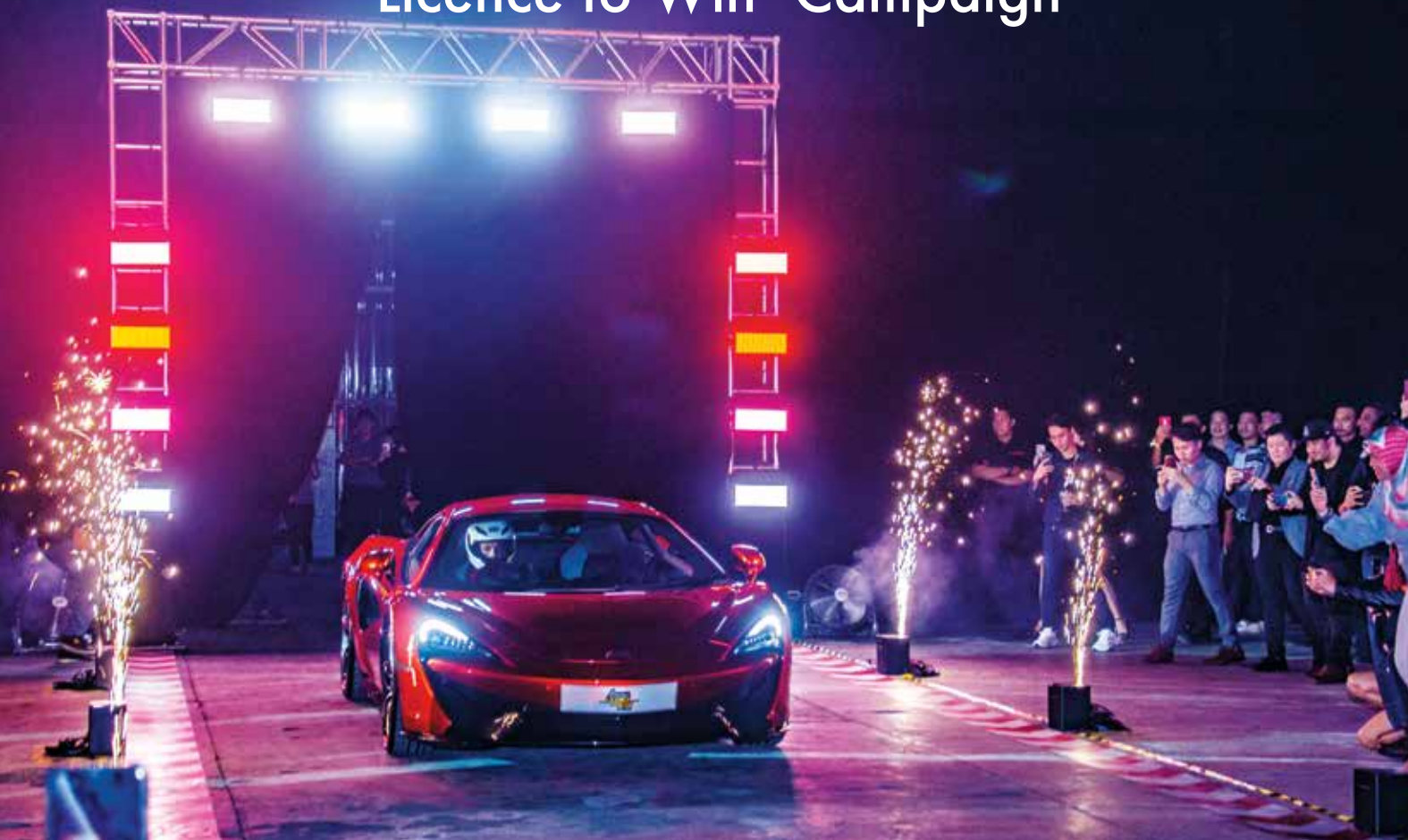
Customers with Facebook can add to the celebration in a Facebook contest called

'Pose & Win'. They are invited with their family to put on a national flag attire and photograph themselves on Facebook and complete the sentence, "I love Malaysia because"

Both online contests run until 15 September 2019. Winners are to be announced on 18 September 2019. Five winners of each contest will win prizes including 2 Days 1 Night stay at Sama-Sama Hotel KL International Airport and dining vouchers worth RM230 for two persons.



Stand A Chance to Win a McLaren 570S – ‘Licence to Win’ Campaign



Malaysia Airports officially launched the latest instalment of their much anticipated ‘Licence to Win’ annual shopping campaign. Themed ‘Born to Reign’, the campaign runs from 1 August 2019 to 31 January 2020, and features an irresistible line-up of prizes for those who shop and dine at selected international airports in Malaysia. For this year’s Grand Prize, shoppers stand a chance to drive home a McLaren 570S Coupé.

The lavish launch campaign organised by Malaysia Airports unveiled the jaw-dropping McLaren 570 Coupé at a star-studded party attended by some of Kuala Lumpur’s hottest personalities including Marion Caunter, Awal Ashaari, Scha Al-Yahya, and Alif Satar. The location of the event, Sentul Depot, was transformed into a playground that

reflects the McLaren’s signature elements: speed, thrill and attitude. If that was not enough, the event was topped off with an electrifying performance by local rapper Zamaera and heart-pounding tunes by DJ IRAMA.

Mohammad Nazli Abdul Aziz, Senior General Manager of Commercial Services, stated that the campaign aims to reward shoppers by enhancing the airport passenger experience, while highlighting the diverse selection of commercial offerings at international airports in Malaysia.

“This initiative perfectly aligns with our commercial reset strategy, a key initiative to transform our airports from mere transportation hubs to premiere lifestyle destinations,” he proudly stated.

This is how you can stand a chance to win: submit a contest entry for every RM250 spent in a single receipt at any retail outlet within any of the following international airports

in Malaysia: KL International Airport (KUL), Penang International Airport (PEN), Kota Kinabalu International Airport (BKI), Langkawi International Airport (LGK) and Kuching International Airport (KCH).

This year’s campaign also sees the introduction of a bonus prize for one lucky shopper in the form of a Ducati Monster 821 Superbike, exclusively for shoppers who spend RM250 in a single receipt at PEN, LGK, BKI and KCH.

The other thrilling prizes that are on offer include:

- 1st Prize: A McLaren VIP Paddock Experience in Singapore for two plus two return business class flight tickets to Singapore worth RM100,000
- 2nd Prize: Malaysia Airlines Flight Tickets worth RM80,000
- 3rd Prize: Malaysia Airlines Flight Tickets worth RM60,000
- 4th Prize: Malaysia Airlines Flight Tickets worth RM40,000

Additionally, guests can anticipate monthly prize giveaways such as RM1,000 gift vouchers from Boost E-Wallet or Petron Miles Points to be won. Those who spend a minimum of RM1,000 and RM500 can instantly redeem an exclusive Malaysia Airports ‘Kembara Bag’ or Duty-Free Bag respectively. Guests can also increase their chances of winning by spending with the campaign partners: Maybank, Eraman, Boost, Malaysia Airlines and Petron.

“As of June 2019, the number of passengers at our international airports in Malaysia for the January to June period grew by 4.2% compared to the same period last year. This saw a total of 43.4 million passengers passing through our doors, signifying the opportunity for growth in airport retail. With retail incentives such as ‘Licence to Win’, we hope to further entice airport guests to shop and enhance their total airport experience by offering lucrative prizes,” added Nazli.

In terms of submissions this year, Malaysia Airports has also introduced a new online method for shoppers to submit their receipts via the campaign’s official website. Meanwhile, manual entries can be submitted through filling in contest entry forms or at digital kiosks within KUL.

For the curious bunch that want to catch a glimpse of the prizes in person can do so beginning September, as the McLaren 570S Coupé will be displayed at the KLIA main terminal in KUL while the Ducati Monster 821 Superbike will be displayed in PEN and LGK respectively.

For more information on ‘Licence to Win’ campaign, please visit <https://licencetowin.com.my/> or follow ShopMYAirports on Facebook and Instagram.



AVIATION INTERVIEW WITH DATUK MUSA YUSOF

Director General of Tourism Malaysia

With 30 years of experience serving in Tourism Malaysia, which was known as Tourist Development Corporation of Malaysia when he joined on 7 July 1990, Datuk Musa has always been known as a marketing and promotions man with his knowledge extending to the corporate, international and domestic sectors.

Having looked after key markets such as Europe, Asia, Africa and worked in the Tourism Malaysia's Paris office in his early years, all these past experiences count for the man who has moved up the ladder to step into his current position on 3 December 2018. His biggest responsibility in spearheading the Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 campaign with his team is to bring it to greater heights.

Being the only student to pass with distinction when he took up the Austrian government's scholarship to do the Diploma in Tourism Management from Schloss Klessheim in Salzburg, his eight-month course had linked him to many tourism professionals from various parts of the world. Until today, the networking remains strong as he is part of its alumni. Datuk Musa is also armed with a Bachelor of Science in Economics with International Business from the University of Southern Mississippi, USA.



Following your appointment, what are some of the new initiatives implemented by Tourism Malaysia?

Among them was our participation in ITB Berlin in March where Malaysia was the Official Partner Country. We received immense media exposure and opportunities for partnerships.

In our recent collaboration with Sharp Electronics (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, we will be using its network of 20,000 retail outlets and 200,000 display panels across China, Japan, Taiwan, India and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region to promote Malaysia's tourism video contents using the Japanese multinational electronics giant's latest 8K ultra high definition technology.

We have also been actively developing packages from Moscow with carriers from the Middle East and Europe, namely Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, Emirates and Turkish Airlines that fly direct to Kuala Lumpur daily.

To harness digital technology and social media for Malaysia's tourism promotion, we invited 26 key opinion leaders from ASEAN to the Malaysia ASEAN Tourism Influencers Key Opinion Leaders Programme, which was held from 26 August to 1 September.

How was the response from the industry players towards Tourism Malaysia's RM5 million Gamelan Malaysia 2019 Fund to support their tourism promotional efforts?

It was encouraging. Following our announcement on 9 July, we have received over 72 applications besides queries and requests for briefing sessions by us as the implementing agency, from major associations in Malaysia. The incentives under this fund will help lessen their burden during the current weak global economic conditions.

As we enter into the last quarter of 2019 and fast approaching Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 campaign to meet the targeted 30 million tourist arrivals, please share some of the strategies for the year ahead.

Under the Tourism Malaysia Integrated Promotion Plan 2018-2020, we have outlined several strategies. The strategies include leveraging on upcoming major business events in Malaysia like the Malaysia-China Cooperation Year in 2019-2020, APEC meetings that will be held from December 2019 to November 2020 in various venues in Malaysia as well as the PATA Adventure Travel and Responsible Tourism Conference and Mart in Sabah from 12-14 February 2020.

New sports tourism events such as the FIM Endurance World Championship (EWVC) and the FIA Endurance World Touring Cup (WTCR), to be held from 13-15 December at Sepang International Circuit, were recently promoted at Silverstone, the home of the British Grand Prix as we need to make 'noise' heard outside of Malaysia of our campaign.

In promoting Malaysia as a filming destination, we had 10 film producers from China to view our locations recently. National Film Development Corporation's Film in Malaysia Incentive, gives foreign film makers 30% cash rebate on qualifying Malaysian post-production expenditure when they use our country for filming.

We are also enhancing the National Key Economic Area initiatives in our collaboration with airlines and tour operators where chartered flights and the high yield segments are concerned.

What are the unique selling points of Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020 that will help it stand tall above the other destinations in the region?

The campaign's emphasis on promoting nature and culture. Guided by the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture's National EcoTourism Plan 2016-2025, our programmes will thus reflect on the promotion of ecotourism and tourism sustainability.

We will also be promoting new products at Desaru Coast in Johor, Sealife at Legoland, Selangor's Sky Mirror and Blue Tears, as well as indoor theme parks like Superpark in Avenue K, My Best Box in Berjaya Times Square, Futureland Fun Zone in Sunway Pyramid and The Rift in Mid Valley MegaMall.

How do you plan to engage with the industry players this time around to get their full support in order to make this campaign a success?

Following our engagement sessions in Negeri Sembilan and Sabah last April, our next session to encourage local tour operators and agents to develop special travel packages will be in Johor.

We would like to encourage the industry players to create a countdown in order to build up the excitement for the celebration of this national campaign and carry its logo in all their promotional activities.

So far, engagement sessions have also been organised with the local media in KL, Sabah

and Sarawak to heighten awareness about the campaign under *Sembang Santai Tourism Malaysia bersama Media*, with six programmes have been planned throughout 2019.

Domestic tourism plays a significant role contributing double-digit growth in 2018 to the local economy with its 78.2 million domestic tourists and total expenditure of RM60.4 billion. What is Tourism Malaysia's message to the locals on spending holidays in their own country during Visit Truly Asia Malaysia 2020? What are some of the incentives and/or special events that have been created for them?

While we encourage Malaysians to travel within their own country to explore its nature, culture and people, it is worrying to see that 68.2% of them preferred to stay at their relatives' house rather than at hotels or other paid accommodations. We are working hard to change this with the help of various associations and instill in them that Malaysia has so many beautiful, unique and thematic hotels and accommodations to offer that fits their budget.

The promotional programmes to gain public support for the campaign next year include Tourism Malaysia Travel Fair; Augmented Reality Cuti-Cuti Malaysia Treasure Hunt Sabah; Surfcasting Tour, A Journey to Visit Malaysia 2020; MARVEL Run Malaysia 2019 and our domestic sales missions.

Tourism Malaysia had a tripartite collaboration with Malaysia Airports and Condor Airlines last year on the Frankfurt-KL route during the winter season. What were the total number of arrivals from this seasonal flight arrangement? Were the passengers all German nationals or mixed from other European countries?

Malaysia recorded 51,209 tourist arrivals from Germany since Condor Airlines started its winter operations in November 2018. Owing to overwhelming response for direct flights connecting Germany to Malaysia, we continued our collaboration with the airline for the summer season from May to October.

Can we expect more of such arrangements with other parties/airlines?

Of course. This year alone we partnered with new airlines such as Air Busan and Air Arabia to enhance connectivity to Malaysia.

What strategies does Tourism Malaysia have to woo the high-yield Middle Eastern tourists to Malaysia as there has been a drop in their arrivals and a change in the profile of those travelling from groups or families to more frequent independent travellers (FITs) and couples?

The increase in seats capacity to Malaysia from the Middle East (ME) following Air Arabia's direct Sharjah-KL flights in July and Qatar Airways' Doha flights to Langkawi via Penang this October has opened new possibilities for us to grow the ME and surrounding markets.

We are expanding the market volume to Malaysia by targeting Air Arabia's vast network to the primary, secondary and tertiary cities within the ME. In Qatar Airways' case, Penang and Langkawi will be the drawcard for the Europeans to travel to Malaysia.

We are optimising the different market segments such as millennials travelling with their close friends, partner or spouse and young families. They usually travel as FITS or use online travel agency as they are more IT savvy. Since the ME has a younger population, millennials are an important market segment to focus on and grow.

We are also eyeing the expatriate market, especially in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries as they make up between 40% and 90% of the population. Tourism Malaysia is expanding the market beyond the ME by taking advantage of the United Arab Emirates and Qatar's position as important global airport hubs with good connections to Europe, North Africa and the United States as the majority of these destinations are not covered by our local carriers.

Our strategies are executed through smart partnership with airlines and tour operators under the joint promotion or Joint International Development Tourism Programme with Malaysia Airports.

On the personal front, what is your ultimate vision for the tourism industry in Malaysia?

Bring our tourism industry to greater heights as the industry is very dynamic. For the country to remain attractive and as a 'top-of-mind' destination, the concerted efforts of all Malaysians are vital. To quote the French poet Anatole France, "To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe".

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THE LUXE REPORT

BY JACQUELINE BENITA PAUL

The Pavilions Hotels & Resorts Steps into the World of Wellness

This boutique brand showcases wellness focusing on unlimited massage offers, all-natural wellness masterclasses and - coming soon - an exclusive Roman collaboration with REVIVÔ Wellness Resorts.

Guests booking the luxurious 310sqm Ocean View Pool Villas at the intimate hilltop haven and brand flagship, The Pavilion Phuket, will enjoy unlimited complimentary massages. The Pavilion Bali's organic spa is inspiring guests to learn how to self-administer one of its signature beauty treatments with an exclusive new aloe vera facial masterclass. The 90-minute masterclass includes organic ingredients from the resort's spa kitchen, a guide to the five steps of facial rejuvenation, DIY facial massage and reflexology techniques, and a recipe booklet to take home.

The Pavilions Hotels & Resorts' wellness offering will make a further evolutionary leap in the coming months, courtesy of an exclusive collaboration with REVIVÔ Wellness Resorts at the forthcoming First Roma Ego - a new boutique luxury hotel that will complete The Pavilions' pioneering tripartite urban resort concept in Rome when it opens in 2020.

For further information and reservations, visit www.pavilionshotels.com or email info@pavilionshotels.com

Globally Renowned Interior Designer, Katharine Pooley, Launches Her Latest Nature-Inspired Collection

Be washed over with the serenity and tranquility of nature with Katharine Pooley's exquisite new collection in her Walton Street Boutique. The nature-inspired collection includes curated products such as the Unique Coral Sculpture, Oceania Blue Ceramic Vase and Osaka Vases.

Visit www.katharinepooley.com for more information



Wilson Associates Reimagine High-End Cocktail Lounge in Singapore's Marina Bay

Commissioned by Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group to overhaul the 7,534-square-foot bar area, Wilson Associates drew its design inspiration from the tribal culture of the "orang laut" (sea people in Malay, referring to the indigenous sea nomads and sea gypsies of Singapore).

Wilson Associates brought in natural materials and fauna like plants from the Philippines, which are embedded into the resin of the coffee tabletops to create a rustic, yet refined feel. Sourced from New Zealand, China and Europe, the artwork shares global-inspired themes that complement the overall design aesthetic. The defining highlight of MO Bar is its marble countertop, achieved from the latest breakthrough technology. Additionally, the design team implemented a wave-washed-up effect that ties into the coastal tribe culture. Symbols of local seamen were imprinted on the ceiling and sliding panel and can be found on the staff uniforms, further enforcing this motif.

MO Bar offers one of the most invigorating views of the Marina and is a prime spot for the Marina Bay Street Circuit and New Year's fireworks.



Crystal Cruises Is 'Top Small Ship Cruise Line Named The U.S. & Canada'

The world's most awarded cruise line has earned top honours in Cruise Critic's 2019 Cruisers' Choice Destination Awards, as cruisers named Crystal Cruises the "Top Small Ship Cruise Line in the U.S. & Canada." The annual awards are based exclusively on the reviews and feedback shared by well-travelled cruisers in the online community.

For more information and Crystal reservations, contact a travel advisor, call 888.799.2437, or visit www.crystalcruises.com



FASHION & BEAUTY NEWS

All the must-knows and must-haves of the month

BY SARA YEOH



FERN BATIK + ARTISANAL COLLECTIVE

Malaysian luxury resortwear FERN Batik opens a flagship store in Bangsar. Having an appreciation for the beauty and artistry of batik, FERN Batik is a design house that celebrates and rediscovers the aesthetic elegance of the traditional fabric art form. Beautiful silhouettes of FERN Batik collections can now be found within the soft pastel store, where lush greenery and local materials such as rattan and bamboo play a big role in inspiring the designer Fern in all her collections.

With its expansion, FERN Batik evolves into an artisanal collective, in which like-minded artisans from around the globe are invited to bring ethical jewellery, accessories and home goods to it.

*FERN Batik Bangsar Flagship Store
UGF-17A, Upper Ground Floor,
Bangsar Village II, No. 2, Jalan Telawi 1,
Bangsar Baru, 59100 Kuala Lumpur*



F IS FOR... FENDI

Fendi's artistic inhibitions have led to the latest collaboration with Sam Cox a.k.a Mr. Doodle. This time, he doodles over the Peekaboo bag, where he took his pen out to spell out 'FENDI', 'ROMA' and 'FF' in bright yellow, along with contrasting, small funny creatures in black and white all over it for a one-of-a-kind look. We'd say don't let anyone doodle over your Peekaboo, unless it's Mr. Doodle himself!

RENEWED FOR SKIN RENEWAL

Did you know... the skin is a living organ that is constantly renewing itself? To help maintain skin immortality, L'Occitane's reformulated Precious Dynamic Youthcare range contains a duo of active ingredients, Immortelle essential oil and dynamic hyaluronic acid complex, to promote natural skin renewal. The Immortelle essential oil's antioxidant properties can fight against daily skin aggressors that damage skin cells, while the dynamic hyaluronic acid complex plumps skin with moisture to smooth out fine lines.

*L'Occitane Dynamic Youthcare Serum (30ml), RM295
L'Occitane Dynamic Youthcare Cream (50ml), RM290*

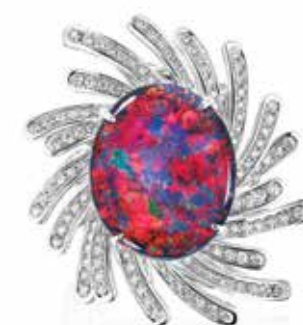
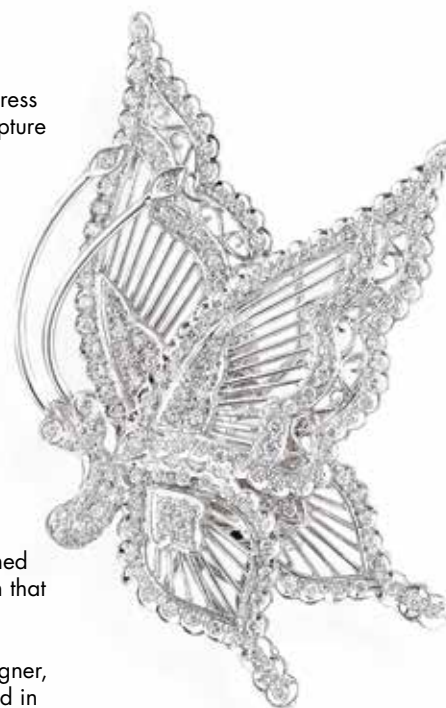


EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE

Jewellery has been a universal way to express love and affection for centuries. And to capture the essence of precious, everlasting love that every woman deserves, TSL Jewellery presented the TSL The Expressions of Love Exhibition, which featured pieces from TSL Jewellery's enchanting collections that are worth over RM80 million. Highlights were the Rare Opal collection, which features some of the rarest opal gems in the world, and the Heritage collection, a testament of TSL's outstanding reputation in fine jewellery making which through the decades became the brand's signature classic.

One of the earliest innovations of TSL, the Papilio Clytia diamond brooch was designed with a clever automated spring mechanism that allows the wings to flutter.

Designed by famous French jewellery designer, Isa Parvex, TSL's Radiant Plumes are nestled in a diamond band of meticulously constructed plumes that resemble the feathery plumes of a majestic bird.





MOUNSER
Gold-plated pearl necklace
RM873



ISABEL MARANT
Gold-tone, bone and
enamel bracelet
RM498

BALENCIAGA
Gold tone earrings
RM1690

CALI COOL

Emulate the trademark coolness and easy going vibes of the Golden State, and pick up pastel hues, tie-dyes, bleached denim and easy sandals for your California dreamin'...

BY SARA YEOH



THEORY
Cotton-blend tank
RM1,679



120%LINO
Patch-pocket linen shirt
RM615



ILLESTEVA
Wooster Ace tortoiseshell aviator
sunglasses
RM855

BON VOYAGE

Everything the modern jetsetter packs for his pilgrimages - a trans-seasonal jacket, polished separates and tinted aviators to see the world in passionate hues.

BY SARA YEOH



RAEY
Oversized short-sleeved cotton shirt
RM645



STELLA MCCARTNEY
Oversized tie-dyed T-shirt
RM1,040



LOEWE
Lizard-effect leather bag
RM15,713



STAUD
Tie-dye midi skirt
RM693



BAERNA VENEZIA
Velier straight-leg cotton-twill trousers
RM770



BARENA VENEZIA
Olivio houndstooth-cotton blouson jacket
RM2,100



BURBERRY
Belted relaxed-leg
cotton-twill trousers
RM2,580



CHLOE
Croc-effect leather sandals
RM2,912



ALEXANDER WANG
Frayed denim shorts
RM784



GUCCI
GG Web-stripe cotton-canvas
fedora hat
RM2,495



PRADA
Buckle-strap Velcro technical-mesh slides
RM2,050



SAINT LAURENT
Monogram suede holdall
RM7,780

HYALURONIC ACID

Hyaluronic acid is the biggest beauty buzzword and holds the secret to plump skin. From cleansers to serums and eye creams – here is our hyaluronic acid edit to combat any dry skin woes.

BY SARA YEOH

DR. DENNIS GROSS Hyaluronic Marine Hydration Booster

Featuring super humectant Hyaluronic Acid, barrier-sealing and protecting Watermelon Extract and Centella Asiatica, and moisture-boosting Marine Algae, this serum smooths the appearance of fine lines and rough texture to reveal a dewy complexion. RM294 for 30ml.



FOR BELOVED ONE Advanced Hyaluronic Acid GHK-Cu Moisturising Toner

The powerful GHK-Cu, copper gluconate and hyaluronic acid infused toner boosts the absorption and effects of your subsequent skincare products, leaving you a dewy complexion that's primed and prepped for the day. RM185 for 200ml.



PETER THOMAS ROTH Water Drench Cloud Cream Cleanser

Thanks to the hyaluronic acid content and a combination of ingredients like coconut oil and marshmallow root extract, this cleanser retains moisture levels in the skin while it purifies, leaving the skin smooth and radiant. RM80 for 120ml.



MARIO BADESCU Hyaluronic Eye Cream

Enriched with hyaluronic acid and aloe vera, this ultra-nourishing but non-greasy eye cream locks in vital moisture under the eyes, and even soothes sensitive skin. RM84 for 14g.



TATA HARPER Hyaluronic Gel Moisturiser

Get intense but lightweight hydration with the moisturiser's quintuple hyaluronic acid complex. Vitamins and minerals replenish and nourish skin, while a multi-floral blend soothes redness for a fresh, healthy-looking complexion. RM484 for 50ml.



BORNEAN BLOOMS

Hailing from Kuching, Sarawak, Wynka is planting its roots in KL's ever flowering fashion landscape. Following her debut 花園 (garden) collection in KL, we picked the brains of Karen Lau of Wynka to tell us more.

BY SARA YEOH

Tell us about yourself and how did Wynka come about?

I may be biased, but I'd like to say I'm a creative soul. Coming from a fine arts background, I've always loved beautiful things. So, after spending 15 years in the fashion industry as a model, I decided to fuse my love for both fashion and fine arts to start a clothing brand. Hence, Wynka was born and it's been a wonderful journey since.

How did you feel about showcasing your collection in KL for the first time?

I poured my heart and soul into this collection, so I was definitely a combination of pure excitement and a nervous wreck when we debuted in KL. It felt like a huge starting point and I just wanted everyone to love it as much as I did. The collection turned out to be a great success and the response was overwhelming. I'm grateful that the collection opened many doors and presented us with new opportunities.

What do you think about the fashion scene here?

There's a lot of talented emerging designers in KL, each with a unique style and creativity. We have some great leaders in the industry with wealth of experience and they have inspired many (including myself) to boldly pursue our own designing dreams. For Wynka, I wanted to shake things up a little. We're at this new age and era where people are celebrating our differences and uniqueness. So I think we can be more daring with the clothing we wear, be it the colours or prints. Abstract is the new classy.

Your collection is rather feminine with frills and florals and chiffons... Can you tell us more about the collection?

The collection was inspired by the lush tropics of Borneo. Being surrounded by such beautiful greenery gave way to the idea of celebrating this "garden" that us Borneans grew up in. The rich colour palettes of flora and fauna, contrast of textures, and streamlines of nature – who could be a better muse than mother nature herself? We wanted to integrate our pieces into the rawness and structurally "undone" of a garden – like the organic prints and flowy silhouettes that mimicked the wind. There's just that freedom and a kind of joy that you feel when you get to wander in fields of blooms, and we wanted to encapsulate that in each of our pieces."

What pieces from your catwalk show are you most excited about?

It's like asking who is your favourite child. It really is too difficult to pick out a single piece because really all the pieces work together to tell a story.

Who is the Wynka woman?

The brand embodies all women. We really aim to be inclusive in our designs. Wynka is all about the confidence and boldness to be different. Now, that's the Wynka woman.

What's your ambition for Wynka in the next 5 years?

My motto would be "one step at a time". Things will turn out alright in the end, but if I really had to state an ambition.... global expansion would be great.





WHY BIOLOGIQUE RECHERCHE'S P50 IS A SKINCARE CULT

The bottle of lotion from France everyone's obsessed with

BY SARA YEOH

If you've ever heard of the skincare product that burns and smells like vinegar – and would still like to get your hands on it – congrats, you're in the inner circle of the beauty world. In the west, the P50 lotion is on the top shelves of every beauty editor, major A-list Hollywood stars (we're talking Sharon Stone-major) and supermodels. Add the raving reviews into the equation, where users have claimed that it made their skin 'feel like silk' and even went so far to say it's 'Jesus in a bottle', the 150ml bottle of lotion has reached cult status.

To add exclusivity to the little bottle of French beauty liquid, you can't just get the P50 off the shelves of Sephora or any stores – you will need a prescription for it by a trained aesthetician at licensed retailers only. Just not long ago, you'd have to fly to Paris just for a Biologique Recherche facial (allegedly oh, so loved by Brad Pitt and Madonna). Lucky for us, we can now book a consultation and get the bottle of miracle right in the heart of Bangsar at Boren Medical Hub if we want to.

ORIGINS OF THE P50

The mysterious French brand was a family business founded by Yvan, Josette and Philippe Allouche, who were a biologist, physiotherapist and doctor respectively. It started as a skincare research and development laboratory to develop formulations for professionals dissatisfied with existing products, before turning to making its own products. And one of Biologique Recherche's first-ever products was the cult P50 1970.

When the product was launched in 1970, the original formula even caused controversies for the use of phenol (a substance found in mouthwash and now-banned in Europe) as one of the main ingredients. Yet, purists

would not bat an eye to put the P50 1970 on their face. But for the rest of us, there is a P50 (sans 1970) that leaves out the phenol.

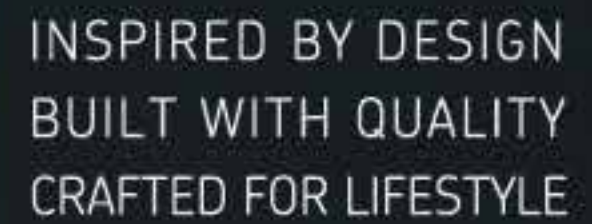
Despite being labelled as a lotion, the P50 does much more than that – it gently exfoliates, balances the skin's PH levels, regulates the sebum, hydrates, and protects against free radicals. And for this one lotion alone, there are a few formulas, so that it'll cater to absolutely any skin type. In Malaysia, you can find the P50T – one of the gentlest formulas of the bunch – that is recommended for fine, sensitive Asian skin. And there's the P50 PIGM 400 made for dull complexions with hyperpigmentation – perfect for people in the city dealing with sun, stress and polluted air.

HAUTE COUTURE SKINCARE

Frills and glamour (and price tag) aside, do we really need personalised skincare?

"No one's skin is made the same. Hence, you can't expect one commercial formula to work for everyone," says Dr. Boren Tan of Boren Medical Hub. "We have different skin conditions not just at different stages of our lives, but even at different times of day, largely affected by our living conditions, diet, lifestyle and exposure. So, a personalised skincare routine makes sure the skin gets maximum effects of whatever goes into it." And the doctor's prescription to this? A personalised analysis of your skin's condition using Biologique Recherche's state-of-the-art Skin Instant technology, followed by its recommendations of Biologique Recherche products and treatments tailored to you.

The full range of Biologique Recherche products and facial treatments are currently available exclusively at Boren Medical Hub in Malaysia.



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KLAS ART AUCTION SALE XXXVII

AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

Date: September 29, 2019
Auction Venue: KLAS @ Jalan Utara
Catalogue Now Online at www.kl-lifestyle.com.my

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

KL Lifestyle Art Space (KLAS) will host its much-anticipated third modern and contemporary art auction of the 2019 calendar year on Sept 29. KLAS art auction is an event patronised by artists, art collectors, the beau monde and like-minded individuals. The distinguished art auction features an array of masterpieces from Malaysian and Asian art masters from around the region. Since its inception in 2012, KL Lifestyle Art Space has sold over 2,800 artworks. Here, we list the key - artworks to look forward to during the auction, so mark your calendar for an art-filled day.



Syed Ahmad Jamal, Datuk, B. Johor, 1929 – 2011
Senyuman 2009
Acrylic on canvas 122 x 183 cm
RM420,000 – RM600,000

Among the artworks to look out for during the KLAS Art Auction Sale XXXVII is one of Malaysia’s prominent artists, Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal’s ‘Senyuman’ (smile). This beautiful piece of work is a confluence of modernity and culture, exhibiting vibrant colours and a subtle grace to command viewers’ attention. We currently hold the record hammer price for Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal’s artwork entitled ‘Nur Tenaga’, hammered in KLAS art auction SALE XXVIII, on July 30, 2017 for a whopping RM490,332.



Nur Tenaga, 2010
Acrylic on canvas
153 x 152 cm
SOLD RM 490,332.00
Klas Art Auction 30 July 2017
Sale XXVIII



Khalil Ibrahim
East Coast Ladies, 1970s
Batik 87 x 70 cm
RM80,000 – RM 120,000

Khalil Ibrahim graduated from the prestigious St. Martin’s School of Art & Design, United Kingdom in 1964. The ‘East Coast Ladies’, 1970’s is yet another masterpiece that renders aficionados in awe. This work immediately oozes a simple charm and one can’t help but smile looking at it. A muted background is used here to shed light on the Malay women. In a typical Khalil manner, the artist granted his subjects fluid motion, signifying the femininity and grace of women. The vibrant gold palette, depth and feeling it possesses allows spectators to see through Khalil’s eyes, transporting them to simpler times in the East Coast where the ladies were clad in kebaya and sarongs, tending to their daily chores. Khalil’s paintings and his prodigal batik works are unfailing in hitting outstanding prices – this is evident with ‘Abstract, 1996’, in KLAS Art Auction Sale VII, January 2014 which sold for RM132,000.

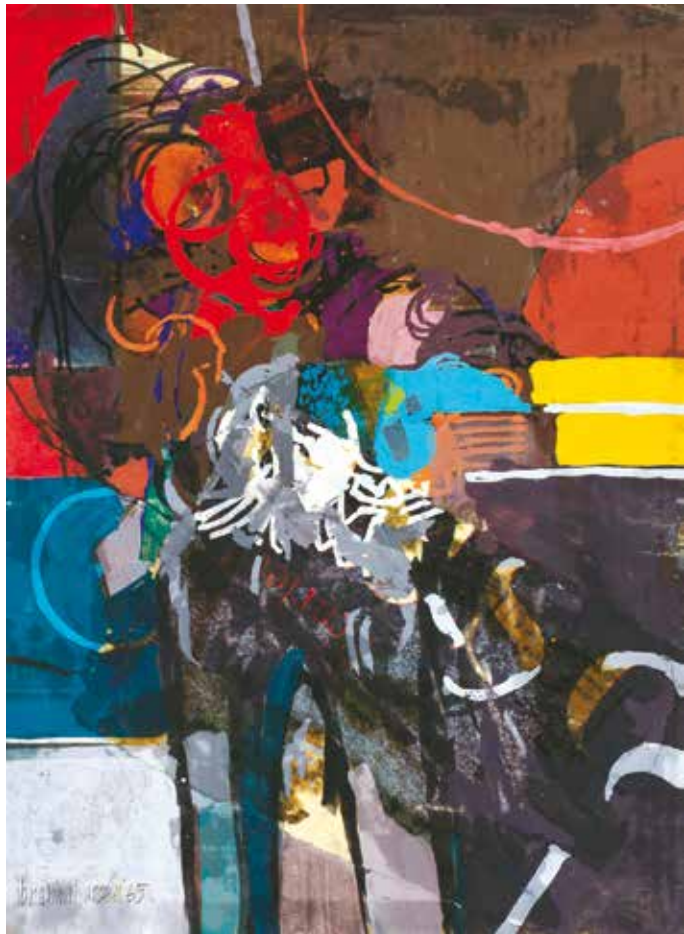


East Coast Series, 1973
Batik, 90 x 60 cm
SOLD RM 132,000
KLAS Art Auction 19 January 2014
Sale VII



Abdul Latiff Mohidin, B. Negeri Sembilan, 1941
Rumbia 1968 Edition 1/3
Linocut on paper 45.5 x 30 cm
RM50,000 – RM90,000

This striking work by Abdul Latiff Mohidin was formerly in the collection of avid art collector, Patrick J. Murphy. The Rumbia series, Edition 1/3 is a representation of the artist’s prodigious technique, complexity, elevating the work further with monochromatic hues of black and gold. There is something enigmatic about this work that draws people in. Abdul Latiff’s works on paper have always garnered the interest of aficionados. His ‘Serangga 28, 2012’ painting from KLAS Art Auction Sale VIII on April 6, 2014 sold for a total of RM121,000.00. Another example of the artist’s record-breaking price is his Pago Pago Series, 1966 featured in KLAS Art Auction Edition III, April 7, 2013. It was sold for an impressive RM33,000, surpassing its upper estimate of RM18,000.



Ibrahim Hussein, Datuk B. Kedah, 1936
Untitled – New York Series, 1965
Gouache and collaged paper on magazine page laid to card
24.76 x 18.09 cm
RM28,000 – RM50,000

One can immediately discern the lively colours at play and layering, presenting a figment of Datuk Ibrahim Hussein's imagination. His name is no stranger to KL Lifestyle Art Space. His bestselling work is undoubtedly the, 'Moher and Child, 1964', hammered at RM631,232.

"In the summer of '64, I took with me a portfolio of 50 gouaches to New York, I put up with a friend, the portrait painter of the former Shah of Iran. I went to the Life and Times Magazine office to see a friend I knew in New York and he introduced me to the Time art critic who gave me the names of art galleries in New York and the address of the Galerie Internationale in Madison Avenue. Like a school boy with my over-sized portfolio, I went to the Gallerie and demanded to see the art director who wasn't in at the time. I left my paintings there. Three days later, they offered me a one-man exhibition and a contract to work for the Gallerie. A week later, they sent me a cheque for the sale of 10 gouaches. I asked for the return of the rest of the paintings and left for Washington." - stated by Ib in his Retrospective published by the National Art Gallery in 1986.



Mother and Child, 1964
Gouache on magazine page
33 x 25 cm
SOLD RM 67,632.00
KLAS Art Auction 23 October 2016
Sale XXIII



Jolly Koh, B. Singapore, 2001
Landscape, 2011
Oil on canvas 70 x 56 cm
RM25,000 – RM40,000

Concocted by Jolly Koh in 2011, 'Landscape' is a medley of wonderful and harmonious hues, supplemented by different intensities and tones. It possesses an otherworldly atmosphere hallmark of Jolly Koh's works. Inspired by his own mind and skills, his style of painting is purely derived from his fantasy world and he morphs it into a tangible form with the combined use of oil and acrylic. This arresting landscape is an incorporation of nature and his prowess as a romantic and lyrical painter. Jolly Koh's paintings are frequently exhibited in KLAS's art auction – among his highest grossing painting is the 'Blue Birds, 2005' from Sale XXVI, hammered after a bidding war for RM105,956.80.



Blue Birds, 2005
Oil and acrylic on canvas
137 x 170 cm
SOLD RM 105,956.80
KLAS Art Auction 12 March 2017
Sale XXVI



Yusof Ghani B. Johor, 1950
Siri Tari – Drawing /90, 1990
Mixed media on paper 45 x 60 cm
RM8,000 – RM15,000



Siri Tari - Drawing/90, 1990
Mixed media on paper
53 x 72.5 cm
SOLD RM 33,816.00
KLAS Art Auction
13 November 2016
Sale XXIV

Bridging realism and abstraction, this artwork by Yusof Ghani sees delicate silhouettes of subjects in their movement and form, converging towards the centre. Lines and sketches on this artwork were executed freely and spontaneously in a liberated and haphazard manner. The subtle splashes of colours give this painting that polished, fluid flair. Yusof Ghani's 'Siri Tari, 1989' exhibited in KLAS Art Auction May 24, 2015 Sale XV saw success when it doubled its upper limit of RM7,000, achieving a hammered price of RM14,160..



Nizar Kamal Ariffin
A Hubbu (Love), 2018
Acrylic on canvas 122 x 122 cm
RM15,000 – RM25,000

Nizar Kamal Ariffin's artworks surpass intricate planning and structured lines to figuratively express spirituality, freedom, faith and personal growth – all of which are interconnected in the world as in the paintings, infinite and ongoing. This is evident in Nizar's representation of love in 'A Hubbu'. This painting has a gradient of warm hues and a prominent Jawi writing symbolising love. In Nizar's meticulous manner, he produced the 'Siri Dunia - Garis Lunak #6, 2016', a greyscale diptych featured in KLAS Art Auction Sale XXII, on Sept 4, 2016. This gorgeous piece of work was grabbed for a record price of RM21,416.80.



Siri Dunia Berbisik - Amin, 2016
Acrylic on canvas
122 x 122 cm
SOLD RM 17,920
KLAS Art Auction 12 November 2018
Sale XXXIV



Chia Yu Chian, Emerald Temple, Bangkok
Oil on board 52.5 x 43.5 cm
RM18,000 – RM25,000

Born in Johor in 1936, Chia Yu Chian studied at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. The 'Emerald Temple, Bangkok' is a depiction of Chia's fascination with the architecture of Buddhist temples. The stupa takes precedence in the foreground, capturing the antics of devotees at the temple. The gold hues decorating the stupa against the emerald-looking skies announce the scene's beauty and capacity. Early this year, from Feb 17 to June 23, Ilham Gallery paid homage to the late artist through an exhibition entitled, Chia Yu Chian: Private Lives. The exhibition focused on the last decades of the artist's practice, showcasing his paintings from the late 1960's until his passing in 1990. In KLAS Art Auction Sale 1, on Sept 30, 2012, Chia's painting, 'My Days in France', gained a record pricing of RM28,600, going over the work's upper estimate.



My Days In France, 1959
Oil on canvas
51 x 62 cm
SOLD RM 28,600.00
KLAS Art Auction 30 September 2012
Sale I



FEATURES



La Santé Spa



The Chateau's Aerial View



Deluxe Room



CitizenM Room

FEATURES

CITIZENM BUKIT BINTANG

The Haute Spot for Trendy and Techy Travellers

BY JACQUELINE BENITA PAUL

THE CHATEAU SPA AND ORGANIC WELLNESS RESORT

C'est La Vie

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

Ascenic drive it was, discovering the terrain leading up to Bukit Tinggi – surrounded by lush foliage on either side and majestic hills before us. Erected on hillslopes and nestled amid a tropical rainforest, The Chateau Spa and Organic Wellness Resort is a slice of heaven, boasting impeccable service, award-winning spa treatments and sumptuous dining – all slanted towards health and wellness. This resort delivers a taste of France with its hallowed facade, taking inspiration from the 18th century Haut Koenigsbourg castle in Alsace.

Stylish Rooms

Opulence is the constant theme, seen within the 172 elegant varieties of rooms offered at this resort. Each room brags its own disposition, decorated in neutral, organic theme and European-inspired fittings – a lush space to seek refuge in. The Jacuzzi suite is tastefully designed and opens up to a generous terrace with a private outdoor jacuzzi to stimulate a journey of relaxation. Meanwhile, much-needed slumber is induced by the magnificent organic bed, soft cotton pillows and plush linens. Come morning, be awakened by the alarm set by mother nature – the soft streaks of light streaming through the windows, bird song and rustles of leaves.

Wellness

Supplement the wellness retreat by partaking in a therapeutic morning awakening yoga, led by Mohanan, who therapeutically guides you through Pranayama, Surya Namaskar and other asanas. Subsequently, embark on a fitness walk to the Japanese village and discover the myriad of flora and fauna, exclusive to the highlands. Alternatively, one can saddle up and go horseback riding along a hilly trail and bear witness to the beauty of mother earth.

La Santé Spa

Be pampered in the seven-star, award-winning facility and The Chateau's crowning jewel, La Santé Organic Wellness spa – the first of its kind to embody a European concept in Asia. Immerse in a passage of rejuvenation and relaxation in a cosy ambience and array of impressive treatments including the Herbal Bath in a European heated chamber infused with rosemary, chamomile or lavender, or La Santé Signature massage – a distinct combination of Swedish and Shiatsu massages to improve circulation and reduce muscle tension. The marriage of European spa expertise, warm Asian hospitality and skilled spa specialists bears fruition to unrivalled bespoke treatments, focused on one's wellbeing.

Dining the French Way

La Vie

"La Vie en Rose dans Chateau." Mornings at the Chateau encapsulate you in nature – from the chirps of the birds, bees and butterflies buzzing to the mist passing by. Bask in this serene ambience while indulging (guilt-free) at The Chateau's resident all-day dining restaurant, La Vie where its culinary offerings are healthy and organic, with its outstanding feature being its beautiful salt water pool.

L'asiette

L'asiette is a vision of lavishness – from cascading crystal chandeliers to plush furniture, guests are brought on a gastronomic voyage through quintessential French fine dining. Personifying the resort's wellness concept, the degustation menu here is skewed to offer guests a wholesome, organic experience.

The Chateau Spa & Organic Wellness Resort
KM48, Persimpangan Bertingkat, Lebuhraya Karak,
Bukit Tinggi, 28750 Karak, Pahang.
09-221 3888

Who knew thinking big meant going small? Well, Dutch brand CitizenM made waves across the globe for its innovative take on being an affordable luxury hotel. This is done through optimising compact rooms (which are generally 183 sq ft), providing guests with their basic needs and utilising cutting-edge technology to streamline the hotel's services. Early this year, the brand welcomed its 19th international property in the heart of Kuala Lumpur. This also marked the third property opening in Asia after Taipei and Shanghai.

Within a mere 10-minute walking distance to Kuala Lumpur's main shopping district and highly-lauded eateries, the location of CitizenM is indisputably one of the best for travellers to experience the vibrant city. Work or play, CitizenM's facilities cater to both. Its picturesque lobby adorned with kitschy décor and bolstered by the vibrant Vitra furniture adds contemporary comfort and a taste of the local life (for the upper echelons of society).

Concierge services are replaced with check-in/check-out kiosks, ridding you of unnecessary waiting time. CitizenM's prolific use of technology is the most impressive aspect of the hotel; each 210 equally-sized smart rooms come with a "MoodPad" (an Ipad) with CitizenM's signature app which acts as a controller for the smart TV, blackout blinds, wake-up call setting, room lighting and temperature. Business travellers can make full use of the well-equipped meeting rooms and IMacs at the ready.



CitizenM Living Room

While the rooms are compact, a comfortable king-size bed is available in all the rooms to provide the comfort you need for your 8-hour rest. Drawers underneath the bed are for placing your clothes conveniently. The room also comes with a cozy nook with Vitra furnishing, allowing you to work in style. As a conscious brand, the hotel uses soap dispensers instead of the plastic toiletry bottles. It even goes a step further to provide the AM or PM soap options to cater to the discerning taste of its guests.

Instead of room service, guests are invited to mingle over snacks, sweets, sodas, juices and local favorites at canteenM, which operates

24/7. So, no matter what time zone you are flying from, rest assured, you will be handed the piping hot coffee you ordered and a fresh meal made with local produce. Plus, why waste the opportunity to explore KL's thriving food scene which is easily accessible from the hotel's location. In fact, should you require a guide, there are many around the hotel and the citizenM ambassadors are ever ready to point you in the right direction.

CitizenM Bukit Bintang Kuala Lumpur
128, Jalan Pudu, Bukit Bintang, 55100 Kuala Lumpur,
Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur
03-9212 6340



Suria KLCC
Petronas Twin Towers • 📍 KLCC
Tel : 03-2382 2828 / 2430 / 2431
Located at the base of the Petronas Twin Towers, Suria KLCC is the premier shopping centre in KL. It offers unique shopping, dining & entertainment experience. It houses exclusive designer brands and provides an abundant choices of goods and services for everyone. • 10am - 10pm daily. • D8

Avenue K Shopping Mall
156 Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur. Tel: 03 2168 7800
Avenue K is Kuala Lumpur’s coolest urban hub where life and creativity are celebrated. The new Avenue K aims to indulge your retail desires, cater to your entertainment needs and satisfy your appetite for top-notch dining in comfort. Far from a regular mall, it offers exciting experiences and a trend setting venue where shoppers can relax and treat yourself to a good time. With over 60 exciting dining options including Fresca Mexican Kitchen, Dolly Dim Sum, Samba Brazilian Steakhouse, Sushi Zanmai, Nene Chicken, Boat Noodle, Sushi King and Bankara Ramen. there is no doubt that Avenue K is a foodie’s heaven. • 10am to 10pm

IOI City Mall
Management Office, Unit T2-3A-3 & Unit T2-3A-3A, Level 3A, IOI City Tower Two, Lebuhr IRC, IOI Resort City, 62502 Putrajaya, Sepang, Selangor. Tel: 03-8328 8900
The multi award-winning IOI City Mall, located within IOI Resort City, is the largest mall in Southern Klang Valley. It is easily accessible via major highways and public transport. Its 1.5 million sq. ft. of lettable space is occupied by trendy fashion brands, supermarket, cineplexes and F&B outlets offering exquisite local and international dining experiences. • 10am to 10pm

MyTOWN Shopping Centre
No.6, Jalan Cochrane Cheras, Seksyen 90, 55100 Kuala Lumpur. Tel: 03-2710 0057
MyTOWN is located in Kuala Lumpur, anchored by IKEA Cheras. Visit us easily by bypass or take a ride on the MRT to the Cochrane underground MRT station. The blend of fashion forward retail, amazing amenities, stylish alfresco events make MyTOWN the premier shopping destination in the heart of Kuala Lumpur. It’s more than just shopping... It’s an experience for everyone in the family!
• 10am to 10pm

Publika Shopping Gallery
No 1, Jalan Dutamas 1, Solaris Dutamas, 50480 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03-6211 7877
www.publika.com.my
www.facebook.com/publikashoppinggallery

Bangsar Village
Jalan Ara, Bangsar • 📍 Bangsar
Tel : 03-2282 1808
Located in happening Bangsar, this neighbourhood mall is vastly popular due to its individual specialist shops offering fashion wear, toys, jewellery, hardware, beauty salons and F&B. Anchor tenants include The Village Grocer. The newer and bigger Bangsar Village II that’s connected to this mall offers more local and international brands.

Sunway Pyramid
Bandar Sunway
Tel : 03-74943100
Impressive giant sphinx statue greets you at the entrance of this Egyptian-themed shopping centre situated next to Sunway Hotel and the Sunway Lagoon theme park. The mall has a variety of shops and restaurants, an indoor ice-skating rink and a cineplex. • 10am-10pm daily.

Pavilion KL
168, Jalan Bukit Bintang • 📍 B Bintang
Tel: 03-2118 8833
The shopping centre blends the best of the international retail world with 450 stores – ranging from fashion to home deco and leisure to culinary delights - over its 7 levels and 6 themed precincts. 20% of its tenants represent debut brands in Malaysia. Anchor departmental stores are Parkson Pavilion and Tangs. • 10am to 10pm daily

Bangsar Shopping Centre
Jalan Maarof, Bangsar
Tel : 03-2094 7700
Located in the affluent Bangsar suburb, this mall buzzes with a trendy crowd and houses an array of individual specialist shops for every need. Jasons Food Hall is a favourite with shoppers, as it offers an extensive range of fresh and international food brands. 10am - 10pm daily.

Maju Junction Mall
1001 Jalan Sultan Ismail • 📍
Tel: 03-2697 9312
Located at the junction of Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman and Jalan Sultan Ismail, the five-storey mall has 101 outlets with Giant, Wh by British India, FOS, Nichii Fashion City being the anchor tenants. The mall provides concierge service and has an indoor archery centre, Big-Shot Archery. • 10am - 10pm daily.

KLIA
KL International Airport, Sepang 🚶 KLIA Ekspres-KLIA Tel : 03-8777 8888
One of airports with value-for-money shopping. It offers an excellent selection of goods like souvenirs, tobacco, liquors, perfume, chocolates and designer brands.



Pertama Complex
Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman
Tel: 03-2691 6599
One of the earliest shopping complexes in KL, this mall consists of many small shops selling an astonishing variety of goods and services appealing to the masses, including sports goods, leatherware, clothes, shoes and stationery. • 9am - 9pm daily. • D5

Sogo KL
Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman
• 📍 M Tuanku
• 🏢 Bandaraya • 🚆 Bank Negara
Tel : 03-2698 2111
This 10-storey shopping mall is well patronised for its quality goods (local and international) ranging from apparel, home furnishing to daily need items. It also has an international restaurant floor on the 6th floor • 11am-9pm daily • D5

Starhill Gallery
181 Jin Bkt Bintang • 📍 B Bintang
Tel: 03-2782 3800
Connected to JW Marriott Hotel and Ritz Carlton Hotel, Starhill houses the largest retail watch floor and a host of top fashion designer boutiques. An exclusive mall with excellent eateries and high-end shops. • 10am -10pm daily • E9

Sungei Wang Plaza
Jalan Sultan Ismail • 📍 B Bintang
Tel: 03-2142 6636
Sungei Wang remains one of the busiest shopping centres for the last 2 decades. Linked directly to the Monorail, it has over 500 retail outlets and eateries. A great place to hunt for electrical and electronic products, mobile phones, fashionable street wear, shoes & accessories. The hip T-Hop zone at the 6th floor caters to trendy teenagers
• 10am - 10pm daily • F8

The Starling Mall
6, Jalan SS 21/37, Damansara Utama, 47400 Petaling Jaya, Selangor. Tel: 03-7730 7000
Built in an organic form with a fluid façade and natural setting, The Starling is a space where nature is immersed into urban retail environment to create a unique space for togetherness in harmony with nature.

Subang Parade
Subang Jaya • 🚆 Subang
Tel: 03-5633 2530
This suburban mall offers an interesting mix of stores with goods ranging from apparels to antiques, and music to jewellery. Anchor tenants include Toy ‘R’ Us and Parkson. Carrefour hypermarket is located next door. • 10am - 10pm daily.

Great Eastern Mall
303 Jalan Ampang
Tel : 03-4259 8090
Located along busy Jalan Ampang, this 6-storey mall has a host of shops including a pet shop, Aussino, British India and eateries like Starbucks and Alexis. It has Cold Storage as its anchor supermarket. • 11am - 9pm daily.

Hartamas Shopping Centre
Plaza Damas, 60 Jalan Sri Hartamas 1
Tel: 03-6201 6553
Integrated with Plaza Damas & situated among retail shops, offices, serviced apartments and alfresco boulevards. Features Citi Super, SenQ and many other speciality retailers.

Lot 10
50 Jalan Sultan Ismail • 📍 B Bintang
Tel : 03-2143 6092
Linked to the Bukit Bintang Monorail station and Sungei Wang Plaza by an overhead bridge, Lot 10 offers an upmarket and wide selection of fashion wear. It has Isetan as anchor tenant • 10am - 9.30pm daily • F8

Low Yat Plaza
Off Jalan Bukit Bintang • 📍 B Bintang
Tel : 03-2148 3651
Located next to the Federal Hotel, it has 250 tenants offering goods as varied as cameras, mobile phones, apparel, fashion accessories and antiques. This largest IT centre provides for all your computing needs. BB Park, located across the plaza and consisting of trendy restaurants and alfresco cafes, sees a hive of activities at night. • 10am - 10pm daily • F8

MINES Shopping Fair Centre
Seri Kembangan • 🚆 Serdang
Tel: 03-8949 6288
Cruise into the heart of a busy shopping mall with a vibrant mix of more than 300 retailers, fashion boutiques, F&B outlets, canal quay alfresco dining, IT & mobile gadgets and also leisure and entertainment facilities like a cinema, bowling alley and snooker centre. • 10am - 10pm daily.

Mid Valley Megamall
Lingkaran Syed Putra • 🚆 Mid Valley
Tel : 03-2938 3333
The shops go on and on in this mall strategically located between KL and P.J. It has Metrojaya, Jusco, Carrefour, Golden Screen Cinemas and MPH as anchor tenants, over 300 speciality stores and 70 F&B outlets under one roof. Adjacent to the mall are Cititel Mid Valley Hotel and Boulevard Hotel • 10am - 10pm daily.

The Gardens
Mid Valley City • 🚆 Mid Valley
Tel : 03-2297 0288
10am - 10pm dayly

Sunway Putra Mall (Formerly The Mall)
100 Jalan Putra, KL • 🏢 PWTC
Tel: 03-2786 9333
Located across the Seri Pacific Hotel and Putra World Trade Centre, the Mall has anchor tenant Parkson Grand together with a host of retailers, offering a full range of products, services, food & amusement to shoppers • 10am - 10pm daily • B5

KL’s Best Bar



DINE

	
SPG BY BIJAN 3A, Jalan Ceylon, Bukit Ceylon, 50200 Kuala Lumpur	CHAMPIGNONS AT OASIS SQUARE B-G-02, Oasis Square, Ara Damansara, 47301 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

Chinese

Celestial Court
03-2717 9988
• Jalan Sultan Ismail • Sheraton Imperial Kuala Lumpur Hotel
• Oriental Cuisine • Casual Dining

Chynna
03-2264 2264 📍 KL Sentral• Hilton KL
• Halal • Casual Dining • H3

Shang Palace
03-2074 3904 • 11 Jalan Sultan Ismail 50250 Kuala Lumpur • Pork-free
• Shangri-La Hotel KL • Cantonese Cuisine

Yun House
03-2382 8888 • Four Seasons Place, 145 Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur. • Pork-free • Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur • Dim sum

Opium KL
03-2142 5670 • 50, Changkat Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur. • Casual Dining • Oriental

Wan Chun Ting
03 2720 6688 • No. 6 – Jalan Damanlela, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur. • Sofitel Kuala Lumpur Damansara Hotel • Dim Sum • Casual Dining

Din Tai Fung Pavilion
03-2148 8292 • 168, Bukit Bintang Street, Bukit Bintang, 55100 Kuala Lumpur. • Dim Sim • Casual Dining

Luk Yu Tea House
03 2782 3850 • Starhill Gallery 181, Jalan Bukit Bintang, 55100 Kuala Lumpur • Dim Sum • Tea House • Casual Dining

Tao Chinese Cuisine
03-2782 6000 • 65, Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur • Intercontinental Hotel Kuala Lumpur • Oriental Cuisine • Casual Dining

Lai Po Heen
03-2179 8885 • KLCC • Mandarin Oriental Hotel • Halal • Casual Dining • Cantonese • D8

Li Yen
03-2782 9033 📍 B Bintang • The Ritz Carlton Hotel • Non-Halal • Casual Dining • F9

Mandarin Palace
03-2148 8744 📍 B Bintang • 2/F, Federal Hotel • Non-Halal • Casual Dining • F8

Ming Palace
03-2161 8888 📍 Ampang Park • Corus Hotel, Jln Ampang • Casual Dining

Ming Room
03-2284 8822 📍 Bangsar• Bangsar Shopping Centre • Non-Halal • Casual Dining

Oriental Noble House
03-2145 8822 📍 Imbi• 19 Jalan Delima, Off Jalan Imbi • Non-Halal • Casual Dining • F10

Overseas
03-2144 9911 • B Bintang • 84-88 Jalan Imbi • Non-Halal • Casual Dining • F8

Purple Cane
03-2272 3090 📍 Maharajalela • Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall, 1 Jln Maharajalela • Halal • Casual Dining • G6

Xin Cuisine
03-2144 2200 📍 B Nanas • Concorde Hotel • Non-Halal • Private Dining • D7

Indian

Passage Thru’ India
03-2145 0366 • 4, Jln Delima,kl
Halal • Casual Dining • E10

FLOUR Restaurant
012-960 0053 • Unit No. 69 & 71G, Jalan Medan Setia 1, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur. • Fine Dining • Pork-free

Bar Trigona
145, Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur, 50450 Kuala Lumpur
+603-2382 8670

Mr Chew’s Chino Latino
The Penthouse, Wolo Hotel, Corner of Jalan Bukit Bintang and Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur
+60 3-4065 0168

Nadodi KL
03 2181 4334 • Lot 183, 1st Floor, Jalan Mayang, Off Jalan Yap Kwan Seng, 50450 Kuala Lumpur. • Fine Dining • Pork-free

Qureshi Malaysia
03-2011 1007 • Ground Floor, East Wing, TPC Kuala Lumpur No 10, Jalan 1/70D, Off Jalan Bukit Kiara, 60000 Kuala Lumpur. • Casual Dining • Halal

Fusion

Shookl
03-2782 3875 📍 B Bintang• Lower G/F, Starhill Gallery • Halal • Fine Dining • E9

Cé La Vi
03-2770 3360 • Ilham Tower, No 8, Jln Binjai, 50450 Kuala Lumpur • Pan-Asian • Pork-free • Casual Dining

Open House
03-2162 0888 • G48 Suria KLCC, Lakeside, 50888 Kuala Lumpur • Malaysian • Pork-free • Fine Dining

Barat Lifestyle Vegetarian Restaurant
010-288 2654 • 19, Lorong Kurau, Taman Bukit Pantai, 59100 Kuala Lumpur. • Fusion Vegetarian Restaurant • Casual Dining • Halal

French

Chez Gaston KL by Rendez-Vous
011-3993 0036 • 12G, Jalan Bangsar Utama 9, Bangsar, 59000 Kuala Lumpur. • Non-halal • Casual Dining

Entier French Dining
03-2268 3819 • Level 41 at Alila Bangsar No 58, Jalan Ang Seng, Brickfields, 50470 Kuala Lumpur. • Pork-free • Fine Dining

Bistro à Table
03-7931 2831 • 6, Jalan 17/54, Seksyen 17, 46400 Petaling Jaya, Selangor. • Fine Dining • Pork-free

International

Contango
03-2785 8000 • 5, Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin, Tasik Perdana, 50000 Kuala Lumpur • The Majestic Hotel KL • Pork-free • Casual Dining

Babe by Jeff Ramsay
013 209 1330 • 11th Floor, Work@ Clearwater, Changkat Semantan, Damansara Heights, 50490 Kuala Lumpur. • Fine Dining • Pork-free

Huckleberry Food and Fare
03-2098 7933 • Plaza Damansara, Jalan Medan Setia 2, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur • Casual Dining • Pork-free

Essence
03-2717 9900 📍 M Tuanku • Sheraton Imperial • Halal • Casual Dining • C6

The Roof
1 First Avenue Bandar Utama, Petaling Jaya
+60 3-8605 3388

Mantra bar
Rooftop Bangsar Village II.
+60 17-344 8299

Marinis on 57
Level 57, Menara 3 Petronas, Persiaran KLCC.
+60 3-2386 6030

Italian

Cellini's
03-2715 1000 🚗 B Bintang • Dorsett Regency Hotel • 172 Jalan Imbi • Halal • Casual Dining • F9

Tamarind Springs
03-4256 9300 • Jalan 1 Taman Tun Abdul Razak, Ampang
Halal • Fine Dining

La Risata
03-4252 6269 • 26, Persiaran Ampang • Halal • Casual Dining

Prego
03-2773 8338 🚗 B Bintang • The Westin Hotel • Halal • Fine Dining • E9

Villa Danieli
03-2717 9922 🚗 M Tuanku • Sheraton Imperial Hotel • Halal • Italian • Fine Dining • C6

Japanese

Gen
03-4042 9888 🏢 PWTC • Sunway Putra Hotel • Halal • Casual Dining • B5

Nobu Kuala Lumpur
03-2164 5084 • Menara 3 Petronas Persiaran KLCC • Fine Dining

Fukuya Restaurant
03-2144 1022 • 9, Jalan Delima, Imbi, Kuala Lumpur • Casual Dining

Haru Japanese Restaurant
03-2011 8783 • 124A, Jalan Kasah, Medan Damansara • Casual Dining

Nippori Cafe
03-7733 8592 • 102 (First Floor), Empire Damansara, Jalan PJU 8/8, Damansara Perdana, 47820 Petaling Jaya, Selangor • Casual Dining

HOTEL & RESORT

Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur
+603-2382 8888 • Four Seasons Place, 145, Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur
www.fourseasons.com • Yun House (Chinese Restaurant) • Curate (All Day Dining) • Bar Trigona (Bar) • The Lounge At Four Seasons (International) • Pool Bar & Grill

W Kuala Lumpur
+603-2786 8888 • No. 121, Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur
www.marriott.com • Yen (Chinese Restaurant) • Flock (All Day Dining) • Woobar (Bar)

Grand Hyatt Kuala Lumpur
03-2182 1234 • Jalan Pinang 🏢 KLCC • JP Teres (Malaysian), THIRTY8 (International), Poolside
From RM550 - RM5610
www.kualalumpur.grand.hyatt.com

The Westin Kuala Lumpur
+603-2731 8333 • 199, Jalan Bukit Bintang, 55100 Kuala Lumpur
www.westin.com • Prego (Italian Restaurant) • Five Sen5es (Chinese Restaurant) • The Living Room (All Day Dining) • Splash (Pool Side Restaurant & Bar) • 443 Bar & Coffee Lounge

Hilton KL
+603 2264 2264 • 3 Jalan Stesen Sentral, 50470 Kuala Lumpur
• ww3.hilton.com • Chynna (Chinese Restaurant) • Vasco's (All Day Dining) Graze (European) • Zeta Bar (Bar) • Iketeru (Japanese)

Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa
+603 7492 8000 • Persiaran Lagoon, Bandar Sunway, 47500 Selangor
• www.sunwayhotels.com
• The Resort Cafe (All Day Dining)

Villa Samadhi Kuala Lumpur
+603 2143 2300 • No. 8, Persiaran Madge Off Jalan Madge, 55000 Kuala Lumpur • www.villasamadhi.com.my
• The Dining Room (All Day Dining)



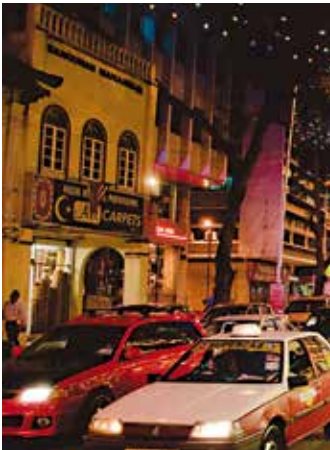
KL Tower
03-2020 5499
🚗 Bukit Nanas • Jalan Punchak, off Jalan P Ramlee. • The KL Tower stands at 421 metres. The tower houses a revolving restaurant and an observation deck which takes 58 seconds to reach. Catch the sunset or experience sky jumping from the tower roof. • Opens 9am 10pm daily • E7



Istana Negara, Jalan Duta
Located along Jalan Duta, it is the official residence of Malaysia's king since Nov 11, 2011. Influenced by both Islamic and traditional Malay architecture, this unique structure is the latest addition to the country's architectural wonders.



National Monument
Jalan Tugu, off Jalan Parlimen
• Designed by American artist, Felix Weldon and cast in Italy, the immense bronze structure was built to commemorate the servicemen who lost their lives during the struggle against the communist insurgency in the 1950's. The 7 soldiers symbolise unity, strength, leadership, sacrifice, courage, suffering and vigilance • E3



Little India
🚗 Masjid Jamek • Jalan Masjid India is a colourful street with numerous wholesale and retail Indian traders who sell everything from Indian brass, jewellery, sarees, Indian handicrafts to perfumes & spices. • E5

Sagano
03-2162 2233 🚗 B Nanas • Renaissance Hotel • Halal • Casual Dining

Korean

Da On
03-2141 2100 🚗 B Bintang • Pavilion KL • Halal • Fine Dining • Korean • E8

Koong Jung
03-2166 7181 🏢 Ampang Park • PNB Darby Park • Halal • D9

Koryo Won
03-2143 2189 🚗 Bukit Bintang • Starhill Gallery • Halal • Casual Dining • E8

Thai

Rama V Fine Thai Cuisine
03-2143 2428 / 03-2143 2663 5, Jalan U-Thant, 55000 Kuala Lumpur • Halal • Fine Dining



National Museum
03-2267 1111 • 29 Jalan Raja • Displays a unique permanent collection of artifacts and materials showcasing the history and heritage of Malaysia • Opens 9am to 6pm daily • Admission RM1. Free for <12 yrs & students



Jamek Mosque
Jalan Tun Perak • Situated at the confluence of the Klang and Gombak rivers, this grand old mosque was designed by British architect AB Hubbock in 1909. It incorporates many features of Moghul architecture a • Opens 8am-1:30pm & 2:30pm-6pm.



Sheraton Imperial KL
03-2717 9900 • Jin Sultan Ismail • 🚗 M Tuanku • Essence (Int'l), Villa Danieli (Ita), Celestial Court (Chi) • From RM300- RM5,825 • D6

The Ruma Hotel and Residences
+60 3 2778 0888 • 7 Jalan Kia Peng, 50450 Kuala Lumpur • www.theruma.com • ATAS Modern Malaysian Eatery (Modern Malaysian) • Santai Pool and Lounge • Seven Lobby Bar and Lounge

Sheraton Petaling Jaya
+60 3 7622 8888 • Jalan Utara C, Petaling Jaya, 46200 Selangor
• www.marriott.com/sheraton-petaling-jaya • Yue (Chinese) • Feast (International) • Miyabi (Japanese) • Sala (Bar) • Chime (cigar and whisky bar)

EQ
+603 - 2789 7777 • Equatorial Plaza Jalan Sultan Ismail 50250 Kuala Lumpur • Nipah • Kampachi • www.eqkualalumpur.com

Sunway Pyramid Hotel
+603 7492 8000 • Persiaran Lagoon, Bandar Sunway, 47500 Selangor
• The Resort Cafe, The Lobby Lounge, Cherootz

InterContinental KL
03-2782 6000 • 165, Jalan Ampang • www.ihg.com
🏢 Ampang Park • Serena Brasserie, Tao (chi) , Tatsu (Jap), Bentley's Pub, • OneSixFive (Japanese)

JW Marriott Hotel KL
03-2715 9000 • 183 Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • 3rd Floor (Int'l), Marriott Café, Shanghai (Chi), JW Marriott Gourmet (Int'l), Havana Club • From RM400- RM8,000 • E9 • www.marriott.com

Le Meridien KL
03-2263 7888 • 2, Jln Stesen Sentral 5, KL Sentral • 🚗 🏢 KL Sentral • One On One (Asian Fusion), Al Nafourah (Middle Eastern), The Conservatory (Lounge & Bar) • From RM 328- RM5,500 • H3 • www.lemeridienkualalumpur.com

Mandarin Oriental Hotel
03-2380 8888 • KL City Centre • 🏢 KLCC • Lai Po Heen (Ch), Mandarin Grill and Mo Bar (Bar & Grill), Mosaic (Buffet), The Mandarin Cake Shop, Cascades (Int'l), Wasabi Bistro (Jap) • From RM409 (internet)/RM499 (phone) • D8 • www.mandarinoriental.com

Philea Mines Beach Resort
03-8943 6688 • Jalan Dulang, Mines Resort City, Seri Kembangan, Selangor • 🏠 Serdang • Abdul and Charlie's (local), Cheng Ho Court (Chi), Beach Hut and Sunset Lounge (drinks and snacks) • From RM200-RM2000

Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA
03-8787 3333 • Kuala Lumpur International Airport • 🏠 KLIA Degrees (Int), Traveller's Bar & Grill, Palmz Lounge (Wn) • From RM570++ • www.samasamahotels.com

Pullman Kuala Lumpur
03-2170 8888 • 4, Jalan Conlay • 🚗 Raja Chulan • Tai Zi Heen (Chi), Eccucino (Café), Enju (Jap) • From RM270-RM670 • E9 • www.princehotell.com

Renaissance KL
03-2162 2233 • Corner of Jln S. Ismail/ Jln Ampang • 🚗 B Nanas • Sagano (Jap), MED@Marche (Med), Vogue (Int'l) • East Wing: Dynasty (Chi), TEMPtation\$ (Int'l) • From RM215-RM6,000 • D7

The St. Regis Kuala Lumpur
03-2727 1111 • Jalan Stesen Sentral 2, Kuala Lumpur Sentral • From RM850

Shangri-La Hotel KL
03-2032 2388 • 11 Jalan Sultan Ismail • 🚗 B Nanas • Shang Palace (Chi), Zipangu (Jap), Laffite (Fr), Lemon Garden Café (Int'l), The Pub • From RM364-RM12,000 • D7 • www.shangri-la.com

Hilton PJ
03-7955 9122 • 2 Jalan Barat, PJ • 🏠 Asia Jaya • Toh Yuen (Chi), Paya Serai Coffee House, Genji (Jap), Caffè Cino, Uncle Chilli's • From RM220-RM1685

The Gardens Hotel & Residences
03-2268 1188 • Mid Valley City • 🏠 Mid Valley • The Soread (Int'l), Sage Restaurant & Wine Bar (Fr & Jap) • From RM600-RM2,600 • www.gardenshtres.com

Sunway Putra Hotel (Formerly The Legend Hotel)
03-4042 9888 • Putra Place, 100 Jalan Putra • 🏢 PWTC • Museum (Chi), Di-Atas Brasserie (Int'l), Gen (Jap), Monkey Bar • From RM188-RM388 • B5 • www.legendhotell.com

The Ritz-Carlton KL
03-2142 8000 • 168, Jalan Imbi • 🚗 B Bintang • Li Yen (Chi), Rossini's (Ita) • From RM418 • F9 • www.ritz-carlton.com

Sofitel Kuala Lumpur Damansara
03-2720 6688 • 6, Jalan Damanlela, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur • From RM330-RM820 • www.sofitel-kualalumpur-damansara.com

The Ritz-Carlton Residences
03-2142 9000 • 🚗 B Bintang • From RM950-RM1,330 • F9

The Royal Chulan
03-2688 9688 • Jalan Conlay • 🚗 R Chulan • Deli Cafe (Ita), Bunga Emas (Mas), L'Heritage (Fr) • F6 • www.theroyalchulan.com.my



Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral
03-2723 1000
Jalan Stesen Sentral
KL Sentral • 🚗 🏢 KL Sentral • Nook (International), MAI Bar (Bar Menu), w xyz (SM) Bar (Cocktails & Snacks) • From RM270 - RM388 • www.starwoodhotels.com/aloft-hotels

Ancasa Hotel KL
03-2026 6060 • Jln Tun Tan Cheng Lock • 🏢 Plaza Rakyat • Saffron Brasserie and BabaReebal • Ancasa Spa • From RM165-RM416 • www.ancasa-hotel.com

Boulevard Hotel
03-2295 8111/2295 8000 🏠 Mid Valley City, Lingkaran Syed Putra • Mid Valley • Wild Rice (Int'l) • Rates from RM290Nett – RM420Nett • www.blvhotel.com

Coronade Hotel KL
03-2148 6888 • Jalan Walter Grenier, Bkt Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • Makan-Makan (Local & Int'l), The Kasturi (Malay), Lobby Lounge • From RM208- RM500 • F8 • www.coronade.com

Corus Hotel KL
03-2161 8888 • Jalan Ampang • 🏢 Ampang Park • Ming Palace (Chi), Dondang Sayang (Int'l), Komura (Jap) • From RM185-RM390 • C9 • www.corushotelkl.com

Dorsett Regency
03-2716 1000 • 172, Jalan Imbi • 🚗 B Bintang • Checker's (Café), Cellini's (Ita), Windows Lounge (Wn) • From RM200 onwards • F9 • www.dorsettregency-kl.com



Seri Bukit Ceylon
03-20201708 • No 8, Lorong Ceylon off Jalan Raja Chulan
• From RM250-RM480 • E7

Federal Hotel
03-2148 9166 • 35, Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • Mandarin Palace (Chi), The Verandah (Int'l) Revolving Bintang (European) • From RM170-RM600 • F8 • www.fh-hotels.com

Element by Westin Kuala Lumpur
03-2771 3388 • Ilham Tower, 8, Jln Binjai, Kuala Lumpur, 50450 Kuala Lumpur • Trace Restaurant & Bar • From RM343 • www.marriott.com

Impiana KLCC Hotel & Spa
03-2147 1111 • 13 Jln Pinang • 🚗 R Chulan • Tonka Bean Cafe (Int'l) • From RM219- RM368 • D8 • www.impiana.com

Novotel City Centre KL
03-2147 0888 • 2 Jln Kia Peng • Qing Zhen (Chi Muslim), The Square (Int'l), Fun Pub, Al Fresco • From RM260- RM660 • E8 • www.novotel.com

Pacific Regency Hotel Suites
03-2332 7777 • Menara PanGlobal, Jalan Punchak • 🚗 B Nanas • Soi 23, Luna, Olive & Geo Café • From RM290- RM500 • D7 • www.pacific-regency.com

Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa
03- 7492 8000 • Persiaran Lagoon Bandar Sunway Petaling Jaya

Quality Hotel City Centre
03-2614 8000 • Jalan Raja Laut • DBKL • Benteng Coffee House (Int'l), Melsan Szechuan (Chi), Club 300 • From RM150- RM550 • C5 • www.quilifi.com.my

Swiss Garden Hotel
03-2141 3333 • 117, Jln Pudu • 🚗 Hang Tuah • Blue Chip Lounge (Int'l), Flavours Restaurant (Int'l), Green Treats Delicatessen (Int'l), T@ste 6 Restaurant (Int'l) • From 470+

The Royale Bintang KL
03-2143 9898 17-21 Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • Sunflowers Brasserie, Cafe Royale & Bar, Rimba Spa • From RM208 • F8 • www.royale-bintang-hotel.com.my

The Royale Bintang Damansara
03-7843 1111 • 6, Jalan PJU 7/3, Mutiara Damansara • The Restaurant (Int'l), Mystery Pub & Café • From RM195 • www.royalebintang.com.my

The ZON All Suites Residences on the Park
03-2164 8000 • 161D Jalan Ampang • 🏢 Ampang Park • Terracotta Restaurant & Lounge • From RM253-RM396 • D8 • www.zonhotel.com.my

Concorde Hotel
03-2144 2200 • 2 Jalan Sultan Ismail • 🚗 B Nanas • Spices (Western), Melting Pot (Int'l), Xin (Chi) • From RM178++- RM320++ • D7

Traders Hotel
03-2332 9888 • Kuala Lumpur City Centre • 🏢 KLCC • Gobo Chit Chat, Gobo Upstairs, Sky Bar, Lounge & Grill • From RM270 • This hotel is located in the vicinity of KL Convention Centre • D8

Vistana KL
03-4042 8000 • 9 Jalan Lumut, off Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur • 🚗 Titiwangsa • Vistana (Asian) • From RM172-RM230 • A5 • www.vistanahotels.com

Hotel Capitol Kuala Lumpur
03-21437000 • Jalan Bulan Off Jalan Bukit Bintang
• www.capitol.com.my



Alpha Genesis
03-2141 2000 • 45 Tingkat Tong Shin • 🚗 B Bintang • Tee Box Café • From RM150-RM380 • F7 • www.alphagenesisshotel.com

Cititel Mid Valley
03-2296 1188 • Mid Valley, Lingkaran Syed Putra • 🏠 Mid Valley • Citi Café • Rates from RM205Nett – RM320Nett

Corona Inn
03-2144 3888 • 22, Jalan Tong Shin • 🚗 B Bintang • Corona Café • From RM130- RM180 • F8 • www.coronainn-kualalumpur.com

Grand Continental
03-2693 9333 • Jln Bella/Jln Raja Laut • 🏢 PWTC M Tuanku • Grand Star (Chi) , Lai Marble Coffeehouse • From RM135- RM800 • C5 • www.gh-hotels.com.my

First World Hotel
03-6101 1118 • Genting Highlands • istorante Torcello's (Italian), Lakeview Seafood Restaurant (Seafood), The Patio (Wn) • From RM85 – RM460

Midah KL
03-2713 9999 • 8, Jalan Kampung Attap • 🚗 Maharajalela • Attapia Coffee House (Int'l), Rolling Good Times Café • From RM145-RM250 • G5

Prescott Inn
03-2713 7887 • 23 Lrg Medan Tuanku 1, off Jln Sultan Ismail • 🚗 M Tuanku • Makana Restaurant • From RM110-RM170 • C5

Swiss-Inn KL
03-2072 3333 • 62, Jln Sultan • 🚗
Maharajalela
• Café Petaling • From RM130-RM175
• G6

The Plaza Hotel
03-2698 2255 • Jalan Raja Laut • 🚗 Sultan
Ismail • Pago-Pago Café (Continental),
Plaza Court (Chi) • From RM110-RM178
• C5

SIGHTSEEING

Aquaria KLCC
03-2333 1888 • 🚗 Raja Chulan 🏰 KLCC •
All 60,000 sq ft of Aquaria encompasses
Evolution, Jewels of the Jungle, Deep
Forest, The Coasts and Touch Pool, The
Livingb Oceans and The Living Reef, with
over 5000 aquatic and land-bound animals
representing over 150 different species.
Don't miss the 90-metre underwater tunnel.
Opens daily from 11am-8pm. (Including
weekends, school and public holidays) Last
admission at 7pm. Entry Mykad Holder
- RM49(Adult), RM39 (Child), General
Admission - RM69 (Adult), RM59 (Child)



Craft Complex
03- 2164 8344
🚗 Raja Chulan • 63, Jalan Conlay, •
Showcases ethnic handicrafts, batik
printing and pottery from the 13 states
of Malaysia. • Opens 9am- 6pm daily.
• E9 FREE

Batu Caves
03-6189 6284 • This popular Hindu
temple draws hundreds of thousand
of visitors during Thaipusam. It
consists of three grand caves: the
Dark Cave,the Museum Cave and
the Temple Cave with brilliant rock
formations. The Museum Cave at
the foothills has interesting display
of Indian mythology. To reach the
main Temple Cave, one has to climb
272 steps.

Bird Park
03-2272 1010 • Located at the Lake
Gardens, this 8.4ha bird park is the
world's largest free-flight walk-in
aviary. It is home to more than
3,000 birds from approximately 200
species. Opens daily from
9am-6pm • F4

Butterfly Park
03-2693 4799 • Over 120 species
of butterflies can be found in this
park located at the Lake Gardens'
vicinity. Admission is RM9 for adults
and RM2 for children. Camera: RM3.
Opens 9am to 6pm daily. • F4



Telekom Museum
03-2031 9966
🚗 Raja Chulan • Jalan Raja Chulan
• Displays interesting exhibits of
telephones and evolution of their
designs over the years.
• Opens 9am-5pm. Closed on Mondays
• E6 FREE

**Bukit Nanas Forest Recreational
Park**
03-2306 3421 / 2064 4741 • Bukit Nanas
• Nestled in the heart of KL, the virgin
forest-clad hill is a 10.5 ha park offering a
10-minute & a 20-minute walk trails from
the Forest Information Centre at Jalan
Raja Chulan to KL Tower. • E7

Central Market
03-2274 6542 • 🏰 Pasar Seni Once the
city's biggest wet market, it is now a
centre for food and cultural activities.
Cultural performances are staged during
weekends at the riverside amphitheatre.
Handicraft, souvenirs, art & portrait
paintings are sold at bargain prices. The
Annexe Gallery at CM is a progressive
art centre. • Opens 10am to 10pm daily.
• F5

Deer Park
03-9200 0039• Enclosed within a 2-ha
ground at the Lake Gardens, the deer,
fawns and does roam freely in a cool
and peaceful habitat with lush trees and
shrubs and ponds. • F3



Sultan Abdul Samad Building
🏰 Masjid Jamek • Jln Sultan
Hishamuddin • Also known as the Big
Ben of KL, this historical landmark and
heritage building is well known for its
Moghul architecture dating back to
1897. Originally the offices of the Colonial
Secretariat, it then housed the Supreme
Court. • E5

National Zoo
03-4108 3427 / 4108 3422 • Located in
Hulu Kelang, 12km from the city centre,
the zoo is home to 400 species of local
birds, mammals, reptiles and fishes. •
Opens 9am - 5pm daily. Night Zoo is on
Saturdays 7.30am - 10.30pm. Admission
RM 32 for adults and RM11 for children
3 to 12 years old

Old KL Railway Station
Jalan Hishammudin • Built in 1910,
the Moghul-inspired building was a
hub for Malaysian rail transport until it
was replaced by the new KL Sentral
Station. It remains a landmark and the
refurbished Heritage Hotel is still open for
business. Across the road, the Malaysian
Railway administrative building is also a
breathhtaking architectural showpiece
• G5

Petrosains, The Discovery Centre
03-2331 8181 • 🏰 KLCC • Petronas Twin
Towers, Level 4 Suria KLCC • Focusing on
Malaysia's oil and gas industry, it offers
an interactive approach to learning.
It takes you through a unique voyage
of discovery of science. • Opens daily
9.30am to 6pm. Last admission 4.30pm.
Closed on Monday • D8

Istana Negara
Official residence of Malaysia's King,
visitors can witness the changing
of the royal guards daily. The Rulers
Conference, various royal and national
ceremonies, investitures and official
banquets are held at this palace. • H5
03-6200 1000

Little India
🏰 Masjid Jamek • Jalan Masjid India
is a colourful street with numerous
wholesale and retail Indian traders
who sell everything from Indian brass,
jewellery, sarees, Indian handicrafts to
perfumes & spices. • E5

Jamek Mosque
🏰 Masjid Jamek • Jalan Tun Perak
• Situated at the confluence of the
Klang and Gombak rivers, this grand old
mosque was designed by British architect
AB Hubbock in 1909. It incorporates
many features of Moghul architecture
a • Opens 8am-1:30pm & 2:30pm-6pm.
• E5



PETRONAS Twin Towers
03- 2615 8188
🏰 KLCC • KL City Centre • The
88-storey Petronas Twin Towers stand at
451.9 metres. Seated in the heart of KL
and amidst a 50-hectare landscaped
park, a skybridge on the 41st floor is
open to visitors between 9am-7pm
daily, closed on Monday • D8

Royal Selangor Visitor's Centre
03-4145 6000 • 4, Jalan Usahawan Enam,
Setapak Jaya • Located 15 minutes from
the city centre, the Royal Selangor which
is internationally known for its fine designs
and craftsmanship, offers a complete
visitor experience, enabling them to see,
hear, touch and learn how pewter is
made. • Opens daily from 9am-5pm.

Royal Selangor Club
03-2692 7166 • 🏰 Masjid Jamek • Jalan
Raja • Once nicknamed 'The Spotted
Dog' during the colonial days, this club
which features Mock Tudor architecture,
is one of the oldest membership clubs
in KL. • E5

Thean Hou Temple
03-2274 7088 • 65 Persiaran Endah, off
Jalan Syed Putra • A beautiful blend of
Chinese and contemporary architecture,
this is one of the largest and most ornate
Buddhist temples in the region and a
venue for major religious festivals. Also
check out the herbs garden, wishing
well and souvenir stall • Opens 9am to
9pm daily.

MUSEUMS

**Asian Arts Museum Universiti
Malaya**
03-7967 3936 • Uni. of Malaya • A unique
collection of Asian art & sculptures,
ceramics, including Islamic & Malay art
and textiles • Opens Mon - Sat. Closed
on Sunday & public hols.

Forest Research Institute Malaysia
03-62797 000 • Kepong • Located
within the 1,500 hectares of natural
land reserve, the institute showcases
Malaysia's rich forest heritage. • Opens
8am-4pm. Fri 9am- 12pm.

Heritage Centre
03-7957 4341• 2 Jln Stonor • Showcases
Malaysia's architectural heritage, the
centre also conducts 2 guided tours
a day (11am & 3pm) of the Rumah
Penghulu or Village Head's abode which
has been furnished to reflect a house in
the early thirties • E10

Islamic Arts Museum
03-2092 7070 • Jalan Lembah Perdana
• Opened in 1998, the museum focuses
on the rich diversity of Islamic arts and
culture. Miniature replicas of Taj Mahal
and other islamic architectural wonders
are on display • Tickets at RM12 (adults),
RM6 (under 18, students & senior citizens)
• Opens 10am to 6pm daily. • G4

Museum Orang Asli
03-6187 8786• Km 24 Gombak • Displays
a collection of over 3,000 artifacts
showcasing the history, culture &
lifestyle of indigenous tribes of Peninsular
Malaysia. • Opens 9am-5pm. Closed
Fri. FREE

National Museum
03-2267 1111• 29 Jalan Raja • Displays a
unique permanent collection of artifacts
and materials showcasing the history
and heritage of Malaysia • Opens 9am
to 6pm daily • Admission RM1. Free for
<12 yrs & students

ARTS & CULTURE

National Theatre (Istana Budaya)
03-4026 5555 • Jalan Tun Razak •
Designed by Malaysian architect
Muhammad Kamar Ya'akub, this
modern theatre is one of the world's most
sophisticated theatres with state-of-the-art
stage equipment. It holds drama, dance
and musical performances regularly. • A7

Petronas Philharmonic Hall
03-2331 7007• 🏰 KLCC • Located within
the Petronas Twin Towers, it is home to
the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra
and the National Choir. It features
performances of highest quality by visiting
orchestras and world-renowned soloists,
besides performances by the MPO which
now ranks among the top orchestras in
the region • D8

OTHER FUN-TASTIC
THRILLS & SPILLS

Casino De Genting
03-6101 1118 • Genting Highlands Hotel

Flight Training
03-2141 1934 • Royal Selangor Flying Club

Horse Racing
03-9058 3888 • Selangor Turf Club, Jln
Sungai Besi

Horse Riding
03-4256 4531 • Royal Selangor Polo Club,
Jln Ampang Hilir

03-2094 1222• Bukit Kiara Equestrian Club,
Jln Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur

Theme Parks

Berjaya Times Square Theme Park
1 Jalan Imbi, Level 5 & 7, Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03-2117 3118

Sunway Lagoon Theme Park
3 Jalan Pjs 11/11, Bandar Sunway,
Petaling Jaya . Tel: 03-5639 0000

Skytropolis Indoor Theme Park
First World Plaza, Resorts World Genting,
Level 1, Genting Highlands, 69000
Tel: 03-2718 1118

District 21
Level 1, IOI City Mall, Putrajaya
Tel: 03-8328 8888

National Library
03-2687 1700 • 232 Jalan Tun Razak. • This
7-storey building which blends traditional
design with modern architectural
elements houses more than 1.5 million
books, some of them extremely rare.
• Opens daily except Monday • A8 FREE

Galeri Petronas
03-2051 7770 • 🏰 KLCC • Level 3 Suria
KLCC. • Exhibits artworks by local and
international artists.
• Opens 10am to 8pm. Closed on
Monday. • D8 FREE

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SPACE

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31 Jalan Utara,
46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor,
Malaysia

Tel: +603 7932 0668
Email: info@mediate.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR



- PLACES OF INTEREST**
 - 1C ASEAN Sculpture Garden
 - 4D Bintang Walk
 - 1D Bird Park
 - 3C Bukit Nanas
 - 2D Butterfly Park
 - 2D Central Market
 - 3D Chinatown
 - 2D Dataran Merdeka
 - 2D Dayabumi Complex
 - 1D Deer Park
 - 1C Experimental Theatre
- MUSEUMS**
 - 5B ArtCase Galleries
 - 5B ArtFolio Galleries
 - 2C Bank Negara Money Museum
 - 3A Biomedical Museum
- EMBASSIES**
 - 4B Australia
 - 5B Britain
 - 5B Finland
- ENTERTAINMENT/SHOPPING**
 - 5B Ampang Park Complex
 - 5B AmpWalk
 - 4D Berjaya Times Square
 - 3A Big A Supermarket
 - 4D Bukit Bintang Plaza
 - 2C Campbell Shopping Complex
 - 5B City Square
 - 2C Coliseum Restaurant
- BUS, TAXI, RAILWAY**
 - 2D General Post Office
 - 2E KL Sentral (main transport terminal)
- HOTELS**
 - 4D Agora Hotel ★★
 - 4D Alpha Genesis Hotel
 - 4D Berjaya Times Square Hotel
 - 4D Bintang Warisan Hotel ★★
 - 3A Brisdale Hotel
 - 1D Carcosa Seri Negara ★★★★★
 - 4D Cardogan
 - 5B Centra Hotel & Apartments
 - 3C Chantan
 - 3D China Town Inn
 - 3A City Villa Kuala Lumpur ★★
 - 4C Concorde Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 4D Corona Inn Kuala Lumpur
 - 5B Corus Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 5B Crown Princess Kuala Lumpur
 - 5D Dorsett Regency Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 2A Dynasty Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 4D Emerald
 - 4D Federal Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 2A First Business Inn ★★
 - 4D Fortuna Hotel ★★
 - 3D Furama Hotel ★★
 - 3C Garden City
 - 2A Grand Central Hotel
 - 2B Grand Continental Hotel ★★
- HOSPITALS**
 - 3D Chinese Maternity Hospital
- TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES**
 - 2A Putra World Trade Centre, Level 2, 45, Jalan Tun Ismail, 50480 Kuala Lumpur. Tel: 03-4041 1295
 - 4C Malaysia Tourism Centre (MTC), 109 Jalan Ampang, 50450 Kuala Lumpur. Tel: 03-2164 3929
 - 2E Stesen Sentral Kuala Lumpur, Lot 21, Level 2, Arrival Hall, Kuala Lumpur City Terminal, Stesen KL Sentral, 50050 Kuala Lumpur. Tel: 03-2274 3135
- PLACES OF INTEREST**
 - 1D Hibiscus Garden
 - 2E Istana Negara (National Palace)
 - 5C Kompleks Budaya Kraf
 - 2C Masjid Jamek
 - 3D Maybank Numismatic Museum
 - 2C Menara Kuala Lumpur
 - 3A National Art Gallery
 - 5C National Heritage Trust
 - 2D National History Museum
 - 4A National Library
 - 1C National Monument
 - 2D National Mosque
- MUSEUMS**
 - 5B Galleriwan
 - 2D Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia
 - 2D Islamic Exhibition Centre
 - 5C MISC Museum
- EMBASSIES**
 - 5B France
 - 5D Indonesia
 - 5C Japan
 - 5D Kuwait
 - 3C Mexico
- ENTERTAINMENT/SHOPPING**
 - 4D Imbi Plaza
 - 4D Fahrenheit88
 - 3D Kota Raya
 - 4D Lot 10
 - 3D Mydin Emporium
 - 4C Pavilion KL
 - 2B Pertama Complex
 - 5B Intermark Mall
- BUS, TAXI, RAILWAY**
 - 2E Kuala Lumpur Railway Station
 - 4C Malaysia Airlines
 - 2A Pekeliling Bus Station
 - 3D Puduraya Bus & Taxi Station
- HOTELS**
 - 2A Grand Pacific Hotel ★★
 - 4D Parkroyal Hotel ★★★★★
 - 3A Grand Seasons Hotel ★★★★★
 - 4C Hotel Equatorial Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 4B Hotel Maya ★★★★★
 - 3D Hotel Grand Olympic Kuala Lumpur
 - 4C Hotel Istana ★★★★★
 - 3E Hotel Malaysia ★★★★★
 - 5E Hotel Maluri ★★
 - 3E Hotel Midah ★★
 - 5B InterContinental Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 4D Hotel Nova ★★
 - 2A Hotel Putra
 - 4D JW Marriott Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 4C Lodge Paradise Hotel ★★
 - 2C K Hotel ★
 - 1E Kuala Lumpur Hilton ★★★★★
 - 3A Kuala Lumpur International Hotel ★★
 - 1E Le Meridien ★★★★★
 - 3E Mandarin Court Kuala Lumpur
 - 4B Mandarin Oriental Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 3D Mandarin Pacific Hotel ★★
 - 4D Melia Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 5B Micasa Hotel
 - 3E Mirama Hotel ★
 - 4D Orkid Hotel ★
- HOSPITALS**
 - 3A Kuala Lumpur Hospital
 - 3A National Heart Institute
- TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES**
 - 2A Sunway Putra Hotel
 - 2A The Seri Pacific Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 2B The Plaza Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★
 - 4D The Regency Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 5D The Ritz-Carlton ★★★★★
 - 2A Vistana Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★★★★
 - 5E Wenworth Hotel ★★
 - 4D Westin Hotel ★★★★★
 - 2A Wira Hotel Kuala Lumpur ★★
 - 2E Wisma YMCA
 - 3D YWCA
- PLACES OF INTEREST**
 - 1D National Museum
 - 1E National Planetarium
 - 1A National Theatre
 - 1D Orchid Garden
 - 1D Panggung Anniversari
 - 2C Selangor Club
 - 3E Stadium Merdeka
 - 3D Stadium Negara
 - 2D Sultan Abdul Samad Building
 - 1D Tun Abdul Razak Memorial
 - 2C Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Memorial
- MUSEUMS**
 - 1D Royal Malaysian Police Museum
 - 3C Telekom Museum
 - 1D Tun Abdul Razak Memorial
- EMBASSIES**
 - 4C New Zealand
 - 3B Pakistan
 - 5C Philippines
 - 5C Singapore
 - 5B United States of America
- ENTERTAINMENT/SHOPPING**
 - 5E Pudu Plaza
 - 2A Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC)
 - 2C Sogo
 - 5E Star Cinema
 - 4D Star Hill
 - 4D Sun Complex
 - 4D Sungei Wang Plaza
 - 4B Suria KLCC
 - 2A Sunway Putra Mall
 - 4C The Weld
- BUS, TAXI, RAILWAY**
 - 2A Putra Bus Stand
 - 2D STAR LRT Station
 - PUTRA LRT Station

Road / Jalan J.
Lane / Lorong L.
River / Sungai Sg.
Village / Kampung ... Kg.

Getting around in Kuala Lumpur is easy. The transit systems are efficient, taxis are plenty and buses are cheap. The public transportation usage peak hours are from 7am to 9am and 4.30pm to 6.30pm during the working days.



By Transit systems

The KL monorail and LRT coaches are air-conditioned and comfortable and run from 6am to midnight. The systems are connected to each other at several points and the network covers most parts of the city. Fares range from RM0.90 to RM2.80 per single journey.



By Taxis

Taxis are easily available at hotels or at taxi stands. Fares start at RM3 for the first kilometre and RM0.25 for every 11.5 metres thereon. There is a 50% surcharge on the metered fare from midnight to 6am and a baggage charge of RM2 per piece stored in the boot. There is also an additional RM1 for 3rd passenger (maximum 4 in a car). For an extra charge of RM2, you can book a taxi by phone.



By Ecovans

Ecovans can accommodate up to 5 passengers. They serve mainly guests at major hotels and follow the fare structure of taxis but charge RM4 instead of RM2 for the first kilometre.



By Buses

Buses serve all parts of Kuala Lumpur with fares beginning from RM1. Some hotels also offer free bus shuttle services to major shopping malls in the city.



KL Hop-on/Hop-off Bus Service

Links you to 40 attractions around the city with 22 designated stops. 8.30am to 8.30pm. Ticket: RM38 with discounts for locals, senior citizens, students and children. 03-2691 1382

GETTING TO THE AIRPORT



KLIA Ekspres: The journey takes about 28 minutes from KL Sentral and another 3 minutes to KLIA2. The fare is RM55 per person per way. There is also check-in facility at KL Sentral for some airlines.



Taxi: The fare from the city centre to the airport is RM90 – RM120 per taxi.

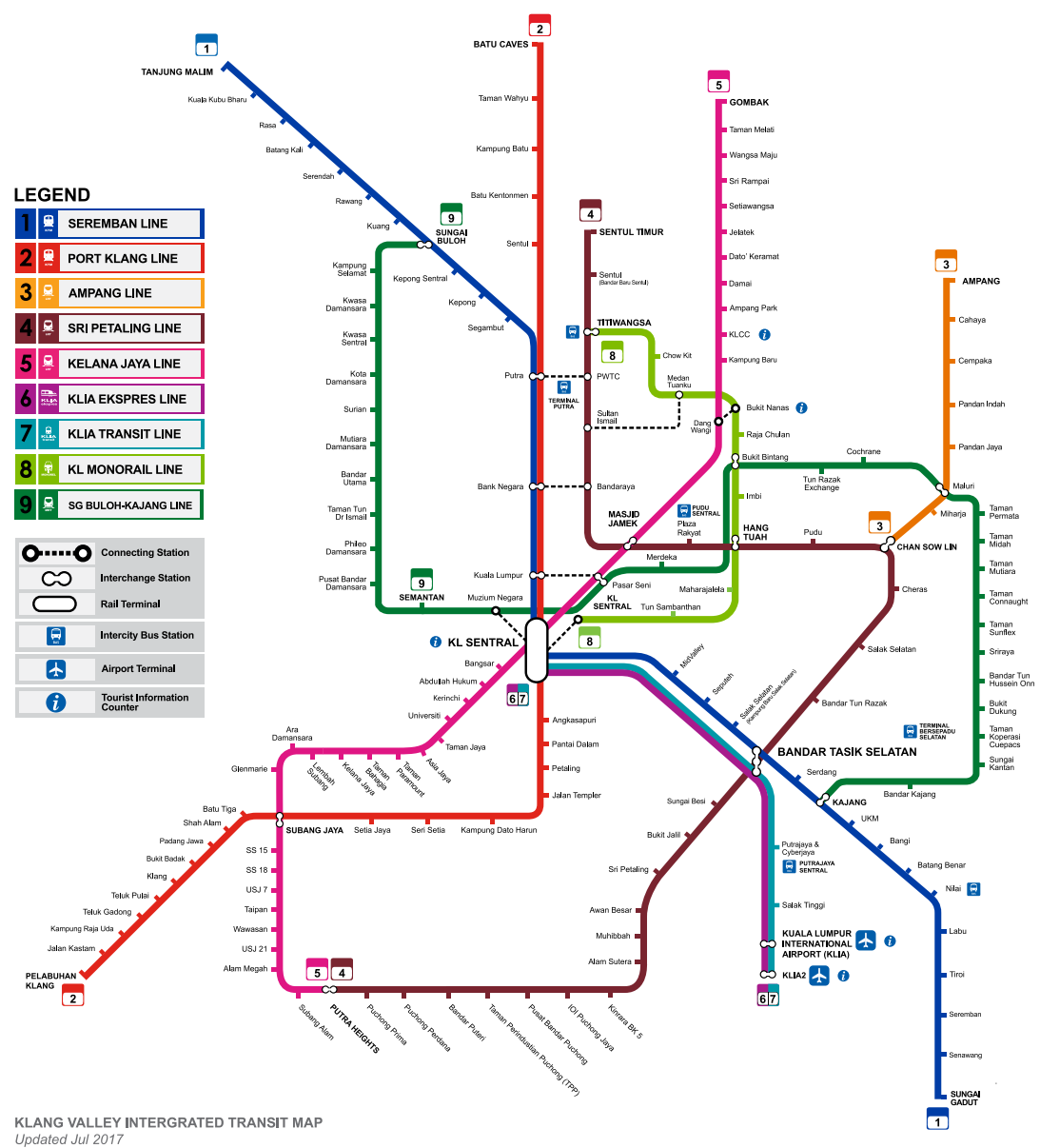


Eco Transit: Eco Transit can accommodate up to 5 adults and has a fixed fare of RM130/ trip.



Limousine: Can be arranged with the hotel concierge and fare range from RM100 – RM200.

Klang Valley Rail Transit Map



COACHES TO KLIA AND/OR LCCT

- Airport Coach - +603-6203 3067
- Sky Bus - +6016-217 6950
- Aerobus - +603-3344 8828
- The Star Shuttle - +603-4043 8811

TRANSPORTATION

Air Travel

- Kuala Lumpur International Airport +603 8776 2000
- Klia2 +603 8778 5500
- Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport +603-7845 3245

Domestic Airlines

- MAS +603-2161 0555
- MAS Reservation Number +603-8890 3702
- AirAsia +603-2171 9333

- FireFly +603-7845 4543
- Malindo Air +603-7841 5388

Rail

- KL Sentral 03-2274 7435
- KLIA Ekspres 03-2267 8000
- KTM 03-2267 1200
- Rapid KL 03-7885 2585
- KL Monorail 03-2273 1888

Car Rental

- Galaxy Asia 012-368 0117
- AVIS +603-5885 2300
- ORIX Auto +603-9284 7799
- Eazy Peezy +6011-1166 6545
- WVS Rent-A-Car 03-4256 6999

Taxis

- Sunlight Cab +603-9200 1166
- Public Cab +603-6259 2929
- MyTeksi +601-300-80-5858

- Saujana Teksi +6011-1929 0976
- Grab Malaysia +601-300-80-5858

Emergency Services

- KL Tourist Police (24 hours) 03-2166 8322
- Police & Ambulance 999 or 112 (mobile phones)
- Fire & Rescue 994
- KL City Council 03-2691 6011

Tourism Offices

- Ministry Of Tourism Malaysia +60 3-2161 5161
- Pusat Pelancongan Malaysia (MATIC) +60 3-9235 4827
- Tourism Malaysia +603-8891 8000
- Melaka +60 6-288 1549
- Putrajaya Tourism Malaysia State Office +60 3-2615 8188

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- Cardiothoracic
- Gastroenterology
- Nephrology



DIAGNOSTIC AND ANCILLARY SERVICES

- Health Screening Centre
- Radiology and Imaging Services
- Laboratory Services
- Pharmacy Department
- Physiotherapy



GENERAL FACILITIES

- Hospital Rooms & Services
- 24-hour Emergency Department
- Operating Theatre
- Cath Lab



OTHER FACILITIES

- Restaurant & Cafe
- Retail Pharmacy

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