

KL lifestyle

SEPTEMBER 2023

HIDDEN GEMS

WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES

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ON THE COVER

HIDDEN GEMS
WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES

GOINGS ON SEPTEMBER 2023



SCHUMANN SYMPHONY NO. 4
September 2

Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

Multitalented Malaysian artist Tengku Irfan conducts the MPO in a program of musical innovation, including his Beethoven-inspired work, “Flamme, Funken, Freude”. Schumann’s 4th Symphony is a dramatic, seamless work which pushes the boundaries of Romantic symphonic form, while Bartók’s Dance Suite expresses the composer’s love of Hungarian music through his original folk-style melodies. Lemminkäinen’s Return by Sibelius transports us to the mythical world while reflecting the symbolist currents of the Art Nouveau era.

Ticket: RM 198 to RM 358



DFP PRESENTS: MPO JAZZ BAND & FRIENDS - THE MUSIC OF STEVIE WONDER

September 9

Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

A musical pioneer and supreme innovator, Stevie Wonder has inspired generations of artists across multiple genres, from rhythm & blues to funk, soul and jazz. The MPO Jazz Band pays tribute to his legacy in a concert led by MPO Principal Trombonist Marques Young with guest artists Aisha Retno and Syafiq Abdilah. Sit back and take in the chill vibes of these timeless American classics.

Ticket: RM 189 to RM 229

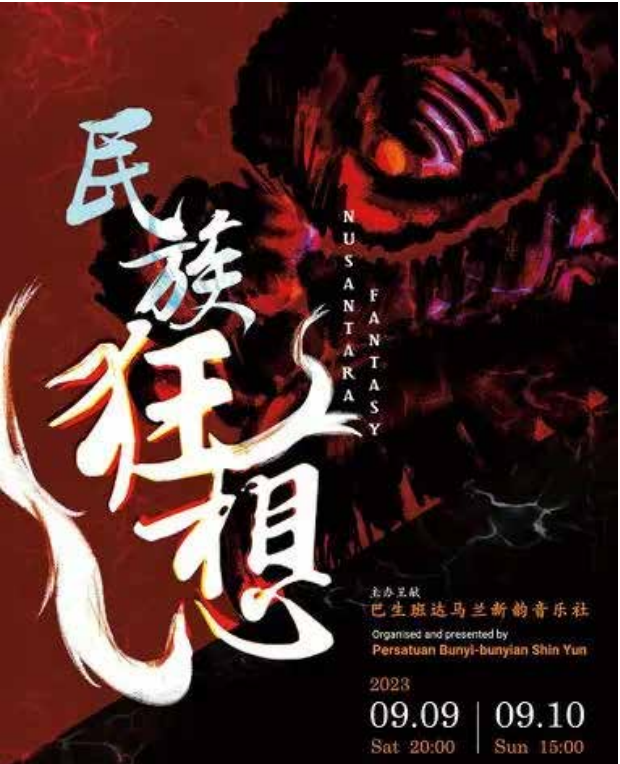


CHAMBER WIND PROJECT VI
September 9 & September 10

Venue: Pentas 2, KLPAC

After a three-year hiatus caused by the infamous COVID-19, The Chamber Wind Project first initiated by the Birdian Saxophone Quartet back in 2012, will restart with its sixth edition, bringing together five distinguished local wind ensembles – Birdian Saxophone Quartet, Charmers, Asteri Flute Quartet, Claritopia and Brass Five, presenting to you an eclectic choice of musical taste through wind repertoire. Hand-picked by each individual ensemble, we are on a big musical feast – a good mixture of arrangements on classical tunes and pop numbers, and also a big highlight on featuring the local original compositions that are solely written for the setting.

Ticket: RM 55



NUSANTARA FANTASY

September 9 & September 10

Venue: Pentas 1, KLPAC

Welcome to “Nusantara Fantasy” Chinese orchestra concert, featuring a unique musical journey into the diverse and fascinating sounds of the Nusantara. In this special Independence Month, the talented musicians of Shin Yun Music Society will showcase a variety of traditional and contemporary Chinese music, highlighting the charm of Nusantara music. Join us and explore the cultural diversity of Malaysia through the beautiful melodies of Chinese instruments. This is a must-see event for Chinese music enthusiasts and those interested in Malaysian culture. Come celebrate Malaysia’s rich cultural heritage with us!

Ticket: RM 38 to RM 98



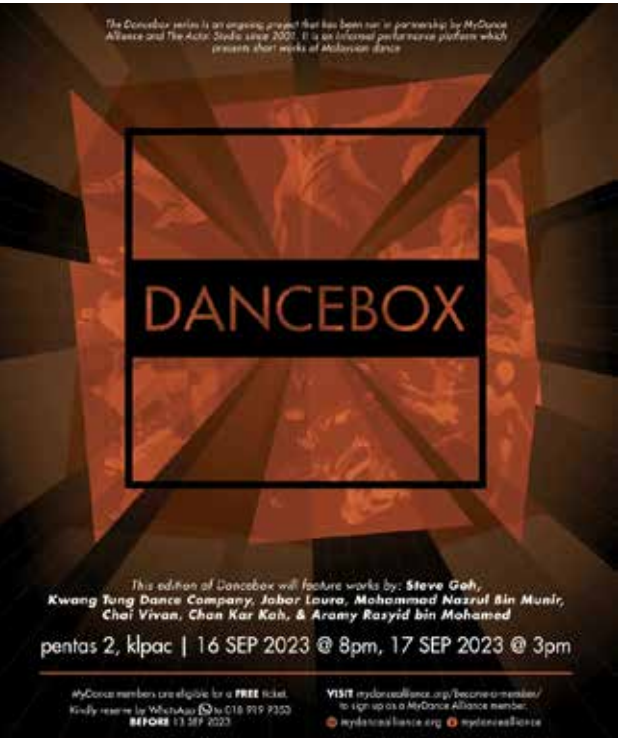
A TRIBUTE TO SUDIRMAN

September 16

Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

Known as Malaysia’s “Singing Lawyer,” Sudirman’s piercing tenor voice and dynamic style were iconic, topping the charts in the Asian region during his lifetime. His open-air concert on Jalan Chow Kit in 1986 drew an audience of 100 000 people! The MPO pays tribute to the life and music of the multi-faceted and beloved artist, including award-winning hits such as Salam Terakhir, Warisan and Hujan, and many more. Held in conjunction with Hari Malaysia, this special concert will end with a groundbreaking hologram showcase of the artist, for the first time by the MPO at DFP!

Ticket: RM 288 to RM 668



DANCEBOX

September 16 & September 17

Venue: Pentas 2, KLPAC

The Dance Box Series was originally conceived as a series of monthly dance events organised to showcase a diversity of dance including work by less established, more experimental choreographers. It later morphed into a mixed bill performance presenting works in progress, experimental works by established artists, and new works by emerging artists.

Ticket: RM 30



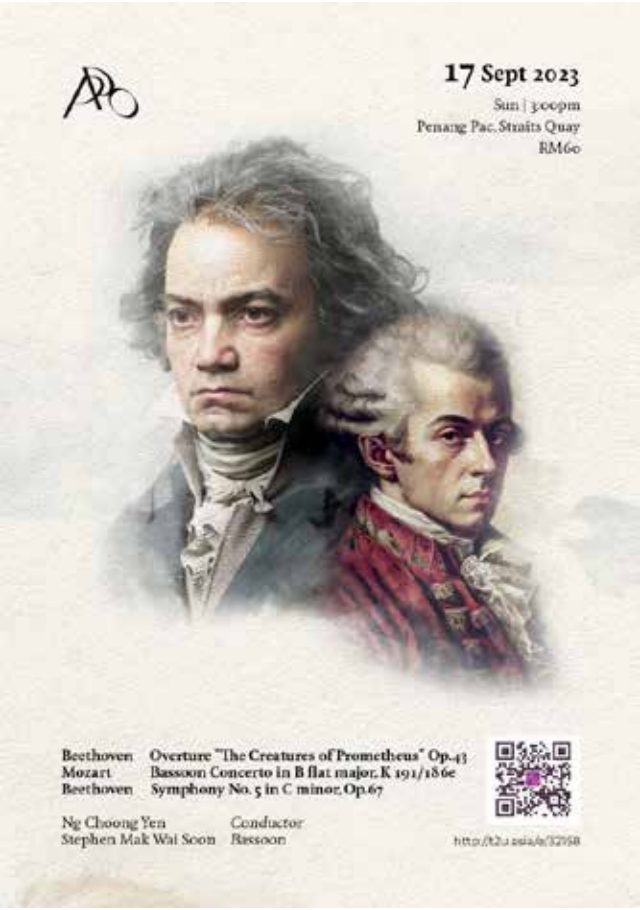
JEBAT

September 16 to September 23

Venue: Pentas 1, KLPAC

Set in a post-apocalyptic Malaysia where constant war and strife abound, the story follows the life and tragic death of JEBAT. It unfolds the plight of Hang Tuah’s loyalty to his king as opposed to Jebat’s desire for freedom, love and respect. The tragedy culminates in a heart-breaking scene where the two protagonists reluctantly fight to the death. While there are many stories on Hang Tuah, this is likely the first English language stage production in recent history focusing on JEBAT. Typically, the historic Tuah-Jebat duel zooms in on the idea of betrayal but this new work explores a different point of view. The Actors Studio’s biggest production for 2023 and certainly its highlight of the year boasts almost 40 performers on stage performing to specially composed live music with a mix of silat and mixed martial arts battle scenes, amazing sets and costumes, multimedia design and more. Don’t miss this eye-opening retelling of a classic tale.

Ticket: RM 80 to RM 100



BEETHOVEN 5TH, MOZART BASSOON CONCERTO

September 17

Venue: PENANGPAC

Get ready for an enchanting afternoon of classical melodies as orchestra takes the stage. Join in on a captivating musical journey that pays homage to the timeless compositions of two musical giants, Beethoven and Mozart. From Beethoven’s dynamic symphonies to Mozart’s graceful concertos, the concert promises a harmonious blend of emotion and precision. Adding a touch of brilliance to the performance is the talented guest bassoonist, Stephen Mak, whose mastery over the bassoon will undoubtedly add depth and richness to the orchestral arrangements. Prepare to be transported to a world of elegance and sophistication as we celebrate the genius of these legendary composers.

Ticket: RM 63



ALAN WALKER: WALKERVERSE WORLD TOUR

September 17

Venue: Axiata Arena

Multi-platinum Norweigan music producer and DJ Alan Walker, has been blazing the stages of major cities all over the world with his spellbinding EDM beats, and Malaysian fans will be thrilled to know that the artist will be concluding his Walkerverse World Tour with a bang in Kuala Lumpur.

Ticket: RM 55



BEETHOVEN LIVES UPSTAIRS

September 23

Venue: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas

When a noisy new neighbour moves upstairs, Christoph encounters the torment of deafness and the beauty of Beethoven’s most memorable work. The MPO and Classical Kids Live! present this fun-filled production celebrating his life and music. Enjoy classical masterpieces Moonlight Sonata and Für Elise, as well as universal hits Symphony No. 5 and No. 9 featuring Ode to Joy!

Ticket: RM 118 to RM 318



DANCE SPACE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

September 24

Venue: Zepp Kuala Lumpur

Embark on a Sweet & Enchanting Journey: Candyland & Cinderella! They cordially invite you to their spectacular 30th Anniversary Dance Production, where the passion and talent of 400 participants, spanning from littlest stars to esteemed alumni, will dazzle and delight you on the beautiful theatre of DPAC. Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime celebration of dance, dreams, and jubilation! Come and enjoy the show filled with joy, wonder, and memories that will last a lifetime.

Ticket: RM 298 to RM 398



ZAINAL ABIDIN TIBA MASA LIVE CONCERT 2023

September 30

Venue: Istana Budaya

Fans of Zainal Abidin can rejoice as you’re able to catch him live in concert at Istana Budaya.

Ticket: RM 179.76 to RM 799.60



MOVIE REEL

SEPTEMBER 2023



NANDOR FODOR AND THE TALKING MONGOOSE

SEPTEMBER 1

When famed paranormal psychologist Dr. Nandor Fodor (Pegg) investigates a family’s claims of a talking animal, he uncovers a mysterious web of hidden motives. Soon, everyone becomes a suspect in Dr. Fodor’s relentless pursuit of the truth.

Genre: Adventure / Thriller
Cast: Simon Pegg, Christopher Lloyd, Minnie Driver, Edmund Kingsley, Adam Sigal, Paul Kaye, Ruth Connell, Tim Downie.



A HAUNTING IN VEGAS

SEPTEMBER 15

Set in post-WWII Venice on All Hallows’ Eve, the film follows the celebrated sleuth Hercule Poirot. The now retired and living in self-imposed exile Poirot reluctantly attends a party at a haunted palazzo when one of the guests is murdered, and the former detective must once again find out who did it.

Genre: Drama / Thriller
Cast: Tina Fey, Jamie Dornan, Michelle Yeoh, Kyle Allen, Camille Cottin, Ali Khan, Kenneth Branagh, Kelly Reilly.



THE NUN II

SEPTEMBER 8

A follow-up to the enigmatic gothic horror about a strong evil that haunts and causes supernatural harm to everybody it comes into contact with. After the events of the first film, the said powerful evil now begins to spread in 1956 throughout a town in France as word gets out that a priest has been violently murdered. A finished contemplative in her novitiate, Sister Irene, begins to investigate the murder, only to find a demon behind it — the same evil that terrorised her in the original film as a nun — Valak, whom she once again soon comes to encounter.

Genre: Horror
Cast: Akela Cooper, James Wan, Storm Reid, Anna Popplewell, Taissa Farmiga, Michael Chaves, Peter Safran, Katelyn Rose Downey.



EXPEND4BLES

AUGUST 22

A new generation of stars join the world’s top action stars for an adrenaline-fuelled adventure in Expend4bles. Reuniting as the team of elite mercenaries, Jason Statham, Dolph Lundgren, Randy Couture, and Sylvester Stallone are joined for the first time by Curtis “50 Cent” Jackson, Megan Fox, Tony Jaa, Iko Uwais, Jacob Scipio, Levy Tran, and Andy Garcia. Armed with every weapon they can get their hands on and the skills to use them, The Expendables are the world’s last line of defence and the team that gets called when all other options are off the table. But new team members with new styles and tactics are going to give “new blood” a whole new meaning.

Genre: Adventure / Action
Cast: Jason Statham, Megan Fox, Tony Jaa, Curtis “50 Cent” Jackson, Dolph Lundgren, Scott Waugh, Jacob Scipio, Andy Garcia.

THE WORLD’S 13 MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGES YOU’VE PROBABLY NEVER HEARD OF

From an English hamlet that appears to have been ripped from a fairy tale to a colourful village in Colombia, these off-the-beaten-path destinations allow you to enjoy the quaint ambience without the throng of people.

In a world often dominated by bustling cities and popular tourist destinations, there exist hidden gems that seem almost frozen in time – picturesque villages that captivate with their untouched beauty and serene landscapes. These villages may not grace the covers of travel magazines or feature prominently on social media, but they hold an enchanting allure that leaves those fortunate enough to visit them in awe. This article takes you on a journey to discover the world’s 13 most beautiful villages that you’ve probably never heard of, where history, culture, and nature converge to create breathtaking landscapes and unforgettable experiences.

Orta San Giulio, Italy

While Lake Como and Lake Maggiore receive the most attention, Lake Orta boasts equally beautiful views without the people. Orta San Giulio, a lovely hillside settlement on a peninsula, is the main town on this overlooked lake. Climb to the top of the Sacro Monte, where 20 chapels decorated with frescoes and statues of San Francesco d’Assisi are tucked within a national park. A short boat journey away lies Isola di San Giulio, a small island with a Benedictine monastery and the Romanesque Basilica of San Giulio. Take in the scenery as you walk the route of stillness and meditation that circles the island.



Lamu, Kenya

Lamu is the oldest Swahili settlement in East Africa, located on the same-named island off Kenya’s northeastern coast. The UNESCO World Heritage site was designated in 2001, and the community is noted for its architecture, which incorporates inspirations from Swahili, Arabic, European, Indian, and Persian forms and uses mangrove timber and coral stone. Visit Lamu Fort, a fortification erected between 1810 and 1823 that today houses a library and exhibition space, as well as the Lamu Museum, which is housed in an early 1900s home. Cars are uncommon due to the island’s tiny, twisting roads, so plan to commute by motorbike or on one of the island’s more than 6,000 donkeys.



Frigiliana, Spain

Frigilana in southern Spain is generally referred to as one of the most beautiful of Andalucia’s Pueblos Blancos (White Villages), and it’s simple to understand why. Since the Neolithic period, the charming whitewashed town has been home to different towns, including Phoenician, Roman, and Moorish villages. The Moorish era left an indelible mark on the city’s architecture, particularly in the upper Mudéjar area, which features winding, tiered streets. Frigiliana is well-known for its Festival de las Tres Culturas, which takes place in August and honours the village’s three cultures: Christian, Jewish, and Muslim.



Taxco de Alarcon, Mexico

Frigilana in southern Spain is generally referred to as one of the most beautiful of Andalucia’s Pueblos Blancos (White Villages), and it’s simple to understand why. Since the Neolithic period, the charming whitewashed town has been home to different towns, including Phoenician, Roman, and Moorish villages. The Moorish era left an indelible mark on the city’s architecture, particularly in the upper Mudéjar area, which features winding, tiered streets. Frigiliana is well-known for its Festival de las Tres Culturas, which takes place in August and honours the village’s three cultures: Christian, Jewish, and Muslim.



Gordes, France

Gordes, a commune in the French region of Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur, has a long history, beginning as a fort of the Vordenses, a Celtic tribe. The slope is lined with stone dwellings and structures, and tiny cobblestone streets spiral up to the mediaeval castle, which was enlarged and renovated during the 14th and 16th centuries. During WWII, the town served as a resistance centre and was given the Croix de Guerre metal. Following the war, the town transformed into an artistic hotspot, attracting artists like as Marc Chagall, Victor Vasarely, and Pol Mara. Visitors can also visit the nearby Village des Bories, which contains around 20 dry stone cottages dating back to the Bronze Age.



Castle Combe, Wiltshire, England

Castle Combe in the Cotswolds feels like something out of a fairy tale, despite the fact that its Norman castle is long gone. The mediaeval Market Cross, a freestanding stone and wood structure created when the village was a significant centre of the cloth industry, connects the town’s three main streets. St. Andrews, located opposite the Market Cross, is a 13th-century church with a nave and tower erected in the 14th and 16th centuries, respectively. The tower has fan-vaulted ceilings and one of the country’s oldest working faceless mediaeval clocks. Stroll past the Cotswold-stone homes to the bridge for views of the town and By Brooke.



Guatapé, Colombia

Guatapé, located a few hours west of Medellín, is a colourful community. Each structure has vibrant zócalos, fresco-like panels that adorn the lower façades. Every street and square is adorned with dazzling decorations, making the village a colour lover’s dream. The lakeside town is particularly famous for El Peon de Guatapé, a 650-foot-tall rock that protrudes from the landscape. Visitors can reach the top through a 740-step staircase that spirals up a crevice in the rock’s face.



Moulay Idriss Zerhoun, Morocco

The whitewashed town of Moulay Idriss Zerhoun, spread across two hills near Mount Zerhoun, was the earliest Muslim city in North Africa and is today an important pilgrimage site. The town’s founder, Moulay Idris I, is buried in the wonderfully decorated Zawiya Moulay Idris I in the village centre. Moulay Idriss Zerhoun is rich in Islamic architecture, including the Sentissi Mosque, which has the only cylindrical minaret in Morocco and is coated with a green and white zellige tile mosaic that spells out a surah from the Koran.



Ogimachi, Shirakawa-go, Japan

Ogimachi is the largest town in the Shirakawa-go area, which was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1995 along with Gokayama. The region is well-known for its typical gassho-zukuri farmhouse collections. Some of the homes, some of which are over 250 years old, have steep thatched roofs that mimic hands in prayer, and some are now Minshuku, family-run bed and breakfasts. Visit the Gassho-zukuri Minkaen, an open-air museum with farmhouses and other structures relocated from the surrounding areas for preservation, and trek (or take a shuttle bus) to the Shiroyama viewpoint for a bird’s-eye view of the hamlet.



Giethoorn, Netherlands

Geithorn, a charming village in the Netherlands, is renowned as the Venice of the Netherlands due to its hand-dug canal systems, which were built by peat farmers 800 years ago. The village’s centre is car-free, so you may explore by foot, bike, or boat. On the islands, which are linked by 176 bridges, charming 18th- and 19th-century farmhouses with thatched roofs may be found. Rent a punter boat (all electric, so no rowing required!) and cruise across the canals.

MONOCHROMATIC CITIES

WHERE TIMELESS BEAUTY MEETS MINIMALIST MARVEL

In a world bursting with vibrant colours, there is an exceptional allure to cities that have embraced the timeless charm of monochromatic palettes. Whether it’s the ethereal blues of Chefchaouen or the whitewashed tranquility of Santorini, these monochromatic marvels will continue to captivate and leave a lasting impression on all who are fortunate enough to walk their streets. Let’s embark on a journey to explore some of the most intriguing monochromatic cities around the world, where every street corner unveils a minimalist marvel.



Santorini, Greece

WHITEWASHED SERENITY

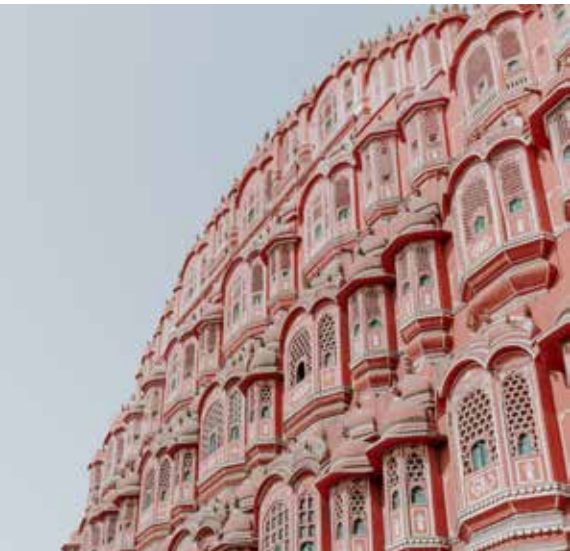
Nestled in the Aegean Sea, the iconic island of Santorini stands as a beacon of whitewashed serenity. Its sugar-cube-like buildings, perched atop dramatic cliffs overlooking the azure waters, create an otherworldly ambiance. The pure white facades not only reflect the scorching sun, keeping the interiors cool, but also present a visually stunning contrast against the deep blue of the sea and the sky. Santorini’s monochromatic allure beckons travellers seeking tranquility and a glimpse into the timeless beauty of Greece’s island life.



Chefchaouen, Morocco

A BLUE JEWEL IN THE ATLAS MOUNTAINS

Tucked away in the Rif Mountains of Morocco, Chefchaouen, fondly known as the “Blue Pearl,” casts a spell with its striking blue hues. Every building, alley, and stairway in this mountain town is washed in various shades of blue, creating a dreamlike atmosphere. The tradition of painting buildings blue is believed to have originated from the city’s Jewish community as a symbol of the heavens and a reminder of God’s watchful eye. Today, Chefchaouen’s blue streets attract visitors looking for an escape from the ordinary and a chance to immerse themselves in a unique and calming palette.



Jodhpur, India

THE SUN CITY OF BLUE

In the vast desert state of Rajasthan, India, the city of Jodhpur stands out as an oasis of blue amid the arid landscape. Known as the “Blue City,” its indigo-washed houses create a mesmerising contrast against the golden sandstone architecture of the Mehrangarh Fort and other historical landmarks. The blue color, traditionally associated with Brahmins, signifies social status and spiritual significance. As the sun sets over Jodhpur, the city’s blue facades turn into a captivating canvas, leaving travellers enchanted by its ethereal beauty.



Dubrovnik, Croatia

A PEARLY TAPESTRY OF HISTORY

Nicknamed the “Pearl of the Adriatic,” Dubrovnik boasts a seamless blend of history and elegance, wrapped in a monochromatic tapestry. The city’s iconic Old Town, encircled by sturdy stone walls, is a testament to its medieval past. The uniformity of the stone facades, crafted with a distinct limestone known as “Dubrovnik stone,” creates a harmonious palette of light greys and creams. As visitors stroll along the polished streets and red-roofed buildings, they are transported to a bygone era, where simplicity and grandeur converge in perfect harmony.



Andalusia, Spain

A MONOCHROMATIC SYMPHONY OF WARMTH

Nestled in the southern region of Spain, Andalusia emerges as a captivating monochromatic symphony, embracing the warmth of earthy tones and ochre hues. This enchanting region boasts a rich blend of Moorish, Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture, all united by a harmonious palette that weaves a tale of history and culture. There are several ideas floating around as to what the unifying white façades were initially inspired by: Some claim that the whitewashing technique fought microorganisms during periods of terrible plague on the Iberian peninsula between the 16th and 19th centuries, while others contend that the colour was employed to protect the buildings from the extremely powerful Mediterranean sun.



Izamal, Mexico

THE GOLDEN CITY OF ANCIENT MARVEL

Izamal, located in Mexico’s Yucatán area, was formerly the ancient Mayan civilisation’s home until being colonised by the Spanish in the 16th century. The justification for the region’s investment in the specific colour is debatable, as is the case with a number other monochromatic cities. Some claim that Izamal was given a cheery yellow paint job in 1993 to coincide with an anticipated meeting with Pope John Paul II, but others claim that the building has always been yellow. At the heart of Izamal stands the awe-inspiring Franciscan Monastery, a true architectural wonder. This impressive complex, known as the Convento de San Antonio de Padua, dates back to the 16th century and was built atop an ancient Maya pyramid. The towering yellow facade, adorned with intricate stucco work, serves as a symbol of the town’s historical significance and religious devotion.

ART FOR INVESTMENT

BRIDGING AESTHETICS AND ASSET CLASS



Art has long held a special place in the human psyche, captivating our senses, stimulating our imagination, and reflecting the essence of culture and creativity. However, in recent decades, art has transcended its traditional role as a source of beauty and cultural significance, emerging as a compelling asset class in the world of investment. The fusion of art’s aesthetic allure and its potential as a financial instrument has given rise to a dynamic market where collectors and investors recognise the value of art beyond its visual appeal.

The Evolution of Art as an Investment

The notion of art as an investment is not a novel concept. Throughout history, wealthy patrons, art connoisseurs, and collectors have understood the intrinsic value of artworks, often using them as a store of wealth. The Medicis in Renaissance Italy, the opulent art collectors of the Gilded Age, and more recently, the art enthusiasts of the 21st century, have all contributed to the elevation of art to the status of an asset. What distinguishes today’s art market from its historical predecessors is the deliberate recognition of art as a legitimate asset class within investment portfolios. This recognition has been fuelled by several factors:

Diversification: In an era where portfolio diversification is paramount, art offers a unique opportunity. Its performance often exhibits low correlation with traditional assets, such as stocks and bonds. This low correlation can act as a hedge during periods of economic instability, helping to balance a portfolio.

Tangible Value: Artworks possess intrinsic value due to their physical presence. Unlike some financial instruments that can depreciate or become obsolete, art endures through time. Iconic artworks, in particular, tend to hold or appreciate in value, making them attractive long-term holdings.

Potential for Returns: While art, like any investment, carries risks, it also holds the potential for substantial returns. Remarkable pieces from renowned artists have been known to command extraordinary prices at auctions, becoming headlines in the financial world.

Global Demand: The art market is a global ecosystem. Art collectors and investors span the world, contributing to the continuous demand for art. As emerging economies expand and more individuals engage in art collection and investment, this demand further strengthens, potentially driving prices upward.



Jeremiah Lamenting the Destruction of Jerusalem by Rembrandt, 1630

Navigating the Art Market

Investing in art requires a nuanced approach. Unlike traditional investments, artworks lack standardised pricing mechanisms, making valuation complex. Determining the true value of a piece relies on factors such as provenance, condition, historical significance, and current market demand. Many investors engage art advisors or participate in specialised art funds to navigate this intricate terrain. Expertise and research are key, as understanding emerging trends, the reputation of artists, and the cultural context of artworks all play crucial roles in making informed investment decisions. It’s important to emphasise that while art as an investment can yield financial benefits, it’s not solely about profits. The personal satisfaction of owning a piece of history, contributing to cultural preservation, and experiencing the emotional connection that art can provide all add depth to the art investment experience.

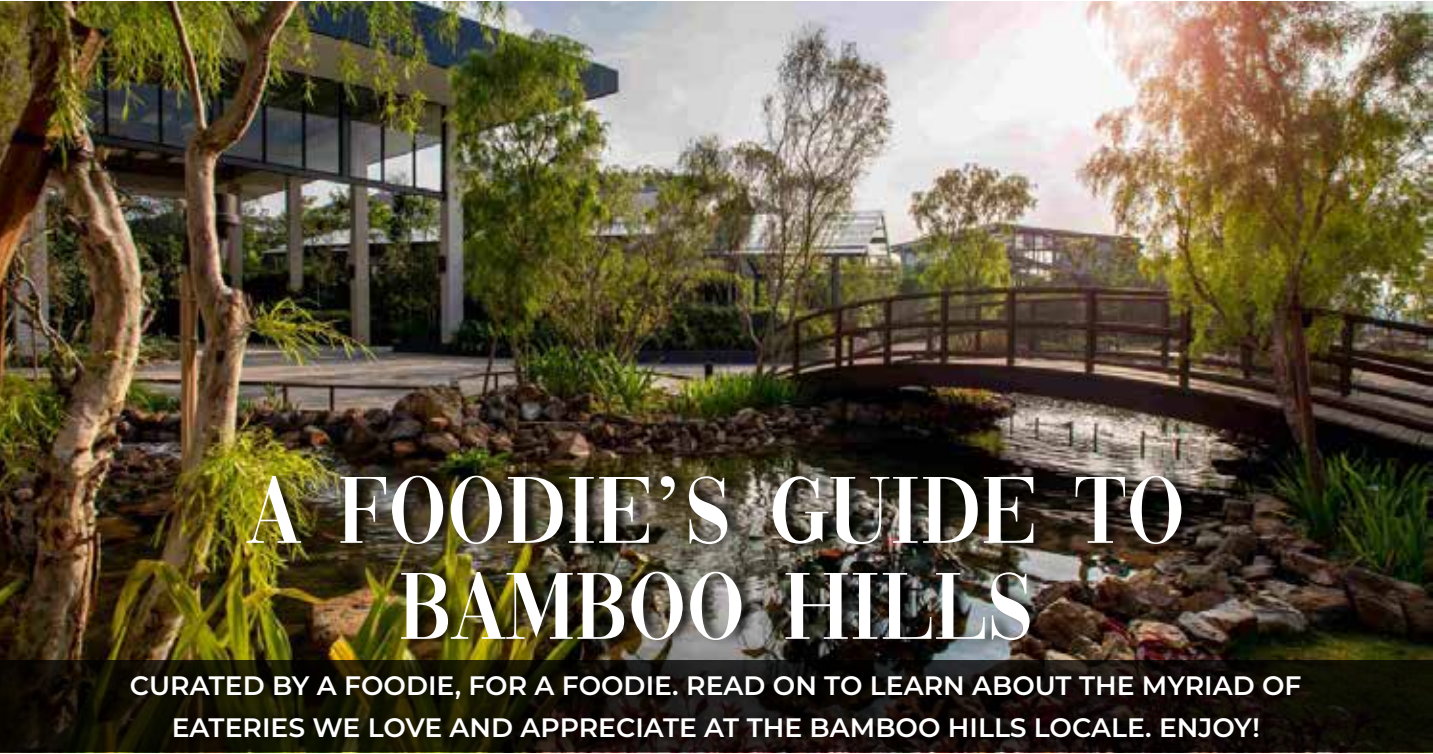


The Appreciation of Artworks by Top Masters

The artworks crafted by the world’s top masters have transcended time, serving as both windows into the past and beacons of artistic brilliance. These pieces, created by iconic artists whose names resonate through the annals of art history, have not only captured the essence of their eras but have also become coveted treasures that appreciate in value, both financially and culturally.

One of the remarkable aspects of artworks by top masters is their historical significance. These pieces often provide a glimpse into the cultural, social, and artistic milieu of the time they were created. From the stunning chiaroscuro of Caravaggio’s paintings that defined the Baroque era to the groundbreaking innovations of Cubism seen in Picasso’s works, each masterpiece encapsulates the spirit of its age. As such, these artworks are not just beautiful; they are historical artefacts that connect us to the past, offering insights into the thoughts, emotions, and aesthetics of generations long gone.

The scarcity of artworks by top masters including Monet, Klimt and Van Gogh adds a layer of exclusivity that drives their value. These artists were often prolific, yet the number of their works that have survived the ravages of time is relatively small. Each piece is a unique creation, meticulously crafted by the hand of the master, making it a precious and irreplaceable item. As demand for these works continues to grow, driven by a combination of art enthusiasts and astute investors, the limited availability pushes prices upward. While the cultural and historical significance of these artworks is undeniable, their financial appreciation is equally remarkable. The prices that top masterpieces command at auctions often capture headlines. The allure of owning an original painting by a renowned artist has led to fierce bidding wars, driving prices to astonishing levels. The investment potential of these works is further enhanced by the fact that they often outperform traditional financial assets, offering a unique opportunity for diversification and wealth preservation.



A FOODIE’S GUIDE TO BAMBOO HILLS

CURATED BY A FOODIE, FOR A FOODIE. READ ON TO LEARN ABOUT THE MYRIAD OF EATERIES WE LOVE AND APPRECIATE AT THE BAMBOO HILLS LOCALE. ENJOY!

Bamboo Hills, with its harmonious blend of nature’s tranquility, aesthetics and gastronomic innovation, has quickly risen to prominence as a hotspot for those seeking a holistic dining experience. Situated at the intersection of culinary creativity and awe-inspiring surroundings, this unique hub is a testament to the remarkable fusion of flavours, textures, and cultures.

The Qing

Unit P03, Bamboo Hills, Off Lebuhraya DUKE, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.

+6017 601 6808

Inspired by the ancient Chinese philosophy of the five elements—wood, fire, earth, metal, and water — The Qing seamlessly weaves together flavours, textures, and ingredients to create a harmonious culinary experience that delights the senses. The design of the restaurant is based on the traditional Chinese Courtyard House, a historic structure in which four residences would surround a beautiful central garden, blending residential opulence with the true beauty of the outside world. The Qing serves Contemporary Chinese cuisine showcasing traditional flavours albeit using modern cooking methods.

Hanam BBQ

Unit P01-2, Bamboo Hills, Off Lebuhraya DUKE, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.

+603 4816 3557

Hanam BBQ is Bamboo Hills’ resident Korean BBQ establishment. While there, expect expertly cooked meats that are succulent and brimming with flavour. Hanam BBQ, like other Korean BBQ restaurants, is a terrific place to dine with your favourite people while enjoying Korean cuisine.



Sambal Petai Prawn Dumpling



Korean BBQ

Locarasa

Unit P02-2, Bamboo Hills, Off Lebuhraya DUKE, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.

+011-1449 1996

Locarasa Restaurant and Patisserie is a Malay-Western fusion restaurant that focuses on local-western fusion inspired cuisines that deviate from the standard by incorporating novel ingredients to surprise and satisfy everyone.

Botanica + Co

Unit P09, Bamboo Hills, Off Lebuhraya DUKE, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.

+6012 623 3175

Botanica+Co’s signature all-day dining menu evolves with this new flagship outlet, serving up new items centred around smoky char and fragrant heat. Whole foods cooked in natural methods over open fire oven and charcoal grill honour ingredients in their most authentic state for real, true flavours, all in the same all-natural surroundings of Botanico+Co that you have come to know and love.

Ginger KL

Unit P05, Bamboo Hills, Off Lebuhraya DUKE, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.

+6016 406 5218

Ginger portrays the fun vibrancy of modern Australian cuisine with hints of flavourful Indian spices. Bringing an entirely new concoction of contemporary cuisine to you, through casual fine dining.

Tap Room KL

Unit P10, Bamboo Hills, Off Lebuhraya DUKE, 51200 Kuala Lumpur.

+012-942 8525

Tap Room KL is a unique dining and entertainment destination that brings together the best of craft beer and delicious food. The venue is home to Malaysia’s own craft beer brand, PAPERKITE, and offers a wide variety of modern contemporary inspired flavours of tapas to complement the beer. One of the highlights of Tap Room KL is the Pizza Duo, which serves great Neapolitan pizzas with a modern twist, straight out of our custom-built Stefano Ferrara oven. These pizzas are made with only the freshest and highest-quality ingredients, and are cooked to perfection in the wood-fired oven. Overall, Tap Room KL is a one-of-a-kind microbrewery experience centre that offers a unique combination of delicious food, craft beer, and live entertainment. It’s a perfect destination for a night out with friends, a casual date, or a special occasion.



Locarasa Patisserie



Botanica+Co



Brunch | Lunch



Margherita Pizza



MALAYSIAKU: CULINARY TALES OF FOLKLORES AND FABLES

CELEBRATING MALAYSIA AT THE ST. REGIS KUALA LUMPUR

THE BRASSERIE, THE ST. REGIS KUALA LUMPUR, JALAN STESEN SENTRAL 2, KUALA LUMPUR SENTRAL, 50470 KUALA LUMPUR.

In celebration of Merdeka, Malaysia’s Independence Day, The St. Regis Kuala Lumpur presented its exquisite gastronomic journey entitled Malaysiaku: Culinary Tales of Folklores and Fables. This immersive culinary experience pays heartfelt homage to the rich cultural heritage and traditions that shape Malaysia’s diverse landscape. Each dish is thoughtfully curated, utilising authentic ingredients and traditional cooking techniques from 14 different states, showcasing the distinct flavours and culinary treasures that Malaysia has to offer.

This year, the captivating Malaysiaku menu masterfully weaves together popular fables such as “Puteri Santubong and Puteri Sejinjang,” “Kisah Itik Bertelur Emas,” “Batu Belah Batu Bertangkap,” “Kisah Tiga Ekor Kambing,” along with various other folklores and fables. The result is an extraordinary culinary experience that celebrates the rich heritage and traditions of Malaysia. These culinary delights are skillfully crafted by a team of exceptional chefs, led by our talented Executive Sous Chef, Norazizi Taslim, who passionately embraces his local-provincial upbringing.

The experience commences with a wooden mailbox from old Malaya atop the table, hiding an envelope which conceals a postcard. The journey is then afoot. An eloquent maitre d arrives with another postcard and eloquently narrates the tale of Puteri Santubong and Puteri Sejinjang, as well as the first course that are inspired by the tale — Poached Clams representing Puteri Santubong’s task in catching fishes (Sabah), Serunding Rendang Tok (Perak) represents elements of the land, where both princesses lived, Keropok Lekor (Terengganu) represents Mount Santubong and Sejinjang, and Tauhu Lembut (Melaka) represents Puteri Sejinjang’s task to pound soybeans. Every dish presented is a testament to the culinary team’s prowess, meticulous attention to detail, with every edible flower and garnish perfectly placed and boundary-pushing creativity.

Every course starts with storytelling and a postcard to tie the experience together with thoughtfully-reimagined dishes that still embody Malaysian traditions and flavour. With each dish boasting delectable brilliance, it’s a challenge to choose a favourite. Going through all of the six courses was a delightful spectacle and a sensorial experience that came through various textures and aromas. The gastronomic journey came to a sweet close with the arrival of desserts inspired by the Lagenda Pisang Raja Udang, which came in the form of Caramelised Banana Chocolate Ganache (Johor) representing the banana plant and Petit Four (Kuala Lumpur) — Pineapple Tart, Pandan Coconut Madeleine and 70% Chocolate Bon Bon to represent the elements in the jungle. The former dessert, presented in a smoked bell jar resembles the actual fruit (crafted from chocolate ganache) and upon digging in, reveals banana puree, bolstering a smoked banana ice cream, giving some depth to this well executed dish. The Malaysiaku: Culinary Tales of Folklores and Fables will be at the Michelin-selected The Brasserie on Sept 9 and 16, 2023, priced at RM388 nett per adult.



Kisah Tiga Ekor Kambing



DOU REMY BY WIZARDS

Tucked in Menara Symphony, in Jalan Professor Khoo Kay Kim is a new neighbourhood cafe known as Dou Remy by Wizards. Brought by the same brains behind Wizards at Tribeca, you can expect the same dedication and principles to nourishing both the body and the soul. The team seeks to provide a fulfilling, soothing, and truly personal experience, from hand-made breads and pastries of high quality to a beautiful and welcoming environment for the community to gather.

Its interior is minimalistic and warm, creating a spellbinding ambience that invites lingering with friends over coffee. Now, let’s talk about the pièce de résistance – the food. Dou Remy by Wizards’ menu is extensive, from comforting sandwiches and snacks to nibble on to generous mains. From the mains, we indulged in the Unagi Chazuke Rice Bowl — a perfect harmony of flavours from the tender, grilled eel and mushrooms on a bed of fluffy Japanese rice served in katsuobushi broth, scallions and kizami nori.

Weekend indulgence, or anytime really, comes in the form of the mouthwatering Sambal Chicken Rice Bowl. Relish in the crispiness from the fried, succulent chicken thigh on fluffy Japanese rice, hard-boiled eggs, and pickled Japanese cucumber, all served with Dou Remy’s homemade spicy sambal. Then, a fusion of Asian flavours are presented through the Green Curry Soft Shell Crab. This creamy goodness sees a pasta tossed in velvety green curry, accompanied by crispy soft shell crab and grilled zucchini. Each bite is a play on textures and tastes that will leave you craving for more.

Delight in the deliciousness of Dou Remy’s meatless toasts, perfect for vegetarians. Choose from the classic comfort of Eggs on Toast, with creamy yolks that is perfectly arranged on the cafe’s signature homemade sourdough, or indulge in the earthy flavours of Mushroom & Avocado Toast, where sautéed mushrooms and luscious avocado unite, crafted with passion on artisanal sourdough. Those with sweet teeths like us might seek comfort in the Homemade Brioche Nutella French Toast. This dessert of breakfast treat features the luscious combination of Nutella, Mascarpone cream and fresh strawberries, layered on homemade, fluffy brioche.



Green Curry Soft Shell Crab



Homemade Brioche Nutella French Toast



Sambal Chicken Rice Bow



There’s a new hotspot in the Section 13 locale and its name is Flour, Fire & Stone. Describing itself as “a boiler room of food chemistry and combustion to serve you a gastronomic experience — open for brunch thru’ dinner”, we confess that we wholeheartedly concur.

Identifiable by its mammoth circular sliding door, what lies beyond the threshold is the welcoming waft of baking bread made using stone-milled flour, a bounteous space featuring stone accents (echoing its moniker) coffee bar and counter, as well as aesthetic corners that will please any photophile. Being a purveyor of caffeine, you can expect freshly-roasted coffee on the daily, from 8am, brewed using a handcrafted Slayer machine. Start your day with a necessary jolt from Flour, Fire and Stone’s shot of espresso or a cup of cortado, and leave with a to-go iced latte or long black to enjoy throughout.

Its enticing menu starts with breakfast — a delectable line up of vegan and non-vegan options. We dug into the Banger, featuring chicken thyme bangers, mashed potato, grilled streaky bacon, baby onion gravy and sauerkraut. The Smorgasbord is equally tempting, with its delicious hickory-smoked beef brisket, beet-cured salmon gravlax and plump poached eggs on a savoury matzo olive oil cracker.



French Toast

Boasting a wood-fired oven and dough made from organic stone-milled flour, naturally, pizza is a must order at Flour, Fire & Stone. Choose from a humble Breakfast Pizza crafted using layers of tomato sauce, free-range sunny-side up egg and a choice of chicken and herb sausage, turkey ham or beef bacon, or the Calabrese “Diavola”, with tomato sauce, mozzarella, chilli oil, chorizo de pavo, soppressata piccante and parmesan. Alternatively, for a quick bite to go, we recommend grabbing a slice of Roman Pizza with duck prosciutto, burrata and arugula or Eggplant Parmigiana with tomato sauce, buffalo mozzarella, confit cherry tomatoes and fresh basil leaves.

Dessert is a mandated ritual here, specifically the Peach Strudel which will leave an indelible imprint on your palate. Sandwiched between flaky pastry, generous chunks of peach are swirled with cream, conveying natural sweetness and a delightful crisp with every bite.



Omelette Served with Wild Mushroom Ragout and Chargrilled Sourdough



Nestled within the elegant confines of Le Meridien Petaling Jaya in Selangor, Malaysia, Pasar Baru is a resident restaurant that beckons guests to embark on a gastronomic journey that captures the essence of Malaysian cuisine while offering a global culinary experience. With its name translating to “New Market,” Pasar Baru is an apt representation of the lively and diverse food scene that Malaysia is renowned for.

Ambiance

Upon stepping into Pasar Baru, guests are greeted by an ambiance that effortlessly blends modern aesthetics with traditional Malaysian touches. The interior design incorporates vibrant colors, rustic elements, and contemporary furniture, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere. The open-kitchen concept allows diners to witness skilled chefs at work, infusing a sense of theater into the dining experience.

Buffet Offerings

Pasar Baru takes pride in its buffet offerings, which showcase an array of culinary delights that cater to diverse palates. The restaurant’s buffet offerings are a symphony of flavours, where both local and international cuisines harmoniously coexist. Here’s a glimpse into the buffet offerings:

Malaysian Delights: The heart of Pasar Baru’s buffet lies in its selection of authentic Malaysian dishes. From iconic nasi lemak, rendang, and satay to regional specialties like Penang laksa and Sarawak kolo mee, the spread pays homage to the rich tapestry of Malaysian cuisine.

International Fare: For those with a penchant for international flavours, Pasar Baru presents a global culinary journey. Diners can explore an array of dishes spanning Japanese sushi and sashimi, Italian pasta, Middle Eastern mezze, and more.

Live Cooking Stations: The interactive live cooking stations add an element of excitement to the dining experience. Guests can watch as chefs whip up dishes such as noodle soup or roti canai to order, ensuring that each plate is a personalised masterpiece.



Buffet Offerings of Various Cuisines

Beverage Selection: The beverage selection complements the dining journey perfectly. Guests can choose from an array of refreshing beverages, including teh tarik and freshly squeezed juices.

Dessert Paradise: No buffet experience is complete without a delightful dessert spread. Pasar Baru’s dessert offerings are a sweet symphony, featuring traditional Malaysian sweets, European pastries, cakes, and a selection of artisanal ice creams.



Fresh Seafood Offerings



Live Cooking Stations at Pasar Baru



KAFE KLEPTOKRAT

KAFE KLEPTOKRAT, 18, JALAN TUN H S LEE, CITY CENTRE, 50100 KUALA LUMPUR.
+6019 222 0262

Kafe Kleptokrat is a beautiful hidden gem in Jalan Tun HS Lee offering respite from the bustling city with its distinct and dreamy ambience, with a private pool at the heart of this cafe, all while evoking the nostalgia of yesteryear. Taking inspiration from the cafes in Melbourne, the accents of this century-old shophouse remain untouched, resulting in an old-meets-new charm.

The offerings are aplenty here, ranging from Australian brunch classics and century-old Cottle Coffee that was founded by Richard Cottle, in Australia, to local-inspired renditions. Kafe Kleptokrat’s local specialties include the Malaysian staple — nasi lemak served up with crowd pleasers such as the ayam goreng berempah, beef rendang, mutton rendang, as well as young jackfruit rendang for vegetarians and vegans.

Recently, Kafe Kleptokrat introduced its Asam Pedas series, bringing Melaka to the cafe. There are various asam pedas renditions to choose from, including Asam Pedas Fillet of Fish, which sees fillet of Kuala Selangor sea bass in traditional Melaka-style asam pedas, served with white rice, ulam salad and sambal belacan. Another interesting take on this beloved local dish is the Spaghetti Asam Pedas Tiger Prawns in a Pomodoro-style sauce, tossed with spaghetti, baby tomatoes and ulam.

Next, a truly Malaysian dish, a mixture of culture and tradition is captured in the Ayam Rendang Hijau served with nasi hujan panas, vegetable Dalca, fish crackers and sirap Anak Malaysia to quench your thirst. You can’t go wrong with The Lontong Kering Pakcik Alam, which is pleasing to sight and palate. It’s an assemblage of nasi impit served with a choice of rendang ayam or rendang daging, accompanied with sambal pengantin, sambal bilis, kuah kacang and serunding. Vegans too can relish this deliciousness with the Lontong Vegan which sees rice cubes with traditional masak lemak cili api, ulam, fried tofu, tempe and a spicy onion sambal.

The epitome of fusion is embodied by the Laksa Johor. Customers can expect premium ingredients such as wolf herring fish, minced prawns and salted threadfin fish which culminates in an aromatic and spicy gravy. The thick and rich laksa gravy is served over a bed of spaghetti topped with a medley of fresh ulam. Pair these dishes with any of the cafe’s mocktails for a refreshing finish.



Laksa Johor, Nasi Lemak Ayam Goreng Berempah Grilled Chicken Sandwich, Kleptokrat Special Seafood Noodles



Ayam Rendang Hijau with Nasi Hujan Panas



YELLOW BRICK ROAD @ THE FIVE

5TH PLACE @ THE FIVE, 49, JALAN DUNGUN, BUKIT DAMANSARA, 50490 KUALA LUMPUR.
+603 2011 7690

Channel your inner Dorothy and tread the yellow brick road. Instead of the Emerald City, disembark at Yellow Brick Road’s new abode at The Five, where its dream remains just as vibrant and vital to bring the best food, coffee and other F&B creations to all who walk through its doors.

There’s much to relish here, from the soups and sharing dishes to whet the palate to fulfilling mains and desserts for the sweet tooth. Order the Crispy Enoki Mushrooms with truffle mayo or Corny Fritters with sriracha mayo to munch on with friends while awaiting the arrival of heftier delights. Lazy Sunday brunches call for Eggs Norwegian featuring a brilliant pink-hued, house-cured beetroot salmon layered with spinach, mushrooms, delicate poached eggs drizzled with yuzu hollandaise for some tartness, and bonito for an Asian flair atop fluffy brioche buns. A variety of meatless options cater to vegetarians with the likes of Truffle Scrambled Eggs and Very Berry French Toast.



French Toast

For quick, grab and go meal that is light and refreshing, The Fig’s Jig does the trick, beaming with wholesomeness and nutrition. It comprises mesclun salad, roasted figs, crispy tofu, walnuts, cherry tomatoes, pomegranate and a yuzu vinaigrette dressing for harmony. Local, Japanese, Western and fusion flavours are all found in the mains, our favourite being the Spicy Saba Spaghetti — a union of cultures and flavours through an aglio olio rendition together with dry chilli paste, grilled mackerel, ginger flower, cherry tomatoes, coriander and lime. Seafood lovers would appreciate Beyond The Sea — boasting a variety of ocean offerings such as tiger prawns, asari clams, spinach and spaghetti tossed in prawn bisque, making it a briny and comforting meal. Treat yourself to Yellow Brick Road’s Earl Grey Crème Brûlée, an interesting yet delectable twist to the French classic, topped with soft whipped cream and strawberry.



Yellow Brick Road’s Offerings

TANTALISING TIPPLES

UNIQUE COCKTAILS FOR THE ADVENTUROUS DRINKERS

What’s a good hostess without an arsenal of cocktail recipes up your sleeve? Prepare to discover bold combinations, exotic ingredients, and unexpected twists that will make your cocktail hour an unforgettable experience!



Spiced Pear Martini

This easy to make spiced pear martini is the perfect Fall and Winter pear cocktail and so easy to make. This spiced pear martini is made with vodka and gets its amazing flavour from a pear simple syrup, pear liqueur and some warm Fall spices. If you are looking for a delicious pear cocktail to try out, this is the drink for you.

Ingredients:

- 2 oz spiced pear vodka
- 1 oz cinnamon schnapps
- 1 oz fresh pear juice
- 0.5 oz lemon juice
- 0.5 oz simple syrup
- Cinnamon stick and pear slice for garnish

Method:

Pear Simple Syrup

- Add your water, granulated sugar, cinnamon and sliced pears to a medium pot over medium heat.
- Bring to a simmer.
- When the sugar is fully dissolved remove the pot from the heat and place a lid on it.
- Let the pears steep in the syrup for about 30 minutes or until the syrup comes to room temperature.
- Once the syrup has come to room temperature, strain the mixture through a fine mesh sieve into a container. Refrigerate.

Making the Cocktail

- Grab a cocktail shaker.
- Fill the shaker with a cup of ice, your vodka, pear liqueur and pear simple syrup.
- Shake for at least 30 seconds.
- Strain into your martini glass..
- **Optional but recommended:** Squeeze your lemon into the cocktail and garnish with a fresh pear slice.



Rosemary Cucumber Cooler

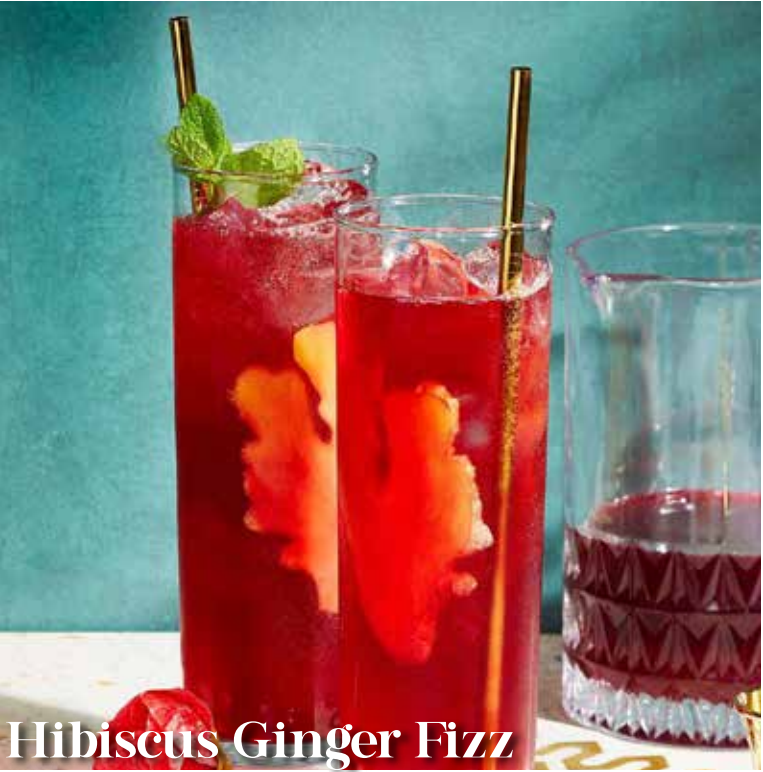
Turn fresh rosemary, cucumbers, gin and lemons into a refreshing cooler to stay hydrated on a hot day.

Ingredients:

- 2 oz gin
- 1 oz fresh cucumber juice
- 0.75 oz rosemary-infused honey syrup
- 0.5 oz lime juice
- Cucumber ribbon and fresh rosemary sprig for garnish

Method:

- In a shaker, combine gin, cucumber juice, rosemary-infused honey syrup, and lime juice
- Fill the shaker with ice and shake vigorously.
- Strain the mixture into a chilled glass filled with ice
- Garnish with a long cucumber ribbon and a sprig of fresh rosemary.



Hibiscus Ginger Fizz

The Hibiscus Ginger Fizz is a vibrant and refreshing cocktail that seamlessly blends floral and spicy notes. This unique concoction features a base of hibiscus-infused gin, which infuses the drink with a rich crimson hue and a subtle tanginess. Complementing the gin is the warmth of ginger liqueur and the delicate sweetness of elderflower liqueur, creating a balanced fusion of flavours.



Lavender Lemonade Sparkler

Take your taste buds on a herbaceous adventure with this Lavender Lemon Sparkler Cocktail, made with vodka, fresh lavender buds, honey and soda water.

Ingredients:

- 1.5 oz hibiscus-infused gin
- 1 oz ginger liqueur
- 0.5 oz elderflower liqueur
- 0.75 oz lime juice
- Club soda
- Hibiscus flower and crystallised ginger for garnish

Method:

- Fill a tall glass with ice.
- Pour in hibiscus-infused gin, ginger liqueur, elderflower liqueur, and lime juice.
- Stir gently to mix.
- Top off with club soda.
- Garnish with a hibiscus flower and a piece of crystallised ginger.

Ingredients:

- ¾ cup sugar
- ¾ cup water
- 1 ½ tablespoons lavender flower buds
- 1 zest of medium lemon
- Ice cubes
- 4 ounces vodka
- 2 medium lemons, juiced
- 2 tablespoons honey, (use agave syrup for vegan)
- 8 ounces soda water

Method:

- Place sugar, water, lavender buds and lemon zest in a small saucepan over medium heat. Cook until sugar is dissolved. Stir, reduce to low and simmer 10 minutes. Remove from heat and cool completely. Strain and discard solids.
- Place plenty of ice in a cocktail mixer or glass. Add 4-tablespoons of lavender simple syrup, plus vodka, lemon juice and honey.
- Stir vigorously until combined and chilled. Strain into two glasses, stir in 4-ounces soda water to each and add more ice if desired.

MALAYSIAN STATES AND THEIR SIGNATURE DISHES

IN CONJUNCTION WITH MALAYSIA DAY, WE ROUND UP ONE SIGNATURE DISH EVERY STATE HAS TO OFFER AND DISHES YOU SHOULD TRY AS A MALAYSIAN.



Sarawak : Kolo Mee

Kolo Mee is a dry-style Sarawak Malaysian Chinese noodle featuring springy egg noodles, savoury ground pork, sliced BBQ pork and aromatic fried onions. The difference between kolo mee and wonton mee, the latter being popular in Peninsular Malaysia, is that kolo mee is not drenched in dark soy sauce and water is not added to the noodles when served.



Sabah : Tuaran Mee

Dubbed as Sabah’s “Gold Noodles” and often hailed as the best noodles in Sabah, Tuaran mee comprises egg noodles that are traditionally handmade, fried and served hot with egg roll slices, roasted pork or chicken and beef slices along with vegetables.



Johor : Laksa Johor

While the noodles in laksa Johor were once made out of home-spun rice flour, in most modern incarnations, it is typically composed of spaghetti. The spaghetti is layered with a rich, thick gravy (kuah laksa) made up of fresh fish like ikan parang (wolf herring) dried shrimps, coconut milk and curry powder as well as aromatics like ginger, lemongrass, garlic and onions. The meal is topped with a range of greens and garnishes in the ilk of cucumber, bean sprouts, mint leaves, Thai basil, sambal belacan and lime.



Melaka : Asam Pedas

The main characteristic of this popular Malaysian dish is the combination of tamarind juice and chili paste, giving the dish its signature sour and spicy flavours. Even though it appears in numerous varieties throughout the country, it is traditionally prepared with ladies finger, tomatoes, fish, and various seasonings, all cooked in a zesty, rich broth. Asam pedas is usually enjoyed as the main course, commonly served accompanied by rice.



Negeri Sembilan : Masak Lemak Chilli Padi

This state is very popular for its coconut milk-based (santan) dishes and spiciness, the favourite of all being Masak Lemak Cili Padi dish. The dish can be prepared with various proteins such as chicken (ayam), fish (ikan), daging (beef), or seafood, but the base is always the same – a creamy, incredibly flavorful, and spicy combination of turmeric, coconut milk, and various other herbs and spices.



Selangor : Pecal

Pecal is a common appetiser that can be found just about anywhere in Selangor. It’s a traditional Javanese salad that merely consists of vegetables topped with a mouth-watering peanut sauce. The key ingredients you would need to prepare this dish are peanuts or groundnuts for the gravy or ‘kuah’, tofu, bean sprout, long beans and cucumber. It’s as simple as that.



Pahang : Gulai Tempoyak Ikan Patin

This dish is probably one you can smell from a distance. There are two main components that makeup this dish — tempoyak (fermented durian) and Ikan Patin, which is a fresh water fish known for its fatty texture. It’s an acquired taste for some and a favourite of many. One of the most popular places to get ikan patin in Pahang is Temerloh. It’s even dubbed as the “patin fish town” and there are over 70 restaurants selling this dish in that district alone.



Terengganu : Nasi Dagang

Nasi dagang is the ‘nasi lemak’ of the East Coast and is popularly eaten for breakfast. The usage of rice differs depending on the area, but in Terengganu, locals use white rice. This is served with homemade east coast-style fish curry called gulai ikan.



Kelantan : Nasi Kerabu

The Nasi Kerabu is a cousin of nasi lemak and made popular in Kelantan. Dressed in a flamboyant blue by blue pea flower water, and drenched with flavor by Southeast Asian herbs, the rice is paired with torch ginger salad, salted egg, flaked fish and crackling shrimp crackers.



Perak : Beansprout Chicken

Also known as nga choy kai in Cantonese, beansprout chicken is a renowned dish in Perak, specifically in Ipoh. The chicken is served with a generous amount of plump, crunchy, lightly-blanching bean sprouts, hence its name. It is best paired with rice or flat rice noodles.



Penang : Char Koay Teow

Penang is known as a food haven and it can be quite challenging to narrow down one single dish to represent the state. That said, Char Koay Teow seems to be synonymous with this island. Some might argue that nasi kandar is better, but the char koay teow can definitely ring in as champion. The typical dish comprises stir-fried flat rice noodles or koay teow and is tossed with bean sprouts, fresh shrimps and eggs. Many stalls offer duck egg as an option to add depth to the dish.



Kedah : Nasi Ulam

Think of Nasi Ulam as a rice salad that's packed with flavour. The dish is essentially rice mixed with raw vegetables and herbs and spices, accompanied by a variety of side dishes like fried chicken, sambal belacan and fried fish, just to name a few. The Nasi Ulam is also topped with toasted grated coconut or kerisik.

AIRLINK

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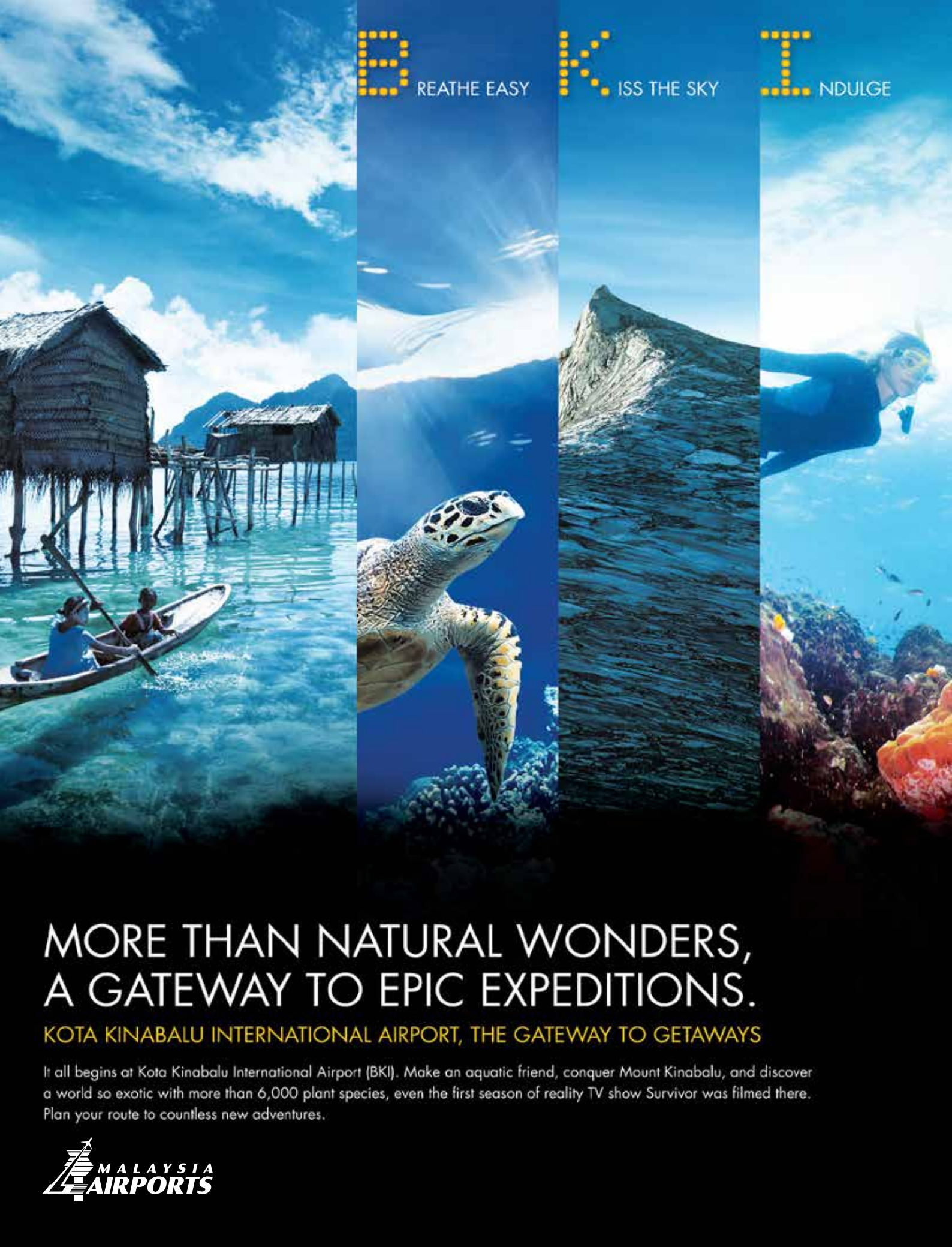
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Airport MD Speaks



Dato' Sri Iskandar Mizal Mahmood

Managing Director

Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad

Dato' Sri Iskandar Mizal Mahmood returns to Malaysia Airports after almost 20 years with his wealth of experience gleaned from many multinationals and government-linked companies to elevate and transform Malaysia Airports in the fast-changing aviation landscape with new travel norms and innovative technological advances.

This month as the nation celebrates the 60th Malaysia Day on September 16, he shares how the airport operator takes pride in playing a lead role in building the country's aviation sector. Its responsibilities extend beyond managing its network of 39 airports nationwide. They include expanding the facilities at its key airports such as Penang International Airport (PEN) and Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport (SZB), and providing a continuous learning platform for its airport community through its training provider, Malaysia Airports Academy (MAA). The momentum of more new airlines and routes as well as flights resumption continues unabated.

I would like to encourage airport operators and those involved in air cargo operations to join the full-day refresher course on September 19 co-hosted by MAA and NACO Aviation Academy. Held at Sama-Sama Hotel, KL International Airport (KLIA), this hybrid event will feature two air cargo experts from Netherlands Airport Consultants (NACO) and one from Districon.

I am pleased to announce that Malaysia Airports Group reported a net profit of RM160.7 million on higher revenue of RM2.3 billion for the first half of 2023. We have also been witnessing steady traffic growth, with over 11 million passenger movements registered for July. Of this, 7.4 million came from our airports in Malaysia.

The Group also recorded international and domestic passenger movements of 5.4 million and 5.7 million, its highest volume year to-date. Representing 89% and 87% respectively of the passenger numbers for July 2019, they signal our consistent progress made towards full recovery of pre-pandemic volumes.

As announced earlier by the Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, we will be upgrading and expanding PEN and SZB. Work on PEN, expected to take four years, will be able to accommodate up to 12 million passengers annually upon its completion. PEN has already exceeded its capacity of 6.5 million passengers per annum.

Following the green light from the Cabinet for SZB to be upgraded to become a premium city airport that can handle up to eight million passengers annually under

the Subang Airport Regeneration Plan (SARP), we would like to reiterate that its role is complement KLIA Terminal 1 and 2 (KUL) operations besides catapulting Malaysia into a hub for maintenance, repair and overhaul facilities and private jet operations.

We are now finalising its implementation plan and investment recovery model with the relevant parties. We had commissioned feasibility studies from independent entities such as NACO and Deloitte Malaysia to provide validation and recommendations for the SARP and submitted them to both the transport and finance ministries.

Abiding by strict governance, we will ensure that the SARP goes through all the necessary approved procurement processes, including calling for an open tender for the construction and development of the airport terminal.

So far, a number of the local and foreign airlines such as Malaysia Airlines, AirAsia Malaysia and TransNusa from Indonesia, have expressed interest in introducing new flights and flying out from SZB.

Always happy to welcome more airlines to Malaysia and see them introducing new routes, we recently saw the advent of Super Air Jet's first international flight to KUL while Batik Air Malaysia had its inaugural flight from Auckland to KUL. In September, AirAsia X will be resuming its direct four-days weekly flights between Amritsar and KUL using Airbus A330-300. That's the spirit. Happy travelling!



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Malaysia Sees Connectivity to More New Routes

For Malaysia's airline industry to remain robust, it must not only be responsive to global travel trends and what today's travellers are looking for. At the same time, they must also be able to match it with wider connectivity to more new routes and increased frequencies.

With the Malaysian Aviation Commission (MAVCOM) awarding a significant 87.5% increase in air traffic rights (ATRs) for the second quarter of 2023 (2Q23) compared with the same quarter in 2022, this signals an invigorated momentum within Malaysia's aviation industry as it recovers from the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to MAVCOM's latest Air Traffic Rights Report, the upswing in the ATRs bears testament to Malaysia's aviation industry's inherent strength and capacity to adapt and thrive. When compared against the second quarter of 2019 (2Q19), it said the ATR applications represented a 5.3% increase.

Out of the 57 ATRs given between April and June, 45 of them were for international routes and 12 for domestic. There were 12 more ATRs for international routes when compared with 2Q19, thus reflecting that the aviation industry is not only expanding but also returning to normalcy.

AirAsia secured the lion's share of the ATRs applications followed by Batik Air Malaysia. Together with its air logistics solution provider Teleport, AirAsia received 16 ATRs for international and domestic routes, which constituted 28% of the total ATRs awarded by MAVCOM.

Approved ATRs for cargo routes

Teleport, the logistics venture seeded by Capital A Berhad, formerly known as AirAsia Group, obtained ATRs for cargo routes plying Hong Kong (HKG) to Kuala Lumpur (KUL) and to key sectors in Kota Kinabalu (BKI), Kuching (KCH) and Tawau (TWU).

The company, which inducted the first of its Airbus A321 freighter aircraft on July 13 based out of KUL, previously used the passenger belly capacity of AirAsia aircraft to transport cargo. Now combined with the freighter and the belly space network capacity, Teleport's cargo market is not only expected to increase but also serve more customers.

Pete Chareonwongsak, Teleport Chief Executive Officer said the company is on track to generate US\$200 million in annual revenue. With its remaining two freighters, expected to be delivered in the fourth quarter of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024, Teleport will leverage on its multi-hub operating model and strengthen its position as Southeast Asia market leader in terms of cargo volume by tonnage.

Meanwhile, AirAsia X also received an ATR approval to service the KUL-Almaty (ALA), Kazakhstan route from MAVCOM while Batik Air Malaysia (OD) obtained ATR approvals to fly to new destinations such as Tashkent, Uzbekistan which it expects to commence later this year.

According to MAVCOM, the airlines are required to use their ATRs within six months from the approved effective date to avoid the expiry of the ATRs granted.

Aggressive network expansion

OD not only debuted a number of new routes but also resumed some of them of late. The airline commenced its twice weekly direct KUL-Jeddah (JED) flight on August 15 using its newly introduced Airbus A330-350 aircraft featuring 12 business and 365 economy class seats.

Working with Tourism Malaysia to establish KL International Airport as an umrah or pilgrimage hub, this key trunk service will be increased to six times weekly flights from September 2 and to daily departures by November 1.

Planning to connect the KUL-JED route with feeder services from Lion Group's other affiliate airlines, OD foresees strong growth in the immediate future, especially from the Middle East (ME) markets, including for travels to other Malaysian destinations such as Penang, Langkawi, Sabah and Sarawak. With 25% of the world's Muslim population residing in the ME region, the airline aims to collaborate with Saudi Tourism to further develop this market.

Its other new routes also include its four-times weekly flights from KUL to Naha, Okinawa (OKA) via Taipei (TPE) launched on August 16 using its new Boeing 737-8 with 180 seats. On that same day, the airline also started its new Medan-Penang route operating on the Boeing B737-800NG aircraft.

August 24 saw OD reinstating its direct daily KUL-Chennai (MAA) flights.

“

By facilitating connectivity between the two, OD guarantees convenient entry to its broader network encompassing ASEAN points, North Asia, popular destinations in Australia and New Zealand (NZ) as well as the new destinations in Japan and South Korea.

”

DATUK CHANDRAN RAMA MUTHY

Group Strategy Director
of Lion Group

Welcoming its new six times weekly inaugural service from Auckland (AKL) to KUL via Perth (PER) on its new 162-seater Boeing 737-8 on August 25, Tourism Malaysia Senior Director of International Promotion Division (America/Europe/Oceania), Iskandar Mirza Mohd Yusof said Malaysia received 17,972 tourists from NZ from January to June, almost near the 18,000 arrivals for 2022. Its target this year is to achieve over 20,000 tourists.



Tourism Malaysia Deputy Director General (Promotion) Datuk Musa Yusof followed up with a timely week-long sales mission and roadshow on August 28 to Oceania, comprising visits to AKL and three Australian cities, namely Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. He was accompanied by tourism industry players such as travel agents and government representatives from Sabah, Labuan and Putrajaya.

OD is the third carrier serving the KUL-AKL sector besides Malaysia Airlines eight times weekly direct service and AirAsia X's daily service via Sydney using its widebody Airbus A330-300 aircraft.

Another carrier that has jumped into bandwagon to expand its network is MYAirline, which has been awarded by MAVCOM with ATR approvals to Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand. So far, MYAirline has launched its first international flight to Bangkok in June.

In line with Malaysia Aviation Group's (MAG) strategy to position BKI, the second busiest airport in the country to be a full-fledged regional hub for Firefly, MAVCOM has granted ATR approval for four times weekly flights from BKI to Narita (NRT), Japan and to TPE, Taiwan in May.

MAVCOM Executive Chairman Datuk Seri Saripuddin Kasim viewed the approved ATRs for 2Q23 as decisive measures specifically tailored to enhance connectivity, spur economic growth and catalyse the recovery of the aviation sector.

Its other new routes also include its four times weekly flights from KUL to Naha, Okinawa via Taipei launched on August 16 using its new Boeing 737-8 with 180 seats. On that same day, the airline also started its new Medan-Penang route operating on the Boeing B737-800NG aircraft.

“We are particularly encouraged to see airlines seizing these opportunities for expansion,” he added.



Award-winning All Nippon Airways Continues Pursuit of High-Quality Services and Safety

Third-ranking All Nippon Airways (ANA) in the 2023 Airline of the Year by Skytrax has also received repeat recognition as the top leader in three major categories.

ANA is a 10-time recipient of World's Best Airport Services, an eight-time winner of the Best Airline Staff Service in Asia and a five-time recipient of World's Cleanest Airline.

“

While we are humbled by these accolades, we are determined to continue improving our quality to bring about further innovation.

To meet the evolving needs of our passengers in the post-Covid era, we will raise our efforts to unite the world in wonder by offering customer-oriented service, products and experiences at the next level.

SHINICHI INOUE”

President and Chief Executive Officer
of All Nippon Airways (ANA)

As Japan's largest and five-star airline for 10 consecutive years, ANA strives to provide attentive and personalised service to its customers at every point of their journey, including check-in counters, lounges and boarding gates.

To realise a more convenient and smooth boarding experience, the airline is developing a new service model, ANA Smart Travel to evolve its digital services to enable its customers to access boarding information in

a timely manner on their mobile devices.

At the same time, it is integrating its staff services into its digital services by prioritising inclusive and universal services for customers.

The eight-time recipient of the Best Airline Staff Service in Asia award has been able to provide timely and personalised customer services by implementing a centralised information management system that connects customer data across various departments.

ANA also hosts customer skill contests at airports in Japan and overseas to enhance its staff's customer service skills and hospitality.

Meanwhile, as the world's cleanest airline, ANA has been credited for fostering staff awareness of hygiene and cleanliness via its in-house education.

On ANA's collaboration with the Pokémon Company, the airline is expanding its Pokémon Air Adventures with the launch of a second uniquely painted aircraft, Eevee Jet NH (IATA code for ANA), which will enter service on August 31.

Its second aircraft will be accompanied by a range of specialty products and services, including merchandise and in-flight entertainment.

ANA's first Pikachu Jet NH took its first flight earlier on June 4.

For more information, call **+603-2032 1331** or visit **www.ana.co.jp/group/en/my**



British Airways Invests Multimillion Pounds in New Pilot Cadet Scheme

British Airways (BA) will level the playing field by providing fund to train for up to 60 places a year under its pilot cadet programme, with those passing the course offered a job with the airline at a starting salary of £34,000 per year, plus allowances.

This multi-million-pound initiative will remove the initial high-cost barrier of training to become a professional pilot, thus making it a realistic option for those aged 18-55 as private training costs for aspiring pilots can cost around £100,000.

“

Our new Speedbird Pilot Academy will make the ambition of becoming a BA pilot a reality for people who had previously written the option off because of the cost barrier.

We fly to more than 200 destinations around the world on a range of aircraft types, providing pilots with an abundance of opportunities and making a career as a BA pilot extremely rewarding. This first-in-a-generation initiative will allow anyone to make it a reality.

SEAN DOYLE”

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
of British Airways (BA)

Applications will open in September, with training planned to start in 2024. Successful candidates will gain a place at one of the approved flight training colleges, with all tuition costs covered by BA.

The Speedbird Pilot Academy is one part of the airline's wider pilot recruitment plan. BA, which employs about 4,000 pilots, is working with the United Kingdom (UK)

Armed Forces to provide military pilots new career opportunities in commercial aviation once their agreed service period has ended.

The airline has worked closely with Fantasy Wings, a leading UK organisation for diversity in aviation and a member of the BA Better World Community Fund to promote careers to young people from other backgrounds (such as Asian and minority ethnic groups) as well as young women in the aviation industry.

Meanwhile, BA has announced that Istanbul's Sabiha Gökçen Airport will become a year-round destination as the airline continues with its four-times weekly service launched since June from London Heathrow into the winter season starting October 29.

For more information, visit **www.ba.com**



Comprising Cathay Pacific Airways (CX) and its low-cost carrier Hong Kong Express, the Cathay Group, expects strong travel demand seen in July to remain through the rest of its summer peak season in August.

Now close to 60% of its pre-pandemic passenger flight capacity levels, the Group is on track to achieve its target of 70% covering 80 destinations by end-2023, said Chief Customer and Commercial Officer of CX, Lavinia Lau.

Confident of returning to 100% pre-pandemic capacity by end-2024, the Cathay Group chalked a milestone when it flew more than two million passengers in July for the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic. CX alone carried 1,744,374 passengers in July where its load factor stood at 89.3%, up from 87.7% in June.

She said, "July marked the beginning of the traditional summer peak for passenger travel," pointing out that CX added 11% more capacity compared with June, mainly on its North America, Europe, Japan and Southeast Asia routes due to rising demand for visiting friends and relatives (VFR) and leisure travel.



Cathay Group Surpasses Two Million Passengers in July

“Long-haul flights both to and from Hong Kong were especially popular in the first half of July among VFR travellers. Subsequently, with the start of the school holidays in mid-July, there was a substantial increase in demand for popular short-haul destinations around Asia.”

LAVINIA LAU

Chief Customer and Commercial Officer of Cathay Pacific (CX)

CX recently won Skytrax 2023 Award for Best Inflight Entertainment for the first time and ranked eighth among the world's best airlines.

For more information, visit www.cathaypacific.com

Low-cost carrier (LCC) Super Air Jet flew into KL International Airport (KUL) Terminal 1 on its first international flight on August 23, connecting Malaysia's capital city to two of Indonesia's popular destinations, Lombok (LOP) and Surabaya (SUB).

The flight was welcomed by His Excellency Hermono, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Malaysia, Mohamed Sallauddin Mohamed Shah, General Manager Aviation Marketing and Development of Malaysia Airports as well as Captain Boentoro Suharianto and Novianti M Harahap, Operations Director and Commercial Director respectively of Super Air Jet.



Super Air Jet's Maiden International Route to Kuala Lumpur

departs KUL to return to LOP at 8pm.

Targeted at the young business professionals and millennial travellers looking for new adventures and unique destinations, Super Air Jet places top priority on convenience, promptness and excellent service, said its Main Director and Chief Executive Officer Ari Azhari.

Incepted since June 25, 2021, Super Air Jet's fleet comprises 59 Airbus A320-200s, which currently serves 204 routes across 29 cities in Indonesia, with an average of 240 departures daily. The airline is guided by its vision, which is "To Empower the Next Generation to Reach New Heights".

For more information, visit www.superairjet.com



Bangkok Airways' Milestones Achieved In Its 55th Year

Bangkok Airways Public Company Limited, which is celebrating its 55th anniversary this year, has not only been receiving recognition for the airline but also for two of the airports it manages.

Under the EIA Symposium and Monitoring Awards 2023 for transport (airport) projects, Samui Airport received the Outstanding Award while the Excellent Award went to Sukhothai Airport for the fourth time.

Also known as Asia's boutique airline, Bangkok Airways operates good environmental standards and shows both social and environmental responsibility in its business operations. It considers these two awards as another success.

At the recent Skytrax 2023 World Airline Awards held in Paris, Bangkok Airways was named the World's Best Regional Airline for the eighth year and Best Regional Airline in Asia for 13 years. For the World Airline Awards, regional airlines are defined as full-service carriers that primarily operate domestic and/or international flights up to six hours.

Bangkok Airways is now ranked 29th among the Top 100 World's Best Airlines category by Skytrax.

The airline recently commenced its thrice-weekly direct service between Lampang and Mae Hong Son using the 70-seater ATR 72-600 aircraft, with its promotional fare for this new route valid until end-2023. Bangkok Airways has a fleet size of 30 aircraft, of which 11 are ATR 72-600s as of March 31.

Meanwhile, Bangkok Airways has been granted Airline Retailing Maturity (ARM) status under the ARM Index programme.

Being the first airline in Thailand to attain the ARM Index certification is an important milestone for us.

In recent years, airline retailing has been one of the biggest disruptions in the industry. Bangkok Airways has been actively developing additional enhanced retailing capabilities for our New Distribution Capability (NDC) channel.

Bangkok Airways' strategy is geared towards our goal of becoming an omni-channel airline, where customers have the choice of when and how they interact with the airline.

PUTTIPONG PRASARTTONG-OSOTH

President of Bangkok Airways

NDC is a travel industry-supported programme launched by the International Air Transport Association that allows airlines and travel agents to communicate more easily using an extensible markup language-based data transmission standard.

For more information, call +603-2148 0829 or visit www.bangkokair.com



Vietnam Airlines Expands Tie-up with Expedia Group

Vietnam Airlines has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Expedia Group to expand their relationship to drive growth with its fares and inventory available on the latter's global online platform, thus ensuring real-time availability, accurate pricing and seamless booking processes.

The two parties plan to collaborate in areas of mutual interest to enhance customer experience, expand market reach and increase revenue streams.

Vietnam's flag carrier will also be engaging with Expedia Group Media Solutions to raise the airline's brand awareness as well as promote and market its flights to Expedia Group's global customer base. The airline currently operates 97 routes to 21 domestic and 29 international destinations.

“As travel recovery continues in Asia, Expedia Group is committed to expanding opportunities to experience this unique region. Over the years, we have had a great relationship with Vietnam Airlines in select markets. We are proud to further expand upon that on a global scale.”

GREG SCHULZE

Senior Vice President of Strategic Travel Partners for Expedia Group

Meanwhile, Vietnam Airlines, voted as one of the world's 20 best airlines in 2023 by Airline Ratings, has been selected as the host airline for the inaugural World

Aviation Safety and Operations Conference (WSOC) to be held in Hanoi from September 19 to 21, 2023 partly in view of its safety capabilities.

Themed Leadership in Action: Driving Safer and More Efficient Operations, the WSOC is organised by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). It brings together the previous Cabin Ops Safety Conference, the IATA Safety Conference and the Emergency Response Planning and Aircraft Recovery Forums.

Vietnam Airlines President and Chief Executive Officer Le Hong Ha, IATA Director General Willie Walsh and Philippines Airlines President-cum-Chief Operating Officer Captain Stanley K Ng will be participating in the WSOC Opening Plenary panel discussion.

For more information, call **+603-2031 1666** or visit **www.vietnamairlines.com**



Premium Aero FastTrack Transfer for Smoother Airport Experience

The Airport FastTrack service offered at the KL International Airport (KLIA) Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 has added a dedicated Aero FastTrack transfer from the Main Terminal Building (MTB) to the Satellite Building (SB) and vice versa.

Introduced in May 2023, the transfer service is targeted at those looking for the ultimate comfort and luxury VIP treatment for their airport journey besides appealing to the time-conscious travellers wishing for a hassle-free experience, particularly for their departure and arrival at KLIA Terminal 1.

Among those who used the Aero FastTrack service are the corporates, travel agents and hotels. On hand to provide a smooth navigation throughout their airport journey is its helpful and friendly Airport FastTrack Greeter who will meet the passenger at the counter next to the International Departure Gate A.

The passenger will then be accompanied to take the buggy ride to the holding area. From there, the transfer will be done using a premium vehicle to the Satellite Building. Subsequently, the passenger will be escorted to the departure gate.

The Aero FastTrack service also includes access to the immigration fast lane as well as buggy rides at both the MTB and SB.

Premium vehicles are deployed to ensure a seamless transfer experience for those choosing this paid instead of using the complimentary buses provided by the airport for passengers which run around the clock.

Open to all passengers travelling with any airline and on any ticket class for both their departure and arrival, the Aero FastTrack service is available at RM350 per transfer. Each transfer can take up to three persons.

Travellers can purchase an add-on package for a full Airport FastTrack service, which includes meet and greet from the airport's kerbside to the departure gate or vice versa for arrival, speedy clearance for arrivals and/or departures, transit or transfers and baggage assistance.

For more information, call **+603 8776 4606** or visit **www.myairportfasttrack.com**





IndiGo Continues 17 Years of Its Trailblazing Legacy

Having established many 'firsts' over the last 17 years, India's low-cost carrier (LCC), IndiGo, remains dedicated to forge new frontiers and elevate its customers' flying experience.

With a fleet size of 316 aircraft, the airline operates about 1,900 daily flights and connects 79 domestic destinations.

Soon to grow its international footprint to 32 destinations, IndiGo commenced its new daily direct flights between Mumbai and Nairobi, Kenya's capital and largest city as its 27th international and 105th overall destination in its network on August 5.

This route marks its maiden foray into the African subcontinent and the safari capital.

Celebrating its 17th anniversary on August 4, IndiGo highlighted 17 game-changing achievements that propelled the LCC to be a pioneering force and contributed to its legacy of innovation and excellence.

IndiGo was named the Best Low-Cost Airline in India and South Asia for the 13th time in a row at the recent prestigious Skytrax 2023 World Airline Awards in Paris.

It also earned the recognition as the only Indian airline to be ranked among the world's top 50 most valuable airline brands in 2023 by Brand Finance for three consecutive years.

During the first quarter (1Q) of its financial year (FY) 2024 ended June 30, a record 26.2 million passengers flew

with IndiGo, 30% up compared to the 1Q of FY 2023.

Operationally, despite a myriad of complexities and intricacies related to operating at such a large scale, IndiGo operated an average on-time performance of 89% and a very low cancellation rate of 0.30% during the June quarter.

“Going forward, we remain committed to our promise of providing on-time, affordable, courteous, and hassle-free travel experience across a wide network

PIETER ELBERS

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
of IndiGo

On June 19, the airline announced a sizeable firm order for 500 aircraft of the Airbus A320 family. It is not only IndiGo's largest order but also the largest ever single aircraft order placed by any airline with Airbus to be delivered until the middle of the next decade.

“This order speaks of the growth and future of Indian aviation where we are proud to play a pivotal role,” said its Dutch CEO while reminding of IndiGo's previous orders totalling around 480 aircraft yet to be delivered between now and the end of this decade.

For more information, call **+603-2145 8533** or visit **www.golndigo.in**



Strong Travel Rebound Propels Thai Airways Forward

Thai Airways International Public Company Limited, which reported a group net profit of 2.2 billion baht for the second quarter (2Q), expects to complete its rehabilitation plan by the fourth quarter of 2024 ahead of its initial target set in 2025.

Thanks to strong demand for flights to China and Japan, Thailand's flagship carrier has increased flight frequencies to several popular destinations, namely Beijing, Shanghai, Kunming, Guangzhou, Chengdu, Haneda and Fukuoka, thus resulting in higher passengers served in the 2Q.

For its summer schedule from August 2 to October 28, the airline has resumed its Bangkok-Sapporo route to five times weekly using the Boeing 787-9 aircraft. Europe and Australia are other its key markets.

Thai Airways, together with its subsidiaries, currently operates a total of 67 aircraft, including the Airbus A320-200s under Thai Smile Airways.

To further strengthen its position as the gateway carrier to Thailand and Asia Pacific, the airline plans to start daily service to Istanbul from its Bangkok hub in December following the recent signing of a memorandum of understanding with Turkish Airlines.

The two will work towards a joint venture to maximise the synergies arising from this strategic partnership to promote tourism between both countries, among other things.

“This cooperation would enhance our efficiencies and Turkish Airlines's in terms of connectivity and route network.

Our customers will be able to conveniently travel between Thailand and Türkiye as well as on to Europe and other points in Asia, making full use of the extensive networks offered by both airlines.

CHAI EAMSIRI

Chief Executive Office
of Thai Airways

For more information, call **+603-2034 6999** or visit **www.thairways.com.my**



UPCLOSE WITH DATIN CHRISTINA TOH

National President of Malaysian Association of Hotels (MAH)

Penang-born Datin Christina Toh, in her mid-50s, is also the chairwoman of MAH's training arm, Malaysian Association of Hotels Training and Education Centre (MAHTEC).

Appointed since May 2022 as MAH's first lady national president in the 49 years of its establishment, the association and its 13 chapters represent 1,089 members and 1,007 hotels nationwide.

They supply a total of 162, 705 rooms, which is almost half of the country's guest accommodation.

Much as she likes to read self-empowerment books and non-fiction novels, she has not been able to do so since the borders reopened.

Being the association's first lady president, how does it feel? What initiatives were introduced in order to help the hospitality industry recover from the Covid-19 pandemic?

My appointment shows that our members acknowledge gender equality and realise the important role women play in today's commercial world. We were just coming out from the pandemic when I assumed my position in 2022. Our focus then was on the safety and cleanliness to ensure that our hotels meet or exceed the international hygiene and safety standards.

Through the Travel Safety Alliance Malaysia where MAH appointed Bureau Veritas Malaysia as an independent auditor of this certification programme, we collaborated with the Malaysian Association of Convention and Exhibition Organisers and Suppliers (MACEOS), Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents and the Malaysia Aviation Group to ensure that it is clean and safe to travel to Malaysia.



The pandemic experience over the past two years made us realise that the hotel industry could reinvent itself with hotel being used as quarantine centres. We had a lot of sharing on innovative ways to get enough staffing as well as to reskill and upskill our team.

Tell us more about the efforts to innovate and uplift the hospitality industry now that you are more than a year into your term.

Since we did not have enough manpower during the recovery period from the pandemic, everyone went on flexi working hours. We procured support from the administration to have the staff perform multi-tasking, where certain hours the administration team were dressed down into their t-shirts to help clean the hotel rooms or assist to set up for breakfast and were F&B servers as well.

MAH recently organised the first Hospitality Leadership Conference to elevate knowledge sharing towards hospitality and tourism post-pandemic for the General Managers and Senior Managers of the industry. Through MAHTEC, we collaborated with a few local universities as well as hotel and tourism colleges to enhance, upskill and reskill the MAH members.

We must also generate a sense of ownership and pave their hospitality career.

The introduction of artificial intelligence machines and systems are one of the few ways to address manpower shortage but in the hotel business, we are always at the forefront. Hence, face-to-face customer service will continue to be prioritised.

How do you describe your leadership style?

I am a firm advocate of inclusive management. To me, in today's working environment, you need to have empathy and respect for your peers and subordinates. Teamwork also plays a pivotal role in our hotel business.

We need to understand and integrate the stakeholders' job responsibility in meeting customer service. We must also generate a sense of ownership and pave their hospitality career.

During your last 20 years as a Board with MAH, you have seen the hotel industry go through its ups and downs. What are your observations on it?

Every cycle has a learning and upscaled journey. Digitalisation, technology, automation and data analytics are the key trends in supporting the hotels' service standards of operations, and to also measure and gauge through data on customers' experience and expectation.

Additionally, the industry needs to redefine how we can establish an education system to overcome workforce challenges and to equip Gen Z with a new lifelong learning.

We need to transform our commercial approach in doing business via online bookings and the various approaches through social media marketing.

What has MAH done to woo more leisure and MICE tourists to Malaysia as we prepare for Visit Malaysia Year 2026?

We have bonded very well with tourism and other hospitality and travel-related associations and by having more collaborative networking sessions, be it physical or hybrid.

We collectively work together with the airlines, travel agencies, convention bureaus and theme park associations to promote Malaysia as a tourist destination of choice. We can never do this on a silo basis.

What are the measures undertaken by MAH to address the manpower shortage in the hospitality industry?

Besides upskilling and reskilling our hotel associates, we are also working with the local hospitality, tourism and culinary schools.

We recently had a human resource conference for the hotel industry and asked ourselves, "How do we introduce hospitality as an industry of choice?".

We would most likely need to reach out to the Education Ministry to create more awareness among public school students of the diverse opportunities offered by hotel industry.

There are multiple options. For example, administration, finance, technical, mechanical and electrical as well as sales and marketing. Other fields open to them are marketing and communications, which include digital social media marketing.

Students are now more selective and prefer to work in more fun-loving places in the gig economy related jobs as part-time drivers. Perhaps we need to create community job opportunities and create more awareness on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

What is MAHTEC's current focus?

Started since 1998 as a learning and development service provider, MAHTEC has now taken a different portfolio and gone into collaborations on two prongs. One is on skill sets to understand our members' needs and the other is on their career enhancement via continuing education.

We are collaborating and partnering through the various hospitality and tourism colleges as well as universities, both locally and internationally.

Have your member hotels recovered from the pandemic?

We are still in the recovery stage. Thankfully, there are now more airlines and flight resumption, which are flying directly and through the various domestic and international destinations.

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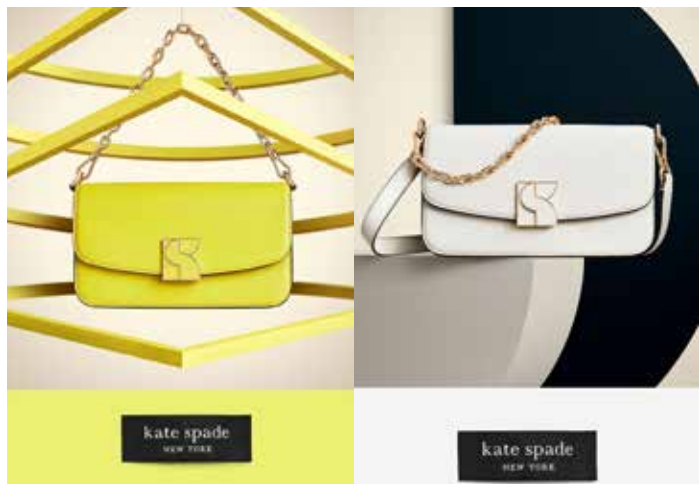
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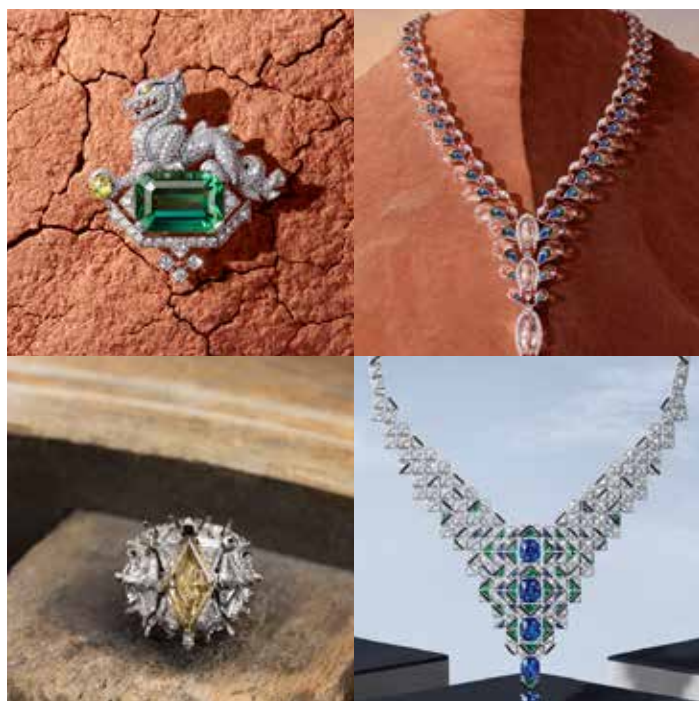
FASHION AND BEAUTY NEWS

ALL THE MUST-KNOWS AND MUST-HAVES OF THE MONTH



Kate Spade New York Launches the Dakota Handbag

Kate Spade has released a new icon, the Dakota in time for fall. This is a handbag collection that celebrates the brand's DNA and introduces a new visual identity into the assortment. Dakota blends both timeless and contemporary design elements, creating a tension that will captivate fashion enthusiasts worldwide. With Dakota, Kate Spade New York unveils a new sculptured logo hardware — developed with an innovative design technique and inspired by the iconic architecture of New York City, home to the brand for 30 years. Dakota combines the brand's commitment to quality craftsmanship with a fresh take on modern aesthetics. The hardware features stacked levels that add dimension and a subtle richness set within warm gold tones, creating an unexpected contrast. The most distinctive detail is the inlay of color which allows for an expression of vibrancy that is integral to the Kate Spade DNA.



Le Voyage Recommencé: Chapter 2

With their boundless quest for beauty and unlimited open-mindedness, the artisans and designers of Cartier approach creation with a perpetual momentum. The Dohara is a necklace whose reversible structure, interplay of colour and motifs pay homage to traditional Mughal jewellery. On one side, light bursts from the fire of diamonds, white gold and sculpted rock crystal. On the other, an explosion of red, green and blue lacquer elements make reference to an emblematic Cartier colour combination. Cartier is passionate about the beauty of its myths, which the jewellers have translated into a sovereign piece — Bailong. From the crest to the scales and slender limbs, the dragon, a faithful creature of the Cartier bestiary, is filled with an intense energy that is reinforced by the realism of the design. Meanwhile, Pineas was crafted with the plant world as an infinite source of inspiration. This necklace features two slightly asymmetrical pendants made of pavé rose gold scales enhanced by coral or emerald details. The starting point for Miraggio: a line of Ceylon sapphires around which everything is structured. On either side, sapphire and emerald motifs form a symmetrical grid punctuated by graphic onyx details that produce an almost kinetic effect. Finally, Cartier made Eximis using a 4.15 carat yellow-brown Fancy diamond, with an original diamond cut, the centrepiece of this ring dazzles with volume.



Embracing the Sun Through Solar Powered Freedom

Supergoop!, the premier innovator in sun care protection, announces their new "Solar Powered Freedom" campaign globally. The campaign encourages everyone to pursue their passions without fear, knowing that the sun is not our enemy but a source of limitless energy, inspiration, and dreams. Supergoop! thinks that the sun's energy should not be feared, but rather utilised to power our daily life. It questions traditional conceptions of sun protection, encouraging people to embrace the sun responsibly and fearlessly. The Solar Powered Freedom campaign was brought to life by three SPF Parties held throughout the world -- USA, Thailand, and Singapore, underlining the need of wearing SPF every. single. day. while embracing solar powered freedom. The SPF Party allows everyone to try, test, and redeem complimentary sample-sized items while completing their SPF journey.



Delvaux Announces The Inauguration of Its First Malaysian Store at Pavilion Kuala Lumpur.

Delvaux, the world's oldest fine leather luxury goods house, has announced its inaugural opening of its latest boutique at Pavilion Kuala Lumpur. The unveiling of the Pavilion Kuala Lumpur boutique stands as a testament to Delvaux's unwavering dedication to sharing its Belgian heritage, historical legacy, and contemporary essence with the global audience. Every Delvaux location tells a distinctive story, from the enchanting le Jardin du Palais Royal in Paris to the iconic New Bond Street in London and the illustrious Fifth Avenue in New York. Pavilion Kuala Lumpur, strategically located in the vibrant heart of the city, now adds its name to this esteemed collection, affirming its status as a global shopping destination.

Shu Uemura Unveiled a Sensorial Journey

Shu Uemura's lipsticks are intended for Asian skin tones, as the unparalleled global colour authority. Meet Shu Uemura's Rouge Unlimited Kinu Matte, which elegantly combines the creative spirit of Japan with cutting-edge innovation. Rouge Unlimited Kinu Matte lipsticks, inspired by the sumptuous chirimen silk, tantalise temptation and your senses with a single brush of Japanese joy. With 20 different colours to play with, experiment with, and create looks with, there is a colour for any occasion. The Kinu Matte is soft, weightless, and silky, and it glides over lips softly, filling lines and wrinkles to create a stunning, dimensional matte look. This lipstick asserts a 12-hour wear with velvety softness and a dramatic colour payoff thanks to matte technology and two sculpting matte powders that absorb oil. Immerse in the rich tapestry of Japan's heritage with the exquisite Japanese cypress, Hinoki. Its alluring aroma, redolent of purity and sincerity, adds an enchanting note to this timeless legacy. The satin texture of the lipstick is infused with Japanese Tsubaki oil, delivering moisture on top lips. The Kino Matte's star shade? BR 793 Fallen Momiji, capturing the essence of late autumn in Japan.

Unveiling The Exclusive Partnership of EQ x Seiko

Hotel Equatorial Kuala Lumpur opened on 27 December 1973 and it marked the beginning of a new era of hospitality in Malaysia's hotel industry. Fifty years later, the brand has established itself as one of the leading hotel operators in the region. To commemorate this significant milestone, the hotel group partnered with Thong Sia Malaysia, the sole distributor of renowned watchmaker Seiko, to curate a limited-edition timepiece, limited to only fifty exquisite pieces. The dress watch offers understated elegance at an incredible value of RM5,000 per piece. Similarly, Mr. Kintarō Hattori founded Seiko with a vision of always being one step ahead of the rest. The model chosen for this significant event is the Seiko Presage, an iconic line renowned for its attention to detail. Featuring a domed Hardlex mineral crystal, an elegantly shaped 39.5mm (46mm lug to lug) case, the watch fits very comfortably on the wrist. Beneath the surface lies the dependable Seiko Cal. 4R35, an automatic mechanical movement. Aesthetically, the watch boasts a brown dial and calfskin strap, harmoniously complemented by rose gold-coloured hands and indices, beautifully reflecting the distinctive palette of EQ.



LUXE FASHION & BEAUTY
New Balance Launches Its Newest In-Line Silhouette: WRPD Runner

New Balance announced the release of its newest silhouette, the WRPD Runner, with the launch of the “Sea Salt” colourway. With a creative design that twists and warps the familiar, the WRPD Runner challenges the boundaries of what a classic New Balance lifestyle silhouette entails. The shoe is merged with atypical lines that are moulded and exaggerated to give it a modern look and feel, where lifestyle meets tech-utility. "The WRPD Runner is a new concept driven by the unique space where style and performance meet," explains Charlotte Lee, New Balance's senior footwear designer. "The upper focuses on simplicity and quality, while the sole is a warped expression of our pinnacle running technology, FuelCell. The fluid lines of the foam combine with the abstract nature of futuristic design to create a strong sense of movement." The “Sea Salt” colourway will be available on NewBalance.com.my and at select retailers with suggested retail pricing at RM799, and additional colourways launching in the coming months.

Unleash Your Flirtatious Lashes

Brace yourselves, beauty enthusiasts, because Anastasia Beverly Hills is about to ignite your flirtatious side with the irresistible launch of Lash Sculpt! The ultimate lengthening and volumising mascara designed to deliver sculpted, extension-effect lashes curl every coat, Lash Sculpt guarantees to make hearts skip a beat. With a long-lasting and buildable formula, Lash Sculpt promises doll-like lash definition with supernatural length, lift and volume that stretches and sculpts from root to tip without flaking, clumping, or smudging – ideal for creating a captivating effect that will have everyone under your lash spell. Cruelty-free, Lash Sculpt's key ingredients include biotin, which supports strong, health-looking lashes; collagen, which helps to create the appearance of boosted lash volume; and peptides, to enhance the appearance of lash length and fullness. Formulated without phthalates, mineral oil, alcohol, sulphates, and parabens, Lash Sculpt is ophthalmologist tested and safe for sensitive eyes.

Endings and beginnings: Introducing Aesop's Ouranon Eau de Parfum

The final chapter in the story of Othertopias—a collection of six fragrances inspired by worlds that transcend our immediate perception — is a celebration of endings. Ouranon Eau de Parfum signals the return home in preparation for new beginnings with a scent that summons images of a monolith lit by embers unfurling into a starry sky. Created by Aesop's long-term fragrance collaborator, Barnabé Fillion, Ouranon is an interplay of permanence and evanescence via earthy minerality, incandescent spices, and ritualistic, resinous woods. The woody, earthy, and spicy aroma opens with the sparkling citrus of Petitgrain alongside the green, vibrant spice of Elemi and fresh, almost camphoraceous notes of Lavender Flower. These gradually recede to reveal the vast expanse of warm aromatics that make up the fragrance's heart—resonant herbaceous notes of Chamomile, amplified by Hay and underpinned by rich, resinous Frankincense. Ouranon's final act alludes to silent monoliths casting shadows in the moonlight—steeped in ambery warmth, Myrrh exudes enduring minerality, descending into the powerful and dark earthiness of Patchouli and rich, rounded notes of Tonka.



Vitamin C? Vitamin RadianCe!

Attention, all skincare beginners and #KakiWatsons. If you're wondering where to start with Vitamin C benefits for your skin – look no further than Dear, Klairs. Dear Klairs, the globally beloved Korean vegan and cruelty-free skincare brand, is teaming up with Watsons Malaysia to guide you on an exciting path to unlock the goodness of Vitamin C for your skin. Together, let’s discover the importance of embracing this nutritive ingredient and witness the brightening wonders it can do for your skin. Dear Klairs Supple Preparation Facial Toner is a lightweight, hydrating toner formulated with a blend of botanical extracts such as lavender and lemon oil, eucalyptus leaf oil, and liquorice root extract. As one of Dear Klairs’ global bestsellers, it preps the skin for further skincare products and can also be used as a standalone product. Next up: Unleash the power of Vitamin C for your skin with the Dear Klairs Freshly Juiced Vitamin Drop serum. Mild yet potent, this hypoallergenic vitamin serum is formulated with pure Vitamin C to treat dead skin cells, dull skin tone, and enlarged pores. Packed with pure Vitamin C extract, it gets absorbed quickly within minutes to brighten the skin, reduce the appearance of dark spots, and improve the overall tone.



Sacoor Blue and Sacoor One Debut New Stores

Sacoor Blue and Sacoor One, brands founded under the Sacoor Group, have successfully launched their respective 4th and 3rd stores in Malaysia at MyTOWN Shopping Centre. The adjoining stores feature a unique shop-in-shop concept, providing customers with an easy and convenient way to explore the diverse range from both labels. The launch event featured different interactive stations and a dual photowall for attendees to experience. Guests at the launch included members of the media, tastemakers, content creators, athletes and local actors, who explored the seamless integration of both brands under one roof.



Tatcha's Award-Winning The Dewy Skin Cream and The Water Cream Unleash True Luminosity

Built upon the philosophy that skin affects and reflects our well-being, Tatcha believes in taking a holistic approach for health and radiance from skin to soul. Its skincare formulas can be anchors of larger well-being rituals that touch the mind and engage the five senses for harmony. Rediscover the exceptional skincare products that have taken the beauty industry by storm: Tatcha The Dewy Skin Cream and Tatcha The Water Cream. A staple in many celebrities’ skincare routines, these award-winning luxurious moisturisers are designed to enhance your skin's natural beauty and provide nourishment for a healthy, radiant complexion. The exquisite Tatcha The Dewy Skin Cream is a true game-changer when it comes to achieving that coveted dewy glow. Infused with a rich blend of botanical extracts, it delivers deep hydration to the skin, providing skin plumpness, suppleness, and skin radiance. The formula features Tatcha's signature Hadasei-3™ complex, which is a potent blend of Japanese superfoods like green tea, rice, and algae. For a burst of refreshing hydration, Tatcha The Water Cream offers a unique, oil-free formula designed to deliver intense moisture while leaving the skin feeling fresh and breathable. The lightweight cream features Japanese wild rose extract, which helps to minimise the appearance of pores and refine the skin's texture.

HOTPICKS BEAUTY
KL LIFESTYLE’S TOP PICKS

WE HAVE CURATED A LIST OF ALL THE BEAUTY PRODUCTS WE'RE LOVING AND ARE PART OF OUR ARSENAL.



Givenchy
Le 9 De Givenchy Multi-Finish Eyeshadow Palette

RM 290

Inspired by the boldest and most sophisticated looks from the runway, the Givenchy Le 9 Palette brings together nine long-wear eyeshadow colours in one couture signature palette for a multitude of customisable effects, from the most natural to the most daring. A real Couture object, it is designed in five colour harmonies, each one including nude as well as bold and intense shades, for a pop of colour or the perfect smokey eye. Every palette offers nine eyeshadows with matte, satin, glitter and metallic finishes for a multitude of looks, from the most natural to the most sophisticated. Ultra-sensorial and highly pigmented, their new texture guarantees 12-hour hold* for an impeccable result all day long.



La Mer
Discovery Collection Set (Limited Edition)

RM 850

The La Mer Discovery Collection is your gateway to visibly soothed, radiant and healthy-looking skin. Explore four essential treatments infused with Miracle Broth™, an elixir that helps energise skin and support its powers of natural renewal. Discover four important treatments packed with Miracle Broth™, an elixir that helps energise skin and promote its natural renewal processes by nourishing, strengthening, and stabilising the skin.



Versace
Cedrat De Diamante Eau De Parfum

100ml

RM 1,318

Cédrat de Diamante boasts the zest of Italian lemon, more efflorescent than traditional citrus aromas. Inspired by the Mediterranean, the perfume encompasses notes of pink grapefruit and natural woods. Envisioned by perfumer Marie Salamagne, who aims to embody artistry in craftsmanship in her scents, the vibrancy of Cédrat de Diamante is enhanced by aromatic cedarwood and vetiver. The Atelier Versace fragrance line consists of twelve unique eau de parfum scents. The sculptural glass bottle is engraved with the name of the fragrance, and the packaging features the Atelier Versace logo in the interior mirror.



Anastasia Beverly Hills
Lash Sculpt Mascara

RM 140

Brace yourselves, beauty enthusiasts, because Anastasia Beverly Hills is about to ignite your flirtatious side with the irresistible launch of Lash Sculpt! The ultimate lengthening and volumising mascara designed to deliver sculpted, extension-effect lashes curl every coat, Lash Sculpt guarantees to make hearts skip a beat. With a long-lasting and buildable formula, Lash Sculpt promises doll-like lash definition with supernatural length, lift and volume that stretches and sculpts from root to tip without flaking, clumping, or smudging – ideal for creating a captivating effect that will have everyone under your lash spell. Cruelty-free, Lash Sculpt’s key ingredients include biotin, which supports strong, health-looking lashes; collagen, which helps to create the appearance of boosted lash volume; and peptides, to enhance the appearance of lash length and fullness.

THE DRESS REFRESH

THESE COVETED NEW DRESSES ARE ALL YOU NEED TO LOOKING YOUR ABSOLUTE BEST FOR ANY OCCASION



Loewe
Ribbed-Knit Midi Dress
RM11,215



LOOK 1



Loewe
Flamenco Mini Leather Clutch
RM13,425



Paco Rabanne
XL Link Arty Silver-Tone Resin
Necklace
RM2,522



Loewe
Terra Leather Platform Mules
RM5,049



Ulla Johnson
Priscilla Ruffled Tiered Silk-
Organza Midi Dress
RM4,625



LOOK 2



Hunting Season
Nomad Striped Leather-
Trimmed Cotton Bucket
Bag
RM4,144



Bea Bongiasca
B Half 9-Karat Gold,
Peridot and Enamel
Ring
RM3,375



Alighieri
Beacon Gold-Plated
Pearl Earrings
RM3,375



A.Emery
Jalen Leather Sandals
RM1,007

PACIFIC DREAM

LAID-BACK STYLE FOR LONG, LAZY DAYS



Celine Homme
Convertible-Collar
Printed Woven Shirt
RM3,486



Celine Homme
Kurt Straight-Leg Jeans
RM5,474



LOOK 1



Celine Homme
Square-Frame Acetate
Sunglasses
RM1,805



Celine Homme
CT-04 Leather Sneakers
RM3,764



Celine Homme
Burnished Rhodium-
Plated Onyx Signet Ring
RM3,452



CHERRY LA
Distressed Denim Western
Shirt
RM1,859



CHERRY LA
Straight-Leg Logo-Print
Jeans
RM1,540



LOOK 2



SAINT LAURENT
3cm Croc-Effect Leather
Belt
RM3,070



CARHART WIP
Kickflip Recycled-
Canvas Backpack
RM478



Berluti
Suede Chelsea Boots
RM9,788

FABULOUS FINISHING TOUCHES

COMPLETE YOUR OUTFIT WITH EYE-CATCHING ACCESSORIES



Bottega Veneta

Intrecciato Leather Shoulder Bag

RM8,634

The bags from Bottega Veneta continually impress with their grace and flair. This design hangs from a short knotted strap and is made from black leather strips woven into the brand’s signature intrecciato pattern. It has internal card slots and a slide pocket to keep you organised. Put your keys and phone inside.



Bottega Veneta

Gloss Leather Wedge Pumps

RM4,453

Bottega Veneta’s sculptural ‘Gloss’ pumps were elegantly modelled on the Fall ‘22 runway in Milan, which happened to be the debut for Creative Director Matthieu Blazy. Made from smooth leather, they have pointy toes and wavy wedge heels. Slip yours on with everything from tailored pants to cropped jeans.



Gucci

Baby Horsebit-Detailed Leather Slingback Pumps

RM4,476

The feminine ‘Baby’ heels from Gucci have a very nostalgic feel. They have buckled slingback straps and square toes embellished with the brand’s distinctive gold horsebits. They are made in Italy from ivory leather. Sculptural block heels can be displayed with shorter hemlines.



Alexander McQueen

Accumulation Silver-Tone Swarovski Crystal Single Earring

RM3,258

Alexander McQueen’s ‘Accumulation’ earring is specifically meant to be worn on your left side in order to properly show off the beautiful detailing. Cast from silver-tone metal to look like a vintage find, it’s dotted with Swarovski crystals and has an intricate three-in-one shape resembling a neat stack.



Manolo Blahnik

Callamu 50 Elaphe Mules

RM4,701

Using sable brushes and watercolour inks, Manolo Blahnik normally makes the miniature pieces of art freehand. He describes sketching his heels as a form of meditation. These 'Callamu' mules from Italy are made of tan elpahe and have a kitten heel. Give your feet a pedicure in your favourite colour to go with the open-toe style.



Dior Eyewear

DiorSignature S9U Rectangular-Frame Acetate and Gold-Tone Sunglasses

RM2,878

Add a touch of style to your outfit with Dior Eyewear's 'DiorSignature S9U' sunglasses. They're made from black acetate with complementary gold-tone details. The rectangular frames are curved at the edges so they feel modern.

THE NEW STYLE STAPLES

REFRESH YOUR WARDROBE WITH THESE HIGH-IMPACT PIECES



Khaite

Grizzo Oversized Studded Denim Jacket

Taking cues from the '90s, Khaite's 'Grizzo' jacket is modeled on classic trucker styles. Made from rigid blue denim with glossy silver studs, it's designed for an oversized fit with particularly long sleeves.

RM7,688

Wear it with:



Khaite

Torino Fringed Crepe Maxi Dress

RM11,895



Khaite

Marfa Croc-Effect Leather Over-The-Knee Boots

RM12,663



Gucci

Double-Breasted Linen and Cotton-Blend Jacquard Blazer

Gucci's jacket, designed to match with a suit, is woven with the brand's recognisable 'GG' mark in a jacquard pattern from a blend of linen and cotton. It boasts double-breasted fronts with brushed gold buttons and pointed peak lapels. With the matching trousers or jeans and a white shirt, it looks as stylish.

RM15,590

Wear it with:



Gucci

Linen and Cotton-Blend Jacquard Wide-Leg Pants

RM6,639



Burberry

Rupert Leather Penny Loafers

RM3,864



Gucci

Aphrodite Embellished Textured-Leather Shoulder Bag

RM5,280



Loewe

Embellished Ribbed-Knit Cardigan

Seeking out exaggerated proportions is a great way to make your knitwear feel interesting - the sleeves on Loewe's cardigan are extra long and match the folded collar. It's knitted in a ribbed stitch so it fits slim and embellished with the label's tonal 'Anagram' at each cuff.

RM9,113

Wear it with:



The Attico

Fern Canvas Straight-Leg Cargo Pants

RM4,771



Loewe

Petal Leather Sandals

RM5,409



Timeless Pearly

Gold-plated, Faux pearl and Enamel Hoop Earrings

RM1,219



Loewe

Flamenco Mini Leather Clutch

RM5,280



Valentino Garavani

Sequin-Trimmed Silk-Organza Shirt

Valentino Garavani is famed for its use of material techniques, embellishment and trims, which is clear to see in this shirt. Cut from lightweight, sheer silk-organza, it's adorned with exquisite sequin-embellished roses that have an almost lifelike 3D effect. Underpin yours with a lace bralette and pair it with your favourite denim.

RM40,610

Wear it with:



Valentino Garavani

Flared Denim Maxi Skirt

RM17,907



Valentino Garavani

VLOGO crystal-Embellished PVC and Leather Shoulder Bag

RM20,678

Valentino Garavani

Nite-Out 110 Bow-Detailed Cutout Satin Pumps

RM5,706



THE LUXE REPORT



TUMI Debuts “Essentially Beautiful” Campaign For Fall 2023

TUMI has launched its Fall 2023 campaign, entitled “Essentially Beautiful”. TUMI’s Fall 2023 Collection Launch brought guests on an immersive journey exploring TUMI’s Hypercraft design concept. Defined as being hyper-focused on quality and high performance through elevated craftsmanship and innovation, Hypercraft perfectly characterises TUMI’s approach to design, setting the tone for the season. Key highlights of the season include TUMI’s 19 Degree Collection, which was inspired by the collection’s signature contours and cutting-edge craftsmanship. 19 Degree is TUMI’s most iconic hardside collection, courtesy of its elegant yet striking sculptural exterior, effortless manoeuvrability and durability. TUMI’s latest collection launch, Alpha X, was displayed against an instagrammable X-themed wall. Elsewhere, guests at the Tegra-Lite® zone were treated to another TUMI innovation with a collection of travel cases made from Tegrin, an exceptionally strong yet lightweight material. TUMI also introduced the Georgica Collection, featuring a range of sophisticated silhouettes in Black and Taupe natural grain pebbled leather. Terracotta was also featured as a fresh pop of color for the season in buttery soft smooth leather.



Fairfield by Marriott Phnom Penh Is Now Open

At the heart of Phnom Penh, the new Fairfield by Marriott Phnom Penh is located on Russian Federation Boulevard in the landmark Chip Mong Tower, just 8 kilometres from the airport, as well as close to government offices, commercial buildings, and local attractions. A fitness centre and infinity pool are available to guests on the 28th floor, with 300 guest rooms equipped with mobile work spaces and 55-inch cable TVs. Located on the hotel’s 27th floor, the All Day Dining restaurant boasts stunning views and a diverse menu that highlights local Khmer favourites and classic global dishes. The Winds rooftop bar on the 44th and 45th floors can enjoy drinks upon the city’s sunset view.

Zulal Wellness Resort by Chiva-Som Marks First Anniversary With A Host Of Sustainability Initiatives

The Middle East’s largest and first full-immersion wellness destination, Zulal Wellness Resort by Chiva-Som, celebrated 365 days of holistic health and wellbeing by honouring its commitment to sustainability, one of the core philosophies at the pioneering destination retreat in northern Qatar. Sustainable development is at the heart of Zulal’s ethos, whether that is through supporting guests in their pursuit of optimal wellbeing or boosting the local ecosystem. To mark their one-year anniversary, guests and colleagues gathered to plant 51 mangrove seedlings (Avicenna marina) as part of the resort’s Mangrove Conservation Programme. As part of its overall sustainability policy, Zulal is committed to improving air quality and fostering a favourable environment for local marine biodiversity, which includes blue crabs, flamingos, and sea turtles. One such initiative is the Mangrove Education Centre, found at the resort’s beachfront walkway overlooking the calm shallow waters of Qatar’s northern coast. Here, guests of all ages can learn how best to care for our precious marine wildlife through fun activities such as mangrove planting and beach clean ups.



Premier Village Phu Quoc, A Paradise On The Pearl Island Of Vietnam

Surrounded by lush tropical nature, every corner of Premier Village Phu Quoc Resort will make you stop and enjoy. Stretching from the hilltop to the cliffs, our 215 luxury villas offer you different views. You can stay and relax at Island Villa surrounded by unhindered views of the verdant gardens or laze on a comfortable bed at Beachfront Villas, just a few steps to the sea. Additionally, Ocean View Villa and On The Rock Villa are for those who love privacy and enjoy both sunrises and sunsets at the same point on the Pearl Island. Each villa includes three or four bedrooms, a modern living room, a spacious kitchen and a private pool. A minimalist style in interior design makes you close to nature and frees your soul.



Sanlorenzo to debut SX100

Sanlorenzo’s display at this year’s Cannes Yachting Festival (September 12-17) will include the world premiere of the SX100, which joins a range including the SX76, SX88 and SX112. A unit of the SX100 was sold to Southeast Asia shortly after her announcement at the Cannes show last September and is expected to be delivered in April 2024. Nick Stratton, Sanlorenzo Asia Sales Manager, said: “It’s rewarding to witness the remarkable growth of the SX range and its rapid expansion in Asia. Sanlorenzo’s low production numbers ensure unique builds and ample customisation options – this strongly appeals to owners seeking to purchase a special yacht that reflects their own tastes and living philosophy. This new SX100 is no different and is sure to be another stunning bespoke Sanlorenzo build.

THE WORLD OF

AUTOMOTIVE LUXURY

WE'RE HERE TO HYPE YOU UP ON ALL THE BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED AUTOMOBILE NEWS AND LATEST RELEASES.



MCLAREN UNVEILS NEW MULTI-TONE PAINT FINISH WITH A SPECTRUM THEME

The latest paint finish from British luxury carmaker McLaren is called Spectrum Theme. The stunning multi-tone paint was created by McLaren Special Operations (MSO) and is only available on the company's 750S model. The McLaren Special Operations team applies the eye-catching layered pattern to the car's structure in Spectrum Blue, Spectrum Grey, and Spectrum Orange. In compliance with extra MSO specific features, the team is also able to create new colour schemes. The theme paint finish's darkest colours first appear towards the car's rear end and gradually become lighter near the midpoint. As a result, the eye-catching multi-tone design changed at the door, enhancing the butterfly effect of the car. The 750S is McLaren's most potent and lightest production supercar, following the 720S. A twin-turbocharged 4.0-litre V8 engine with 750 ps and 800 Nm of torque is in the driver's seat. The car can go from 0 to 62 mph in 2.8 seconds and has a top speed of 206 mph.



MERCEDES-AMG RELEASES FIRST HYBRID GLC

Mercedes' most well-liked SUV class, the GLC, recently received its most recent AMG update in the shape of the GLC 43 and the GLC 63 S E Performance, which some would describe as the company's first hybrid AMG SUV model. Along with having a little more than 200 horsepower than the 43, it also boasts hybrid plug-in capabilities, which is one of its obvious distinguishing qualities. The 4.8kWh battery in the 671 horsepower everyday car can be recharged through plug-in or recuperation. Drivers of the 63 S E will notice a variety of AMG styling modifications inside the vehicle, such as a purely black interior with contrast yellow stitching, sports seats, pedals, and floor mats, as well as some subtle carbon fibre encasing the infotainment centre. In terms of technology, the car has a brand-new data logger that monitors over 80 distinct performance variables.



PORSCHE REVEALS 2024 911 s/t

Porsche has unveiled the 2024 911 S/T Special Edition. The new car was developed to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 911 model lineup, one of the automaker's most cherished. The automobile combines the best features of the 911 GT3 with Touring Package and the 911 GT3 RS, always keeping performance in mind. As a result, the vehicle has a 4.0-litre boxer engine with 518 horsepower and a maximum rev limit of 9,000. The car is notable not only for its speed but also for being the generation's lightest 911. A lightweight clutch and a reduced constant axle ratio go hand in hand with this achievement. Utilising carbon fibre reinforced plastic on the bonnet, top, front fenders, doors, rear axle anti-roll bar, and shear panel are details that support the car's lightweight construction. The vehicle also has a lithium-ion starting battery, lightweight glass, decreased insulation, Porsche Ceramic Composite Brakes, and magnesium wheels.



NISSAN REVEALS THE 2024 Z NISMO

The eagerly anticipated 2024 Z NISMO, which Nissan recently debuted, is billed as an exciting track-ready experience for enthusiast drivers. The Z NISMO is one of Nissan's highest performing Z class automobiles, with a twin-turbo engine producing 420 horsepower and 384 lb-ft of torque. The redesigned appearance, which features features like the "G-Nose" that pays homage to the vintage Nissan Fairlady 240ZG, comes along with the improved performance. Additionally, the Z NISMO's body design helps to minimise engine cooling requirements and improve aerodynamic performance. The NISMO-exclusive variation has bigger rear spoiler and side sills that have been altered to increase aerodynamic prowess. Recaro seats with manual adjustments, an Alcantara-wrapped steering wheel, red-anodised engine-start and drive mode buttons, and other interior upgrades elevate the car's appearance and feel.

BEACHSIDE RESTAURANTS AND BARS TO VISIT BEFORE YOU DIE

Picture this: the soothing sound of waves crashing, the gentle touch of sea breeze, and a cocktail in hand as you soak in the breathtaking sunset views. Fortunately, there are numerous coastal restaurants where one may drink or dine while listening to the waves lap against the shore or viewing a once-in-a-lifetime sunset. So, whether you fantasise about sipping a daiquiri on the sand or eating seafood by the sea, here's a global look at some of the top seaside and waterfront eateries on the planet. Whatever your plans or your palate, you're guaranteed to find a hidden treasure from Italy to India, and from Saint Bart's to the Seychelles.



Rockhouse Restaurant Negril, Jamaica

Celebrated as Negril’s premiere fine-dining destination, take a seat and look out over the volcanic cliffs on to the brilliant Caribbean Sea. It won’t take long to discover why it’s called the “Pristine Cove.” Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the Rockhouse restaurant was designed to blend seamlessly into the tropical environment. Grab a cup of Blue Mountain coffee and quietly watch the birds in the morning or grab your partner and join us for a romantic candlelit dinner. A welcoming and serene atmosphere awaits any time of day.



The Grotto at Rayavadee Krabi, Thailand

The Grotto nestles under an ancient limestone cliff on the edge of beautiful Phranang Beach. The Grotto, a lovely refuge in the shade of a limestone cliff on the shores of Phra Nang beach, is a must-see for anybody staying at Rayavadee. By day, The Grotto's natural shadow provides protection from the sun without sacrificing the breathtaking views. To get the complete experience, book a Twilight Set Dinner and dine on a unique menu made with fresh, local delicacies while watching the sun's last rays fade away over the hills in the distance.



Le Plongeur Nice, France

There are many of beach clubs in Nice that serve a good Niçoise salad, but for those looking to mix high cuisine with an elevated view, look no further than Le Plongeur. René Livieri nudged this restaurant on a freestanding rock towards its final form in 1941, adding the iconic diving boards in his design, which was once the site of a perched fishing boat serving Belle Époque diners. The diving boards are gone, but this high vantage point (which is technically in the Mediterranean Sea) is ideal for soaking up some Cote D'Azur atmosphere as the sun sets.



Azido Mahé, Seychelles

You might not imagine that the middle of the Indian Ocean is a great location for traditional Japanese food. Azido, a restaurant at the Mango House resort in the Seychelles, is here to prove you wrong. Located on the west coast of Mahé, the archipelago's largest island, tourists can eat sushi or sukiyaki wagyu while overlooking the Anse a la Mouche. Even just relaxing with a cocktail will convince you that every minute spent schlepping to the Seychelles was worthwhile.

Giacomo al Lago at Grand Hotel Tremezzo

Lake Como, Italy

If you’ve ever said, “Let’s go to Giacomo’s tonight”, count yourself in very good company. In fact, Lady Gaga, Donatella Versace, Elton John, Richard Gere, Brad Pitt, Madonna, Domenico Dolce e Stefano Gabbana, the queen of Jordan and maybe even Barack and Michelle Obama would be more than happy to join you. For more than sixty years, Giacomo Milano has attracted the world’s biggest names like moths to a flame. And now, in its third generation, this culinary dynasty continues to captivate food lovers from near and far with simple, yet sophisticated dishes that honor Italian culinary tradition and avail of only the freshest of ingredients. “Food that feels like family,” as founder Giacomo used to say, and food that – starting this spring – will captivate our guests as well, amidst the magnificent scenery of Grand Hotel Tremezzo.



The Lighthouse Restaurant Maldives

Why eat beside the sea when you can dine in it? That's the fascination of The Lighthouse Restaurant at Baro Resort, which has drawn customers from all over the world with its promise of pristine, panoramic ocean views from this circular platform positioned above a lagoon. If a menu consisting of modern, experimental renderings of local seafood under the stars isn't enough, head upstairs to the Lighthouse Lounge, where a nightcap is the ideal excuse to extend your amazing evening.



Roof Deck Bar & Restaurant at The Surfrider

Malibu, California

Pull off the Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu to find The Surfrider, a restored 1953 motel with a roof-deck bar and restaurant that combines the best of roadside and seaside cuisine. The menu's smart cocktails and well-curated cuisine cooked with love from local farm goods provide a distinctly Californian dining experience, and the space's emphasis on comfy seating complements the relaxing music of First Point Malibu's soothing surf. Whether you've spent the day surfing or just passing by, this guests-only paradise is worth the Surfrider's admittance ticket.



BEAUTIFUL HOTEL DESTINATIONS

SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, HOTELS HAVE BECOME RIGHTFUL DESTINATIONS ON THEIR OWN. HERE ARE SOME LUXURY HOTELS SCATTERED ACROSS THE GLOBE, THAT SHOULD BE ON TOP OF YOUR BUCKET LIST.



Rosewood Hôtel de Crillon

Paris, France

An illustrious landmark overlooking the Place de la Concorde, Hôtel de Crillon, A Rosewood Hotel is a celebration of the spirit of Paris and French art de vivre—timeless, legendary and unabashedly elegant. With its perfectly proportioned Neoclassical façade and architecture, the hotel was designed to captivate. It has dazzled generations of visitors and played host to some of history’s greatest events. The building has stood through the reigns of two French kings, the French Revolution, the rise and fall of the Napoleonic Empire and the birth of the League of Nations. In 1758, King Louis XV commissioned the greatest architect of his day, Ange-Jacques Gabriel, to build twin structures overlooking Place de la Concorde. The result was a masterpiece of 18th-century architecture. Long owned by the illustrious family of the Counts of Crillon, this private mansion was transformed into a luxury palace hotel in 1909 under the impulse of architect Walter-André Destailleur. The modern and transformed Hôtel de Crillon offers incomparable luxury with eclectic, art-driven spaces that culminate in an emotional crescendo, elegantly expressing the spirit of Paris.

www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/hotel-de-crillon



Palazzo Garzoni

Venice, Italy

Following a lengthy and painstaking renovation, Venice’s Palazzo Garzoni, a Gothic-style palace has been reborn as the home of four exquisite residences. This 15th-century masterpiece boasts a magnificent entrance facing the Grand Canal, a superb location between Piazza San Marco and the Rialto Bridge, and a private pontoon for boats and gondolas. Inside, the 1000 m² interior features expertly curated contemporary art and luxurious furnishings. Looking out over Venice’s Grand Canal, the Piano Nobile is the most spacious of Palazzo Garzoni’s apartments. Arranged over two floors, it has been decorated with the utmost care and contains impeccably restored ceiling paintings.

www.passalacqua.it/en



Zori Timeless Hotel

Hvar, Croatia

ZORI TIMELESS HOTEL is a unique place where untouched, stunning natural surroundings of Vinogradišće bay, Palmižana meet a unique dining experience and unforgettable venue. Just four sparse, burnt-orange houses with local stone and marble are available for guests to stay in. Glass walls that extend to the ceiling open onto private terraces that sometimes have a pool, a Jacuzzi, or both. The Zori Timeless fine-dining restaurant is directly across the street and offers nearby residents a private seaside terrace as well as its delectable Mediterranean fare. Take your sweet time whether you decide to swim, snorkel, dive, hike, or simply relax.

www.zori.hr



The Darling

Copenhagen, Denmark

The Darling is a stylish art & design guest house in the heart of the historic centre of Copenhagen. If you love modern Danish design and cutting edge Danish contemporary art, you will love The Darling. The personal passion for design and art has inspired the decor of the two residences, resulting in an ambience of urbane sophistication. The Grand, The Darling’s inaugural residence, offers guests a grand 100 m2, with a living room, dining room, a study, bedroom, state of the art kitchen and bathroom. At The Grand residence, you will enjoy a unique experience of Copenhagen Old Town, blended with contemporary art and classic Danish design. With stunning views of the Church of the Holy Spirit and Strøget – Copenhagen’s pedestrian shopping street, you’ll never want to leave.

thedarling.dk

HAUTE HOMEWARE

THE BEST DANISH DESIGNS

Tearoom Sofa — High Back

Audo Copenhagen

The high back version of the Tearoom Sofa offers moments of quiet contemplation in busy spaces. Expressive and elegant, the secluded, foam-filled furniture piece rests on a wooden base for a natural contrast to the upholstered seat. The addition of a USB port and power socket at the base makes it a practical spot for work as well as play. USB power outlets cannot be added after purchasing a lounge chair without a power outlet.



J81 Chair

FDB Mobler

These are the small details that have made one of the most comfortable dining chairs even more comfortable. When Jørgen Bækmark added an armrest to J81, the big brother to the J80, the result was both a more comfortable chair, but also with a natural continuation of the curved shape in the chair back. In addition, the chair is slightly broader than the J80, which of course also provides a little more comfort. The design is derived from FDB Møller’s golden age, but the proportions are slightly adjusted, as the Danes on average are five-six centimetres higher today than they were in the 1950s. But otherwise it appears that at the time - and at the same time quite current.

Tung Side Table JA3

andTradition

Contemporary British designer John Astbury wanted to create a side table endowed with a sense of monolithic strength. The result was Tung, a compact piece supported by three curved legs that allude to the architectural presence of ancient pillars.



Collector Chandelier

Audo Copenhagen

Imagined by the industrious Swedish furniture designer Alf Svensson in the 1950s, Chandelier 3 is one of three lighting designs in the Collector series. Shaped from a central band of solid brass, six conical metal shades direct the light upwards and downwards to illuminate with ambient light. Small perforations in each shade disperse the light outwards, creating intriguing shadows. The sophisticated mid-century design has timeless appeal thanks to its considered combination of graphic beauty and classic elegance. Not only functional, it is also a decorative lighting fixture in any space. One of three light fixtures created in the 1950s by Swedish designer Alf Svensson, the Chandelier 5 presents a statement-making mid-century aesthetic. Its band of solid brass holds ten geometric metal shades which direct light both upward and downward. Small perforations in the shades allow further light to shine through. Its timeless look, typical of the Scandinavian Modern period in which it was designed, lends itself to any setting, making it equally at home as an illuminating feature in a public or private space.



Bow Console Table

Sibast Furniture

Like a piece of architecture gone astray, the Bow console table draws parallels to the old aqueducts from the Roman Empire and classic architectural geometry. Repetition of arches create a beautiful, sleek, yet somewhat box silhouette and the long legs make it seem narrow and light even though the character is anything but insignificant. The table is cast in lightweight fibre concrete to create a unique textured surface and increase mobility. It is hand painted with multiple layers of paint, creating a strong and resistant surface. Designed by Kristian Sofus Hansen & Tommy Hyldahl.



STUNNING CEILING DESIGN IDEAS THAT WILL HAVE YOU LOOKING UP ALL DAY LONG

HIGH-FLYING DESIGN IS AIDED BY FASHIONABLE CEILINGS

When it comes to home decor, we often focus on the walls, furniture, and floors, but there's one often-neglected canvas that holds untapped potential - the ceiling! While we may spend most of our time looking straight ahead, why not create a visual feast above our heads? Get ready to lift your gaze and be amazed by these jaw-dropping ceiling design ideas that will leave you admiring the "fifth wall" all day long!



Starry Night

Why wait for a clear sky to stargaze when you can have your own celestial spectacle indoors? Opt for a fibre optic ceiling installation that mimics a starry night sky. Imagine lying in bed, feeling like you're drifting off to sleep under a blanket of twinkling stars. It's a surefire way to add a touch of magic to any room, whether it's a nursery, bedroom, or even a home theatre.

Artistic Murals

Turn your ceiling into a work of art with a captivating mural. From dreamy landscapes to geometric patterns, the possibilities are endless. An intricate mural can create an illusion of depth, making your room feel larger and more enchanting. Let your imagination run wild and commission an artist to paint a masterpiece that will have you and your guests gazing upwards in awe.

Nature's Canopy

Bring the outdoors inside with a nature-inspired canopy ceiling. Adorn your ceiling with artificial leaves, vines, or delicate flowers to create a whimsical and romantic atmosphere. This concept works wonderfully in bedrooms, sunrooms, or any space that could use a touch of Mother Nature's beauty.

Mirrored Illusions

Take your ceiling to new heights with the magic of mirrors. Install a mirrored ceiling in small spaces to create an illusion of endless depth and light. Mirrors reflect the room below, making it feel more open and spacious. If you're feeling adventurous, you can even experiment with tinted or coloured mirrors for an edgier and unique look.



Wood Panel Elegance

For a touch of rustic charm or modern elegance, consider wood paneling for your ceiling. The warm and earthy tones of wood create a cozy and inviting ambiance. Whether you opt for traditional planks or a more intricate pattern like herringbone or chevron, a wooden ceiling adds a timeless appeal to any room.

Optical Illusions

Get playful with optical illusions on your ceiling. Whether it's bold stripes, a mesmerising spiral, or a geometric pattern, optical illusions can add a dynamic and intriguing element to any room. These mind-bending designs are sure to spark conversations and keep your guests mesmerised.

Geometric Extravaganza

Geometric designs are a surefire way to inject a modern and contemporary vibe into your space. Whether you choose a three-dimensional pattern or stick with a two-dimensional design, geometric ceilings add a sense of structure and order to any room. Combine different shapes and colours to create a visually stunning masterpiece overhead.

Ombre Bliss

Who said ombre was just for hair? Take this trendy gradient effect to your ceiling for a soft and ethereal look. Choose a calming colour palette that transitions from light to dark, creating a soothing and relaxing atmosphere. This effect works wonders in bedrooms or cozy reading nooks.

Under the Sea

Bring the ocean's wonders right above your head with an underwater-themed ceiling. Imagine floating under the sea, surrounded by schools of fish and vibrant coral reefs. This imaginative design idea is perfect for playrooms, bathrooms, or any space where you want to unleash your inner child.

Light and Lively

Illuminate your ceiling with creative lighting fixtures that double as statement pieces. From chandeliers and pendant lights to LED strips and fairy lights, the right lighting can transform your ceiling into a captivating visual display. Experiment with different light colours and intensity levels to set the mood for any occasion.

SHOULD YOU BE USING GLYCOLIC ACID IN YOUR SKINCARE ROUTINE?

Ah, the quest for flawless, radiant skin! With a myriad of skincare products flooding the market, it’s easy to feel overwhelmed. But fear not, dear beauty enthusiasts! Today, we’re diving into the magical world of glycolic acid and uncovering the wonders it holds for your skin. If you’re wondering whether this superstar ingredient is right for you, keep reading to find out why glycolic acid might just become your new best friend in your skincare routine!

The ABCs of Glycolic Acid

First things first, let’s get acquainted with our star ingredient: glycolic acid. Glycolic acid is a type of alpha hydroxy acid (AHA) derived from sugarcane. It is a water-soluble exfoliant that works by loosening the bonds between dead skin cells, gently sloughing them away to reveal a fresh, glowing complexion underneath.

Bye-Bye Dullness!

Say goodbye to dull, lacklustre skin! One of the primary benefits of incorporating glycolic acid into your skincare routine is its powerful exfoliating properties. Regular use of glycolic acid can help remove the buildup of dead skin cells, which often leads to a dull complexion. As a result, your skin will look brighter, smoother, and more radiant.

Farewell, Fine Lines!

Age is just a number, but why not keep them guessing? Glycolic acid comes to the rescue here too! Its exfoliating prowess stimulates collagen production, the protein responsible for maintaining skin’s elasticity. By boosting collagen, glycolic acid can help diminish the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles, giving your skin a more youthful and plump look.



Pore Perfection

Tired of pesky pores stealing the spotlight on your face? Glycolic acid can come to the rescue again! Its exfoliating action helps unclog pores, minimising their appearance and reducing the likelihood of breakouts. This makes glycolic acid an excellent option for those battling acne and oily skin.

A Solution for Sun Damage

We all love soaking up some sun, but its harmful UV rays can take a toll on our skin. Luckily, glycolic acid has a solution for that too! It aids in fading sunspots, hyperpigmentation, and other signs of sun damage. Regular use of glycolic acid can help even out your skin tone, leaving you with a more uniform complexion.

Glycolic Acid: Gentle Yet Effective

You might be thinking, “Isn’t acid too harsh for my sensitive skin?” Fear not, for glycolic acid is relatively gentle when used correctly. However, it’s essential to introduce it into your skincare routine gradually, especially if you have sensitive skin. Start with lower concentrations and patch test first to ensure your skin reacts positively.

To Sum Up

In conclusion, glycolic acid is undoubtedly a game-changer in the world of skincare. Its exfoliating powers, coupled with its ability to address various skin concerns, make it a versatile and effective ingredient. From bidding farewell to dullness and fine lines to perfecting your pores and addressing sun damage, glycolic acid proves to be a force to be reckoned with! Before diving headfirst into the world of glycolic acid, remember that patience is key. Allow your skin time to adjust and don’t forget to patch test before incorporating any new product into your routine. With consistent use and proper skincare habits, glycolic acid may very well become the secret weapon that unlocks your skin’s true potential! So go ahead, give it a try, and say hello to a radiant and beautiful you!

Finding the Right Product

When it comes to glycolic acid products, there’s an array of options to choose from. Cleansers, toners, serums, and masks – they’re all out there! For beginners, a glycolic acid toner or serum with a lower concentration (around 5-7%) is a good starting point. As your skin gets accustomed to it, you can gradually increase the concentration and frequency of use.

Remember the Sunscreen!

As with any exfoliating product, using glycolic acid makes your skin more sensitive to the sun. To avoid any adverse effects, it’s crucial to apply sunscreen daily with an adequate SPF. This not only protects your skin from UV damage but also ensures the best results from your glycolic acid routine.

Potential Side Effects

While glycolic acid is a remarkable addition to your skincare arsenal, it’s essential to be mindful of potential side effects. Some users may experience mild redness, irritation, or flakiness, especially during the initial adjustment phase. Should you encounter any of these side effects, consider reducing the frequency of use or opting for a lower concentration product.



GLOWING SKIN 101

MASTERING THE ART OF USING VITAMIN C IN YOUR SKINCARE ROUTINE

Vitamin C, often referred to as the “holy grail” of skincare, is a powerful antioxidant with a multitude of benefits for your skin. From brightening and evening out skin tone to boosting collagen production, this potent ingredient can work wonders when used correctly. However, incorporating vitamin C into your skincare routine requires a bit of know-how to ensure you reap all its rewards without any adverse effects. In this article, we’ll guide you on how to use vitamin C in your skincare routine correctly to achieve a radiant and healthy complexion.

Choose the Right Form of Vitamin C

Vitamin C comes in various forms, each with its unique characteristics and benefits. The most common forms of vitamin C in skincare products include L-ascorbic acid, ascorbyl palmitate, sodium ascorbyl phosphate, and tetrahexyldecyl ascorbate.

- **L-ascorbic acid:** This form of vitamin C is highly potent and effective but can be unstable and prone to oxidation. Look for products with a stable formulation and proper packaging to ensure potency.
- **Ascorbyl palmitate:** This fat-soluble form of vitamin C is more stable but may not penetrate the skin as effectively as L-ascorbic acid.
- **Sodium ascorbyl phosphate:** This water-soluble form is less irritating and suitable for sensitive skin types. It may not be as potent as L-ascorbic acid but still provides significant benefits.
- **Tetrahexyldecyl ascorbate:** A stable and oil-soluble derivative of vitamin C that penetrates the skin easily and works well with other ingredients.

Opt for a vitamin C product that suits your skin type and concerns, and make sure it’s packaged in an airtight, opaque container to maintain its potency.

Start Gradually

When introducing vitamin C into your skincare routine, start gradually to allow your skin to acclimate to the new ingredient. Begin with a lower concentration (around 10-15%) and apply it every other day or every few days. As your skin becomes more tolerant, you can increase the frequency of use.

Cleanse and Tone

Before applying your vitamin C product, ensure your skin is clean and free of any makeup or impurities. Wash your face with a gentle cleanser and follow up with a toner to balance the skin’s pH levels. A clean canvas will help the vitamin C penetrate effectively.



Apply to Dry Skin

To get the most out of your vitamin C product, apply it to dry skin. Damp skin can dilute the potency of the product and reduce its effectiveness. Gently pat your face dry after cleansing and toning, and then proceed with the vitamin C application.

A Little Goes a Long Way

Remember that vitamin C is potent, and a little goes a long way. You only need a pea-sized amount to cover your entire face. Applying too much vitamin C can potentially irritate your skin and cause redness.

Allow Time for Absorption

After applying vitamin C to your skin, give it a few minutes to absorb before moving on to the next step of your routine. This allows the product to work its magic and ensures that subsequent products won’t interfere with its effectiveness.

Follow with Sunscreen

Vitamin C can make your skin more sensitive to the sun, so it’s crucial to follow up with sunscreen during the daytime. Look for a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher and apply it generously to protect your skin from harmful UV rays.

Consider Nighttime Use

If you’re concerned about potential sun sensitivity, you can use your vitamin C product in your nighttime skincare routine instead. This way, you can still enjoy its benefits without worrying about sun exposure.

Avoid Mixing with Certain Ingredients

Vitamin C can interact with certain ingredients, reducing its effectiveness or causing irritation. Avoid using vitamin C products in combination with products containing niacinamide or alpha hydroxy acids (AHAs) like glycolic acid. If you want to incorporate both vitamin C and niacinamide into your routine, use them at different times of the day.

Storage and Shelf Life

Proper storage is essential to maintain the stability and effectiveness of your vitamin C product. Keep it away from direct sunlight, as exposure to light can cause oxidation and reduce its potency. Also, check the expiration date and use the product within the recommended timeframe to ensure it’s still effective.

HYDRATION AWARENESS

SIGNS OF DEHYDRATION AND HOW TO STAY REFRESHED

Water is the elixir of life, essential for our body’s proper functioning and overall well-being. However, it’s easy to underestimate the importance of staying hydrated, especially when life gets busy and distractions abound. Dehydration occurs when your body loses more fluids than it takes in, leading to a host of uncomfortable symptoms and potential health risks. In this article, we’ll explore the signs that indicate you may be dehydrated and offer practical solutions to keep your body adequately hydrated.

Signs of Dehydration:

- **Thirst:** The most obvious sign of dehydration is feeling thirsty. Thirst is your body’s way of signalling that it needs more fluids. However, it’s important to note that by the time you feel thirsty, you may already be mildly dehydrated. Therefore, it’s crucial to drink water regularly, even before you feel thirsty.
- **Fatigue and Dizziness:** Dehydration can lead to decreased blood volume and lower blood pressure, resulting in feelings of fatigue and dizziness. If you find yourself feeling lightheaded or struggling to concentrate, it may be a sign that you need to hydrate.
- **Dark Urine:** The colour of your urine can provide valuable insights into your hydration status. If your urine is dark yellow or amber, it’s a sign that you may not be drinking enough water. Ideally, your urine should be light yellow or pale straw-coloured, indicating that you are adequately hydrated.
- **Dry Mouth and Bad Breath:** Insufficient water intake can cause reduced saliva production, leading to dry mouth and bad breath. Saliva plays a vital role in maintaining oral health by rinsing away bacteria and food particles. When you’re dehydrated, these oral hygiene functions may be compromised.

What to Do About Dehydration?

Drink Water Regularly

The most effective way to combat dehydration is to drink water regularly throughout the day. Carry a reusable water bottle with you and make a habit of sipping water even when you don’t feel thirsty. Aim to drink at least eight 8-ounce glasses of water daily, or more if you are physically active or live in a hot climate.

Monitor Urine Colour

Keep an eye on the colour of your urine as an indicator of your hydration status. Light yellow or pale straw-coloured urine suggests proper hydration, while dark yellow or amber urine may indicate dehydration.

Include Hydrating Foods

In addition to drinking water, you can boost your hydration by including water-rich foods in your diet. Fruits and vegetables like watermelon, cucumber, oranges, and celery are excellent choices to help you stay hydrated.

Limit Dehydrating Beverages

Some beverages, such as caffeinated and alcoholic drinks, can contribute to dehydration. Limit your intake of these beverages, as they can increase fluid loss from the body.

Listen to Your Body

Pay attention to the signs of dehydration your body may be sending you. If you feel thirsty, don’t ignore it. Take the time to drink water and rehydrate.



How to Make Drinking Water Fun?

Colourful Straws and Bottles

The most effective way to combat dehydration is to drink water regularly throughout the day. Carry a reusable water bottle with you and make a habit of sipping water even when you don’t feel thirsty. Aim to drink at least eight 8-ounce glasses of water daily, or more if you are physically active or live in a hot climate.

Hydration App

Use technology to your advantage and download hydration reminder apps on your phone. These apps send cheerful reminders to drink water throughout the day and even track your progress. Turn it into a game to see who can keep up with the reminders the best!

DIY Flavoured Ice Cubes

Get creative in the kitchen and make your flavoured ice cubes. Blend fruits and herbs with water and freeze them into ice cube trays. Add these tasty cubes to your water for an instant burst of flavour as they slowly melt.





THE MAGIC OF PHYSIOTHERAPY

UNRAVELING THE MARVELLOUS WORLD OF MOVEMENT

Imagine a world where our bodies are perfectly tuned instruments, capable of performing breathtaking physical feats without the slightest discomfort or hindrance. Unfortunately, reality often falls short of this utopian vision, and that’s where the magic of physiotherapy comes in. This often underrated field of healthcare holds the key to unlocking our body’s potential, unleashing a plethora of benefits that extend far beyond simple physical healing. In this article, we’ll embark on a delightful journey through the importance and benefits of physiotherapy, revealing the transformative power it has over our lives.

The Essence of Physiotherapy: Healing and Beyond

At its core, physiotherapy is the art and science of restoring and enhancing the body’s physical function through targeted exercises, manual therapy, and education. Traditionally associated with injury recovery and rehabilitation, physiotherapy has evolved to encompass a wide range of conditions and preventive measures. From athletes recovering from sprains to elderly individuals seeking to maintain their independence, physiotherapy has something magical to offer everyone.

One of the primary importance of physiotherapy lies in its holistic approach. Rather than simply treating symptoms, physiotherapists delve into the root causes of the issues, understanding the intricate interplay of muscles, bones, nerves, and other bodily systems. This comprehensive understanding allows them to devise personalised treatment plans that not only alleviate pain but also strengthen and optimise the body for everyday challenges.

Unveiling the Benefits of Physiotherapy

Injury Rehabilitation: Whether it’s a sports-related injury, a workplace mishap, or a simple accident, injuries can leave us feeling vulnerable and restricted. Physiotherapy works wonders in aiding the body’s natural healing processes, speeding up recovery, and helping individuals regain their full range of motion and strength.

Chronic Pain Management: Chronic pain can be incredibly debilitating, affecting not only physical but also mental well-being. Physiotherapy offers a range of pain management techniques, including manual therapy, heat and cold therapy, and therapeutic exercises, providing relief and reducing reliance on pain medications.

Enhanced Mobility and Flexibility: As we age, our bodies tend to stiffen up, and mobility becomes a challenge. Through targeted stretching and exercise routines, physiotherapy restores flexibility and mobility, empowering individuals to maintain an active lifestyle and age gracefully.

Improved Posture and Body Awareness: Poor posture can lead to a myriad of issues, from back pain to headaches. Physiotherapy educates individuals about proper body mechanics, correcting posture imbalances, and promoting body awareness, preventing future injuries and discomfort.

Preventive Care: The adage “prevention is better than cure” rings especially true in physiotherapy. By identifying and addressing minor issues before they escalate, physiotherapists help individuals avoid potential injuries and maintain peak physical performance.

Embracing the Magic

As we bask in the marvels of physiotherapy, it becomes evident that its importance goes beyond just physical healing. This enchanting realm of healthcare empowers us to understand our bodies better, appreciate their resilience, and work in harmony with them. Physiotherapy beckons us to take charge of our well-being, to move with grace, and to unlock the full potential of our human existence.

So, the next time you find yourself in need of restoration, remember the magic of physiotherapy. Embrace its healing touch, savour its transformative benefits, and step into a world where movement becomes not just a mundane necessity, but a delightful celebration of life itself. Let physiotherapy guide you to a world of wonder, where the spirit dances in harmony with the body, and the possibilities for greatness are endless.



THE ST. REGIS KUALA LUMPUR

THE ST.REGIS KUALA LUMPUR, 6, JALAN STESEN SENTRAL 2, KUALA LUMPUR SENTRAL, 50470 KUALA LUMPUR.

The St Regis Kuala Lumpur was love at first sight, sweeping us into a whirlwind of lush hospitality and splendour the moment stepped foot onto its hallowed grounds. The resplendent hotel is where a rich legacy meets modern history. Guests can bear witness to a curated, private art collection including ‘Horse’ — a monumental 3.5 metres tall, mammoth sculpture crafted by Maestro Fernando Botero, ‘Grace Thunder’, hand-etched murals by Mark Evans depicting a powerful polo charge and three-dimensional ‘Birds and Butterflies’ wall feature featuring 100 birds and 200 butterflies by Barnaby Hosking, further embodying the brand’s commitment to polo and the iconic works of art.

Wining and Dining at The Brasserie

With Executive Chef Keith Hooker at the helm of the Michelin-selected The Brasserie, one can expect the blending of Malaysian flavours and modern European flair, par excellence. The new menu, inspired by his travels and experiences is reflected in the depth of flavours presented by each dish, from each course. Chef Keith recommends starting with a specially-curated amuse bouche that includes homemade Pearl Tapioca Cracker with Goat Cheese and BeetRoot Gel, Potato Espuma, Fresh Summer Truffle and Crispy Potato Air Bag, and Egg Crème Fraîche Gougères, Caviar and Gold Leaf. The first course sees the Hokkaido Scallop with Velouté Sauce, flown in from Japan, followed by a choice of Wagyu Beef Tartare or Kaviari Oscietra Caviar. For the third course, choose between the homemade Truffle Pappardelle with generous shavings of summer truffle from Australia as well as Maitake mushrooms or Hokkaido Uni and for the show-stopping main course, Chef Keith recommends the free-range Australian Lamb Rack, or his personal favourite — the Cod & Abalone, a matrimony of England and Japan, crafted using smoked fish bones and sauce, served with Shishito pepper, Wakame salad, and an herb oil atop the shiro kombu, conveying notes of seaweed and acidity from the pickled cucumber, or Sanchoku Wagyu Oyster Blade. Sweet endings come in the form of a deliciously-rich and addictive Chocolate Marshmallow made from Kelantan Chocolate Namelaka, Honey Marshmallow, Hokkaido Milk and Cocoa Nibs Ice Cream, followed by Petit by Fours.



Relaxation at the Iridium Spa

Ascend the lift to the sixth floor, where a host of timeless treatments amid cosy rooms await at Iridium Spa. A warm colour palette and hallowed hallway led us to a couple’s treatment room (two of its kind, and one with en-suite jacuzzi and sauna) – where a tranquil oasis awaited. We indulged in The Polo Connoisseur — a 150-minute of pure pampering and tranquillity, involving 30 minutes of sauna and jacuzzi, 20 minutes of Body Wrap and 90 minutes of Body Relaxation Massage. The ritual began with a 20 minute body wrap which detoxifies and cleanses the system. This is followed by 30 minutes of sauna to further rid of toxins and a jacuzzi bath to unwind. To conclude, powerful essential oils were employed for a calming personalised relaxation massage to revive fatigues muscles, concentrating on areas specific to Polo playing, such as the trapezius and lats muscle groups, pectorals, biceps and triceps as well as quads and hamstrings. Our senses were elevated, knots untied and the body relaxed.



DOUBLETREE BY HILTON PUTRAJAYA LAKESIDE

THE MALAYSIAN EXPERIENCE

Doubletree by Hilton Putrajaya Lakeside, 2, Jalan P5-5, Presint 5, 62200 Putrajaya.

Upon completion of its renovation, DoubleTree by Hilton Putrajaya Lakeside has unveiled 'The Malaysian Experience.' This achievement cements the property's status as the ultimate place for immersing oneself in Malaysia's rich tapestry of culture. DoubleTree by Hilton Putrajaya Lakeside takes you on an unforgettable trip into the heart of Malaysian heritage, with a remarkable architectural blend of many cultures. Guests can thoroughly immerse themselves in Malaysian culture by combining a wide range of local food options and Malaysian-centric children's activities. The recent addition of the DoubleTree Studio Residency adds to the property's allure, making it ideal for those seeking a genuine Malaysian experience.

The Family Deluxe accommodation and King 2 Bedroom Suite, two of the 14 newly introduced contemporary room categories, were meticulously developed for customers travelling in bigger groups. The Family Deluxe room has a separate living and eating area, while the King 2 Bedroom Suite has a large living room, pantry, and two bedrooms.

Foodies will appreciate a wide range of Malaysian and international cuisines at Makan Kitchen. There's so much to love at Makan Kitchen, with its bounteous space that flows out to an alfresco dining areas on either sides to enjoy the sunset or just relish in the ambience. In addition, take a walk around the space and discover all their delectable offerings on display, including Malay, Chinese, Indian, Iban, and Peranakan delights that tantalise the tastebuds. Furthermore, THE KOFFEE, the resort's lobby lounge, is a relaxing space to slow down and indulge in freshly prepared coffee or juices and delectable pastries, ideal for meeting up with friends or reading a book.



Families will be able to make lifelong moments together in the newly established Games Room, which is equipped with board games, foosball, and table tennis. The Splash Pool, which is divided into sections for different age groups, provides an exciting experience for children, while traditional games like Hopscotch, Congkak, and Ketinting provide additional entertainment alternatives. Fitness enthusiasts can also take advantage of the hotel's well-equipped gym and wellness package, which features a yoga mat, relaxing room mist sprays, and other amenities.

DoubleTree by Hilton Putrajaya Lakeside has also introduced the DoubleTree Studio Residency, featuring three talented up-and-coming contemporary artists from Segaris Art Centre, Fadzril Fakaruddin, Haziq Syawal, and Syahmi Jamaluddin. Their works will be displayed at DoubleTree by Hilton Putrajaya Lakeside's Seni Weekend, throughout their residency. The program invites three promising local artists to reside at DoubleTree by Hilton Putrajaya Lakeside, which recently celebrated its Grand Launch of its completion of refurbishment, for four months each, providing them with dedicated studio space to work on their art. The artists' creations will be prominently featured during the monthly Seni Weekends, held at the hotel, and there will also be interactive workshops for guests to participate in, giving them an opportunity to get to know the artists better.



The primary objective of this collaboration is to support Malaysian artists and providing them with a platform to showcase the country's cultural heritage. Following an open call by Segaris Art Center, three artists were chosen to participate in a 4-month studio residency at DoubleTree by Hilton Putrajaya Lakeside, which will then culminate in a group exhibition. For more information on reservations or to learn more about the upcoming Seni Weekend, please visit the hotel's official website www.hilton.com/en/hotels/kulprdi-doubletree-putrajaya-lakeside.



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17TH AUGUST - 16TH SEPTEMBER 2023

KLAS is pleased to present its young resident artist Fuji Anggara's electrifying tribute to Independence Day entitled the Perjuangan Series. His paintings tell the tale of the struggle of our forefathers had to endure to achieve freedom from sovereignty.

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