

KL lifestyle

JUNE 2026

The Last Dreammaker

REMEMBERING KHOO SUI HOE AND THE POETRY OF A LIFE IN ART

KLAS ART AUCTION
MALAYSIAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

SAVE THE DATE

AUCTION DAY, SUNDAY, 28TH JUNE 2026

OPEN DAILY : MONDAY TO SUNDAY | 10 AM TO 7 PM



Yusof Ghani, *Datuk PBiring Series XI, 2006*
Oil on canvas
122 x 91 cm
RM 95,000 - 160,000

KLAS 31, Jalan Utara, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
Tel: +603 2201 7668 Enquiries: +6019 333 7668



RM9.80



MID YEAR
CLEARANCE SALE

— BASED ON PREVIOUS GOLD PRICE —



— HURRY — LIMITED TIME ONLY —
1 MAY – 30 JUNE 2026

Contents

June 2026



67

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH?

- 6 GOINGS ON
- 10 BIG SCREEN THRILLS
Let us reel you in with our recommendations for your viewing pleasure.

COVER STORY

- 12 THE LAST DREAMMAKER

FEATURES

- 18 HARI GAWAI
- 21 TIME REIMAGINED

CORPORATE NEWS

- 24 SECURING THE AI ERA WITH YTL AI LABS
- 26 MAXIMISING SURPLUS CASH WITH MBSB BANK
- 28 YTL RESILIENT PERFORMANCE

MAKAN-MAKAN

- 30 BRASSERIE FRITZ
- 32 ENSO IZAKAYA AND BAR

MAKAN-MAKAN

- 34 BLACKBYRD KL
- 36 SABATO'S KL
- 38 A TOAST TO KUALA LUMPUR'S FINEST WINE BARS

41 AIRLINK

LUXE BY KL LIFESTYLE

- 57 DA VINCI CLINIC
- 58 GUCCICORE TAKES NEW YORK

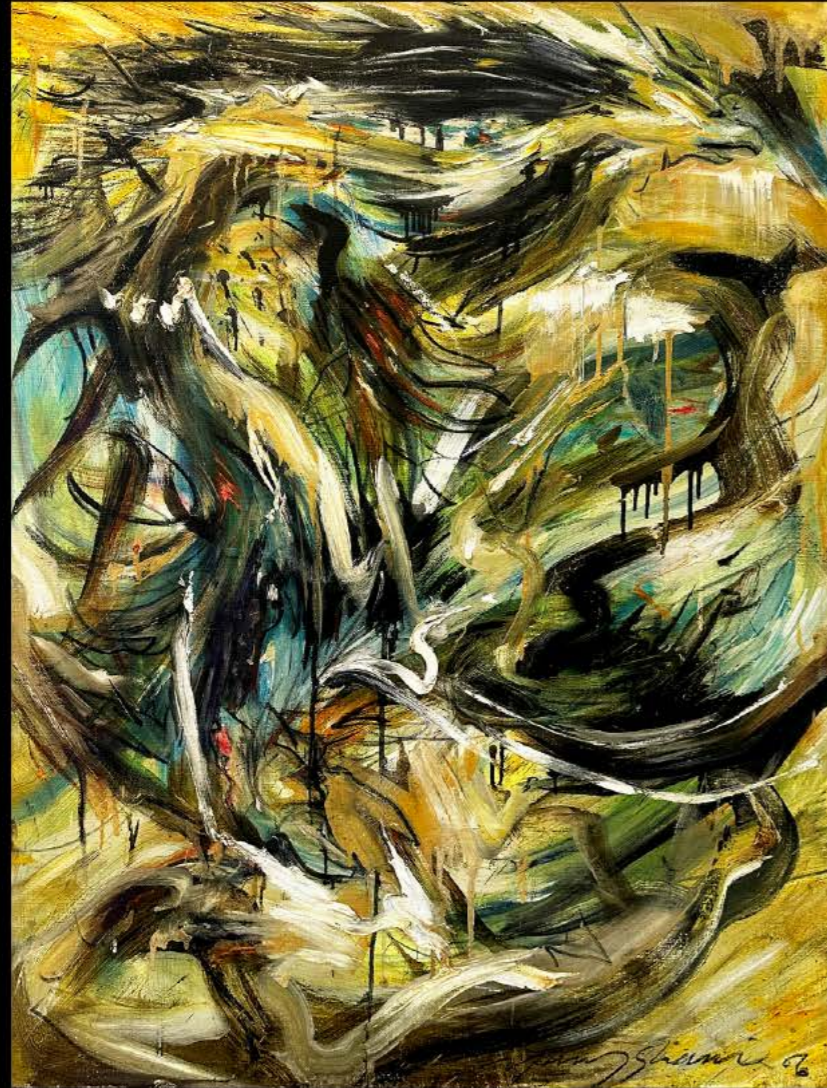


37

KLAS ART AUCTION

MALAYSIAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

SAVE THE DATE | **SUNDAY, 28TH JUNE 2026**



Yusof Ghani, Datuk
Biring Series XI, 2006
Oil on canvas
122 x 91 cm

RM 95,000 - 160,000

KLAS 31, Jalan Utara, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
Tel: +603 2201 7668 Enquiries: +6019 333 7668

CONTENTS

JUNE 2026

64

LUXE BY KL LIFESTYLE

- 60 LOUIS VUITTON'S NEW YORK FANTASY
- 62 THE EVOLUTION OF MEN'S STYLE
- 63 WHERE ELEGANCE MEETS MODERNITY
- 64 FERRARI AMALFI

LUXE TRAVEL

- 66 GREECE
- 68 AFRICA'S FINEST ESCAPES
- 70 BALI: THE EPITOME OF TROPICAL ELEGANCE

HOTEL FEATURES

- 72 A FORTRESS OF SERENITY ON THE ADRIATIC COAST
- 74 ESTELLE MANOR

ART FEATURES

- 76 KLAS ART AUCTION

HEALTH & BEAUTY

- 80 UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF ZINC
- 82 THE HIDDEN POWER OF CHEWING
- 84 PROTECTING THE MIND

68

61



60 LOUIS VUITTON'S NEW YORK FANTASY

62 THE EVOLUTION OF MEN'S STYLE

63 WHERE ELEGANCE MEETS MODERNITY

64 FERRARI AMALFI

66 GREECE

68 AFRICA'S FINEST ESCAPES

70 BALI: THE EPITOME OF TROPICAL ELEGANCE

72 A FORTRESS OF SERENITY ON THE ADRIATIC COAST

74 ESTELLE MANOR

76 KLAS ART AUCTION

80 UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF ZINC

82 THE HIDDEN POWER OF CHEWING

84 PROTECTING THE MIND



CONTENTS | JUNE 2026



Airport Talk

Malaysia Airports' Journey Towards Sustainability and Regional Leadership 44

Aviation News

Berjaya Air Welcomes Its First ATR 72-600 with All-Business Class Cabin 46

Emirates Retains World's Most Profitable Airline Position 47

Malaysia Airlines' Strategic Partnerships with Visa Malaysia and Tourism New Zealand 48

Award-Winning Korean Air to Launch Integrated Airline in December 2026 49

Etihad Airways' Partnership Deals with Uzbekistan Airways, Air Cambodia and Bangkok Airways 50

Singapore Airlines Group's Strategic Initiatives for 2026-2027 51

EVA Air Wins SKYTRAX 5-Star Airline Certification for 11th Consecutive Year 52

Service Delivery and Operational Performance Define Batik Air Malaysia's Growth 52

Cathay Dining Wins Airline Caterer of the Year – Asia at 2026 PAX Readership Awards 53

Special Coverage

Strengthening Malaysia's Position as a Regional MRO Hub 54



CONTENTS

Contents JUNE 2026

EDITORIAL

Managing Editor / Publisher
DATUK GARY THANASAN
gary@mediate.com.my

Creative/Business Development Executive
MYA RIDZUAN
mya@mediate.com.my

Writer
AIMAN RAKEEM

Designer
SKANDHA ROOPAN
roopan.mediate@gmail.com

AIMAR RAHMAN
aimar@mediate.com.my

Aviation News / Airlink
MEDIATE COMMUNICATIONS
airlink@mediate.com.my

Editorial
LAURA LEE
laura@mediate.com.my

ANTHONY TAN
anthony@mediate.com.my

How to reach KL Lifestyle
For letters to editor, subscriptions, advertising, news releases and reproduction permission:
mediate
COMMUNICATIONS

31, Jalan Utara, Section 11,
46200, Petaling Jaya, Selangor

Tel : +019 333 7668
Tel: +603 2201 7668
Email: info@mediate.com.my
www.kl-lifestyle.com.my

Printer
Spiral Ecoprint
44, Jalan PBS 14/11,
Taman Perindustrian Bukit Serdang,
43300 Seri Kembangan, Selangor
KDN:PP13691/07/2013(035571)

Endorsed by



HEALTH & BEAUTY

80 UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF ZINC

82 THE HIDDEN POWER OF CHEWING

84 PROTECTING THE MIND



ON THE COVER :
THE LAST DREAMMAKER
REMEMBERING KHOO SUI HOE AND THE POETRY
OF A LIFE IN ART

COVER IMAGE :

Khoo Sui Hoe: Celebration, 2011

What's On This June 2026

YOUR GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST HAPPENINGS IN JUNE 2026

Concerts



Ivy Lee – Live in Kuala Lumpur

Ivy Lee, Live in Kuala Lumpur is a Mandarin pop concert by Ivy Lee, bringing together her signature vocal clarity, emotional ballads, and uplifting pop tracks for a heartfelt and memorable live performance. The show features her biggest hits alongside fan favourites, delivered with a warm stage presence, strong audience connection, and a welcoming atmosphere.

Date : 27 June 2026

Venue : Zepp Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 3104, RM 488, RM 388, RM 288, RM 188



Laufey – A Matter of Time Tour

Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Laufey returns to Kuala Lumpur with her highly anticipated A Matter of Time Tour, bringing her signature blend of jazz, classical, and contemporary pop to the stage. Celebrated for her velvety vocals and nostalgic songwriting, Laufey has captivated audiences worldwide with songs such as From The Start, Lover Girl, and Bewitched.

Date : 2 June 2026

Venue : Axiata Arena, Bukit Jalil

Price : RM 1,128, RM 918, RM 668, RM 598, RM 398, RM 358, RM 328



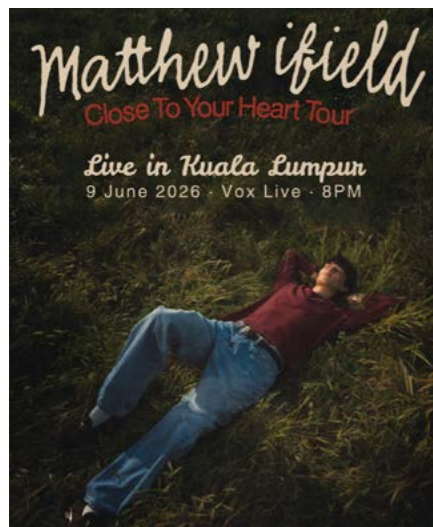
G.E.M. – I AM GLORIA World Tour

Chinese pop superstar G.E.M. brings her spectacular I AM GLORIA World Tour to Malaysia for one of the year's most anticipated live events. Renowned for her extraordinary vocal range, emotionally charged performances, and chart-topping hits such as Light Years Away, Bubble, and Goodbye, G.E.M. has established herself as one of the most influential artists

Date : 6 June 2026

Venue : Stadium Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 988, RM 828, RM 688, RM 548, RM 508, RM 488, RM 388, RM 348, RM 328, RM308



Matthew Ifield – Live in Kuala Lumpur

Matthew Ifield's warm, velvet-toned vocals and heartfelt songwriting have grown from an online breakthrough into a global fanbase, and the Close To Your Heart Tour marks the next stage of his journey. The show reflects a more mature direction, with songs that feel deeper and more lived-in while still carrying the melodic hooks and honest storytelling that first drew listeners in. Blending intimate pop with jazz-leaning soul, his music remains personal yet expansive enough for a live crowd to sing along.

Date : 9 June 2026

Venue : Vox Live Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 222



LiSA – Another Great Day Tour

The Another Great Day Tour by Japanese rock-pop artist LiSA is a high-energy live concert experience showcasing her powerful vocals, emotional depth, and signature anime-inspired sound. Known globally for iconic theme songs such as Gurenge (Demon Slayer), Crossing Field (Sword Art Online), and oath sign (Fate/Zero), LiSA has built a reputation for delivering explosive performances that blend rock, pop, and punk influences.

Date : 7 June 2026

Venue : Mega Star Arena, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 648, RM 548, RM 488



Disney's The Lion King Live in Concert

Disney's The Lion King Live in Concert is a spectacular orchestral presentation of the beloved film, combining a full live symphony performance with the iconic original movie projected on screen. Featuring music from The Lion King, including classics like Circle of Life, Hakuna Matata and Can You Feel the Love Tonight, the concert brings the story's emotional depth and African-inspired score to life in a powerful, immersive way. It brings the film's magic to life through live music.

Date : 13 June 2026

Venue : Plenary Hall, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Price : RM 638, RM 538, RM 468, RM 368, RM 268, RM 168



Dewa 19 – Cintaku TerTinggal di Malaysia

Indonesian rock legends Dewa 19 return to Kuala Lumpur with their "Cintaku TerTinggal di Malaysia" tour stop, delivering a nostalgic night packed with classic hits that defined generations. Expect a powerful setlist featuring fan favourites like Kangen, Pupus, and Roman Picisan, alongside emotional singalongs and strong live instrumentation that the band is known for. The show celebrates their long-standing connection with Malaysian fans through nostalgia.

Date : 6 June 2026

Venue : Axiata Arena, Bukit Jalil

Price : RM 488, RM 428, RM 388, RM 288, RM 238



EXO – EXHORIZON Asia Tour

The EXHORIZON Asia Tour by K-pop group EXO is a large-scale concert experience showcasing their signature blend of powerful vocals, sharp choreography, and high-production stage design. Known for hits like Growl, Love Shot, and Call Me Baby, EXO delivers a setlist packed with fan favourites, solo stages, and dynamic performances that highlight each member's strengths. The tour combines futuristic visuals, cinematic storytelling, and intense energy, creating an immersive live show that celebrates their musical journey and strong connection with fans across Asia.

Date : 20 Jun 2026

Venue : National Hockey Stadium Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 1088, RM 988, RM 788, RM 638, RM 498, RM 388

Festivals & Expo



ENERtec Asia 2026

ENERtec Asia 2026 is Southeast Asia's leading energy transition and clean technology exhibition, bringing together global industry leaders, innovators, and policymakers to showcase the future of sustainable energy. Held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, the event focuses on key areas such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, decarbonisation, battery storage, and EV technologies.

Date : 3 – 5 June 2026

Venue : Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Time : 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM (3 – 4 June), 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (5 June)



Malaysia International Dive Expo (MIDE) 2026

The Malaysia International Dive Expo (MIDE) 2026 is the country's premier diving and marine lifestyle exhibition, bringing together divers, travel operators, equipment brands, and ocean conservation advocates from around the world. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the event showcases the latest in scuba gear, dive training, underwater photography, and marine tourism for beginners.

Date : 5 – 7 June 2026

Venue : Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC), Kuala Lumpur

Time : 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM



Asia Pacific Green Hydrogen Conference & Exhibition 2026

The Asia Pacific Green Hydrogen Conference & Exhibition 2026 (APGH 2026) is a major industry gathering focused on advancing the hydrogen economy and accelerating the transition to cleaner energy across the Asia Pacific region. Bringing together industry leaders, energy companies, investors and researchers, the event explores hydrogen production, storage, transport, financing, and commercial applications.

Date : 9 – 11 June 2026

Venue : Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCKK), Sarawak, Malaysia

Time : Starting 10:00 AM



The International Beauty Expo (IBE) 2026

The International Beauty Expo (IBE) 2026 is Malaysia's leading beauty and wellness trade exhibition, bringing together global brands, industry professionals, and buyers to explore the latest innovations in cosmetics, skincare, hair care, nail products, aesthetic treatments, and spa solutions. Held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, the event serves as a key platform for discovering emerging trends, sourcing new products, and building business connections across the beauty industry.

Date : 13 – 16 June 2026

Venue : Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Time : 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM



Apparel & Textile Exhibition Malaysia 2026

The Apparel & Textile Exhibition Malaysia 2026 (ATEX Malaysia 2026) is a leading trade event dedicated to the fashion, garment, and textile industries, bringing together manufacturers, fabric suppliers, sourcing specialists, and fashion professionals from across the region. Held at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre in Kuala Lumpur, the exhibition showcases the latest developments in textiles, apparel production, sustainable materials, printing technology, and manufacturing solutions.

Date : 25 – 27 June 2026

Venue : Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC)

Time : 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM



Malaysia International Jewellery Fair (MIJF) 2026

The Malaysia International Jewellery Fair (MIJF) 2026 is one of Southeast Asia's most prestigious jewellery exhibitions, bringing together renowned jewellers, gemstone specialists, designers, and luxury buyers from around the world. Showcasing an extraordinary collection of diamonds, coloured gemstones, pearls, gold, platinum, and bespoke fine jewellery, the fair offers visitors the opportunity to discover the latest trends in craftsmanship and design.

Date : 27 – 29 June 2026

Venue : Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Time : 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM



Kuala Lumpur International Mobility Show (KLIMS) 2026

The Kuala Lumpur International Mobility Show (KLIMS) 2026 is Malaysia's flagship automotive exhibition, showcasing the latest innovations in mobility, transportation, and automotive technology. Organised by the Malaysian Automotive Association, the event brings together leading car manufacturers, electric vehicle brands, and technology providers to present new models, concept vehicles, and cutting-edge solutions in sustainable transport and smart mobility. Held at Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre, KLIMS offers visitors an immersive look at the future of the automotive industry, highlighting advancements in electrification, connectivity, safety, and next-generation transportation.

Date : 12 – 21 June 2026

Venue : Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC), Kuala Lumpur

Time : 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM (Mon - Thur), 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM (Fri, Weekend & Public Holidays)



Malaysia Gifts Fair 2026

The Malaysia Gifts Fair 2026 is a leading regional trade exhibition dedicated to gifts, premiums, stationery, souvenirs, and corporate merchandise. Bringing together manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers, the event highlights the latest products and creative solutions for the promotional and gifting industries. Visitors can explore a wide range of innovative items, from customised corporate gifts to lifestyle products and festive merchandise, while building valuable business connections. Scheduled from 30 June to 2 July 2026 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, the fair is an important platform for discovering market trends and sourcing new opportunities within the gift and premium sector.

Date : 30 June – 2 July 2026

Venue : Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Time : 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Big Screen Thrills

JUNE MOVIE PREMIERES



MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

JUNE 4

Masters of the Universe (2026) delivers an exhilarating and visually ambitious take on the classic fantasy adventure, combining action, spectacle and science fiction within a timeless story of heroism and destiny. The film follows Prince Adam, the young heir to the kingdom of Eternia, who appears to be an ordinary royal until a looming threat compels him to embrace his true purpose. When the ruthless Skeletor and his armies of darkness launch an assault on the realm, Adam sets out to recover a legendary sword endowed with ancient power. Upon wielding the mystical weapon, he is transformed into He Man, a mighty warrior gifted with extraordinary strength and courage.

Genre: Action / Adventure / Fantasy / Sci-Fi

Cast: Nicholas Galitzine, Camila Mendes, Idris Elba, Jared Leto, Jon Xue Zhang, Alison Brie, Sam C. Wilson, Charlotte Riley, Jóhannes Haukur Jóhannesson



TOY STORY 5

JUNE 19

Toy Story 5 (2026) brings Disney and Pixar Animation Studios's beloved characters back for another heartfelt adventure, combining humour, emotion and imaginative storytelling in a new chapter that explores friendship and change. The film reunites Woody, Buzz Lightyear and the rest of the cherished toys as they face an unexpected challenge in a world where children are increasingly drawn to technology and digital entertainment. As the toys navigate unfamiliar circumstances and question their purpose in a rapidly evolving environment, they are reminded that loyalty, courage and togetherness remain as important as ever. Blending exciting escapades with touching moments, the story continues the franchise's enduring celebration of companionship, resilience and the timeless magic of play.

Genre: Animation / Adventure / Comedy / Drama / Family / Fantasy

Cast: Tom Hanks, Keanu Reeves, Annie Potts, Wallace Shawn, Bonnie Hunt, Joan Cusack, Ernie Hudson



SUPERGIRL

JUNE 26

Supergirl (2026) delivers a bold and emotionally charged new chapter in the DC universe, combining action, adventure and science fiction in a story that explores identity, resilience and the meaning of heroism. The film follows Kara Zor El, Superman's powerful cousin, as she embarks on a deeply personal journey across the cosmos while grappling with the loss of her home planet and the weight of her extraordinary abilities. Far removed from Earth's familiar comforts, Kara is forced to confront dangerous enemies, forge unexpected alliances and define her own path as a protector. Through thrilling battles and moments of self discovery, the story presents a more independent and fearless version of Supergirl, highlighting her strength, compassion and determination to stand for justice.

Genre: Action / Adventure / Sci-Fi

Cast: Milly Alcock, Eve Ridley, Matthias Schoenaerts, Jason Momoa, David Corenswet, David Krumholtz, Emily Beecham, Diarmaid Murtagh



DISCLOSURE DAY

JUNE 12

Disclosure Day (2026) delivers a gripping and thought provoking fusion of drama, science fiction and thriller, exploring how a single revelation can alter the course of humanity. The story unfolds in a near future where a startling disclosure forces governments, scientists and ordinary citizens to confront a truth that challenges everything they believe about the world and their place within it. As uncertainty spreads and tensions escalate, a group of individuals from vastly different backgrounds must navigate political intrigue, personal conflict and the psychological impact of a discovery with global consequences. Through suspenseful storytelling and emotional depth, the film examines fear, trust and the fragile boundaries between secrecy and truth.

Genre: Drama / Sci-Fi / Thriller

Cast: Emily Blunt, Josh O'Connor, Eve Hewson, Colman Domingo, Colin Firth, Wyatt Russell, Elizabeth Marvel, Michael Gaston



POWER BALLAD

JUNE 4

Power Ballad (2026) presents a witty and emotionally resonant blend of comedy, drama and music, exploring the unpredictable intersection between fame, friendship and creative ambition. The story follows a once celebrated musician who unexpectedly finds himself reconnecting with his past after years away from the spotlight, leading him back into a world of strained relationships, unfinished dreams and the pressures of reinvention. As he navigates personal setbacks and renewed artistic inspiration, he becomes entangled with a group of individuals each chasing their own version of success in the music industry.

Genre: Comedy / Drama / Music / Musical

Cast: Paul Rudd, Nick Jonas, Peter McDonald, Marcella Plunkett, Rory Keenan, Keith McErlean, Paul Reid, Beth Fallon

The Last Dreammaker

REMEMBERING KHOO SUI HOE AND THE POETRY OF A LIFE IN ART

There are artists who record the world as they see it. Then there are artists who create worlds entirely their own. For more than sixty years, Khoo Sui Hoe belonged firmly to the latter. His paintings offered passages into memory, dream and wonder, transforming the landscapes of Kedah and the emotions of everyday life into timeless works of art. As Malaysia bids farewell to one of its most beloved cultural figures, we look back on a remarkable journey that began in a northern village and culminated in a legacy that will forever illuminate the story of Southeast Asian art.

“Few artists paint what they see. The greatest paint what they remember. Khoo Sui Hoe painted what humanity feels.”

Dato' Gary Thanasan

A Life in Colour, Memory and Imagination

The passing of Khoo Sui Hoe marks the close of one of the most remarkable chapters in the history of Malaysian art. For more than six decades, he remained one of the most distinctive voices in Southeast Asian modernism, creating a body of work that transcended geography, language and time. His paintings, at once lyrical and deeply introspective, offered viewers a world suspended between memory and imagination, where children wandered through dreamscapes, lovers drifted beneath moonlit skies, and solitary figures inhabited landscapes charged with mystery and grace.

Among the pioneers of post-war Malaysian art, Khoo occupied a singular position. While many of his contemporaries pursued abstraction, social commentary or formal experimentation, he developed a visual language rooted in poetry, symbolism and personal reflection. His paintings were never simply images; they were emotional landscapes, repositories of memory and vehicles for contemplation.

To encounter a Khoo Sui Hoe painting is to enter a realm where the boundaries between reality and dream dissolve. It is a world shaped by childhood recollections, spiritual inquiry, nature and the enduring search for beauty. Across more than sixty years of artistic practice, he remained faithful to that vision, creating works that continue to resonate with collectors, scholars and audiences throughout the world.

Today, as Malaysia and the wider art community reflect upon his extraordinary legacy, it becomes clear that Khoo Sui Hoe was more than a painter of pictures. He was a painter of humanity, memory and imagination.



Khoo Sui Hoe 4 Clouds Landscape, 1971 Oil on canvas 87 x 100 cm



Khoo Sui Hoe with Dato' Gary Thanasan during his visit to KLAS @ 31 Jalan Utara in 2018

Beginnings in Kedah

Born in Kedah in 1939, Khoo's earliest experiences were shaped by the landscapes of northern Malaya. The vast paddy fields, winding rivers, coastal horizons and rhythms of village life would remain deeply embedded in his imagination long after he left home.

Unlike artists whose formative experiences emerge from urban centres, Khoo's sensibility was profoundly shaped by nature. The open skies of Kedah, the changing seasons and the intimate relationship between people and landscape would later reappear throughout his work, not as literal representations but as emotional and symbolic presences.

The Early Years and the Emergence of a Distinctive Voice

By the early 1960s, Khoo had begun producing works that revealed a remarkable artistic maturity. Although still a relatively young artist, he had already developed a visual language that set him apart from many of his contemporaries. These paintings contained many of the elements that would become synonymous with his name: symbolic figures, dreamlike settings, poetic narratives and a deeply personal iconography. Rather than depicting the world as it appeared, Khoo sought to capture emotions, memories and inner experiences, creating compositions that felt both intimate and universal.

Among the most significant works from this period is *Affection* (1964), one of the defining paintings of his early career. Rich with symbolism and emotional resonance, the work demonstrated a rare ability to transform personal experiences into themes that could be understood across cultures and generations. Its carefully balanced composition, lyrical atmosphere and emotional depth revealed an artist already working with extraordinary confidence and sensitivity. Today, the painting remains one of the most admired examples of his formative years and has been celebrated through subsequent exhibitions and auction appearances.



Khoo Sui Hoe Bathers' 6 Oil on canvas 96.5 x 96.5 cm

These memories formed the foundation of a visual language that would mature over the following decades. Even when living abroad, traces of Kedah remained visible in his paintings. The sense of space, serenity and harmony that characterised his mature work can often be traced back to those early encounters with the natural world. His formal artistic education began at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore, then one of the most important centres of artistic training in Southeast Asia. At NAFA, Khoo encountered a rich mix of artistic traditions, including Chinese ink painting and emerging Southeast Asian perspectives.

Yet even as a student, he demonstrated an independent artistic temperament. Rather than adopting prevailing trends, he sought a visual language that reflected his own experiences, emotions and observations. While many young artists looked outward for inspiration, Khoo increasingly turned inward, drawing upon memory, imagination and personal reflection. This pursuit of individuality would become a defining characteristic of his artistic practice and remain central to his work throughout his career. It also laid the foundation for the distinctive artistic identity that would later earn him widespread recognition.

Unlike many artists whose work reflected the political and social concerns of the era, Khoo turned inward. His paintings emerged from memory rather than ideology, from imagination rather than manifesto. Yet this deeply personal approach proved to be one of his greatest strengths. By drawing upon universal emotions such as love, longing, innocence and belonging, he created works that continue to resonate with audiences decades after they were painted. This ability to transform private reflection into shared human experience would become one of the defining characteristics of his artistic legacy.

This distinctive approach allowed Khoo to create a body of work that transcended time and place. While rooted in his own experiences and memories, his paintings possess a universal quality that invites viewers to find their own meanings within them. The emotional sincerity that runs through his work continues to appeal to collectors, scholars and museum audiences, reinforcing his reputation as one of Southeast Asia's most enduring and influential modern artists. It is this rare combination of personal vision and universal appeal that continues to distinguish his work today.

Children of the Sun: A Masterpiece of Southeast Asian Modernism

No discussion of Khoo Sui Hoe can begin anywhere other than *Children of the Sun* (1965) which was created when the artist was only twenty-six years old, the monumental work stands among the most important paintings produced in Southeast Asia during the twentieth century.

Commissioned by the visionary architect, collector and patron Lim Chong Keat for the newly completed Singapore Conference Hall, *Children of the Sun* represented an extraordinary opportunity for a young artist. Rather than producing a conventional public commission, Khoo created a painting of remarkable ambition and imagination. The work embodied optimism, possibility and the spirit of a region entering a new era.

Painted at Lim Chong Keat's seaside residence in Pasir Panjang, the work emerged through a unique creative process. Elements of the surrounding environment became integrated into the composition itself. Light, shadow and architecture informed the painting's final form, creating a seamless relationship between artwork and environment. The result was extraordinary.

Populated by enigmatic figures bathed in luminous colour, *Children of the Sun* revealed an artist already in possession of a fully developed visual language. Themes that would define his subsequent career including his childhood, spirituality, transcendence, harmony and wonder which were all present within the painting.

Today, the work resides in the collection of the National Gallery Singapore, where it continues to occupy a central place in the narrative of Southeast Asian modern art. Equally important was the relationship it established between Khoo and Lim Chong Keat, one of the most significant artist-patron relationships in the region's art history.

Beyond its artistic significance, the painting also stands as a testament to the vital role that patronage plays in the development of cultural heritage. Khoo's support enabled Lim Chong Keat to pursue his artistic vision with greater confidence and independence, contributing to the growth of modern art in the region. Their collaboration continues to inspire Southeast Asia's artistic community.

Lim Chong Keat and the Importance of Patronage

Throughout art history, visionary patrons have played crucial roles in recognising and supporting exceptional talent.

For Khoo Sui Hoe, few figures were more important than Lim Chong Keat. Architect, collector, patron and cultural advocate, Lim recognised Khoo's gifts at a formative stage of his career. His commissioning of *Children of the Sun* demonstrated remarkable confidence in a young artist who had yet to achieve international recognition. The relationship extended far beyond a single commission.

Over subsequent decades, Lim assembled one of the most important collections of Khoo's paintings, preserving works that today are considered essential to understanding the artist's development. Through exhibitions, advocacy and patronage, Lim introduced Khoo's work to wider audiences in Singapore and Malaysia.

Recognition Beyond Malaysia

A defining moment arrived in 1974 when Khoo received the prestigious John D. Rockefeller III Fund Fellowship. The award enabled him to study at the Pratt Graphics Center in New York, exposing him to international artistic developments at a pivotal stage in his career.

The experience broadened his horizons without altering the essence of his artistic vision. Unlike artists who dramatically reinvented themselves after exposure to Western contemporary art, Khoo returned with greater confidence in the universality of his own themes.



The iconic masterpiece by Khoo Sui Hoe, Children in the Sun currently showcased proudly at the National Gallery in Singapore.

The Golden Decade

The 1970s marked a defining and highly celebrated phase in Khoo's artistic career, during which he produced some of his most important large-scale works. Notable among these are Beach Festival, currently housed in a private museum collection in Kuala Lumpur, held in the collection of Bank Negara Malaysia, which also preserves a number of his other significant works. These paintings exemplify the technical mastery and distinctive visual language that came to define his mature artistic practice.

It is also important to note that the National Gallery Singapore holds the largest collection of Khoo Sui Hoe's works outside Malaysia, comprising over 23 paintings dating from as early as the 1960s through to the early 1980s. The 1970s marked a defining and highly celebrated phase in Khoo's artistic career, during which he produced some of his most important Works such as, Call of the Wild (1966), Figure in Day Light (1970), reveal an artist operating at the height of his creative powers. In Little Couple - Moon River (1978), figures float effortlessly through symbolic landscapes. Narrative gives way to atmosphere. Colour becomes emotional rather than descriptive. The paintings are deeply personal yet universally accessible. They invite contemplation rather than explanation. For many collectors and scholars, this period represents the fullest expression of Khoo's artistic vision.



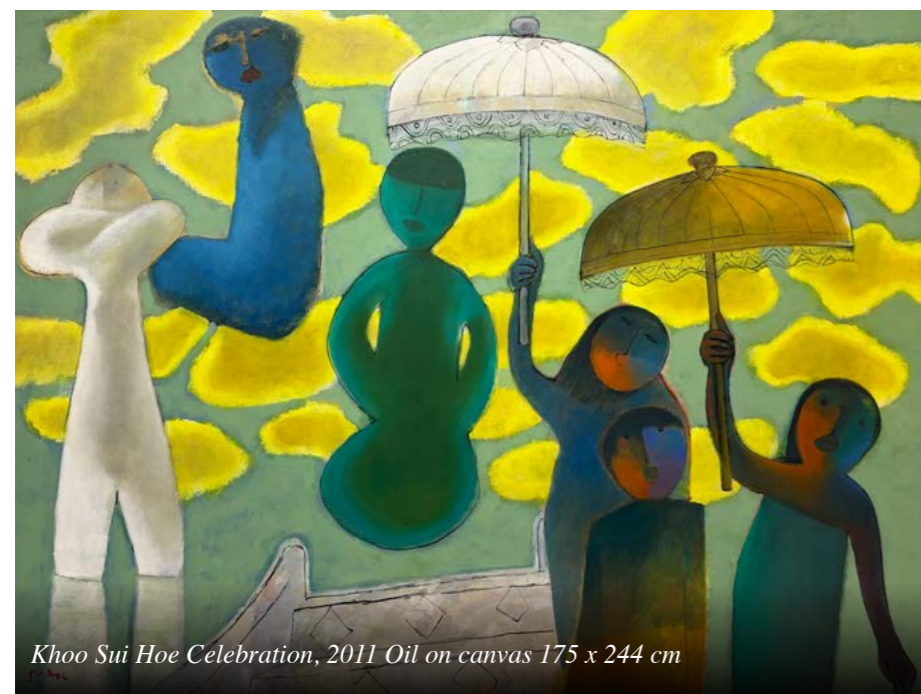
*Khoo Sui Hoe Little Couple - Moon River, 1978
Acrylic on canvas 89 x 87.5 cm*

America and Artistic Continuity

In 1982, Khoo relocated permanently to the United States. The move represented a significant geographical transition but did little to alter his artistic direction. If anything, distance strengthened his relationship with memory.

Malaysia became less a physical place than an emotional landscape. The paintings produced during this period reveal an artist reflecting upon his past with increasing clarity and affection.

Children continued to appear throughout the work. Swimmers drifted through expansive skies. Couples embraced amid dreamlike settings. Birds and symbolic forms populated increasingly distilled compositions. The consistency of his vision is among the most remarkable aspects of his career. Across decades of change, Khoo remained faithful to the world he had created, refining and enriching it with each successive body of work. This unwavering commitment gave his art a distinctive identity that remained instantly recognisable throughout his career.



Khoo Sui Hoe Celebration, 2011 Oil on canvas 175 x 244 cm

Why His Work Endures

Great art survives because it continues to speak to successive generations. Khoo Sui Hoe's paintings endure because they address themes that remain central to the human experience. "Love, Memory, Wonder, Spirituality, Nature, Belonging"

These concerns never lose relevance. His paintings invite viewers to slow down and reflect. They reward contemplation. They offer moments of quiet discovery. In a world increasingly dominated by speed, such qualities have become ever more precious.

The Human Figure and the Language of Memory

Central to Khoo's work is the human figure. Yet his figures are rarely portraits in the conventional sense and they function instead as archetypes.

The child represents innocence and wonder. The swimmer embodies freedom. The lover symbolises connection and companionship. The dancer evokes celebration and spiritual expression. Through these recurring motifs, Khoo developed a visual language capable of communicating profound emotional truths. His paintings rarely describe specific events. Instead, they capture feelings. A remembered afternoon. A fleeting encounter. A childhood dream. A moment of quiet reflection. This ability to transform memory into image distinguishes his work from that of many contemporaries, lending his paintings a deeply personal yet universal quality.

Institutional Recognition

By the late twentieth century, Khoo had become firmly established as one of the most important artists of his generation. His paintings entered major public and private collections throughout the world. Among the institutions holding significant works are the National Art Gallery Malaysia, National Gallery Singapore and the National Gallery of Victoria in Australia.

A Memorable Encounter in Penang

Among those privileged to have known Khoo personally was Dato' Gary Thanasan, founder of KLAS/ KLAS Art Auction. In 2011, during the preparations for KLAS Art Auction's inaugural showcase in Penang, Dato' Gary had the opportunity to meet and spend time with the artist at Alpha Gallery. The event marked an important milestone for KLAS as it introduced the auction house to collectors and art enthusiasts in Penang. Significantly, the showcase was made possible through the support and assistance of Khoo himself. For Gary Thanasan and many others who encountered him during those years, the memory remains a reminder that behind the celebrated paintings stood a man of exceptional kindness and grace. His generosity and humility left as lasting an impression as the artworks for which he is remembered.

KLAS Art Auction and A Lasting Legacy Among Collectors

The enduring appreciation of Khoo Sui Hoe's work can also be seen through the numerous paintings that have appeared at KLAS Art Auction over the years. The KLAS archive provides a remarkable survey of the artist's development across multiple decades. Together, these works offer valuable insight into the evolution of his visual language, themes and artistic techniques.

Among the most celebrated works offered were Affection (1964), Call of the Wild (1966), Figure in Day Light (1970), Wandering at Night (1970), Two Standing Between Leaves (1979), Dancer I (1993), Dancer II (1993), Watching (1995), Dayak Bride (1995) and Little Swimmer (2005).



The late artist Khoo Sui Hoe with The Affection painted in 1964



*Khoo Sui Hoe The Red River, 2012 Oil on canvas 177 x 244 cm
Available for Auction on 28th June 2026
RM 220,000 - 400,000*

Together, these works provide a visual chronology of an extraordinary artistic journey. The sustained demand for these paintings reflects more than market appreciation. It reflects the enduring emotional connection that collectors feel toward Khoo's art. Khoo Sui Hoe periodically produces large scale works shaped by his distinctive, dreamlike sensibility. His paintings are marked by a timeless quality that resists the shifting currents of trends and fashions, instead resonating through their evocation of universal human experience.

These qualities are clearly evident in works such as Red River (2012), painted in the United States. In this composition, Khoo draws upon memory and place, subtly weaving in references to his early years in Kedah.. The result is a work that bridges geographies and time, uniting personal recollection with a broader, poetic visual language. It also demonstrates the enduring connection he maintained with his homeland despite decades spent abroad.

A Legacy Beyond Time

Art history ultimately remembers those artists who create worlds entirely their own. Khoo Sui Hoe belongs to that rare company. His paintings cannot be mistaken for those of any other artist. Their atmosphere, symbolism and emotional resonance remain uniquely his. From the paddy fields of Kedah to museums in Singapore and collections worldwide, his art has travelled far while remaining deeply connected to its origins.

He demonstrated that beauty and depth need never be opposing forces, and that art can be both intimate and timeless. As future generations encounter his paintings in museums, galleries and collections worldwide, they will discover what admirers have long known. Khoo Sui Hoe was not simply a painter of dreams. He was a painter of humanity. His works continue to captivate audiences, ensuring his legacy endures.



Khoo Sui Hoe with a young fan of his paintings, Nikheisha Thanasan

Hari Gawai

THE SPIRIT OF HARVEST, HERITAGE AND HOMECOMING

As June arrives across the lush landscapes of Sarawak, a different rhythm begins to emerge. Longhouses fill with laughter, kitchens become alive with generations of family recipes, and the distant sound of gongs echoes through the countryside. Hari Gawai, celebrated annually on the 1st and 2nd of June, is far more than a harvest festival. It is a living expression of identity, gratitude and cultural continuity for the Dayak community of East Malaysia.

In 2026, Hari Gawai continues to evolve alongside a modern Malaysia that is becoming increasingly urbanised, fast-paced and digitally connected. Younger generations of Dayaks are now building lives in major cities such as Kuala Lumpur, Johor Bahru and Kuching, while many also pursue careers and education abroad. Despite these shifts in lifestyle and environment, the arrival of Gawai still carries a powerful emotional significance, drawing families and communities back together each year in celebration of their shared roots and heritage. At the same time, the festival itself has adapted naturally to the contemporary era.



A Celebration Rooted in the Land

Hari Gawai marks the conclusion of the rice harvesting season, a tradition historically central to the livelihoods of the Dayak people. For generations, rice cultivation shaped the rhythm of daily life in Sarawak's rural communities, making the harvest a sacred period of thanksgiving and renewal.

Officially recognised as a public holiday in Sarawak since 1965, the festival today is celebrated by various Dayak ethnic groups including the Iban, Bidayuh and Orang Ulu communities. While each group carries its own customs and ceremonial practices, the spirit of Gawai remains universal celebration of prosperity, togetherness and hope for the coming year. Traditional ceremonies often begin with prayers and symbolic rituals performed by elders, honouring both ancestors and the blessings of the land.

The Longhouse Returns to Life

Perhaps the most beautiful aspect of Hari Gawai lies in the idea of homecoming. Across Malaysia and abroad, many Sarawakians return to their hometowns and ancestral longhouses during the festive period. Similar to other major celebrations in the country, Gawai transforms into a season of reunion where generations gather beneath one roof once again.

The traditional longhouse becomes the heart of celebration. Visitors are welcomed warmly from door to door, sharing meals, stories and music late into the night. Hospitality is not merely a gesture during Gawai; it is a cultural value deeply woven into the Dayak way of life.

The atmosphere is vibrant yet intimate. Children run freely along wooden corridors while elders recount stories of earlier generations.



Tradition Through Food, Music and Craft

No Gawai celebration is complete without its rich culinary traditions. Festive dishes such as pansoh, traditionally cooked in bamboo, alongside glutinous rice delicacies and local forest ingredients, reflect the agricultural heritage of the Dayak people. Tuak, the traditional rice wine often associated with Gawai festivities, also remains an important symbol of celebration and hospitality.

Music and dance continue to play an essential role throughout the festival. The sounds of traditional instruments such as gongs and drums accompany performances like the ngajat dance, where elaborate costumes and graceful movements honour warrior traditions and cultural storytelling. Beyond performance, Gawai also highlights the artistry of indigenous craftsmanship. Handwoven textiles, beadwork and intricate wood carvings continue to showcase creativity.





A New Generation of Cultural Pride

As younger generations navigate life between heritage and modernity, Hari Gawai has become increasingly important as a symbol of cultural preservation. Social media, digital storytelling and contemporary creative industries are now giving new visibility to Dayak traditions, introducing them to audiences far beyond East Malaysia.

Today's Hari Gawai celebrations often blend tradition and modernity in a way that feels both natural and deeply meaningful. Traditional attire adorned with intricate beadwork and woven textiles now appears alongside contemporary fashion influences, while long-standing customs exist harmoniously with modern concerts, cultural showcases, digital campaigns and cultural exhibitions.

Across social media platforms, younger generations are proudly sharing elements of Dayak heritage through photography, music, storytelling and fashion, allowing the festival to reach audiences far beyond Sarawak itself. Rather than diminishing tradition, this evolution reflects the adaptability and resilience of Dayak identity within an increasingly globalised world. For many young Sarawakians, Gawai is no longer viewed solely as a rural harvest festival tied only to agricultural history. It has become a powerful expression of cultural pride and belonging, reminding them of their roots while also shaping how Dayak heritage is represented, appreciated and preserved on a national and international stage. Hari Gawai reflects a generation carrying its heritage forward.



Time Reimagined

INSIDE THE BIGGEST RELEASES FROM WATCHES AND WONDERS 2026

Movement, Nature, and Emotional Connection

Every spring, Geneva transforms into the global capital of fine watchmaking as the industry gathers for one of its most anticipated events. Watches and Wonders is where the future of horology is revealed, where heritage houses and contemporary innovators present the timepieces that will define the year ahead.

The 2026 edition reinforced its position as the most important stage in luxury watchmaking. Within the halls of Palexpo, more than sixty prestigious brands unveiled new creations that reflected both technical mastery and creative ambition. Collectors, journalists and industry insiders moved through immersive spaces that felt part exhibition, part atelier and part theatre of design. What made this year particularly significant was the clear evolution in direction.



Where Heritage Meets Innovation

Among the most closely watched releases was Rolex, a brand that continues to define consistency in a rapidly evolving industry. The latest Rolex Cosmograph Daytona showcased a refined enamel dial that elevated the model without altering its iconic identity. The result was a watch that felt both familiar and renewed, reinforcing the brand's philosophy of evolution through subtle detail rather than dramatic change.

The presentation reflected Rolex's enduring strength. While many brands experiment with radical design shifts, Rolex continues to focus on refinement. The Rolex Daytona remains one of the most recognisable chronographs in the world, and its latest iteration strengthens that legacy while adding a new layer of craftsmanship. The result is a timepiece that feels both timeless.



Precision in Motion

Technical innovation was a defining theme throughout this year's exhibition. Hermès delivered one of the most visually striking pieces with the Hermès H08 Squelette. The skeletonised design reveals the intricate movement beneath the dial, transforming the watch into a study of mechanical architecture. Crafted in titanium, it reflects a contemporary approach to luxury that values transparency and structure.

Another standout came from IWC Schaffhausen with the introduction of the IWC Big Pilot's Watch Perpetual Calendar Ceralume. The watch features a ceramic case infused with luminous material, creating a glowing effect in low light conditions. This combination of aviation heritage.



The Standout Releases of 2026

Among hundreds of new models presented, several watches emerged as defining pieces of the year. The refined Rolex Cosmograph Daytona Grand Feu Enamel Dial stood out as a masterclass in subtle evolution. Its dial work and finishing elevate a familiar icon into a more refined expression of luxury.

The Vacheron Constantin Overseas Dual Time Cardinal Points highlighted the growing importance of travel focused luxury, offering both functionality and elegance for a global audience. Its design reflects the modern collector who values versatility without compromising sophistication. TAG Heuer Monaco Evergraph reinforced the brand's deep connection to motorsport culture, combining bold aesthetics with technical refinement.



The Art of Modern Luxury

Beyond technical mastery, Watches and Wonders 2026 highlighted the growing importance of design and artistic expression in horology. Watches are increasingly positioned as lifestyle objects, blending craftsmanship with visual identity.

Cartier revived its distinctive sports elegance with the return of the Cartier Roadster. The design combines fluid curves with bold proportions, reflecting Cartier's ability to translate jewellery inspired aesthetics into watchmaking form. It stands as a reminder that luxury is as much about silhouette and presence as it is about function. At the same time Chopard captivated audiences with the exquisite Chopard Precious Lace High Jewellery Watch. This creation merges horology with haute jewellery, featuring intricate gemstone arrangements that transform the watch into a wearable work of art.



Defining Moments in Contemporary Horology

What emerged from Watches and Wonders 2026 was a clear portrait of an industry in transition. Mechanical watchmaking remains deeply rooted in tradition, yet it is increasingly shaped by innovation in design, materials and storytelling. Watches today are not only instruments for measuring time. They are cultural objects that reflect identity, aspiration and craftsmanship.

Across Geneva, the conversation extended beyond specifications and complications. It focused instead on meaning, emotion and longevity. Collectors are no longer simply seeking technical perfection. They are seeking pieces that carry narrative depth and personal resonance. As the exhibition concludes each year, Geneva returns to its quiet rhythm. Yet the ideas introduced within its halls continue to influence the global industry long after the event ends.





Securing The AI Era With YTL AI Labs

SECURING MALAYSIA'S DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM AND USER VERIFICATION

In the fast-evolving landscape of artificial intelligence, technological innovation can only scale as fast as the public's willingness to trust it. As generative AI platforms integrate deeper into our daily personal and professional lives, transforming how we work, learn, create, and communicate, the critical questions surrounding data privacy, identity verification, and platform security have moved to the absolute forefront of global tech development. In an era where data breaches and digital impersonation pose ongoing challenges, creating a secure environment is no longer just a luxury feature, it is an absolute necessity for sustainable digital progression.

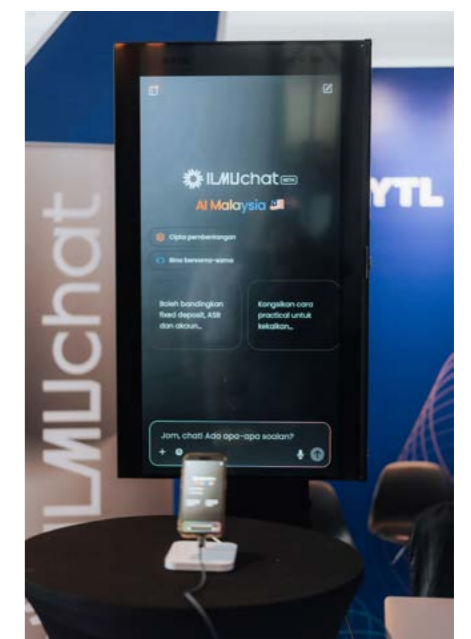
Addressing these critical challenges head-on within the local landscape, YTL AI Labs has signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MyDigital ID. This strategic partnership is set to establish a secure, deeply unified digital environment for users interacting with ILMUchat, Malaysia's cutting-edge homegrown conversational AI assistant. The collaboration also reflects a broader commitment towards strengthening trust, digital security, and technological innovation within Malaysia's rapidly evolving AI ecosystem.

The high-profile collaboration represents a monumental milestone in Malaysia's ongoing push towards building a comprehensive, highly trusted national digital ecosystem that protects consumers while nurturing industrial growth. Formally announced during a high-level industry forum entitled "MyDigital ID: Powering Trusted Digital Access Across Malaysia's Digital Ecosystem," the partnership establishes MyDigital ID as an official Single Sign-On (SSO) login method for the ILMUchat platform. For everyday users, this seamless integration completely removes the historic friction of creating, remembering, and updating yet another set of vulnerable passwords or email-based profiles. Instead, it allows for instant, seamless, and completely secure verification via a single, trusted national credential that streamlines the onboarding process and encourages broader user adoption.



Supervised by the Prime Minister's Department and monitored directly by the National Cyber Security Agency (NACSA), MyDigital ID acts as a highly sophisticated identity bridge for the nation's digital infrastructure. It securely links back to government databases to verify a user's authentic digital footprint without ever storing personal data, biographical details, biometric files, or online activity logs. This approach effectively eliminates the risk of corporate data harvesting or central points of data vulnerability. By combining this robust, government-backed security framework with ILMUchat, which launched its public beta as an advanced AI platform explicitly trained on local context, Malaysian vernacular, and unique cultural nuances, the private and public sectors are demonstrating a shared, progressive vision for modern digital governance and technological sovereignty. The collaboration also highlights Malaysia's growing ambition to develop trusted digital ecosystems that prioritise both innovation and user protection. As AI adoption accelerates across industries, such partnerships are becoming increasingly vital in shaping a secure and locally driven digital future.

During an insightful panel session at the forum, Fadrizul Hasani, the Chief Solutions Officer of YTL AI Labs, emphasized that the true scalability of digital innovation ultimately rests on a solid foundation of trust and consumer confidence. He noted that the company fully supports the government's forward-thinking vision to build a unified, safe, and interoperable digital ecosystem through MyDigital ID, enabling all Malaysians to use ILMUchat seamlessly, equitably, and with total confidence. By embedding this national infrastructure into a cutting-edge consumer AI product, the initiative sets an entirely new benchmark for how local tech platforms can protect user data while advancing digital convenience. As advanced cybersecurity measures become increasingly vital to counter identity spoofing, phishing, and online fraud across the nation, this strategic alignment ensures that as Malaysians embrace localized AI solutions, they can do so with absolute peace of mind, total data protection, and the highest standards of digital integrity. It also signals a significant step forward in strengthening public trust and long-term confidence in Malaysia's rapidly evolving digital future.



Looking ahead, this partnership is expected to pave the way for wider public sector and enterprise adoption of secure AI tools. By showing that advanced artificial intelligence can coexist with stringent national security protocols, YTL AI Labs and MyDigital ID are building a blueprint for future tech developments in the region.





Maximising Surplus Cash With MBSB Bank

FLEXIBLE WEALTH MANAGEMENT BUILT FOR MALAYSIA'S SMES

Running a small or medium enterprise (SME) in Malaysia is an exhilarating journey, but it is rarely a simple one. Between navigating shifting market trends, managing daily operations, and driving sustainable growth, today's business owners have a massive amount on their plates. The last thing any fast-moving entrepreneur needs is to waste time deciphering overly complicated, rigid financial structures just to keep their hard-earned capital ticking over. In the fast-paced world of commerce, capital efficiency is everything. Yet, a common dilemma remains: do you lock your cash away to earn a decent return, or do you keep it sitting idly in a low-yield account just to stay liquid?

MBSB Bank has stepped in to shatter this compromise. Known for its progressive approach to modern Islamic banking, the financial institution has officially launched a highly competitive campaign specifically tailored to the unique flow of SME finances. Running from 16 May until 31 July 2026, this new initiative offers a brilliant trio of Shariah-compliant financial instruments that allow businesses to put their surplus funds to work seamlessly—without sacrificing the agility they need to thrive. As Noor Mohamed Amin Mohamed, Group Chief Commercial Banking Officer of MBSB Bank, notes, SMEs cannot afford complicated fund management structures.

Instead of forcing a one-size-fits-all product onto diverse businesses, MBSB Bank's campaign delivers three distinct, flexible avenues to optimise corporate cash reserves. The first option is the Term Investment Account-i, which serves as a retail game-changer. Historically, high-yielding investment structures were often the exclusive playground of large corporations or retail consumers with massive capital.



Rafe Haneef, Group Chief Executive Officer of MBSB Berhad

MBSB Bank is democratising this space by offering SMEs an impressive indicative profit rate of up to 3.80% p.a. for a 12-month tenure. Best of all, it features an incredibly accessible entry threshold with a minimum investment of just RM5,000, making it easier than ever for expanding businesses to tap into premium wealth generation.

For businesses seeking certainty and a straightforward approach to managing surplus cash, the Term Deposit-i stands as an ideal anchor. Offering an attractive 3.75% p.a. for a 12-month tenure with a minimum deposit of RM5,000, it provides a stable return that supports future expansion plans with confidence. Meanwhile, the true liquidity champion of this campaign is the enhanced corporate current account. Through the Current Account-i, businesses can now earn 3.00% p.a. on balances of RM50,001 and above. Because profit is calculated daily and credited monthly, companies can generate meaningful returns on operational cash flow without compromising daily liquidity. At many other financial institutions, rates of this calibre are often reserved for far higher deposit thresholds. This makes the offering especially accessible for SMEs seeking both flexibility and rewarding returns. In an increasingly competitive business landscape, such practical financial solutions can provide valuable support for long-term stability.

What makes this campaign truly stand out for the modern business reader is how effortlessly it blends high yield with absolute peace of mind. In business, financial security is just as crucial as profitability. To ensure maximum protection for your enterprise, both the Term Deposit-i and Current Account-i packages are fully protected by Perbadanan Insurans Deposit Malaysia (PIDM) up to RM250,000 per depositor. By removing the friction of high entry barriers and complex terms, MBSB Bank is empowering local business owners to make sophisticated financial moves with absolute ease. Whether you are operating a boutique retail brand or a booming tech start-up, your funds can now work just as hard as you do.

Behind this brilliant campaign is MBSB Berhad, a dynamic and deeply rooted financial services group that has long acted as a pillar of economic development and business growth in Malaysia. As a comprehensive financial powerhouse, MBSB Berhad operates as the holding company for a robust network of specialised financial institutions. This includes MBSB Bank Berhad, a progressive Islamic banking leader dedicated to bringing first-class, Shariah-compliant innovations to retail, corporate, and SME clients alike. Working alongside it is MBSB Investment Bank Berhad (formerly known as MIDF Amanah Investment Bank), which delivers premium corporate advisory, deep-dive market research, equity brokerage, and sophisticated capital markets solutions.

The exclusive rates for this SME campaign are available for a strictly limited window from 16 May to 31 July 2026, making timely action essential for business owners looking to optimise their corporate wealth. If you are ready to elevate your business's financial strategy and identify the perfect product fit for your unique cash flow, the Group Commercial Banking team at MBSB Bank is fully prepared to assist you. You can initiate a direct WhatsApp consultation with Henrisaputra Nst bin Yusuf from Group Commercial Banking at 014-920 3052. Alternatively, you can explore the full campaign details, core features, and specific terms by visiting the official digital hub at www.mbsb.com. Now is the time to be bold and bank smart. For growing SMEs, it is an opportunity to strengthen financial stability while positioning the business for future growth.

An advertisement graphic for MBSB Bank. It features the MBSB Bank logo at the top left. The main text reads: "SMEs, You Work Hard. Make Your Cash Work Harder." Below this, three financial products are listed with their respective rates: "Term Investment Account-i" with an indicative profit rate of up to 3.80% (12-month), "Term Deposit-i" with 3.75% p.a., and "Current Account-i" with 3.00% p.a. The background shows a group of people running on a path that leads towards a bright horizon. A QR code is located at the bottom right with the text "Scan to connect with our CRM now!".

In today's increasingly competitive and rapidly evolving business environment, effective cash management is no longer simply an operational necessity but a strategic advantage. MBSB Bank's SME campaign is designed to help businesses maximise the value of their surplus funds while maintaining the flexibility needed to respond to changing market conditions and emerging opportunities. Whether supporting expansion plans, strengthening working capital reserves, improving liquidity management, or enhancing overall financial efficiency, the campaign provides SMEs with practical solutions tailored to their growth ambitions. Backed by MBSB Bank's commitment to customer-centric banking, innovation, and long-term partnership, this initiative offers business owners a valuable opportunity to build a stronger foundation for sustainable success in the years ahead.

YTL Resilient Performance

DIVERSIFIED REVENUE ANCHORS Q3

The YTL Group of Companies has announced its financial performance for the third quarter ended 31 March 2026, delivering a resilient set of results that underscore the strength and adaptability of its diversified business portfolio. Operating across a broad range of strategic sectors including utilities, hospitality, construction materials, cement manufacturing, property development, and digital infrastructure, the conglomerate continued to demonstrate its ability to generate sustainable growth despite a challenging global economic environment.

Solid Foundation for the Conglomerate

At the holding level, YTL Corporation Berhad reported a three per cent increase in revenue, climbing to RM7.6 billion for the quarter under review compared to the corresponding period in the previous financial year. This steady expansion was largely driven by robust activities within the building materials, hotel, and utilities segments, all of which capitalized on strong market demand. Profit after tax for the three month period stood at RM629.2 million. While this represents a moderation from the RM744.5 million recorded during the same quarter last year, the results reflect the inherent resilience of the broader group structure, which remains well cushioned by its varied revenue streams. The performance also reflects the benefits of YTL's diversified business model, which continues to provide stability amid varying market conditions. Despite softer profit contributions, the Group maintained a solid financial position supported by its core businesses.

At the holding level, YTL Corporation Berhad reported a three per cent increase in revenue, climbing to RM7.6 billion for the quarter under review compared to the corresponding period in the previous financial year. This steady expansion was largely driven by robust activities within the building materials, hotel, and utilities segments, all of which capitalized on strong market demand. Profit after tax for the three month period stood at RM629.2 million. While this represents a moderation from the RM744.5 million recorded during the same quarter last year, the results reflect the inherent resilience of the broader group structure, which remains well cushioned by its varied revenue streams. The Group's diversified portfolio continues to serve as a key strength, enabling it to balance cyclical fluctuations across individual sectors. This strategic breadth has enabled YTL to maintain stability while pursuing long-term growth.

Innovation and Infrastructure

YTL Power International Berhad continues to serve as a cornerstone of the Group, posting a four per cent increase in revenue to RM5.1 billion for the quarter. The division experienced some margin compression due to lower retail electricity margins and currency headwinds, specifically the movement of the Malaysian Ringgit against the Singapore Dollar. Despite these factors, the water and sewerage segment delivered a significantly improved performance, bolstered by efficient operations both locally and within its United Kingdom assets.

Concurrently, YTL Power is rapidly positioning itself at the forefront of the digital economy. The data centre business emerged as a prominent contributor, generating RM225 million in revenue during the quarter. The Group is aggressively expanding its data centre infrastructure and advancing its artificial intelligence capabilities through YTL AI Cloud. Central to this expansion is ILMU, YTL's proprietary AI model.

Outstanding Momentum in Building Materials

Malayan Cement Berhad delivered an exceptional performance for the quarter, underscoring the continued strength of the construction and building materials sector. The division recorded a twelve per cent increase in revenue to RM1.2 billion, supported by healthy demand across key markets and sustained activity within the construction industry. Growth was particularly evident in the ready-mixed concrete and drymix segments, which benefited from higher sales volumes and stronger project participation throughout the period.

The division's profitability improved significantly, with profit after tax rising thirty-five per cent to RM247 million. This impressive performance was driven not only by higher turnover but also by the successful implementation of cost optimisation measures and energy efficiency initiatives across its production facilities. By enhancing operational productivity while maintaining disciplined cost management, Malayan Cement further strengthened its competitive position, demonstrating its ability to deliver sustainable growth.

Hospitality and Tourism Revival

The global recovery in travel and leisure provided a substantial boost to YTL Hospitality REIT, which recorded a six per cent increase in quarterly revenue to RM149.1 million. The improved performance was driven by a strong influx of both international and domestic visitors, supported by a calendar of high-profile entertainment, cultural and sporting events that stimulated travel demand. Increased activity within the corporate events segment, alongside stronger contributions from cruise-related tourism, also played an important role in driving occupancy levels across the Group's hospitality assets. Strong demand for premium travel experiences further reinforced the division's positive momentum during the quarter.



Tan Sri Francis Yeoh, Executive Chairman of YTL Corp

As a result, income available for distribution rose by nine per cent to RM28.6 million, reflecting the strength and resilience of YTL's hospitality portfolio. The results highlight the Group's ability to attract high-value travellers while capitalising on the continued recovery of the global tourism sector. Supported by well-positioned properties and a focus on premium guest experiences, the division remains well placed to benefit from sustained growth in both business and leisure travel. Beyond hospitality, YTL Group continues to strengthen its position through strategic investments across infrastructure, technology and digital innovation. By combining established industrial capabilities with forward-looking growth initiatives, the Group has built a diversified platform capable of adapting to evolving market demands.



Brasserie Fritz

THE QUIET POWER OF CULINARY PRECISION

Brasserie Fritz
 Level 23A Tower B, The Troika, 19, Persiaran KLCC, 50450 Kuala Lumpur
 Tel.: +603-2162 0886

In the evolving landscape of Kuala Lumpur's fine dining scene, true distinction is rarely announced with grandeur. It is revealed through restraint, through the confidence to let technique, ingredients and atmosphere speak in measured tones. Fritz embodies this philosophy with remarkable clarity.

Tucked within the leafy enclave of Bukit Damansara, the restaurant has emerged as one of the capital's most compelling gastronomic addresses, attracting a discerning clientele that values substance over spectacle and craftsmanship over excess. Here, luxury is not performed loudly but expressed through precision, intimacy and a deep respect for the art of cooking. Every detail, from the restrained setting to the composed dishes, reflects a quiet confidence that leaves a lasting impression.



Dry Aged Roast Duck Breast



Grilled Spanish Carabinero Prawns

The arrival at Fritz feels deliberately understated, a subtle prelude to the experience that unfolds within. The interior is a study in contemporary refinement, where clean architectural lines, muted palettes and carefully selected materials create an atmosphere of effortless sophistication. Warm timber, natural stone and soft lighting combine to produce a sense of calm that immediately distances guests from the rhythm of the city outside. Every design decision appears intentional, from the generous spacing between tables to the acoustics that preserve a sense of privacy even when the dining room is full. The result is a setting that feels both intimate and polished, offering an environment where attention is focused entirely on the pleasures of the table. It is a space where understated elegance enhances every aspect of the dining experience.

At the heart of Fritz lies a culinary philosophy rooted in discipline and clarity. Rather than relying on overt theatrics, the kitchen presents a tasting menu that unfolds with measured confidence, each course demonstrating technical finesse and a keen understanding of balance. European foundations provide the framework, while global influences and seasonal ingredients lend freshness and nuance. The menu evolves continuously, allowing the chefs to respond to the finest produce available and ensuring that no two visits feel exactly alike. Each plate is composed with precision, where flavour is prioritised over ornament.

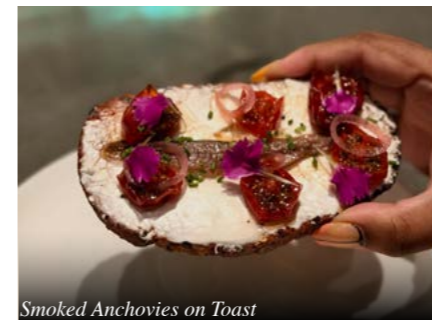


Poached GILLARDEAU Oyster



Tajima Wagyu

The progression of the menu reveals a remarkable command of contrast and texture. Delicate opening courses establish a tone of elegance, often highlighting pristine seafood, bright acidity and subtle herbal notes. As the experience deepens, richer compositions emerge, showcasing expertly prepared meats, deeply concentrated sauces and carefully calibrated accompaniments. The kitchen demonstrates an exceptional ability to create dishes that are intellectually engaging while remaining profoundly satisfying.



Smoked Anchovies on Toast



Threadfin fish



Enso Izakaya and Bar

A MASTERCLASS IN CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE DINING

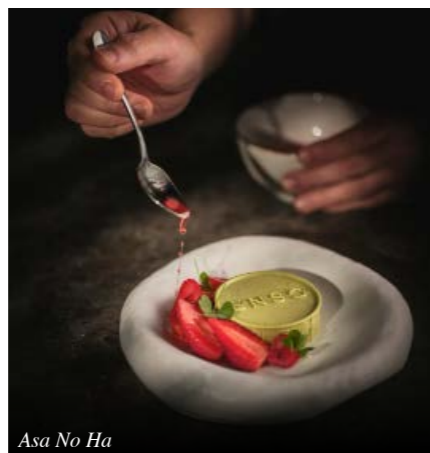
Enso Izakaya & Bar

7, Jalan Dutamas 2, Dutamas, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur
Tel.: +603-3093 1234

Kuala Lumpur's culinary landscape continues to reach new heights with the arrival of Enso Izakaya and Bar, a sophisticated sanctuary located within the Hyatt Regency Kuala Lumpur at KL Midtown. Far from being a traditional gastropub, Enso represents a refined evolution of the izakaya concept, blending the meticulous artistry of Japanese heritage with a vibrant, modern energy. The name Enso, referring to the sacred hand drawn circle in Zen calligraphy, symbolises a moment when the mind is free to let the body create. This philosophy is reflected in every aspect of the venue, from the fluid architectural lines to the harmonious collaboration between the kitchen and the bar, creating a dining destination that feels both spiritually grounded and cosmopolitan. It is a space designed for those who appreciate the finer nuances of Japanese culture, interpreted through a lens of global luxury and contemporary aesthetics. Every detail reflects a thoughtful balance between tradition and craftsmanship.



Kushiyaki Skewers



Asa No Ha

At the helm of the culinary experience is Chef Masami Okamoto, a veteran of the Japanese dining scene whose career has been defined by a deep respect for seasonal ingredients and precise technique. His menu at Enso is a profound exploration of texture and flavour, where traditional silhouettes are reimagined through a contemporary lens. Guests can expect a journey that ranges from delicate sashimi, sliced with surgical precision, to innovative small plates and robust, charcoal grilled specialities that pay homage to the ancient art of robatayaki.

Each dish is designed to be shared, fostering a communal atmosphere that stays true to the izakaya spirit while maintaining the elevated standards of a world class hotel. The focus is on the absolute purity of the produce, ensuring that every bite tells a story of craftsmanship and cultural pride, with ingredients sourced at their peak to ensure a constantly evolving dining experience that surprises even the most seasoned palates. The experience is further elevated by the creative vision of lead mixologist Ivon Soon, who has crafted a beverage programme that is as much a draw as the food itself. Her mixology blends Japanese spirits, refined teas, and seasonal botanicals into cocktails.

The interior of Enso is a stunning marriage of natural materials and sleek, urban design that reflects the modern Malaysian landscape. Warm wood tones and textured stone are balanced by sophisticated ambient lighting that transforms the space from a bright, professional lunch destination into an intimate, high energy evening lounge. Every design element, from the bespoke furniture to the minimalist decor, has been chosen to enhance the sense of the Zen circle, offering a sense of completion, and unhurried grace.



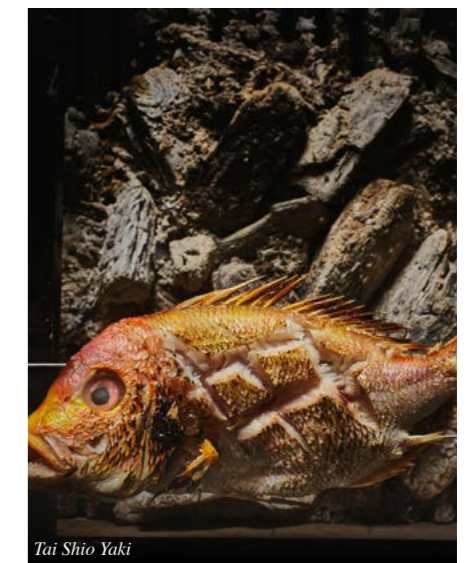
Tai Kabutoni



Tai Usuzukuri

As the city lights of KL Midtown begin to glow through the expansive floor-to-ceiling windows, the atmosphere at Enso Izakaya & Bar takes on a new energy, evolving into a sophisticated gathering place for the city's discerning social set. The mood becomes more intimate and vibrant, with conversations unfolding over meticulously prepared dishes and expertly crafted cocktails. Rooted in the philosophy of the ensō, the restaurant blends fine dining and Japanese hospitality.

For those seeking an experience that is both grounded in tradition and boldly contemporary, Enso Izakaya & Bar stands as a compelling destination in Kuala Lumpur's dynamic dining scene. Every element, from the cuisine and cocktails to the design and service, is curated to encourage a slower and more meaningful appreciation of the moment. Here, the simple act of sharing a meal becomes an expression of friendship, artistry, and connection.



Tai Shio Yaki



Blackbyrd KL

A SKY-HIGH EXPRESSION OF MODERN LUXURY

Blackbyrd KL

Kuala Lumpur, 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur
Tel.: +6012-689 8576



Smoked Duck Salad



Premium Fin De Clair Oyster

In a city increasingly defined by ambitious dining concepts and elevated lifestyle destinations, Blackbyrd KL has established itself as one of Kuala Lumpur's most striking expressions of contemporary luxury. Occupying the fiftieth floor of Naza Tower in Platinum Park, this sophisticated venue commands panoramic views of the capital while offering an experience that transcends the conventions of traditional fine dining. More than a restaurant, Blackbyrd is a fully realised social destination where architecture, gastronomy and atmosphere converge to create one of the city's most compelling addresses for discerning diners.

The ascent to Blackbyrd sets the tone for the evening. As guests arrive above the city, floor-to-ceiling windows reveal a sweeping urban tableau framed by the glittering silhouette of the Petronas Towers and the ever-evolving Kuala Lumpur skyline. Inside, the design language is dramatic yet meticulously controlled. Rich textures, sculptural lighting, and dark tones create a sophisticated setting, softened by warm metallic accents and plush seating.



Risotto Mare E Funghi



Pan Seared Salmon

At the core of Blackbyrd lies a culinary philosophy that reflects the cosmopolitan character of the city itself. The menu draws inspiration from across Asia while embracing contemporary techniques and global influences. Rather than adhering to strict culinary boundaries, the kitchen focuses on bold flavours, refined presentation and carefully sourced ingredients. Each dish is conceived to deliver both visual impact and gastronomic substance, creating a dining experience that feels inventive without becoming overly conceptual.

The meal often begins with elegantly composed small plates that showcase freshness and precision. Premium seafood, vibrant herbs and nuanced seasonings establish a sense of sophistication from the first course. As the experience unfolds, larger dishes reveal the kitchen's command of fire, texture and balance. Expertly grilled meats and richly layered sauces demonstrate technical confidence, while accompaniments are crafted to enhance rather than overshadow the principal ingredients. The result is a menu that is dynamic, expressive and deeply satisfying. Each course unfolds with a sense of rhythm and restraint that reflects the restaurant's refined culinary philosophy.



Wagyu Short Ribs



Breaded Aubergine

Desserts continue this spirit of contemporary indulgence. Pastry creations combine fine chocolates, tropical fruits and contrasting textures in compositions that are both polished and memorable. Sweetness is applied with restraint, allowing acidity and aromatic complexity to bring clarity to the final courses. Each dessert serves as a refined conclusion to an evening defined by thoughtful craftsmanship. The beverage programme at Blackbyrd is equally central to its appeal. The bar has become a destination in its own right, offering a sophisticated repertoire of classic and contemporary cocktails prepared with technical precision.



Charred Cauliflower



Sabato's at Kimpton Naluria KL
 Kimpton Naluria, Lingkaran TRX, Tun Razak Exchange, 55188 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur
 Tel. : +6 019-850 1785

High above the glittering skyline of Kuala Lumpur, a new dining destination is quietly transporting guests into another era entirely. Perched on the 25th floor of Kimpton Naluria Kuala Lumpur, Sabato's arrives not merely as another Italian restaurant, but as an immersive tribute to the golden age of 1970s Italian American dining culture.



Named after the Italian word for Saturday, Sabato's captures the lively energy of weekend gatherings where food, music and conversation flowed endlessly around crowded tables. The concept takes inspiration from a decade that celebrated liberation, glamour and indulgence. Think velvet booths, warm ambient lighting, retro cocktails, classic jukebox tracks and plates of pasta made unapologetically for sharing.

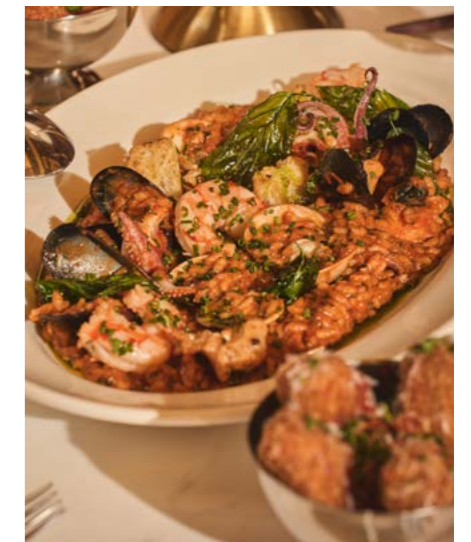
At a time when dining trends often lean towards minimalism and restraint, Sabato's confidently embraces abundance. Here, meals are meant to be shared. Conversations stretch across the evening while platters arrive at the table in generous portions, encouraging guests to slow down and reconnect over food that feels deeply comforting and familiar. The atmosphere feels warm, lively, and effortlessly inviting.

The menu is rooted in classic Italian American cooking, elevated with thoughtful execution and contemporary refinement. The Godfather's Meatball immediately establishes the tone of the restaurant. Slow simmered in a rich Sunday gravy and finished with parmigiano, the dish is hearty, nostalgic and deeply satisfying. Meanwhile, the Beef Carpaccio offers a lighter contrast with delicate slices of Angus beef tenderloin layered with shaved mushrooms, arugula, garlic crumbs and lemon dressing.



The restaurant's mains continue the same philosophy of bold flavours and generous hospitality. The Chicken Parmigiana balances crispness and richness beautifully beneath melted smoked provolone and Sunday gravy, while the Grilled Malabar Snapper introduces a brighter profile through orange gremolata and charred lemon. Perhaps the most decadent offering is the Costata, a charcoal grilled Wagyu rib eye served alongside confit portobello mushrooms and truffle mashed potatoes.

More importantly, Sabato's understands that nostalgia is not merely about looking backwards. At its best, nostalgia creates emotional connection by reminding people of comfort, celebration and togetherness. In a city constantly chasing what is next, Sabato's offers something increasingly valuable, the invitation to pause, gather and indulge in the timeless pleasure of a shared meal.



A Toast to Kuala Lumpur's Finest Wine Bars

YOUR GUIDE TO THE TOP WINE BARS AROUND KUALA LUMPUR

Kuala Lumpur's dining culture has always been vibrant and diverse, ranging from beloved street food to celebrated fine dining. In recent years, the city has added another jewel to its culinary crown with the rise of wine bars. These establishments are more than just places to sip and socialise — they are carefully curated experiences where each bottle tells a story. From natural and biodynamic selections to rare vintages from across the globe, these wine bars invite guests to slow down, explore, and appreciate the craft of winemaking. They have also become intimate social spaces where conversation, atmosphere, and discovery are valued as highly as the wine itself.



Oeno Wine Lounge, Bukit Damansara

Situated in Plaza Damansara, Oeno Wine Lounge is a refined space that blends polish with comfort. Its name is derived from the word oenology, the study of wines, and the philosophy is reflected in its impressive cellar that ranges from classic European vintages to exciting New World discoveries. The team here provides thoughtful guidance, ensuring each guest finds a wine that speaks to their tastes. With its calm ambiance and elegant interiors, Oeno has become a favorite destination for winding down after a long day or enjoying a sophisticated evening with friends.

Address: Plaza Damansara, 45, Medan Setia 1, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur



Juno, Bangsar

In the lively neighborhood of Bangsar, Juno stands as a refined yet welcoming escape. The interiors are stylish and contemporary, exuding warmth and intimacy. The wine list here is thoughtfully curated to balance accessible labels with more adventurous selections. Guests are encouraged to pair their wines with creative sharing plates that complement the drinks rather than overshadow them. With excellent service and a vibrant atmosphere, Juno has become a favorite destination for professionals and trendsetters looking to unwind with sophistication.

Address: 31, Jalan Telawi 3, Bangsar Baru, 59100 Kuala Lumpur



Unwined, Plaza Damas

Unwined in Plaza Damas is built on the idea that wine should be accessible, social, and fun. The atmosphere is casual and relaxed, with regular themed tastings and events that create a sense of community. Instead of intimidating guests with complex terminology, the team at Unwined focuses on making wine approachable and engaging.

Address: L2, 3, Plaza Damas, 60, Jalan Sri Hartamas 1, Sri Hartamas, 50480 Kuala Lumpur



Basic Wine Store, Mont Kiara

Located at Arcoris Mont Kiara, Basic Wine Store reflects its philosophy of authenticity and simplicity in design and offering. The space is sleek and modern, yet approachable, echoing its focus on natural and biodynamic wines. Guests can enjoy their selections by the glass or browse through the retail shelves to bring a bottle home. Each label carries a story, and the team is always eager to share these narratives, making the experience educational and enjoyable.

Address: Lot G 06, Arcoris Mont Kiara, 10 Jalan Kiara, Mont Kiara 50480 Kuala Lumpur





Vintry, Bukit Damansara

Vintry is one of the most established names in Kuala Lumpur's wine bar scene. Located in Bukit Damansara, it has long been a trusted destination for enthusiasts and newcomers. The cellar offers one of the most extensive selections in the city, with hundreds of labels from across the globe. The setting is cozy and welcoming, inviting guests to linger over hearty dishes that pair beautifully with the wines. Over the years, Vintry has remained a cornerstone of the city's wine culture, celebrated for its warmth, variety, and enduring charm.

Address: 130, Jalan Kasah, Medan Damansara, Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur



Mellow Wine and Dining Room, Petaling Jaya

Mellow in Section 17, Petaling Jaya offers a serene and understated escape for wine lovers seeking a more intimate dining experience. The atmosphere is warm, softly lit, and thoughtfully designed for those who appreciate a slower, more relaxed pace, creating a sense of comfort that immediately encourages guests to linger. At the heart of the experience is a carefully curated focus on natural wines, with rotating seasonal selections that invite both seasoned enthusiasts and curious newcomers to discover something different with every visit. Complementing the wine is a menu of modern small plates crafted with restraint and balance, allowing flavours to feel refined without overpowering the palate. Every detail, from the music and lighting to the attentive yet unobtrusive service, contributes to the venue's calm and welcoming character.

Address: 9, Jalan 17, 45 Section 17 46400 Petaling Jaya, Selangor





A Monthly Publication of Malaysia Airports ©

Managing Editor

Zainuddin Mohamed

Editorial & Concept

Mediate Communications Sdn Bhd

Editorial & Advertising

Noor Hafiza Ruslan

Nurul Farehah Norsam

Design & Distribution

Mediate Communications Sdn Bhd

Editorial Enquiries

airlink@mediate.com.my

MALAYSIA AIRPORTS HOLDINGS BERHAD

Reg. No: 199901012192

(487092-W)

Aviation Marketing and Development Division

Level 3, Arrival Hall (Domestic)

Main Terminal Building, Terminal 1

KL International Airport

64000 Sepang

Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia

marketing@malaysiaairports.com.my

AIRPORT TALK

Malaysia Airports' Journey Towards Sustainability and Regional Leadership 44

AVIATION NEWS

Berjaya Air Welcomes Its First ATR 72-600 with All-Business Class Cabin 46

Emirates Retains World's Most Profitable Airline Position 47

Malaysia Airlines' Strategic Partnerships with Visa Malaysia and Tourism New Zealand 48

Award-Winning Korean Air to Launch Integrated Airline in December 2026 49

Ethihad Airways' Partnership Deals with Uzbekistan Airways, Air Cambodia and Bangkok Airways 50

Singapore Airlines Group's Strategic Initiatives for 2026-2027 51

EVA Air Wins SKYTRAX 5-Star Airline Certification for 11th Consecutive Year 52

Service Delivery and Operational Performance Define Batik Air Malaysia's Growth 52

Cathay Dining Wins Airline Caterer of the Year – Asia at 2026 PAX Readership Awards 53

SPECIAL COVERAGE

Strengthening Malaysia's Position as a Regional MRO Hub 54



K
ICK OFF

U
NWIND

L
IVE IT UP



MORE THAN AN AWE-INSPIRING AIRPORT, A GATEWAY TO THE WORLD.

KL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, THE GATEWAY TO GETAWAYS

It all begins at KL International Airport (KUL), one of Asia's major aviation hubs that connects all routes, airlines, and terminals worldwide seamlessly. Plan your route with a memorable experience, right before you experience the globe.



STEP INTO A NEW EXPRESSION OF RETAIL.
BOLD, CURATED, AND DISTINCTLY MALAYSIAN,
ONLY AT MALAYSIA AIRPORTS.

WHERE SHOPPING MEETS CULTURE



Malaysia Airports' Journey Towards Sustainability and Regional Leadership

Malaysia Airports' Penang International Airport (PEN) and Kuching International Airport (KCH) are the latest airports to receive Airports Council International's (ACI) Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) Awards for their Level 1 carbon management and reporting efforts.

The recognition reflects the airport operator's continuous commitment to reduce carbon emissions while advancing long-term sustainability initiatives that are aligned with global aviation targets and ACI's carbon accreditation requirements.

The ACA programme is a globally recognised initiative that assesses and recognises airports' efforts in carbon management and emissions reduction.

Kamaruzzaman Razali, Malaysia Airports Sdn Bhd's (MASB) Chief Operating Officer accepted PEN and KCH's ACA awards during the ACI Asia Pacific and Middle East's Regional Assembly, Conference and Exhibition (RACE) held from 12 to 14 May 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Among the key initiatives undertaken was the installation of solar photovoltaic systems at PEN to reduce reliance on conventional energy sources and lower operational carbon emissions.

The latest recognition follows ACA Level 1 (Mapping) accreditations previously secured by Langkawi International Airport (LGK) and Kota Kinabalu International Airport (BKI), while Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) currently holds ACA Level 3 (Optimisation) accreditation.

These achievements underscore Malaysia Airports' ongoing sustainability and decarbonisation initiatives across its airport network, including energy efficiency measures such as the replacement of conventional lighting systems with light-emitting diode (LED) lighting.

In support of Malaysia's low-carbon aspirations, Malaysia Airports' comprehensive Decarbonisation Roadmap outlines measures aimed to improve operational efficiency, optimise energy consumption and accelerate the adoption of cleaner and more sustainable technologies across the airports under its management.

Malaysia Airports Managing Director, Dato' Mohd Izani Ghani said the roadmap supports the target of achieving a 20% renewable energy mix by 2030 and net zero carbon by 2050, aligning with global aviation efforts to strengthen carbon management and advance green technology adoption.

In addition, Malaysia Airports will play host to the ACI Asia Pacific and Middle East's RACE 2027 in Kuala Lumpur.

The official handover ceremony was announced at the conclusion of the three-day RACE 2006 under the theme, "Airports as Engines of Shared Prosperity", which saw about 500 aviation industry leaders, policymakers, airport operators and stakeholders gathered from across the two regions to discuss key issues shaping the future of aviation.



Malaysia Airports' role as host of RACE 2027 reflects its longstanding engagement with ACI and continued contribution to regional aviation dialogue and industry development.

The airport operator previously hosted major ACI events in Kuala Lumpur in 2009 and the ACI Asia Pacific Small and Emerging Airports Seminar in Langkawi in October 2018.

Building on these experiences, Malaysia Airports looks forward to welcoming the regional aviation community to Kuala Lumpur once again in 2027.

Dato' Mohd Izani said, "This will be an opportunity not only to showcase Malaysia's connectivity and aviation capabilities but also to contribute meaningfully to discussions on the future of airports, particularly in areas such as sustainability, operational resilience, technology and passenger experience."

At this year's conference, Malaysia Airports participated actively through several leadership engagements and speaking sessions involving members of its executive leadership team.

Mohd Izani Ghani was a panellist in the Leaders Dialogue session titled "Prosperity Through Leadership: Reimagining the Airport's Role in a Changing World", where he discussed how airports are evolving in response to changing travel patterns, technological advancements, and increasing demands for connectivity and resilience.



Optimistic of the outlook this year despite ongoing geopolitical uncertainties in the Middle East, which impacted passenger traffic globally, he said the aviation industry has shown resilience as passengers adjusted their travel routes and airports quickly adapted to these demands.

He also called for greater cooperation across the aviation and tourism ecosystem to increase passenger traffic and support Malaysia's aspiration to strengthen its position as a regional aviation hub in Southeast Asia.

With the industry stakeholders focused on working closely together with the government and Malaysia Airports to position KLIA as an alternative hub between Asia and Europe, he said airlines have shown their eagerness to explore and expand into new international routes.

This will not only help support the aviation industry's recovery but also provide more connectivity and seamless travel for passengers.

Malaysia Airports' Latest Updates

Effective 1 June 2026, the Aerotrain service at KL International Airport Terminal 1, has resumed 24-hour operations following the completion of the Comprehensive Action Plan undertaken since 15 November 2025.

Led by Malaysia Airports, the plan was implemented in coordination with the Land Public Transport Agency and verified by independent railway assessors.

Transport Minister Anthony Loke said the Aerotrain has recorded 100% operational availability since January 2026.

Based on Malaysia Airports' latest data, its local airport network recorded 8.1 million passenger movements in April 2026, bringing its year-to-date total to 35.5 million, an increase of 7.4% year-on-year.

Its flagship gateway, KLIA handled 5.2 million passenger movements in April 2026 and 22.1 million passenger movements during the first four months of this year, representing a 10.9% YoY increase.

Compared to March, traffic in April 2026 returned to normal, following the Hari Raya festive peak and temporary airline schedule adjustments due to the situation in the Middle East.

The successful expansion and operational launch of Malaysia Airports' Sultan Ismail Petra Airport (KBR) in Kota Bharu, Kelantan also strengthen its local network in April 2026 by supporting growing connectivity and passenger traffic in the East Coast region.



From January to April 2026, KBR recorded 562,081 passenger movements, reflecting a 3.9% YoY growth, with international passenger traffic reaching 4,562.

KBR currently operates an international route to Singapore (SIN) via Scoot (TR), with AirAsia Malaysia (AK) starting a second connection four times weekly to Jakarta (CGK) in Indonesia on 16 June 2026 using the Airbus A320 aircraft.

This will significantly increase KBR's capacity, allowing the airport with its upgraded facilities to serve more passengers comfortably while delivering a smoother travel experience.

“ The network's continued growth reflects the strength of our long-term strategy, driven by key infrastructure developments such as KBR's expansion, stronger airline connectivity and continuous service enhancements across our airports. ”

DATO' MOHD IZANI GHANI
Managing Director
of Malaysia Airports



Berjaya Air Welcomes Its First ATR 72-600 with All-Business Class Cabin

Malaysia's first premium boutique airline, Berjaya Air (J8), is poised for an exciting new chapter following the arrival of its first ATR 72-600 turboprop aircraft at the Berjaya Hangar at Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport (SZB) in Subang, Selangor.

Designed to elevate regional travel with comfort, exclusivity and seamless connectivity, the new aircraft, featuring a 26-seater Business Class HighLine cabin in a one-by-one layout, has been certified by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency and Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia for commercial operations.



Syed Ali Shahul Hameed, Group Chief Executive Officer of Berjaya Property Berhad said, "The arrival of the world's first ATR 72-600 in HighLine configuration marks a landmark achievement for J8 and a strong reflection of Malaysia's growing presence in premium regional aviation."

This investment reflects Berjaya Group's long-term confidence in the aviation sector, reinforcing further J8 as a key pillar within the Group's growth strategy to build a strong and sustainable aviation business that can generate long-term value and enhance confidence among investors and industry partners, he added.

Mohd Amri Mohd Akib, General Manager of J8 remarked, "Our ATR HighLine service marks the beginning of our regional connectivity strategy and reinforces our commitment to redefining premium regional travel."



Currently deploying the new ATR 72-600 on its two existing routes - SZB to Redang (RDN) in Terengganu and Seletar (XSP) in Singapore to RDN, the airline will also be using it for the launch of its five new destinations.

They are Koh Samui (USM), Phu Quoc (PQC), Medan (KNO), Pekanbaru (PKU) and Batam (BTH).

J8 is scheduled to launch its inaugural service between SZB and USM on 5 June 2026, with plans to subsequently expand operations to destinations in Vietnam and Indonesia.

Mohd Amri said, "This expansion also enhances connectivity to Berjaya Group's portfolio of hotels and resorts, including destinations such as The Taaras Resort on Redang Island."

With thoughtfully curated experiences, strategic integration with premium destinations and compelling offers, J8 hopes to set a new benchmark for boutique aviation, inviting travellers to rediscover the joy of flying that is more personal, refined, and rewarding.

J8 is slated to receive its second ATR 72-600, also with All-Business seats, in October 2026 from the Toulouse-based manufacturer.

In addition to the ATR 72-600, J8 also operates an ATR 72-500 aircraft, which is currently undergoing maintenance.

For more information, visit www.berjaya-air.com



Emirates Retains World's Most Profitable Airline Position

The Emirates (EK) Group achieved new record profit, revenue and cash balance levels for its financial year ended (FYE) 31 March 2026, despite facing significant challenges in its last reporting month when conflict erupted in the Middle East.

The Group posted a profit after tax of USD5.7billion, up 3% year-on-year (YoY), while its record revenue grew 3% YoY to USD41 billion.

With cash assets at a record USD16.2 billion, reflecting the Group's strong operating profitability, this not only enabled EK to retain its place as the world's most profitable airline but also allowed the Group to further strengthen its business growth.

As at 31 March 2026, EK's global network spanned 152 cities across 80 countries, with its connectivity complemented by 32 codeshare, 117 interline and 15 multimodal partners.

For the FYE 2025-2026, the Group invested USD4.9 billion in new aircraft, facilities, equipment and the latest technologies to support its growth plans.

The Group's order book stood at 367 aircraft, comprising 54 Airbus A350s, 270 Boeing 777x, 35 B787s and eight B777 freighters, with deliveries scheduled through to 2038.

On its deal with Starlink to equip its fleet with high-speed Wi-Fi, 21 of its B777 aircraft have been fitted with the best-in-sky connectivity for customers.

Meanwhile, installation work of the next-generation Starlink Wi-Fi on its first flagship A380 was completed recently, delivering up to 2 Gbps bandwidth and a "better than at home" connectivity experience at 40,000 feet.

This upgraded system, featuring three antennas and enhanced onboard infrastructure, will be rolled out across more A380s this year, with free high-speed internet for all passengers and future support for live television streaming.

To date, 93 of EK's aircraft have been fully refurbished, featuring its widely acclaimed Premium Economy seats, enhanced Business Class, refreshed First Class suites as well as upgraded interiors and finishes in its Economy Class cabins.

“ Our aircraft deliveries and USD5 billion retrofit programme will continue at pace as well as our planned investments in new facilities and equipment. ”

SHEIKH AHMED SAIED AL MAKTOUM

Chairman and Chief Executive of the Emirates (EK) Group

On the outlook for 2026-2027, he remarked, "From a fuel perspective, EK is well-hedged until 2028-29. We have worked with our suppliers to secure the volumes required to support our current operations and our scaling up to pre-disruption levels."

For more information, visit www.emirates.com



Malaysia Airlines' Strategic Partnerships with Visa Malaysia and Tourism New Zealand

Malaysia Airlines (MH) and Visa Malaysia have entered a strategic three-year partnership to enhance customer experiences and stimulate travel demand across the airline's global network.

The partnership will focus on joint marketing initiatives, exclusive co-branded offers for Visa cardholders and enhanced digital engagement through data-driven campaigns.

Bryan Foong, Chief Executive Officer of Airline Business at Malaysia Aviation Group said, "Today's travellers expect journeys that are not only seamless but also personalised and rewarding."

Previn Pillay, Country Manager of Visa Malaysia remarked, "Through our partnership with MH, we are unlocking meaningful value for Visa cardholders beyond payments, from rewarding offers and exclusive privileges to smoother booking and travel journeys."

This collaboration underscores both organisations' commitment to advancing Malaysia's position as a key travel hub in Asia Pacific while delivering an elevated and more connected travel experience.

Malaysia's national flag carrier also formalised a two-year strategic partnership recently with Tourism New Zealand to jointly stimulate travel demand to New Zealand (NZ) through integrated marketing initiatives, reinforcing the shared commitment to growing visitor arrivals and elevating destination visibility across key markets.

Delivering its signature Malaysian Hospitality experience, the premium carrier operates 10 weekly direct flights between Kuala Lumpur (KUL) and Auckland (AKL) on its modern flagship Airbus A330neo aircraft which features enhanced comfort and next-generation cabin features.

"The spirit of *manaakitanga* – its deeply rooted culture of welcome and care – resonates strongly with our own promise of Malaysian Hospitality."

BRYAN FOONG

Chief Executive Officer of Airline Business at Malaysia Aviation Group

Angela Blair, General Manager International of Tourism New Zealand said, "NZ cannot wait to welcome more visitors from Malaysia as they take the trip of a lifetime to visit our beautiful country."

"As of February 2026, NZ welcomed 32,200 visitors from Malaysia over the past year, marking a robust 11.5% year-on-year increase."

She added that this strong growth reflected the enduring appeal of NZ's landscapes, culture and unique experiences, which was further supported by MH's increased capacity on the KUL-AKL route.

Meanwhile, MH and Srilankan Airlines (UL) recently expanded their codeshare partnership for several destinations.

These destinations include Brisbane (BNE), Chiang Mai (CNX), Da Nang (DAD), Kuching (KCH), Phnom Penh (PNH), Phuket (HKT) and Yangon (RGN) from Kuala Lumpur (KUL), unlocking further opportunities for tourism growth and enhanced connectivity for travellers.

For more information, visit www.malaysiaairlines.com



Award-Winning Korean Air to Launch Integrated Airline in December 2026

Korean Air (KE) will emerge as an integrated flag carrier on 17 December 2026 following the approval of the merger agreement by both the boards of KE and Asiana Airlines (OZ) on 13 May.

With a formal contract execution conducted the next day, all OZ's assets, liabilities, rights, obligations and personnel was absorbed by KE, marking the completion of a consolidation process spanning over five years after the signing of an initial share subscription deal in November 2020.

KE said it will apply for Operations Specifications amendments to standardise OZ's aircraft and safety systems under KE's existing Air Operator Certificate in June 2026.

Once the domestic approvals are finalised, the airline will proceed with sequential regulatory filings with international aviation authorities to align safety management systems and operational protocols across its expanded global network.

To support its expanded operations, KE is finalising specific infrastructure investments such as service upgrades, training standardisation, facility modernisation as well as enhancing its maintenance, repair and overhaul capacity.

Additionally, KE is finalising the loyalty programme consolidation in coordination with the Korea Fair Trade Commission and relevant authorities to ensure a seamless transition for passengers.

In terms of passenger business outlook, the airline is proactively responding to external factors such as fuel prices, exchange rates and market supply conditions.

KE entered into an emergency management system effective 1 April 2026, optimising internal cost efficiency with safety as the top priority.

It is focusing on high yield inbound sales from Southeast Asia/Oceania and strong transit demand from Europe, benefiting from decreased market supply of the Middle East carriers.

Meanwhile, at the recent Global Traveler's 14th annual Leisure Lifestyle Awards, KE was recognised for excellence in in-flight dining, earning the Best Airline Onboard Menu title for its First Class cabin for the third consecutive year.

Its other global honours include being named Best Cabin Service at the Airline Passenger Experience Association (APEX) Best Awards 2026 and earning the APEX Five Star Global Airline rating for the ninth consecutive year in 2025.

KE was also recognised as the Airline of the Year 2025 by Airlineratings.com. Apart from holding Skytrax's Five Star Airline rating for the fifth consecutive year in 2025, it was also named Asia Airline of the Year by CAPA in 2025.

As one of the world's top 20 airlines, the founding member of the SkyTeam alliance carried more than 25 million passengers in 2025.

Currently, KE serves 116 cities in 39 countries on five continents with a modern fleet of 167 aircraft and employs over 20,000 staff.

For more information, visit www.koreanair.com



Etihad Airways' Partnership Deals with Uzbekistan Airways, Air Cambodia and Bangkok Airways

Etihad Airways (EY) and Uzbekistan Airways' (HY) codeshare agreement, which became effective on 15 May 2026, will be available for travel from 9 August, opening Central Asia for EY's customers to eight destinations across Uzbekistan via Tashkent (TAS), its capital and largest city in Central Asia.

Arik De, EY's Chief Revenue and Commercial Officer said, "Uzbekistan is one of the most exciting markets in our network right now."

As one of Central Asia's fastest-growing inbound markets, travellers are drawn to Uzbekistan's Silk Road heritage of Samarkand (SKD) and Bukhara (BHK), among other things.

Shukhrat Yadgarov, Deputy Chairman of the Board for Commerce and Tourism at HY said, "We are confident this agreement will serve as a strong air bridge between our nations and contribute significantly to the further development of tourism, cultural exchange, and business relations."

The two carriers are also developing a frequent flyer partnership (FFP) between Etihad Guest and UzAirPlus, set to expand reward options for members of both programmes.



With HY's addition, the partner network of the United Arab Emirates' national carrier now spans 46 codeshare and over 130 interline partners, the largest of any non-alliance airline, giving guests single-ticket and through-fare access to over 350 destinations worldwide.

Additionally, EY's launch of its codeshare deal with Air Cambodia (K6) earlier this year not only gave its customers direct access to Cambodia's iconic Angkor Wat temple complex in Siem Reap (SAI) but also opened up key destinations across Vietnam through the airline's interline partnership.

The partnership expanded EY's Southeast Asia (SEA) footprint that included Ho Chi Minh City (SGN), Da Nang (DAD) and Phu Quoc (PQC).

Eng Molina, Chief Commercial Officer at K6 said, "This partnership with EY strengthens connections between SEA and the Middle East."

Meanwhile, Etihad Guest, EY's award-winning loyalty programme recently launched a new FFP with Bangkok Airways' (PG) FlyerBonus programme, enabling members of both loyalty programmes to redeem rewards when travelling across either airline's network.



The FFP demonstrates EY's commitment to expand choices and build deeper connections with travellers across Asia and beyond.

For more information, visit etihad.com



Singapore Airlines Group's Strategic Initiatives for 2026-2027

Singapore Airlines (SQ) is making major investments to significantly elevate its end-to-end customer experience, underscoring the commitment to maintaining its leadership position in the highly competitive airline industry.

The airline will unveil its next-generation long-haul cabin products towards the end of 2026, alongside a refreshed KrisWorld in-flight entertainment system, enhancements to its food and beverage programme, and all-new amenity kits.

Additionally, SQ will progressively introduce Starlink's low earth orbit satellitebased broadband connectivity for in-flight Wi-Fi on selected aircraft from 2027.

Committed to its 25.1% investment in Air India (AI) Group, which represents a core component of its long-term multi-hub strategy, SQ is working closely with its partner, Tata Sons, to support AI's transformation programme.

SQ and AI added one domestic and 20 international destinations to their codeshare arrangement from 4 May 2026, bringing the total codeshare points between the two airlines to 82 destinations across 27 countries and territories.

Meanwhile, following the final regulatory approval from the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia received in January 2026 for the SQ and Malaysia Airlines' (MH) joint business partnership, SQ said this strategic collaboration will be implemented progressively in the second half of this year.

It is expected to deepen their commercial cooperation to include initiatives such as revenue sharing flights, joint fare products and coordinated flight schedules across both markets.

Strengthening its win-win partnership, SQ also formalised a joint marketing Memorandum of Understanding with Tourism Malaysia in May 2026 to drive international arrivals and boost regional air connectivity.

In light of the current volatile operating environment arising from the geopolitical tension in the Middle East, SQ said the Group will continue to leverage its robust balance sheet, dual brand airline portfolio and digital capabilities, particularly in generative artificial intelligence, to pursue growth opportunities.

Holding one of the strongest balance sheets in the airline industry, its Group shareholders' equity stood at SGD17.3 billion as of 31 March 2026, SGD1.6 billion higher year-on-year (YoY).

Harnessing its dual airline portfolio, SQ and its wholly-owned low-cost subsidiary, Scoot (TR), carried a record 42.4 million passengers for the financial year ended (FYE) 31 March 2026, up 7.7% YoY as global demand for air travel remained healthy.

For the year under review, the Group's fleet comprised 218 passenger and freighter aircraft with an average age of seven years and nine months. Of the total, SQ operated 148 passenger aircraft and seven freighters.

Out of the Group's passenger network covering 134 destinations in 35 countries and territories, SQ served 77 destinations and TR 82.

Although SQ Group's net profit declined by 57.4% to SGD1.184 million, weighed down by losses from its stake in AI for the FYE 31 March 2026, it achieved a record revenue of SGD20.522 million, up 5% YoY.

For more information, visit www.singaporeair.com



EVA Air Wins SKYTRAX 5-Star Airline Certification for 11th Consecutive Year

EVA Air (BR) has earned the SKYTRAX 5-Star Airline certification for the 11th consecutive year, reaffirming its position among the world's top airline rankings.

The latest evaluation highlights airline's outstanding performance across multiple areas, including flight safety, cabin crew professionalism, aircraft cleanliness, business class amenities and onboard beverage quality.

The airline also achieved strong scores for ground services, including check-in efficiency, transfer operations, baggage handling and lounge functionality, demonstrating a strong commitment to premium service at every stage of the passenger journey.

Currently, only around 10 airlines worldwide hold the coveted 5-Star Airline status given by SKYTRAX, a globally recognised aviation rating organisation that introduced its airline rating system in 1999.

BR President Clay Sun said, "Looking ahead, the company remains focused on enhancing safety standards, advancing service innovation and integrating sustainability into its operations, guided by its core principles of Safety, Service and Sustainability."

Additionally, BR was ranked eighth among the World's Safest Airlines by AirlineRatings.com for the 13th consecutive year, further reinforcing its reputation for operational excellence.

The airline will launch a new route from Taipei (TPE) to Washington D.C. (IAD) on 26 June 2026, offering four flights weekly and increasing its total weekly flights to 98.

The new route will grow its North American network to include 10 gateways, of which three will feature its fourth-generation Premium Economy class.

For more information, visit www.evaair.com



Service Delivery and Operational Performance Define Batik Air Malaysia's Growth

Batik Air Malaysia (OD) recently received the Premium Travel Experience Award at the BISNES Sinar Harian Awards 2026, reflecting the airline's continued focus on elevating the passenger's travel experience through consistent service enhancement, product refinement and customer-centric initiatives.

The award was received on behalf of the airline by OD's Regional Marketing Manager, Azira Arif.

OD Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Chandran Rama Muthy said, "At the heart of our hybrid airline's approach is a simple principle, that is, to treat every passenger the way we would like to be treated."

Earlier in March 2026, OD was recognised as the Best Full-Service Airline in 2025 at the eighth ASEAN Records and second ASIA Records Awards.

Overall, the airline delivered a stronger operational performance in April 2026, achieving an on-time performance (OTP) of 81% compared to the previous month. Its operations at KL International Airport (KUL) also recorded an encouraging OTP of 84%.

OD recently launched four times weekly direct flights from Banda Aceh (BTJ), a city in Indonesia, to Kuala Lumpur (KUL), bringing it to 11 local destinations within the country.

Indonesia is the third largest source market to Malaysia with 1.05 million visitor arrivals in the first quarter of 2026, with the figure down 3.3% year-on-year.

In light of this, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Dato Sri Tiong King Sing recently visited Indonesia to strengthen bilateral and tourism ties, including improving flight connectivity, where strategic meetings were held with Lion Group, which includes OD.

For more information, visit www.batikair.com



Cathay Dining Wins Airline Caterer of the Year – Asia at 2026 PAX Readership Awards

Cathay Dining, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Cathay Group, has been named Airline Caterer of the Year – Asia at the 2026 PAX Readership Awards, demonstrating its new historic operational milestone.

On 14 February 2026, the team successfully produced and uplifted over 100,000 meals, setting a new single-day record while seamlessly managing peak travel demand and maintaining the highest standards of culinary quality.

Cathay Dining Chief Operating Officer Michael Winner said, "To win this award shortly after a historic operational milestone is an incredible achievement.

"It is a true reflection of our teams' dedication to executing complex logistics flawlessly, ensuring every meal meets our exacting quality standards before it takes to the skies."

According to the latest data released by Cathay Pacific (CX), Hong Kong's flagship carrier carried almost 10.8 million passengers in the first four months of 2026, up by 19% year-on-year, with a load factor (LF) of 87.7%.

CX Chief Customer and Commercial Officer Lavinia Lau said, "Looking ahead, demand is expected to remain resilient supported by seasonal leisure travel and event-driven traffic."

Meanwhile, Cathay Cargo, a subsidiary of the Cathay Group that serves as the cargo arm for passenger airlines, including CX and HK Express under the Group's umbrella, recorded an 8% increase to 574,068 kg during this period, with a LF of 58.8%.

Lau added, "We were also delighted to welcome Bangkok back into our freighter network on 6 May 2026 using a Boeing 747-400 freighter after a 10-year hiatus, further strengthening our presence in Southeast Asia."



Cathay Cargo recently launched Manage Booking, a significant upgrade to the carrier's online booking platform that gives freight forwarders direct control over booking modifications.

Available 24/7 via www.cathaycargo.com, the new feature addresses a longstanding industry challenge, that is, the need to make changes quickly after bookings are confirmed, without relying on phone calls, manual workflows or waiting for follow-up during office hours.

Manage Booking enables freight forwarders to handle routine changes directly through the platform, including the updating of shipper or consignee information, flight and date adjustments, and shipment size modifications.

Dominic Perret, Director Cargo of Cathay Cargo said, "As the air cargo industry evolves, we are committed to leading that transformation by keeping our customers at the centre of every innovation."

Manage Booking represents the latest in its digital initiatives to set new standards for air cargo, including becoming the first airline globally to offer real-time customs clearance status via the International Air Transport Association's (IATA) ONE Record protocol.

For more information, visit www.cathaydining.com and www.cathaycargo.com



Strengthening Malaysia's Position as a Regional MRO Hub

Malaysia's maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) sector is on track to achieve an annual revenue target of RM55.2 billion by the end of the decade under the Malaysian Aerospace Industry Blueprint 2030, according to Deputy Minister of Investment Trade and Industry, Sim Tze Tzin at the opening of the MRO Southeast Asia 2026 conference held recently in Kuala Lumpur.

Sim said the figure accounts for about 20 to 25% of Asia Pacific's (APAC) MRO market, which is projected to surpass USD60 billion by the end of the decade.

"Our MRO segment is the true heart of the industry, providing high value livelihood for over 12,000 workers."

Citing global giants such as Airbus, Boeing, GE Aerospace, Safran and Turkish Aerospace Industries, which have chosen to establish their presence in Malaysia, he remarked, "They were not just looking at our strategic location alone, they were betting on our Malaysian talents and engineering excellence."

"Moving forward," Sim said "Malaysia is aiming for a sustainable, digitalised and globally competitive future. We will ensure that Made in Malaysia and Maintained in Malaysia remain gold standards in the global skies."

Stating that the sky is not the limit, he reminded that as regional competition intensifies, the country must move further up the value chain.

"We are shifting our focus toward higher-value MRO segments such as components, engine maintenance and even avionics."

To support this shift, the government is strengthening key enablers under the national blueprint. Under infrastructure, for instance, it is revitalising Subang Airport (SZB) through the regeneration plan and developing the 445-acre Selangor Aerotech Park (SAP) within the KLIA Aeropolis.

"These hubs provide a scalable environment for MRO operators and tier one suppliers," said Sim, who also highlighted that Malaysia is accelerating the adoption of advanced solutions, including predictive maintenance and digitalised MRO tools.

Earlier, in his keynote address as host sponsor, Bryan John Thompson, Malaysia Airports Chief Airports Officer, noted that the airport operator's integrated aerospace ecosystems at Subang Airport (SZB) and the Selangor Aerotech Park (SAP) host more than 30% of Malaysia's aerospace operators, which collectively contribute approximately RM25 billion, or nearly 40% of the country's aerospace revenue annually.



SZB continues to support high value MRO and regional training activities through its dedicated helicopter centre and other facilities.

Meanwhile, phase one the SAP, covering 200 acres and currently under development, has secured GE Aerospace as its anchor tenant. The company will occupy half of the development area to expand its presence in Malaysia, including the establishment of engine test cells and the provision of MRO services.

Thompson said infrastructure works for phase one are progressing as planned and remain on track for completion in the first quarter of 2027.

He added, "Amid these industry developments and growth, we maintain a strong focus on sustainability while ensuring we are responsible and supported by future-ready infrastructure."

Commenting on MRO SEA 2026, which is organised in collaboration with Aviation Week Network, Malaysia Airports Managing Director, Dato' Mohd Izani Ghani, said the strong participation at the conference not only reflects the growing importance of Malaysia's aerospace ecosystem but also the need for stronger regional collaboration as aviation demand across Asia Pacific continues to expand.

"As aviation growth accelerates across the region, the strength of an MRO hub will increasingly depend on how well the wider ecosystem is connected from infrastructure and talent development to supply chains, investment facilitation and industry partnerships."

Dato' Mohd Izani continued, "Malaysia Airports is committed to supporting this growth by strengthening the ecosystem surrounding

our airports, particularly across KLIA and SZB, where aerospace, aviation services and connectivity continue to evolve in tandem."

Preparing for the next phase of aerospace growth, the airport operator remains committed to strengthening the infrastructure, partnerships and ecosystem needed to support a more connected, competitive and future-ready aviation industry.

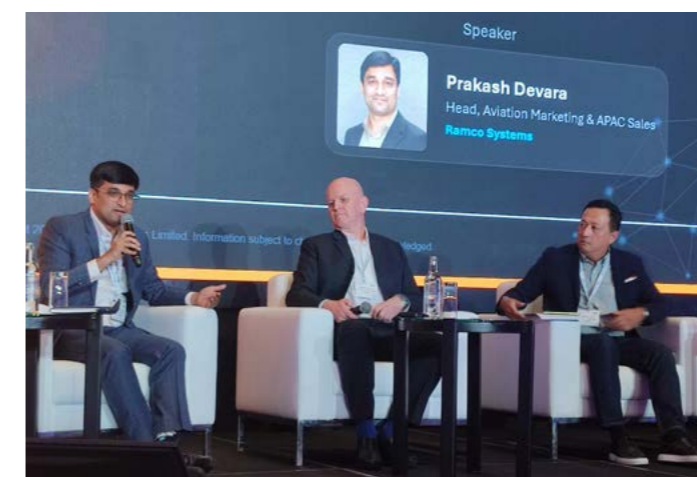
Held from 13–14 May 2026, MRO SEA brought together speakers and industry leaders from across the global aviation sector, reinforcing the role of industry platforms in fostering collaborations that will help shape the next decade of aviation.

Participants included Airbus, GE Aerospace, MTU Maintenance, KLM Engineering & Maintenance, Guangzhou Aircraft Maintenance Engineering, FL Technics Indonesia and Asia Digital Engineering, reflecting growing international interest in the region's expanding aviation market.

Malaysia Airports hosted the evening reception at the end of the first day of the conference at the W Hotel's WET Deck rooftop bar on Level 12, where delegates enjoyed stunning views of the iconic Petronas Twin Towers alongside a showcase of Malaysia's diverse culture, cuisine, arts and heritage.

During a panel discussion, ADE Chief Executive Officer, Mahesh Kumar revealed plans for an additional hangar at KLIA, targeted for completion by the fourth quarter of 2027.

A wholly owned subsidiary of Capital A, the company currently operates two hangars at the airport.





THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT

Need assistance? We are here to help.
‘The Butterfly Effect’ initiative is designed to provide a calm and supportive airport experience.

Through small gestures and thoughtful assistance, ‘The Butterfly Effect’ helps create a more relaxing journey for passengers.

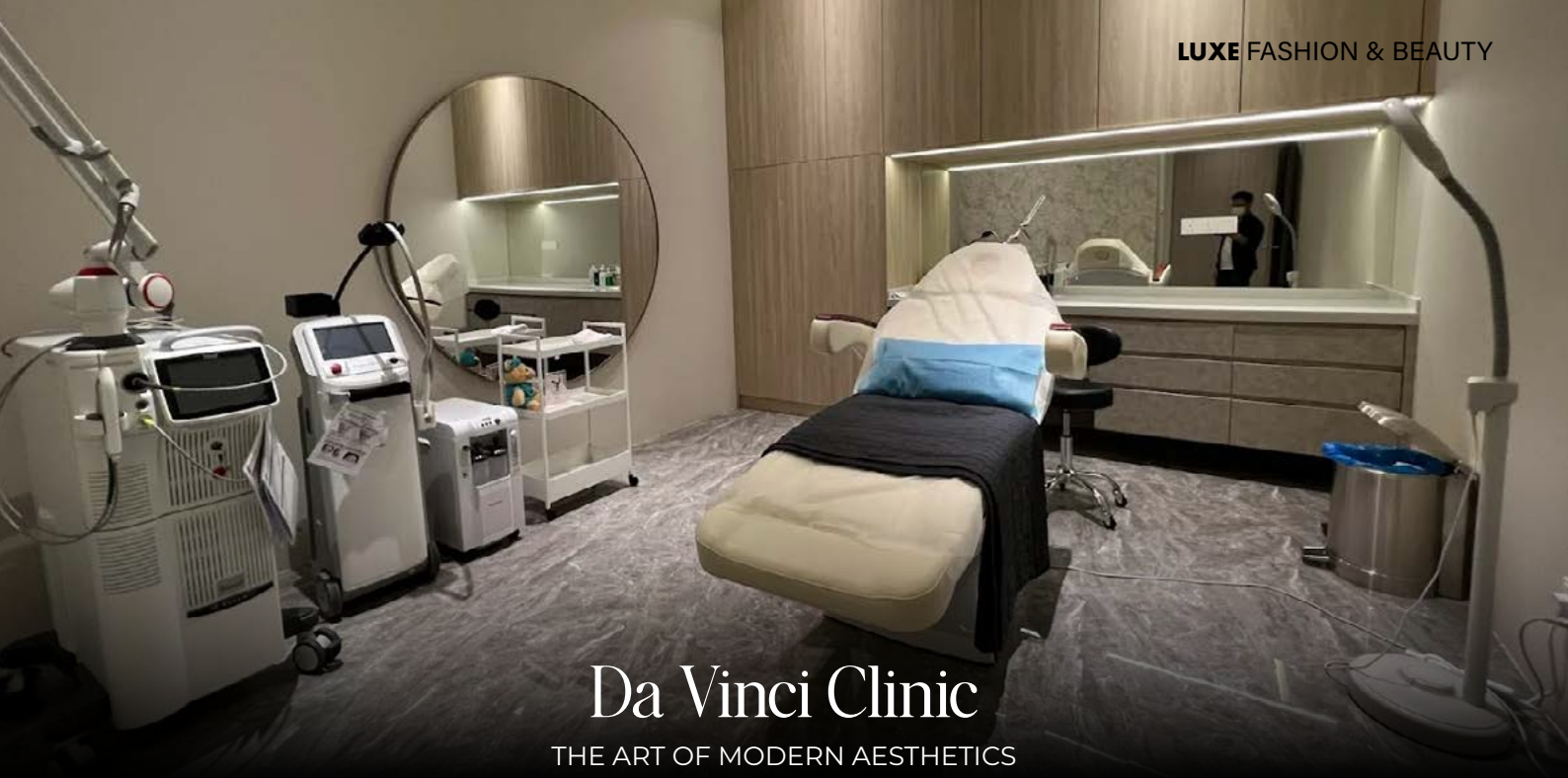
- Look out for our **CARE Ambassadors** in orange uniforms, ready to assist you.
- Visit any **Information Counter** at KLIA Terminal 1 or Terminal 2 for any enquiries.

Scan the QR code to learn more



An inclusive airport experience for all.





Da Vinci Clinic

THE ART OF MODERN AESTHETICS

In a city where beauty trends evolve as quickly as the skyline itself, Da Vinci Clinic has quietly established itself as one of Kuala Lumpur's most recognisable names in aesthetic medicine. Founded in 2006, the clinic has spent nearly two decades refining an approach that blends medical precision with understated elegance, offering treatments designed not to transform individuals into someone else, but rather enhance the best version of themselves.

Situated within Mid Valley City, the clinic presents a sophisticated yet welcoming environment that feels far removed from the intimidating atmosphere often associated with cosmetic procedures. Instead, the experience leans towards calm professionalism. Patients are greeted with personalised consultations, where aesthetic goals are approached with honesty and clinical understanding rather than aggressive sales tactics. This philosophy has become one of the clinic's defining characteristics and a major reason behind its loyal clientele.

At the heart of Da Vinci Clinic's identity lies its commitment to doctor led treatments. The clinic is led by LCP certified aesthetic physicians, a certification recognised by Malaysia's Ministry of Health as a benchmark for professional aesthetic practice. Treatments are tailored carefully according to individual facial structure, skin condition and long term aesthetic balance, ensuring results that appear refined rather than overdone while preserving natural expression and overall facial harmony.

Technology also plays a central role in the clinic's continued evolution. Da Vinci Clinic is known for introducing advanced energy based devices and laser systems into the Malaysian aesthetic landscape. From pigmentation concerns and acne scars to skin tightening and facial contouring, the clinic offers a broad range of non surgical procedures that prioritise natural looking outcomes with minimal downtime.

Yet beyond the machines and modern techniques, what truly distinguishes the clinic is its understanding that aesthetics today is deeply personal. Modern beauty is no longer about dramatic reinvention but subtle confidence. Patients are increasingly seeking healthier skin, softer enhancements and refreshed features that preserve individuality rather than erase it.

As aesthetic medicine continues to evolve across Southeast Asia, Da Vinci Clinic has emerged as one of the names contributing to a more refined and thoughtful conversation surrounding beauty, wellness and self care in Malaysia. The clinic reflects a growing shift within the industry towards treatments that emphasise subtle enhancement, individuality and long-term skin health rather than dramatic transformation.

In an industry often shaped by excess and rapidly changing beauty trends, the clinic's philosophy feels refreshingly restrained and sophisticated. Its approach centres on enhancing rather than altering, allowing clients to maintain their identity while improving overall skin quality, and natural confidence through subtle, carefully balanced aesthetic refinement.





GucciCore Takes New York

A NEW GUCCI ERA

In the world of luxury fashion, there are runway shows designed to present a collection and then there are runway shows designed to reshape the cultural conversation entirely. Gucci Cruise 2027 belonged firmly in the latter category. Staged in the heart of New York City's legendary Times Square, the presentation transformed one of the world's busiest urban landscapes into an extravagant fashion spectacle that blurred the boundaries between style, celebrity, theatre and modern identity.

For one unforgettable evening, the flashing digital billboards, endless traffic lights and chaotic energy of Manhattan became the backdrop for Demna's highly anticipated vision for Gucci. The result was GucciCore, a concept that encapsulated the house's evolution into something far larger than fashion alone. It was a statement about image, influence, and aspiration.

The setting itself carried immense symbolism. New York has always played an important role in Gucci's international journey. The House opened its first store outside Italy in the city back in 1953, helping establish Gucci as a global symbol of sophistication and status.

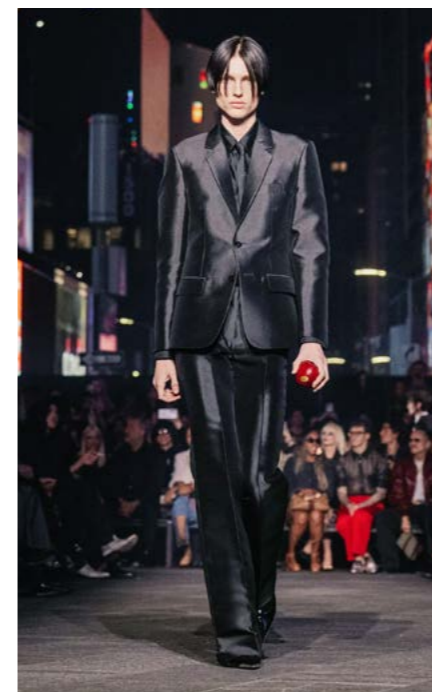


As guests arrived beneath towering LED screens and glowing advertisements, the atmosphere felt cinematic rather than traditional. Crowds gathered around barricades while celebrities, editors and fashion insiders moved through the streets under the intense glow of Manhattan nightlife. Unlike the exclusivity often associated with luxury fashion, Gucci embraced the public nature of Times Square. The city itself became part of the performance.

When the runway presentation began, it immediately became clear that this was not about minimalism or restraint. Demna's Gucci embraced boldness unapologetically. The collection explored exaggerated glamour, dramatic silhouettes and a fearless collision between high luxury and urban realism.



Tailored coats appeared alongside oversized hoodies, sharp structured suits were paired with low-rise denim, and delicate silk gowns carried an undercurrent of rebellious sensuality. Signature Gucci codes, including the iconic green and red web stripes, horsebit details, and monogram motifs, were reimagined through Demna's distinct lens, balancing heritage with disruption. The collection projected a confident tension between classic Italian elegance and contemporary street-driven attitude.



Tailored coats appeared alongside oversized hoodies, sharp structured suits were paired with low-rise denim, and delicate silk gowns carried an undercurrent of rebellious sensuality. Signature Gucci codes, including the iconic green and red web stripes, horsebit details, and monogram motifs, were reimagined through Demna's distinct lens, balancing heritage with disruption. The collection projected a confident tension between classic Italian elegance and contemporary street-driven attitude.

More importantly, the show reflected the changing nature of luxury fashion itself. Modern audiences no longer seek clothing alone. They seek experiences, narratives and emotional connection. Fashion houses are increasingly expected to create worlds rather than collections. Gucci understood this perfectly with Cruise 2027, delivering not merely a runway show but a fully immersive cultural event that dominated conversations both online and across the global fashion industry offline.





Louis Vuitton's New York Fantasy

RESORT 2027

New York City has always possessed a certain cinematic magic. The towering architecture, golden evening lights and endless cultural energy create an atmosphere unlike anywhere else in the world. For Louis Vuitton Resort, the House embraced that spirit, transforming one of Manhattan's prestigious cultural landmarks into a celebration of fashion and art.



Held inside the iconic Frick Collection on the Upper East Side, the presentation marked one of the season's most talked about fashion moments. Under the creative direction of Nicolas Ghesquière, Louis Vuitton delivered a collection that felt elegant yet rebellious, and historical yet futuristic.

The Frick Collection provided the perfect setting. Known for its extraordinary European masterpieces and timeless Gilded Age interiors, the museum introduced a sense of intimacy and sophistication rarely seen in modern runway presentations. Guests moved through grand marble halls and richly decorated rooms surrounded by priceless works of art, creating the feeling of stepping into a living cultural dream.

For Louis Vuitton, the venue represented far more than visual beauty alone. The House announced a long term partnership with the museum, reflecting fashion's growing relationship with the world of art and cultural preservation. Luxury brands today are no longer simply presenting clothing collections. They are creating experiences rooted in heritage, storytelling and emotional connection.

As models emerged through the museum's elegant interiors, the collection unfolded like a cinematic narrative. Nicolas Ghesquière explored the contrasts that define both New York and contemporary fashion itself. Structured tailoring sat alongside relaxed silhouettes, blending historical references with sporty modern pieces.



There was a clear sense of movement throughout the collection. Certain looks carried the glamour of old aristocratic Europe while others reflected the rebellious energy of downtown Manhattan during the 1980s. Ghesquière balanced these worlds beautifully, creating silhouettes that felt sophisticated without becoming overly formal. The collection embraced individuality and personal expression rather than perfection alone.

The designer drew inspiration from legendary American artist Keith Haring, whose work became synonymous with New York's creative underground culture.



Accessories once again proved central to Louis Vuitton's identity. Sculptural handbags, metallic footwear and oversized jewellery elevated the collection's luxurious atmosphere while maintaining a sense of modern practicality. Several bags referenced vintage travel trunks and retro Americana, reinforcing the House's heritage as one of the world's most celebrated travel brands.



The guest list reflected the global influence of Louis Vuitton within fashion and entertainment. Celebrities including Zendaya, Emma Stone, Cate Blanchett and HoYeon attended the presentation, dressed in looks that perfectly captured the House's contemporary glamour. Their presence transformed the evening into more than a runway show. It became a cultural event that dominated conversations across both fashion circles and social media. Zendaya in particular became one of the evening's defining moments, capturing widespread attention for her effortless elegance and presence.



The Evolution of Men's Style

THIS SEASON'S HOTPICKS



Enfants Riches Déprimés
Distressed hoodie
RM 7,691

This distressed hoodie from Enfants Riches Déprimés reflects the label's uncompromising approach to rebellious luxury. Defined by its worn-in finish and deliberately deconstructed aesthetic, the piece offers an unmistakable sense of underground attitude. The relaxed silhouette lends effortless appeal, while distressed detailing adds character.



Burberry
Check-trim cotton T-shirt
RM 2,220

This Check-trim cotton T-shirt from Burberry offers a refined take on an everyday essential. Crafted from soft cotton, it delivers exceptional comfort while maintaining a clean and structured silhouette. Signature Check detailing adds a distinctive heritage touch, subtly elevating the minimalist design with the House's iconic motif.



Gucci
Stripe zip-fastening sweatshirt
RM 9,247

This stripe zip-fastening sweatshirt from Gucci captures the House's ability to merge athletic influences with unmistakable luxury. Crafted with a refined silhouette, it features bold stripe detailing that adds a dynamic contrast to the clean design. The zip-front construction enhances its versatility, making it suitable for both relaxed and elevated styling.



Billionaire
Cashmere coat
RM 22,687

This cashmere coat from Billionaire embodies the brand's signature vision of opulent menswear. Crafted from sumptuous cashmere, it offers exceptional softness and warmth while maintaining a sharply tailored silhouette. The clean lines and refined construction highlight the label's commitment to impeccable craftsmanship and understated elegance.



Brunello Cucinelli
Cotton textured rib knit polo
RM 7,683

This cotton textured rib knit polo from Brunello Cucinelli reflects the brand's understated approach to luxury and craftsmanship. Knitted from premium cotton, it offers a soft, breathable feel with a refined ribbed texture that adds depth to the classic silhouette. The relaxed yet polished design embodies effortless elegance, making it ideal for both casual and elevated styling.



Dolce & Gabbana
Interwoven-design jacket
RM 50,697

This interwoven-design jacket from Dolce & Gabbana exemplifies the House's mastery of opulent tailoring and intricate craftsmanship. Defined by its richly textured interwoven construction, the piece delivers remarkable depth and visual complexity while maintaining a structured and refined silhouette. The meticulous detailing reflects the brand's artisanal craftsmanship in a bold design.

Where Elegance Meets Modernity

THIS SEASON'S HOTPICKS



Valentino Garavani
Embroidered denim jacket
RM 16,172

This embroidered denim jacket from Valentino Garavani reimagines a timeless wardrobe staple through the lens of refined craftsmanship. Cut from structured denim, it offers a relaxed yet polished silhouette, while intricate embroidery introduces texture and artistic detail. The contrast between casual fabric and couture embellishment defines modern femininity.



Philipp Plein
Monogram embroidered shearling jacket
RM 46,268

This monogram embroidered shearling jacket from Philipp Plein showcases the brand's bold approach to statement outerwear. Crafted from sumptuous shearling, it offers exceptional warmth and a richly textured finish. Embroidered monogram detailing adds a distinctive signature touch, enhancing the design with depth and visual impact.



Miu Miu
Waxed suede jacket
RM 33,129

This waxed suede jacket from Miu Miu reflects the brand's distinctive approach to contemporary femininity. Crafted from supple suede with a waxed finish, it offers a rich texture and subtle sheen that lend depth and character to the design. The structured silhouette balances refinement and utilitarian edge for a modern, timeless look.



Versace
Draped envers-satin off-shoulder midi dress
RM 34,735

This draped envers-satin off-shoulder midi dress from Versace embodies the house's signature blend of glamour and confident femininity. Crafted from lustrous envers-satin, it falls elegantly across the body, while the off-shoulder neckline highlights the décolletage with effortless sophistication. Soft draping enhances the fluid silhouette, creating movement and depth with every step.



Brunello Cucinelli
Short-sleeved striped T-shirt
RM 11,439

This short-sleeved striped T-shirt from Brunello Cucinelli exemplifies the brand's understated approach to luxury. Crafted from premium materials, it offers a soft, lightweight feel and a relaxed yet refined silhouette. Classic stripe detailing adds a timeless visual element, lending subtle character to the minimalist design.



Elie Saab
bead-embellished maxi dress
RM 19,440

This bead-embellished maxi dress from Elie Saab embodies the house's renowned mastery of couture elegance. Adorned with intricate beadwork, the gown catches the light beautifully, creating a sense of movement and radiant sophistication. The elongated silhouette drapes gracefully, enhancing the figure with effortless fluidity and poise.



Ferrari Amalfi

THE BREATHTAKING FUSION OF MECHANICAL BRILLIANCE AND MEDITERRANEAN SOUL



The world of high performance motoring is often defined by raw statistics and aggressive silhouettes, yet Ferrari has always possessed a unique ability to blend mechanical ferocity with an undeniable sense of poetic elegance. With the unveiling of the Ferrari Amalfi, the Maranello based marque enters a new chapter, transitioning from the foundations of the Roma to a vehicle that redefines the concept of the everyday sports car. This front mid engine V8 2+ coupé is not merely a replacement; it is a refined evolution designed for a generation of drivers who demand that their vehicle fits as seamlessly into a morning commute as it does on a spirited weekend dash through the winding hills. It is a car that understands the luxury of time, making every second spent behind the wheel feel like an event.

At the heart of this machine lies a 3.9 litre twin turbo V8, a powerhouse that delivers a remarkable 640 cv with a redline that now extends to 7,600 rpm. What makes the Amalfi truly special, however, is how this power is delivered. Ferrari has reworked the turbocharging system to ensure that performance is responsive and accessible, reducing the hesitation often found in high output engines. Whether navigating the stop and start rhythms of urban traffic or accelerating onto the open road, the eight speed dual clutch transmission ensures gear changes are buttery smooth at low speeds.



The world of high performance motoring is often defined by raw statistics and aggressive silhouettes, yet Ferrari has always possessed a unique ability to blend mechanical ferocity with an undeniable sense of poetic elegance. With the unveiling of the Ferrari Amalfi, the Maranello based marque enters a new chapter, transitioning from the foundations of the Roma to a vehicle that redefines the concept of the everyday sports car. This front mid engine V8 2+ coupé is not merely a replacement; it is a refined evolution designed for a generation of drivers who demand that their vehicle fits as seamlessly into a morning commute as it does on a spirited weekend dash through the winding hills. It is a car that understands the luxury of time, making every second spent behind the wheel feel like an event.

At the heart of this machine lies a 3.9 litre twin turbo V8, a powerhouse that delivers a remarkable 640 cv with a redline that now extends to 7,600 rpm. What makes the Amalfi truly special, however, is how this power is delivered. Ferrari has reworked the turbocharging system to ensure that performance is responsive and accessible, reducing the hesitation often found in high output engines. Whether navigating the stop and start rhythms of urban traffic or accelerating onto the open road, the eight speed dual clutch transmission ensures gear changes are buttery smooth at low speeds and razor sharp when pushed. Even the exhaust has been refined, preserving its signature V8 howl.

Visually, the Amalfi is a masterpiece of monolithic design that challenges traditional supercar tropes. Its launch colour, Verde Costiera, is a striking teal green inspired by the shimmering Mediterranean waters of the Amalfi Coast, a shade that shifts and dances as it catches the light. The traditional front grille has been replaced by a floating, body coloured wing that lends the nose a futuristic, clean aesthetic. This sleekness is not just for show; the car features sophisticated active aerodynamics, including a rear mobile wing that automatically adjusts to balance drag and downforce based on your speed. It is a shape that feels in motion even when perfectly still, balanced by a long bonnet and a set back cabin that stay true to the classic proportions of a Ferrari berlinetta, ensuring its silhouette will remain timeless for decades to come. Inside, the dual-cockpit cabin immerses both driver and passenger.





Greece

WHERE ANCIENT ELEGANCE MEETS MODERN LUXURY

Bathed in Mediterranean sunlight and framed by the sparkling waters of the Aegean and Ionian seas, Greece remains one of the world's most captivating luxury travel destinations. Renowned for its timeless beauty, rich history, and refined hospitality, the country offers travellers an experience that balances cultural heritage with modern sophistication. From ancient ruins and picturesque villages to luxurious island retreats, Greece delivers an atmosphere of effortless elegance unlike anywhere else in the Mediterranean.

Among its most iconic destinations is Santorini, celebrated for its whitewashed architecture, blue domes, and breathtaking caldera views. Perched along dramatic volcanic cliffs, luxury resorts and private villas provide uninterrupted sunsets over the Aegean Sea, creating an atmosphere of romance and exclusivity. Visitors can indulge in exceptional fine dining experiences, private yacht excursions, and intimate wine tastings while fully immersed in the island's tranquil and timeless beauty.

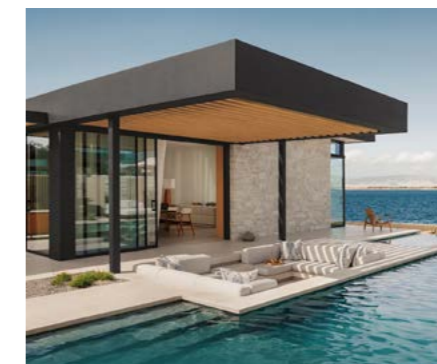


Equally alluring is Mykonos, an island known for its cosmopolitan energy and contemporary glamour. Designer boutiques, stylish beach clubs, and elegant seaside villas attract international travellers seeking both relaxation and vibrant nightlife. Despite its modern appeal, Mykonos retains its traditional Cycladic charm through narrow cobbled streets, iconic windmills, and whitewashed homes that reflect the island's timeless character.

Beyond the islands, Athens presents a fascinating blend of antiquity and modern luxury. The city's ancient landmarks, including the Acropolis and Parthenon, stand proudly above a thriving cultural and culinary scene filled with contemporary art galleries, rooftop lounges, and luxury boutique hotels. Athens has become a destination where history and sophistication coexist seamlessly, offering travellers an enriching urban experience.



Greek gastronomy also forms an essential part of the country's luxury appeal. Rooted in Mediterranean traditions, the cuisine highlights fresh seafood, artisanal olive oils, seasonal produce, and locally sourced ingredients prepared with understated elegance. From seaside tavernas to Michelin recognised restaurants, dining in Greece reflects a philosophy centred around quality, simplicity, and authentic flavour. Luxury travel in Greece extends beyond accommodation and dining through a range of curated experiences designed for discerning visitors.



What truly distinguishes Greece is its remarkable ability to combine grandeur with authenticity. Despite its world-class luxury offerings, the country remains deeply rooted in its traditions, culture, and renowned hospitality. Ancient customs continue to shape everyday life, from long, leisurely meals shared with family to the warm, genuine welcome extended to every visitor. Whether exploring a secluded island, a whitewashed village, or a coastal town, travellers are made to feel genuinely welcomed.

With its extraordinary landscapes, ancient heritage, and contemporary refinement, Greece continues to define the essence of sophisticated Mediterranean travel. Whether exploring the glamour of Mykonos, the romance of Santorini, or the cultural richness of Athens, travellers are invited into a world where timeless beauty and modern luxury exist in perfect harmony. It is a destination that captivates with equal measures of elegance, authenticity, and enduring charm.



Africa's Finest Escapes

LUXURY BEYOND THE ORDINARY

Africa continues to redefine luxury travel through experiences that go far beyond traditional hospitality. From vast safari landscapes and secluded coastal retreats to ultra exclusive lodges immersed in nature, the continent offers a unique balance of adventure, culture, and refined elegance. Luxury in Africa is not only found in five star resorts or bespoke service, but in the extraordinary experiences that connect travellers to some of the world's most breathtaking destinations.



Kenya

Kenya embodies classic African luxury through extraordinary safaris, dramatic landscapes, and refined hospitality. Across the golden plains of Maasai Mara National Reserve, exclusive lodges and elegant tented camps offer front-row access to the Great Migration, complemented by private game drives, sunrise hot air balloon safaris, and candlelit dinners beneath the stars. Beyond the wilderness, Kenya's Indian Ocean coastline reveals a quieter side of luxury, with destinations such as Diani Beach and Lamu offering secluded beachfront resorts, turquoise waters, and Swahili-inspired architecture. Whether tracking wildlife across the savanna or unwinding beside the sea, travellers experience a rare balance of adventure, serenity, and cultural richness. Sophisticated and deeply connected to nature, Kenya is one of Africa's premier luxury destinations, offering authentic journeys.

Tanzania

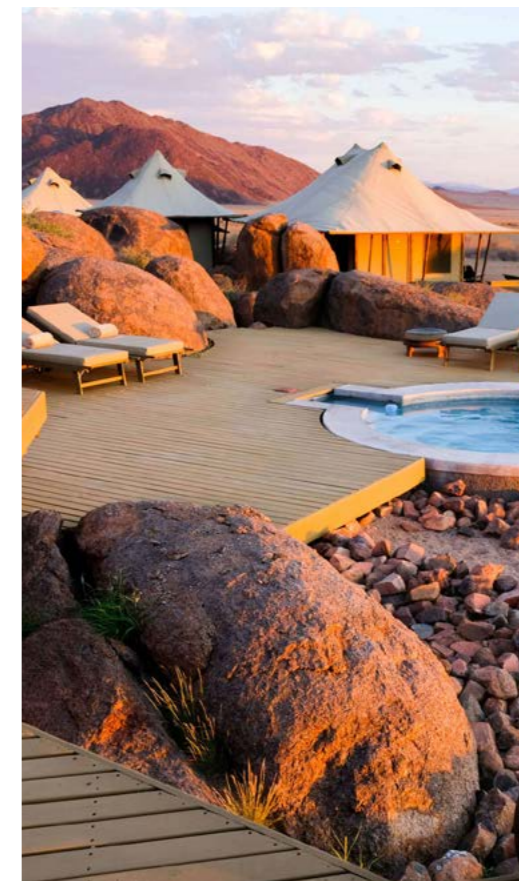
Tanzania delivers an effortless balance between adventure and indulgence, offering some of the continent's most exclusive safari experiences. The vast landscapes of Serengeti National Park provide a spectacular setting for luxury camps and private lodges designed with understated elegance and panoramic views across the savanna. Travellers can witness extraordinary wildlife encounters by day before retreating to fine dining, spa experiences, and intimate suites that blend seamlessly into the natural surroundings. Off the mainland, Zanzibar offers a more tranquil escape, where luxurious beachfront villas, crystal-clear waters, and historic island charm redefine tropical sophistication. Together, these contrasting experiences create a journey that is both exhilarating and combining untamed wilderness with the serene beauty of the Indian Ocean.

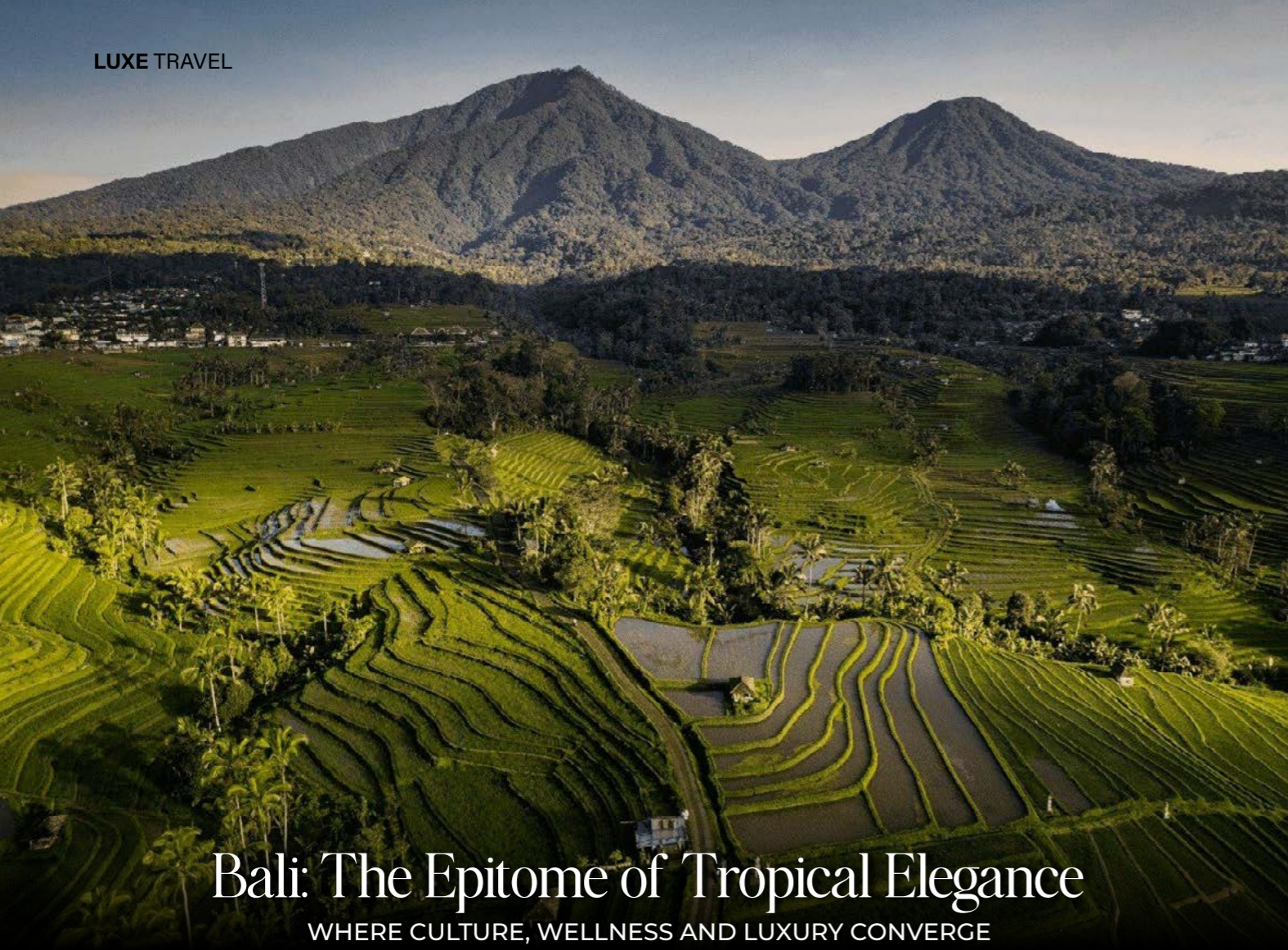
Botswana

Botswana is celebrated for its discreet and ultra-exclusive approach to luxury safari travel, offering an experience defined by privacy, exclusivity, and an extraordinary connection to the natural world. The untouched beauty of the Okavango Delta is best explored through intimate eco-lodges and private camps where sustainability, personalised service, and understated elegance are at the forefront. Here, luxury is found in the stillness of the wilderness, whether soaring above the delta on a private helicopter flight, gliding silently through reed-lined waterways in a traditional mokoro, or enjoying uninterrupted encounters with elephants, lions, and other remarkable wildlife. With its low-volume, high-value tourism philosophy, Botswana offers a safari experience that feels deeply personal and immersive, where every detail is thoughtfully curated and every moment unfolds with a rare sense of serenity and sophistication. It is a destination where untamed beauty and refined comfort exist in perfect harmony.

Namibia

Namibia offers a distinctly cinematic form of luxury travel, where dramatic desert landscapes meet refined exclusivity and extraordinary natural beauty. From the towering red dunes of Sossusvlei to the remote wilderness of Skeleton Coast, the country presents an experience defined by vast open spaces, profound silence, and a striking sense of isolation. Luxury lodges are thoughtfully designed to blend seamlessly into the desert surroundings, featuring panoramic views, private plunge pools, and elegant interiors that frame the landscape as the main attraction. Guests can explore these dramatic terrains by private safari, scenic flight, or guided desert excursion, before returning to evenings spent beneath some of the clearest and most dazzling night skies in the world. With its rare combination of solitude, adventure, and understated sophistication, Namibia delivers a travel experience that feels both deeply immersive and utterly unforgettable. Few destinations evoke such a profound sense of wonder.





Bali: The Epitome of Tropical Elegance

WHERE CULTURE, WELLNESS AND LUXURY CONVERGE



Bali has long captivated the global traveller, yet in 2026 the island has evolved beyond its reputation as a sun-soaked paradise. Today, it represents the pinnacle of immersive tropical luxury, where wellness, design, and bespoke service converge to create an experience that is as soulful as it is sophisticated. From the terraced rice paddies of Ubud to the rugged cliffs of Uluwatu, Bali offers a tapestry of experiences curated for those who seek more than just a getaway. Here, every journey is personal, every retreat intentional, and every moment a dialogue between culture, nature, and indulgence.

Luxury in Bali is defined not merely by accommodation but by the seamless integration of space, design, and environment. Resorts such as Amandari and Four Seasons Sayan have elevated the concept of the tropical retreat, creating sanctuaries where architecture exists in harmony with the surrounding landscape. Villas are nestled in jungles, beside rivers, or atop oceanfront cliffs.



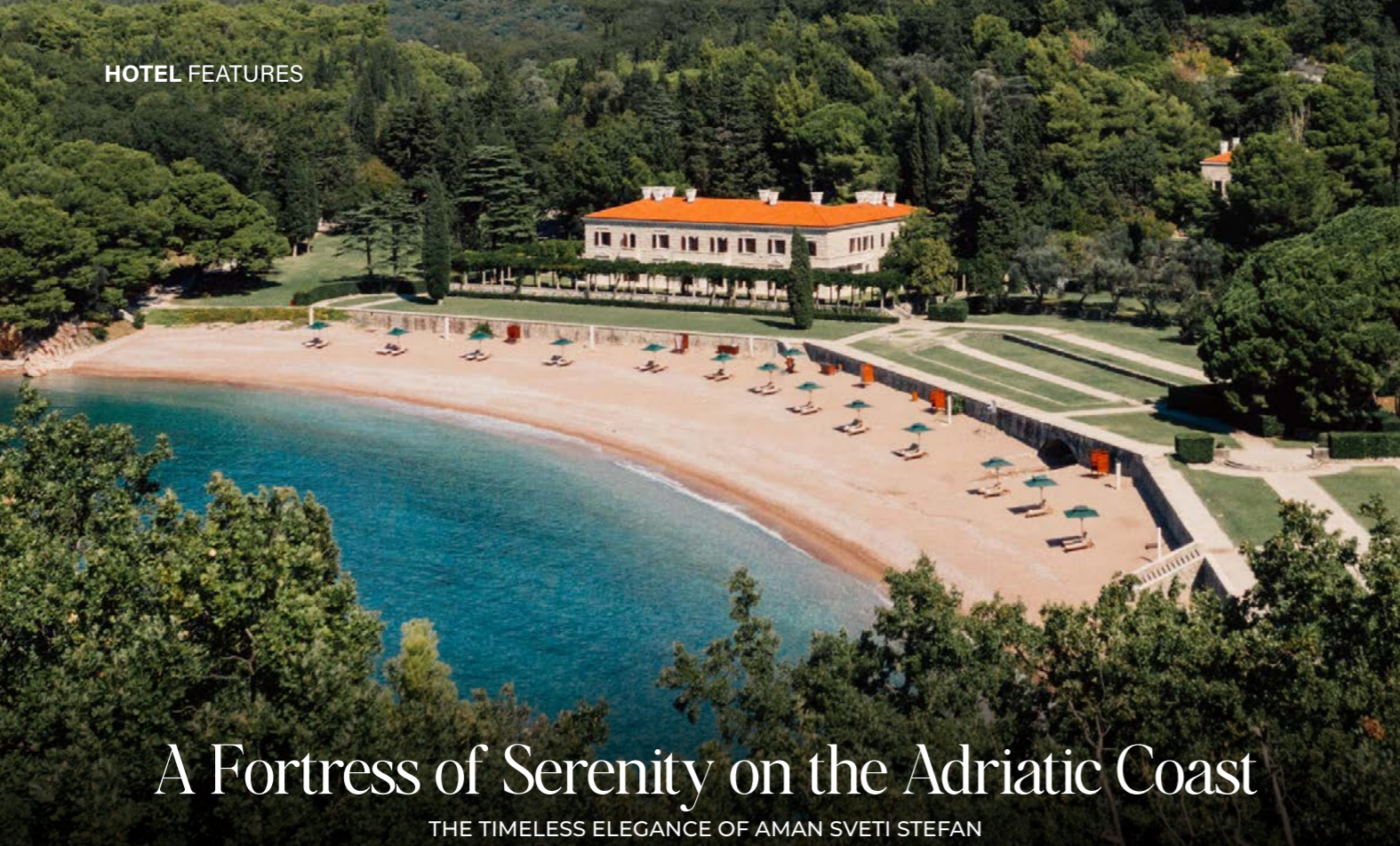
The interiors reflect a sophisticated balance between traditional Balinese craftsmanship and contemporary minimalism. Hand-carved timber furnishings, locally woven textiles, and natural stone elements are paired with open-air living spaces, infinity pools, and private courtyards that blur the boundaries between indoors and outdoors. Every detail is carefully considered to foster a feeling of intimacy, comfort, and serenity. In these spaces, nature is not merely a backdrop but an active collaborator, from the scent of frangipani drifting through tropical gardens to the soothing sounds of flowing water echoing through meditation pavilions. Together, these elements create an atmosphere of understated luxury that is both deeply rooted in Balinese culture and unmistakably world-class. The result is an immersive retreat where guests can experience a rare sense of tranquillity while remaining surrounded by the island's natural beauty. It is this blend of design, culture, and nature that makes Bali one of the world's most sought-after luxury destinations.

Wellness and spiritual connection define the modern luxury traveller's journey through Bali. Retreats such as COMO Shambhala Estate and Mandapa offer tailored programs that combine yoga, meditation, traditional Balinese healing, and contemporary spa technology. Guests are guided through immersive experiences designed to restore balance, with practices ranging from sound therapy and hydrotherapy to forest bathing in sacred groves. For those seeking regenerative journeys, luxury resorts integrate sustainability and conservation into their ethos, with organic gardens, waste reduction initiatives, and curated cultural exchanges with local artisans.

Adventurous travellers are not overlooked. Private helicopter tours reveal volcanic peaks, hidden waterfalls, and ancient temples inaccessible by road, offering a breathtaking perspective of Bali's diverse landscapes. Curated cultural excursions offer encounters with master craftsmen, traditional dancers, and sacred temple ceremonies.

Bali in 2026 is the embodiment of holistic luxury destination where indulgence coexists with mindfulness, where cultural richness complements contemporary design, and where every stay is crafted to linger in memory long after departure. Wellness remains central to the island's appeal, with world-class spas, personalised health programmes, and immersive retreats designed to restore both body and mind. Whether enjoying sunrise yoga overlooking emerald rice terraces or dining on expertly crafted farm-to-table cuisine, visitors are invited to embrace a slower and more intentional pace of life.





A Fortress of Serenity on the Adriatic Coast

THE TIMELESS ELEGANCE OF AMAN SVETI STEFAN

Floating like a terracotta crown upon the azure waters of the Adriatic, Aman Sveti Stefan remains one of the most iconic and enigmatic destinations in the Mediterranean. This fortified island village, connected to the Montenegrin mainland by a narrow stone causeway, tells a story that spans centuries, beginning as a fifteenth century fishing village and a strategic stronghold against maritime incursions. Today, it has been meticulously preserved and transformed into a sanctuary of unparalleled luxury that serves as a rare bridge between the rustic charm of old world Europe and the sophisticated serenity that defines the Aman brand. The aesthetic of the resort is an exercise in profound respect for heritage, where each of the fifty cottages and suites maintains its original stone walls, narrow windows, and winding staircases. This architectural honesty ensures that guests feel less like tourists and more like temporary inhabitants of a living village, surrounded by the echoes of history. Inside, the design shifts to a palette of soft creams, natural oaks, and cool stone, creating a seamless transition from the rugged exterior to a world of refined comfort where every window frames a masterpiece of shimmering sea or red tiled roofs.

The journey continues across the bay to Villa Miločer, the former summer residence of Queen Marija Karađorđević, which stands as a testament to early twentieth century royal elegance. Surrounded by an expansive estate of eight hundred olive trees and protected by ancient cedar and pine forests, the villa offers a regal atmosphere that perfectly complements the village island. This mainland portion of the resort provides a lush, emerald contrast to the sun bleached stone of the island, offering guests a diverse landscape of coastal cliffs and shaded woodland paths.

It is here that the Aman Spa finds its home, overlooking the famous pink sands of Queen's Beach, widely considered one of the most beautiful and secluded spots in the entire region. The wellness journey draws on indigenous ingredients such as wild herbs, olive oil, and mountain honey to refresh the body and ground the spirit.



Aman Sveti Stefan

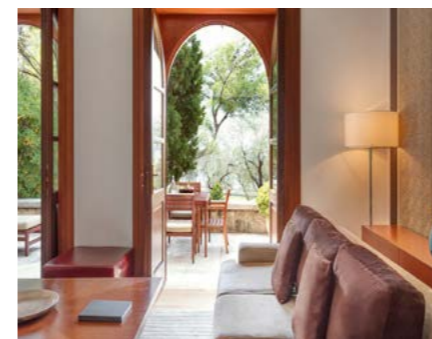
Address: Aman, Sveti Stefan 85315,

Montenegro

Tel.: +382 33 420 000

Website: www.aman.com

Dining at Aman Sveti Stefan is an equally immersive exploration of the Adriatic's bounty, with various venues focusing on the absolute purity of ingredients and the traditions of Montenegrin hospitality. From the casual atmosphere of the Piazza in the heart of the village, where guests can enjoy alfresco meals in a setting reminiscent of a traditional town square, to the sophisticated terraces of the villa, freshly caught seafood and local wines take centre stage.



The culinary philosophy is guided by the changing seasons, ensuring that every dish reflects the freshest ingredients available while honouring the farmers and fishermen who have worked these lands and waters for generations. Guests can savour organic produce harvested from the resort's own gardens and neighbouring villages, creating a farm-to-table experience that feels both authentic and elevated. Each ingredient is treated with care and respect, allowing the natural flavours of the region to shine through in cuisine that celebrates the destination's rich heritage.



As the day draws to a close and the sun slips behind the horizon, bathing the limestone cliffs in shades of violet, amber, and gold, the island assumes an almost otherworldly beauty that encourages a gentler rhythm of life. The air grows cooler and carries the scent of pine, wild herbs, and the sea, while lanterns begin to glow softly along the ancient stone pathways. The Adriatic laps quietly against the rocks below, creating a soothing soundtrack that enhances the sense of tranquillity and timelessness. In these moments, the island feels suspended between past and present, offering an atmosphere of profound calm and quiet reflection.

Evenings at Aman Sveti Stefan unfold with understated elegance. Guests may linger over candlelit dinners overlooking the water, stroll through the fragrant gardens of Villa Miločer, or find a secluded corner from which to watch fishing boats drift across the bay as the lights of the coastline begin to shimmer in the distance. There is a rare stillness here that invites complete disconnection from the demands of modern life and a deeper reconnection with nature, history, and oneself. Every experience, however simple, feels imbued with meaning and serenity.



Estelle Manor

A COUNTRYSIDE SANCTUARY OF REFINED GRANDEUR

Set amidst the rolling green expanses of the Cotswolds, Estelle Manor in Witney stands as a definitive evolution of the English country house hotel. More than just a rural retreat, this landmark estate represents a bold reimagining of the traditional manor, blending the historic weight of its Grade II listed architecture with a spirited, modern sensibility. Since its debut, the manor has quickly established itself as a sanctuary for those who seek the quietude of the Oxfordshire countryside without sacrificing the sophisticated energy of a private members' club. It is a place where classical proportions meet eclectic interiors, creating an environment that feels both grand and intimately lived in, offering a rare sense of belonging to every guest who passes through its heavy oak doors.

The heart of the estate is a magnificent neo-Gothic mansion that has been meticulously restored to its former glory, standing as a proud sentinel over sixty acres of manicured parkland. Inside, the design language is a vibrant celebration of texture and colour, where antique furnishings sit alongside bespoke contemporary pieces and bold artworks that challenge the traditional country house aesthetic. Every room tells a unique story, with high ceilings, ornate cornicing, and fireplaces enriching the estate's 108 rooms and suites.



Culinary excellence is woven into the very fabric of the Estelle Manor experience, with four distinct dining venues that cater to every mood and palate, ensuring that no two meals feel the same. The Brasserie, located in the former ballroom with its soaring ceilings and elegant panelling, offers a refined take on traditional English and French fare, perfect for a long, indulgent lunch.

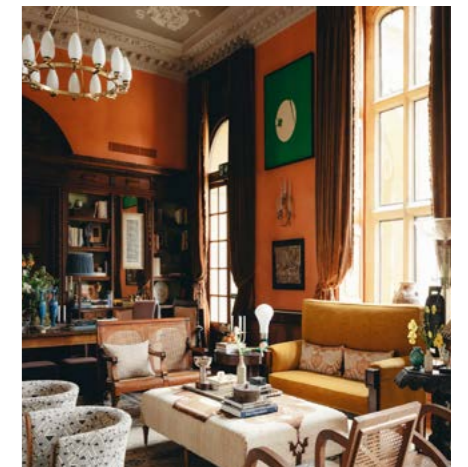
The Glasshouse, tucked away in the lush walled garden, provides a more casual, sun-drenched setting for garden-to-table dining where the menu is dictated entirely by the morning's harvest. For those seeking something more exotic, the estate's Billiards Room serves authentic Chinese cuisine in a space that balances dark wood elegance with high-spirited social energy. Each kitchen draws heavily from the estate's own organic gardens and local Cotswold farms, ensuring that every dish serves as a tribute to the seasonal bounty.

However, the true jewel in the manor's crown is Eynsham Baths at Estelle Manor, a vast Roman-inspired spa that elevates wellness in the English countryside to an entirely new level. Spanning more than three thousand square metres, this extraordinary sanctuary features a dramatic tepidarium, five thermal pools, and a private hammam, each thoughtfully designed to immerse guests in a world of deep relaxation and ancient ritual.



Towering stone arches, softly lit corridors, and tranquil water features create an atmosphere of monastic serenity, offering a contemplative contrast to the lively and eclectic interiors of the main house. Beyond the spa, the sixty-metre Riviera-style outdoor pool becomes the centrepiece of summer afternoons, bringing a touch of Mediterranean glamour to the Oxfordshire landscape, complete with attentive poolside service beneath ancient oaks and sweeping lawns. Gentle reflections ripple across the water as guests lounge in quiet comfort, creating an atmosphere that feels both cinematic and deeply restorative. As daylight shifts into golden hour, the entire space takes on a warm, luminous glow that enhances its sense of effortless luxury.

Yet the appeal of Estelle Manor extends far beyond its remarkable wellness facilities. Set within extensive parkland, the estate offers countless opportunities to reconnect with the natural world and embrace a slower, more deliberate pace of life. Guests can explore woodland trails, take part in falconry demonstrations, or enjoy traditional country pursuits that evoke the timeless charm of the English countryside. As evening descends and the sun casts a warm golden glow across the honey-coloured stone façade, the manor reveals its most enchanting qualities. History, nature, and contemporary luxury converge in effortless harmony, creating an atmosphere that feels both restorative and exhilarating. Even the quietest moments here feel thoughtfully composed, as if every detail of the estate is designed to heighten a sense of calm and wonder.



What makes Estelle Manor so compelling is its ability to honour the grandeur of its heritage while embracing a distinctly modern sensibility. Every detail, from the carefully restored architecture to the vibrant social spaces and world-class amenities, reflects a thoughtful balance between reverence and reinvention. It is a destination where old-world elegance is not merely preserved but reimagined with wit, sophistication, and a sense of playfulness. For discerning travellers seeking more than a conventional country escape, Estelle Manor stands as a masterclass in modern manor living, offering an experience of exceptional beauty, comfort, and enduring character that lingers long after departure. In every respect, it captures the evolving spirit of British luxury at its most imaginative and refined.



KLAS Art Auction

EXPLORING IDENTITY, MEMORY AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES THROUGH THE WORKS OF LEADING MALAYSIAN AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN MASTERS.

Bringing together some of the most celebrated names in Malaysian and Southeast Asian art, this curated selection showcases the extraordinary breadth of artistic expression that has emerged across the region. Through portraiture, landscape, abstraction and figurative painting, these works capture the diverse cultural experiences, social histories and creative innovations that have defined modern and contemporary art for generations. Each painting stands as both a significant artistic achievement and a reflection of the evolving narratives that continue to shape Southeast Asia's visual identity.

Coastal Memories and Vanishing Traditions

The relationship between people and place has long been a defining theme in Southeast Asian art. Few subjects have inspired artists more profoundly than the coastal communities, fishing villages and rural settlements that once shaped everyday life across the region.

For Khalil Ibrahim, the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia remained an enduring source of inspiration throughout his career. In both East Coast Fishermen Series (1989) and East Coast Series (1997), the artist transforms scenes of village life into lyrical celebrations of community, labour and resilience. Rendered in fluid watercolour, the fishermen emerge not merely as workers but as custodians of a way of life intimately connected to the rhythms of nature.

A similar fascination with maritime culture appears in Cheong Soo Pieng's Fishing Village (1960). Rather than documenting reality, the pioneering Nanyang master reimagines the village through a distinctly personal lens, employing stylised forms and inventive compositional structures that elevate the familiar into something poetic and timeless.



Khalil Ibrahim
East Coast Fishermen Series, 1989
Watercolour on Paper 12 x 16 cm
RM 2,500 - 5,000



Khalil Ibrahim
East Coast Series, 1997
Watercolour on Paper 27 x 37 cm
RM 3,000 - 7,500



Cheong Soo Pieng
Fishing Village, 1960
Oil on board 50 x 70cm
RM 190,000 - 250,000

The changing face of Southeast Asia is equally evident in the works of Lim Cheng Hoe. In *Village in the Forest, Singapore* (1972) and *The Solitary Sampan* (1969), the artist captures fleeting moments from a rapidly disappearing world. Through luminous watercolour washes and atmospheric sensitivity, Lim preserves the memory of traditional kampungs and waterways at a time when urbanisation was transforming the landscape forever.

Ritual, Performance and the Human Spirit

Movement, ritual and performance occupy a special place within Southeast Asian culture, providing artists with opportunities to explore both physical expression and deeper spiritual meaning.

Ahmad Zakii Anwar's *Legong Dancers* (2000) exemplifies this approach. Stripped of theatrical distractions, the dancers emerge from darkness with remarkable clarity and grace. Similarly, Datuk Yusof Ghani's *Siri Tari* (1992) approaches dance from a radically different perspective. Here, the body dissolves into sweeping gestures and energetic brushwork.



Lim Cheng Hoe
Village in the Forest, Singapore, 1972
Watercolour on paper 37 x 50 cm
RM 12,000 - 25,000



Lim Cheng Hoe
The Solitary Sampan, 1969
Watercolour on paper 33 x 42 cm
RM 12,000 - 25,000



Mohd Hoessein Enas, Dato'
Portrait of a Malay Woman, 1963
Oil on board 73 x 54 cm
RM 40,000 - 70,000



Mohd Hoessein Enas, Dato'
Portrait of a Malay Man, 1964
Oil on canvas 60 x 49.5 cm
RM 26,000 - 45,000

Portraits of Identity

As newly independent nations emerged across Southeast Asia, artists increasingly turned their attention toward the people who embodied these changing societies. Portraiture became a powerful means of expressing cultural pride, dignity and national identity.

No artist contributed more significantly to this tradition than Datuk Mohd Hoessein Enas. Widely regarded as the Father of Malaysian Portraiture, he dedicated his career to portraying the nation's people with extraordinary empathy and technical mastery.

In *Portrait of a Malay Woman* (1963) and *Portrait of a Malay Man* (1964), Hoessein presents his subjects with quiet confidence and psychological depth. Painted during the formative years of modern Malaysia, the works transcend simple likeness to become enduring symbols of cultural identity and national aspiration.



Yusof Ghani, Datuk
Siri Tari, 1992 Mixed media on paper 26 x 26 cm
RM 3,500 - 7,000



Ahmad Zakii Anwar
Legong Dancers, 2000
Acrylic on canvas 122 x 183 cm (diptych)
RM 80,000 - 160,000

ART FEATURES

Abstraction as Memory and Metaphor

By the late twentieth century, abstraction had become one of the most powerful vehicles for artistic expression in Malaysia. Freed from literal representation, artists began exploring memory, heritage and social realities through colour, texture and gesture.

Among the most influential figures in this movement is Awang Damit Ahmad. Works such as *Belatak Rapuh* (2010), *Garis Mega "Aku Akan Terus Bertahan"* (2016), *Garis Mega "Tribute..."* (2016), and *Garis Mega "Hanya Desir Angin... Biarkan"* (2018) demonstrate his remarkable ability to transform personal memory into universal visual language.

Drawing inspiration from rural Sabah and indigenous traditions, Awang constructs richly textured surfaces that evoke both physical landscapes and emotional terrain. Themes of endurance, cultural memory and time permeate these works.

Datuk Yusof Ghani's *Biring Series XI* (2006) similarly uses abstraction as metaphor. Inspired by the traditional motif of cockfighting, the painting becomes an explosive meditation on conflict, ambition and power. Through aggressive gestures and dynamic compositions, the artist exposes the tensions that exist beneath the surface of human behaviour.



Awang Damit Ahmad
Garis Mega "Tribute...", 2016
Mixed media on canvas 183 x 183 cm
RM 110,000 - 180,000



Awang Damit Ahmad
Garis Mega - "Aku Akan Terus Bertahan", 2016
Mixed media on canvas 183 x 183 cm
RM 110,000 - 180,000



Awang Damit Ahmad
Garis Mega - "Hanya Desir Angin... Biarkan", 2018
Mixed media on canvas 91 x 91 cm
RM 35,000 - 68,000

Yusof Ghani, Datuk
Segerak Series: Players, 2006
Charcoal and acrylic on linen
127 x 96 cm
RM 60,000 - 120,000



Awang Damit Ahmad
Belatak Rapuh, 2010
Mixed media on canvas 91 x 91 cm
RM 35,000 - 68,000

ART FEATURES

Colour, Atmosphere and Emotional Space

For some artists, colour itself becomes the primary subject. Rather than describing physical reality, they use colour to evoke memory, mood and sensation.

Rafiee Ghani has long been celebrated for this ability. In *Oriental Shades I* and *Oriental Shades IV* (1998), interiors dissolve into radiant fields of colour and atmosphere, inviting viewers into spaces suspended between reality and recollection. Similarly, *On The Coast* (1996) transforms landscape into an expressive arrangement of gesture and chromatic energy.

These works reveal Rafiee's unique gift for turning ordinary environments into emotional experiences, where colour becomes both narrative and memory.



Rafiee Ghani
Oriental Shades IV, 1998
Oil on canvas 90 x 99 cm
RM 12,000 - 25,000



Rafiee Ghani
Oriental Shades I, 1998
Oil on canvas 90 x 99 cm
RM 12,000 - 25,000



Syed Ahmad Jamal, Datuk
Al-Mubarak, 2008
Acrylic on board 51 x 81 cm
RM 70,000 - 140,000



Kwan Chin
Rambutan Seller, 2015
Batik 85 x 143 cm
RM 12,000 - 25,000



Ibrahim Hussein, Datuk
Figures in Landscape, 1974
Acrylic on canvas 51 x 62 cm
RM 160,000 - 280,000



Khoo Sui Hoe
Red River, 2012
Oil on canvas 177 x 244 cm
RM 220,000 - 400,000

Spiritual Landscapes and Inner Worlds

Beyond representation lies a more contemplative realm where artists explore spirituality, philosophy and the nature of existence itself.

Datuk Ibrahim Hussein's *Figures in Landscape* (1974) reflects his fascination with movement, structure and human complexity. Semi-figurative forms emerge within an abstract framework, creating a visual language that feels simultaneously futuristic and deeply personal. Characterised by his distinctive layering of lines, shapes and colour, the composition evokes a sense of constant motion and transformation.

Datuk Syed Ahmad Jamal's *Al-Mubarak* (2008) approaches abstraction through a spiritual lens. Through luminous colour, geometric structures and symbolic form, the National Art Laureate transforms the canvas into a meditation on faith, blessing and transcendence.

The feature concludes with Khoo Sui Hoe's *Red River* (2011), a work that embodies the artist's lifelong fascination with memory and imagination. The river becomes both landscape and metaphor, carrying figures through a dreamlike world where reality, recollection and emotion merge.

Understanding the Importance of Zinc

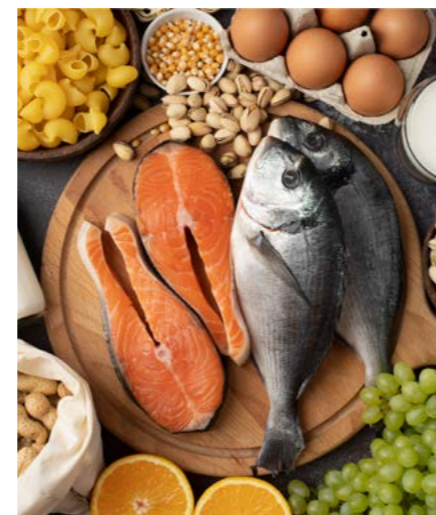
THE ESSENTIAL MINERAL YOUR BODY CANNOT IGNORE

In the world of nutrition, certain vitamins and minerals often dominate the conversation, while others quietly work behind the scenes to keep the body functioning at its best. Zinc is one of those essential nutrients that is frequently overlooked despite being fundamental to overall health and wellbeing. Required only in small amounts yet responsible for supporting hundreds of biological functions within the body, zinc remains one of the most important minerals for maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

Found naturally in a wide variety of foods, zinc contributes to everything from strengthening the immune system and supporting healthy skin to aiding metabolism and cellular repair. As modern lifestyles become increasingly fast paced and wellness focused, the importance of consuming nutrient rich foods has never been more relevant and zinc deserves a prominent place within that conversation.

One of zinc's most significant roles lies in its support of the immune system. The mineral assists the body in fighting infections, reducing inflammation, and supporting the body's natural healing process. During illness or fatigue, adequate zinc supports recovery and strengthens immune defences.

Beyond immunity, zinc is also widely recognised for its benefits to skin health and appearance. The mineral contributes to collagen production and tissue regeneration, both of which are essential for maintaining healthy skin and promoting repair. As a result, zinc is often associated with improving skin clarity, reducing inflammation, and supporting the healing of blemishes or irritation. It is no surprise that zinc has become increasingly popular within the wellness and beauty industries, where nutrition and skincare continue to intersect more closely than ever before.



Zinc also plays a key role in maintaining healthy hair, supporting cognitive performance, and regulating hormones throughout the body. It contributes to proper growth and development, making it especially important for children, adolescents, and pregnant women. In adults, zinc supports energy production, metabolism, and overall vitality, helping the body function efficiently on a daily basis. Despite its importance, many people remain unaware that even mild zinc deficiency can affect concentration, mood, appetite, and overall energy levels.

Fortunately, zinc is widely available through a balanced and nutrient-rich diet, making it relatively easy to meet daily requirements through whole foods. Animal-based sources are particularly rich in zinc and are also highly bioavailable, meaning the body can absorb and utilise the mineral more efficiently. Red meat, poultry, shellfish, dairy products, and eggs are all excellent options. Oysters, in particular, are renowned as one of the most concentrated natural sources of zinc, providing significantly higher levels than most other foods and making them beneficial for those looking to boost their intake.

Plant-based foods can also contribute meaningfully to zinc consumption, offering valuable alternatives for vegetarians and those following predominantly plant-based diets. Chickpeas, lentils, beans, and whole grains all contain zinc, with pumpkin seeds, and oats standing out as particularly good sources. Although compounds such as phytates in legumes and grains may slightly reduce absorption, a varied and well-planned diet can still provide sufficient amounts to support optimal health. Incorporating a variety of these foods helps maintain zinc levels while providing vitamins, and antioxidants that support overall wellbeing.



As discussions surrounding preventative healthcare and functional nutrition continue to gain momentum, zinc remains one of the most valuable yet often overlooked nutrients in the modern diet. While vitamins such as C and D frequently dominate conversations about immune health, zinc plays an equally vital role behind the scenes. It supports the body's ability to heal, defend itself against infection, regulate inflammation, and maintain energy levels during times of physical stress. Its influence extends to virtually every stage of life, from childhood growth and development to adult vitality and healthy ageing. While supplements can be helpful during illness or dietary restrictions, obtaining zinc through whole foods remains the most natural and effective approach.



The Hidden Power of Chewing

A SIMPLE HABIT WITH SURPRISING HEALTH BENEFITS



In the pursuit of better health, most people tend to focus on what they eat rather than how they eat. Superfoods, supplements, calorie tracking, and wellness routines dominate conversations surrounding nutrition, while one of the most fundamental parts of eating is often ignored entirely. Yet scientists and health experts are increasingly turning their attention towards something surprisingly simple that may hold significant benefits for the body and mind.

For many people, eating has become an automatic act performed in haste. Breakfast is swallowed while replying to emails, lunch is eaten at desks between meetings, and dinners are often accompanied by scrolling through social media or watching television. In a culture that celebrates speed and convenience, meals have become shorter, faster, and more distracted than ever before.

However, researchers are beginning to suggest that this modern habit may come with consequences. The act of chewing, once considered merely the first step of digestion, is now being explored as an essential process connected to gut health, brain performance, emotional regulation, and long term wellbeing. Digestion begins long before food reaches the stomach. Every bite that enters the mouth activates a chain reaction throughout the body.



Saliva production increases, digestive enzymes begin breaking down carbohydrates, and signals are sent to the stomach and intestines to prepare for incoming food. Proper chewing also physically breaks meals into smaller particles, making nutrients easier for the body to absorb efficiently.

When food is eaten too quickly, this entire process becomes disrupted. Larger pieces of food force the digestive system to work harder, often contributing to bloating, indigestion, and discomfort. Experts believe many people strain their digestive systems by not chewing their food thoroughly.

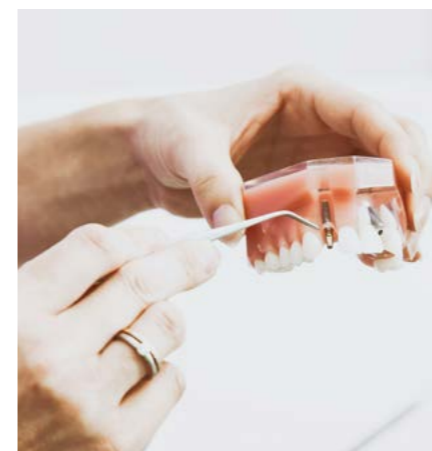
Scientists have discovered that chewing may also influence the brain in remarkable ways. Studies have shown that the repetitive motion of chewing can increase blood flow to certain regions of the brain associated with concentration and alertness. Some researchers suggest this may explain why chewing gum has long been associated with improved focus during studying or mentally demanding tasks.

There is also growing interest in the relationship between chewing and cognitive health as people age. Researchers believe proper chewing may help maintain mental sharpness later in life.



This emerging area of research has encouraged scientists to rethink the importance of oral health beyond simply maintaining teeth and gums. The mouth, once viewed as separate from overall health, is increasingly recognised as deeply connected to the body's wider systems.

Modern eating habits may be contributing to the issue more than people realise. Compared to previous generations, today's diets contain far more processed and softened foods that require minimal chewing effort. Fast food, ready made meals, and ultra processed snacks are designed for convenience, often eliminating the need for prolonged chewing altogether.



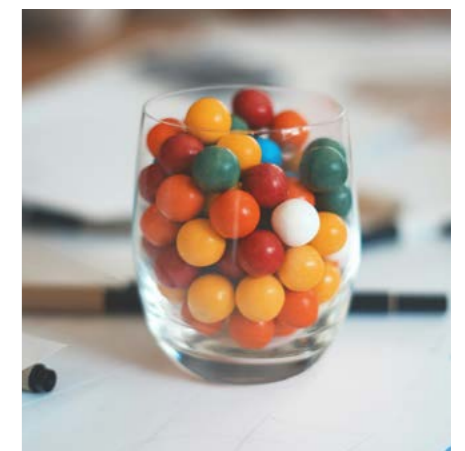
Anthropologists note that early humans likely spent significantly more time chewing than modern populations do today. Tougher grains, fibrous vegetables, and less processed foods demanded greater jaw activity and slower eating patterns. Some researchers believe that this shift towards softer diets may not only affect digestion but could even influence facial development, jaw strength, and dental structure over time.

Beyond the physical effects, chewing may also impact emotional wellbeing and mindfulness. Eating slowly encourages individuals to become more present during meals, allowing the brain time to recognise fullness and satisfaction.



In contrast, distracted eating often disconnects people from their natural hunger cues. Meals consumed quickly in front of screens can leave individuals feeling unsatisfied despite eating enough, leading to unnecessary snacking or overconsumption later in the day.

There is also evidence suggesting that the rhythmic action of chewing may help regulate stress. Some scientists believe the repetitive motion creates a calming effect on the nervous system, which could explain why people instinctively chew gum during stressful situations or periods of anxiety. The beauty of this health habit lies in its remarkable simplicity.



Protecting The Mind

SIMPLE HABITS THAT MAY HELP KEEP THE BRAIN YOUNGER FOR LONGER

Ageing is one of life's few certainties, yet the way people experience ageing is becoming increasingly influenced by the choices they make every day. While wrinkles, slower movement, and grey hair are commonly accepted as visible signs of growing older, scientists are now paying far greater attention to what happens internally, particularly within the brain. For decades, memory loss and cognitive decline were largely viewed as unavoidable consequences of ageing. Forgetting names, struggling to focus, or feeling mentally slower were often dismissed as natural parts of growing older. However, emerging research is beginning to challenge this long held assumption, suggesting that the brain may possess a far greater ability to adapt, strengthen, and protect itself throughout life than previously believed.

Experts now argue that maintaining cognitive health is not about discovering a single miracle treatment or relying on expensive medical interventions. Instead, it may come down to cultivating small but consistent lifestyle habits that stimulate and support the brain over many years. Researchers increasingly find that activities such as learning new skills and challenging routines may shape how the brain functions later in life.



One of the most significant concepts researchers often discuss is something known as "cognitive reserve". This term refers to the brain's ability to adapt and continue functioning efficiently despite ageing, stress, or physical changes within the body. Much like muscles become stronger when exercised regularly, the brain appears to become more resilient when it is consistently challenged and stimulated. Scientists believe that people who frequently engage in mentally active lifestyles may build stronger neural networks over time, allowing the brain to better compensate for age related decline. This growing understanding has transformed the way experts view ageing, shifting the conversation from inevitable deterioration towards prevention and resilience.



MALAYSIA



*Drive —————
Beautifully*

THE STUNNING NEW GIULIA AND STELVIO
ARE YOURS TO FALL IN LOVE WITH.

NOW WELCOMING REGISTRATIONS

 alfaromeomalaysia.com

 [alfaromeomy](https://www.instagram.com/alfaromeomy)

 [alfaromeomalaysia](https://www.facebook.com/alfaromeomalaysia)

NOW OPEN

Mind Consultant Clinic

39, Jalan Gasing, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

To Book an Appointment: +6011 1997 1668



The Mind Consultant - a brand comprising professionals in the mental health field provide easy, specifically-tailored online counselling service. Seek online counselling from the comfort of your home today.



Contact us now:
themindconsultant.com