

# KL lifestyle

JULY 2026



## Warisan Negara KL

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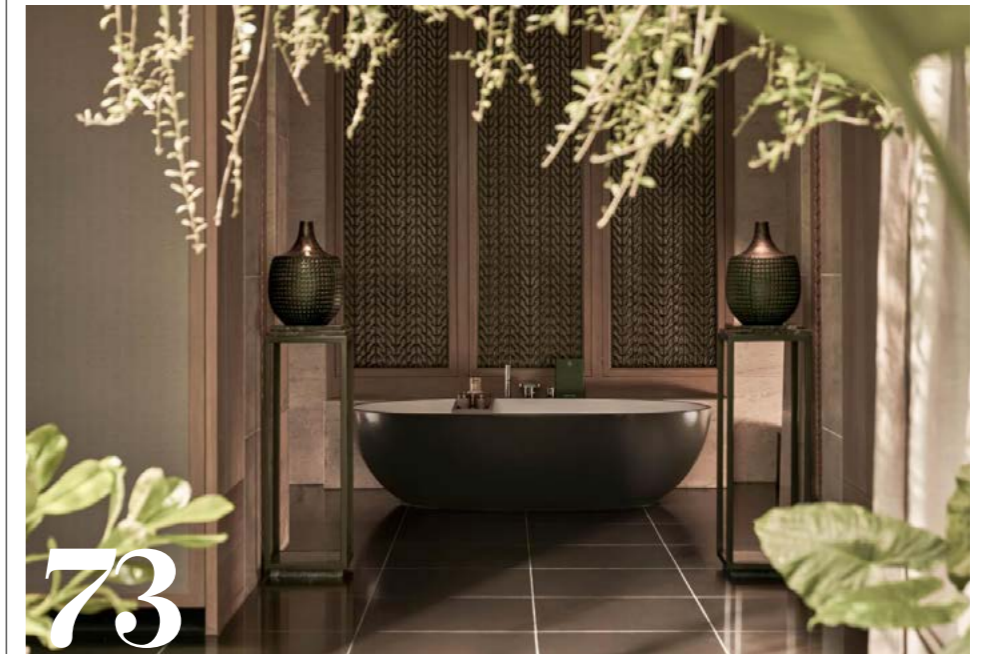
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## HEALTH & BEAUTY

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**ON THE COVER :**  
WARISAN NEGARA KL  
GUARDIANS OF MALAYSIA'S LIVING HERITAGE

**COVER IMAGE :**  
Malaysian Wau Bulan Kite at Pasar Seni  
Kuala Lumpur

# What's On in July 2026

YOUR GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST HAPPENINGS IN JULY 2026

## Concerts



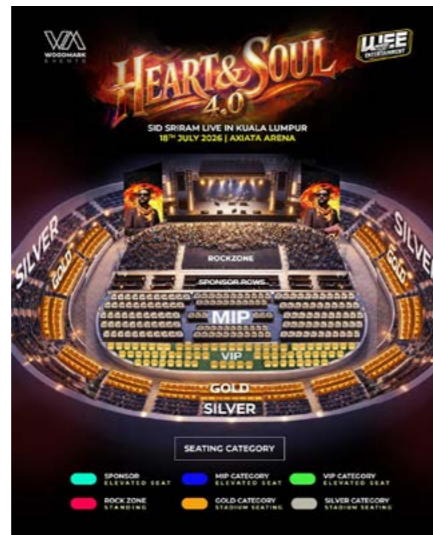
### The Neighbourhood – Live in KL

The Neighbourhood brings their signature moody alt-rock sound to Kuala Lumpur for a highly anticipated night of live music. Known for their atmospheric style and emotionally driven lyrics, the band rose to global fame with hits that defined a generation of indie listeners. The show will feature their biggest hits and newer material.

**Date :** 16 July 2026

**Venue :** Mega Star Arena KL

**Price :** RM 688, RM 598, RM 498, RM 398



### Sid Sriram – Live in Kuala Lumpur

Sid Sriram returns to Malaysia with a powerful live performance that blends classical Indian music with contemporary playback and soul-driven fusion. Renowned for his emotional vocal delivery and technical mastery, he has built a global following across multiple languages and genres.

**Date :** 18 July 2026

**Venue :** Axiata Arena, Bukit Jalil

**Price :** RM 455, RM 235, RM 145, RM 175



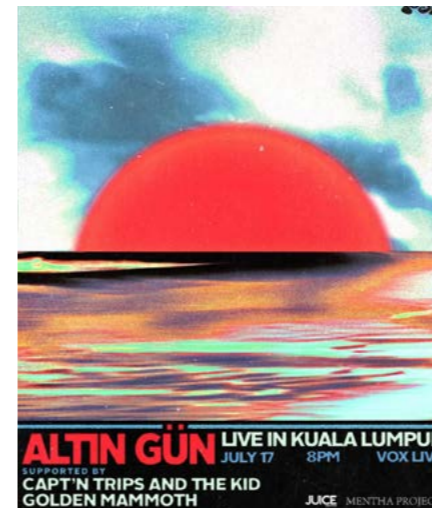
### Mitski – Live in Kuala Lumpur

Mitski brings her deeply emotional and critically acclaimed indie sound to Kuala Lumpur for a night of raw storytelling and atmospheric performance. Known for her poetic lyricism and intense stage presence, she has become one of the most influential voices in modern alternative music.

**Date :** 20 July 2026

**Venue :** Zepp Kuala Lumpur

**Price :** RM 4,308 (8 pax), RM 408, RM 358



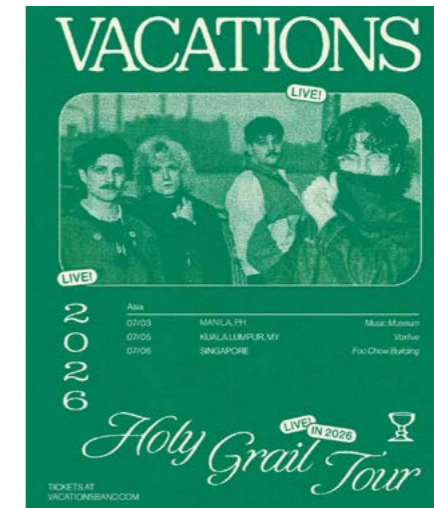
### Altin Gün – Live in Kuala Lumpur

Altin Gün brings their vibrant fusion of Anatolian folk and psychedelic rock to Kuala Lumpur for a high-energy global music experience. Known for reimagining traditional Turkish sounds with modern grooves and electronic textures, the band has built a reputation for delivering hypnotic and rhythm-driven performances. This concert will showcase their signature blend of danceable world music.

**Date :** 17 July 2026

**Venue :** VOX Live Kuala Lumpur

**Price :** RM 178, RM 198



### Vacations – Live in Kuala Lumpur

Vacations arrive in Malaysia with their laid-back indie sound and dreamy guitar-driven melodies that have made them a favourite in the global surf-rock scene. Known for their relaxed yet emotionally rich tracks, the band delivers music that feels both nostalgic and fresh. This performance will feature a mix of fan favourites and newer releases, offering a warm and easygoing live experience perfect for indie music lovers.

**Date :** 5 July 2026

**Venue :** VOX Live Kuala Lumpur

**Price :** RM 278



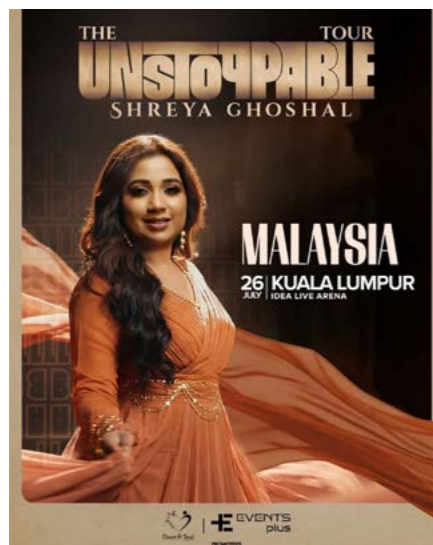
### Kenny G – World Tour Malaysia

Kenny G brings his smooth jazz mastery to Malaysia for an elegant evening of timeless instrumentals. Famous for his saxophone-driven melodies that have defined contemporary jazz for decades, he continues to captivate audiences worldwide with his soothing and atmospheric sound. This concert promises a refined and intimate musical experience filled with signature classics and romantic compositions.

**Date :** 12 July 2026

**Venue :** Arena of Stars Genting Highlands

**Price :** RM 668, RM 558, RM 458, RM 358, RM 258



### Shreya Ghoshal – Live in Malaysia

Shreya Ghoshal returns with a grand orchestral-style concert showcasing her extraordinary vocal range and emotional versatility. One of the most celebrated playback singers in Indian cinema, she is known for delivering timeless melodies across Bollywood and regional languages. This performance will feature a rich selection of romantic ballads and cinematic classics, creating an elegant and emotionally resonant evening.

**Date :** 26 July 2026

**Venue :** Idea Live Arena

**Price :** RM 829, RM 549, RM 389, RM 329, RM 299, RM 279, RM 219, RM 199, RM 169



### Lisa Ono – Live in Kuala Lumpur

Legendary Brazilian-Japanese bossa nova singer Lisa Ono brings her timeless repertoire to Kuala Lumpur for an intimate evening of elegant melodies and smooth jazz rhythms. Celebrated for her soothing vocals and effortless interpretations of classic bossa nova, she has captivated audiences around the world for decades. This performance promises a relaxing musical journey featuring beloved standards alongside her signature recordings in a warm and sophisticated setting.

**Date :** 3 July 2026

**Venue :** Zepp Kuala Lumpur

**Price :** RM 4,800 (4 pax), RM 888, RM 588, RM 488, RM 458, RM 358, RM 258

Festivals & Expo



**ASEAN Ports and Logistics 2026**

ASEAN Ports and Logistics 2026 serves as one of the region's premier maritime and supply chain gatherings, bringing together port authorities, shipping companies, logistics providers and industry experts from across Southeast Asia. Held in Kuala Lumpur, the event highlights the latest developments in port infrastructure, digital logistics, cargo handling and sustainable transport solutions.

**Date :** 7 – 9 July 2026

**Venue :** Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

**Time :** 7 – 8 July (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM),  
9 July (9:00 AM – 3:30 PM)



**Malaysia International Food & Beverage Trade Fair 2026**

MIFB 2026 returns as one of Malaysia's largest food and beverage exhibitions, bringing together manufacturers, suppliers and industry professionals from around the world. The event showcases innovations in food technology, packaging, beverages and halal products while featuring expert talks, competitions and networking opportunities.

**Date :** 15 – 17 July 2026

**Venue :** Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

**Time :** 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM



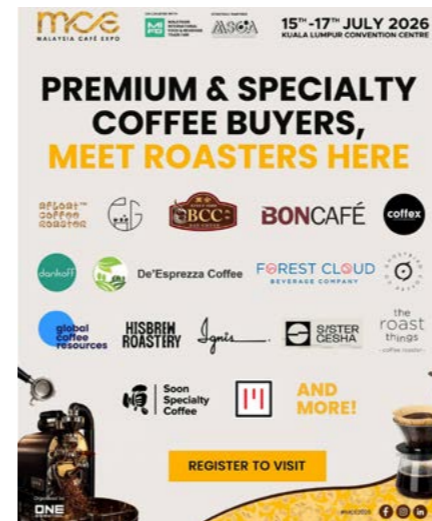
**International Machinery Fair (MIMF 2026)**

The Malaysia International Machinery Fair (MIMF 2026) returns as one of the country's leading industrial exhibitions, bringing together manufacturers, suppliers and technology providers to showcase the latest advancements in machinery, automation and smart manufacturing solutions. Covering sectors such as packaging, food processing, plastics and industrial equipment, the exhibition highlights innovations aimed at improving productivity and operational efficiency.

**Date :** 16 – 18 July 2026

**Venue :** Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre (MITEC)

**Time :** 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM



**Malaysia Café Expo 2026**

Malaysia Café Expo 2026 celebrates the thriving coffee and café industry by bringing together roasters, baristas, equipment suppliers and café owners under one roof. The event features competitions, product showcases and educational sessions designed to highlight emerging trends and innovations within the specialty coffee scene. It also provides opportunities for networking and business development among industry professionals.

**Date :** 15 – 17 July 2026

**Venue :** Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

**Time :** 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM



**Food & Drinks Malaysia by SIAL 2026**

Food & Drinks Malaysia by SIAL 2026 brings together leading food manufacturers, distributors, importers and hospitality professionals to showcase the latest innovations across the global food and beverage industry. Featuring international exhibitors, product launches, business matching sessions and industry forums, the exhibition provides valuable opportunities for networking, sourcing and market expansion.

**Date :** 21 – 23 July 2026

**Venue :** Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre (MITEC)

**Time :** 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM



**Chocolate Show 2026**

Chocolate Show 2026 celebrates the artistry and innovation of the global chocolate industry, bringing together chocolatiers, confectionery brands, cocoa producers and dessert specialists. Visitors can explore premium chocolate creations, live demonstrations, tasting sessions and the latest trends in artisan confectionery. The event also showcases premium and sustainable chocolate products.

**Date :** 21 – 23 July 2026

**Venue :** Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre (MITEC)

**Time :** 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM



**ARCHIDEX 2026**

Celebrating its 25th edition, ARCHIDEX 2026 returns as Asia's leading architecture, interior design and building exhibition. Bringing together architects, designers, developers and manufacturers from around the world, the event showcases cutting-edge technologies, sustainable building solutions and emerging design trends. Through forums, exhibitions and networking sessions, ARCHIDEX continues to shape the future of the built environment across the region.

**Date :** 29 July – 1 August 2026

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

**Time :** 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM



**Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival (KLAFF) 2026**

Held alongside ARCHIDEX, the Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival celebrates creativity and innovation in architecture and urban design. The festival features exhibitions, forums and interactive programmes aimed at promoting sustainable cities and inspiring future generations of designers. It provides a platform for professionals and the public to engage with contemporary ideas that are shaping the built environment.

**Date :** 29 July – 1 August 2026

**Venue :** Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre (MITEC)

**Time :** 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

# Big Screen Thrills

JULY MOVIE PREMIERES



## MINIONS & MONSTERS

JULY 1

Minions & Monsters transports the mischievous yellow icons to the golden age of 1920s Hollywood, where they embark on a quest to find fearsome creatures for their latest cinematic venture. Their plans take an unexpected turn when they strike up an unlikely friendship with a mysterious green being, only to unleash a wave of monsters that threatens the entire planet. Faced with the chaos they have created, the Minions must race against time to restore order, resulting in a lively adventure filled with humour, action and larger-than-life escapades that will delight audiences of all ages.

**Genre:** Animation / Adventure / Comedy / Family / Sci-Fi

**Cast:** Zoey Deutch, Bobby Moynihan, Allison Janney, Jeff Bridges, Christoph Waltz, Jesse Eisenberg, Phil LaMarr



## THE BAY

JULY 2

The Bay delivers a tense survival thriller set against the idyllic backdrop of Thailand. The story follows best friends Emma and Lani, who travel to attend a destination wedding, only to find their celebrations cut short when their tour boat begins to sink in the middle of a tiger shark sanctuary. Stranded in open waters and confronted by a growing threat beneath the surface, the pair must rely on their courage and resourcefulness to stay alive. Combining suspense, danger and emotional resilience, the film promises a gripping experience that will keep audiences on edge from start to finish.

**Genre:** Thriller

**Cast:** Francesca Eastwood, Alexander Wraith, Dani Oliveros, Ta'imua, Calan Scherer, Destiny Benner



## MOANA

JULY 10

Moana brings Disney's beloved 2016 animated classic to life in a vibrant live-action adventure inspired by Polynesian culture and mythology. The story follows a spirited young woman who embarks on a daring voyage across the ocean to fulfil an ancient mission and save her people. Joined by the larger-than-life demigod Maui, she encounters mythical creatures, navigates dangerous waters and discovers the strength and identity that define her destiny. Combining humour, music and breathtaking adventure, the film offers a heartfelt journey that celebrates courage, heritage and the enduring bond between humanity and the sea.

**Genre:** Action / Adventure / Comedy / Family / Fantasy / Musical

**Cast:** Catherine Laga'aia, Dwayne Johnson, John Tui, Frankie Adams, Rena Owen, Jemaine Clement



## THE ODYSSEY

JULY 17

The Odyssey reimagines one of the greatest epics in literature through a sweeping adventure filled with danger, wonder and perseverance. Set in the aftermath of the Trojan War, the story follows Odysseus as he embarks on a perilous journey back to his homeland of Ithaca. Along the way, he encounters formidable creatures and mythical beings, including the Cyclops Polyphemus, the enchanting Sirens and the mysterious Calypso, each presenting challenges that test his courage and resolve. Combining grand spectacle with emotional depth, the film promises an epic tale of survival, destiny and the enduring desire to return home.

**Genre:** Adventure / Drama / Fantasy

**Cast:** Matt Damon, Tom Holland, Anne Hathaway, Robert Pattinson, Lupita Nyong'o, Zendaya, Charlize Theron



## SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY

JULY 30

Spider-Man: Brand New Day marks a new chapter for Peter Parker as he struggles to rebuild his life in the wake of being forgotten by the world. Living in isolation and dedicating himself entirely to his responsibilities as Spider-Man, he finds the pressures of his dual existence becoming increasingly difficult to bear. As personal challenges mount and a powerful new adversary emerges, Peter is forced to confront changes that threaten to push him beyond his limits. Blending high-stakes action with emotional depth, the film delivers an exciting adventure that explores sacrifice, identity and what it truly means to be a hero.

**Genre:** Action / Adventure / Fantasy / Sci-Fi

**Cast:** Tom Holland, Zendaya, Sadie Sink, Jacob Batalon, Jon Bernthal, Tramell Tillman, Michael Mando, Mark Ruffalo

# Warisan Negara KL

GUARDIANS OF MALAYSIA'S LIVING HERITAGE

While Kuala Lumpur is celebrated for its architectural landmarks and rapid economic progress, its true character is found within the stories, traditions, and communities that have shaped the city over generations. Beneath its modern skyline lies a rich and layered cultural legacy that continues to influence the identity of Malaysia's capital, reflecting the many communities, histories, and exchanges that have contributed to its evolution.

Warisan Negara KL serves as a dedicated steward of this living heritage, preserving the narratives, places, and traditions that define the city's unique character. Through ongoing conservation efforts and community engagement, it works to ensure that the past and present remain meaningfully connected, allowing Kuala Lumpur's cultural foundations to endure and thrive alongside its continued urban transformation.



## The Heart of Heritage in a Modern Capital

In a city defined by glass towers, rapid development, and global ambition, there remains a quieter but deeply significant force preserving the soul of Kuala Lumpur. Warisan Negara KL stands as a guardian of Malaysia's cultural memory, ensuring that heritage is not only remembered but actively lived within the rhythm of a modern capital. As Kuala Lumpur continues to evolve into one of Southeast Asia's most dynamic urban centres, balancing international investment, architectural innovation, and economic growth, the responsibility of protecting its historical and cultural identity becomes increasingly significant. Modern cities are often measured by what they build next, yet their true character is equally shaped by what they choose to preserve. Warisan Negara KL embodies this philosophy, safeguarding the stories, traditions, and landmarks that continue to define the nation's collective identity amidst constant transformation.

Kuala Lumpur is often introduced to the world through its remarkable skyline. The iconic Petronas Twin Towers, the record-breaking Merdeka 118, and an ever-expanding collection of commercial districts have become internationally recognised symbols of Malaysia's confidence, prosperity, and forward-looking ambitions. These architectural achievements reflect a nation embracing innovation while positioning itself prominently within the global economy. However, beneath this contemporary image lies a city whose foundations were built long before steel and glass came to dominate the horizon.

The history of Kuala Lumpur is one of continuous evolution. Emerging from a modest mining settlement in the nineteenth century, the city grew through trade, entrepreneurship, migration, and cultural exchange. Communities from across the Malay Peninsula, China, India, and beyond established businesses, places of worship, schools, and neighbourhoods that collectively shaped the multicultural character for which Kuala Lumpur is celebrated today. Colonial administration introduced new architectural styles and urban planning principles, while independence brought renewed confidence in expressing a distinctly Malaysian identity. Every generation has left its imprint upon the city, creating an urban landscape where diverse histories coexist within remarkably close proximity.

This layered heritage can still be experienced throughout Kuala Lumpur's historic quarters. Traditional shophouses stand beside contemporary developments, colonial-era civic buildings continue serving public functions, while long-established markets and religious institutions remain active centres of community life. These places are not simply architectural landmarks; they represent the everyday lives, aspirations, and achievements of countless individuals who contributed to the city's development over generations. Preserving them protects Kuala Lumpur's cultural and historical identity.



Warisan Negara KL exists to ensure that these invaluable narratives are not overshadowed by the pace of urban transformation. Rather than viewing preservation as an exercise in nostalgia, the organisation recognises heritage as an essential component of a resilient and sustainable city. Through meticulous documentation, conservation planning, restoration projects, historical research, educational initiatives, and public engagement programmes, it works to safeguard both the physical and cultural elements that define Malaysia's national identity. Each restored building, protected streetscape, and documented tradition contributes to a broader effort to ensure that development does not come at the expense of historical continuity.



The organisation's work extends beyond conserving prominent monuments. Equally important is the preservation of everyday heritage that quietly shapes the city's identity. Historic neighbourhoods, traditional craftsmanship, vernacular architecture, community customs, oral histories, and cultural practices all form part of an interconnected legacy that deserves recognition and protection. By documenting and promoting these often-overlooked aspects of Malaysian heritage, Warisan Negara KL encourages a more holistic understanding of history—one that values not only monumental architecture but also the lived experiences of ordinary communities.

Education plays an equally important role in this mission. Heritage conservation becomes most meaningful when people understand why these places matter and how they contribute to a shared national identity. Through exhibitions and community initiatives, Warisan Negara KL promotes greater appreciation for Malaysia's rich cultural heritage.



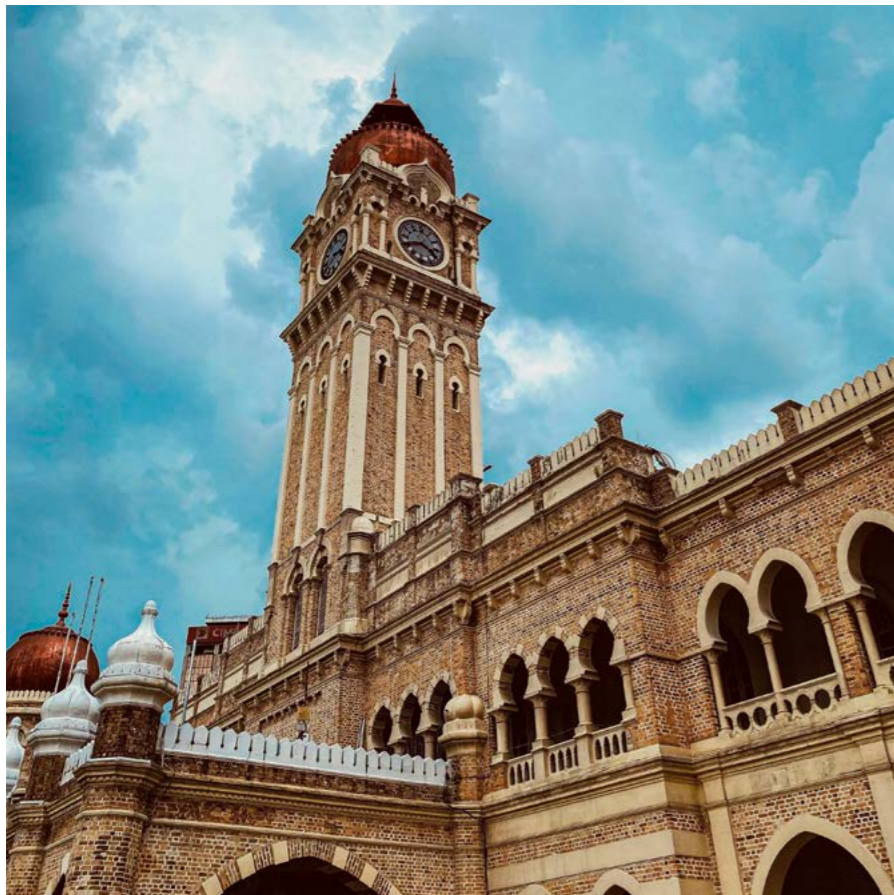
### Preservation, People and the Architecture of Memory

The work of Warisan Negara KL extends far beyond preservation in the conventional sense. It is an active engagement with architecture, anthropology, urban planning, and community storytelling, recognising that a city's identity is shaped not only by its buildings but also by the people, traditions, and experiences connected to them. Rather than simply protecting ageing structures, the organisation seeks to preserve the relationships between place, memory, and culture, ensuring that Kuala Lumpur's historical character continues to inform its future development.

Every preserved building, restored façade, and documented oral history contributes to a broader effort to map the identity of Kuala Lumpur. Collectively, these individual elements form a living archive that reveals how the city has evolved across generations. Streets, neighbourhoods, and public spaces become repositories of shared experiences, reflecting the aspirations, achievements, and everyday lives of the communities that have shaped the capital over time. By recording these narratives alongside the physical landscape, Warisan Negara KL reinforces the understanding that heritage encompasses both tangible and intangible forms of cultural expression.

Historic buildings are therefore not treated as isolated artefacts but as integral chapters within a wider urban narrative. Their significance extends beyond architectural style or construction technique, encompassing the social, political, and economic histories that unfolded within and around them. From pre-war shophouses that once housed generations of family-run businesses to colonial administrative buildings that witnessed key moments in the nation's development, every structure offers valuable insight into Kuala Lumpur's transformation. Traditional Malay settlements, historic places of worship, civic institutions, and early commercial districts together illustrate the city's remarkable cultural diversity and its longstanding role as a meeting point for different communities.

These architectural landmarks reflect the evolution of Kuala Lumpur from a modest tin mining settlement into a thriving global metropolis. As the city expanded through commerce, migration, and industrialisation, successive generations introduced new architectural influences while adapting existing spaces to economic needs.



### Urban Futures and the Living Identity of Kuala Lumpur

As Kuala Lumpur moves further into the twenty-first century, the role of Warisan Negara KL becomes increasingly important in shaping how the city evolves. Rapid urbanisation continues to transform the capital at an unprecedented pace, bringing new opportunities for economic growth, technological innovation, and international investment. Towering mixed-use developments, expanded transport networks, and ambitious regeneration projects reflect Malaysia's aspirations to remain globally competitive.

Rapid development inevitably brings both opportunity and risk. While new infrastructure improves connectivity and enhances quality of life, it can also place considerable pressure on historic neighbourhoods, traditional communities, and architectural landmarks. Older buildings are often surrounded by contemporary developments, while long-established districts face changing demographics and commercial demands. Without thoughtful planning, the physical traces of Kuala Lumpur's past risk being replaced by environments that, although modern and efficient, lack the distinctive character that gives the city its identity.

The challenge, therefore, is not to resist development but to integrate heritage into the future city. Contemporary urban planning increasingly recognises that economic progress and cultural preservation are not opposing ambitions but complementary objectives. Cities that successfully retain their historical character often become more attractive places to live, work, and visit, offering an authenticity that cannot be recreated through new construction alone. Heritage provides continuity within an ever-changing urban environment, connecting successive generations to the places and stories that shaped the nation.

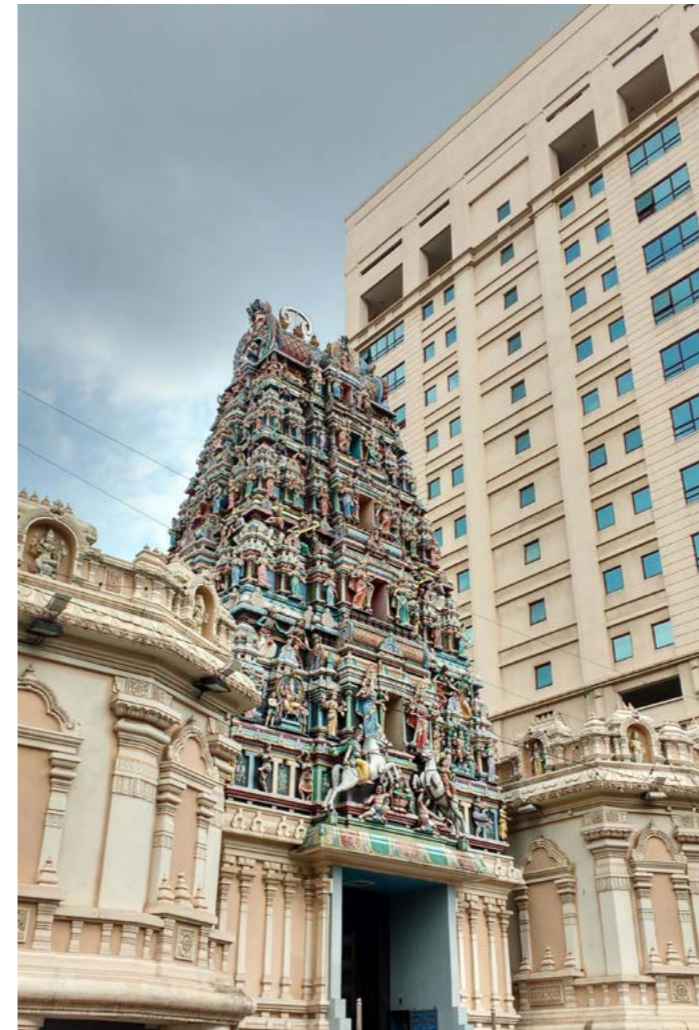


Increasingly, architects, conservation specialists, and urban planners are embracing models of adaptive reuse, where historic structures are carefully restored and incorporated into contemporary developments. Rather than demolishing ageing buildings, they are reimagined to accommodate new purposes while retaining their architectural significance. Former commercial premises, warehouses, civic buildings, and traditional shophouses can be transformed into galleries, creative studios, boutique hospitality spaces, educational institutions, and cultural centres. This approach extends the lifespan of historic buildings while allowing them to remain active contributors to the city's economy and social life.

Adaptive reuse also demonstrates that sustainability extends beyond environmental performance. Preserving existing buildings reduces material waste, conserves embodied carbon, and celebrates craftsmanship that would otherwise be lost. By retaining significant architectural features while introducing modern technologies and contemporary functions, these projects illustrate how heritage can actively support more sustainable forms of urban development. They reinforce the idea that conservation is not simply about protecting the past, but about creating resilient cities capable of balancing history with innovation.

This philosophy allows Kuala Lumpur to grow vertically and technologically while maintaining its cultural foundations horizontally. Modern skyscrapers, transport infrastructure, and commercial developments need not exist in opposition to historic districts. Instead, they can coexist within a carefully considered urban landscape where each contributes to the city's evolving identity. Historic streetscapes provide scale, texture, and cultural richness that complement contemporary architecture, creating a more diverse and engaging public realm.

Across the city, heritage zones are increasingly evolving into vibrant cultural districts that support tourism, education, and community life. Restored neighbourhoods encourage visitors to explore Kuala Lumpur beyond its modern skyline, offering opportunities to experience traditional architecture, local cuisine, artisan workshops, museums, and historic places of worship within their original settings. These districts boost local economies.



Yet despite these technological advancements, the essence of heritage remains profoundly human. Heritage is not defined solely by monuments, archives, or architectural landmarks, but by the memories, relationships, and traditions that continue to shape everyday life. It is carried through language, ritual, craftsmanship, music, and shared customs, passed from one generation to the next through lived experience rather than written records alone. It lives in the way recipes are prepared in family kitchens, in artisans preserving centuries-old techniques, in neighbourhood gatherings, religious celebrations, and festivals that continue to reflect Malaysia's remarkable cultural diversity. These everyday practices form an equally important part of the nation's identity, reminding us that heritage survives because people continue to live it.

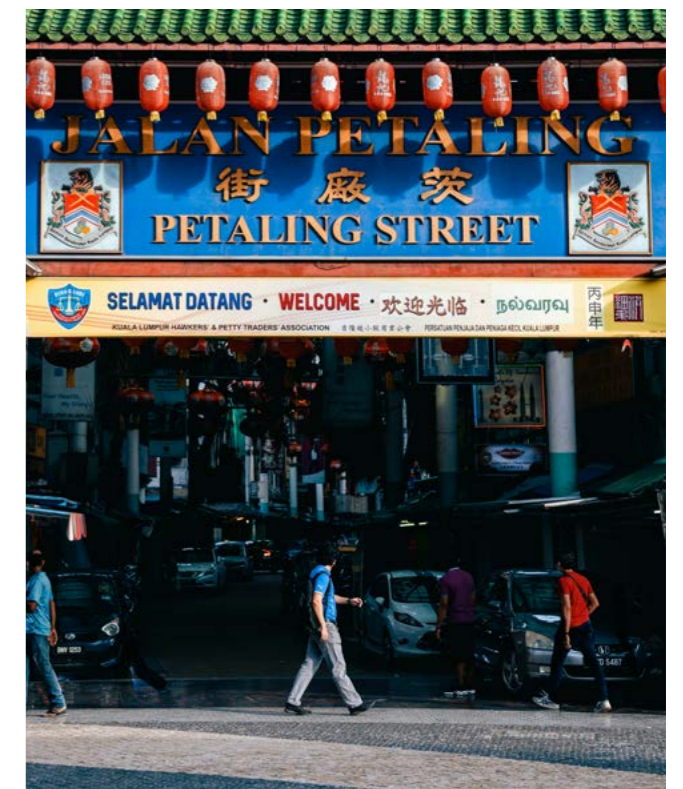
This understanding reinforces the importance of preserving both tangible and intangible heritage together. Historic buildings provide the physical setting for cultural traditions, while communities give meaning and purpose to the spaces they inhabit. Without people, architecture becomes an empty shell; without places, traditions lose much of the context that gives them significance. Warisan Negara KL recognises this inseparable relationship, ensuring that conservation extends beyond restoring buildings to sustaining the cultural life that continues to animate them.

Ultimately, Warisan Negara KL represents far more than an organisation dedicated to conservation. It reflects a broader national commitment to understanding how history, culture, and identity continue to shape Malaysia's future.

Digital technology is also playing an increasingly significant role in heritage preservation, transforming the ways in which history is documented, interpreted, and experienced. As cities become more connected through digital innovation, cultural institutions are embracing new technologies to safeguard historical records while making them accessible to wider audiences. Virtual archives, three-dimensional mapping, augmented reality tours, interactive exhibitions, and digital storytelling platforms enable visitors to engage with heritage in ways that extend beyond traditional museum displays. These innovations allow fragile artefacts, historic buildings, and archival materials to be preserved digitally while encouraging greater public participation in the exploration of Malaysia's cultural legacy.

For younger generations in particular, digital platforms provide new opportunities to connect with history through familiar technologies. Interactive mobile applications, immersive virtual experiences, and online educational resources make heritage more engaging, encouraging audiences to discover the stories behind historic buildings, neighbourhoods, and cultural traditions. By presenting history through contemporary mediums, heritage organisations ensure that the past remains relevant within an increasingly digital society, allowing historical narratives to reach audiences far beyond physical boundaries.

Technology also strengthens the work of conservation professionals. Detailed digital documentation, laser scanning, and three-dimensional modelling provide highly accurate records of historic structures, supporting restoration efforts and creating valuable archives for future research. These tools enable architects, historians, and conservators to study buildings with remarkable precision, ensuring that preservation decisions are informed by comprehensive historical evidence. Technology complements traditional conservation practices, strengthening heritage preservation.



# The Evolutionary Eye

HONORING THE SEAMLESS TRANSITIONS AND SOULFUL ACTIVISM OF VICTOR CHIN

The Malaysian art community, and indeed the very historic streets of Kuala Lumpur, Penang, and Melaka, grew profoundly quieter on the 14th of November 2022. The passing of Victor Chin at the age of 73 marked the poignant conclusion of a singularly unique chapter in Southeast Asian contemporary culture. To categorize Victor Chin simply as an artist, a writer, a filmmaker, or a designer is to overlook the invisible intellectual and emotional thread that bound his diverse life's work together. He was, fundamentally, a romantic radical, a man whose life functioned as a brilliant masterclass in creative evolution, community advocacy, and deeply dedicated fatherhood. In a commercialized art landscape where practitioners often find a signature style early in their careers and cling to it for financial survival, Chin operated on an entirely different temporal rhythm. His creative journey was defined by an extraordinary, self-imposed decade-long cycle. Every ten years, he would adopt a completely unfamiliar artistic medium, immerse himself entirely until he had perfected it in his own distinct way, and then gracefully abandon it to begin anew from a place of vulnerability.



In the 1980s and early 1990s, his chosen vehicle for processing the world was watercolor. Over a consuming fifteen-year love affair with the medium, Chin produced an extensive, monumental collection of 64 exquisite watercolors documenting the pre-independence colonial architecture and shophouses of the Straits Settlements. These architectural façades, captured with vibrant, luminous precision, were never mere academic exercises in perspective or nostalgic romanticism; they were urgent repositories of human memory. To truly understand Victor Chin is to appreciate the psychological weight and artistic bravery of this deliberate, ten-year metamorphosis. He possessed a rare creative fearlessness, viewing the absolute mastery of a medium not as a comfortable destination to rest upon, but as a clear signal that it was time to move on to uncharted territory. Having mastered the fluid, unforgiving nature of water and pigment to preserve these disappearing urban vistas, Chin did what few established artists would dare in the mid-1990s: he laid down his brushes for nearly two decades.



He steadfastly refused to let repetition dull his perception or turn his practice into a factory of predictable commodities. Throughout his career, Victor Chin resisted the temptation to remain within a single recognisable style simply because it had achieved critical or commercial success. Instead, he regarded artistic complacency as one of the greatest threats to creative integrity. Every new body of work became an opportunity to challenge himself intellectually, emotionally, and technically, ensuring that his practice remained a process of continual exploration rather than comfortable repetition. This restless curiosity allowed his artistic language to evolve organically, reflecting not only changes in his surroundings but also the continual expansion of his own worldview.

When the whispered call of his first love eventually returned decades later, it manifested entirely differently. Rather than revisiting the expansive watercolor landscapes that had first established his reputation, Chin embraced a quieter and more introspective visual language through intimate monochromatic ink drawings and intricate multi-perspective collages. These works moved beyond straightforward representation, weaving together fragments of memory, observation, imagination, and lived experience into layered compositions that blurred the boundaries between reality and dream. Leaning into elements of magical realism, they captured the atmospheric and spiritual essence of places such as Kathmandu, traditional Japanese homes, ancient temples, and contemplative interior spaces. Instead of documenting architecture or landscapes with photographic precision, he distilled their emotional resonance, inviting viewers to experience the lingering spirit of a place rather than its physical appearance alone.

These later works revealed an artist who had become increasingly interested in memory, perception, and the invisible connections between people and their environments. Multiple viewpoints coexisted within a single composition, collapsing conventional ideas of time and space while reflecting the fragmented yet deeply personal way human experiences are remembered. Empty corridors, weathered wooden structures, sacred objects, and everyday domestic details became symbolic elements that carried quiet narratives, encouraging viewers to engage with the works slowly and thoughtfully. The restrained monochromatic palette further heightened this sense of contemplation, demonstrating that emotional depth could emerge through subtlety rather than visual excess. This artistic nomadism was driven by an unwavering conviction that art must never become a passive or comfortable luxury.



Consequently, his second great decade-long pivot led him away from the gallery walls and into the demanding realities of grassroots activism, community engagement, journalism, and documentary filmmaking. For Victor Chin, artistic practice had never existed in isolation from the social realities surrounding him. Throughout his life, he believed that creativity carried an ethical responsibility to engage with the lives of ordinary people, particularly those whose voices were routinely overlooked or marginalised. As his interests evolved, he increasingly sought ways to move beyond the role of observer, becoming an active participant in the communities whose stories had long inspired his work. This transition marked not a departure from art, but an expansion of its purpose, allowing creative expression to become a direct instrument for advocacy, education, and social change.

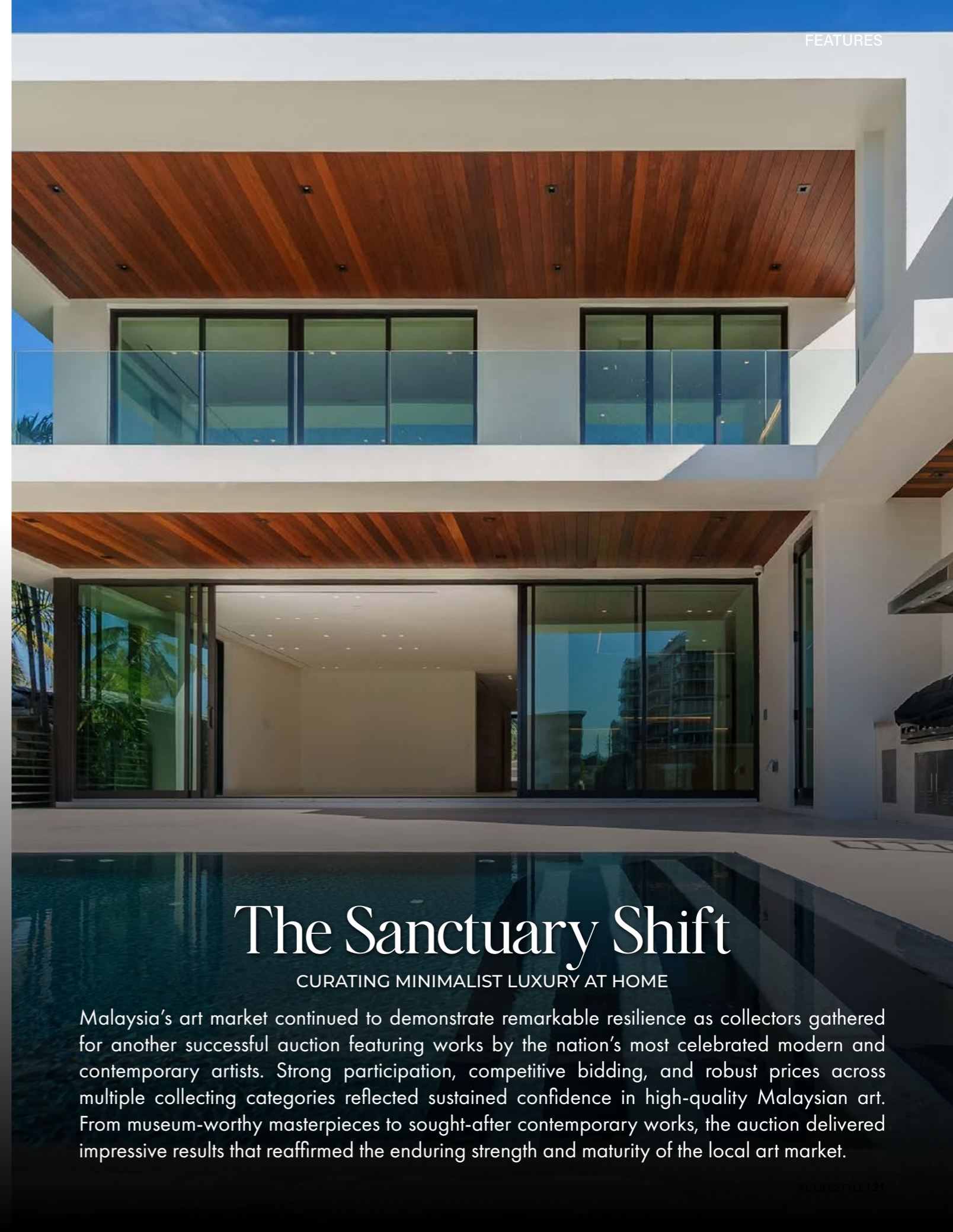
His art was never detached from the vulnerable and forgotten members of society. Instead, it consistently reflected a profound empathy for individuals navigating displacement, cultural loss, economic inequality, and the pressures of rapid urban development. In Negeri Sembilan, he devoted his formidable energy to the Rakan Mantin movement, working closely alongside the resilient residents of Kampung Hakka as they resisted the aggressive encroachment of corporate developers and fought to secure recognition of their historic land rights. Rather than positioning himself as an outsider documenting their struggle, Chin became a trusted collaborator, using his artistic skills, communication abilities, and public profile to amplify the community's concerns. His involvement reflected a deeply held conviction that artists should stand with the people whose histories and identities were under threat, preserving not only physical places but also the memories, traditions, and cultural relationships embedded within them.



Beyond his personal creations, Victor Chin's relationship with the visual arts was further reflected in his role as an avid, deliberate, and deeply discerning art collector. His collection was not a display of wealth or status, but a physical manifestation of his life's journey—an archive of encounters, friendships, and meaningful exchanges with fellow visionaries, marginalised voices, and artists whose practices documented the social and cultural transformations unfolding across Southeast Asia. Every acquisition represented a conscious decision rooted in admiration, intellectual curiosity, and a desire to preserve artistic expressions that might otherwise have been overlooked within conventional art historical narratives.

His collection did not resemble that of a traditional financial investor driven by market speculation or commercial value. Instead, it was carefully assembled through a lens of profound empathy, cultural responsibility, and enduring humanistic values. Chin sought works that challenged familiar perspectives, encouraging viewers to confront uncomfortable realities while appreciating the diversity of lived experiences that shaped the region. He consistently gravitated toward raw, uncompromising artworks that explored community narratives, identity, displacement, labour, environmental change, and broader systemic societal issues. These were works that carried emotional weight, revealing stories often absent from mainstream discourse while celebrating the resilience of ordinary individuals and underrepresented communities. Among the most significant aspects of his collection were invaluable visual records of social movements, regional heritage sketches, documentary-inspired works, experimental contemporary practices, and pieces by artists who, like Chin himself, believed that creativity could serve as a powerful instrument for advocacy, education, and social reflection.

Chin's legacy as an activist-artist reached a pinnacle through his profound, empathetic work with Malaysia's disabled community. Displeased by the pervasive media narratives that historically shrouded disabled individuals in helplessness, charity, and pity, Chin utilised his photographic and writing period to re-engineer these portrayals entirely. He approached the community not as an outsider looking to patronise, but with an acute emotional consciousness, seeking to reinvent ordinary frames into narratives of empowerment, athleticism, and distinct agency. Over a decade prior to his passing, he launched *Triumph*, a groundbreaking photography exhibition focusing closely on Malaysian Paralympic athletes, capturing their physical grit and undeniable power. Characteristically generous and community-minded, Chin funded a collaborative luncheon entirely from his own pocket to unite various disparate disability advocacy groups, creating a vital network for lasting social change. This initiative blossomed into long-term partnerships, such as his collaboration with disabled rights advocate Peter Tan at the Yayasan Sime Darby Arts Festival (YSDAF) in 2018. There, Chin exhibited moving photographic essays documenting the daily livelihoods of blind buskers, challenging the viewing public to look beyond superficial charity and instead demand structural, institutional equality. Ultimately, Victor Chin's most enduring and beautifully composed masterpiece was the life he modelled for his family and the community he left behind. As a devoted and deeply present father, he seamlessly balanced the fierce, exhausting demands of his radical activism and artistic transitions with the gentle, grounding presence required at home. He demonstrated to his children, through quiet daily actions rather than loud proclamations, that a life well-lived is one spent in the relentless service of truth, empathy, and continuous self-reinvention.



# The Sanctuary Shift

CURATING MINIMALIST LUXURY AT HOME

Malaysia's art market continued to demonstrate remarkable resilience as collectors gathered for another successful auction featuring works by the nation's most celebrated modern and contemporary artists. Strong participation, competitive bidding, and robust prices across multiple collecting categories reflected sustained confidence in high-quality Malaysian art. From museum-worthy masterpieces to sought-after contemporary works, the auction delivered impressive results that reaffirmed the enduring strength and maturity of the local art market.

### The Modern Definition of Home

In the rapidly evolving landscape of Kuala Lumpur, where the skyline continuously reaches new heights and the urban tempo demands unyielding energy, a profound transformation is occurring behind the doors of the city's premier residential enclaves. The traditional concept of the home as merely a functional space for rest is undergoing a significant paradigm shift. Today's urban professionals, creatives, and tastemakers are redefining their living spaces not just as places of residence, but as deeply intentional wellness sanctuaries. This movement, termed "The Sanctuary Shift," represents a conscious pivot away from ostentatious displays of wealth toward a more refined, quiet luxury. It is a philosophy that marries structural minimalism with personal well-being, proving that true luxury lies in the curation of space, light, and order.

As the boundaries between professional commitments and personal life continue to blur, the domestic environment has inherited a crucial responsibility: to act as a counterweight to external chaos.

This editorial feature explores the anatomy of this design evolution, examining how contemporary Malaysian residences are being transformed into personal havens of minimalist luxury. By examining the integration of high-end storage engineering, the thoughtful incorporation of nostalgic design accents, and the deliberate sourcing of local craftsmanship, we uncover the principles that define the sophisticated urban home in July 2026. This is not merely a trend in interior decoration; it is a holistic lifestyle movement that prioritizes spatial harmony as the ultimate form of modern luxury.



### The Evolution of Urban Living and Spatial Well-Being

To understand the rise of minimalist luxury within Kuala Lumpur, one must analyze the shifting psychological needs of its inhabitants. For decades, residential luxury in the Klang Valley was frequently equated with ornamentation, heavy drapery, intricate moldings, and a dense accumulation of imported furnishings. However, as the velocity of urban life has accelerated, the luxury of the physical object has been superseded by the luxury of space. The contemporary resident experiences a near-constant deluge of digital and physical stimuli; consequently, entering a home cluttered with visual noise no longer offers the required psychological respite.

The architecture of wellness suggests that our immediate physical surroundings directly influence our cognitive load and emotional state. A minimalist approach to interior design serves as an antidote to this modern fatigue. By embracing clean lines, natural textures, and concealed storage, the home creates a tranquil environment that encourages relaxation and mental clarity.

### The Architecture of Order: Engineering Seamless Storage

At the core of the minimalist luxury movement lies a paradox: achieving an environment of pristine simplicity requires an immense amount of hidden complexity. The effortlessly clean lines that define a sanctuary home are only possible through highly sophisticated, integrated storage solutions. Without exceptional organization, minimalism quickly succumbs to the practical realities of daily life. Therefore, the modern luxury interior relies heavily on custom cabinetry, architectural storage walls, and modular shelving systems designed to seamlessly blend into the building's structural framework.

In the contemporary KL residence, storage is no longer relegated to freestanding wardrobes or utilitarian closets. Instead, designers are utilizing floor-to-ceiling panels that mimic the apartment's walls, utilizing hidden touch-latches and integrated pocket doors to conceal everything from entertainment centers to home offices. This technique preserves the continuity of the room's architecture, allowing the eye to move uninterrupted across the space. The choice of materials for these custom installations is equally critical: matte lacquers, textured wood veneers, and subtle metallic trims are preferred.

Beyond concealment, the interior organization of these units is approached with the precision of high-end engineering. Tailored display shelving units, glass-fronted architectural vitrines, and custom-lit storage racks allow residents to organize their possessions with curated intentionality. Valued items are not merely put away; they are exhibited with the discipline of a contemporary art gallery. This systematic approach to organization ensures that the functional items necessary for daily life are easily accessible yet entirely unobtrusive, maintaining the pristine visual equilibrium of the sanctuary.

### The Curation of Aesthetic: Merging Minimalism with Identity

While structural order provides the canvas for a minimalist home, the selection of furniture and decorative accents injects character and prevents the space from feeling clinical. A common misconception of minimalism is that it requires an absence of warmth or personality. In contrast, the modern sanctuary style achieves luxury by juxtaposing strict architectural lines with carefully selected, expressive design elements. Currently, this manifests as a sophisticated dialogue between sleek, contemporary forms and curated vintage or Y2K-inspired design aesthetics.

The art of the sanctuary home relies heavily on material contrast. Smooth, polished stone surfaces like Carrara marble or local quartz are paired with the warmth of wire-brushed oak or raw travertine. Textiles play an equally crucial role in softening the minimalist framework; high-weight linens, bouclé fabrics, and brushed wools in monochromatic or earthy tones add depth through tactile variance rather than loud patterns. Lighting is treated as a sculptural element, with a preference for architectural low-glare fixtures, concealed LED coves, and iconic mid-century modern lamps that cast a soft, ambient glow, transforming the mood of the space as daylight fades.



Personal identity is expressed through highly intentional editing. Instead of filling a room with generic décor, the modern tastemaker selects a single commanding piece of art, a uniquely shaped ceramic vessel, or an avant-garde accessory that serves as a focal point. Every object is carefully chosen to reflect individual taste while contributing to the overall harmony and visual balance of the space. This methodology extends to the curation of personal collections, where jewellery, fashion accessories, and design objects are displayed as carefully considered design statements rather than everyday possessions. Open shelving, gallery-style displays, and thoughtfully illuminated niches further enhance their visual impact, allowing each piece to command attention without overwhelming the interior. This restrained approach creates a sense of order while allowing every carefully selected item to tell its own story. By giving these items ample breathing room, their craftsmanship, character, and intrinsic beauty are elevated, creating a refined atmosphere that feels both personal and sophisticated. The result is an interior that balances minimalism with individuality, proving that thoughtful curation often leaves a far more lasting impression than excess.



# Malaysia Breaks into Global Top Fifteen

BROAD-BASED GAINS SIGNAL STRONGER ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

Malaysia has secured fifteenth place in the 2026 IMD World Competitiveness Ranking, marking a significant milestone in its recent economic trajectory and its strongest performance in years. The country has advanced eight positions from the previous year, continuing a consistent upward trend that has seen it rise from thirty-fourth place in 2024 to twenty-third in 2025, and now into the top fifteen out of seventy economies.

The latest ranking reflects broad-based improvements across all four pillars measured by the International Institute for Management Development, namely economic performance, government efficiency, business efficiency and infrastructure. Malaysia's progress across each category indicates not only short-term gains but also deeper structural strengthening in its economic foundations.

Economic performance remains Malaysia's strongest pillar, with the country ranked fourth globally. This reflects solid domestic activity, resilient trade flows and continued strength in external demand. Government efficiency has also improved notably, rising to fourteenth place, supported by better policy execution and improved administrative coordination.

Business efficiency recorded one of the most significant gains, climbing sixteen places to reach sixteenth position. This improvement highlights stronger corporate productivity, a more dynamic private sector environment and increasing adaptability among Malaysian firms in response to global competition. Infrastructure, while improving at a more gradual pace, still moved up two places to thirty-third, reflecting ongoing investment in physical, digital and logistical systems that support long-term growth.

At a more detailed level, sub indicators within the ranking further illustrate Malaysia's strengthening position. The domestic economy improved to eleventh place, signalling steady internal demand, resilient consumer activity, and stable macroeconomic conditions. International trade performance rose to fifth place, underscoring Malaysia's deep integration into global commerce and its continued relevance in manufacturing, export-driven industries, and regional supply chains.

conomists have pointed to Malaysia's expanding role in global value chains as a key driver behind this improvement. The country remains a critical node in the semiconductor and electronics ecosystem, while also benefiting from rising demand in advanced manufacturing, data centre development and artificial intelligence-related infrastructure. These sectors have become increasingly important as multinational corporations diversify their supply chains away from concentrated markets and seek more resilient production bases in Southeast Asia. Malaysia's strategic geographical position within the ASEAN region continues to enhance its appeal as an investment destination. Its connectivity to regional and global markets, combined with established industrial ecosystems, allows it to serve as a natural hub for manufacturing, logistics and services. This positioning has become even more valuable in an environment shaped by geopolitical uncertainty and shifting trade dynamics. As businesses continue to diversify their supply chains, Malaysia is increasingly viewed as a reliable and competitive base for long-term regional operations, attracting sustained investment across high-value industries.



Malaysia's leadership in Islamic finance, alongside a well-capitalised and stable banking system, further strengthens its financial resilience. These structural advantages provide a stable foundation for both domestic and international investors, particularly in periods of global uncertainty.

Industry analysts have described Malaysia's rise in the rankings as more than a cyclical recovery. Instead, it is viewed as evidence of gradual but sustained improvements in competitiveness, productivity and institutional efficiency. The combination of policy stability, sectoral diversification and external demand has contributed to a more balanced growth profile.

The semiconductor and artificial intelligence boom has been particularly significant. Malaysia's established role in electrical and electronics manufacturing, including advanced packaging and assembly, places it in a favourable position to benefit from ongoing technological shifts. At the same time, rising investment in digital infrastructure and data centres is reinforcing its status as a regional technology hub. The tourism sector has also contributed to economic resilience, supported by stronger visitor arrivals.

Geographic Map Highlighting the Economic Powerhouses of the ASEAN-6 within Southeast Asia





# AI Fuels Malaysia's Export Growth

S&P IDENTIFIES THE NATION AS A REGIONAL OUTPERFORMER

## Innovation and Infrastructure

Malaysia is emerging as one of Asia's key beneficiaries of the global artificial intelligence boom, as structural shifts in global technology demand continue to reshape trade flows, industrial priorities, and investment patterns across the region. According to S&P Global Ratings, the country is positioned among a group of regional economies expected to outperform in the near-term, supported by accelerating demand for technology products that underpin the AI revolution.

The rapid adoption of artificial intelligence across industries has triggered a powerful new growth cycle in global technology exports. This cycle is particularly significant in Asia, where manufacturing ecosystems are deeply integrated into semiconductor production, electronics assembly, and advanced computing supply chains. Within this context, Malaysia stands alongside Taiwan, South Korea, Vietnam, Singapore, China, Thailand, and Japan as key beneficiaries of rising global demand for semiconductors, high-performance computing systems, data infrastructure components, and digital technology hardware. S&P Global Ratings highlighted that for economies exposed to technology manufacturing, the AI-driven export cycle is outweighing broader macroeconomic pressures.

These pressures include rising energy costs, global financial tightening, and ongoing geopolitical uncertainty, all of which continue to weigh on growth prospects and business sentiment across the region. Despite these headwinds, the structural demand for AI-enabling technologies continues to provide a strong counterbalance, reinforcing resilience across Asia's export-oriented economies and supporting the region's position within the global technology supply chain.



Malaysia's position within this landscape is particularly notable due to its diversified electronics manufacturing base and its established role within global supply chains. The country's export performance reflects this strength. Recent trade data showed Malaysian exports rising by 37 per cent in April and 45 per cent in May compared with the same periods in 2025, signalling sustained momentum across technology-related sectors. This growth is increasingly linked to higher demand for advanced electronic components used in AI servers, cloud computing infrastructure, and next-generation digital systems.

As artificial intelligence becomes more deeply embedded into global industries, from manufacturing and finance to healthcare and logistics, Malaysia's role within international technology supply chains continues to expand. This shift is not only increasing export volumes but also elevating the country's strategic importance as a supporting hub for global digital transformation. In this environment, Malaysia is benefiting from both volume-driven growth and value chain upgrading, as more complex and higher-value components become part of its export mix. This evolution is strengthening the country's position in the regional semiconductor ecosystem, attracting investment and enhancing digital competitiveness.

## Positioning for the Future

The artificial intelligence boom is not a short-term disruption but a structural transformation of the global economy. In this context, Malaysia is well-positioned to capture sustained benefits over the medium to long-term. S&P Global Ratings expects technology shipments across Asia to remain robust throughout 2026, underpinned by continued investment in AI infrastructure, cloud computing capacity, and advanced digital systems that require significant hardware and semiconductor inputs.

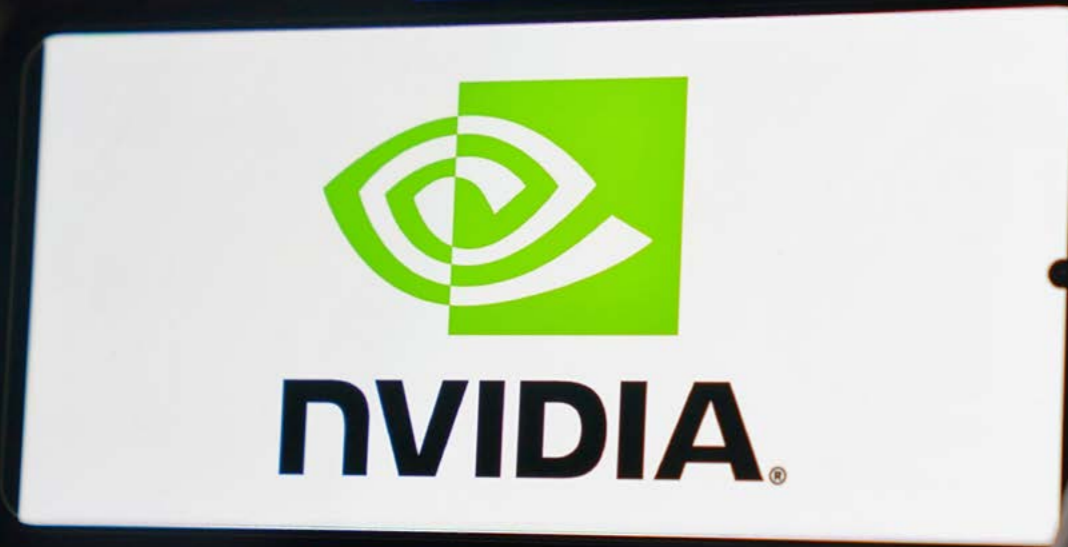
Beyond immediate export gains, the current cycle reinforces Malaysia's broader ambition to establish itself as a regional technology and digital economy hub. Ongoing investments in data centres, advanced manufacturing facilities, semiconductor packaging and testing, and high-speed digital infrastructure are strengthening the country's competitiveness. These developments are also helping to attract increased foreign direct investment from global technology firms seeking resilient and strategically located supply chain partners in Southeast Asia. Together, these trends are positioning Malaysia as a critical node in the region's evolving technology and innovation landscape. This momentum is expected to further accelerate industrial upgrading and long-term economic resilience.

At the same time, the expansion of AI-related industries is creating new opportunities for local enterprises, research institutions, and the wider technology workforce. As demand grows for computing power, cloud capacity, and specialised hardware, Malaysia's industrial ecosystem is gradually shifting towards higher-value activities, including design support, engineering services, and advanced manufacturing processes. This transition has the potential to deepen the country's participation in the global innovation economy.

However, S&P also notes that the outlook is not without risks, as geopolitical tensions, ongoing supply-chain fragmentation, and continued volatility in global energy markets remain key variables that could influence the pace and sustainability of growth across the region. These factors introduce a degree of uncertainty into trade flows and investment decisions, particularly for economies heavily integrated into global manufacturing networks. Nevertheless, the strength of AI-driven demand has so far provided a stabilising effect, helping to offset external pressures and maintain momentum in key export sectors, while supporting overall resilience across Asia's technology-driven economies. This underlying demand is expected to remain a crucial buffer against near-term global uncertainty.

For Malaysia, the AI-driven export boom represents more than a temporary uplift in trade performance. It signals a broader structural evolution in the economy, where digital technologies, advanced manufacturing, and high-value industrial capabilities are increasingly shaping long-term competitiveness. The country's position within global supply chains is gradually shifting from traditional production roles toward more technologically integrated functions, supported by ongoing investments in infrastructure, talent development, and industrial upgrading. As a result, Malaysia's ability to sustain and deepen its alignment with this transformation will be a defining factor in shaping its economic trajectory over the coming decade, particularly as global demand continues to concentrate around AI-enabled industries.

As artificial intelligence continues to redefine global production systems, trade relationships, and industrial strategy, Malaysia is not merely adapting to change but becoming more deeply embedded within its architecture. The country is increasingly positioned as a functional node within the infrastructure of the digital economy, benefiting from the rising importance of data, computing power, and advanced technology manufacturing as core drivers of growth.



## YTL AI Cloud joins Nvidia Exemplar Cloud elite

MARKING A MAJOR GLOBAL BREAKTHROUGH IN AI INFRASTRUCTURE

### Malaysia Enters the Global AI Infrastructure Race

Kuala Lumpur has taken a significant step forward in the global artificial intelligence landscape, as YTL AI Cloud becomes one of the first cloud infrastructure providers in Asia to be awarded Nvidia Exemplar Cloud status. The recognition places the Malaysian-based provider within an elite group of global hyperscalers and AI-specialised cloud operators, marking a milestone not only for the company but also for Malaysia's growing role in advanced digital infrastructure.

The Nvidia Exemplar Cloud designation is not a symbolic badge. It is a highly rigorous validation framework that evaluates cloud providers against strict operational, architectural, and performance benchmarks. These standards are designed to minimise variance, eliminate performance degradation, and ensure consistent delivery of high-intensity artificial intelligence workloads across distributed systems.

In practical terms, the certification signals that YTL AI Cloud's infrastructure meets or exceeds Nvidia's expectations for efficiency and scalability, providing a strong foundation for advanced AI workloads.

YTL Power International managing director Datuk Seri Yeoh Seok Hong described the achievement as a defining moment in Malaysia's technological journey. He highlighted that being among the first Nvidia Exemplar Clouds in Asia demonstrates the country's capacity to build sovereign, world-class AI infrastructure capable of competing directly with leading global hyperscalers. The recognition also reflects years of investment in advanced digital infrastructure, positioning Malaysia as an increasingly credible destination for high-performance computing and AI development. This development places Malaysia within a rapidly evolving global race where nations and corporations are investing heavily in AI infrastructure sovereignty. Rather than relying solely on external providers, countries are increasingly seeking to develop domestic capabilities that can support national data security, innovation ecosystems, and digital economic independence. As AI becomes a strategic asset, ownership of secure and scalable computing infrastructure is emerging as a key measure of long-term economic resilience and technological leadership.

Beyond strengthening national capabilities, the achievement also enhances Malaysia's appeal to multinational technology companies, research institutions, and AI-driven enterprises seeking reliable regional infrastructure. A locally certified AI cloud platform provides organisations with access to advanced computing resources while supporting data residency, regulatory compliance, and faster deployment of AI applications across Southeast Asia. YTL AI Cloud's recognition therefore represents more than corporate success. It signals a broader shift in how Southeast Asia is positioning itself within the global artificial intelligence economy, where investment in digital infrastructure is becoming increasingly strategic. As investment in AI continues to accelerate, Malaysia is steadily establishing itself as a competitive digital hub, reinforcing its ambition to play a larger role in shaping the future of regional innovation and next-generation technologies. The achievement also highlights the country's growing ability to support advanced AI research, enterprise adoption, and digital transformation, strengthening its position within the rapidly evolving global technology landscape.

### Building Sovereign AI and the Future of Compute Power

At the core of the Nvidia Exemplar Cloud framework is the idea of reliability at scale. Modern artificial intelligence systems require immense computational resources, often distributed across thousands of GPUs working in synchronised environments. Even minor inefficiencies can result in performance loss, increased cost, and instability during model training or deployment.

According to YTL AI Cloud chief executive officer Philip Lin, the validation confirms the organisation's ability to support the most demanding real-world AI workloads while reducing operational and infrastructure risk for customers. This allows businesses to focus on application development and innovation rather than the complexity of managing high-performance computing environments.

A key outcome of the Exemplar Cloud certification is deterministic performance. This means that customers can expect consistent results based on Nvidia's benchmarking standards, reference workloads, and architectural guidelines. In an industry where variability can significantly impact cost and efficiency, this predictability becomes a critical competitive advantage.

YTL stated that this achievement strengthens its position as a leading AI infrastructure provider and expands access to advanced computing capabilities across Malaysia and the wider region. The implications extend beyond commercial enterprise. Universities, research institutions, and public sector organisations are also expected to benefit from improved access to high-performance AI systems, enabling advancements in scientific research, data analysis, and model development.

Nvidia solutions architecture and engineering vice president Marc Hamilton noted that YTL AI Cloud is built on Nvidia Cloud Partner reference architecture standards, which are designed to support sovereign AI development, frontier model training, and next-generation innovation. He emphasised that providers such as YTL are helping accelerate the adoption of scalable AI systems across multiple industries. Since the introduction of the Exemplar Cloud programme, only a select group of Nvidia Cloud Partners have achieved this status, including CoreWeave, Crusoe, Lambda, Nebius, Vultr, and now YTL AI Cloud.

As artificial intelligence continues to evolve from experimental technology into core economic infrastructure, the importance of validated, high-performance cloud ecosystems is expected to grow. In this context, YTL AI Cloud's achievement represents not only a technical milestone but also a strategic positioning of Malaysia within the future global AI economy.



Tan Sri Francis Yeoh, Executive Chairman of YTL Corp



# Fuego at Troika Sky Dining

A VIBRANT CELEBRATION ABOVE THE KUALA LUMPUR SKYLINE



## Fuego at Troika Sky Dining

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

High above the city streets, where the skyline unfolds in a dazzling panorama of architectural icons and endless urban energy, Fuego at Troika Sky Dining has established itself as one of Kuala Lumpur's most captivating lifestyle destinations. Occupying a prime position within the award-winning Troika development, the restaurant combines contemporary South American flavours with spectacular views and an atmosphere that effortlessly balances sophistication with vibrant social energy.

More than simply a dining venue, Fuego has become an experience synonymous with stylish evenings, memorable gatherings, and an elevated appreciation of food and hospitality. Its unique setting and ambience continue to attract visitors.

From the moment guests arrive, the setting creates a sense of anticipation. Located within the iconic Troika complex designed by the late Norman Foster, the venue commands one of the city's most remarkable vantage points. Sweeping views of the Petronas Twin Towers and the surrounding skyline provide a dramatic backdrop that evolves throughout the evening. As daylight fades and the city lights emerge, the atmosphere transforms into something altogether more enchanting. Open-air terraces, warm lighting, and lush greenery create an environment that feels both cosmopolitan and relaxed, allowing diners to enjoy the excitement of the city while remaining comfortably removed from its pace. Unlike traditional fine dining establishments that emphasise formality, Fuego embraces a more expressive and approachable philosophy.



Tajima Wagyu



Salsa With Guacamole

The experience often begins with an array of appetisers designed for communal enjoyment. Bright citrus notes, aromatic herbs, and carefully balanced spices bring freshness and depth to every plate. Premium seafood, expertly prepared vegetables, and inventive small bites introduce guests to a culinary journey that is both familiar and exciting. Each dish showcases an appreciation for quality ingredients while maintaining the relaxed and sociable character that defines the restaurant.

As the meal progresses, the influence of fire becomes increasingly apparent. Grilled meats and seafood occupy a central place within the menu, reflecting the traditions of South American cooking where open flames and bold seasonings create layers of flavour and complexity. Steaks are prepared with precision, while seafood dishes demonstrate equal attention to freshness and technique. Accompaniments are thoughtfully composed, providing contrast and balance without overwhelming the principal ingredients.



Salmon Tiradito

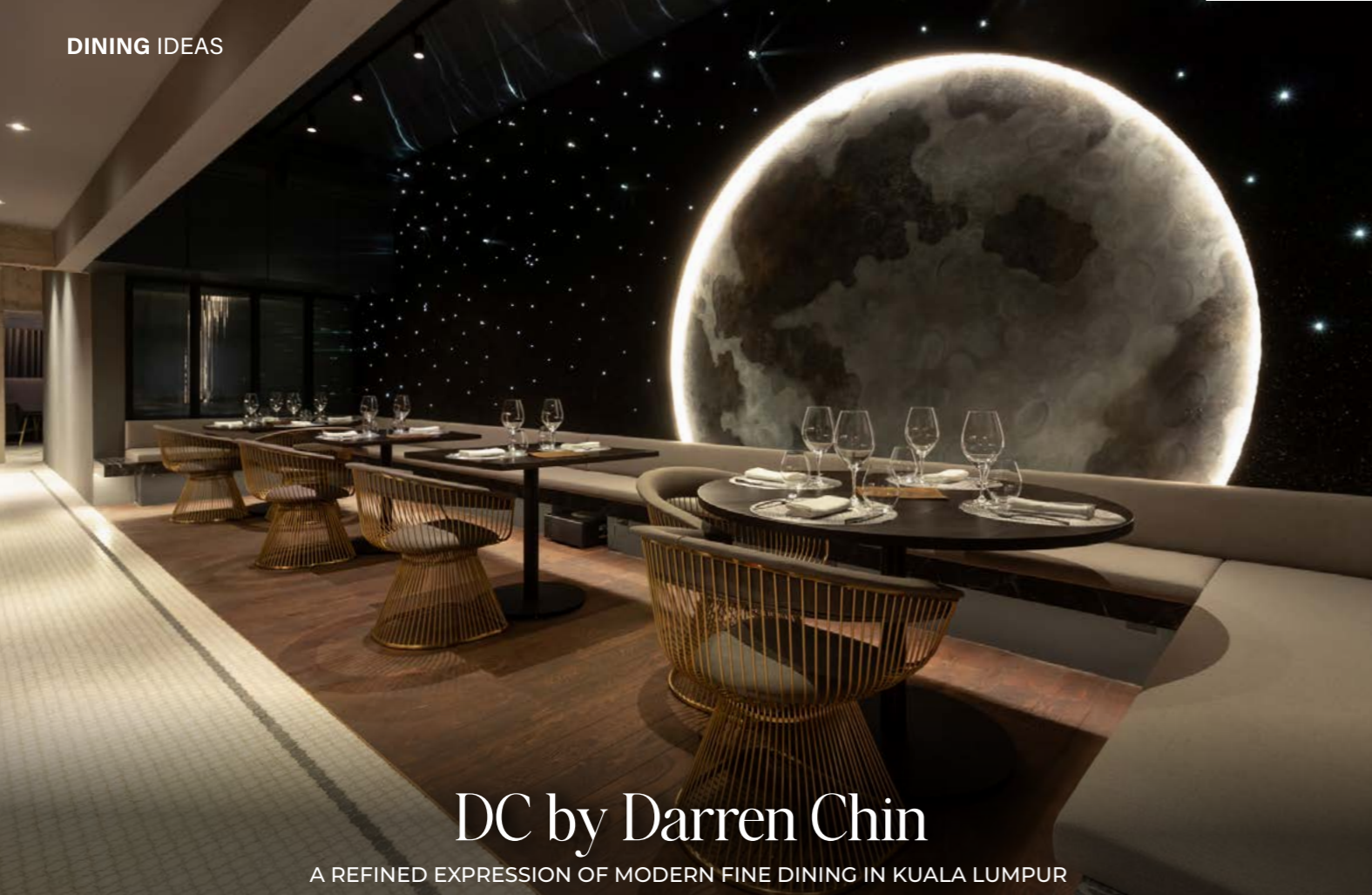


Anticuchos



Lamb Arepa

Desserts continue this spirit of indulgence with a playful yet refined approach. Tropical fruits, rich chocolates, and contrasting textures combine to create elegant finales that provide both sweetness and freshness. Rather than overwhelming the palate, each creation delivers balance and sophistication, offering a fitting conclusion to an evening characterised by thoughtful craftsmanship and vibrant flavours. Equally central to Fuego's appeal is its celebrated beverage programme, which perfectly complements the dining experience.



## DC by Darren Chin

A REFINED EXPRESSION OF MODERN FINE DINING IN KUALA LUMPUR

### DC Restaurant

44 Persiaran Zaaba, Taman Tun Dr. Ismail, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 60000  
Tel.: +603-7731 0502

In the evolving landscape of Kuala Lumpur's fine dining scene, where global influences intersect with local ambition, DC by Darren Chin has established itself as one of the city's most enduring expressions of culinary refinement. Located in the quiet enclave of TTDI, the restaurant is discreet in its exterior presence, yet once inside, it reveals a carefully orchestrated world where precision, restraint, and creativity define every detail of the experience. Far removed from the theatrics often associated with modern luxury dining, DC by Darren Chin is built on a philosophy of quiet confidence. It is not a restaurant that seeks to overwhelm through spectacle, but rather one that invites guests to engage deeply with technique, ingredient quality, and the subtle progression of flavour. This approach has earned the restaurant a respected position in Malaysia's fine dining landscape, including recognition from the Michelin Guide, reinforcing its status as a benchmark for contemporary European-inspired cuisine in the region.



The experience begins in a setting that reflects the restaurant's philosophy of understated elegance. Housed within a thoughtfully restored three-storey structure, DC unfolds across multiple levels, each offering a distinct interpretation of the dining journey. The ground level introduces a more relaxed prelude to the evening, where guests can ease into the experience before ascending into more intimate dining spaces above. The transition between floors feels deliberate, almost ceremonial, as if each level represents a gradual refinement of mood and expectation.

On the main dining floor, the atmosphere shifts into a more composed and focused environment. Clean architectural lines, soft lighting, and a restrained material palette create a sense of calm sophistication. Tables are spaced to allow privacy without isolation, reinforcing the restaurant's emphasis on personal experience rather than volume. It is a space designed not for distraction, but for attention to flavour, texture, and the evolving narrative of each dish. Subtle design choices further enhance the sense of refinement, ensuring the focus remains firmly on the dining experience, allowing each detail to be fully appreciated.

Dishes are composed with a strong sense of balance and restraint. Flavours are layered with precision rather than excess, ensuring that each element on the plate serves a defined purpose. Classic French techniques form the foundation, yet the execution reflects a modern sensibility that prioritises clarity over complexity. This disciplined approach results in dishes that feel both technically accomplished and emotionally grounded.



The opening courses often set the tone with subtle yet expressive compositions. Delicate textures, carefully prepared seafood, and nuanced seasoning introduce a sense of anticipation without overwhelming the palate. As the progression continues, the menu gradually deepens in intensity, showcasing richer proteins, refined sauces, and thoughtful combinations that highlight the kitchen's command of technique and timing.

One of the defining characteristics of DC is its attention to ingredient provenance. The kitchen places strong emphasis on sourcing premium produce, often incorporating European imports alongside carefully selected regional ingredients. This fusion is not about contrast for its own sake, but about creating harmony between origin and execution. Each component is treated with respect, allowing natural flavours to remain at the forefront of the dining experience.





# Cilantro Restaurant & Wine Bar

WHERE FRENCH PRECISION MEETS JAPANESE SENSIBILITY

## Cilantro Restaurant & Wine Bar

Micasa All Suite Hotel, 368B, Micasa All Suite Hotel, Jln Tun Razak, 50400, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur  
Tel.: +603-2179 8082



*Grilled Black Angus Tenderloin*



*Hokkaido Scallop Carpaccio*

Tucked discreetly within the elegant surroundings of MiCasa All Suite Hotel, Cilantro Restaurant & Wine Bar has long occupied a unique position within Kuala Lumpur's fine dining landscape. While the city continues to embrace ever-changing culinary trends and contemporary concepts, Cilantro remains devoted to a philosophy grounded in craftsmanship, restraint, and an unwavering respect for ingredients. Over the years, the restaurant has cultivated a reputation not merely as a destination for exceptional meals, but as one of Kuala Lumpur's most enduring expressions of refined gastronomy.

From the moment guests enter the restaurant, the atmosphere reveals itself with understated sophistication. Warm lighting, elegant furnishings, and carefully arranged spaces create an environment that feels intimate rather than extravagant. There is a sense of calm that immediately distinguishes Cilantro from more theatrical dining destinations. Every detail appears deliberately considered, allowing the focus to remain firmly on the experience itself.



*Miyazaki Zabuton Beef*



*Saga Nori Risotto*

What makes Cilantro particularly distinctive is its unique culinary identity. While French cuisine provides the technical foundation, Japanese influences introduce a level of precision and subtlety that defines the restaurant's character. Under the guidance of Chef Takashi Kimura, dishes are built upon the belief that exceptional dining is not solely determined by ingredients, but by the harmony between technique, seasoning, and thoughtful preparation. This philosophy has become central to the restaurant's identity and continues to shape its approach to gastronomy.

Unlike restaurants driven by spectacle, Cilantro embraces refinement through restraint. Menus evolve according to the seasons, allowing ingredients to be presented when they are at their finest. This commitment to seasonality ensures that each visit offers a slightly different experience while preserving the restaurant's signature style. Ingredients are selected with meticulous care, and every element on the plate serves a clear purpose, contributing to an overall composition that is balanced and precise. The dining experience itself unfolds with a measured rhythm. Courses are presented with elegance and texture without overwhelming the palate.



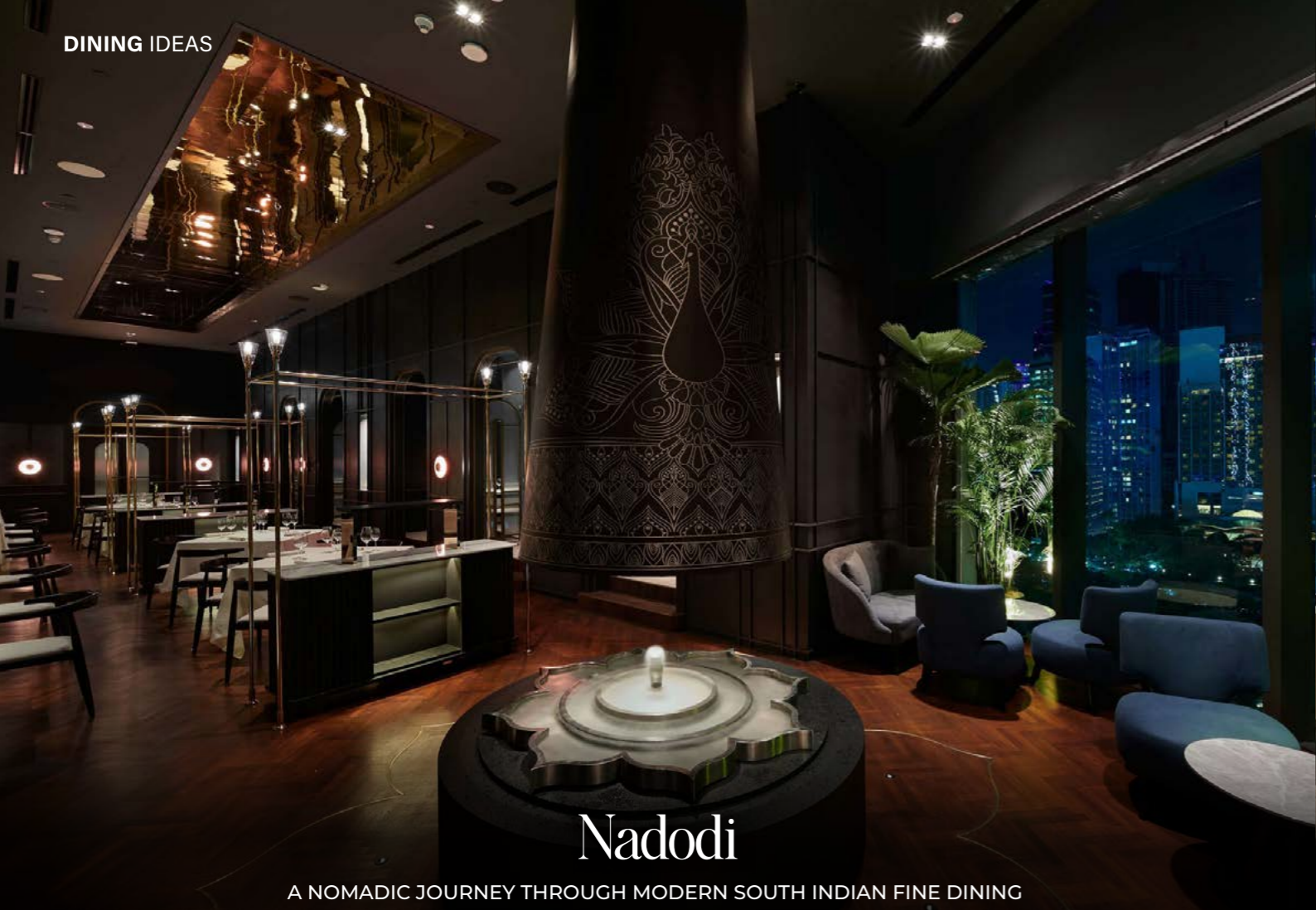
*Soufflé au Chocolat*

Presentation at Cilantro reflects the same philosophy of quiet sophistication. Rather than relying on elaborate embellishments, each plate demonstrates a sense of balance and visual harmony. Colours, textures, and proportions are arranged with artistic precision, transforming every course into a composition that appeals equally to the eye and the palate. The result is a style of dining where beauty emerges naturally from craftsmanship rather than excess. Equally important to the experience is the restaurant's celebrated wine programme. A curated wine selection complements the menu beautifully.

Service at Cilantro embodies the standards expected of a world-class fine dining establishment. Staff members display a level of professionalism that is attentive without intrusion, providing recommendations with confidence and ensuring that every aspect of the meal progresses seamlessly. Whether welcoming longtime patrons or first-time visitors, the team delivers hospitality with grace and genuine warmth.

Over the years, Cilantro has earned recognition not only from diners but also from prestigious culinary institutions, further cementing its place among Kuala Lumpur's most respected restaurants. Yet despite these accolades, the restaurant has maintained a sense of humility and consistency that reflects its philosophy. Rather than pursuing trends or reinvention for its own sake, it continues to refine and perfect its identity through discipline and precision.

Ultimately, Cilantro Restaurant & Wine Bar represents a different expression of luxury dining. It is not defined by extravagance or spectacle, but by subtle excellence and enduring craftsmanship. In an era where culinary innovation often seeks attention through complexity, Cilantro reminds diners that true sophistication can be found in balance, precision, and respect for tradition.



# Nadodi

A NOMADIC JOURNEY THROUGH MODERN SOUTH INDIAN FINE DINING

## Nadodi

Level 7A, Four Seasons Hotel, Jln Ampang, City Centre, 50450, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur  
Tel. : +6 017-296 9520

In the heart of Kuala Lumpur's evolving fine dining landscape, Nadodi stands as one of the most distinctive and intellectually engaging culinary experiences in the city. The restaurant presents itself not simply as a place to dine, but as a curated journey through the cultural and gastronomic heritage of South India and Sri Lanka, reinterpreted through the lens of modern fine dining. Rooted in the concept of the "nomad," Nadodi invites guests to travel through flavours, traditions, and memories that transcend geographical boundaries while remaining deeply connected to regional identity.

From the moment guests arrive at the Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur, where Nadodi is discreetly located, there is an immediate sense of transition. The atmosphere of the hotel's refined luxury gives way to a more atmospheric dining environment.



*Poultry Pagent*

At the core of Nadodi's identity is a culinary philosophy built around storytelling. The menu is conceived as a progressive tasting journey that explores the historical and cultural influences of South Indian and Sri Lankan cuisine, reinterpreted through contemporary techniques. The kitchen reinterprets familiar dishes, balancing authenticity with elevated complexity.

Each course is designed to reflect a chapter of this culinary narrative. The experience often begins with delicate, precisely composed bites that introduce key flavour profiles such as spice, acidity, and umami. These opening moments are not only an introduction to the meal but also an introduction to the philosophy of the restaurant where tradition is respected, yet constantly reimaged.

One of the defining characteristics of Nadodi is its masterful use of spice. Rather than relying on heat as a dominant force, the kitchen explores spice as a form of expression aromatic, layered, and nuanced. Ingredients such as curry leaves, tamarind, coconut, and indigenous spice blends are used not as background elements but as central components of the culinary structure. This approach allows each dish to convey complexity without overwhelming the palate, resulting in a dining experience that is both bold and refined.



*Lamb Legacy*



*Mango Muse Aomori Scallop*

As the tasting menu progresses, guests are guided through a series of increasingly complex flavour profiles. Seafood, meats, and vegetarian elements are treated with equal respect, each prepared using techniques that enhance texture and depth. Slow cooking, smoking, fermentation, and precise temperature control are frequently employed, reflecting a kitchen deeply rooted in technical discipline. Despite the complexity behind each dish, the final presentation remains clean and intentional, allowing the essence of the ingredients to remain at the forefront.

The presentation of each dish reflects a meticulous attention to detail. Plates arrive as carefully constructed compositions, often combining vibrant colours with minimalist plating techniques. This contrast between visual restraint and flavour intensity defines much of Nadodi's identity. The kitchen draws inspiration not only from traditional recipes but also from landscapes, memories, and cultural symbolism, translating these influences into edible form.



*Durian Belanda Course*

# Mont Kiara's Finest Dining Destinations

SIX MUST-VISIT RESTAURANTS IN MONT KIARA

Mont Kiara has evolved into far more than one of Kuala Lumpur's most desirable residential districts. Renowned for its cosmopolitan atmosphere and international community, the neighbourhood has also established itself as one of the city's most dynamic culinary destinations. From refined Asian cuisine and authentic Japanese ramen to artisanal bakeries and contemporary wellness cafés, Mont Kiara offers an impressive collection of dining experiences that cater to every palate. Whether seeking elegant fine dining or casual neighbourhood favourites, these six restaurants showcase the diversity and quality that continue to define Mont Kiara's thriving food scene.



## The Majapahit

Located within Arcoris Mont Kiara, The Majapahit presents a sophisticated interpretation of Southeast Asian cuisine, drawing inspiration from Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia. Rich regional flavours are elevated through refined presentation and carefully balanced recipes, creating a dining experience that celebrates the cultural diversity of the region. Complemented by elegant interiors and warm hospitality, the restaurant offers an inviting setting for both business lunches and intimate evening dinners.

Address: Lot No. G8, G9 & G10, G Level, ARCORIS, 10, Jalan Kiara, Mont Kiara, 50480, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur



## VCR Bakehouse

As the latest addition to the acclaimed VCR family, VCR Bakehouse has quickly become one of Mont Kiara's favourite destinations for artisan breads, handcrafted pastries and expertly brewed coffee. Throughout the day, guests can enjoy freshly baked viennoiseries, signature sourdough loaves and indulgent brunch offerings before the menu transitions into evening favourites, including wood-fired sourdough pizzas. The relaxed atmosphere makes it equally suited for casual meetings, remote work or leisurely weekend gatherings.

Address: Unit 2B, 2C Shoplex, Jalan Kiara, Mont Kiara, 50480 Kuala Lumpur



## Kanbe Ramen

Situated within 163 Retail Park, Kanbe Ramen has earned a loyal following for its authentic approach to Japanese ramen. Diners can choose between traditional ramen with thin noodles or the heartier tsukemen served with thick noodles designed for dipping into intensely flavoured broths. Every bowl reflects careful craftsmanship, from slow-simmered stocks to perfectly textured noodles, delivering an experience that appeals to both devoted ramen enthusiasts and first-time visitors alike.

Address: GF - 08, 163 Retail Park, 8, Jalan Kiara, Mont Kiara, 50480, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur



## Lushbowl

For diners seeking healthier alternatives, Lushbowl offers a refreshing menu centred around wholesome poke bowls, colourful smoothie bowls and cold-pressed juices. Fresh ingredients, vibrant flavours and thoughtfully balanced nutrition define every dish, with the popular Truffle Ponzu Bowl standing out as a customer favourite. Bright interiors and a relaxed café environment create an inviting space where wellness and flavour come together effortlessly.

Address: Plaza Damas, G-0-3, Block G, 60, Jalan Sri Hartamas 1, Sri Hartamas, 50480 Kuala Lumpur





### Crust

Crust has established itself as one of Mont Kiara's favourite pizza destinations through its commitment to traditional wood-fired cooking techniques. Each pizza features a perfectly blistered crust that combines crispness with a light, airy texture, while premium ingredients create bold yet balanced flavours. The welcoming atmosphere makes it an ideal venue for casual dinners, family gatherings and relaxed evenings with friends.

Address: Unit 17, 8, Jalan Kiara, Mont Kiara, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur



### The Regent Chinese Cuisine

The Regent Chinese Cuisine continues to uphold the traditions of authentic Hong Kong-style Cantonese dining within Plaza Mont Kiara. Its extensive menu showcases premium seafood, expertly prepared meats and time-honoured recipes, with signature dishes including the Regent Sang Har Noodles and Salt and Pepper Boston Lobster. Elegant surroundings and attentive service further enhance the experience, making it a preferred destination for family celebrations, corporate dining and special occasions.

Address: Lot A-0G-01, Block A, No. 2, Jalan Kiara, Plaza, Mont Kiara, 50480, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur





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Airport FastTrack

[www.samasamahotels.com](http://www.samasamahotels.com)

## A seamless blend of connectivity, excellence, and five-star comfort at Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Beyond the movement and momentum of Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) lies a quieter way to travel, one defined by ease, discretion, and unhurried elegance.

At KLIA, this refined experience is brought to life by Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad (MAHB) and the KL Airport Hotels (KLAH) Group, redefining what an airport gateway can be. Here, efficiency is seamless, comfort is intuitive, and every transition is thoughtfully orchestrated.

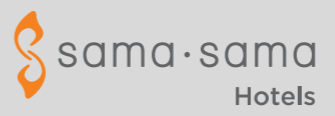
For those who prefer to move effortlessly through the world, Airport FastTrack (AFT) offers a private passage through the airport's formalities. From a discreet curbside welcome to expedited immigration clearance, personalised baggage assistance, and access to exclusive lounges, the journey unfolds smoothly—shielded from queues, crowds, and haste. It is travel as it should be: calm, composed, and impeccably managed.

Just moments away, Sama-Sama Hotel, KLIA continues this sense of tranquillity. Directly connected to Terminal 1 via a covered sky bridge and supported by a 24-hour complimentary buggy service, the five-star hotel offers comfort and convenience just steps from the terminal. Guests enjoy round-the-clock international dining, an outdoor swimming pool, a fully equipped gym, spa, jacuzzi, sauna, and steam room, complemented by thoughtful services including room service, laundry, private parking, and complimentary Wi-Fi—ensuring a seamless and relaxing stay at any hour.

Together, Airport FastTrack and Sama-Sama Hotel transform KLIA into more than a point of arrival or departure. They create a seamless, sophisticated passage—where the airport becomes a place of calm, and the journey itself becomes part of the luxury.



SCAN HERE



SCAN HERE



Sama-Sama Hotel KL International Airport  
 Jalan CTA 4B, 64000 KLIA, Sepang,  
 Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.  
 TEL +603 8787 3333 FAX +603 8787 5555  
 Email : reservations@samasamahotels.com





## Accelerating Malaysia Airports' Transformation Journey

Malaysia Airports recently announced a RM11.5 billion capital expenditure (CAPEX) plan over the next five years, aimed at modernising infrastructure, replacing critical airport assets, driving sustainability initiatives and expanding the capacity of its airports nationwide.

Unveiled at the inaugural Procurement and Projects Showcase 2026 held at the Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA, the plan includes a significant CAPEX allocation for strategic initiatives under the Capacity pillar.

Under KUL Development Plan, the airport operator's long-term expansion ambitions are to progressively support the future capacity growth at its flagship airport (KUL) beyond 100 million passengers per annum (mppa).

Major airport expansion projects are currently underway at Penang International Airport (PEN) and Kota Kinabalu International Airport (BKI) to increase both airports' capacities to 12 mppa, up from their current capacities of 6.5 million and 9 million mppa, respectively.

Work is in progress to expand PEN's terminal building and upgrade its airport infrastructure to be completed by 2028. Currently, the second busiest airport in Malaysia after KUL, PEN reportedly handles over 700,000 passenger movements a month.

Additionally, other expansion and upgrading airport projects are in progress at Tawau (TWU), Miri (MYI), Sandakan (SDK) and Lahad Datu (LDU).

Meanwhile, several passenger-focused improvements were completed in May 2026.



These enhancements included modernised check-in counters at MYY and Limbang Airport (LMN), an expanded e-hailing pick-up zone at Langkawi International Airport (LGK) and the completion of the first phase of restroom refurbishment works at Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport (SZB) in Subang, Selangor.

Alongside these infrastructure and passenger service improvements, Malaysia Airports continued to strengthen air connectivity across its network.

During the first half of 2026 (1H26), Malaysia Airports saw the entry of several new airlines and the introduction of new services.

From KUL, the new airlines were Shandong Airlines (SC), Air Algerie (AH), Aero Dili (8G), and Lion Air (JT) with its new direct flights from Lombok (LOP) and Banjarmasin (BDJ) on 28 and 29 June 2026, respectively.

PEN also welcomed new airlines, Chongqing Airlines (OQ), Spring Airlines (9C) and Qingdao Airlines (QW), as well as new services from Shanghai (PVG), Guangzhou (CAN), Qingdao (TAO) and Chongqing (CKG), all of which are Chinese carriers.

BKI also welcomed OQ during 1H26, adding CKG to its international network alongside destinations such as Hong Kong (HKG) and Chengdu (CTU).

Additionally, Kota Bharu (KBR) and Ipoh (IPH) airports expanded their international connectivity with new links to Singapore (SIN) and Jakarta (CGK).

Further strengthening regional connectivity, TWU and Melaka (MKZ) expanded their international reach with new services to PVG and Pekanbaru (PKU), operated by Juneyao Air (HO) and Wings Air (IW).

According to Malaysia Airports' latest data, its total passenger movements reached 7.9 million in May supported by sustained international connectivity.

KUL alone recorded 4.9 million passenger traffic, including 3.6 million international passengers. This represented a 2% increase compared to May 2025, reinforcing Malaysia's position as a key regional gateway under the Visit Malaysia 2026-2027 campaign.

According to statistics from Tourism Malaysia in cooperation with the Immigration Department, the top five visitor source markets to Malaysia from January to May 2026 are Singapore (8.74 million), China (2.2 million), Indonesia (1.69 million), Thailand (1.02 million) and India (615,615).

Regional connectivity continued to strengthen in June, driven by robust demand from Malaysia's key markets, particularly China and Indonesia. Batik Air Malaysia's (OD) launch of its PVG to KUL direct service on 23 June 2026, together with China Eastern Airlines' (MU) new Dalian (DLC) to KUL service via Nanjing (NKG), further enhanced bilateral air connectivity between Malaysia and China.

With these additions, Malaysia Airports' network now serves 15 China-based airlines.



### Procurement and Projects Showcase 2026

Themed Discover Malaysia Airports Business Opportunities, the inaugural Procurement and Projects Showcase 2026 brought together 285 companies and 402 participants for networking, collaboration and information sharing across the industry.

“Through this platform, we want to provide clearer visibility into where the opportunities are heading so that contractors, suppliers, and partners can prepare earlier and scale their capabilities with greater confidence.”

#### DATO' MOHD IZANI GHANI

Managing Director of Malaysia Airports

“At the same time, Malaysia Airports benefits from a more prepared and capable ecosystem that can support faster, safer, and higher-quality project delivery,” he added.

Concurring with him, Chief Development Officer of Malaysia Airports, Steven Andersen, who led the project presentation said the objective is designed to encourage stronger alignment between project planning, delivery capabilities and long-term industry development.

“As the airport landscape continues to evolve, delivery readiness and execution capabilities across the ecosystem become increasingly critical.”

He added, “Platforms like this allow us to engage the market earlier, encourage more meaningful partnerships, and create a stronger pipeline of specialised expertise that can support the scale and complexity of future airport developments across the network.”



Malaysia Airports also acknowledged the support and collaboration of the Construction Industry Development Board in facilitating the industry engagement initiatives that strengthen the participation and competitiveness of local contractors within the country's infrastructure sector.

Such initiatives will open the industry players to upcoming opportunities, enabling them to build capabilities, forge new partnerships, and position themselves for growth within increasingly specialised and complex infrastructure segments.

Malaysia Airports intends to progressively strengthen and expand this platform over time to build a more prepared, collaborative and future-ready airport infrastructure ecosystem capable of supporting the country's long-term aviation growth and connectivity ambitions.



## Qatar Airways' FIFA Special Livery and Network Expansion

As the official airline partner of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), Qatar Airways (QR) has brought the spirit of the FIFA World Cup 2026 to passengers worldwide by uniquely branding its Boeing 777 aircraft that operates across key destinations in Asia, Europe and the United States.

Building on the legacy of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, QR's special new livery captures the vibrant spirit of this year's FIFA World Cup through its bold, dynamic exterior design and aircraft interior.

Meanwhile, the airline has been progressively restoring its network connectivity between Doha (DOH) and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), with services operated by Boeing 777 and Airbus A350 aircraft following the recent disruption in the Middle East.

As part of its continued growth strategy, QR is set to further expand its global network to over 160 destinations by this summer.

Since 1 June 2026, QR and Philippine Airlines (PAL) have strengthened their strategic partnership by unlocking more than 40 new destinations for global travellers between both airlines' networks.



Additionally, the two have expanded the benefits for their Privilege Club and Mabuhay Miles loyalty members, respectively.

This not only marks QR's Privilege Club's 26th airline partnership but also expands the loyalty programme's footprint in Southeast Asia by offering members the opportunity to collect and spend Avios across PAL's global network.

For the financial year (FY) 2025-2026, QR carried more than 41.8 million passengers and achieved an 86% ontime performance.

This places QR firmly among the top five most punctual carriers worldwide, securing it the most coveted recognition in global airline operations benchmarking, the Cirium Platinum Award for Operational Excellence.

QR Group Chief Executive Officer, Hamad Al-Khater said, "It is not often that a single financial year asks an organisation to demonstrate both the best of what it can achieve and the depth of what it can withstand. The FY 2025/2026 did both and the Group rose to each in turn."

The QR Group announced a robust post-tax profit of USD1.94 billion for the FY 2025-2026 against a final month impacted by significant geopolitical events, reaffirming its position as one of global aviation's most resilient airlines.

The Group's cargo division also continued to excel, transporting more than 1.43 million tonnes of chargeable weight and advancing to become the world's largest air freight carrier with a 12% global market share.

For more information, visit [qatarairways.com](http://qatarairways.com)



## Wings Air Resumes Direct International Service Between Pekanbaru and Melaka

The recent resumption of Wings Air's (IW) direct thrice-weekly flights from Pekanbaru (PKU) to Melaka (MKZ), following the airline suspension of the service on 16 August 2023, is expected to spur tourism and economic growth between Indonesia and Malaysia.

Indonesia, a key source market for Malaysia, saw 4.2 million visitor arrivals to the country last year. Of these, Melaka captured 515,086 Indonesian visitor arrivals, said Nasrul Ahmad, General Manager of the Tourism Promotion Division, which comes under the Chief Minister's Department of Melaka.

The UNESCO World Heritage city of Melaka is an attractive destination not only for leisure travel, shopping and gastronomy, but also for healthcare tourism. Up to 300,000 Indonesians reportedly seek medical treatment at Melaka's private hospitals annually.

The low-cost carrier's resumed PKU-MKZ service on 10 June 2026 was welcomed with a water cannon salute, while representatives from the Tourism Malaysia Melaka office, four private hospitals, Mahkota Medical Centre, Oriental Melaka Straits Medical Centre, Pantai Hospital and Putra Specialist Hospital, welcomed the 50 arriving IW passengers with goodie bags.



Akmal Khairi, Head of the Pekanbaru City Culture and Tourism Agency, said the 242-year-old Indonesian city and capital of Riau Province serves as a strategic transit hub for travellers from Batam (BTH), Jakarta (CGK), Medan (KNO), Surabaya (SUB) and Yogyakarta (YIA) connecting to MKZ.

Echoing his sentiments, Captain Fitzgerald Julian, Director of Production of IW, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lion Group, said the flight from Pekanbaru (PKU) to Melaka (MKZ) takes approximately one hour and 10 minutes on the 72-seat ATR 72-600 aircraft.

Nazrul also presented tokens of appreciation to both Akmal and Captain Fitzgerald to commemorate the reinstatement of the PKU to MKZ route.



Meanwhile, on 23 June 2026, IW launched a new direct service between Rengat (RGT) and Batam (BTH), operating three times weekly, further enhancing connectivity to other Indonesian cities and beyond.

For more information, visit [www.lionair.co.id](http://www.lionair.co.id)



## Vietnam Airlines Climbs Three Places to 83rd in the 2026 Fortune Southeast Asia 500

Vietnam Airlines (VN) has strengthened its position in the Top 100 of the 2026 Fortune Southeast Asia (SEA) 500 for the third consecutive year, rising three places to 83rd compared to the previous year.

The Fortune SEA 500 is an annual ranking of the region's largest companies by revenue, highlighting businesses that capture a growing share of regional economic growth.

Introduced in 2024, the list recognises leading enterprises across six other economies in Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines.

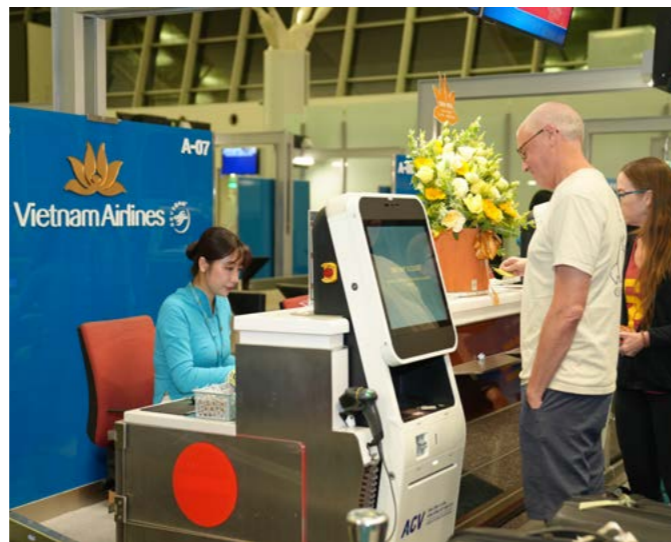
For fiscal year 2025, VN generated revenue of more than USD4.66 billion, up 10.2% year-on-year (YoY), with a profit of USD277 million and total assets of nearly USD2.8 billion.

2025 marked the strongest business performance in VN's history, reflecting the airline's recovery, restructuring and operational optimisation after undergoing significant volatility in the aviation market.

VN operated 156,300 flights, an increase of 11.8% YoY, carried 25.64 million passengers, up 12.7% and transported 344,000 tonnes of cargo, representing 10% growth compared with the previous year.

The airline's international network expansion continued into 2026 with the recent inauguration of the route between Hanoi (HAN) and Amsterdam (AMS), making it the first Vietnamese carrier to operate a direct route connecting Vietnam and the Netherlands.

Operating the Airbus A350 widebody aircraft, this new route also expands its European network to 12 direct services serving destinations that include Copenhagen (CPG), Frankfurt (FRA), London Heathrow (LHR), Milan (MIL), Moscow (SVO), Munich (MUC) and Paris (CDG).



From 1 July 2026, VN is increasing the frequency of its HAN to SVO service from three to four round-trip flights weekly to accommodate growing travel demand between Vietnam and Russia.

Most recently, Cirium, the strategic partner of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), ranked VN third among the Top 10 Most On-Time Airlines in Asia Pacific for 2026 with an on-time arrival rate of 87.77%.

This recognition underscores the airline's operational reliability and efficiency amid continued growth in air travel demand.

VN's goal is to become a Five-Star Airline by 2030.

For more information, call +603-20311666 or visit [www.vietnamairlines.com](http://www.vietnamairlines.com)



## AirAsia Malaysia Launches Direct Jakarta-Kota Bharu Service

The inaugural AirAsia Malaysia (AK) service connecting Jakarta (CGK) and Kota Bharu (KBR), Kelantan, on 16 June 2026 not only provides greater accessibility between Indonesia and the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia but also opens up more opportunities for tourism, trade, and economic cooperation.

Operating using a 180-seater Airbus A320 aircraft, the maiden flight carried 117 passengers, comprising predominantly Indonesians and Singaporeans, alongside returning Malaysian travellers.

Upon arrival, the passengers were accorded a warm welcome featuring traditional cultural performances, showcasing Malaysia's rich cultural heritage and renowned hospitality.

Welcoming them upon their arrival were Datuk Kamarudin Md Nor, Chairman of the Kelantan Tourism, Culture, Arts and Heritage Committee; Baizuri Baharum, Director of International Promotional Division (Southeast Asia) of Tourism Malaysia; Dato' Mohd Izani Ghani, Managing Director of Malaysia Airports and Zamani Rafique, AK's Director of Global and Government Affairs.



“The launch of this direct CGK to KBR service demonstrates how strategic airport infrastructure investment can create new opportunities for connectivity and growth.”

**DATO' MOHD IZANI GHANI**  
Managing Director  
of Malaysia Airports

“Following the completion of the terminal expansion of Sultan Ismail Petra Airport to cater to four million passengers per annum (mppa) compared to 1.5mppa previously, KBR is now better positioned to support international services and future traffic growth.”

As of April 2026, Malaysia and Indonesia are connected by 634 weekly flights, offering more than 114,806 seats weekly.

Besides strengthening regional connectivity and supporting Malaysia's tourism growth under the Visit Malaysia 2026-2027 campaign, Dato' Captain Fareh Mazputra, General Manager of AK said the route also showcases Kelantan's rich culture, heritage and unique attractions.

Additionally, Kelantan serves as a strategic transit point for travellers from Southern Thailand through major border crossings such as Rantau Panjang and Pengkalan Kubor.

Mohd Amirul Rizal Abdul Rahim, Director General of Tourism Malaysia said, “Beyond leisure travel, this new service is expected to support the growth of medical tourism and facilitate greater people-to-people exchanges between our two countries.”

For more information, visit [www.airasia.com](http://www.airasia.com)



## Oneworld Named Best Alliance in Business Traveller's Cellars in the Sky Awards 2026

Premier airline alliance, oneworld, won the Best Alliance accolade in Business Traveller's 2026 Cellars in the Sky Awards, with its members scooping a total of 21 gold awards.

Nine of the gold awards were clinched by Qantas Airways (QF), while Cathay Pacific Airways (CX) and Qatar Airways (QR) each secured four awards. Malaysia Airlines (MH) received two gold awards, while Alaska Airlines (AS) and British Airways (BA) won one each.



Deemed one of the industry's most respected wine and beverage award programmes, the recognition further reinforces oneworld's commitment to delivering premium travel experiences throughout its network.

Ole Orvér, Chief Executive Officer of oneworld said, "This award underscores our member airlines' commitment to elevating the travel experience through thoughtful and innovative beverage programmes that continue to raise the standard for onboard hospitality."

Celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, the Cellars in the Sky Awards have evolved from honouring the finest wines served onboard commercial aircraft to distinguishing innovation across various beverage programmes both in the air and on the ground.

These include airport lounge offerings, signature beverages, strategic drinks partnerships as well as no- and low alcohol offerings.

All entries were evaluated through a rigorous blind-tasting process conducted by an independent panel of internationally recognised wine experts, supported by host and industry consultant Kelly Stevenson.

Meanwhile, the oneworld alliance expanded its presence at London Heathrow Airport (LHR) when AS launched its new direct service to Seattle on 22 May 2026.

As a result, oneworld customers are now offered nearly 2,800 weekly departures connecting LHR directly to more than 160 destinations across over 60 countries this summer.

London, a cornerstone of the alliance's global network and a leading destination for international travellers planning round-the-world trips, accounted for 71% of bookings made on oneworld.com so far this year that included the city as part of a multi-stop itinerary.

Last year, around 29 million oneworld customers flew from, to or through LHR, with nearly 30% connecting between oneworld member airlines.

At LHR, oneworld member airlines operating from Terminal 3 include AS, American Airlines (AA), BA, CX, Finnair (AY), Japan Airlines (JL), QF, Royal Jordanian (RJ) and SriLankan Airlines (UL).

MH, QR, Oman Air (WY) and Royal Air Maroc (AT) operate from Terminal 4, while BA and Iberia (IB) operate from Terminal 5.

For more information, visit [www.oneworld.com](http://www.oneworld.com)



## RTX's Collins Aerospace Quadruples Footprint in Malaysia

Collins Aerospace is expanding its maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility at Subang Aerotech Park in Selangor with a USD63 million investment, that quadruples it from 46,000 to 164,000 square feet.

The wholly-owned subsidiary of the Virginia-based RTX Corporation of the United States plans to complete the upgraded facility by the end of 2026 to support Asia Pacific's growing fleet, which is expected to double MRO demand in the next two decades.

Irene Makris, President of Power and Controls at Collins Aerospace said, "Malaysia offers the right environment for us to scale. We plan to double employment opportunities for skilled talent in the region to keep pace with growing demand."

Collins Aerospace currently employs 150 people in Malaysia as well as 10,000 people across 24 locations in Singapore, China, India, Australia, Japan, South Korea and the Philippines.

With the company being a part of the region's aerospace industry for over 50 years, Transport Minister Anthony Loke Siew Fook viewed this deepening relationship as "a vote of confidence not just in our infrastructure but also in our people and our long-term potential".

Officiating the grand opening ceremony of Collin Aerospace's expansion of its Subang facility, he added, "This investment reflects exactly the kind of high-value, skills-intensive growth we want to anchor here.

"Collins Aerospace will be carrying out MRO works for air management systems, the systems that regulate cabin pressurisation, air quality, temperature, and ventilation onboard some of the world's most sophisticated commercial aircraft, including the Boeing 787, B777 and Airbus A380."



Also present at the Subang facility's grand opening ceremony were Malaysia Airports Managing Director, Dato' Mohd Izani Ghani; RTX Executive Vice President of Operations, Supply Chain, Quality, Environmental Health and Safety, Paolo Dal Chin and Collins Aerospace Malaysia General Manager, Chua Lee Lee.

Besides introducing advanced MRO capabilities, including air cycle machines, heat exchangers, valves and new generation starters, the Subang facility will also leverage technologies such as digital tier boards, eAndon, autonomous mobile robots and real-time location systems to increase productivity lower turnaround times.

Additionally, the facility will feature a smart building management system that monitors and optimises resource and utility consumption, along with integrated safety systems and a scalable platform that supports continuous improvement.

For more information, visit [www.rtx.com](http://www.rtx.com)



## TransNusa Receives More Awards

Indonesia's premium service carrier, TransNusa (8B), has achieved another significant milestone after receiving the 'Route Connectivity Innovation from Bali' award, in recognition of its contribution to strengthening air connectivity and supporting the growth of Bali's tourism sector.

Receiving the honour at the recent Tribun Bali Awards 2026, its President Director, Bayu Sutanto said, "We believe Bali (DPS) has tremendous potential as an international connectivity hub and 8B will continue to innovate together with Angkasa Pura Bali, the operator of I Gusti Ngurah Rai International Airport, to introduce new routes for both the community and tourism industry."

The airline is connected from Bali to domestic and international destinations such as Jakarta (CGK), Manado (MDC), Lombok (LOP), Bima (BMU), Perth (PER), Guangzhou (CAN), Kuala Lumpur (KUL) and Singapore (SIN).

Earlier, 8B earned the Top Airline by Absolute Passenger Growth under the Southeast Asia (SEA) category at the Changi Airline

Awards 2026.

Organised by the Changi Airport Group, the award recognises 8B's significant passenger growth across the region, the success of its network expansion strategy and commitment to delivering competitive, high-quality air travel services.

Bernard Francis, 8B Group Chief Executive Officer of TransNusa, who accepted the award said, "Recognition from this annual award motivates us to continue expanding connectivity and delivering an even better travel experience for our passengers."

The airline is set to expand its China network with the launch of a new CGK to Shanghai Pudong (PVG) route, with a technical stop at Cebu (CEB) on 8 July 2026, using the Chinese-made COMAC C909 aircraft for its four weekly flights.

Besides the C909, 8B's fleet also includes the Airbus A320-200 and A321-200 aircraft

For more information, visit [www.evair.com](http://www.evair.com)

Fadhilah Ku Azman, its Senior Director of International Promotions (Asia and Africa).

Besides KUL, the Shanghai-based airline also operates flights to Malaysia's other gateways in Kota Kinabalu (BKI) and Penang (PEN), with flights connecting them to other Chinese cities, including Xi'an (XIY) and Wuhan (WUH).

According to OAG's flight data for June 2026, MU remains China's second largest domestic airline, holding a 14% market share with 9.8 million seats. Its domestic one-way capacity totalled 121.5 million seats in 2025.

Additionally, Malaysia is ranked sixth among the top 20 international markets of China, reflecting strong travel demand between the two countries.

The visa exemption policies introduced by China and Malaysia have benefited mutually travellers from both countries. Currently, Chinese travellers can enter Malaysia visa-free for up to 30 days while Malaysians can enter China visa-free for up to 15 days.

To support its international network expansion, the Chinese carrier announced on 26 June 2026 that its plans to buy 25 Airbus 330neos for about USD9.35 billion, with the aircraft scheduled to be delivered in batches from 2029 to 2033+.

For more information, visit [www.ceair.com](http://www.ceair.com)



## China Eastern Airlines Increases Flights to Kuala Lumpur

China Eastern Airlines (MU) has not only resumed its Taiyuan (TYN) to Kuala Lumpur (KUL) on 17 June 2026 this time with thrice weekly flights via Kunming (KMG) but also commenced new daily flights connecting Dalian (DLC) to KUL via a layover in Nanjing (NKG) starting 22 June 2026.

Flight MU7707, which arrived at KL International Airport Terminal 1 on 23 June 2026 from DLC, was using the Airbus A320neo aircraft which can seat 163 passengers.

The flight was welcomed by Samuel Lee Thai Hung, Tourism Malaysia's Deputy Director General (Promotions II) and Nurul



## Vietjet Thailand to Launch New Daily Kuala Lumpur to Bangkok Service

As part of Vietjet Thailand's (VZ) international network expansion, the low-cost carrier (LCC) will launch its first direct daily route from KL International Airport Terminal 2 (KUL) to Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) on 9 October 2026, strengthening air connectivity between Malaysia and Thailand.

The new route will be operated by VZ's 189-seater Boeing 737-8, a new-generation aircraft that reflects the airline's major fleet expansion strategy.

The aircraft features spacious seating, generous legroom, larger overhead storage and improved operational efficiency.



Carrying more than seven million passengers annually, VZ currently operates 42 routes. The airline's fleet comprises 12 Airbus and 10 Boeing aircraft, with plans to expand to 29 aircraft by the end of 2026.

Pinyot Pibulsonggram, VZ Vice President of Commercial and Customer Service said, "Malaysia is a new destination for us, with safety as our top priority."

The LCC's other core values are Friendly and Fun, Punctuality and Affordable Price.

Bhubet Kittiyanyanya, VZ Deputy Head of Commercial Department, expects strong demand from the government, business events and students, following the launch of the new route on 9 October 2026 for the summer season.

According to Woranate Laprabang, VZ Chief Executive Officer, KUL represents a key gateway in the Association of Southeast Asia Nations region while BKK continues to serve as a major destination for tourism, business, lifestyle, culture, dining, and shopping.

The new route aligns with Malaysia's Visit Malaysia 2026-2027 campaign and the Tourism Authority of Thailand's Tourism Product Highlight 2026 initiative, which focuses on high-value, experience-driven travel.

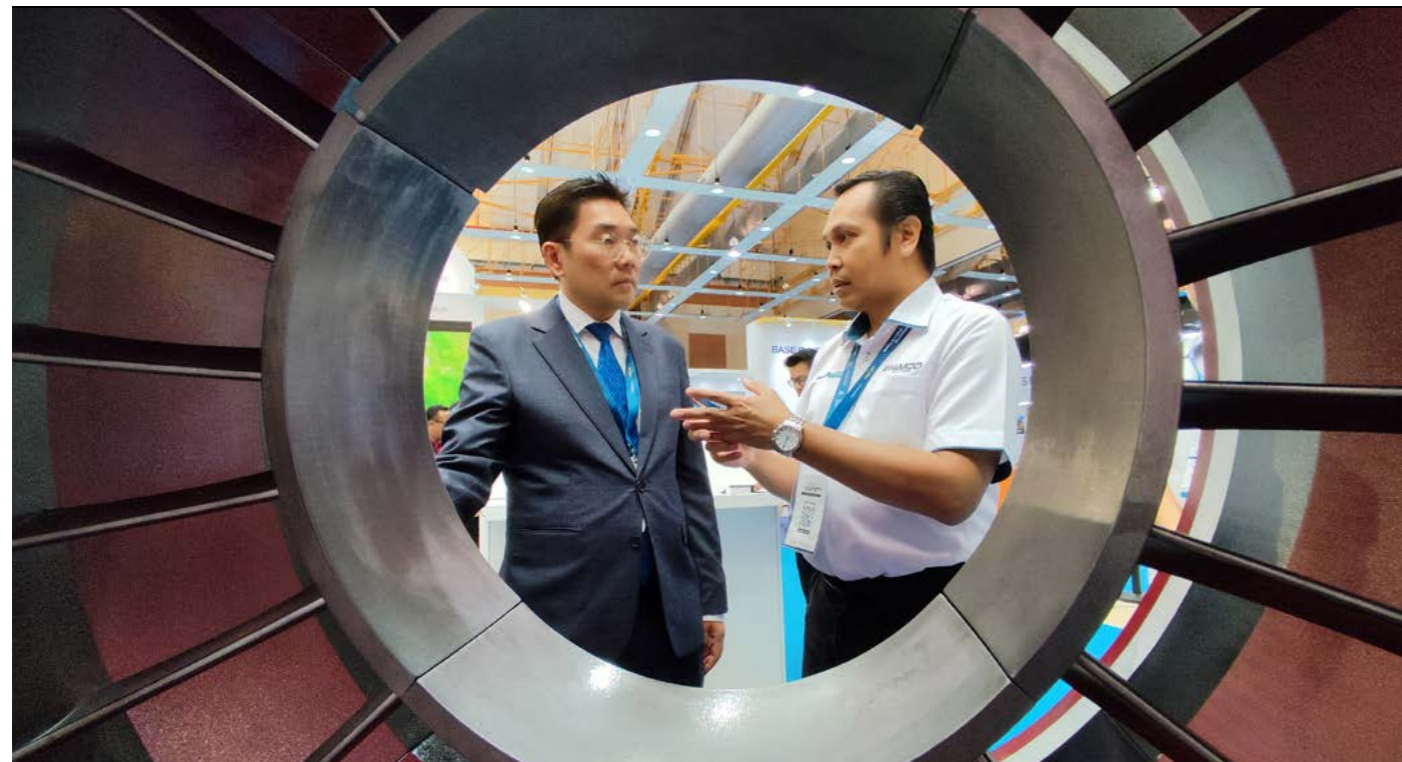
VZ aims to expand travel options by providing greater connectivity to destinations across its network, including other cities in Thailand as well as Vietnam, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan.

The airline was recognised as the Best Low-Cost Airline Brand, Thailand 2025 by Global Brand Awards as well as the Most Passenger-Friendly Cabin Crew 2025 by International Finance Magazine, reinforcing its position as the Airline of Hospitality.

Additionally, VZ was named as one of the HR Asia Best Companies to Work for in Asia 2025, reflecting its positive workplace culture and high employee satisfaction.

The airline also received the Kinnaree Award from TAT at the 15th Thailand Tourism Awards 2025 for its commitment to sustainable tourism and won three awards at the TCCTA Contact Center Awards 2025 in recognition of its excellence in customer service.

For more information, call +603 2148 8033 or visit [www.th.vietjetair.com](http://www.th.vietjetair.com)



## Potential for Upstream and Higher Value Aerospace MRO Ecosystem in Malaysia

Touted as the largest and most comprehensive national aerospace event to date, the recently concluded eighth MyAERO Summit 2026 reflects the progress of Malaysia's aerospace ecosystem and its future growth, extending beyond foreign investment alone.

Captured in its theme, "The Regional Gateway to Aerospace Technology, Business and Talent Networks", this year's edition featured 106 exhibitors from diverse aerospace and high-technology players spanning global companies, local developers, startups, academia and government agencies.

The exhibition also featured pavilions by the Ministry of Transport (MoT) and Selangor Aerospace, with the latter housing MBI Selangor Incorporated, Invest Selangor, and the Malaysia Airports team, including KLIA Aeropolis.

Meanwhile, the Sarawak Pavilion highlighted the state's aviation, maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO), space development, and digital transformation journey. AirBorneo was among the exhibitors featured under the pavilion.



According to Ir. Ts. Dr. Shamsul Kamar Abu Samah, Chief Executive Officer of National Aerospace Industry Corporation Malaysia (NAICO Malaysia), this year's MyAERO Summit has evolved beyond an exhibition platform to become a national convergence point where industry meets innovation, policy meets implementation and talent meets opportunity.

NAICO Malaysia, an agency under the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry, is the joint organiser of MyAero Summit 2026 held at MAEPS Serdang in Selangor.

At the opening ceremony of the three-day Summit, Shamsul Kamar said, "More importantly, it is where ideas are transformed into action through partnerships, investments and capability development that directly strengthen Malaysia's aerospace value chain."

The country continues to demonstrate strong and resilient growth last year, anchored by a well-balanced ecosystem across manufacturing and services.

The MRO sector, which remains a key pillar of the industry, contributed about 40% of the total aerospace revenue.

Shamsul Kamar added, "Within this segment, airframe and base maintenance accounted for around 40% of MRO activities, followed by engine MRO at 25% and component MRO at 10%, reflecting a strong but still developing value chain structure."

While Malaysia has established strong capabilities in airframe and base maintenance, he said significant opportunities to move further upstream and capture higher-value segments of the aerospace MRO ecosystem abound.

Officiating MyAero Summit 2026, Deputy Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry, Sim Tze Tzin said, "The 2026 IMD World

Competitiveness Ranking provides strong, third-party validation on why Malaysia is an ideal choice for aerospace investment."

Malaysia climbed eight spots to rank 15th globally, up from 23rd in 2025, marking the country's highest ranking in a decade.

Among the 70 economies, the IMD report placed Malaysia fourth globally in 2026 in terms of economic performance. Additionally, the country moved up 11 spots to 14th placing for government efficiency, advanced to 16th for business efficiency, and ranked 33rd for infrastructure.

Sim added, "Through the Malaysia Aerospace Digital System, we have created a national digital platform that seamlessly connects manufacturers, MRO providers, airlines, and regulators, ensuring total supply-chain visibility and smarter decision-making."

Besides driving digital integration, he said, "We are also anchoring advanced technology. The MyAERO Centre of Excellence at NAICO Malaysia is actively pioneering cutting-edge capabilities in robotics, automation and advanced materials as well as augmented reality/virtual reality."

With the AS9110 certification for MRO facilities in place, Sim said AS9120, another quality management system standard, will be rolled

out for aerospace distributors as market demand grows.

To assist the industry, he highlighted that the Malaysian Technology Development Corporation has established an Aerospace and Electrical & Electronic Ecosystem Investment Fund for small and medium enterprises as well as mid-tier companies.

Combining grants, subsidies, soft loans and equity, this fund helps companies scale up, meet global standards and secure long-term contracts with global original equipment manufacturers.

The opening ceremony was also graced by Tengku Panglima Besar Selangor, Tengku Abdul Samad Shah, who was led on a walkabout to the exhibition booths.

Meanwhile, a significant milestone at this year's MyAero Summit was the exchange and formalisation of 17 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), underscoring the growing confidence in Malaysia as a strategic aerospace and advanced technology hub.

Among them is the MoU between Pecca Aviation Services Sdn Bhd and Aris Group, aimed at strengthening Malaysia's aviation ecosystem by developing and enhancing capabilities in aircraft cabin refurbishment, retrofit solutions, aviation manufacturing, certification support, and advanced cabin technologies.





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## Her Clinic KL

REDEFINING MODERN WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE IN KUALA LUMPUR'S URBAN WELLNESS LANDSCAPE

HER Clinic KL represents a contemporary shift in how women's healthcare is delivered in Malaysia's capital, where medical care is increasingly intertwined with lifestyle, aesthetics, and long term wellbeing. Situated in Kuala Lumpur, the clinic reflects a growing demand for healthcare spaces that prioritise privacy, comfort, and personalised attention, moving beyond traditional clinical environments towards a more refined and patient centred experience.

In today's fast paced urban lifestyle, women are balancing multiple responsibilities across career, family, and personal development, often placing their own health needs lower on the priority list. HER Clinic KL responds to this reality by offering an approach that integrates preventive healthcare, reproductive wellness, hormonal health, and aesthetic medicine under one coordinated framework. The emphasis is not only on treatment but on early awareness, ongoing monitoring, and long term health planning.

A defining aspect of HER Clinic KL is its integration of aesthetic medicine within a clinical setting grounded in safety and professionalism. Rather than treating aesthetics as purely cosmetic, the clinic positions it as part of a broader understanding of confidence, self care, and emotional wellbeing. This reflects a wider regional trend where women's health services are evolving to include both functional medical care and lifestyle focused treatments, recognising that physical wellbeing and self perception are closely connected.

Preventive care also plays a central role in the clinic's philosophy. Conditions related to hormonal balance, menstrual health, and reproductive wellness are addressed through early consultation and personalised treatment pathways. This proactive approach aligns with global healthcare trends that prioritise prevention over intervention, reducing long term health risks while improving quality of life outcomes.

The environment of care is equally important. HER Clinic KL is designed to feel calm, discreet, and welcoming, offering an alternative to the often impersonal nature of conventional healthcare settings. This attention to atmosphere reflects a deeper understanding that patient experience directly influences engagement with healthcare services, particularly in sensitive areas of women's health.

As Kuala Lumpur continues to evolve as a regional hub for private healthcare and wellness services, HER Clinic KL stands within a new generation of providers shaping this transformation. The clinic reflects a broader cultural shift in which women's health is no longer viewed solely through a medical lens, but as part of a wider lifestyle ecosystem that includes wellbeing, confidence, and preventive self care.

In this context, HER Clinic KL represents more than a healthcare provider. It embodies a modern interpretation of women-centred care, where medical precision, aesthetic awareness, and holistic wellbeing converge to support women through every stage of life in a rapidly changing urban environment. Through specialized expertise and a patient-focused approach, the clinic delivers care tailored to modern women.





# Nike x Veneda Carter

REDEFINING CONTEMPORARY STREETWEAR THROUGH ELEVATED DESIGN

In the fast-evolving landscape of global fashion, the intersection where high-performance meets high design has increasingly become the playground for the industry's most daring creators. We turn our editorial lens toward a seminal creative partnership that has captivated tastemakers from Copenhagen to the streets of Bukit Bintang: the collaboration between sportswear titan Nike and the multi-hyphenate Danish designer, stylist, and creative director, Veneda Carter.

Best known for her formative years as an international model and her subsequent rise as the visionary stylist behind several of Hollywood's most meticulously curated wardrobes, Carter has seamlessly transitioned into industrial and footwear design. Her latest endeavor with Nike centers around the Air Max Muse, a silhouette that inherently defies traditional sneaker architecture. This partnership does not merely represent a commercial alignment; rather, it serves as a profound case study in how heritage sportswear can be successfully retrofitted with a sharp, avant-garde sensibility to engage today's discerning, design-literate consumer and style-conscious global audience.



At the heart of the Nike x Veneda Carter partnership lies the Air Max Muse, a silhouette that utilizes advanced computational design to achieve a look that is simultaneously futuristic and deeply grounded in comfort. The shoe features an intentionally exaggerated, heightened arch and a softly bulbous heel that showcases Nike's signature visible Air technology. For a designer like Carter, whose namesake jewelry line is celebrated for its textured, molten, and heavily metallic aesthetic, the Air Max Muse offered an ideal canvas, a structure that demands attention while maintaining structural utility.

The minimalist precision, functional restraint, and clean structural linework characteristic of Copenhagen design serve as the foundational bedrock of the collection. Conversely, the tactile richness, unexpected material pairings, and unpolished edge of her family's native Warsaw, particularly the memory of wandering through local flea markets, infuse the sneaker with an authentic, lived-in grit.



The collaboration has unfolded through a meticulous rollout of distinct expressions, each demonstrating Carter's acute eye for texture and color. The initial iteration introduced an unexpected visual dialogue, blending a clean white and rugged cargo-khaki base energized by striking hits of hyper-pink and reflective green bubbles. This particular colorway drew directly from the brutalist architecture of the Warsaw apartment complexes from Carter's childhood, using the vibrant pink to inject a necessary layer of sport-infused femininity into an otherwise industrial palette.



For the contemporary enthusiast, the appeal of the Nike x Veneda Carter Air Max Muse lies in its profound versatility. In an era where rigid dress codes have completely dissolved, luxury consumers look for pieces that can transition seamlessly from high-end corporate settings to casual evening engagements. The Air Max Muse fulfills this demand precisely because it can be styled in multiple ways, adapting its personality to the wearer. It pairs as naturally with oversized, tailored suiting as it does with technical outerwear or minimal dresses, balancing visual strength with a genuine sense of ease.



The subsequent release, the "Racer Blue" expression pivots beautifully toward a retro running aesthetic inspired by the Department of Nike Archives. Saturated, electric blue tones pop against clean white leather, paying homage to classic 1990s basketball and running shoes. However, what elevates these sneakers from simple retrospective pieces to luxury items is the deliberate infusion of Carter's jewelry background. Both iterations feature subtle yet impactful reflective finishes and custom, heavily textured metallic lace tips that mirror the distinct, molten look of her signature jewelry line.





# High Tide in Paris: LV SS27 by Pharrell

PHARRELL WILLIAMS REIMAGINES MENSWEAR WITH A "SURFER DANDY" LUXURY VISION FOR LOUIS VUITTON SPRING/SUMMER 2027

The boundaries of luxury menswear were elegantly redrawn under the Parisian sky as Louis Vuitton unveiled its Men's Spring/Summer 2027 collection. Orchestrated by Men's Creative Director Pharrell Williams, the runway transcended the conventional parameters of a seasonal presentation, establishing a majestic dialogue between the raw power of the ocean and the rigorous precision of the maison's historic savoir-faire.



Set against a breathtaking, towering barrel wave that sprayed a fine mist over an outdoor sandy dune landscape, the production underscored the brand's intrinsic heritage of travel. By fusing the untamed spirit of the open sea with the polished ethos of urban sophistication, Williams introduced a new archetype for the contemporary wardrobe the dandy-surfer.

Central to the collection's narrative was the deliberate rejection of typical beachwear clichés. Instead, the collection offered an intellectual and highly elevated interpretation of surf culture's distinctive dress codes. Williams skillfully combined performance-infused, technical materials with traditional tailoring fabrics, executing a balanced contrast that felt simultaneously grounded and revolutionary.

Monogrammed technical wetsuits were paired with structured outerwear, while crisp suiting met sun-faded, salt-softened hoodies finished with gilded Louis Vuitton drawstrings. The wardrobe was deeply imbued with the effortless nonchalance of coastal living, featuring robe-like overcoats designed to mimic the comfort of a towel thrown over cold shoulders, and meticulously faded denim that appeared weathered by sea spray and ocean air. This relaxed attitude was consistently anchored by precision cutting, ensuring that even casual pairings, such as tailored blazers styled with cut-off denim shorts, maintained an undeniable elegance. The silhouettes were carefully engineered to balance ease with structure, creating a sense of intentional, understated effortlessness that felt modern and refined.



The true genius of the collection layout emerged upon closer inspection, where the house's unparalleled craftsmanship transformed seemingly casual silhouettes into true collector's pieces. Dense, heavy ropes of hand-woven beadwork and intricate shell embellishments elevated classic bomber jackets into fine art, while shibori-like indigo dyeing techniques lent an organic, fluid depth to denim and outerwear. Trompe l'oeil effects made a sophisticated return, manipulating surfaces to challenge the viewer's perception of weight and texture. Among the standout garments was a masterfully crafted patchwork jacket, assembled like a visual passport of souvenirs from legendary surfing destinations around the globe.



The evolution of the house's iconic leather goods and accessories added a sharp commercial engine to this high-concept presentation. Supple, oversized bags rendered in oceanic hues of deep blue and vivid green caught the eye, while a dazzling, sunset-gradient hard-sided trunk served as a poetic reminder of an endless summer. The subcultural vocabulary of the collection was further expanded through a new flat-soled skate shoe, a deft nod to Williams' personal roots in skateboarding culture, which lent a street-ready edge to the coastal theme.

To complement the relaxed tailoring, fluid trousers stepped lightly across the sand in canvas sneakers, while structured baseball caps allowed long, sun-bleached hair to flow freely, subverting the stiff formalities of traditional menswear with a youthful, liberating energy. Beyond the immediate spectacle of the clothing, the presentation served as a powerful statement on global community and environmental consciousness. In perfect alignment with its Regeneration 2030 roadmap, Louis Vuitton announced its partnership with Coral Gardeners, committing to the out-planting of 1,000 corals to restore reef habitats in French Polynesia.



# The Evolution of Men's Style

THIS SEASON'S HOTPICKS



## Philipp Plein

### **Baroque-print bowling shirt** RM 7,810

The baroque-print bowling shirt from Philipp Plein exemplifies the brand's penchant for bold glamour and unapologetic luxury. Distinguished by its intricate baroque motifs and relaxed silhouette, the piece strikes a balance between statement-making design and effortless sophistication.



## Travis Scott

### **X Nike X Fc Barcelona Retro Skeleton T-shirt** RM 2,035

The x Nike x FC Barcelona retro skeleton T-shirt from Travis Scott brings together music, sport and streetwear in a striking collaborative design. Defined by its signature skeleton graphic and vintage-inspired aesthetic, the piece channels a bold, rebellious energy while celebrating the spirit of FC Barcelona.



## Zegna

### **Oasi lino field jacket** RM 22,800

The Oasi Lino field jacket from Zegna reflects the brand's refined approach to modern luxury rooted in natural innovation. Crafted from premium linen, the piece offers a lightweight yet structured silhouette that balances practicality with understated elegance. Its field-inspired design introduces a functional edge, while the clean tailoring ensures a polished, contemporary finish.



## Brunello Cucinelli

### **Garment-dyed easy-fit western shirt in narrow wale corduroy** RM 6,073

The garment-dyed easy-fit western shirt in narrow wale corduroy from Brunello Cucinelli showcases the brand's dedication to understated elegance and impeccable craftsmanship. Rendered in soft, finely textured corduroy, the piece combines a relaxed silhouette with classic western-inspired detailing for a refined yet effortless appeal.



## Valentino Garavani

### **Check virgin wool jacket** RM 8,431

The check virgin wool jacket from Valentino Garavani exemplifies the House's refined approach to contemporary tailoring. Crafted from luxurious virgin wool, the piece is distinguished by its timeless check pattern and impeccably structured silhouette, delivering a balance of sophistication and modern versatility. The design shifts easily between formal and casual wear, reflecting the brand's craftsmanship.



## Prada

### **Shearling-collar leather jacket** RM 42,785

The shearling-collar leather jacket from Prada captures the House's refined balance of utilitarian influence and elevated luxury. Crafted from premium leather, the piece is defined by its structured silhouette and plush shearling collar, adding both warmth and textural contrast. The design feels modern yet timeless, making it a versatile statement piece for everyday wear.

# Where Elegance Meets Modernity

THIS SEASON'S HOTPICKS



## Acne Studios

### **Technical jacket with logo** RM 4,327

The technical jacket with logo from Acne Studios reflects the brand's minimalist aesthetic and contemporary Scandinavian sensibility. Defined by its clean lines and subtle logo detailing, the piece combines functional design with effortless sophistication. The streamlined silhouette and technical construction offer versatility and comfort, making it an ideal layer for everyday wear.



## Brunello Cucinelli

### **patch pocket suede overshirt** RM 29,597

The patch pocket suede overshirt from Brunello Cucinelli embodies the brand's signature balance of refined luxury and relaxed sophistication. Crafted from soft, supple suede, the piece is defined by its clean silhouette and functional patch pocket detailing, offering a subtle utilitarian touch. Its understated design adds versatility, making it ideal for casual or elevated looks.



## Miu Miu

### **Nappa-leather jacket** RM 33,723

The nappa-leather jacket from Miu Miu embodies the brand's playful yet sophisticated approach to contemporary womenswear. Crafted from supple nappa leather, the piece is defined by its refined silhouette and impeccable attention to detail, offering a seamless balance between elegance and modern edge.



## Gucci

### **Single-breasted tailored coat** RM 21,142

The single-breasted tailored coat from Gucci exemplifies the House's mastery of timeless elegance and refined craftsmanship. Defined by its impeccably tailored silhouette, the piece exudes understated sophistication while offering a contemporary interpretation of classic outerwear.



## Dolce & Gabbana

### **DNA single-breasted blazer** RM 16,561

The DNA single-breasted blazer from Dolce & Gabbana showcases the House's distinctive blend of timeless tailoring and contemporary femininity. Defined by its impeccably structured silhouette, the piece exudes refined sophistication while the single-breasted design works effortlessly from day to evening.



## Carolina Herrera

### **Embroidered tulle strapless midi dress** RM 47,235

The embroidered tulle strapless midi dress from Carolina Herrera epitomises the House's signature elegance and feminine sophistication. Delicately crafted with intricate embroidery, the airy tulle construction lends a sense of romance and graceful movement to the silhouette. The refined strapless silhouette is complemented by a versatile midi length.



## BYD's Global Expansion

THE QUIET RISE OF A NEW AUTOMOTIVE SUPERPOWER

In the rapidly evolving landscape of electric mobility, a quiet but powerful shift is underway. While much of the global spotlight has long been dominated by established automotive giants from Europe, Japan, and the United States, a new leader has been steadily reshaping the balance of power. BYD, once primarily known as a battery manufacturer, has transformed into one of the most influential forces in the global electric vehicle industry.

Unlike traditional automakers that transitioned into electrification from combustion-engine roots, BYD built its foundation around battery technology from the beginning. This early focus has given the company a structural advantage in the EV era, where energy storage, efficiency, and cost control define competitiveness. Today, BYD operates as a fully integrated mobility powerhouse, controlling much of its supply chain from battery production to final vehicle assembly.

One of the defining factors behind BYD's rise is its aggressive expansion strategy across multiple vehicle segments. Rather than concentrating solely on premium or economy categories, the company has built a diverse lineup that spans compact city cars, mid-range sedans, SUVs, and high-end performance models. This helped BYD reach price-sensitive markets.



At the heart of BYD's success is its proprietary battery technology, particularly the Blade Battery system. Designed with safety, durability, and space efficiency in mind, this innovation has helped the company differentiate itself in an increasingly crowded EV market. By improving energy density while maintaining thermal stability, BYD has addressed two of the most critical concerns in electric vehicle adoption: safety and reliability.

Beyond technology, BYD's growth strategy has been defined by its rapid international expansion. Initially dominant in its home market, the company has increasingly extended its reach into Europe, Southeast Asia, Latin America, and parts of the Middle East. In many of these regions, BYD is positioning itself not just as an alternative EV brand, but as a direct competitor to legacy automakers that have historically held strong brand loyalty.

This global push has placed BYD in direct competition with long-established manufacturers such as Volkswagen Group, Toyota, and General Motors. However, unlike these traditional players, BYD benefits from a vertically integrated model that allows it to control costs more effectively and scale production at remarkable speed. This efficiency is a key advantage as price competition rivals technology.



Design and product strategy have also played a crucial role in BYD's expansion. The company has gradually moved away from purely functional vehicle aesthetics toward more refined, globally appealing designs. Collaborations with international design talent and increased attention to interior quality have helped BYD reposition itself as not just a value-driven brand, but a legitimate contender in the global automotive design space.

Despite its rapid rise, BYD's expansion is not without challenges. Entering mature markets requires more than competitive pricing; it demands brand trust, long-term service infrastructure, and cultural positioning that resonates with local consumers. In regions like Europe and North America, these factors will determine how far BYD can truly go beyond its current momentum.

Still, the trajectory is clear. BYD's rise represents a structural shift in the global automotive hierarchy, where new players with deep technological foundations are challenging century-old manufacturers. As electrification accelerates, the company's integrated approach and scale-driven strategy position it as one of the most influential forces shaping the future of mobility.

Ultimately, BYD is no longer simply a fast-growing electric vehicle manufacturer operating within an emerging segment of the automotive industry. It has evolved into a defining symbol of how rapidly the global mobility landscape is being reshaped in the electric era. What was once a market dominated by long-established automotive legacies is now being actively challenged by new players built around speed, integration, and technological efficiency from the ground up, reshaping long-held industry hierarchies.



## The evolving face of luxury in Argentina

IMMERSIVE JOURNEYS ACROSS LAND, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Argentina has emerged as one of the most compelling luxury travel destinations in the Southern Hemisphere, defined by a rare duality that blends untamed natural landscapes with refined, world-class hospitality. It is a country where the scale of nature meets the intimacy of curated experience, offering travellers journeys that feel both expansive and deeply personal. Increasingly, Argentina is being positioned within the global luxury travel map not only for its beauty, but for the depth and diversity of experiences it offers across regions that are dramatically different yet seamlessly connected within a single itinerary.

In Buenos Aires, luxury begins in the rhythm of the city itself. Often described as the Paris of South America, the capital is a blend of European-influenced architecture, grand boulevards and a thriving contemporary cultural scene. Neighbourhoods such as Recoleta and Palermo are home to boutique hotels, restored heritage residences and design led stays that prioritise privacy, comfort and personalised service.

Beyond gastronomy and accommodation, Buenos Aires offers a highly curated cultural lifestyle. Private gallery viewings, bespoke tango performances, exclusive access to art spaces and tailored city experiences allow travellers to engage with the city on a more intimate level. Luxury here is defined less by material excess and more by access, storytelling and cultural immersion. It is a city where elegance is expressed through detail, atmosphere and heritage rather than scale alone.

As the journey moves away from the capital, Argentina transforms dramatically, shifting from urban sophistication to vast and elemental landscapes where luxury travel becomes more experiential and nature driven. This transition is one of the country's defining characteristics, offering travellers a sense of contrast that is rare even among the world's top destinations.



In Patagonia, luxury is redefined through silence, space and immersion. High-end eco-lodges and remote retreats are carefully designed to integrate into the natural environment rather than dominate it. Here, travellers experience glaciers, mountain ranges and pristine lakes through private guided excursions, helicopter transfers and bespoke itineraries that prioritise exclusivity and solitude. Destinations such as El Calafate and the broader Patagonian region offer a form of luxury rooted in scale and stillness, where the absence of crowds becomes the ultimate privilege.



Further north, Mendoza presents a completely different interpretation of luxury travel, centred on wine, landscape and slow living. Set against the dramatic backdrop of the Andes, vineyard estates and luxury wine lodges offer private tastings, curated vineyard journeys and architecturally refined accommodations that blend seamlessly into their surroundings. The Malbec culture of Argentina is elevated here into a full sensory experience, where gastronomy, viticulture and wellness converge.

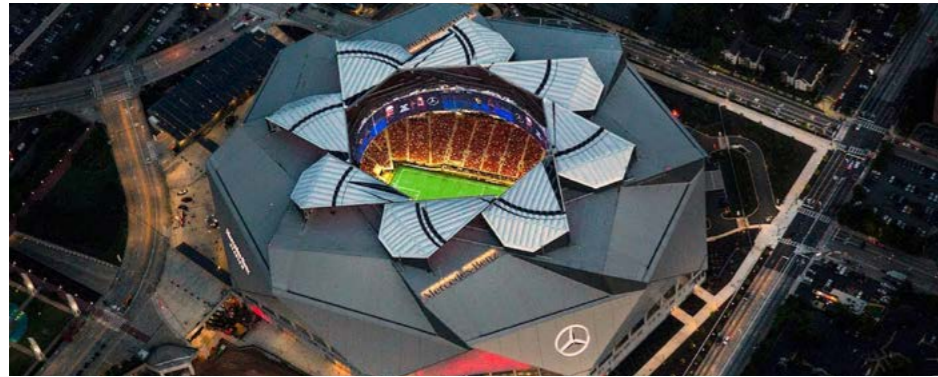
In the northwestern regions of Salta and Jujuy, luxury takes on a more cultural and exploratory dimension. Boutique lodges and curated travel routes guide visitors through dramatic desert valleys, high altitude salt flats, colonial towns and indigenous heritage sites. The experience is deeply atmospheric, combining raw natural beauty with carefully considered hospitality. In these regions, luxury is expressed through authenticity and access to landscapes and cultures that remain deeply rooted in tradition.



# FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

## ELITE FOOTBALL MEETS CURATED GLOBAL TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

The FIFA World Cup 2026 represents a defining moment in both global sport and luxury travel, transforming the tournament into a multi-country journey across the United States, Canada and Mexico. For the first time, the scale of the event allows travellers to experience elite football alongside curated hospitality, cultural immersion and high end destination travel across North America. This unique combination elevates the tournament beyond sport, creating a landmark luxury travel experience across the host nations.



### United States - Urban Luxury & Entertainment Culture

The United States forms the core of the World Cup 2026 experience, with matches hosted in some of the world's most iconic cities including New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Dallas and San Francisco. Luxury travel here is defined by scale, exclusivity and access to world class urban experiences.

New York offers a refined city experience anchored by five star hotels, private members clubs and globally recognised fine dining, combined with premium stadium hospitality. Los Angeles blends sport with entertainment and coastal lifestyle, where luxury stays in Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and Malibu are paired with curated cultural and wellness experiences. Miami introduces a more tropical expression of luxury travel, where yacht charters, oceanfront resorts and high energy nightlife complement VIP match access and concierge driven itineraries.

### Canada - Refined Luxury & Scenic Escapes

Canada brings a more understated and refined dimension to the World Cup 2026 experience, with matches in cities such as Toronto and Vancouver. Here, luxury travel is shaped by balance, blending modern city sophistication with natural beauty and a slower pace of experience.

Toronto offers high end hotels, waterfront dining and cultural depth, making it a polished urban stop within the tournament circuit. Vancouver introduces a dramatic natural backdrop, where mountains, ocean views and outdoor experiences redefine what luxury travel can look like during a global sporting event.

In Canada, private tours, curated dining and boutique hospitality create a relaxed yet premium World Cup experience.

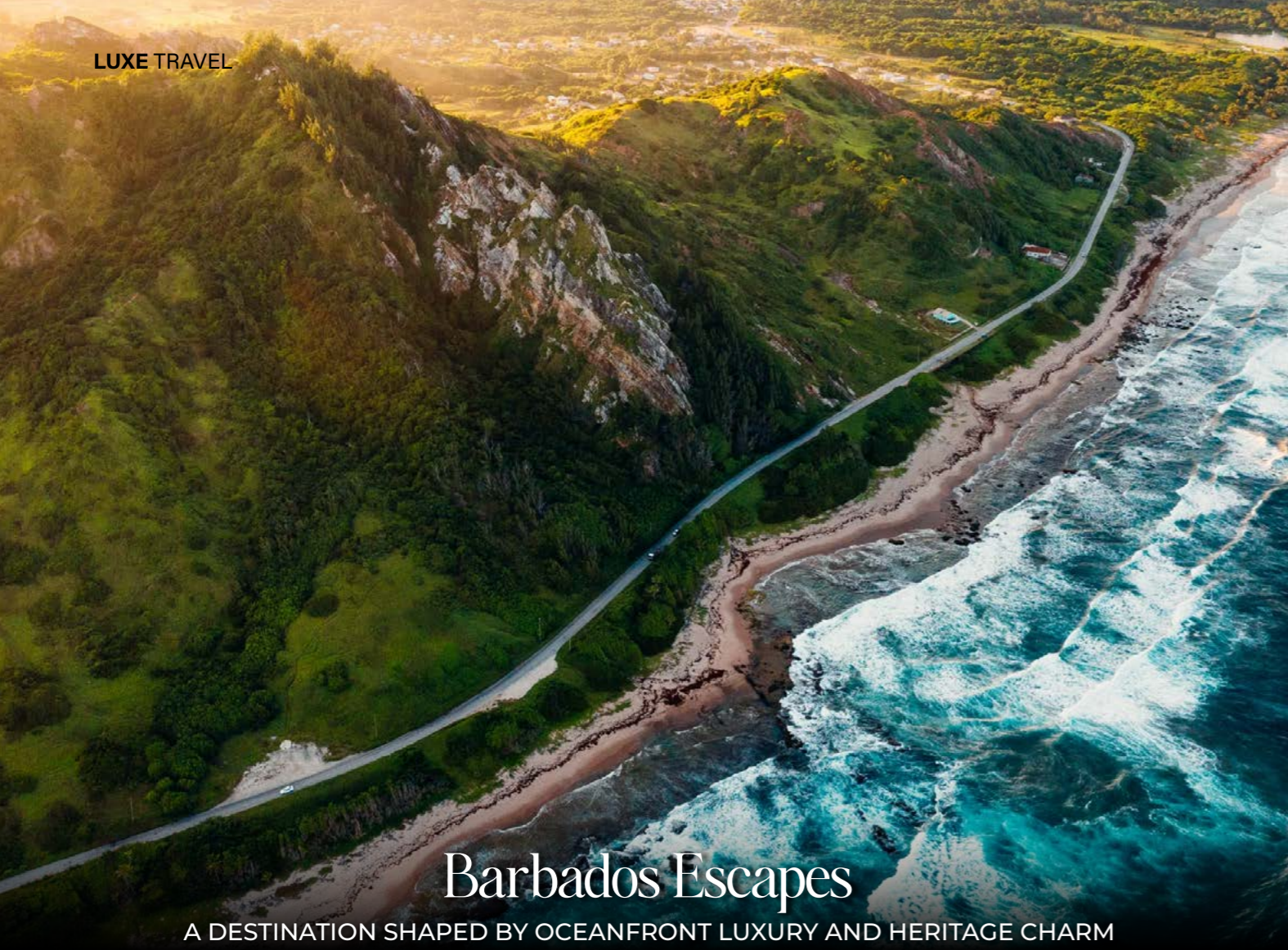


### Mexico - Heritage, Energy & Cultural Immersion

Mexico adds cultural intensity and historic depth to the FIFA World Cup 2026 journey, with Mexico City as its central host destination. Known for its passionate football culture and rich heritage, Mexico offers a distinctly immersive luxury experience.

Luxury travel in Mexico is defined by contrast, where colonial architecture, world class cuisine and vibrant street culture coexist with high end hospitality and curated private experiences. Mexico City delivers access to luxury hotels, private chef dining, exclusive cultural tours and premium match day experiences set within one of the most energetic football atmospheres in the world.

Beyond the capital, curated extensions into heritage towns and cultural landmarks allow travellers to experience a deeper narrative of Mexican identity, blending history, cuisine and tradition into the broader World Cup journey while showcasing the country's rich cultural heritage and diverse regional influences.



## Barbados Escapes

A DESTINATION SHAPED BY OCEANFRONT LUXURY AND HERITAGE CHARM



Barbados has long held its place as one of the Caribbean's most distinguished luxury travel destinations, offering a seamless blend of natural beauty, heritage charm and world-class hospitality. Beyond its postcard-perfect beaches and coral-framed coastlines, the island presents a curated experience of refined living, where luxury is expressed through privacy, personalised service and an effortless sense of ease. It is a destination that has evolved beyond traditional island tourism, positioning itself as a sophisticated escape for travellers seeking both relaxation and depth of experience.



Beyond the coastline, Barbados reveals a deeper cultural identity shaped by colonial heritage, Caribbean rhythm and a strong sense of place. Historic plantation estates have been carefully restored into boutique accommodation, fine dining venues and cultural spaces, offering a window into the island's layered historical narrative. Bridgetown, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, adds further dimension to the experience, where heritage architecture, local craftsmanship and curated walking tours allow visitors to engage with the island's past in a meaningful and immersive way. This blend of history and hospitality creates a luxury experience that extends beyond scenery into storytelling and cultural connection.

Culinary excellence remains one of Barbados' defining luxury pillars. The island's dining scene is diverse, ranging from beachfront fine dining restaurants to intimate chef-led concepts that highlight freshly caught seafood, Caribbean spices and international culinary influences.



Private dining experiences on the sand, sunset tasting menus and rum-curated journeys elevate gastronomy into a sensory experience shaped by place and atmosphere. Barbados' rum heritage in particular plays a central role in its identity, with distillery tours and private tastings offering a deeper understanding of one of the Caribbean's most iconic exports.

For travellers seeking curated adventure, Barbados offers a wide spectrum of elevated experiences that extend beyond relaxation. Private catamaran cruises along the west coast reveal hidden coves and turquoise waters, while diving and snorkelling excursions showcase vibrant coral reefs and marine life. Inland, guided island tours uncover botanical gardens, limestone caves, wildlife reserves and scenic countryside routes, each presenting a different layer of the island's natural diversity. These experiences are designed with privacy and personalisation in mind, ensuring that exploration remains intimate and unhurried.

What distinguishes Barbados within the global luxury travel landscape is its ability to balance sophistication with ease. It is a destination where service is intuitive, environments are relaxed, and experiences are deeply personal. Luxury here is not defined by formality or display, but by fluidity, warmth and authenticity, where every detail feels considered yet effortless.





## Regent Phu Quoc

AN ISLAND SANCTUARY OF CONTEMPORARY ELEGANCE

There are destinations that promise escape, and then there are places that redefine what escape truly means. Set along the powder-soft shores of Long Beach on Vietnam's largest island, Regent Phu Quoc belongs firmly in the latter category. Framed by swaying palms, emerald landscapes and the calm waters of the Gulf of Thailand, this remarkable resort offers an experience that feels both intimate and expansive, sophisticated yet effortlessly relaxed.

Phu Quoc itself has emerged as one of Southeast Asia's most captivating destinations. Often described as Vietnam's island paradise, it combines untouched natural beauty with a growing reputation for world-class hospitality. While many travellers are familiar with the energy of Bali or Phuket, Phu Quoc offers something increasingly rare in modern luxury travel. It offers space, tranquillity and a sense of discovery.

At the heart of this island retreat stands Regent Phu Quoc, the flagship expression of the legendary Regent brand in Vietnam. Opened in 2022, the resort occupies a privileged position on the island's western coast, perfectly placed to capture the spectacular sunsets for which Phu Quoc has become famous. Every evening, the sky transforms into a canvas of gold, amber and rose, creating a breathtaking backdrop that becomes part of the guest experience.

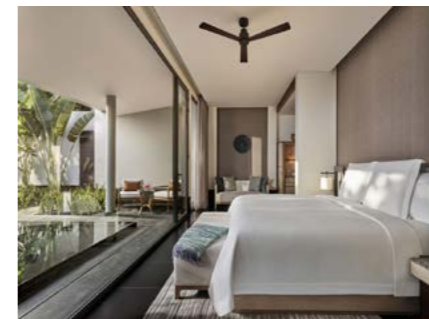
From the moment of arrival, the resort reveals a carefully considered philosophy of luxury. Rather than overwhelming guests with grandeur, Regent Phu Quoc embraces elegance through thoughtful design, personalised service and an atmosphere of understated sophistication. Inspired by contemporary Vietnamese aesthetics, the architecture seamlessly blends natural materials, open spaces and soft neutral tones, allowing the surrounding landscape to take centre stage while fostering a tranquil and restorative environment.



### Regent Phu Quoc

Address: Phu Quoc Marina Integrated Resort Complex  
Bai Truong, Duong Bao Ward,  
Duong To Commune Phu Quoc Island,  
Kien Giang Province, 92509, Vietnam  
Tel.: +84 297 3880 000  
Website: [www.phuquoc.regenthotels.com](http://www.phuquoc.regenthotels.com)

Accommodation at Regent Phu Quoc is designed as a private sanctuary. Spacious suites and villas feature floor-to-ceiling windows that frame sweeping views of tropical gardens, shimmering lagoons and the endless sea beyond. Interiors are calm and inviting, combining handcrafted details with modern comforts to create spaces that feel both luxurious and deeply personal.



For guests seeking the ultimate indulgence, the private pool villas offer an exceptional level of exclusivity. Nestled among lush greenery or positioned directly along the beachfront, these residences provide a serene retreat where mornings begin with ocean breezes and evenings conclude beneath glowing island sunsets. Every detail has been curated to encourage relaxation, from expansive outdoor terraces to elegant living spaces that blur the line between indoors and outdoors.

Yet Regent Phu Quoc is far more than a place to stay. It is a destination that celebrates the art of living well. Dining experiences are central to the resort's identity, reflecting both Vietnam's rich culinary heritage and the international influences that define contemporary luxury travel. From elevated Vietnamese cuisine to refined international menus, each restaurant offers a distinct perspective on flavour and craftsmanship.

One of the resort's most celebrated concepts is Taste Studio, an immersive dining experience that combines gastronomy, art, culture and storytelling. More than a meal, it is a journey designed to engage every sense, showcasing the creativity and innovation that have become synonymous with the Regent name. Across the property, guests can expect impeccable service, carefully sourced ingredients and menus that honour both local traditions and global excellence. Wellness also plays a defining role in the Regent experience. The spa provides a sanctuary of calm where ancient healing traditions meet modern therapeutic practices. Signature treatments draw inspiration from local ingredients and holistic philosophies, offering guests an opportunity to reconnect with both body and mind.



## KLAS Art Auction

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY MASTERPIECES LEAD THE SALE

The KLAS Malaysian Modern and Contemporary Art Auction, held on Sunday 28 June 2026, concluded with an impressive series of results that reflected the resilience and continued growth of Malaysia's secondary art market. Presenting an exceptional selection of paintings by pioneering modern masters alongside leading contemporary artists, the auction attracted enthusiastic participation from collectors, private buyers, art investors and telephone bidders throughout the afternoon. Strong bidding activity demonstrated that demand for high quality Malaysian artworks remains robust, particularly for works distinguished by rarity, provenance and artistic significance.

Throughout the auction, collectors displayed a clear preference for established names whose works continue to perform strongly in the secondary market. At the same time, contemporary artists achieved encouraging prices, illustrating the broad appeal of Malaysian art across different generations of collectors. Competitive bidding was evident across the catalogue, with buyers showing confidence in acquiring works that not only enrich private collections but also offer enduring cultural and investment value.

Leading the auction was Datuk Ibrahim Hussein's *Figures in Landscape* (1974), which achieved a total price of RM218,400, making it the highest selling work of the day. The exceptional result reflected sustained confidence in museum quality artworks and reaffirmed the premium placed on outstanding examples by one of Malaysia's most celebrated modern masters. As bidding intensified between determined collectors, the final result established the benchmark for the afternoon and highlighted the continued strength of the upper end of the market. The impressive performance underscored the enduring appeal of Ibrahim Hussein's artistic legacy, reinforcing his position as one of the most sought-after names in the Malaysian art market.



**IBRAHIM HUSSEIN, DATUK**  
*Figures in Landscape*, 1974  
 Acrylic on canvas 51 x 62 cm  
**SOLD RM 218,400**



**YONG MUN SEN**  
*Pagoda in A Park*, 1947  
 Watercolour on paper 54 x 48 cm  
**SOLD RM 20,160**

Closely following was Cheong Soo Pieng's *Fishing Village* (1960), which realised a total price of RM212,800 after attracting strong competition from collectors. The narrow difference between the two highest-selling works reflected the exceptional quality of the catalogue and demonstrated buyers' continued willingness to compete for significant museum-quality artworks. Another major highlight came from Ahmad Zakii Anwar's *Legong Dancers* (2000), which achieved RM168,000, further reinforcing healthy demand for important paintings by celebrated Malaysian artists. Together, these standout results illustrated the sustained depth of the market, with collectors showing strong confidence across both established modern masters and influential contemporary names, contributing to an impressive overall performance for the auction.

**CHEONG SOO PIENG**  
*Fishing Village*, 1960  
 Oil on board 50 x 70 cm  
**SOLD RM 212,800**



**AHMAD ZAKII ANWAR**  
*Legong Dancers*, 2000  
 Acrylic on canvas 122 x 183 cm (diptych)  
**SOLD RM 168,000**



**MOHD HOESSEIN ENAS, DATUK**  
*Portrait of a Malay Woman*, 1963  
 Oil on board 73 x 54 cm  
**SOLD RM 39,200**



**RAFIEE GHANI**  
*Oriental Shades I*, 1998  
 Oil on canvas 90 x 99 cm  
**SOLD RM 29,120**

**AWANG DAMIT AHMAD**  
*Belatak Rapuh*, 2010  
 Mixed media on canvas 91 x 91 cm  
**SOLD RM 39,200**



**ART FEATURES**

The market for premium works remained particularly resilient throughout the auction. Datuk Yusof Ghani's Biring Series XI (2006) and Awang Damit Ahmad's Garis Mega: Aku Akan Terus Bertahan (2016) each realised RM134,400, confirming the enduring appeal of blue-chip works that continue to attract experienced collectors. Syed Ahmad Jamal's Al Mubarak (2008) followed with an impressive RM100,800, demonstrating that buyers remain prepared to invest confidently in works of recognised historical and artistic importance. These strong performances reflected sustained confidence in established Malaysian artists, with competitive bidding reinforcing the long-term value placed on works distinguished by exceptional provenance, artistic significance, and lasting cultural relevance. The results further underscored the continued strength of the upper tier of Malaysia's art market.

**YOSHITOMO NARA**

Cosmic Girl (Eyes Open), 2008  
Offset lithographic poster printed in colours on wove,  
from the edition of 500 72 x 52 cm  
**SOLD RM 32,480**



**AWANG DAMIT AHMAD**

Garis Mega - "Aku Akan Terus Bertahan", 2016  
Mixed media on canvas 183 x 183 cm  
**SOLD RM 134,400**



**KHALIL IBRAHIM**

East Coast Series, 1970's  
Batik 87 x 70 cm  
**SOLD RM 89,600**

**JEAN DUFY**

Bouquet de Fleurs, 1920  
Pencil and watercolour on paper  
laid down on board  
56.8 x 46.3 cm  
**SOLD RM 72,800**



Interest remained equally strong across the middle section of the sale. Khalil Ibrahim's East Coast Series batik from the 1970s achieved RM89,600, while Jean Dufy's Bouquet de Fleurs (1920) realised RM72,800. Datuk Yusof Ghani's Segerak Series: Players (2006) followed closely at RM69,440, with Nguyen Trung's The Lady (2007) achieving RM67,200. Another notable result came from Yoshitomo Nara's Cosmic Girl (Eyes Open) (2008), an offset lithographic poster printed in colours on wove from an edition of 500, which sold for RM32,480, demonstrating continued collector interest in internationally recognised contemporary artists and editioned works. These results reflected healthy competition among buyers and highlighted the depth of demand beyond the highest value works. Collectors remained discerning, focusing on quality, provenance, and artistic reputation while continuing to support works across a broad range of price levels.

**ART FEATURES**



**YUSOF GHANI, DATUK**

Segerak Series: Players, 2006  
Charcoal and acrylic on linen  
127 x 96 cm  
**SOLD RM 69,440**



**NGUYEN TRUNG**

The Lady, 2007  
Oil on canvas 40 x 30 cm  
**SOLD RM 67,200**



**YUSOF GHANI, DATUK**

Segerak Series: Pursuit No. 5, 2004  
Charcoal and acrylic on canvas  
93 x 69 cm  
**SOLD RM 56,000**

The auction also produced several notable results within the middle market, reflecting broad-based demand across a diverse range of collecting categories. Another work from Datuk Yusof Ghani's Segerak Series, together with Lee Man Fong's Portrait of a Balinese Lady, each realised RM56,000, illustrating the consistent demand for works by established artists with proven market appeal. Awang Damit Ahmad's Belatak Rapuh (2010) achieved RM39,200, further demonstrating the continued appreciation for important contemporary Malaysian art.



**LEE MAN FONG**

"Portrait of a Balinese Lady" Bali, 1954  
Pastel on paper 45 x 61 cm  
**SOLD RM 56,000**

Beyond the highest prices achieved, the auction recorded encouraging participation across numerous other lots, with many works selling comfortably within or above their estimated values. This broad based activity reflected the growing maturity of Malaysia's collecting community, where seasoned collectors were joined by a new generation of buyers seeking to build meaningful collections of modern and contemporary Malaysian art. The diversity of participants also highlighted the increasing recognition of art as both a cultural asset and a long term investment.



**YUSOF GHANI, DATUK**

Siri Segerak, 2005  
Mixed media on canvas 51 x 26 cm  
**SOLD RM 7,840**



**SYED AHMAD JAMAL, DATUK**

Al-Mubarak, 2008  
Acrylic on board 51 x 81 cm  
**SOLD RM 100,800**

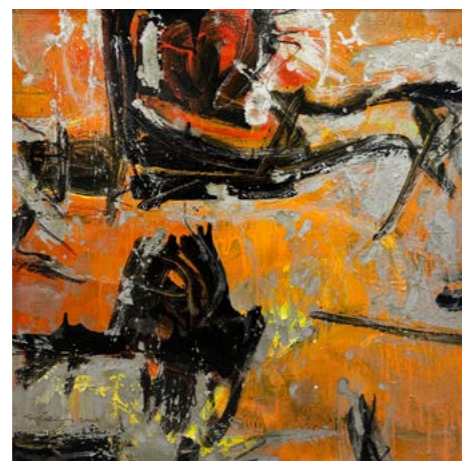


## KLAS Art Auction

AUGUST SEPTEMBER AUCTION

KLAS Art Auction proudly presents its August September Auction, bringing together an exceptional selection of Malaysian and regional masterpieces that celebrate artistic excellence, cultural heritage and creative innovation. This carefully curated auction showcases works by some of the nation's most respected artists, offering collectors a rare opportunity to acquire paintings that have shaped the story of Malaysian art while reflecting the continued strength of the contemporary market.

Leading this distinguished collection is an outstanding work from Datuk Yusof Ghani's celebrated Biring Series. Widely recognised as one of the defining bodies of work in Malaysian contemporary art, the Biring Series reflects the artist's lifelong exploration of movement, rhythm and human resilience. Inspired by traditional woven forms and the symbolism of collective strength, the series transforms energetic brushwork and bold compositions into powerful visual narratives. Rich in texture and emotion, the work exemplifies Yusof Ghani's remarkable ability to balance abstraction with cultural memory, making it one of the most sought-after series among collectors of Malaysian art and a lasting highlight of his artistic legacy, celebrated for its enduring artistic significance and timeless appeal.



**Suzlee Ibrahim**  
*Goldmine, 2001*  
Acrylic and oil on canvas 90 x 90 cm  
RM 5,000 - 7,500

Equally compelling is the inclusion of works by Jimmy Ong, whose deeply expressive drawings continue to command admiration throughout the region. Best known for his extraordinary mastery of charcoal and graphite, Jimmy Ong captures the human condition with remarkable sensitivity and technical precision. His figures possess a quiet emotional intensity that invites contemplation while revealing themes of identity, memory and social experience. His works have become highly desirable for collectors who appreciate exceptional draughtsmanship combined with profound storytelling.



**Jimmy Ong**  
*3 Header, 1994*  
Charcoal on paper 116.5 x 116.5 cm  
RM 16,000 - 35,000

The auction also features an impressive work by Tay Mo Leong, a pioneering figure whose distinctive interpretation of landscape has earned him an enduring place in Malaysian art history. Through expressive brushwork and vibrant colour, Tay transforms familiar scenes into poetic expressions of atmosphere and emotion. His paintings reveal a deep appreciation for nature while demonstrating an exceptional understanding of composition and light. Rather than simply documenting the landscape, his works evoke a powerful sense of place, inviting viewers to experience the tranquillity and beauty of the natural world through his artistic vision. Collectors continue to value his works not only for their aesthetic beauty but also for their important contribution to the development of Malaysian modern painting. The inclusion of his work further enhances the strength of the auction catalogue, offering collectors an opportunity to acquire a significant example by one of the nation's most accomplished landscape artists.

Another significant highlight is the inclusion of Thomas Yeo, whose atmospheric compositions have become synonymous with elegance and tranquillity. Renowned for his masterful treatment of light and subtle tonal harmony, Thomas Yeo captures the quiet beauty of everyday life through refined painterly techniques. His works possess a timeless quality that continues to resonate with collectors seeking paintings that combine technical excellence with emotional depth.



**Tay Mo Leong**  
*Marketing, 1970's*  
Batik 106 x 60 cm  
RM 5,000 - 12,000



**Thomas Yeo**  
*Scenery, 1987*  
Watercolour on paper 60 x 75 cm  
RM 5,000 - 9,000



The auction is further strengthened by works from several distinguished names including Rafiee Ghani, Jalaini Abu Hassan, Khalil Ibrahim, Ahmad Nazri Abdullah, Raphael Scott Ahbeng, Awang Damit Ahmad, Ahmad Shukri Mohamed, Chuang Che, Cesar Buenaventura, Khoo Sui Hoe, Ronnie Mohammad, Haron Mokhtar, Ismail Abdul Latiff, and many other accomplished artists whose practices continue to shape the artistic landscape of Southeast Asia. Each artist brings a distinctive visual language and creative perspective, offering collectors an exceptional breadth of styles, techniques, and subject matter within a single catalogue. Their inclusion reflects the auction's commitment to presenting works of both artistic significance and enduring market appeal.

Together, these artists represent a remarkable cross section of creative expression, ranging from lyrical landscapes and figurative narratives to powerful abstraction and conceptual exploration. Their works reflect the diversity of artistic voices that have contributed to the growth of Malaysian and regional art over the past several decades, each offering a distinctive perspective shaped by individual experiences, cultural influences, and artistic innovation. The carefully curated selection celebrates both established masters and influential contemporary practitioners, providing collectors with opportunities to acquire works that embody innovation, cultural identity, and exceptional artistic craftsmanship. Beyond their aesthetic appeal, these artworks serve as important records of the region's evolving artistic journey, highlighting the continuous dialogue between tradition and modernity. Together, the works showcase the richness and diversity of Southeast Asia's art scene, reaffirming the region's reputation as one of the world's most dynamic and culturally significant centres of artistic excellence.

**Raphael Scott Ahbeng**  
*Temptations of the Sun, 2004*  
Acrylic on canvas 60 x 50 cm  
RM 2,500 - 3,000



## Beyond the Bottle

UNDERSTANDING WHICH SUPPLEMENTS MATTER AND WHY BALANCE MATTERS MOST

Walk through any pharmacy, supermarket, or online marketplace today, and it becomes immediately clear that supplements have become a major part of modern wellness culture. Shelves are lined with multivitamins, probiotics, collagen powders, fish oils, magnesium capsules, and countless formulations promising everything from better sleep and stronger immunity to healthier skin and increased energy. Social media influencers, wellness trends, and aggressive marketing have further fuelled the belief that optimal health may simply be a matter of taking the right combination of pills each day.

The global supplement industry has expanded rapidly over the past decade, reflecting growing public interest in preventative health and longevity. More people are becoming aware of the importance of nutrition and are actively seeking ways to maintain their wellbeing as they age. Yet despite the popularity of supplements, experts increasingly emphasise that there is no universal formula for good health. While certain vitamins and minerals can play an important role in supporting the body, supplements are designed to complement healthy lifestyles rather than replace them.



For many years, vitamins were often viewed as harmless additions to daily routines, with some people believing that taking extra nutrients could only provide additional benefits. However, modern research has shown that nutrition is far more complex. The body requires balance, and more is not always better. In fact, experts now stress that understanding individual needs may be more important than blindly following wellness trends.



Nutritionists and healthcare professionals continue to emphasise that whole foods remain the best source of nutrients. Fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, nuts, and dairy products provide vitamins and minerals alongside fibre, antioxidants, and countless beneficial compounds that supplements simply cannot replicate. A healthy diet delivers nutrients in combinations that the body has evolved to process efficiently, making food the foundation of long-term wellbeing.



However, maintaining a perfectly balanced diet is not always easy. Busy schedules, changing lifestyles, dietary restrictions, ageing, and medical conditions can all contribute to nutritional gaps. In these situations, supplements may help support overall health by addressing specific deficiencies or providing additional nutrients that are difficult to obtain consistently through diet alone.

Among the most widely discussed nutrients is vitamin D, often referred to as the "sunshine vitamin". Vitamin D plays an essential role in maintaining healthy bones, supporting the immune system, and regulating various functions throughout the body. Despite living in sunny climates, many people spend increasing amounts of time indoors, whether working in offices, studying, or engaging with digital devices. This shift in lifestyle has contributed to growing rates of vitamin D deficiency around the world. Researchers have linked insufficient vitamin D levels to weakened bones, reduced muscle strength, and increased vulnerability to certain health conditions. While sunlight remains the most natural source of vitamin D, experts note that modern lifestyles and concerns surrounding excessive sun exposure can make supplementation beneficial for some individuals.



Another supplement that has attracted widespread attention is omega-3 fatty acids. Commonly found in oily fish such as salmon, sardines, and mackerel, omega-3 plays a vital role in supporting heart health, brain function, and inflammation regulation. Studies suggest that omega-3 fatty acids contribute to maintaining healthy blood vessels and may help support cognitive function as people age. Yet many individuals struggle to consume sufficient amounts of fish on a regular basis. This has led to increasing popularity of fish oil capsules and plant-based alternatives derived from algae and flaxseed. While omega-3 supplements may benefit certain individuals, researchers continue to emphasise that regular consumption of nutrient-rich foods remains the preferred approach whenever possible.



# More Than a Game

HOW FOOTBALL BENEFITS PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH



With major football tournaments capturing global attention and millions of fans following every match, the beautiful game once again reminds the world of its extraordinary ability to unite people across cultures, generations, and backgrounds. From packed stadiums and neighbourhood futsal courts to informal kickabouts in parks and school fields, football remains one of the most widely played and accessible sports on the planet. Yet beyond the excitement, rivalries, and unforgettable goals lies another remarkable story, one increasingly supported by science and medical research.

For decades, football has been viewed primarily as entertainment or competition, but experts are now recognising its broader role in promoting physical health, emotional wellbeing, and social connection. Whether played professionally or recreationally, football combines endurance, coordination, teamwork, and mental engagement in ways that few activities can match. In many ways, the sport offers benefits that extend far beyond the ninety minutes on the pitch.

One reason football has maintained its universal appeal is its simplicity. Unlike sports that require expensive equipment or specialised facilities, football demands relatively little. With a ball, a bit of space, and willing players, a game can begin.



Physical inactivity has been linked to a variety of chronic conditions, including obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure. Experts consistently stress that regular movement remains one of the most effective ways to maintain long-term health, and football provides a unique combination of aerobic and anaerobic exercise. During a match, players constantly alternate between walking, jogging, sprinting, and changing direction, creating a highly dynamic workout that challenges both the heart and muscles.

Studies have shown that football can significantly improve cardiovascular fitness and endurance. The constant movement involved helps strengthen the heart, enhance circulation, and improve the body's ability to utilise oxygen efficiently. Over time, regular participation may contribute to lower blood pressure, healthier cholesterol levels, and reduced risks of heart disease. In fact, researchers have suggested that recreational football can offer health benefits comparable to traditional forms of exercise such as jogging or cycling, while often being perceived as more enjoyable and socially engaging.



Beyond cardiovascular health, football also supports muscular strength, balance, and coordination. The sport requires players to accelerate, pivot, jump, and maintain stability while controlling the ball. These movements engage multiple muscle groups simultaneously and help improve agility and flexibility. Such physical demands become increasingly important as people age, as maintaining strength and balance contributes to mobility and reduces the risk of falls and injuries later in life. Yet football's influence extends far beyond physical fitness. Scientists are increasingly interested in the relationship between exercise and mental health, and football appears to offer unique psychological benefits.



In today's fast-paced world, stress, anxiety, and emotional fatigue have become common challenges. Long working hours, digital distractions, and constant connectivity often leave individuals feeling mentally exhausted. Football provides a natural escape from these pressures by demanding concentration and presence. During a game, players focus on movement, teamwork, and decision-making, allowing them to temporarily disconnect from daily worries and immerse themselves in the moment. Researchers have also found that regular physical activity may help reduce symptoms associated with anxiety and depression. Exercise supports better sleep, confidence, and resilience.



Human beings are inherently social creatures, and strong relationships have long been associated with better health and longevity. Football creates opportunities for connection that extend beyond the field itself. Teammates often develop friendships, communities gather around shared passions, and supporters form bonds that transcend differences in age, profession, and background. These social interactions provide emotional support and foster a sense of belonging that many experts consider essential for overall wellbeing. Loneliness and social isolation have emerged as growing public health concerns in recent years, particularly following changes in work patterns.



# Protein: Not Just for Athletes

WHY ADEQUATE PROTEIN MATTERS AT EVERY STAGE OF LIFE

For decades, protein has been closely associated with bodybuilders, elite athletes, and fitness enthusiasts. Images of protein shakes, gym routines, and muscle-building supplements have helped shape the perception that protein is primarily important for those seeking bigger muscles or improved physical performance. Yet modern nutrition research is increasingly challenging this narrow view.

Scientists and healthcare professionals now recognise that protein is not simply a nutrient for athletes but a fundamental building block required by every person, regardless of age, lifestyle, or fitness level.

From maintaining muscle mass and supporting immune function to aiding recovery and healthy ageing, protein plays a vital role throughout every stage of life. In fact, experts suggest that many people may underestimate the importance of consuming adequate protein, particularly as they grow older. While carbohydrates and fats often dominate discussions surrounding diet and weight management, protein has emerged as one of the most essential nutrients for preserving long-term health and wellbeing. At its most basic level, protein is responsible for building and repairing tissues throughout the body, helping maintain overall health.



One of the most significant changes occurring naturally with age is the gradual loss of muscle mass, a process known as sarcopenia. Beginning as early as the thirties, adults may slowly lose muscle tissue each decade, with the rate accelerating later in life. While this process is considered a normal part of ageing, researchers increasingly believe that lifestyle factors, particularly nutrition and physical activity, can influence how rapidly these changes occur. Loss of muscle mass does not simply affect physical appearance. Muscle tissue plays an important role in supporting metabolism, balance, mobility, and independence. Reduced muscle strength may increase the risk of falls, injuries, and chronic health problems among older adults. As populations around the world continue to age, preserving muscle health has become a major focus within preventative medicine and healthy ageing research. Protein consumption, combined with regular physical activity, is considered one of the most effective ways to maintain muscle mass throughout life. Older adults often require more protein because the body processes it less efficiently with age.



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