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NOVEMBER 2026



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KLAS ART AUCTION
MALAYSIAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

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Red Wetlands, 2002
Oil on canvas
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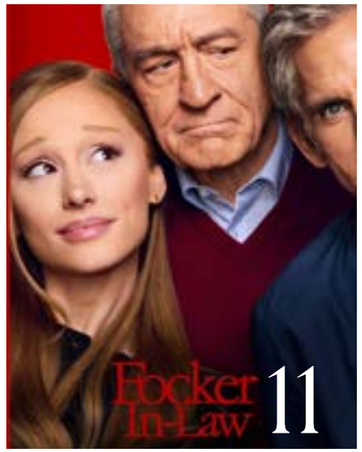
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Chuah Thean Teng, Dato
Penang Fishing Villagescape, 1958



COVER IMAGE :
Muara Arts Gallery

What's On in November 2026

YOUR GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST HAPPENINGS IN NOVEMBER 2026

KUALA LUMPUR



LANY: soft world tour

LANY brings their dreamy pop sound and atmospheric live performance to Kuala Lumpur as part of their latest world tour, promising an evening of heartfelt anthems and captivating melodies.

Date : 1 November 2026, 8pm

Venue : Unifi Arena, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 298 - RM 1,193



The Weeknd: After Hours Til Dawn Tour

Global superstar The Weeknd brings his acclaimed After Hours Til Dawn Tour to Kuala Lumpur, delivering a spectacular night of chart-topping hits, immersive production and his signature dark pop sound.

Date : 4 & 5 November 2026, 8.30pm

Venue : TM Stadium Nasional, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 388 - RM 2,888



yung kai: stay with the ocean, i'll find you: asia tour 2026

Rising singer-songwriter yung kai brings his intimate blend of indie pop and heartfelt melodies to Kuala Lumpur, celebrating his music with a special Asia tour performance.

Date : 6 November 2026, 8pm

Venue : The Platform, Menara KEN TTDI, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 198 - RM 598



wave to earth: the pieces tour

South Korean indie trio wave to earth brings their signature dreamy soundscapes and laidback melodies to Kuala Lumpur for their largest tour to date.

Date : 22 November 2026, 8pm

Venue : Idea Live Arena, Petaling Jaya

Price : RM 328 - RM 818



Attack on Titan: Symphony from Paradis

The Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra brings the world of Attack on Titan to life through a powerful orchestral concert, featuring more than 100 musicians and a choir alongside HD projections from the acclaimed series.

Date : 23 November 2026, 8pm

Venue : Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 449 - RM 699



Evanescence

Rock icons Evanescence return to Malaysia for a powerful live performance, bringing Amy Lee's unmistakable vocals and the band's signature fusion of rock, metal and haunting melodies to Kuala Lumpur.

Date : 28 November 2026, 8pm

Venue : National Hockey Stadium, Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 199- RM 1,199

GOINGS ON



BABYMONSTER

K-pop girl group BABYMONSTER brings their CHOOM World Tour to Kuala Lumpur, promising a high-energy performance featuring powerful choreography, dynamic vocals and their signature pop sound.

Date : 14 November 2026, 5pm

Venue : Unifi Arena, Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 348 – RM 1,088



My Chemical Romance

American rock band My Chemical Romance brings their emotionally charged anthems and theatrical rock sound to the region, with a catalogue of fan favourites spanning their celebrated career.

Date : 19 and 20 November 2026

Venue : TM Stadium Nasional, Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 299 – RM 1,099



Simple Plan

Pop punk favourites Simple Plan return to Malaysia for their 25th anniversary celebrations, bringing a nostalgic set of energetic hits, heartfelt lyrics and crowd singalongs to Kuala Lumpur.

Date : 21 November 2026, 6.30pm

Venue : Idea Live Arena, Petaling Jaya

Price : RM 288 - RM 538



D'MASIV

Indonesian pop-rock band D'MASIV returns to Malaysia with their Asia Home Run Tour, bringing an evening of melodic rock and beloved hits that have made them a familiar name among Indonesian music fans.

Date : 20 November 2026, 8pm

Venue : Mega Star Arena, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 98 - RM 588



The Fall Of Troy

A November stop on the Southeast Asian concert circuit, bringing live music to Kuala Lumpur as part of the region's busy November entertainment calendar.

Date : 4 November 2026

Venue : Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

Price : RM 298 - RM 1,193



5 SECONDS OF SUMMER

Australian pop-rock band 5 Seconds of Summer brings their Everyone's a Star! World Tour to Malaysia, delivering an energetic night of infectious melodies, fan favourites and anthems from their celebrated career.

Date : 17 November 2026

Venue : Unifi Arena, Kuala Lumpur

Price : RM 298 - RM 1,118

REELVIEW

BIG SCREEN THRILLS

NOVEMBER MOVIE PREMIERES



GEORGE MICHAEL: THE FAITH TOUR

NOVEMBER 4

Revisiting George Michael's iconic 1988 Faith Tour, this concert film captures the energy and charisma of one of pop music's most celebrated performers. Featuring archival footage and memorable performances, it offers a nostalgic tribute to his enduring musical legacy.

Genre: Documentary / Music

Cast: George Michael, Herb Ritts.



RAMAYANA: RISE OF A LEGEND

NOVEMBER 5

Inspired by the ancient Indian epic, Ramayana follows Prince Rama and Princess Sita on a legendary journey shaped by love, duty and sacrifice. This ambitious mythological adaptation brings the timeless battle between good and evil to the screen through grand spectacle and adventure.

Genre: Action / Adventure / Drama

Cast: Ranbir Kapoor, Sai Pallavi, Yash, Ravi Dubey.



WILD HORSE NINE

NOVEMBER 6

Set against the political tensions of 1973 Chile, two CIA agents are sent to Easter Island on a mysterious mission. As old tensions resurface and unexpected encounters complicate their assignment, the darkly comic thriller explores loyalty, conspiracy and political intrigue.

Genre: Comedy / Drama / Crime

Cast: John Malkovich, Sam Rockwell, Steve Buscemi, Tom Waits.



EBENEZER

NOVEMBER 13

A dark reimagining of Charles Dickens' Christmas classic, Ebenezer follows the miserly Scrooge as supernatural visitors force him to confront his past, present and future. The fantasy drama revisits the timeless themes of redemption, regret and the possibility of change.

Genre: Fantasy / Comedy / Drama

Cast: Johnny Depp, Rupert Grint, Andrea Riseborough, Sam Claflin.



GIANT

NOVEMBER 19

Based on a controversial chapter in publishing history, Giant explores the fallout following author Roald Dahl's public remarks about Israel and the Lebanon War. The drama examines the clash between artistic legacy, public accountability and personal conviction.

Genre: Drama

Cast: John Lithgow, Aya Cash, Rachael Stirling, Elliot Levey.



FOCKER-IN-LAW

NOVEMBER 26

The Focker family returns when Henry Focker plans to marry his girlfriend, Olivia, a former FBI hostage negotiator. His decision sparks fresh family tensions as Greg grows suspicious and Jack Byrnes takes an unexpected liking to the future bride.

Genre: Comedy

Cast: Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Ariana Grande, Owen Wilson, Blythe Danner.



MUARA ARTS

WHERE THE RIVERS MEET & CULTURES CONVERGE

A NEW CHAPTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

At the historic heart of Kuala Lumpur, a new cultural institution is preparing to open its doors with an ambitious vision for Southeast Asian art. Through exhibitions, research, public programmes and the restoration of heritage architecture, Muara Arts seeks to create a meeting point for artists, audiences and ideas that extend beyond national borders.

Every city has a place where its story begins. In Kuala Lumpur, that place lies near the meeting of the Gombak and Klang rivers, where a settlement grew into a commercial centre and eventually Malaysia's capital. Today, six Art Deco shophouses at Medan Pasar are being given a renewed purpose as the home of Muara Arts, a not-for-profit institution dedicated to modern and contemporary art from Malaysia and Southeast Asia.

Scheduled to open to the public on 1 November 2026, Muara Arts arrives with an ambition that extends beyond establishing another gallery in the capital. It seeks to create a platform through which the region's artists, histories and cultural narratives can be explored, encouraging dialogue among communities and connecting Southeast Asian perspectives with international audiences.

Established under the Creador Foundation by Shanthi Kandiah and Brahmal Vasudevan, Muara Arts has been conceived as a space for artistic exchange and cultural discovery. Its programme will encompass exhibitions, new commissions, educational initiatives, publications and international partnerships. Rather than treating art as something to be observed from a distance, the institution aims to encourage visitors to engage with ideas, question established perspectives and discover the connections that shape the region.

Southeast Asia is a region of extraordinary cultural diversity, shaped by centuries of migration, trade, colonial encounters, religious traditions and changing political landscapes. Yet its stories are often approached through national boundaries or familiar historical categories. Muara Arts proposes another way of looking, recognising the distinct identities of individual countries while exploring the wider networks of influence, exchange and shared experience that connect them.

This regional perspective sits at the centre of the institution's identity. Its intention is not simply to display artworks from neighbouring countries, but to create opportunities for audiences to understand the ideas behind them and consider how these works relate to the wider world.

Under Consultant Artistic Director Lydia Yee, Muara Arts brings together a curatorial perspective informed by decades of international museum experience and a longstanding engagement with artists whose practices have roots in Asia.



Her appointment places research, interpretation and meaningful exchange alongside the presentation of art.

For Kuala Lumpur, the arrival of Muara Arts represents a significant addition to its cultural landscape. For the wider region, it offers a meeting point where artists and audiences can encounter Southeast Asia as an evolving collection of voices, experiences and possibilities.



THE PEOPLE AND VISION BEHIND MUARA ARTS

Behind the establishment of Muara Arts is a belief that the arts deserve sustained investment, not only as a means of cultural expression but also as an essential part of how communities understand themselves and relate to the world.

Founders Shanthi Kandiah and Brahmal Vasudevan established the institution through the Creador Foundation, a Kuala Lumpur-based non-profit organisation whose wider work encompasses education, arts and culture, and humanitarian relief. Their vision is rooted in the belief that a thriving cultural landscape requires spaces where artists can present their work, audiences can encounter unfamiliar perspectives and conversations can develop across generations and borders.

The project also reflects an understanding that cultural institutions can contribute to the life of a city beyond their immediate programmes. A gallery can become a meeting place, an educational resource and a catalyst for renewed interest in its surroundings. By bringing a dedicated art institution into Medan Pasar, the founders are placing contemporary artistic practice within a district whose history is closely connected to the development of Kuala Lumpur.

In their vision, buildings that once accommodated commercial and financial activity can acquire a new civic purpose. Rather than preserving heritage solely for its architectural appearance, the project seeks to return these buildings to active use through culture, allowing their historic character to remain part of the city's evolving identity.

The appointment of Lydia Yee as Consultant Artistic Director brings another dimension to this vision. Over a curatorial career spanning three decades, Yee has held senior positions at the Whitechapel Gallery in London, where she served as Chief Curator, Barbican Art Gallery in London, and The Bronx Museum of the Arts in New York. Her longstanding engagement with artists who have roots in Asia brings valuable experience to an institution focused on the region.

Yee's role is particularly important in shaping how the institution approaches Southeast Asian art, which encompasses diverse artistic traditions, materials, political circumstances and social experiences. Creating meaningful connections among these practices requires more than assembling works from different countries; it calls for research, thoughtful interpretation and an openness to multiple perspectives.

The inaugural exhibition reflects this approach, bringing together artists whose works respond to different aspects of the region's cultural, ecological, geographical, historical and political realities.

Through exhibitions, commissions, publications and learning initiatives, Muara Arts intends to cultivate relationships that develop over time, building stronger connections between local practitioners, regional peers and international cultural institutions.



FROM COMMERCIAL LANDMARK TO CULTURAL DESTINATION

To understand Muara Arts, one must first understand the place it calls home.

Medan Pasar, historically known as Old Market Square, occupies a distinctive position in Kuala Lumpur's urban history. Established around the market associated with Kapitan Yap Ah Loy in the late nineteenth century, the district developed into an important centre of trade and commerce. Its proximity to the Klang River trading post and routes connecting surrounding tin mining settlements made it a natural gathering point for merchants, businesses and communities.

As Kuala Lumpur grew, the square became surrounded by trading houses, banks, hotels and family run businesses. Its architecture recorded the city's changing fortunes, with rows of pre war shophouses reflecting the commercial ambitions and architectural influences of the period. The Medan Pasar Clock Tower, erected in 1937 to commemorate the coronation of King George VI, remains one of the district's most recognisable landmarks.

The location is significant not only for its architecture but also for its relationship to the city's origins. The Gombak and Klang rivers meet nearby, recalling the waterways that helped shape early settlement and trade. Long before Kuala Lumpur became a modern metropolis, this was a landscape defined by movement: of people, goods, ideas and livelihoods.

It is this history of convergence that makes Medan Pasar a fitting setting for Muara Arts. The gallery's presence introduces another form of exchange into a district that has long been associated with the meeting of different communities.

The institution occupies six Art Deco shophouses dating from the 1930s, adapted into an approximately 20,000 square foot gallery. The architectural project, designed by Dr Tan LM Architect and Sean Carpenter of Linear Vista, retains the historic character of the buildings while incorporating facilities suitable for contemporary art exhibitions.

Adaptive reuse is central to the undertaking. Rather than replacing the existing structures with an entirely new development, the project gives the buildings a new function while retaining their place within the historic streetscape. The result aims to bring together architectural continuity and contemporary cultural use.

This approach also reflects a broader conversation taking place in cities around the world: how can historic districts remain relevant as urban life changes? Preservation alone cannot guarantee that a building will continue to play an active role in its community. Buildings need uses that invite people inside, create reasons to visit and encourage them to spend time within the surrounding neighbourhood.

Muara Arts offers one possible answer by placing contemporary art within a setting shaped by earlier generations. Visitors will encounter artworks created in response to present day concerns while moving through buildings that retain traces of the city's commercial past. The contrast is not incidental. It reinforces the idea that culture is never entirely separate from history, and that the spaces in which art is presented can shape how it is experienced.

The gallery forms part of a wider cultural revitalisation of Medan Pasar led by the Creador Foundation and its partners. The broader vision includes the restoration and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, alongside the development of cultural venues, public activities, cafés, restaurants and retail experiences. The aim is to encourage a more active district in which heritage, creativity and everyday urban life can coexist.

For Kuala Lumpur, this presents an opportunity to reconsider the role of its historic centre. Rather than viewing the old city as a place to pass through on the way to newer commercial districts, visitors may find new reasons to return, explore and engage with its architectural and cultural character.

Muara Arts is an important part of this ambition, although the success of a wider cultural district will depend on the continued participation of local businesses, communities, creative practitioners and visitors. A gallery can provide an anchor, but a lively district emerges through the many relationships formed around it.

In this sense, the restoration of Medan Pasar is not merely a backdrop to the institution's opening. It is part of the story itself: a reminder that the renewal of a city can involve more than new buildings and commercial development. It can also mean finding new ways to activate the places that have shaped its identity.



In the early 1880s, Medan Pasar served as Kuala Lumpur's main market and principal commercial centre.

COVER STORY



THE INAUGURAL EXHIBITION: A–Z OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

Exploring the region's diverse histories, cultures and identities through an inaugural exhibition that brings together more than 40 artists and their distinct perspectives.

For its first public exhibition, Muara Arts has chosen a subject that speaks directly to its wider ambitions. A–Z of Southeast Asian Art: A Critical Dictionary opens on 1 November 2026 and runs until 4 April 2027. Curated by Lydia Yee and Zhen Feng Ang, it brings together more than 40 artists from across Southeast Asia to explore the region through an expansive framework.

The exhibition takes inspiration from The Critical Dictionary of Southeast Asia, an ongoing project by Singaporean artist Ho Tzu Nyen. Developed from 2012 onwards through video, installation and online research, Ho's project asks a fundamental question: what constitutes the unity of Southeast Asia, a region without one shared language, religion or political power?

Rather than offering a definitive answer, the project proposes a series of terms, concepts and motifs through which the region can be understood. Each letter of the English alphabet becomes a starting point for examining the histories, symbols and relationships that have shaped Southeast Asia.

Muara Arts adopts this framework for a collective exhibition featuring painting, sculpture, textiles, installation, video and works on paper. Participating artists respond to terms associated with the region's culture, ecology, geography, history and politics, creating connections between ideas that might initially appear unrelated.

The alphabetical structure provides a familiar framework without reducing a complex region to a sequence of definitions. Instead, it allows different interpretations to coexist, with each artwork serving as an entry point into a wider conversation.

The exhibition begins with two concepts under the letter A: Animism and Archipelago. Zarina Muhammad's mixed media installation explores the former, while Martha Atienza's video installation Our Islands, 11°16'58.4 N 123°45'07.0 E addresses the latter. Together, they introduce themes ranging from systems of belief to the geography of an island region.

The sequence continues with B for Buffalo, represented by a sculpture by Nadiah Bamadhaj and a textile work by Marcos Kueh. The buffalo carries cultural and symbolic associations across parts of Southeast Asia, while the artists' differing approaches invite consideration of how familiar images acquire varied meanings.

C for Corruption brings together a new sculptural work by Pio Abad and Frances Wadsworth Jones from their series The Collection of Jane Ryan & William Sanders. The exhibition proceeds through the alphabet, concluding with Z for Zoomorphism, represented by Paul Pfeiffer's Live Evil (Kuala Lumpur).

These examples demonstrate how a dictionary can become more than a reference tool. Words are shaped by the histories, institutions and communities through which they circulate. By bringing artworks together around shared terms, the exhibition encourages visitors to consider how concepts evolve across time and place.

The participating artists come from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam. This regional breadth acknowledges the diversity of Southeast Asia and the limitations of understanding it through a single national or cultural perspective.

Among the artists represented are Pacita Abad, Pio Abad, Martha Atienza, Nadiah Bamadhaj, Sharon Chin, Tiffany Chung, Ho Tzu Nyen, Marcos Kueh, Zai Kuning, Zarina Muhammad, Cian Dayrit, Fyerool Darma, Maryanto, Paul Pfeiffer, Thao Nguyên Phan, Citra Sasmita and Wong Hoy Cheong, alongside many others.

The exhibition also questions the authority traditionally associated with dictionaries. While dictionaries are expected to provide clear definitions, cultural identities are rarely so straightforward. Meanings shift, histories are contested and the same symbol can carry different associations across communities.

This idea is explored further through works such as Wong Hoy Cheong's The Definitive ABCs of Government (1999) and The Definitive ABCs of Ethnography (1999), which examine how systems of classification influence the ways societies and cultures are understood.

An accompanying illustrated publication extends the exhibition beyond the gallery. Designed by Amanda Gayle in the form of a dictionary, it includes a conversation between Ho Tzu Nyen and Yee, alongside contributions from other writers and curators. The publication offers visitors another way to engage with the questions raised by the artworks.

For Muara Arts, this inaugural presentation establishes an important foundation. Rather than attempting a conventional survey of the region's artistic landscape, it adopts an open ended framework that invites curiosity and interpretation. The exhibition serves both as an introduction to contemporary Southeast Asian art and as an exploration of how new meanings can emerge through artistic exchange.

Ultimately, A–Z of Southeast Asian Art asks visitors to consider not only what Southeast Asia is, but also how it has been understood, represented and imagined. It is a fitting opening statement for an institution that believes art can connect different perspectives without requiring them to become the same.



A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE ARTS IN MALAYSIA

Muara Arts officially opened its doors at Medan Pasar with a celebration of performance, conversation and Southeast Asian creativity, marking a new chapter for the country's cultural landscape.

On 1 November 2026, Muara Arts welcomed the public to its new home at Medan Pasar, Kuala Lumpur, marking the beginning of an ambitious cultural initiative dedicated to modern and contemporary art from Malaysia and Southeast Asia. The opening brought together performance, artistic discussion and an opportunity for visitors to experience the institution and its inaugural exhibition. More than a formal inauguration, the occasion offered an introduction to Muara Arts' wider vision of creating a space where art, ideas and cultural perspectives from across the region could come together.

The day began with a performance by Hands Percussion, the Malaysian percussion ensemble founded by Bernard Goh in 1997. Recognised for its distinctive approach to rhythm and movement, the group first became known for its performances of the traditional 24 Festive Drums before expanding into contemporary percussion and incorporating musical influences from different cultures. Through its energetic performance, Hands Percussion brought a lively opening to the occasion, demonstrating how traditional rhythmic practices can be presented through contemporary artistic expression. It was a fitting introduction to a day centred on creativity, cultural exchange and the many ways in which artistic traditions continue to evolve.







Following the performance, the gallery officially opened to the public at 10am, inviting visitors to explore the space and discover Muara Arts' inaugural exhibition. Housed within six restored Art Deco shophouses, the institution offers a new setting for artistic presentation and exchange in one of Kuala Lumpur's historic districts.

The transformation of these heritage buildings also gives the opening added significance, bringing contemporary art into a location closely connected to the city's early commercial history. Visitors were able to experience the gallery as a new cultural destination while engaging with the works and ideas presented in its first exhibition.

The programme continued with Rumpun Rampai, Muara Arts' talk series exploring art and cultural practices within a Southeast Asian context. Designed to encourage dialogue among artists, curators and audiences, the series formed an important part of the opening day's activities, extending the experience beyond the gallery walls. Through conversations that bring together different voices from the region, Rumpun Rampai provides a platform for examining artistic practices, shared experiences and the wider conditions that shape the Southeast Asian art scene.









At 11.30am, the first discussion, **ABCs of Art in Southeast Asia**, brought together exhibiting artists Navin Rawanchaikul, Arlette Quỳnh-Anh Tran, Norberto Roldan and Yee I-Lann. Moderated by exhibition curator Lydia Yee, the panel explored the artists' individual practices, cultural backgrounds and perspectives on working within Southeast Asia. The conversation offered an opportunity to hear directly from the artists about the ideas, influences and experiences informing their work, while considering how their different approaches contribute to the region's contemporary art landscape. With each artist bringing a distinct perspective, the discussion reflected the diversity of artistic voices represented in the inaugural exhibition.

It also encouraged audiences to look beyond national boundaries and consider the cultural connections, shared histories and differing experiences that shape artistic expression across the region. Accompanied by the exhibition catalogue launch, the session provided a closer look at the thinking behind the exhibition, offering further context for the works on display and the concepts that bring them together.

The afternoon programme continued with **Unpacking the Art Ecosystem**, a discussion examining the different people, organisations and structures that shape the art world. The panel featured curator Ace Lê, Muara Arts founder Brahmal Vasudevan and artist Sharon Chin, with Vân Nguyen as moderator. Bringing together perspectives from curatorial, institutional and artistic backgrounds, the conversation considered the roles of galleries and cultural institutions, the art market and the relationships between commercial, academic and institutional practices. It also raised broader questions about how art is valued, how artists sustain their practices and what is needed to create a supportive environment for artistic development. The discussion highlighted that a thriving arts community depends on more than the





presentation of artworks. It requires collaboration between artists, curators, institutions and audiences, alongside opportunities for knowledge sharing and meaningful engagement. Such conversations are particularly relevant to the development of Southeast Asia's cultural landscape, where stronger connections between different parts of the art world can help create opportunities for future generations of artists and practitioners.

Beyond its opening programme, Muara Arts is also inviting the public to become part of its growing creative community through its membership scheme. Offering two options, **Muara Mono**, priced at RM99 annually for one adult, and **Muara Diptych**, at RM190 annually for two named members, the programme provides opportunities for visitors to maintain a closer relationship with the institution. Benefits include unlimited gallery entry, discounts at the gift shop, member-only days and reduced access to talks and related events. More than a practical way to enjoy the gallery's offerings, the scheme encourages audiences to return, discover new exhibitions and take part in the conversations and activities that form part of Muara Arts' wider programme. By welcoming individuals and pairs into its membership community, the institution also creates another avenue for people to support and engage with the development of the arts. As its exhibitions and public programmes continue to grow, members will have the opportunity to remain connected with the institution and follow its evolving contribution to the regional cultural scene.

More than the opening of a new gallery, the occasion marked the beginning of a wider cultural undertaking for Kuala Lumpur and Malaysia. The combination of performance, exhibitions and public discussions reflected Muara Arts' intention to make art an active part of the city's cultural life, creating opportunities for people to encounter different perspectives and engage with contemporary artistic practice. Its presence at Medan Pasar also gives renewed cultural purpose to a historic part of Kuala Lumpur, bringing artistic activity into a district closely associated with the city's beginnings. Through exhibitions, performances, conversations and opportunities for public participation, Muara Arts aims to strengthen connections across the Southeast Asian arts community while encouraging greater appreciation of the region's creative voices. As its programme develops, the institution has the opportunity to become a meeting point for artists, audiences and ideas, contributing to a more connected and dynamic arts landscape in Malaysia and beyond.



Chuah Thean Teng

The Making of a Modern Malaysian Vision

Long before Dato' Chuah Thean Teng became celebrated as the father of Malaysian batik, he was a modernist painter deeply attuned to the people and landscapes of Penang. Penang Fishing Villagescape, circa 1950, offers a rare glimpse of the artist at a pivotal moment, revealing the foundations of his enduring artistic vision.

Few works offer as revealing a glimpse into the beginnings of modern Malaysian art as Penang Fishing Villagescape, circa 1950. Painted in oil on board and stretching across an impressive 60 by 140 cm, the work belongs to a pivotal moment in the career of Dato' Chuah Teng Thean (1914–2008), a moment before batik would transform his reputation and ultimately define his place in Malaysian art history.

Today, Teng is celebrated as the "father of batik art" in Malaysia, the artist who demonstrated that a traditional textile technique could become a sophisticated vehicle for fine art. Yet this remarkable early oil invites a different kind of encounter. Here is Teng the painter before the legend: already assured, already modernist, and already deeply engaged with the people and landscape of Penang that would remain the great subjects of his life.



The importance of Penang Fishing Villagescape lies precisely in this position. It captures an artist at the threshold of transformation, when the visual language he had developed through painting would soon find a new expression in wax and dye.

A Modernist Vision of Penang

The painting presents a bustling fishing community along the Penang waterfront. Fishermen, boats, nets, baskets, buildings, trees and domestic implements unfold across the broad horizontal composition, creating what is almost a panoramic portrait of communal life.

There is no single protagonist. Instead, Teng gives the entire community the role of subject.

The figures are integrated into the architecture of the composition, their gestures and angular silhouettes establishing a rhythm that carries the eye across the picture. Boats occupy the foreground, buildings and vegetation punctuate the horizon, while the shoreline becomes a stage for the ordinary activities of work and daily life.

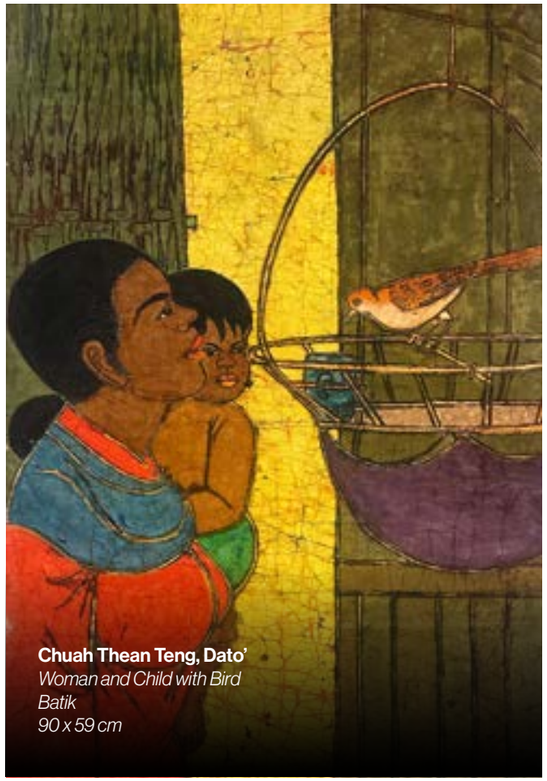
Yet this is far more than an observational record.

Teng reduces forms into simplified, angular structures and compresses conventional perspective. Space becomes shallow and interconnected; figures, boats and buildings appear to lock together across the surface. The result is a distinctly modernist vocabulary, revealing the influence of Cubism and the wider European modernist language associated with Picasso.

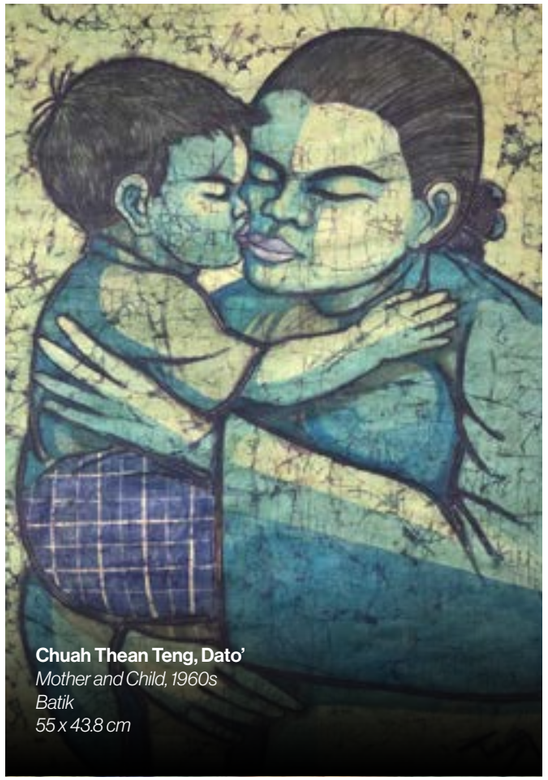
What is remarkable is the way Teng makes this vocabulary his own.

Modernism is not imposed upon an anonymous European subject. Instead, it is used to describe fishermen, village buildings, boats and working communities in Penang. The formal language may have been international, but the world it describes is unmistakably local.

In this synthesis lies one of the essential qualities of Teng's art: the



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
Woman and Child with Bird
Batik
90 x 59 cm



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
Mother and Child, 1960s
Batik
55 x 43.8 cm

transformation of everyday Malaysian life into modern painting.

Before Batik, There Was the Painter

Teng's later reputation can sometimes obscure the fact that he was an accomplished painter long before batik became the defining medium of his career.

Born in Fukien, China, in 1914, Teng received a brief formal artistic education at Xiamen College of Art before settling in Penang in 1936. It was in Malaya that his artistic identity took shape. He looked closely at the world around him: its fishermen, farmers, women, children, villages and waterways, and developed a visual language capable of turning these subjects into ambitious modern compositions.

By the 1940s, he was working principally in oils and exploring the possibilities of painting on both canvas and board.

His encounter with batik emerged partly from circumstance. Teng had planned to establish a batik printing factory in Penang and had acquired fabric for the proposed business. The Japanese Occupation interrupted those plans. After the war, rather than allowing the unused material to remain idle, he began experimenting with the cloth itself as a surface for painting.

What began as an experiment would become a revolution in batik painting.

Teng gradually mastered the technical demands of wax-resist and dye, transforming a medium associated primarily with textile production into a language of fine art. In 1953, he established the Yahong Art Gallery and Batik Factory in Penang, an important step in the development of the practice that would ultimately make his name synonymous with Malaysian batik.

But the transition was not a rejection of his earlier painting.

It was an extension of it.

The essential principles are already visible in Penang Fishing Villagescape: emphatic contour, simplified forms, compressed space, rhythmic figures and clearly organised areas of colour. These qualities would prove extraordinarily well suited to the physical language of batik.

Batik did not create Teng the artist. It gave the artist a new language.

From Oil to Wax and Dye

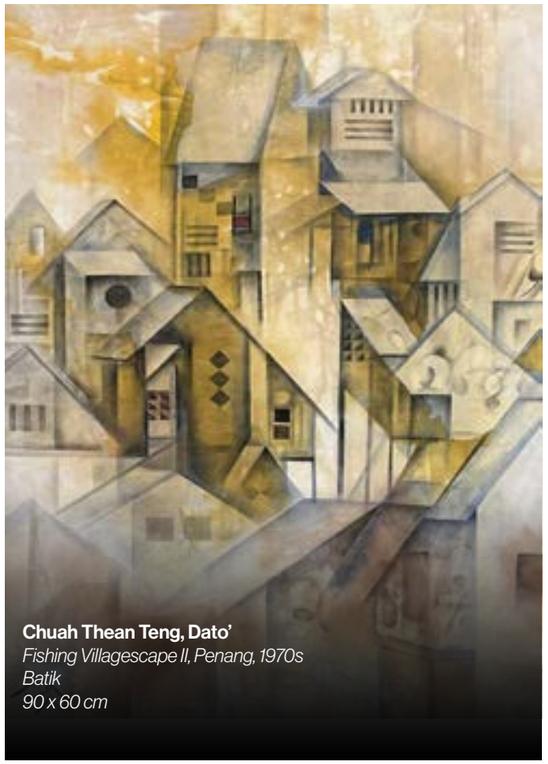
The relationship between Penang Fishing Villagescape and Penang Waterfront, 1952, is particularly illuminating.

Only a few years separate the two works, yet together they reveal a crucial moment in Teng's artistic evolution. The oil uses paint to construct its forms and planes; the batik translates many of the same principles into wax resist and dye.

In Penang Waterfront, boats, fishermen, buildings and vegetation again populate the waterfront. Strong dark contours contain areas



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
Fishing Villagescape, Penang, 1970s
Batik
85 x 56 cm



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
Fishing Villagescape II, Penang, 1970s
Batik
90 x 60 cm

of saturated colour, giving the composition an almost graphic, mural-like force. The figures remain simplified and angular, closely integrated with their surroundings. The medium has changed, but the vision has not.

The bold contour of the oil becomes the defining line of the batik. Modelling gives way to flatter areas of colour. The compressed spatial structure remains. Above all, Teng continues to depict the same world: the working people, waterways and village environments of Penang.

This continuity is fundamental to understanding his achievement.

The batiks were not a departure from painting. They were the natural evolution of a pictorial language already being developed in oil.

His 1950s work By the River, for example, similarly combines batik with the compositional principles of Western painting to depict the Malayan countryside and traditional ways of life.

Even after batik had become central to his reputation, oil remained part of his practice.

Penang Fishing Villagescape, however, occupies a particularly revealing position. Its scale, early date and assured modernist structure place it directly at the threshold of Teng's transformation.

Penang: Subject, Memory and Record

Throughout more than six decades of artistic practice, Teng repeatedly returned to Penang.

The landscape around him was not merely a source of picturesque imagery. It was his living subject.

Fishing villages, riverbanks, kampongs, boats, coconut trees, markets and working communities recur throughout his oeuvre. His interest was consistently directed towards people within the landscape, particularly towards the relationship between labour, family, environment and place. This gives Teng's work a significance that extends beyond its technical innovation.

Over the course of his lifetime, Penang and Malaya changed profoundly. The communities he painted, the waterfronts he observed and the traditional ways of life that surrounded him gradually disappeared or were transformed. His paintings consequently became an extended visual record of a particular social and cultural landscape.

The NUS Museum has likewise noted Teng's sustained interest in depicting the landscapes and lives of the people of Malaya, while the ILHAM Foundation collection includes works that demonstrate his continuing engagement with the countryside and traditional ways of life.

Seen from this perspective, Penang Fishing Villagescape becomes more a visual chronicle that Teng would continue for the rest of his life.



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
Eating Durian, 1980s
Batik
89 x 59 cm

From the Waterfront to Mother and Child

If Penang provided Teng with his enduring landscape, Mother and Child became one of the defining human themes of his mature work.

Across decades, mothers and children appear again and again: embracing, carrying, feeding, resting together. The compositions range from intimate scenes to monumental arrangements, but their emotional centre remains remarkably consistent: tenderness, protection, family and maternal sacrifice.

The subject also carried personal resonance for Teng, who associated it with his own mother and her love and sacrifices.

Works such as Mother & Child, circa 1980s, demonstrate the mature development of this vocabulary. By then, the motif had become one of the most recognisable signatures of his art, while works in major public collections demonstrate its enduring international reach.

In the 1960s, Two of a Kind, depicting two mothers with their children, was selected for a UNICEF Christmas card, carrying Teng's imagery far beyond Malaysia.

The significance of the theme lies partly in its universality. Yet it remains deeply connected to the same humanist impulse visible in Penang Fishing Villagescape. Whether depicting fishermen at work or a mother holding her child, Teng consistently placed ordinary people at the emotional centre of his art.



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
Mother and Children, 1970s
Batik
88 x 65 cm

The Making of a Malaysian Modernism

Teng's achievement belongs to a wider story of postwar Southeast Asian modernism, when artists across the region were negotiating between international artistic currents and the realities of their own environments.

Teng's response was distinctive.

He did not abandon local subjects in pursuit of abstraction. Nor did he simply reproduce them as documentary images. Instead, he brought the formal vocabulary of modern painting to the ordinary life around him.

The result was a modernism rooted in locality.

In Penang Fishing Villagescape, Cubist-influenced structure becomes a means of describing fishermen and their environment. In the later batiks, wax and dye provide a new vehicle for the same visual concerns. In the Mother and Child compositions, the focus turns towards family and human affection.

Across all these transformations, one principle remains constant: the world around Teng was worthy of being seen, interpreted and remembered through art.

That conviction would sustain him for more than six decades.

Penang Waterfront, 1952: An Early Institutional Recognition

The significance of Penang Waterfront extends beyond its formal relationship to the present oil. The work occupies an important place in the history of Malaysia's national art collection.

It was among the four works recorded as entering the National Art Gallery collection at the beginning of the institution's history in August 1958. Its donor was Sir Donald McGillivray, who served as High Commissioner of the Federation of Malaya.

Its provenance therefore connects Teng directly with the earliest formation of the national collection, alongside works by artists including Patrick Ng, Hoessein Enas and Howard Barron.

The acquisition is telling. Within only a few years of the creation of these early works, Teng's distinctive engagement with the people and landscape of Penang was already entering the sphere of public cultural patrimony.

It also provides an important historical counterpoint to the later perception of Teng solely as the master of batik.

His artistic significance was already being recognised before the full flowering of his mature reputation.



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
Contentment (Mother and Child), 1983
Batik
94 x 63 cm



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato' / *Durian Penang Village Life - Mothers and Children / Batik / 60.5 x 151 cm*

The Painter Before the Legend

Teng would go on to exhibit at the Commonwealth Institute in London in 1959 and become the first Malaysian artist to receive a retrospective at the National Art Gallery in 1965. A second retrospective followed at the Penang State Art Gallery in 1994. He would ultimately be celebrated as the pioneer who established batik as a fine art medium in Malaysia.

But the origins of that achievement lie earlier.

They can be found in the painter who looked carefully at the world around him and began to reorganise it through a modernist vocabulary. They can be found in his fascination with the geometry of boats, the rhythm of figures, the structure of village life and the visual character of Penang.

And they can be seen with particular clarity in Penang Fishing Villagescape.

The painting captures Teng at a moment of remarkable possibility: ***between China and Malaya, between oil and batik, between observation and abstraction, and between the artist he was becoming and the national figure he would ultimately become.***

Its importance therefore extends well beyond its rarity as an early oil.

It is a work that allows us to see the foundations of Teng's legacy before that legacy had acquired its familiar name. The fishermen and villagers of Penang would reappear in batik. The rhythms of community would evolve into some of his most celebrated compositions. The attention to ordinary human life would eventually find its most universal expression in Mother and Child.

The medium changed.

The vision endured.

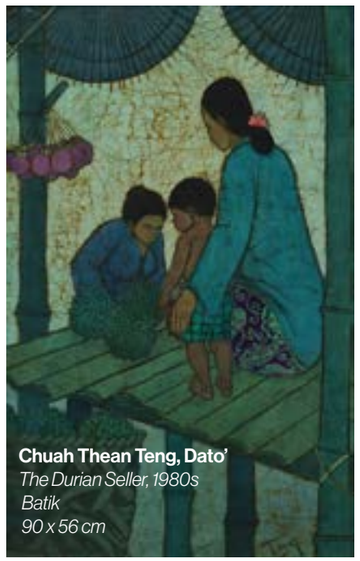
If Teng's later batiks established his legend, Penang Fishing Villagescape reveals the painter who made that legend possible.

It is the rare work that allows us to encounter Teng not as an established master looking back upon his world, but as a young modernist discovering how to transform the world immediately around him into art.

In doing so, he created something more lasting than a record of a fishing village.

He began to create a visual memory of Penang itself, preserving its people, landscapes and rhythms through a distinctly modern eye. More than seven decades later, that vision continues to offer a glimpse into the beginnings of one of Malaysia's most enduring artistic legacies.

It is a reminder that before the master became a legend, there was simply a painter observing, questioning and finding his own language. In this early work, that language is already beginning to speak.



Chuah Thean Teng, Dato'
The Durian Seller, 1980s
Batik
90 x 56 cm

Ending the Diagnostic Odyssey

Suriana Establishes Genetic Testing Support Fund for Children Suspected of Rare Diseases at Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC)

Kuala Lumpur, 28 September 2026 For families of children living with an undiagnosed rare disease, the search for answers can take years involving repeated consultations, multiple specialists, inconclusive tests and, in some cases, alternative treatments before the underlying condition is finally identified.

Suriana Welfare Society Malaysia is working with the Paediatric Genetics Team at Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) to establish a Genetic Testing Support Fund aimed at helping children suspected of having rare diseases gain earlier access to diagnostic genetic testing.

The initiative forms part of Suriana's Because It's Rare, We Care programme and supports the broader national emphasis on improving early detection and intervention for rare diseases following the launch of Malaysia's national rare disease policy in February 2026.



ENDING YEARS OF UNCERTAINTY

Rare diseases can be particularly difficult to diagnose because many conditions share similar symptoms and may affect multiple systems of the body. Families can therefore spend years moving from one doctor or specialist to another in search of an explanation a journey commonly referred to as the diagnostic odyssey.

Genetic testing, including advanced sequencing technologies, can help identify disease-causing genetic variants and provide clinicians with vital information to establish or confirm a diagnosis.

For some patients, this can significantly shorten the path to an answer.

An earlier diagnosis may allow doctors to begin appropriate treatment, therapy, surveillance or supportive care sooner. It can also help families better understand the condition, access genetic counselling and make more informed decisions about the child's long-term care.

COST REMAINS A MAJOR BARRIER

Despite its diagnostic value, genetic testing can be financially out of reach for many families.

Testing can start from approximately RM5,000 per child, with more complex investigations potentially costing considerably more depending on the type of analysis required.

For lower-income families, these costs can become a significant barrier to obtaining a timely diagnosis.

The Children's Genetic Testing Support Fund was established to help bridge this gap by providing financial assistance to eligible children referred for genetic testing through UMMC.

UMMC's clinical team will assess the medical need for testing, while the hospital's social welfare services will support means assessment where required. Suriana will manage funds contributed to the programme, with approved payments made directly to diagnostic service providers. Depending on individual circumstances, assistance may cover the full cost of testing or operate on a co-payment basis with the family.

CORPORATE PARTNERS HELPING CHILDREN GET ANSWERS SOONER

The Fund began receiving support in June 2026 with early corporate contributions and various individuals, who have joined the initiative as founding supporters called Founding Advocates.

Suriana is now inviting additional corporations, foundations and individual donors to contribute towards expanding the Fund so that more children can gain access to genetic testing when clinically indicated.

A contribution of approximately RM5,000 can help support the cost of genetic testing for one child, depending on the investigation required.

Suriana founder Dr James Nayagam said the initiative is ultimately about reducing the time families spend searching for answers.

"For a parent, not knowing what is happening to their child can be devastating. Some families spend years searching for a diagnosis. Genetic testing can help provide answers much earlier and allow the medical team to determine the appropriate next steps for treatment and care."

He added:

"Our objective is to ensure that financial circumstances do not become the reason a child has to wait longer for a diagnosis. Through this Fund, we hope to work with UMMC and our corporate partners to help more families access these important diagnostic tests."

FROM DIAGNOSIS TO INTERVENTION

For many rare diseases, diagnosis is only the beginning. Identifying the underlying condition can help guide treatment, therapy, symptom management, genetic counselling and long-term care planning.

Earlier identification can be especially important in childhood, when timely intervention may help clinicians manage complications and support a child's development before irreversible damage or further deterioration occurs.

Through Because It's Rare, We Care, Suriana is focusing on five areas of support: awareness and advocacy, early detection and intervention through diagnostic testing, financial assistance for families, genetic counselling and lifelong care.

The organisation hopes the Genetic Testing Support Fund will become an important pathway for helping children move from prolonged uncertainty towards earlier answers and appropriate care.

Call for Contributors

Suriana is seeking potential additional corporate and philanthropic partners to contribute to the Genetic Testing Support Fund and help expand access to genetic testing for children suspected of having rare diseases.

By supporting the Fund, contributors can help shorten the diagnostic journey for families and give children the opportunity to receive answers and appropriate intervention sooner.

Because for a child with a rare disease, an earlier diagnosis can change the course of their journey.

ABOUT SURIANA WELFARE SOCIETY MALAYSIA

Suriana Welfare Society Malaysia is a non-profit organisation supporting underserved children, families and communities through education, welfare assistance, healthcare advocacy and sustainable community development initiatives.

Through its Because It's Rare, We Care programme, Suriana works with healthcare professionals, corporate partners and the wider community to improve awareness, access to diagnosis and support for children and families affected by rare diseases.





DEEPAVALI IN MALAYSIA

Tradition, celebration and the enduring spirit of togetherness.

There is a particular warmth to Malaysia during Deepavali. In the weeks leading up to the festival, homes are prepared for visitors, festive garments are chosen for the occasion, and kitchens fill with the aromas of traditional sweets and savoury delicacies. Oil lamps illuminate doorways, intricate kolam designs bring colour to entrances, and families begin preparing for one of the most anticipated celebrations of the year.

For Malaysia's Indian community, Deepavali is deeply rooted in faith, family and cultural heritage. Often known as the Festival of Lights, it carries the enduring symbolism of light overcoming darkness and good prevailing over evil. Yet beyond its spiritual significance, the festival is also a time for renewal, reflection and the reaffirmation of relationships that give everyday life its meaning.

The preparations are often as memorable as the celebration itself. Homes are cleaned and decorated, flowers are arranged, and prayer spaces are prepared for the occasion. Among the most recognisable decorations is the kolam, an intricate design traditionally created using rice flour or coloured powders. Whether simple or elaborate, each pattern reflects patience, creativity and a tradition passed from one generation to another. Alongside these designs, the gentle glow of oil lamps lends a sense of warmth to the home, creating an atmosphere that feels both festive and intimate.

For many families, Deepavali begins with prayer and religious observances, followed by visits to temples and time spent with loved ones. Although customs vary between households, the intention remains familiar: to welcome the occasion with gratitude, hope and a renewed sense of purpose. These rituals also provide an opportunity for younger generations to understand the significance of traditions that have shaped their families for years.

Festive dressing is another cherished part of the celebration. Silk sarees, embroidered garments, elegant kurtas and traditional ensembles bring colour and craftsmanship to the occasion. Gold jewellery, bangles and treasured accessories often complete the look, while contemporary interpretations of Indian fashion allow individuals to express their personal style without losing their connection to heritage. For some, dressing for Deepavali means wearing something new; for others, it means bringing out a beloved garment or piece of jewellery with sentimental value. In either case, the occasion offers a meaningful expression of identity, pride and celebration.

The beauty of festive fashion lies not only in its appearance but also in the artistry behind it. The texture of a handwoven fabric, the precision of embroidery and the detail of traditional jewellery reflect skills refined over generations. As modern silhouettes and styling choices continue to influence festive wardrobes, these elements of craftsmanship remain an important link between the past and the present.

No Deepavali celebration would feel complete without its familiar flavours. In the days before the festival, kitchens become places of activity as families prepare an assortment of sweets, snacks and festive dishes. Murukku, with its crisp texture and distinctive shape, is a favourite in many Malaysian Indian households, while laddoo, halwa and other traditional sweets offer a variety of flavours and textures. Some delicacies are prepared at home using family recipes, while others are purchased from specialist shops or exchanged as gifts.

The festive meal is equally important. Depending on family traditions, the table may feature rice, breads, curries, vegetables and a variety of accompaniments. Recipes reflect the diversity of Indian culinary traditions, with each household developing its own collection of favourites. The act of preparing and sharing food becomes a way to preserve family memories, pass down knowledge and welcome guests. A familiar sweet may recall childhood celebrations, while the aroma of a particular dish can bring back memories of relatives and homes visited over the years.

In this sense, food is more than a festive indulgence. It is an expression of generosity and belonging. Whether serving a carefully prepared meal or offering a simple plate of homemade snacks, the pleasure lies in sharing something meaningful with others.

Hospitality takes centre stage during Deepavali, particularly through Malaysia's familiar open house tradition. Relatives, friends, neighbours and colleagues are welcomed into homes to exchange greetings, enjoy festive food and spend time together. The preparations may involve considerable effort, from arranging seating to preparing refreshments, but the atmosphere is often relaxed and convivial. Conversations unfold between rooms, guests return for another helping of their favourite dishes, and family members reconnect after months of busy schedules.



For many Malaysians, open houses also offer a personal way to experience the traditions of another community. Friends and colleagues from different backgrounds can share a meal, discover unfamiliar dishes and learn about the customs that make the occasion meaningful. These gatherings reflect a familiar aspect of Malaysian life, where celebrations often extend beyond the immediate family and create opportunities for people to connect across cultures.

As lifestyles evolve, so do the ways Deepavali is celebrated. Contemporary homes, demanding schedules and family members living in different cities may change the shape of the festivities, while technology allows loved ones to exchange greetings and share moments from afar. Younger generations may introduce modern fashion, new recipes or different approaches to decorating, yet many continue to preserve the rituals and values they have inherited.

Tradition does not necessarily remain alive by staying unchanged. It endures because people continue to practise it, share it and find meaning in it. A lamp lit in a modern apartment, a family recipe prepared in a contemporary kitchen or an open house organised around busy schedules can all carry the same spirit of celebration that has been cherished for generations.

In Malaysia, Deepavali forms part of a wider cultural landscape shaped by the country's many communities and traditions. Its religious significance remains central to those who observe it, while its festive spirit also creates opportunities for friendship, understanding and shared experiences. A warm invitation, a plate of traditional sweets or a conversation with a neighbour can become small but meaningful expressions of goodwill.

When the decorations are put away and daily routines resume, what remains is more than the memory of a beautifully prepared home or a table filled with festive delicacies. It is the pleasure of reconnecting with loved ones, the reassurance of familiar customs and the knowledge that cultural heritage continues through the people who choose to preserve it.

Deepavali may be celebrated through light, colour, food and ritual, but its most enduring qualities are found in the connections formed around them. In the care taken to prepare a home, the generosity extended to a guest and the stories passed between generations, the festival continues to find meaning in modern Malaysian life. It is a celebration that honours what has been inherited while making room for what is yet to come, reminding us that the brightest traditions are those kept alive through the simple act of sharing.

Beyond the festivities, Deepavali also invites a moment to appreciate the values that give the occasion its lasting significance. The importance of family, the generosity of hospitality and the comfort of familiar traditions are not confined to a single day. They are reflected in the everyday gestures that bring people closer, from sharing a meal and offering help to making time for those who matter. During the festival, these values become especially visible, expressed through the warmth of a welcome and the willingness to make room for others.

For younger generations, taking part in Deepavali is also a way of discovering the stories behind the celebration. Learning how to prepare a family recipe, helping to decorate the home or joining relatives for prayers can become meaningful experiences that deepen an appreciation of cultural heritage. Often, it is through these ordinary moments that traditions are understood most clearly. What begins as helping a parent arrange flowers or watching a grandparent prepare a favourite sweet may eventually become a ritual carried into one's own home and shared with the next generation.

There is also a sense of anticipation that returns with every Deepavali. Familiar preparations take on new meaning as children grow older, families welcome new members and relatives gather again after time apart. Some celebrations may become smaller or take on a different form, but the desire to preserve a connection with one's roots remains. Even when circumstances change, the familiar sights, flavours and sounds of the festival can offer a reassuring sense of continuity.

In a country as culturally diverse as Malaysia, these celebrations also contribute to a broader appreciation of the traditions that shape its society. The opportunity to visit a friend's open house, learn about a custom or share a festive meal allows people to experience a celebration beyond their own background. Such exchanges do not require grand gestures. Often, a sincere greeting, an invitation to join the table or an interest in another family's traditions is enough to create a meaningful connection.

Ultimately, the significance of Deepavali in Malaysia lies in its ability to hold the past and present together. It is a celebration shaped by generations of faith and tradition, yet one that continues to evolve with the families and communities who observe it. As lamps are lit and homes open their doors once more, the festival offers a reminder that its spirit is not measured by the scale of the celebration, but by the warmth, kindness and sense of belonging shared with others.

Long after the last lamp has been extinguished and the festive dishes have been cleared away, the meaning of the occasion continues in the relationships it strengthens and the memories it leaves behind. Each year brings another opportunity to return to familiar customs, create new experiences and pass something meaningful on to those who follow. In this way, Deepavali is more than an annual celebration. It is a living expression of heritage, faith and togetherness, renewed with every generation and kept bright through the simple, enduring act of sharing.



POWERING UP, LOCALLY

Malaysia's clean energy push is about more than solar panels and megawatts. It's about who builds them — and a new MIDA programme is making sure more of those builders are Malaysian.

Picture the floating solar arrays now taking shape on Tasik Kenyir, or the panels quietly multiplying across rooftops in the Klang Valley, and it's tempting to think of the energy transition as a story about hardware. Panels, turbines, transmission lines. But at IGEM 2026 in Kuala Lumpur this month, the conversation turned to a more human question: who actually builds all of this — and how much of it can be made at home?

On 8 October at KLCC, the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) hosted its inaugural Renewable Energy Supply Chain Programme. Themed "Strengthening Malaysia's Renewable Energy Ecosystem with MIDA", it brought two of the country's biggest energy players, TNB Power Generation (TNB GENCO) and TNB Renewables (TNB RE), into the same room as some 25 Malaysian manufacturers, engineers, vendors and service providers.

The format was refreshingly practical. Instead of speeches and handshakes, there were targeted business-matching sessions where local firms could talk directly with project owners about real pipelines and real supply-chain needs.

MORE THAN MEGAWATTS

The stakes are considerable. Malaysia has set itself the goal of reaching 70 per cent renewable energy capacity by 2050, a transformation that will touch everything from how our homes are powered to where global companies choose to invest. The question MIDA is asking is simple: as that capacity grows, will the value stay here?

"Malaysia's energy transition is not only about increasing renewable energy capacity; it is also an opportunity to build stronger Malaysian companies, develop specialised capabilities and create greater economic value at home," says Datuk Sikh Shamsul Ibrahim Sikh Abdul Majid, Chief Executive Officer of MIDA. "Our ambition is for Malaysia not only to deploy green technologies, but increasingly to develop, produce and export them."

It's a philosophy TNB RE has given a name: "Beyond Megawatts". Its Managing Director, Encik Elmie Fairul Mashuri, puts it plainly: "Our ambition goes beyond adding renewable megawatts. As we grow our renewable energy portfolio, we want each project to create lasting value for Malaysia by deepening local participation across the renewable energy value chain." That means openings for Malaysian contractors and suppliers today, and a path into higher-value work such as engineering, technology and specialised services tomorrow.

MEET THE LOCAL CHAMPIONS

The programme also put a spotlight on companies already making that climb. Five firms were recognised as Renewable Energy Local Champions for their technical capabilities: Alliance MEP Sdn. Bhd., Reactive Energy Sdn. Bhd., Deltaspec (M) Sdn. Bhd., P.E.S.B. Engineering Sdn. Bhd. and SAA Engineering & Marine Sdn. Bhd.

They are not household names, at least not yet. But they represent something worth celebrating: Malaysian expertise moving up the value chain in one of the fastest-growing industries in the world.

For TNB GENCO, which is now executing its pioneering Hybrid Hydro Floating Solar project at Tasik Kenyir, partnerships like these are essential. "We are committed to enabling Malaysian companies to grow alongside this transition," says Managing Director Dato' Shahrir Abdul Latiff, describing the MIDA collaboration as a platform to connect capable local players with "tangible opportunities across our project pipeline" and to position Malaysian solutions for regional markets.



THE DATA CENTRE FACTOR

There is another reason this matters, and it's humming away in server halls across the country. Malaysia has become one of the region's most sought-after destinations for data centres, the facilities that power everything from our streaming apps to artificial intelligence. They are also enormously hungry for electricity, and increasingly, their operators want that electricity to be green.

The issue was front and centre at a recent roundtable on data centres convened by SEAFIC (Southeast Asia Futures Initiative Centre), a regional think tank on ASEAN economic futures.

"Data centres are the factories of the digital economy, and they run on electricity," says Tengku Zafrul Abdul Aziz, Chairman of MIDA and Chairman of SEAFIC. "At SEAFIC's recent roundtable, the message was clear: the next wave of investment will go to countries that can offer clean, reliable power at scale. That is why a strong Malaysian renewable energy supply chain matters so much. Every solar farm and every grid upgrade is a chance for our own companies to grow and for young Malaysians to find skilled, well-paid jobs. The energy transition should be felt in our communities, not only on balance sheets."



A BOOST FROM BUDGET 2027

The timing is favourable. Under Budget 2027, the Green Investment Tax Allowance (GITA) has been extended until 31 December 2030, while a combined RM17 billion has been earmarked for grid and energy infrastructure, alongside investment funds involving TNB, UEM Lestra and KWAP. Together with MIDA's InvestLokal agenda, which links global investment with Malaysian capabilities, these measures aim to make the country more competitive for high-quality, sustainable investment.

For the rest of us, the payoff may not always be visible. But the next time you switch on the lights, charge your phone or stream a film, there's a growing chance that a Malaysian engineer, manufacturer or technician helped make the clean power behind it possible. And that, perhaps, is the most rewarding part of the transition: building a greener future, and building it ourselves.

OKAJU

JAPANESE GRILL

OKAJU
G30 & G31, Ground Floor, Starhill Gallery, 181 Jalan Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur
Tel: +60 12-419 3090

At OKAJU, Japanese culinary tradition meets contemporary dining through the art of robatayaki, a traditional method of cooking ingredients over charcoal. Located at Starhill Gallery in Kuala Lumpur, the restaurant places fire cooking at the heart of its culinary identity, bringing together carefully selected ingredients, precise techniques and thoughtfully composed flavours. Its approach celebrates the natural qualities of each ingredient while introducing contemporary touches that create a distinctive Japanese dining experience.

The menu presents an extensive selection of dishes prepared with an appreciation for quality and craftsmanship. From fresh seafood and sashimi to expertly grilled meats, each offering reflects the versatility of Japanese cuisine. The robata selection showcases the character of charcoal grilling, while signature creations such as Black Cod with Yuzu Miso bring together delicate textures and balanced flavours. Complementing these are sushi, tempura and donabe rice dishes, offering diners a variety of textures and preparations throughout the meal.

The restaurant's robata menu is particularly central to its identity, allowing the natural flavours of premium ingredients to develop through the intensity of the charcoal grill. The interplay of smoke, heat and seasoning adds depth to each preparation, while the cooking process highlights the importance of timing and technique. This emphasis on fire brings a sense of theatre to the dining experience, connecting guests with one of Japan's enduring culinary traditions.

Beyond the grill, OKAJU offers a broader exploration of Japanese flavours through its selection of smaller plates and carefully prepared dishes. The menu encourages diners to move between different tastes and textures, from the freshness of seafood to the richness of grilled meats. This variety makes the restaurant suitable for those seeking a more expansive meal, whether discovering individual specialities or sharing several dishes across the table.

The dining experience is further complemented by an elegant contemporary interior that reflects the restaurant's refined approach. Its setting provides a welcoming backdrop for intimate dinners, business gatherings and special occasions, balancing sophistication with the warmth associated with Japanese hospitality. The considered atmosphere allows the focus to remain on the food while providing a distinctive space in which to enjoy it.

Through its combination of traditional robatayaki techniques, a varied Japanese menu and contemporary surroundings, OKAJU offers a dining experience rooted in craftsmanship and culinary heritage. By placing quality ingredients and charcoal cooking at the centre of its philosophy, the restaurant presents a modern expression of Japanese cuisine that honours tradition while embracing a more contemporary sensibility.



AS Wagyu Sirloin with Chimichurri Sauce



A vibrant cocktail crafted to complement the art of contemporary Japanese dining.



BLACK LION STEAKHOUSE

Where Premium Cuts Meet the Art of Fire

BLACK LION STEAKHOUSE
Lobby Level, Block C-G-1, Plaza Arkadia, 3 Jalan Intisari, Desa Parkcity, 52200 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: +60 12-577 3229

At Black Lion Steakhouse, the pursuit of an exceptional steak begins long before it reaches the plate. Guided by the philosophy of "Black Lion Only Eats The Best", the restaurant places quality, craftsmanship and precision at the heart of its culinary identity. From carefully sourced beef to the mastery of open-flame cooking, each element reflects a commitment to bringing out the natural character of its ingredients. Here, steak is more than a centrepiece. It is an expression of culinary discipline, where flavour and technique come together in a considered dining experience.

Situated within Plaza Arkadia in Desa Parkcity, Black Lion Steakhouse occupies a distinctive setting within Qing Arts Club, a private members' art club featuring a gallery of artworks. This meeting of gastronomy and art lends the restaurant a cultural dimension, creating an environment where culinary craftsmanship exists alongside artistic expression. The setting offers a different perspective on the traditional steakhouse, bringing together an appreciation for fine food and the wider creative landscape.

At the heart of its kitchen is a dedication to exceptional beef. Working with trusted international farms, Black Lion Steakhouse carefully selects its cuts for quality, marbling and flavour, with an emphasis on traceability and responsible sourcing. Its selection spans different breeds and feeding programmes, allowing diners to explore the distinct characteristics of each cut. From the depth of flavour associated with grain-fed beef to the more pronounced character of grass-fed selections, the restaurant approaches its ingredients with an understanding that every steak begins with the quality of its source. The art of fire defines the cooking philosophy. Each cut demands its own approach, with careful attention given to temperature, timing and resting to preserve its natural juices and tenderness. Open-flame chargrilling introduces a distinctive sear, adding depth and a subtle smokiness while allowing the character of the beef to remain at the forefront. This balance between heat and restraint is central to the experience, transforming a seemingly simple preparation into a demonstration of precision and culinary skill. The result is a considered expression of flavour, texture and aroma.

Beyond the grill, the restaurant's menu extends the experience through thoughtfully prepared dishes, from comforting soups and fresh produce to seafood selections that offer a contrast to the richness of its steaks. An extensive wine list brings together labels from established wine regions across France, Italy, Australia, Argentina and beyond, providing a range of possibilities for pairing with the menu. Whether exploring a full-bodied red alongside a richly marbled cut or choosing a lighter white to accompany seafood, the selection adds another dimension to the meal.

Completing the experience is an approach to hospitality that values attentiveness and personalisation. Knowledgeable service helps guide diners through the selection of cuts, cooking preferences and beverage pairings, allowing each visit to be shaped around the occasion. Whether gathered for a business dinner, a celebration or an evening devoted to the pleasures of fine dining, guests are invited to appreciate the finer details that distinguish a memorable meal. At Black Lion Steakhouse, excellence is found in the considered choices behind every plate, from the provenance of the beef to the final touch of the flame.

CACAO MIXOLOGY & CHOCOLATE

Where Chocolate Meets the Art of Mixology

CACAO MIXOLOGY & CHOCOLATE
Park Hyatt Kuala Lumpur, Level 75, Menara Merdeka 118, Presint Merdeka 118, 50118 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: +60 19-235 1234

Perched on Level 75 of Park Hyatt Kuala Lumpur, Cacao Mixology & Chocolate brings together the worlds of artisanal chocolate, creative mixology and elevated bar culture. Set high above the city, the venue offers panoramic skyline views alongside an experience shaped by indulgence and craftsmanship. As Kuala Lumpur's highest bar, it presents a distinctive setting where carefully composed drinks and chocolate creations take centre stage, accompanied by the smooth rhythms of Bossa Nova.

At the heart of its concept is the versatility of cacao, explored through handcrafted chocolate, chocolate-inspired cocktails and thoughtfully selected spirits. Rather than treating chocolate solely as a dessert, the bar incorporates its richness and complexity into a broader drinking experience. Each creation is designed to balance flavour, texture and aroma, offering a considered interpretation of how chocolate can complement both classic and contemporary cocktails.

Among its signature offerings is The Cacao Club, which combines Johnnie Walker Black Label with Li Chu 64% Raspberry, Ratafia Rossi, a subtle touch of durian and lemon, finished with a delicate foam. The layered composition brings together spirit, fruit and distinctive local character in a cocktail designed to deliver a smooth, lingering finish. It reflects the bar's approach to mixology, where familiar ingredients meet unexpected combinations.

Chocolate also takes a more focused form through the creations of Executive Pastry Chef Holger Deh. One highlight is his 71% dark chocolate, presented as a chiselled block designed to accompany cocktails and spirits. The Chocolate Table further explores this relationship, bringing together Chef Holger Deh and Beverage Manager Wei Lung in a selection of handcrafted chocolates paired with drinks chosen to complement their individual textures and flavour profiles.

For more intimate occasions, Cacao Mixology & Chocolate offers semi private dining rooms accommodating up to 11 guests, with bespoke cocktail menus available upon request. Whether enjoyed over evening drinks or through a considered chocolate pairing, the experience brings together panoramic views, inventive beverages and artisanal craftsmanship. At Cacao, chocolate becomes more than a finishing touch, serving as the foundation for a distinctive exploration of flavour above Kuala Lumpur's skyline.









FOUR WAYS TO DINE

From Malaysian inspired cuisine and Italian American nostalgia to spice infused cocktails and artisanal coffee, Kimpton Naluria Kuala Lumpur brings four distinctive dining experiences to the heart of the city.

A CITY OF FLAVOURS

In a city celebrated for its diverse culinary traditions, dining is as much about discovery as it is about the food itself. At Kimpton Naluria Kuala Lumpur, located in the Tun Razak Exchange district, four distinct dining destinations offer different ways to experience the city's evolving food and beverage scene. Each has its own personality, from a contemporary interpretation of Malaysian heritage to a rooftop bar shaped by the history of the spice trade.

Together, Tuai + Till, Four Siblings, Sabato's and Rise & Grind reflect a hospitality concept that places character and creativity at the heart of the experience. Whether the occasion calls for a leisurely meal, an evening of cocktails or a quick coffee between appointments, each venue offers a different reason to linger.

TUAI + TILL

Where Malaysian heritage meets contemporary dining

Located on Level 3, Tuai + Till brings together Malaysian inspired cooking and contemporary Western cuisine under one roof. Its two complementary concepts explore different culinary traditions while sharing an appreciation for ingredients, technique and thoughtful preparation.

Tuai takes inspiration from Malaysian and Peranakan flavours, drawing on familiar dishes and traditional methods to create a menu rooted in local culinary heritage. Otak-Otak Toast offers a contemporary take on a regional favourite, while slow braised Beef Rendang celebrates the depth developed through patient cooking and carefully balanced spices.

Till, meanwhile, adopts the character





of a modern European brasserie, with familiar comfort dishes presented through a contemporary lens. The combination gives diners the freedom to explore different flavours within a single setting, whether they gravitate towards the aromatic richness of Malaysian cooking or the reassuring appeal of Western classics.

The restaurant's dual identity reflects the diversity of Kuala Lumpur itself, where local traditions and international influences have long shaped the dining landscape. Rather than choosing between the two, Tuai + Till brings them together in an experience that feels both familiar and contemporary.



FOUR SIBLINGS

Spice, cocktails and skyline views

Rising to Level 26, Four Siblings offers a different atmosphere, pairing creative mixology with panoramic views of Kuala Lumpur. Inspired by four essential spices found in Malaysian cooking, cinnamon, clove, cardamom and star anise, the rooftop bar takes its concept from ingredients that have travelled across cultures and shaped culinary traditions for generations.

These aromatic spices provide inspiration for a cocktail menu that explores unexpected flavour combinations. Rather than serving merely as garnishes, they contribute fragrance, warmth and complexity, creating drinks that draw on the character of the ingredients themselves.

The bar also incorporates South American influences alongside Malaysian references, extending its culinary concept beyond the glass through a selection of coastal inspired bites and Malay tapas. The result is a setting suited to after work drinks, relaxed social gatherings and evenings spent above the city.

With its distinctive theme and elevated location, Four Siblings offers an alternative to the conventional rooftop bar. Its appeal lies in the combination of inventive drinks, a lively atmosphere and a setting that places Kuala Lumpur's skyline firmly within the experience.





SABATO'S

A taste of Italian American nostalgia

For those drawn to the convivial atmosphere of a classic neighbourhood restaurant, Sabato's brings the spirit of 1970s Italian American dining to Level 25. Its interiors embrace a retro aesthetic, with bold red details, nostalgic design elements and music inspired by an era when dinner and entertainment often went hand in hand.

The menu celebrates familiar Italian American favourites, where generous portions, comforting flavours and dishes designed for sharing take centre stage. Spicy Rigatoni offers a satisfying combination of pasta and sauce, while meatballs and Chicken Parmigiana evoke the hearty cooking associated with traditional Italian American restaurants. Other menu highlights include Spaghetti & Meatballs and Grilled Malabar Snapper.

Beyond the food, Sabato's draws on the social character of its inspiration. The setting encourages diners to gather around the table, share plates and enjoy an evening that unfolds at an unhurried pace. Its retro influences bring a sense of playfulness to the experience, offering a contrast to the more contemporary surroundings of the hotel.

The cocktail programme adds another dimension, drawing on nostalgic storytelling and contemporary mixology. Together, the food, drinks and interiors create a destination that celebrates the enduring appeal of Italian American comfort dining while giving it a distinctly modern setting.





RISE & GRIND

Malaysian coffee culture, reimagined

Situated in the hotel's arrival lobby on the ground floor, Rise & Grind offers a more casual expression of Kimpton Naluria Kuala Lumpur's dining identity. Designed around contemporary coffee craftsmanship and Malaysian influences, the espresso bar brings together speciality beverages, locally roasted beans and familiar flavours in a convenient setting.

Coffee takes centre stage, with an emphasis on modern brewing techniques and beans that reflect the growing appreciation for Malaysian coffee culture. Local ingredients also find their way into the accompanying food selection, creating a connection between contemporary café culture and the flavours many Malaysians know from home.

Among its offerings are Pandan Kaya Swiss Rolls and Teh Tarik Madeleines, which reinterpret familiar local flavours through the format of café pastries. The combination of coffee and nostalgic tastes makes Rise & Grind an appealing stop for breakfast, a midday pause or a quick takeaway before heading into the city.

Its more relaxed approach provides a counterpoint to the hotel's full service dining venues. Here, the experience is less about an extended meal and more about the everyday pleasure of a well prepared coffee and something freshly baked.





FOUR EXPERIENCES, ONE ADDRESS

What connects these four destinations is their willingness to approach familiar culinary ideas from different perspectives. Tuai + Till celebrates Malaysian heritage alongside contemporary Western cooking, Four Siblings explores the expressive possibilities of spice, Sabato's revisits the convivial spirit of Italian American dining, and Rise & Grind brings local coffee culture into a modern café setting.

Each venue serves a different occasion, yet together they create a varied dining landscape within a single address. For visitors and Kuala Lumpur residents alike, Kimpton Naluria offers an opportunity to move between distinct atmospheres without leaving the hotel. In a city where food is an essential part of its cultural identity, these four destinations demonstrate how dining can be both rooted in tradition and open to new influences. From the first cup of coffee to cocktails enjoyed above the skyline, the experience is ultimately about discovering the many ways a city expresses itself through food and drink.

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Malaysia Airports' Decarbonisation Journey Towards Net Zero Emissions

The recent Aviation Sustainability Day 2026, jointly hosted by Malaysia Airports and Malaysia Aviation Group (MAG), highlighted the need for closer alignment between airports and airlines in terms of priorities, infrastructure planning and long-term investments to support Malaysia's transition towards net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

In his opening address and at the unveiling of Malaysia Airports' Decarbonisation Journey, its Managing Director, Dato' Mohd Izani Ghani, said, "Our decarbonisation plan establishes clear, measurable targets to cut emissions across our operations."

"We are setting an updated emissions baseline across our five international airports at KL International Airport (KLIA), Penang, Kota Kinabalu, Kuching and Langkawi."

He added, "Our progress also underpins our drive to attain Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 4 for KLIA, which is in tandem with the Malaysian Aviation Decarbonisation Blueprint, ensuring that our operational standards align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals on clean energy, sustainable infrastructure, climate action and partnerships."

Looking ahead, Dato' Mohd Izani outlined Malaysia Airports' long-term decarbonisation ambitions, targeting net zero greenhouse gas emissions from Scope 1 and 2 by 2040, followed by selected Scope 3 emissions by 2050.

Scope 1 involves direct operational emissions, Scope 2 relates to emissions from purchased energy while Scope 3 emissions refer to those generated across its wider value chain.

"Achieving these targets will require sustained investment in energy efficiency, the development of greener supply chains, greater adoption of renewable energy, cleaner ground operations and more sustainable airport infrastructure," he observed.

Recognising that Malaysia Airports' decarbonisation journey will require substantial investment, evolving technologies and difficult decisions, with benefits that may only materialise over the longer term, Dato' Mohd Izani emphasised, "The choices we make today will determine how well our airports are prepared for the future."

Malaysia Airports and MAG have long played complementary roles in shaping the local aviation landscape, with KLIA serving not only as MAG's home base but also as Malaysia's main gateway.

> "Our shared commitment to strengthening Malaysia's connectivity must now extend to advancing a more sustainable aviation future.
>
> Our respective decarbonisation journeys cannot progress independently. We must ensure that our investments and operational priorities complement one another so that we can achieve meaningful progress together."

DATO' MOHD IZANI GHANI
Managing Director
of Malaysia Airports

One of Malaysia Airports' key initiatives is the development of the 36MWp KLIA Aeropolis Solar Park, featuring 45MWh of battery energy storage capacity and expected to avoid about 35,000 tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

The project will serve as a cornerstone for a broader rollout of upcoming decarbonisation efforts across renewable energy expansion, terminal energy efficiency, airfield ground lighting, and the progressive electrification of ground vehicles.



Meanwhile, MAG President and Group Chief Executive Officer, Captain Nasaruddin A. Bakar, also took the opportunity to launch its Mid-Term Sustainability Roadmap at Aviation Sustainability Day 2026.

Held at Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA, the half-day event brought together representatives from government agencies, regulators and industry partners to discuss practical approaches to decarbonisation, among other things.

The solutions called for the adoption of cleaner energy, circular economy initiatives and waste reduction, sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and more sustainable airport and airline operations.

Speaking on behalf of Datuk Hasbi Habibollah, Deputy Minister of Transport, who officiated the event, Captain Mohd Radzi Mohamad Alias, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Regulatory) of the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM), emphasised that achieving net zero emissions in aviation would require a concerted effort across the entire aviation ecosystem.

"The government must provide clear policy direction, establish an appropriate regulatory framework and address the challenges that may impede implementation."

"Airlines and airport operators must translate these priorities into practical operational measures, while fuel producers, technology providers and financial institutions play a critical role in developing the necessary solutions, infrastructure and financing."

He stressed that achieving net zero would ultimately depend on effective collaboration among all relevant stakeholders, guided by a shared vision and clearly defined responsibilities.

Beyond SAF, Captain Mohd Radzi said opportunities also abound in renewable energy, airport infrastructure and the electrification of ground support equipment.

"Our objective is not merely to adopt cleaner technologies, but also to strengthen domestic capabilities, develop local expertise and create greater value within the Malaysian economy."

CAAM Chief Aviation Policy and Development Officer, Syed Khairulazrin Syed Khairuldinalso contributed in the first panel discussion on Sustainable Aviation, sharing that Malaysia should leverage what we have and ensure that the measures adopted should be economically sustainable.

Philip See Yew Jin, MAG Group Chief Sustainability Officer, another speaker at this session,said his approach would be to translate 25 to 30 years' vision into 'baby steps' or smaller actions of three to five years.

The second panel discussion, which focused on Circular Economy and Waste Reduction, featured speakers from E-Idaman and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, represented by Dr. Margaret Kuyor, Deputy Undersecretary (Circular Economy), Urban Sustainability Division.



Meanwhile, the third panel session, which focused on Airport Green Energy Transition, was moderated by Malaysia Airports' General Manager of Corporate Planning, Imtyaz Mohd Azzat.



Pengiran Noraini @ Dayang Ku Noraini Pg Mohd Hussein Al-Hashim, Malaysia Airports'Senior Manager of Engineering (Energy and Environment) shared that the airport operator'ssustainability roadmap will see further increase in its use of renewable energy and smarttechnologies.

Bringing the event to a close, Philip See of MAG reminded attendees of the importance of collective action, quoting, "If you want to go fast, you go alone; if you want to go far, go together."

Imploring the attendees to make progress by moving forward in small steps so that the length of what far is will be shortened a little bit further, he said this will ultimately enable them to reach their destination.



British Airways Strengthens Kuala Lumpur Hub with New Melbourne Service

British Airways (BA) will launch a daily year-round service between London Heathrow (LHR) and Melbourne (MEL) via Kuala Lumpur (KUL) in January next year, reinforcing KUL's position as a strategic transit hub connecting Europe, Southeast Asia and Australia.

According to Malaysia Airports, the new service highlights KUL's significance as a stopover point along one of the world's busiest long-haul corridors.

Beyond passenger services, the route will provide additional cargo capacity, supporting trade flows between the United Kingdom, Malaysia and Australia.



BA's new service to MEL marks its return to the city after a 20-year hiatus, complementing its existing service to Sydney (SYD) via Singapore (SIN).

BA plans to operate its outbound flight, BA33, from LHR on 9 January 2027, with the KUL–MEL sector departing at 19:45 on 10 January. The return service, BA34, from MEL to LHR via KUL, is scheduled to depart on 11 January.

The airline holds fifth-freedom traffic rights on the KUL–MEL sector, allowing passengers to book flights between Malaysia and Australia.

BA will deploy the Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner on the route, connecting Australian travellers to the United Kingdom and beyond, with access to more than 200 destinations across nearly 80 countries.

The aircraft features four cabins: First, Club World Suites, World Traveller Plus and World Traveller.

Meanwhile, BA has unveiled new cabins on its retrofitted Airbus 380s, marking the start of a fleet-wide transformation and forming part of the airline's wider investment in customer experience.



Customers travelling in Club World (business class), World Traveller Plus (premium economy) and World Traveller (economy) will benefit from brand-new seats and upgraded cabin interiors.

The refreshed First cabin on the retrofitted aircraft also features an enhanced dining experience.

BA has partnered with luxury British heritage brand Swaine to create bespoke, unisex First amenity kits inspired by the heritage suitcases carried by early air travellers.

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



Malaysia Airlines Bagged Eight Accolades at the 2026 Skytrax World Airline Awards

Malaysia's national carrier, Malaysia Airlines (MH), achieved strong results across several categories at the 2026 Skytrax World Airline Awards, including being named Best Airline Staff in Asia and retaining 10th place among the Top 10 Best Airlines in Asia.

Its cabin crew ranked among the top three in the World's Best Airline Cabin Crew category, rising five places from eighth in 2025.

MH also climbed from sixth to second in the World's Best Airport Services category and made its debut at 18th place in World's Best Business Class Airlines.

Additionally, the airline rose six places to 21st in the World's Best Airline category, supported by continued investment across its people, product, fleet, network and customer offerings.

It also advanced four places to 12th in the World's Best Economy Class Airlines category and moved up one place to 11th in World's Cleanest Airline category.

Captain Nasaruddin A. Bakar, President and Group Chief Executive Officer of Malaysia Aviation Group (MAG) said, "Reaching this milestone after years of consistently climbing the global rankings is a significant achievement for MH and a direct reward for our team's relentless effort."

Over the past two years, the airlinehas enhanced the customer experience by focusing on cabin comfort, in-flight dining and cabin crew service delivery.

These efforts included expanded hospitality training and capability-building for frontline teams, strengthened service standards, clearer in-flight and airport communications, and more than 20 enhancements across key customer touchpoints

Among these were refreshed cabin crew grooming standards, personalised Pilot Farewell Greetings, and thoughtful touches in Business Class and Business Suite, including pyjamas and enhanced amenities to provide greater comfort throughout the journey.

The airline also evolved its in-flight dining experience through monthly menu rotations, with over 30 new menu offerings introduced over the past year, including favourites such as its vegetarian satay and cendol ice cream.

To date, MH has received 29 new aircraft and plans to grow its fleet to 117 modern aircraft by 2035 to support network expansion.

Meanwhile, it secured two accolades at the 2026 World MICE Awards, winning World's Best MICE Airline and Asia's Best MICE Airline for the first time in both categories.

This recognition of MH's role in serving the international meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (MICE) segment adds to a growing portfolio of accolades, reflecting progress in customer experience, commercial offerings and operational performance.

These achievements further reinforce MH's position as a trusted partner to the travel trade across business events and the corporate travel sectors.

With operational reliability remaining central to its efforts to deliver a consistent customer experience, MH recorded a year-to-date average on-time performance (OTP) of 91.70%, reaching 94.16% in September 2026.

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



KLM Unveils New Service Concept and 107th Delft Blue Miniature House

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines has introduced a renewed Economy Class service concept, Grand Café KLM, on its European flights, offering passengers greater choice in food and beverages.

Passengers can pre-order meals before departure or purchase a variety of items from the onboard menu during the flight.



The initiative reflects a broader trend among European full-service airlines to accommodate travellers' growing demand for more choice and flexibility.

Meanwhile, KLM's complimentary offerings, including coffee, tea, water, orange juice, and a stroopwafel remain available to passengers.

Bas Gerressen, Executive Vice President Inflight Services said, "This new concept further strengthens the warm and hospitable experience we strive to provide."

Celebrating its 107th anniversary KLM on 7 October 2026, the world's oldest airline unveiled a new Delft Blue miniature house, Wijnhoeve de Kleine Schorre, a leading Dutch winery in Dreischor, Zeeland, to its collection, which has been presented to its World Business Class passengers on its intercontinental flights since the 1950s.

Marjan Rintel, KLM President and Chief Executive Officer said, "With our 107th Delft Blue miniature house, we honour De Kleine Schorre, a partner that, like KLM, dared to pioneer and has demonstrated how Dutch quality and craftsmanship can earn international recognition. That makes this house a fitting symbol of our 107th anniversary."

Johan van de Velde, owner of De Kleine Schorre remarked, "Having our wine estate immortalised as a Delft Blue KLM miniature house feels like a wonderful crowning achievement for everything we have built over the past 25 years."

House No. 107 is the third landmark from Zeeland to be included in KLM's series of miniature versions of notable buildings in the Netherlands, which have become highly sought-after collectibles among KLM passengers.

As a special treat for its customers on its 107th anniversary, the flag carrier of the Netherlands announced that it will extend free high-speed Wi-Fi to its intercontinental network starting mid-2027, following the introduction of the service on its European flights earlier in 2026.

A subsidiary of the Air France-KLM Group, KLM is among the first European airlines to offer complimentary internet access to passengers travelling within Europe.

The new Wi-Fi service, powered by Starlink, will be rolled out in phases across KLM's intercontinental network and made available in all cabin classes, providing passengers with a seamless, digitally connected travel experience.

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



Gulf Air's Direct Bahrain to Kuala Lumpur Service to Boost International Arrivals to Malaysia

The return of Gulf Air's (GF) direct service from Bahrain (BAH) to Kuala Lumpur (KUL) on 30 September 2026, after a 14-year absence, provided greater travel convenience for visitors attending the Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix 2026, held in Malaysia from 2 to 4 October, with GF as the title sponsor.

The arrival of GF158 at KUL aboard the Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner marked GF as the 10th Middle Eastern carrier serving Malaysia's flagship airport.

The thrice-weekly service is expected to enhance connectivity, support international visitor arrivals, as well as strengthen tourism and economic ties between Malaysia and Bahrain.

His Excellency (HE) Dr. Waleed Khalifa Al Manea, Ambassador of Bahrain to Malaysia said Malaysian exports to Bahrain rose 35.8% in the first half of 2026 to RM176.6 million.

"Direct air connectivity can help accelerate this momentum by facilitating the movement of business leaders, investors, tourists, students and families between our two countries.

"Currently, there are 39 branches of Malaysian companies operating in Bahrain in addition to 45 companies with Malaysian partners."

The dignitaries present at GF's welcome reception included HE Dato' Shazryll Zahiran, Ambassador of Malaysia to Bahrain; Datuk Hasbi Habibollah, Deputy Minister of Transport; Dato' Shaharuddin Abu Sohot, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture; and Dato' Mohd Izani Ghani, Managing Director of Malaysia Airports.

GF was represented by its Chairman, Khalid Hussain Taqi, and Chief Executive Officer, Martin Gauss.

Dato' Mohd Izani said, "With the increase in international visitors expected, we are ready to manage the higher passenger volumes and have operational plans in place across both terminals.

"These include optimising passenger flows, coordinating closely with airlines and relevant government agencies, and strengthening on-ground support to ensure a smooth and welcoming arrival experience."





For more information, call **+603-2141 2676** or visit **www.gulfair.com**



Emirates Introduces Inclusive Innovations for Customers with Accessible Travel Requirements

Emirates' (EK) interactive stand at the recent eighth edition of Access Abilities Expo held at Dubai World Trade Centre, showcased several innovative, and future-focused ideas in development to help shape a more inclusive future for aviation and enhance the airline's core customer experience.

These innovative solutions include a cabin familiarisation concept being explored for customers who are blind or have low vision, an accessible lounge suite for customers with reduced mobility as well as biometric boarding gates for customers with accessible travel requirements.



The exhibition was officially opened by His Highness Sheikh Ahmed Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman and Chief Executive of EK and the EK Group, who is also the the AccessAbilities Expo's patron.

Mostafa Karam, Divisional Senior Vice President of Customer Affairs and Service Audit at EK said, "We are looking beyond individual services and working with our partners to consider accessibility across the complete journey, from planning and the airport environment to the onboard experience and across destinations.

"Guided by customers' insight and lived experience, our focus is on practical improvements that reduce barriers, expand choice, and enable people to travel with greater clarity, confidence, independence, and dignity."



EK also showcased a dedicated, wheelchair-accessible quiet area designed to provide customers with reduced mobility a comfortable and private space to rest and recharge before their flight. The prototype is being developed for First Class, with the potential for introduction in other cabin classes in the future.

Other products and services currently offered by the airline were also featured at the exhibition. These include its Travel Rehearsals Programme, through which more than 35,000 EK staff have been trained to support customers with autism and help facilitate their travel.

Meanwhile, EK's Airbus A350-900 aircraft features a new in-flight entertainment user interface for its ice system, developed in partnership with Thales and advocacy groups to improve accessibility for customers with visual impairments and provide a more intuitive, high-quality entertainment experience..

The interface incorporates audio-cue navigation, voice-based metadata feedback, and touch-and-swipe gesture support, helping customers who are blind or have low vision navigate the system and select content more independently.

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



ZIPAIR Strengthens Air Connectivity between Japan and Malaysia with New Direct Service to Kuala Lumpur

The launch of ZIPAIR's (ZG) direct daily service connecting Tokyo Narita (NRT) and Kuala Lumpur (KUL) on 20 October 2026 marks the airline's entry into its 10th international network, expanding travel options not only between Japan and Malaysia but also reinforcing bilateral economic cooperation.

Operating the Boeing 787-8 aircraft, configured with 18 full-flat seats and 272 standard seats, Japan's first medium- and long-haul international low-cost carrier offers a total weekly capacity of 2,030 seats.

Hiroo Iwakoshi, ZG Chairman said, "Our goal is to be a 'new basic airline' although our standards are that of a scheduled airline."

ZG's inaugural flight was welcomed by His Excellency Noriyuki Shikata, Ambassador of Japan to Malaysia; Mohd Amirul Rizal Abdul Rahim, Director General of Tourism Malaysia; and Abd Hasman Abd Muhimin, Senior General for Manager Passenger Experience of KLIA.



Highlighting Japan's popularity among Malaysians, Shikata, said Malaysia has 2,200 Japanese restaurants, with the number continuing to grow. He also highlighted that 630,600 Malaysian visitors travelled to Japan in 2025, surpassing the pre-pandemic figure of 501,592 recorded in 2019.

With 2027 marking the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Malaysia, alongside Green Expo 2027, an international horticultural show to be held in Yokohama, he hoped to see more tourism and exchanges between the two countries.

He added that ZG's more affordable travel options are expected to broaden access to international travel for students and entrepreneurs.

Mohd Amirul Rizal Abdul Rahim, Director General of Tourism Malaysia said, "This new route strengthens our efforts to attract more Japanese travellers as we advance our Visit Malaysia 2026–2027 campaign."

The new service also presents an opportunity to broaden Malaysia's appeal beyond conventional leisure travel by promoting specialised tourism segments that align with the Japanese travellers' interests.

These include educational tourism through the Edu+ 2.0 initiative, the Malaysia My Second Home programme and nature-based experiences showcasing the country's biodiversity, tropical rainforests and rich natural heritage.

From January to August 2026, Malaysia recorded 283,132 visitor arrivals from Japan, representing a 4% year-on-year increase.

As of August 2026, air connectivity between Japan and Malaysia comprised 84 weekly flight frequencies, offering a total of 23,682 seats a week.



A wholly-owned subsidiary of Japan Airlines (JL), ZG operates a fleet of eight Boeing 787-8 widebody aircraft leased from its parent company.

ZG is expected to further expand its route network between North America and Asia, providing travellers with access to a wider range of destinations.

For more information, visit **www.zipair.net**



Batik Air Strengthens Penang's Medical Tourism Connectivity

The new direct service of Batik Air Malaysia (OD) connecting Batam (BTH) and Penang (PEN), which commenced on 18 October 2026, is expected to create greater opportunities for tourism, cross-border business and healthcare travel.

Besides enhancing accessibility between Indonesia's Riau Islands and the northern region of Peninsular Malaysia for leisure and business travellers, the new thrice weekly service also supports the PEN's growing potential as a regional medical tourism hub.

With BTH joining Jakarta (CGK), Surabaya (SUB), Banda Aceh (BTJ) and Medan (KNO) as the fifth Indonesian city with a direct air link to PEN, Wong Hon Wai, Penang State Exco for Tourism and Creative Economy said Indonesia has not only been its number one source market for international arrivals but also ranks first in direct flight frequency to PEN.

Meanwhile, Penang with its cultural heritage, renowned culinary scene and diverse tourism attractions, is the only destination in Southeast Asia named recently on National Geographic's Best of the World 2027 list of 25 global travel hotspots.

As at September 2026, PEN, which was recently named Asia Small Airport of the Year 2026 by the Centre for Aviation (CAPA) in Japan, connects to 22 destinations.

Additionally, the BTH to PEN route supports both the Visit Malaysia 2026-2027 campaign and the Malaysia Year of Medical Tourism 2026.

Further strengthening its medical tourism proposition, OD signed a memorandum of understanding earlier with the National Heart Institute (IJN) in July 2026 to offer exclusive discounts on IJN treatment packages for overseas travellers.

> "We are here to build a direct, affordable bridge between world-class cardiac care and thousands of patients across the region"
>
> **DATUK CHANDRAN RAMA MUTHY**
> Chief Executive Officer
> at Batik Air Malaysia (OD)

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



VietJet Thailand's Entry Boosts Capacity and Expands Travel Options

VietJet Thailand's (VZ) maiden arrival of its daily direct service from Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) to KL International Airport Terminal 2 (KUL T2) on 9 October 2026, offers travellers additional low-cost travel options between Thailand and Malaysia.

The welcome reception of VZ's inaugural flight was attended by Her Excellency Lada Phumas, Ambassador of Thailand to Malaysia; Mongkol Wattaro, Director of the Tourism Authority of Thailand covering Malaysia and Brunei and Pinyot Pibulsonggram, Vice President of Commercial and Customer Service of VZ.

Also present were Mohd Amirul Rizal Abdul Rahim, Director General of Tourism Malaysia, Nathalie Catharina Jongma, Chief Aviation Development Officer of Malaysia Airports.



Bryan Thompson, Chief Airports Officer of Malaysia Airports said, "The addition of a new Thailand-based carrier enhances capacity and expands options within one of Malaysia's primary regional markets."

According to Malaysia Airports, robust demand between the two countries was reflected in the 2.1 million passengers recorded during the first half of 2026 across key routes connecting Kuala Lumpur (KUL), Penang (PEN), Subang (SZB) and Langkawi (LGK).

BKK to KUL is one of the busiest short-haul routes in Southeast Asia. From VZ's BKK hub, the low-cost carrier is well connected to a number of domestic destinations in Thailand and other international destinations.

For more information, call **+603 2148 8033** or visit **www.th.vietjetair.com**



Lufthansa's Return to Kuala Lumpur Restores Key European Hub Link

The return of Lufthansa (LH) after nearly a decade from Frankfurt (FRA) to KL International Airport (KUL) on 26 October 2026 has restored a significant link to Europe, expanding travel options through the German carrier's extensive hub network, which connects passengers to more than 140 destinations.

KUL handled 1.1 million passengers on European routes from January to September 2026, representing a 29.7% year-on-year (YoY) increase.

Speaking at the welcome reception, Malaysia Airports Managing Director Dato' Mohd Izani Ghani said, "For businesses, this supports closer links with customers and investors. For our tourism industry, it creates a wider European catchment from which to attract visitors.

"These are the connections we are working to build: commercially sustainable services that strengthen KLIA's competitiveness and deliver lasting value to Malaysia's economy."

Germany is Malaysia's largest trading partner in the European Union (EU).

With more than 700 German companies operating in Malaysia, this new service is expected to support stronger business and economic ties between the two countries.

From January to August 2026, Malaysia received 1.18 million visitors from Europe, an increase of 1.2% YoY while 116,824 visitors were from Germany.

In August 2026, there were 57 weekly flights from Malaysia to Europe, offering a total capacity of 16,914 seats.

As the fifth airline offering direct flights to Europe, LH's five times weekly service will initially add approximately 75,000 one-way seats annually between KUL and FRA.

Frank Naeve, LH Group's Senior Vice President of Global Sales and Distribution, said the launch of the FRA to KUL service marked an important expansion of its Southeast Asian network, with the service increased to daily operations for its summer schedule, starting 28 March 2027.

"Malaysia is an important economic centre in Southeast Asia and a growing destination for international business and investment while its rich cultural heritage and diverse attractions make it equally appealing to leisure travellers."

LH's new service is operated by its latest long-haul Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner, with 287 seats across three classes and equipped with the airline's new Allegris cabin.



Other dignitaries attending the welcome reception included Her Excellency Silke Riecken-Daerr, Ambassador of Germany to Malaysia; His Excellency Rafeal Daerr, Ambassador of the EU to Malaysia and Head of the EU Delegation to Malaysia; Chiew Choon Man, Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture; Dato' Shaharuddin Abu Sohot, Secretary General of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture and Mohd Amirul Rizal Abdul Rahim, Director General of Tourism Malaysia.

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



KLIA Terminal 2 Raises the Bar for Passengers and Airlines

KL International Airport Terminal 2 (KLIA T2) continues to evolve with enhanced facilities, services and operational capabilities to deliver a better experience for airlines and passengers. As a terminal within KLIA, which is recognised by OAG as Asia Pacific's most connected airport, T2 plays an important role in strengthening the airport's regional connectivity and hub appeal. This is supported by Malaysia Airports' continued investments and focus on operational efficiency and service improvements.

Designed to accommodate 45 million passengers per annum (MPPA), with a peak-hour capacity of 11,371 passengers, T2 handled approximately 21 million passenger movements YTD October 2026, with peak-hour traffic reaching close to 6,000 passengers.

T2's operational capabilities are supported by modern infrastructure and efficient airport processes. The terminal features 104 check-in counters, an automated baggage handling system with 12 kilometres of conveyor belts and five-level inline screening, alongside 68 contact stands and eight remote stands.

Growing Airline Connectivity and Opportunities

To date, T2 has welcomed three new airlines: Shandong Airlines (SC), with flights to Jinan; Sun PhuQuoc Airways, connecting to Phu Quoc; and Vietjet Thailand (VZ), operating flights to Bangkok. On 25 October, Citilink Indonesia (QG) also relocated its operations from Terminal 1 to T2, bringing the total number of airline partners at T2 to 18.

With connections to 86 international destinations, T2 continues to offer opportunities for airlines to expand their networks while strengthening KLIA's connectivity globally.



Enhancing the Passenger Experience

Beyond operational capabilities, T2 continues to enhance its facilities and services to deliver a more comfortable and seamless passenger journey.

The Open Gate concept introduced at International Gate L has created more spacious gate lounges and wider pedestrian walkways. All prayer rooms at T2's international departure gates in Gate L have also been refurbished, providing more comfortable and well-maintained spaces for passengers.

The passenger experience is further supported by family-friendly and inclusive amenities, including family washrooms, a dedicated children's playground, movie and sports lounges, diverse retail and dining options, as well as wireless charging facilities at selected gates.



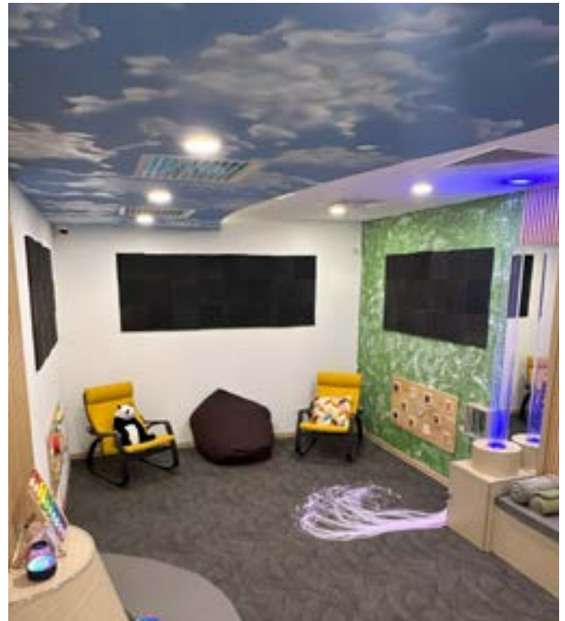


To improve passenger mobility within the terminal, upgraded buggies now offer a more comfortable and convenient way to travel between designated areas. The service operates daily from 6am to 11pm, with designated pickup points at Domestic Departure and the Skybridge.

Priority is given to elderly passengers, families travelling with children and passengers requiring additional assistance, with staff providing support for safe boarding and drop-off. In addition, 210 children's strollers and 100 wheelchairs are available to support passengers throughout their journey.

T2 also continues to strengthen its inclusive travel offerings. For passengers with hidden disabilities, the Calm Room at the Mezzanine level provides a low-stimulus environment away from the noise, crowds and sensory demands of a busy terminal.

The Calm Room forms part of KLIA's broader inclusive-travel approach under The Butterfly Effect, which brings together quiet spaces, sensory features, trained assistance, fast-track services and pre-boarding options to help passengers and their companions navigate the airport with greater confidence and less stress.



Investing in the Future

Looking ahead, ongoing capital investment is planned to further enhance T2's facilities, operational efficiency and passenger experience. These improvements will strengthen the terminal's appeal to airline partners while supporting sustainable growth and KLIA's position as a preferred aviation hub.

A key initiative planned for 2027 is the implementation of a centralised screening system featuring 10 screening lanes equipped with C3 X-ray units located immediately after the departure immigration checkpoints. This will replace the existing individual screening checkpoints at Piers L, P and Q. Leveraging the latest screening technology, the system is designed to streamline passenger processing, improve passenger flows, reduce congestion and optimise terminal space while enhancing operational efficiency.

Further enhancements will include refreshed Open Gate lounges and a business lounge catering to premium and loyalty programme passengers.

Together, these improvements reflect Malaysia Airports' commitment to making T2 a more efficient, connected and passenger-centric terminal. With modern facilities, advanced technology, growing airline connectivity and continued investments, T2 is well-positioned to unlock new opportunities for airline partners while strengthening KLIA's position as a preferred regional aviation hub.

THE Grand Festive Table

DECEMBER 2026

From weekend Hi-Tea gatherings to unforgettable Christmas & New Year feasts, celebrate the season with grand roasts, festive favourites, live desserts and culinary delights.

HOLIDAY HI-TEA
Every weekend in December + Sultan Selangor's Birthday

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER | 24 DEC
Turkey • Beef Wellington • Seafood • Live Crêpes Suzette

CHRISTMAS HI-TEA | 25 – 27 DEC
Festive Roasts • Christmas Favourites • Live Tiramisu

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER | 31 DEC
Festive Roasts • Seafood • Live Desserts

NEW YEAR HI-TEA | 1–3 JAN 2027
Festive Favourites • Roasts • Seafood • Live Cannoli Napoli

12.00 PM – 3.30 PM
RM128+ (Adult) | **RM68+** (Child)

Spring/Summer 2027 Fashion shows

VALENTINO

For Spring/Summer 2027, Alessandro Michele explores the relationship between fashion, imagination and identity, bringing together Valentino's celebrated glamour with a spirit of eclectic expression.

At Paris Fashion Week, Valentino presented its Spring/Summer 2027 Ready-to-Wear collection under the creative direction of Alessandro Michele. Titled Valentino Antibiblioteca, the collection draws inspiration from the concept of an anti-library, a place associated with books yet to be read and possibilities yet to be discovered. Michele translates this idea into fashion, considering the wardrobe as more than a collection of garments. Instead, it becomes a space for imagined identities, personal expression and versions of ourselves that have yet to emerge.

This philosophy offers an interesting perspective on the way we dress. Rather than being guided solely by trends or conventional ideas of elegance, clothing becomes a means of exploring personality. Through unexpected combinations, decorative details and contrasting silhouettes, Michele encourages a more instinctive approach to style, one that allows individuality to take centre stage.

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

The collection balances structure with spontaneity, combining jewel-toned satin bustiers, pleated skirts and tailored jackets with delicate lace, feathers and intricate embellishments. Vivid fuchsia, electric lime and rich jewel tones bring colour to the runway, while contrasting textures lend depth to the silhouettes. Relaxed shirts, oversized tailoring and playful accessories introduce a casual edge, creating a dialogue between polished elegance and individual expression.











GLAMOUR REIMAGINED

Eveningwear brings the collection's theatrical spirit into focus. Ornate dresses, rhinestone embellishments, sculptural ruffles and fluid satin gowns demonstrate Michele's interest in clothing that captures attention through movement and detail. Sweeping silhouettes provide a sense of drama, while carefully considered finishes lend the pieces a polished quality.

Yet the collection is not defined by extravagance alone. More restrained designs offer moments of simplicity, creating a rhythm between statement dressing and understated sophistication. This balance allows the decorative elements to stand out without overwhelming the overall wardrobe. It also reflects a broader understanding of modern luxury, in which craftsmanship, personality and versatility can be as important as visual impact.

Menswear follows a similarly experimental direction. Relaxed tailoring and unconventional styling challenge the boundaries of traditional formalwear, introducing a more fluid relationship between structure and ease. Rather than presenting menswear and womenswear as entirely separate expressions, the collection places both within a shared vision of individuality, where styling choices are guided by character rather than convention.

GUCCI

For Spring/Summer 2027, Demna presents a new vision of Gucci, bringing together Italian sophistication, rebellious elegance and a cast of contrasting personalities within a collection that redefines modern luxury.

At Milan Fashion Week, Gucci unveiled The Store Show, a Spring/Summer 2027 collection that marks a defining moment in Demna's evolving vision for the Italian fashion house. Staged within an elaborate recreation of a Gucci flagship boutique, the presentation blurred the boundaries between a runway show and a retail experience. More than a backdrop, the setting offered a glimpse into the designer's imagined future for the brand, placing fashion within the wider world of Gucci's lifestyle and identity.







A WARDROBE OF CHARACTERS

At the heart of the collection is a study of contrasting personalities, described through three archetypes: the Rebellious Aristocrat, the Snob and the Eccentric. Each represents a different interpretation of luxury, from traditional refinement to unconventional self-expression. Rather than pursuing a single aesthetic, Demna builds a wardrobe that accommodates these opposing attitudes, reflecting the complexity of modern dressing.

The menswear introduces a distinctly Italian sensibility through cropped trousers, loafers worn without socks and sharply tailored jackets. Fitted silhouettes and sculptural shoulders create a clean, confident outline, while cropped, voluminous outerwear and relaxed denim bring a more casual dimension. Womenswear moves between equestrian-inspired dressing, precise tailoring and playful combinations of rugby shirts, pleated skirts and statement belts. The result is a collection that balances established codes of sophistication with a more rebellious spirit.

THE NEW LANGUAGE OF LUXURY

Accessories play a central role in reinforcing the collection's identity. Gucci's signature Horsebit motif appears in varied proportions, from bold statement hardware to more understated details across bags and belts. These familiar house codes are reinterpreted to complement the collection's contrasting silhouettes, connecting its contemporary direction with the brand's heritage.

As the show progresses, the mood shifts towards eveningwear. Sleek dresses, sensual draping and glamorous finishes introduce a more sophisticated expression of the collection, offering a counterpoint to the sharper tailoring and relaxed daywear. This movement between restraint and sensuality gives the wardrobe its distinctive rhythm.

Ultimately, The Store Show presents Gucci as a meeting place for different attitudes towards dressing. Through Demna's combination of Italian elegance, recognisable house signatures and unconventional styling, the collection proposes a vision of luxury shaped as much by personality as by appearance. It is a Gucci wardrobe designed for individuals who embrace tradition while finding their own ways to challenge it.



THE NEW HEIGHTS OF LUXURY

From iconic stilettos to exquisite evening sandals, discover the season's most desirable heels.

VALENTINO GARAVANI
Rockstud Kidskin Pumps
100mm
RM 1,230.00

Kidskin pumps featuring signature Rockstud embellishments and a metallic toe cap.



VALENTINO GARAVANI
Sinead Suede and Lace Pumps
105mm
RM 1,230.00

A refined pairing of suede and lace, finished with a metallic heel.



VALENTINO GARAVANI
Flutterby Kidskin Slide Sandal
105mm
RM 1,230.00

A sleek high heel sandal adorned with a delicate butterfly detail.



RENÉ CAOVILLA
Onda Chandelier Animalier Sandal
105mm
RM 9,939

A statement leopard print sandal embellished with hand-applied crystals and a signature wave motif.



RENÉ CAOVILLA
Rosalia black sandal
100mm
RM 7,935

A delicate interplay of texture and light, evoking the Maison's haute couture spirit, defines the Rosalia sandal.



RENÉ CAOVILLA
Chandelier Red Sandal
105mm
RM 9,243

A vibrant satin sandal adorned with shimmering red crystals for glamorous evening dressing.



A New Expression of Malaysian Luxury

Discovering the designers and pieces shaping the country's evolving fashion landscape.

CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN
La Pigalle Pumps
100mm
RM 5,500

Classic black patent leather pumps with a sleek pointed toe and signature red sole



CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN
Me Dolly
100mm
RM 4,800

Black patent leather mules featuring a peep toe, sculptural heel and signature red sole.



CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN
Miss Z Mesh
100mm
RM 6,900

Black mesh and lace pumps with a sleek stiletto heel and iconic red sole.



MANOLO BLAHNIK
Callasli Gold Nappa Leather Slingback Sandals
RM 3,595

Gold leather slingback sandals featuring crossover straps and elegant 90mm stiletto heels.



MANOLO BLAHNIK
Sorolla Black and Purple Satin Ankle Strap Pumps
RM 6,641

Satin pumps in contrasting black and purple, finished with an ankle strap for a refined statement.



MANOLO BLAHNIK
Camparisli Black Nappa Leather Pointed Toe Slingback Pumps
RM 4,053

Pointed toe leather pumps with a Mary Jane strap, grosgrain edging and a sleek slingback silhouette.





TESLA ROADSTER

A NEW DIMENSION OF ELECTRIC PERFORMANCE

Tesla has unveiled its long awaited next-generation Roadster, bringing a radical new vision of electric performance to the luxury automotive landscape. Revealed in Texas on 15 October 2026, the all electric sports car pushes beyond conventional expectations, combining dramatic styling, extraordinary acceleration and experimental technology developed in collaboration with SpaceX. With production targeted for 2028, the Roadster represents Tesla's ambition to redefine the boundaries of high-performance motoring.

At first glance, the Roadster presents a striking interpretation of the modern sports car. Its low profile, sculpted bodywork and streamlined silhouette reflect an emphasis on aerodynamic efficiency, while its compact two-seat configuration places the driving experience at the centre of its design. Rather than relying solely on traditional supercar proportions, the Roadster embraces a futuristic aesthetic that reflects Tesla's broader vision of automotive innovation.



Its most remarkable feature, however, lies beneath the surface. Developed with SpaceX engineers, the Roadster incorporates experimental cold gas thruster technology designed to deliver an extraordinary level of acceleration and manoeuvrability. During its unveiling, the vehicle was demonstrated travelling upside down along a specially designed ramp before performing aerial manoeuvres and landing with the assistance of its thrusters. The spectacle offered a glimpse of an automotive concept that draws inspiration from aerospace engineering, bringing the worlds of electric mobility and space technology closer together.

Performance remains central to the Roadster's appeal. Tesla's latest presentation included a claimed acceleration time of less than one second from zero to 60 mph, alongside a top speed exceeding 230 mph. The company has also described the car as capable of travelling more than 300 miles on a single charge. These figures underline the ambitions behind the project, although final production specifications and real-world performance remain to be established.

The Roadster is expected to be offered in three configurations: Performance, Thrust and Rocket. The Performance version forms the foundation of the range, while the Thrust variant adds acceleration thrusters for an even more extreme driving experience. At the top of the line-up sits the invite only Rocket configuration, which incorporates a more advanced flight system. This version is not approved for public road use, making it an experimental proposition rather than a conventional road-going supercar.

Beyond its headline figures, the Roadster also carries significance for Tesla itself. The original next-generation model was first announced in 2017, creating considerable anticipation among enthusiasts and prospective buyers. Its subsequent delays made it one of the automotive industry's most closely watched projects. The unveiling of the redesigned model therefore marks an important milestone, renewing interest in a vehicle that has long promised to challenge established ideas of electric performance.

BENEATH THE ARCTIC SKY

NORWAY IN WINTER: A JOURNEY INTO THE WORLD OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

Winter transforms Norway's northern reaches into a world of snow-covered mountains, frozen landscapes and deep blue twilight, where the quiet beauty of the Arctic becomes an experience in itself. Beyond the Arctic Circle, the season brings long nights and the possibility of witnessing the Northern Lights, one of nature's most extraordinary spectacles. Known as the aurora borealis, this natural phenomenon paints the night sky with shifting ribbons of green, sometimes accompanied by violet and pink, creating a display that feels almost otherworldly.

From September to late March, Northern Norway offers favourable conditions for aurora watching, with destinations such as Tromsø, Alta and the Lofoten Islands drawing travellers in search of this elusive spectacle. In Tromsø, the experience extends beyond the city into the surrounding fjords and wilderness, where guided Northern Lights excursions take visitors away from urban lights in pursuit of clearer skies. Further inland, Alta offers a quieter Arctic escape, while the Lofoten Islands present a dramatic setting of rugged peaks, fishing villages and dark coastal skies.

Yet winter in Norway is about more than the lights. Days unfold beneath a soft, blue winter glow, inviting travellers to explore the wilderness by dog sled, discover traditional Sámi culture or experience the stillness of the fjords. As evening falls, the journey can continue in glass-roofed cabins, intimate wilderness lodges and distinctive Arctic retreats, where contemporary comfort meets the raw beauty of the landscape. Local seafood and seasonal Nordic cuisine provide a fitting end to days spent outdoors, bringing warmth and refinement to the experience.



The Northern Lights can never be guaranteed, their appearance dependent on solar activity, darkness and clear skies. This uncertainty is part of their allure. In Norway, the reward lies not only in the possibility of seeing the sky come alive, but also in embracing a winter escape shaped by extraordinary scenery, quiet moments and the rare privilege of feeling close to the natural world.







SLEEPING UNDER THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

TWO EXCEPTIONAL RETREATS FOR CHASING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS IN NORWAY

THE ART OF ARCTIC LUXURY

As winter settles over Northern Norway, snow-covered landscapes, tranquil fjords and long Arctic nights create the setting for an extraordinary escape. For travellers seeking the Northern Lights, the journey becomes as much about where one stays as the spectacle itself. From contemporary glass cabins overlooking the wilderness to an ice hotel sculpted from snow, Norway offers a distinctive expression of luxury, where refined comfort meets the untamed beauty of the Arctic.





ÆRA

AN INTIMATE ESCAPE BENEATH THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

Set beside a picturesque fjord, approximately 35 minutes from Tromsø, ÆRA offers a distinctive interpretation of Arctic luxury, where contemporary comfort meets the untamed beauty of the Norwegian wilderness. Its Panorama Glass Lodges and Aurora Glass Cabins invite guests to admire the surrounding landscape through expansive windows, while the Aurora Igloos offer another intimate setting for watching the night sky. With the possibility of witnessing the Northern Lights from the comfort of their accommodation, guests can experience the magic of the Arctic at their own pace.

Beyond its distinctive stays, ÆRA offers a collection of experiences that bring travellers closer to the region's natural beauty and cultural heritage. An exclusive snowmobile adventure takes small groups deep into the Arctic mountains towards the Swedish border, with warm clothing, equipment and a wilderness meal included. Guests can also embark on a self-drive dog sledding experience, ride the Norwegian Lyngshest horse through the Arctic landscape or join local Sámi guides for an introduction to reindeer herding and traditional culture.



For a more indulgent experience, the King Crab dining experience offers an opportunity to select fresh king crab before it is prepared and served with simple accompaniments that allow its natural sweetness to shine. After a day of exploration, guests can unwind in the property's sauna or gather around a bonfire beneath the Arctic sky. At ÆRA, the appeal lies in this balance of adventure, cultural discovery and understated comfort, creating a winter retreat that extends well beyond the search for the Northern Lights.





As night falls, ÆRA's appeal lies in the quiet moments between each adventure. Guests can retreat to their private cabins, savour the stillness of the fjord or gather beside a crackling fire beneath a vast Arctic sky. Inside, the warmth and comfort of the accommodation offer a welcome contrast to the crisp winter air, creating an intimate setting in which to unwind after a day of exploration. While the Northern Lights remain dependent on weather conditions and solar activity, the surrounding wilderness offers its own unforgettable beauty, from snow-dusted peaks to reflections shimmering across dark waters. With opportunities to discover local traditions, indulge in distinctive dining experiences and explore the Arctic landscape at a leisurely pace, every stay becomes a journey of its own. It is this blend of thoughtful hospitality, immersive experiences and extraordinary natural surroundings that makes ÆRA a compelling choice for a winter escape in Norway, where the luxury lies as much in the moments of stillness as in the adventures themselves.

For those who wish to experience the Arctic beyond its natural spectacle, the surrounding region offers a wealth of discoveries. Tromsø provides an inviting introduction to life in the far north, with its distinctive Nordic architecture, cultural attractions and dining scene. Beyond the city, winding coastal roads reveal secluded villages, dramatic mountain formations and sweeping fjord views, offering countless opportunities to appreciate Norway's remarkable winter scenery.

The experience is equally rewarding for travellers drawn to the pleasures of slow living. Mornings begin with the quiet beauty of the landscape, while afternoons can be spent exploring the outdoors or returning to the warmth of the cabin after an exhilarating excursion. As daylight fades, the changing colours of the horizon create a captivating backdrop for an evening of relaxation, whether enjoyed over a carefully prepared meal or beneath the open sky.

Ultimately, ÆRA captures the appeal of contemporary Arctic travel through its balance of adventure, privacy and connection with nature. It offers an opportunity to step away from the pace of everyday life and embrace a different rhythm, shaped by the changing light, the stillness of the wilderness and the anticipation of the aurora. For travellers seeking a winter holiday with a sense of exclusivity and discovery, this intimate retreat presents a memorable way to experience Norway at its most enchanting.

ÆRA Panorama Glass Lodge

Address: Ullstindveien 736, 9023 Krokelvdalen, Norway

Tel.: +47 48 25 11 71



STORFJORD HOTEL

AN INTIMATE RETREAT AMONG NORWAY'S FJORDS

Tucked away on a wooded hillside overlooking the Storfjord in western Norway, Storfjord Hotel offers a secluded escape where traditional Norwegian craftsmanship meets understated luxury. Surrounded by towering pine trees and the dramatic peaks of the Sunnmøre Alps, the retreat embraces a slower pace of living, with handcrafted timber interiors, natural textures and panoramic views of the surrounding wilderness. Its 30 rooms and suites are spread across four timber buildings, each with its own character, while fireplaces and thoughtfully designed interiors create a warm sanctuary after a day outdoors. The Storfjord Suite, in particular, features a private balcony overlooking the fjord and mountains, offering an intimate connection with the landscape.





For guests seeking adventure, the hotel offers a variety of activities that showcase the natural beauty of the region. Fjord kayaking provides an opportunity to explore the tranquil waters at close quarters, while private fjord cruises reveal dramatic mountain scenery from the comfort of the hotel's boats. Hiking trails begin just beyond the property, leading through peaceful forests and towards the surrounding mountains. Guests can also embark on scenic drives along some of Norway's most beautiful roads, try fjord fishing or take a helicopter adventure for spectacular aerial views of the landscape. During winter, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing offer memorable ways to discover snow covered forests, while backcountry ski touring provides a more adventurous experience for those seeking the region's alpine terrain. A visit to nearby Ålesund, known for its distinctive Art Nouveau architecture and picturesque harbour, offers a cultural complement to the wilderness.

Dining is an essential part of the Storfjord experience, with seasonal menus shaped by local ingredients and the flavours of the surrounding region. The main dining room pairs carefully prepared dishes with the warmth of an open fire and views of the fjord. For a more intimate occasion, the Boathouse offers a seven-course seasonal menu prepared over open flames at a communal table beside the water. Guests can also discover the Lavvo, a secluded dining setting reached by a short walk through the forest, where an open fire creates an atmospheric backdrop for a distinctive meal. On Tuesdays, the hotel's wine cellar hosts sommelier-led tastings featuring four carefully selected wines, while Sunday brunch invites guests to enjoy a leisurely meal overlooking the fjord.





Beyond its culinary and outdoor



experiences, Storfjord encourages guests to embrace the restorative qualities of nature. Its wellness area features outdoor jacuzzis, a sauna overlooking the forest and treatments that can be arranged in advance. These facilities provide a welcome retreat after a day of hiking, skiing or exploring the surrounding waterways. Whether relaxing beneath the trees or settling beside the fireplace with a book, guests are invited to enjoy a sense of calm that feels increasingly rare in contemporary travel.

As winter settles over western Norway, the surrounding landscape takes on a quieter beauty, with crisp air, snow-covered mountains and the stillness of the fjord creating an atmospheric setting for a seasonal escape. Although Storfjord lies outside Norway's principal Northern Lights viewing region, aurora sightings may occasionally be possible when conditions are favourable. Its appeal lies instead in the opportunity to experience the country's fjords at a gentler pace, combining secluded accommodation, regional cuisine and outdoor discovery. At Storfjord Hotel, luxury is defined not by extravagance alone, but by the thoughtful details, natural surroundings and unhurried moments that make a stay feel deeply personal.

STORFJORD HOTEL

Address: Øvre Glomset, N-6260 Skodje, Norway

Tel.: +47 70 27 49 22

NILE CANOPUS

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE ETERNAL NILE



Some journeys are best experienced at a slower pace, where the destination is as much about the journey itself as the places along the way. Nile Canopus offers a distinctive way to discover Egypt aboard a 55-metre dahabeya, a traditional double-masted Nile cruiser that reimagines the elegance of travel during Egypt's Golden Era. Sailing between Luxor and Aswan, the experience brings guests closer to the landscapes, history and enduring rhythms of the Nile.

Accommodation aboard Nile Canopus is designed around understated elegance, with four suites and six cabins featuring bespoke teak and rattan furniture, brass beds, vintage Suzani textiles and Egyptian cotton linens. The interiors draw on traditional craftsmanship while offering the comforts expected of contemporary travel. Each of the four suites measures 17 square metres and features a private balcony, offering an intimate setting from which to watch the river drift past. The six cabins, measuring 15 square metres each, feature double windows that welcome the Egyptian sunlight, with king-size or twin bedding available.



Thoughtful amenities enhance the experience, including en-suite bathrooms with walk-in showers, individually controlled air conditioning, Nespresso machines, tea-making facilities and WiFi. Writing desks and vanities provide practical touches, while 24-hour housekeeping ensures attentive service throughout the journey. In the bathrooms, custom-made tiles, porcelain fittings and bespoke marble shower trays further reflect the attention given to the vessel's interiors.

Beyond the accommodation, Nile Canopus invites guests to enjoy the river from its indoor and outdoor spaces. Multiple decks provide room to relax in the open air, while a safari-style tent on the upper deck offers a distinctive setting to sit back and observe life along the Nile. Carefully selected antiques and custom-made Egyptian furnishings reinforce the vessel's connection to the country's heritage, creating an atmosphere that feels both personal and rooted in place.

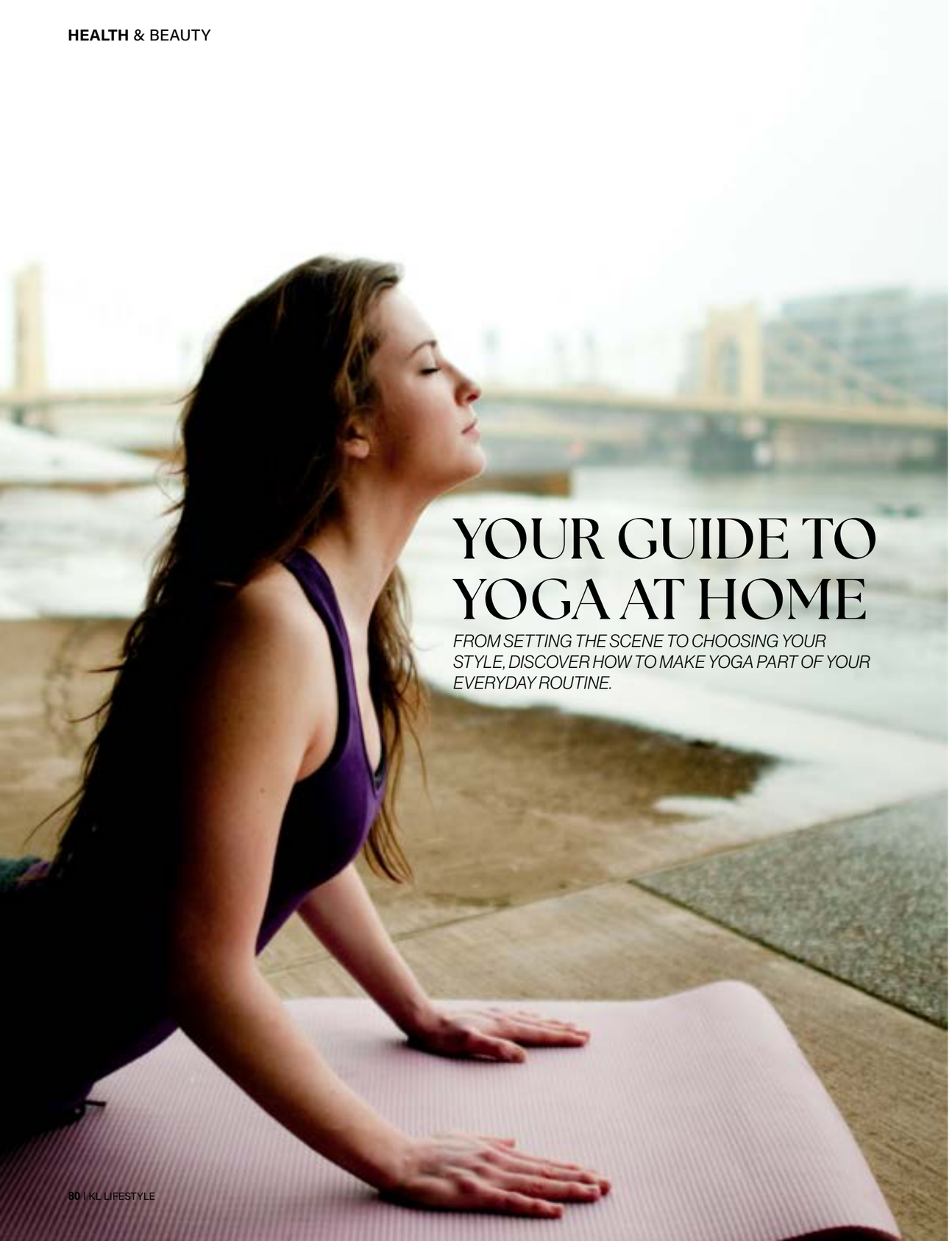


The journey also opens the way to Egypt's remarkable historical landmarks, including the temples of Esna and Kom Ombo. After a day exploring these ancient sites, guests can return to the quiet of the vessel, where the river breeze and passing scenery offer a welcome contrast to the intensity of sightseeing. At Nile Canopus, the appeal lies in experiencing Egypt not simply as a collection of monuments, but as a living landscape unfolding along one of the world's most storied rivers.

Nile Canopus

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YOUR GUIDE TO YOGA AT HOME

FROM SETTING THE SCENE TO CHOOSING YOUR STYLE, DISCOVER HOW TO MAKE YOGA PART OF YOUR EVERYDAY ROUTINE.



Wellness does not always require a reservation, a dedicated studio or an hour carved out of an already crowded schedule. Sometimes, all it takes is a little space, a yoga mat and the willingness to slow down. As the pace of everyday life continues to demand our attention, the appeal of practising yoga at home lies in its simplicity. There is no commute to make, no class to catch and no pressure to keep up with anyone else. Instead, the practice becomes a personal ritual, shaped around your own rhythm, energy and needs.

Beyond its physical benefits, yoga offers an opportunity to reconnect with the body and quieten the mind, even if only for a few moments each day. Whether you are a complete beginner or looking to bring greater consistency to an existing practice, creating a routine at home can be surprisingly straightforward. The secret lies in finding an approach that feels comfortable enough to return to, turning a few mindful moments into a habit that belongs entirely to you.

FINDING YOUR SPACE

You do not need a dedicated yoga studio to create a setting that encourages you to slow down. A quiet corner of the bedroom, a sunlit living room or even a spare stretch of floor can become a personal retreat, provided there is enough room to extend your arms, stretch your legs and move without obstruction. Choose a spot with good ventilation and a comfortable, stable surface for your mat. Natural light can lend the space a sense of calm, while keeping the area uncluttered helps minimise distractions. The most important consideration is not the size of the room, but whether it feels like somewhere you can return to with ease.

CHOOSING YOUR PRACTICE

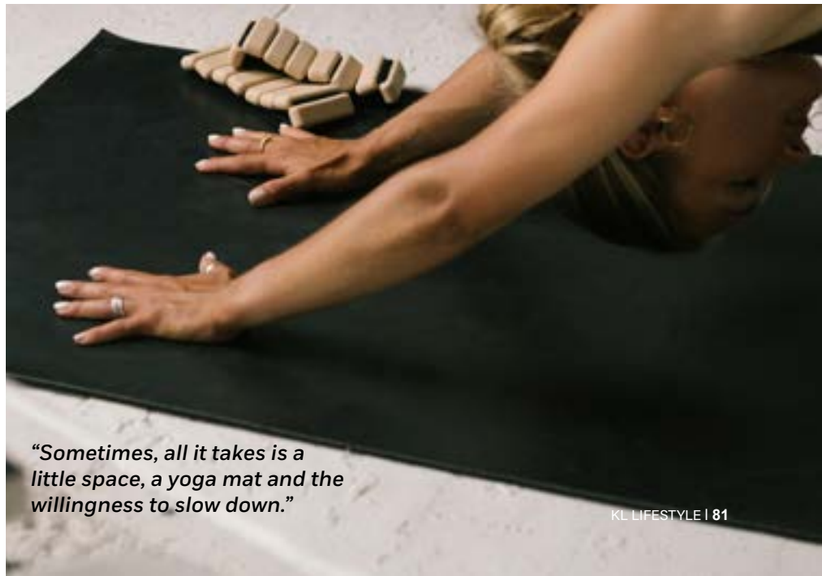
The beauty of yoga lies in its variety, with different styles offering different ways to move, breathe and unwind. Hatha yoga is a considered starting point for beginners, with its emphasis on foundational postures and a measured pace. Those who prefer a more dynamic session may gravitate towards Vinyasa, which links movement with breath, while Yin yoga offers a slower practice built around longer-held poses and gentle stretches. There is no single style suited to everyone. Consider your experience, energy levels and intentions for the day, allowing your practice to evolve as your confidence grows.

MAKING TIME FOR YOURSELF

A home practice need not occupy an entire morning to feel worthwhile. Even 10 to 15 minutes can provide an opportunity to stretch, move mindfully and step away from the demands of the day. Beginners may find it helpful to start with short, manageable sessions before gradually extending their practice as they become more comfortable. A longer session of 30 to 45 minutes may suit those with more time, but consistency matters more than duration. Whether it becomes part of a morning routine or a way to unwind in the evening, yoga is most sustainable when it fits naturally into everyday life.

SETTING THE MOOD WITH MUSIC

Music can subtly shape the atmosphere of a home yoga session, helping to create a sense of continuity between one movement and the next. Instrumental compositions, gentle piano, ambient soundscapes and nature-inspired recordings are all worth exploring, particularly if lyrics tend to distract you. For a more meditative practice, silence may be equally appealing, allowing attention to settle on the breath and the body's movements. More energetic sessions can accommodate a livelier soundtrack, provided the rhythm supports rather than dictates the practice. Let the music serve as a backdrop, not the focus. Ultimately, the right sound is whatever helps you feel present and comfortable in your own space.



"Sometimes, all it takes is a little space, a yoga mat and the willingness to slow down."



GOTESKIN: SKINCARE MADE SIMPLE

MAKING EVERYDAY SKINCARE LESS INTIMIDATING, ONE STEP AT A TIME.

Skincare need not be complicated to be effective. With GOTESKIN, the focus is on making daily skincare more approachable, particularly for men who may be unfamiliar with where to begin. Founded by Han Pin Ma, the brand aims to educate consumers about skin health while developing practical solutions for everyday concerns. Guided by the philosophy "It's Good For You", GOTESKIN seeks to simplify the skincare journey, encouraging men to take a more active role in their personal care and build confidence from the inside out.

One of the brand's defining features is its numbered skincare system, which guides users through the essential steps of a routine. Beginning with the Gentle Jelly Cleanser, the process continues with the Exfoliating Toner before finishing with the Hydrating Moisturiser. This straightforward approach helps remove some of the uncertainty surrounding product selection and application, making it easier for beginners to establish a consistent routine.

The collection also addresses specific skin concerns through targeted formulations. The Gentle Jelly Cleanser, enriched with cucumber extract, helps remove impurities while maintaining hydration. For those concerned with uneven texture and clogged pores, the Exfoliating Toner combines grape seed extract with salicylic acid to exfoliate and prepare the skin for subsequent products. The Plumping H.A. Serum features eight types of hyaluronic acid alongside snow mushroom extract and madecassoside to replenish moisture and support the skin barrier, while the Pore Minimising Serum uses 10 per cent niacinamide and tea tree oil extract to target excess oil and the appearance of pores.

Completing the routine, the Hydrating Moisturiser combines snow mushroom extract and ceramides to help retain moisture and support the skin's protective barrier. Together, these products reflect GOTESKIN's emphasis on straightforward skincare with clearly defined purposes. By placing education and ease of use at the centre of its philosophy, the brand encourages men to view skincare not as an elaborate ritual, but as a practical part of everyday wellbeing.

At its heart, GOTESKIN is about making self-care feel accessible and manageable. Through its step-by-step system and range of targeted products, the brand invites men to become more familiar with their skin, understand its needs and develop habits that support its long-term care.



1.1 GENTLE JELLY CLEANSER

With Cucumber Extract

Gently removes impurities while hydrating and soothing the skin.

3.1 HYDRATING MOISTURISER

With Snow Mushroom Extract

Replenishes moisture and helps maintain the skin's natural barrier.

2.0 EXFOLIATING TONER

With Grape Seed Extract

Exfoliates dead skin cells, helps unclog pores and refines skin. texture.

4.0 OIL CONTROL SUNSCREEN

Daily Sun Protection

The final step in a morning routine, designed to protect skin from daily sun exposure.

MOVEMBER: A MONTH FOR MEN'S HEALTH

BEYOND THE MOUSTACHE, MOVEMBER ENCOURAGES MEN TO PRIORITISE THEIR PHYSICAL HEALTH, MENTAL WELLBEING AND THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DETECTION.

Every November, men around the world grow moustaches to support Movember, a global campaign dedicated to improving men's health. Established in Australia in 2003, the initiative raises awareness of prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTION

Understanding personal health risks and recognising unusual changes are essential steps towards early detection. Regular health checks can help identify potential concerns, while conversations with healthcare professionals can guide decisions about appropriate screening.

A HEALTHIER MINDSET

Men's wellbeing extends beyond physical health. Stress, anxiety and depression can affect anyone, yet social expectations sometimes make it difficult for men to speak openly about their struggles. Maintaining meaningful connections and seeking professional support when needed can help improve mental wellbeing.

SMALL CHANGES, LASTING BENEFITS

Regular exercise, balanced nutrition, sufficient sleep and time to unwind all contribute to a healthier lifestyle. While Movember brings these issues into focus each November, caring for one's health should remain a year round priority.

Ultimately, Movember is about more than growing a moustache. It is a reminder that taking care of oneself and seeking help are essential steps towards a healthier, more fulfilling life.

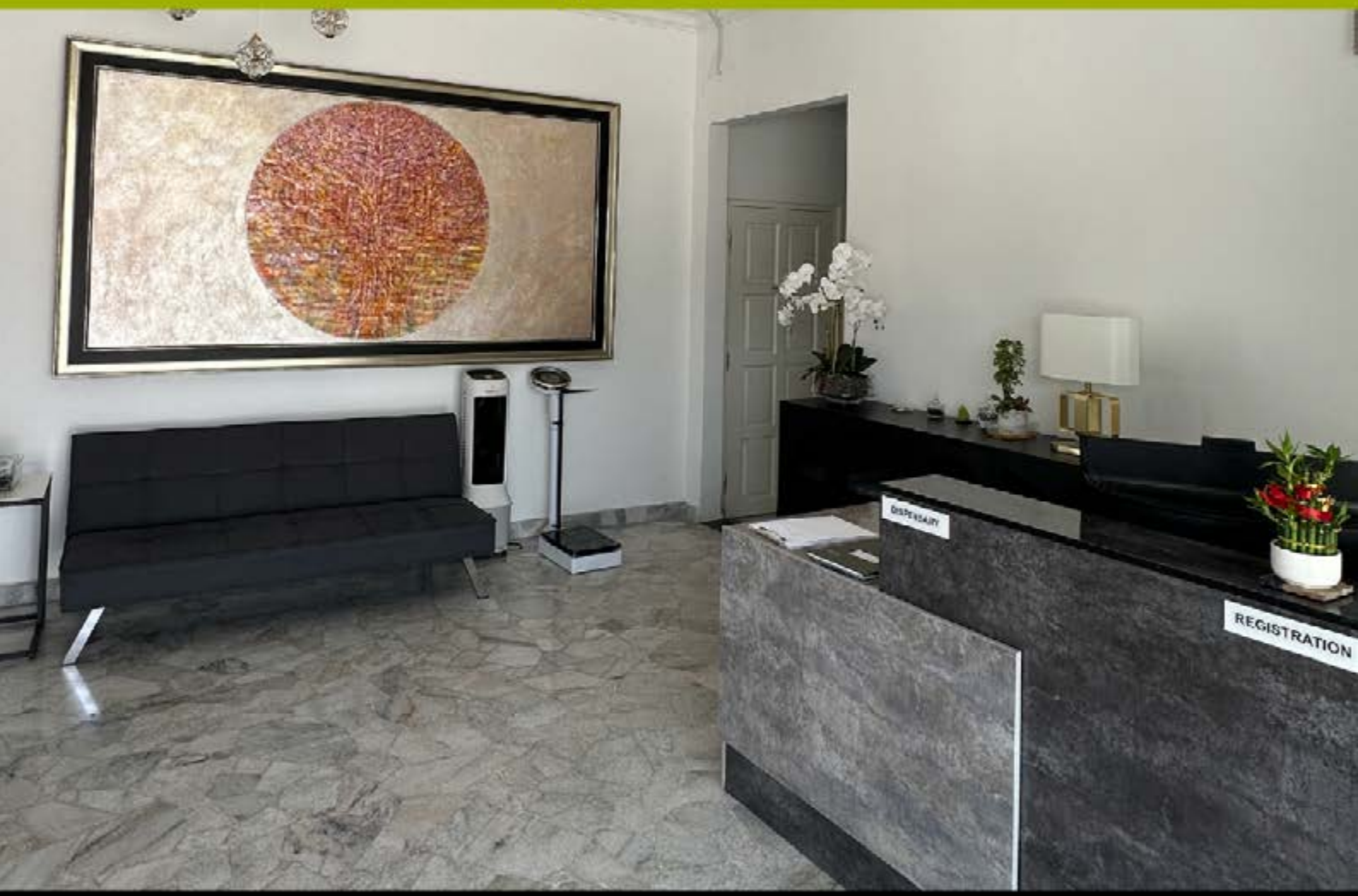

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