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SEPTEMBER 2018

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KLAS ART AUCTION

MALAYSIAN MODERN & CONTEMPORARY ART
SALE XXXIII

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31 JALAN UTARA, 46200 PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR

KLAS CELEBRATES *7* ILLUSTRIOUS YEARS IN 2018

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Only 35 years of age, Mark Raine is the Vice President of Sales and

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ART FEATURES

82 THE EMERALD TEMPLE- CHOO KENG KWANG & CHIA YU CHIAN

Wat Phra Kaew or The Temple of Emerald is one of the most photographed landmark attraction in Thailand and it's has inspired artists such as Choo Keng Kwang and Chia Yu Chian with its beauty.

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MUSED BY CHINESE ANCESTRAL TRADITION IS THE WORK OF A THRIVING PAINTER AND SCULPTOR, CHEONG YEE, WHOSE ART PIECES HAVE INSPIRED MANY ASPIRING ARTISTS.

85 NG ENG TENG'S TRIBUTE TO AN ART LEGEND

Frank Sullivan was Tunku Abdul Rahman's press secretary and this legend played a vital role in the Malaysia's art scene. Read to find out more about his pivotal role.

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ON THE COVER

KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

THE BEST GETS BETTER THIS MERDEKA

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PEUGEOT

MUST VISIT PRIVATE ART GALLERY



KL LIFESTYLE ART SPACE

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



KHALIL IBRAHIM The Art Journey COFFEE TABLE BOOK

Now exclusively available for
sale at KLAS @ Jalan Utara
RM 260

FOR ENQUIRIES CONTACT
INFO@MEDIATE.COM.MY
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WWW.KL-LIFESTYLE.COM.MY

31 JALAN UTARA, 46200 PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR

CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>30</p> <p>The Music of HANS ZIMMER</p> <p>THE MUSIC OF HANS ZIMMER SEPT 29 AND 30 DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS</p>						<p>01</p> <p>KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL 2018 AUG 31 TO SEPT 30 KUALA LUMPUR</p>
<p>Prajna paramita Heart Sutra Concert</p> <p>14-15-16 September 2018 Alpac, Penteras 1 Kuala Lumpur</p>	<p>SHORT SWEET COMEDY MALAYSIA</p>			<p>07</p> <p>MATTA FAIR 2018 SEPT 7 TO 9 PUTRA WORLD TRADE CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR</p>		<p>08</p> <p>ASIA PACIFIC MASTER GAMES 2018 SEPT 8 TO 16 PENANG</p>
<p>JIMMY CARR</p> <p>THE BEST OF ULTIMATE GOLD GREATEST HITS TOUR 14 SEPTEMBER 2018 FRIDAY, 7:30PM</p>	<p>STARLINE PRESENTS Scott Bradlee's POSTMODERN JUKEBOX</p> <p>KUALA LUMPUR SEPTEMBER 16 KL LIVE</p> <p>TICKETS ON SALE NOW</p>		<p>12</p> <p>SHORT+SWEET MALAYSIA 2018: S+S STAND-UP COMEDY & S+S SONG SEPT 12 TO 15 PENTAS 2, THE KUALA LUMPUR PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (KLPAK)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>THE MOSCOW CIRCUS MALAYSIA TOUR SEPT 13 TO 30 QUEENSBAY MALL</p>	<p>14</p> <p>JIMMY CARR: THE BEST OF, ULTIMATE GOLD, GREATEST HITS WORLD TOUR SEPT 14 HIGH CONVENTION CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR</p> <p>PRAJNA PARAMITA- HEART SUTRA RECITAL SEPT 14 TO 16 PENTAS 1, THE KUALA LUMPUR PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (KLPAK)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>SEMALAM DI MALAYA SEPT 15 AND 16 DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS</p>
<p>16</p> <p>HARI MALAYSIA SEPT 16</p>		<p>18</p> <p>CHAMBER CONCERT I SEP 18 DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS</p>				<p>22</p> <p>MOZART: THE FINAL SYMPHONIES SEPT 22 AND 23 DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS</p>
	<p>SEMALAM DI MALAYA</p>			<p>29</p> <p>YNGWIE MALMSTEEN LIVE IN MALAYSIA 9.09.2018 9:00 PM WAWASAN HALL, PGRM, KL</p>		<p>YNGWIE MALMSTEEN LIVE IN MALAYSIA SEPT 29 WAWASAN HALL, PGRM</p>

- PUBLIC HOLIDAY

MISCELLANEOUS



KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL 2018
AUG 31 TO SEPT 30
VENUE: KUALA LUMPUR

Diverse City presents the Kuala Lumpur International Arts Festival 2018 which will launch on Aug 31 and throughout the month of September. KLIAF 2018 will feature more than 20 music, dance, theatre, visual arts and literature events in over 10 venues in and around the city.

Diverse City advocates, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enriches people’s lives. It supports a range of activities across genres from theatre, digital art, and music to literature, fine art and crafts. Diverse City gives equal opportunity to renowned artistes as well as budding talents of tomorrow, both local and international, balancing tradition and contemporary.



MATTA FAIR 2018
SEPT 7 TO 9
VENUE: PUTRA WORLD TRADE CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR

MATTA Fair will provide visitors with a host of exciting and value-for-money travel options and excellent business and travel opportunities.



ASIA PACIFIC MASTER GAMES 2018
SEPT 8 TO 16
VENUE: PENANG

The first Asia Pacific Masters Games (APMG) will be held in Penang, from Sept 7 to 15. It is the first-ever masters multi-sport event in Asia. An estimated 10,000 participants from the Asia Pacific region are expected to participate in nine days of sporting challenge and excitement. It is a fantastic opportunity for those who love sport – an event featuring 21 sports played in one of South East Asia’s top island destination. The Asia Pacific Masters Games is a global festival of sport for participants of eligible ages and all capabilities. There is no qualifying or selection process involved. You just need to be of a certain age in your chosen sport. On average, the minimum age required to participate is 30 years old. The APMG 2018 features 21 sports. Athletes compete in their own age group and category – competitive, recreational or social. So the event is for everyone – regardless if you are a serious competitor or joining for fun.

07-09

THEATRE

SHORT + SWEET
STAND-UP COMEDY
MALAYSIA

SHORT+SWEET MALAYSIA 2018: S+S STAND-UP COMEDY & S+S SONG
SEPT 12 TO 15
VENUE: PENTAS 2, THE KUALA LUMPUR PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (KLPAAC)

Celebrating 11 years with a NEW category Short+Sweet FILM! With festivals in 14 countries, there is no stopping the SHORT+SWEET mania. Malaysia is no exception as the festival continues to grow here. We kick off in KL on 7 September with a brand NEW category S+S Film, followed by S+S Stand-Up Comedy+Song, Musical, Junior Dance (category for dancers 16 and below), Dance and finish off with Theatre ending on 4 November.

Ticket: RM50
Website: www.shortandsweetmalaysia.blogspot.com

MUST VISIT MUSEUM



SASANA KIJANG GALLERY
BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

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



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

SASANA KIJANG, 2 JALAN DATO’ ONN, 50480 KUALA LUMPUR
EMAIL: INFOMUSEUM@BNM.GOV.MY
FREE ADMISSION.
OPEN DAILY FROM 10AM TO 6PM.
CONTACT: +603 9179 2784



PRAJNA PARAMITA - HEART SUTRA RECITAL
SEPT 14 TO 16
VENUE: PENTAS 1, THE KUALA LUMPUR PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE (KLPAK)

Imee Ooi, JSJG and team of international dancers coming back to klpac after the successful tour of Sound of Wisdom and Sound of Metta concert series. Prajna Paramita - Heart Sutra Concert, a unique stage production created and directed by Imee Ooi, combining musical theatre arts with New-age and ancient sounds, presenting the Heart Sutra in different languages and dialects, with purpose to heal and touch heart and soul through serenity and energy of music.

Tickets: RM70 to RM150
Website: www.klpac.org



SEMALAM DI MALAYA
SEPT 15 AND 16
VENUE: DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS

2018 marks sixty-one years of Malaysian independence, and MPO kicks off the celebrations with a special tribute to musical icons of yesteryear including jazz great Alfonso Soliano, RTM pioneer Ahmad Merican and the beloved P. Ramlee. Enjoy a nostalgic stroll down memory lane as renowned Malaysian vocalists and the MPO breathe new life into timeless classics such as Semalam Di Malaya, Airmata Berderai, Tanah Pusaka and Hujan Di Tengahari.

Tickets: RM141 to RM358
Website: www.mpo.com.my

CLASSICAL

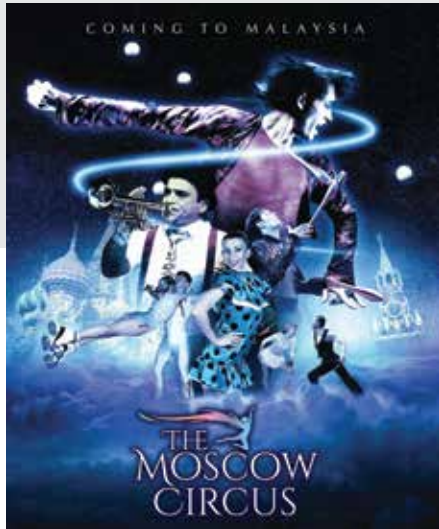


POSTMODERN JUKEBOX LIVE IN KL
SEPT 16
VENUE: KL LIVE@ LIFE CENTRE

Following their successful 2016 Malaysia show, Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox will return to Kuala Lumpur for a one-night only performance on the 16th September 2018. Since Bradlee created the project in 2009, PMJ has amassed more than 1 billion YouTube views and 3.2 million subscribers, chalked up more than 1.3 million likes on Facebook.

Escape reality and join us for the most sensational 1920s party this side of The Great Gatsby. Experience what it was like to be at the New Years' Eve show that Sinatra would have hosted in the 40s. Feel the excitement of hearing the greats of Motown live and up close.

Tickets: RM238 to RM328



THE MOSCOW CIRCUS MALAYSIA TOUR
SEPT 13 TO 30
VENUE: QUEENSBAY MALL

FEEL THE MAGIC!

For over 100 years, Russian circus acts have thrilled audiences around the world with dazzling performances that amaze, amuse and inspire. And now, for the very first time in Malaysia, elite performers from Moscow's two most famous circus companies - the Bolshoi and the Nikulin - are joining forces to captivate Malaysians on a never-before-seen 8-month nationwide tour!

Proudly animal-free, each performance will feature a two-hour long world-class programme including nearly 40 professional performers, and will take place under a 2,700-seater fully air-conditioned circus Big Top, the largest circus tent in Malaysia. Let the show begin!

Tickets: RM50 to RM280
Website: www.themoscowcircus.com.my

MUST VISIT PUBLIC ART GALLERY



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



LATIFF MOHIDIN: PAGO PAGO (1960-1969)
VENUE: ILHAM GALLERY KUALA LUMPUR

ILHAM Gallery is presenting Latiff Mohidin: Pago Pago (1960-1969) exhibition which commenced on 12 August, 2018 with a curatorial tour highlighting his key works by curator Shabbir Hussain Mustafa. Only on its first day of opening, the exhibition had an extraordinary turn out and welcomed more than sixty art fans whom all came to see Latiff's masterful creations.

Latiff Mohidin (b. 1941) is Malaysia's leading modernist painter and poet. This exhibition traces a formative period in the artist's practice in the 1960s as he journeyed across Europe and Southeast Asia. Latiff Mohidin coined the phrase "Pago Pago" to evoke the consciousness that emerged through these travels.

The exhibition is also in collaboration with the National Gallery Singapore and Centre Pompidou, Paris and will go on until 30 December, 2018.

LEVELS 3 & 5, ILHAM TOWER, NO 8, JALAN BINJAI,
50450 KUALA LUMPUR

EMAIL: INFO@ILHAMGALLERY.COM
ADMISSION TO ILHAM IS FREE

OPENING HOURS
TUESDAY - SATURDAY (11AM - 7PM) SUNDAYS (11AM - 5PM)
CLOSED ON MONDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

17-18

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

TOP

MOVIES

SEPTEMBER



JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN
SEPT 20

Whenever Great Britain is in grave danger, the glorious kingdom’s defenders turn to their elite undercover agents. When those guys can’t answer the phone, however, they call Johnny English. Comedian, Rowan Atkinson strikes again, reprising his role as MI7 secret agent Johnny English in this third instalment

of the “Johnny English” movie series. The new adventure begins when a cyberattack reveals the identities of all active undercover agents in Britain, leaving Johnny English as the secret service’s last hope. Called out of retirement, English dives headfirst into action with the mission to find the mastermind hacker. As a

man with few skills and analogue methods, Johnny English must overcome the challenges of modern technology to make this mission a success.

Genre: Comedy/Action
Director: David Kerr
Writer: William Davies
Stars: Jake Lacy, Olga Kurylenko, Rowan Atkinson.



THE PREDATOR
SEPT 13

From the outer reaches of space to the small-town streets of suburbia, the hunt comes home in Shane Black’s explosive reinvention of the Predator series. Now, the universe’s most lethal hunters are stronger, smarter and deadlier than ever before, having genetically upgraded themselves with DNA from other species. When a young boy accidentally triggers their return to Earth, only a ragtag crew of ex-soldiers and a disgruntled science teacher can prevent the end of the human race.

The suburban setting is nothing new, as that was rumoured for The Predator early on, but it’s still going to be different seeing the creatures in that type of landscape. By far the biggest reveal here is that the aliens are going to be genetically modified using DNA from various other species. While we have no idea what that those species are at the

moment and how that will benefit them, it doesn’t bode well for the humans in the movie. Predators have always been some of the most formidable aliens in cinema as is. How dangerous are they going to be with these upgrades? And to put the cherry on this whole thing, it’s a young kid’s fault that they’re going to be back on Earth in the first place.

For years, various filmmakers have been trying to recapture the magic of the original Predator in various ways. None have really even come close and this new franchise sounds like a truly crazy take on the OG. The new Predator follows a group

of men get stranded in a jungle with a beast of whom they do not speak of. One by one, they go missing and find skinned bodies in trees. Then, when only survivor of a previous beast encounter appears, they realise they are in worse trouble than they thought.

Genre: Action / Adventure / Horror
Director: Shane Black
Cast: Boyd Holbrook, Trevante Rhodes, Jacob Tremblay, Keegan-Michael Key, Olivia Munn, Sterling K. Brown, Alfie Allen, Jane Thomas, Augusto Aguilar, Jake Busey, Yvonne Strahovski.



MERCEDES-BENZ MALAYSIA UNVEILS ITS PINNACLE OF LUXURY- THE NEW S-CLASS FAMILY



From left : Hap Seng Star, General Manager, Sales & Marketing, Mr Sunny Tan; Mercedes-Benz Malaysia, General Manager of Sales, MJ Lim; Naza Corporation Holdings Automotive Group, Chief Executive Officer, Dato’ Samson Anand George and Naza Corporation Holdings Automotive Group, Deputy Group CEO, Devaraju Ramasamy.

Mercedes-Benz Malaysia recently unleashed upon Malaysia a complete and mighty range of its flagship class, the Mercedes-Benz S-Class family, at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. Made to suit discerning connoisseurs, this class comprises the Mercedes-Benz S450L AMG Line, Mercedes-Benz S 560 Cabriolet, Mercedes-AMG S63 Coupé and the embodiment of ultimate luxury, the Mercedes-Maybach S 560. Guests were in awe of the aesthetics and the futuristic functions of these pinnacle of luxury that they couldn’t resist but to take pictures with the cars. The



Mercedes Benz S-Class Family



Datuk Seri Abdul Jalil Bin Abdul Hamid, Chief Executive Officer of The New Straits Times Press (Malaysia) (left) and Datin Seri



Dato’ and Datin Michael Tio



Dato’ Richard Teo and Datin Winnie Loo



From left: Farza Naquraisha Rizrose, Nabil Jeffri, Arie Abdullah and Nyna Harizal



Celist QingQing entertains guest with her sultry jazz vocals



Mr Robert Dallimore, General Manager of Grand Hyatt Kuala Lumpur and spouse

exclusive launch saw a list of distinguished guests who were entertained by the wonderful tunes of Dato’ Mokhzani & the electric orchestra as well as celist QingQing and band.

The introduction of the complete range of its flagship class offers a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach which underlines the brand’s position as a leading luxury lifestyle brand. The S-Class Limousine, S-Class Cabriolet, S-Class Coupe and S-Class Maybach come together as the S-Class family, boasting class-leading luxury and exceptionality in every form. Each member of the S-Class family is designed in a contemporary manner, unrivalled appointment and paired it with intricate craftsmanship using only the finest materials for overall elevation of the motoring experience.

Guests were introduced to high technological standards, such as Distronic Plus semi-autonomous driving, Air Body Control suspension, Burmester Surround Sound system, and Widescreen Cockpit with COMAND Online infotainment. It comes as no surprise that the S-Class family leads the way for the brand and the premium automotive class with its aesthetics and specifications.



Chef Nathalie Arbefeuille (left) with host Sharizan Borhan



Nabil Jeffri

A talented and visionary Le Mans racer

BY SITI WAJIAH KHOLIL

At only 24 years of age, Nabil Jeffri is already creating a name for himself notching extraordinary achievements in the motorsports arena. At age 16, he became the youngest-ever Formula One test driver in history to race for the Lotus Racing Formula One team. In June this year, Nabil and his team pulled off a remarkable finish at 10th overall and 6th in the Le Mans Prototype 2 (LMP2) class at the prestigious World Endurance Championship (WEC) 24 Hours of Le Mans. Having been guided by the biggest names such as Petronas and AirAsia and recently becoming the ambassador for the Mercedes-AMG C43, something tells us that this is only the beginning of Nabil Jeffri.

HOW DID YOU GET INTO MOTORSPORT RACING?

I got into carting at first because of my dad. He was a car buff. He didn't have the opportunity or monetary support to go into racing when he was younger, but he did encourage me a lot to do carting since I was seven years old. From then on, I developed my own passion towards racing and it became a part of me. I was the one who wanted to go to the car track. Every weekend I would ask my dad to bring me to a carting circuit.

WHEN DID YOU HAVE YOUR FIRST TASTE OF CAR RACING?

The first time was in Fraser's Hill when I was four years old. Fraser's Hill had an old round track. I was so small in size at the time that I had to sit on my

maid's lap. I was the one steering while she controlled the pedals. So that was my first ever experience. Then when I was seven, I started doing carting and I remember every time I drove a cart, there was always this adrenaline rush in me and I loved the feeling. I love speed and there was something inside of me that told me if I didn't do this on a regular basis, I would feel incomplete.

HOW DOES YOUR FAMILY FEEL ABOUT RACING FOR A LIVING?

My mom is not completely okay with it. You know, being a mother. Of course she has her concerns. My dad, on the other hand, tells me to just go ahead and race. So there's a contradiction between them. But at the end of the day, I'm doing it for myself and despite it all,



my entire family has been very supportive since day one.

TELL US ABOUT HOW YOU BECAME THE C43 MERCEDES-BENZ AMG AMBASSADOR?

My best friend, Mus, met with Mark Raine (vice president of sales and marketing at Mercedes-Benz Malaysia) and Elaine Hew (its general manager of marketing communications at Mercedes-Benz Malaysia) and proposed me as a potential prospect. We got an appointment with them and luckily, Mark liked me and said that I was a match for their C43. After a month of preparing the documents, it was officially announced that I was the ambassador.

WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL TAKE ON THE C43 MERCEDES-BENZ AMG CAR AS THE AMBASSADOR?

Why I love it is because it's comfort plus sports. It's adjustable. The moment I'm driving with my mom, I can have it on eco mode. When I'm driving on my own, I have it on sports mode. It's comfortable and quick. I can drive it slow or with speed. I feel like it has the perfect balance for me.

SUCCESS DOESN'T COME EASY. SO WHAT WERE SOME OF THE CHALLENGES

YOU FACED? WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM THEM?

So many. I'm sure other people go through the same thing. What I've learned from it though is that you should always believe in what you feel is right. There were times when I was so close to quitting but my dad, trainer and those around me gave me encouragement. They said that I've come so far. Rather than looking what's coming, I should look at how far I've come, which was very motivating. The monetary aspect was always the issue for me because motorsport racing is very expensive. It's not easy to find the budget. But we never gave up.

WHAT'S YOUR PREPARATION LIKE BEFORE A RACE?

Preparation-wise, it's just a lot of fitness training. I train around three to five hours a day. Usually before the start of the season, you need to go for a physical test. For instance, you need to run a 10km in less than 40 minutes. Things like these, people don't really know. So we have to pass this test. Basically all drivers are fit. You need to be fit. Even cycling, you need to be at a certain level as well. I admit, it was tough at first and I had to train for it, but I love running and training. So it was natural for me.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO THOSE WHO ASPIRE TO BE LIKE YOU? WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE TO THEM?

My advice is to never give up. Also, when you decide to race, make sure you still continue your studies. If you don't have proper education, it won't bring you far. You can do sports until you're 30 but if you have proper education, it can sustain you until you're 50 and above. I studied business administration at Taylor's. I did it because I knew that later on in my life, I might need it.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR NABIL JEFFRI?

I love racing a lot but I realise that racing alone is not enough to sustain my life. It has always been my passion but it's not something that is sustainable when I'm 45 years old in the future. So I have plans to set up an academy to help kids aged six to seven to enter racing as there's no platform for them. I don't plan on taking all their time but maybe a few hours a week to educate them about racing. I want to help them identify whether they have the interest and talent for racing and guide them from there. I hope that having an academy later on in my life, I'll be able to help young Malaysians achieve their dreams.

Mark Raine

Leading Mercedes-Benz to great heights

BY SITI WAJIAH KHOLIL

Mark Raine, at only age 35, is the vice president of sales and marketing for passenger cars at Mercedes-Benz Malaysia. Being half British and half German and growing up in South Africa, his diverse background and multicultural exposure adult has broadened his experiences to easily adjust to where his path leads him. Down-to-earth, charismatic, progressive, energetic and packed with immense intellect, there is no denying that he is truly worthy of his position.

HOW DID YOUR JOURNEY INTO MERCEDES-BENZ, ONE OF THE MOST PROMINENT AUTOMOBILE BRANDS IN THE WORLD, BEGIN?

I was doing my A-Levels in South Africa. At that age and during that time, it was very clear to me that I wanted to move back to Europe. I was not focused necessarily on Germany. I just happened to stumble across this programme from Mercedes-Benz and I applied. I went for the interview. Thankfully, they liked me and the rest is history.

DID YOU ALWAYS KNOW THAT YOU WANTED TO DO SALES AND MARKETING?

In the beginning when you start studying and working, you might find what interests you and the direction in which you want to go. Did I at that stage of my life know 100 per cent that it was going to be my destiny? No. But I quickly came to the realisation that I love what I was doing and it fit my talent and skills. For me, it was very imminent that I wanted to work with markets facing customers. I enjoy the day-to-day interaction with our customers and dealers. It drives me and makes me get up every morning.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF MALAYSIA?

When I came to Malaysia for the very first time, it was for a business trip. Kuala Lumpur as a city reminded me very much of growing up in South Africa, from the look, feel and even the surroundings. What surprised me was the diversity. From an outsider's point of view, the country is so diverse and very rich in culture and religions that it works magically. It's such a unique trait of Malaysia. From the different cuisines, religions, languages and places, it's interesting to see all the differences. There was this melting pot which surprised me and it's something that you only get to experience when you live in Malaysia for a long time. Coming from another region, this was to me, very unexpected.

YOU'VE BEEN LIVING IN MALAYSIA FOR THREE YEARS. IN THE BEGINNING, WAS IT EASY FOR YOU TO ADAPT AND ADJUST?

Yes, because of my background having grown up in South Africa and living in Dubai for work; it helped me a lot. Adjusting became natural to me. Living in Malaysia is very easy and the people here are extremely accepting of me and my family. One thing that is beneficial about living in Malaysia as an expat is that English is predominantly used among Malaysians. Even though there is the Malay, Chinese and Tamil language, but most people are very good at conversing in English. So you can communicate very easily. At first, I tried to learn Bahasa Melayu, but most conversations ended up being in English, which in the end helped me a lot.

HOW ABOUT MALAYSIAN FOOD?

I love it. Don't ask me which is my favourite because having to choose is already so difficult. For me, it's not only the food or cuisine as such, but it's also the culture around the food. It's fantastic. You see all these cafes and restaurants, and there are even these hipster places which I love to explore with my family. What makes my job so interesting in Malaysia is that we have 34 dealer outlets and I visit them on a regular basis. This week I'm going to Kuching and Kota Kinabalu. Wherever I go in Malaysia, people take me out for lunch or dinner. So when I go visit the dealers, I get to experience different types of restaurants, food stalls and cuisines. I just love travelling to Kota Kinabalu because the seafood there is fantastic. The food in Penang too; I just indulge because it's amazing.

RECENTLY MERCEDES-BENZ LAUNCHED THE S CLASS FAMILY. TELL US ABOUT THE

EVENT.

The S Class has been one of our most popular cars. It's got a timeless contemporary design, state-of-the-art safety and assistant systems in terms of technology and an immaculate ride comfort. There are luxury elements and superior craftsmanship with semi-autonomous driving features combined with the interior highlights such as the widescreen cockpit display and the high-end surround sound system. It is the pinnacle of luxury.

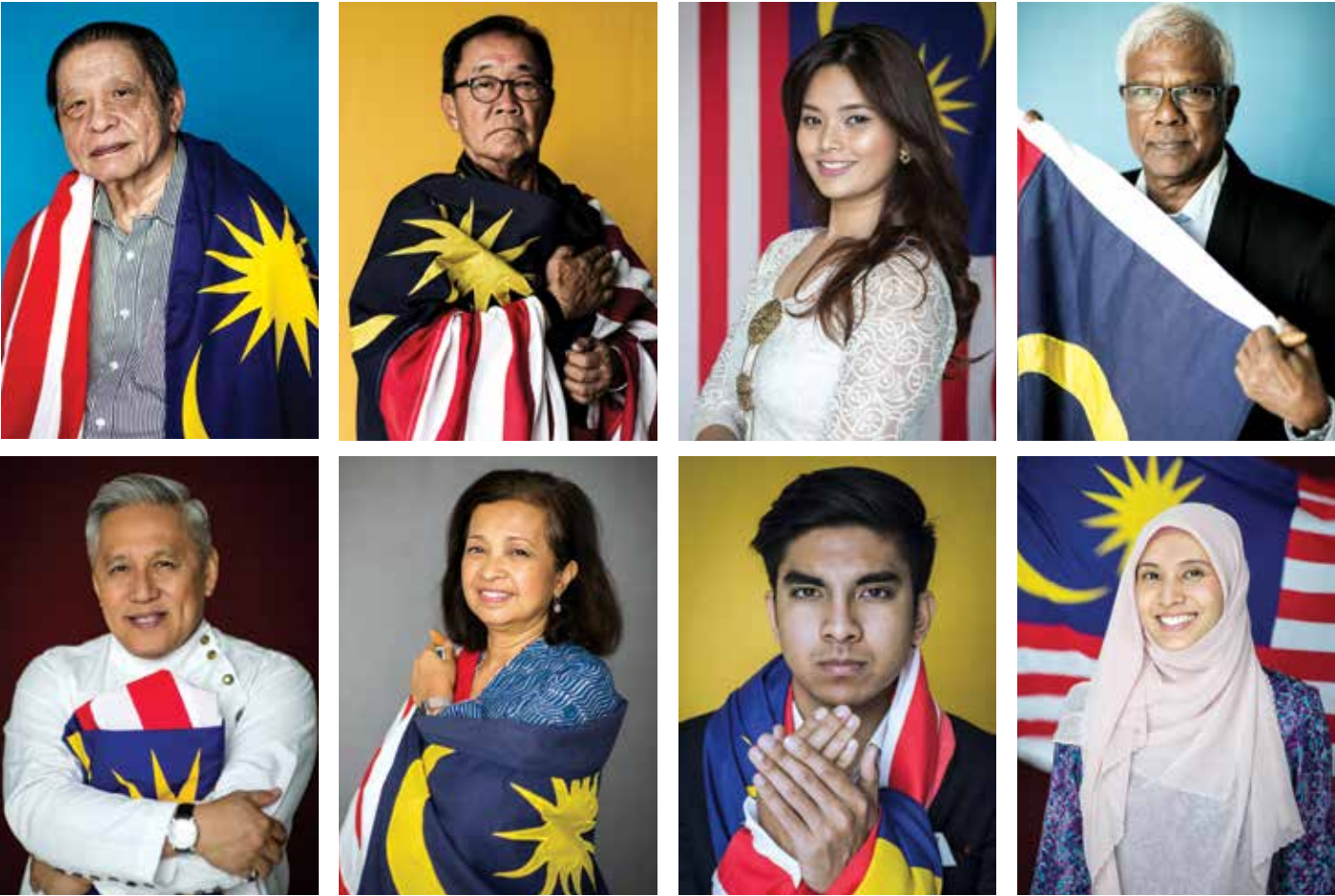
The feedback has been great. We've taken many orders. The people love the design. They love the luxury and exclusivity of this vehicle. They like the changes and upgrade of what we have done with our product. For instance, this product comes with the AMG line which gives a sporty youthful appeal. The features such as the panoramic sun roof is very unique and a very specific Mercedes-Benz feature, making this car the best in class. Hence, living up to the Mercedes-Benz heritage and legacy of being the inventor of automobiles.

IN A YEAR, OFTEN MERCEDES-BENZ LAUNCHES SO MANY MODELS AT ONCE. HOW DO YOU PRIORITISE WHICH CAR TO LAUNCH AND WHEN?

We always want to bring the newest product to the Malaysian market as quickly as possible. It's important that there's a close proximity between the global launch and the Malaysian launch. So that's one of the determining factors. Also, we have specific highlights, for instance, twice a year we have the Mercedes-Benz driving test experience in Sepang. So we normally link back to that for a launch of a car, especially performance cars or dream cars as they fit nicely into the Sepang race track.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR MERCEDES-BENZ?

We've grown our business. Our sales are up by more than 15% to date. We've further expanded our number one premium leadership position in Malaysia, which means most of our customers in that segment choose Mercedes-Benz over any other products. In the course of the later part of this year, we plan to launch the A Class and the next generation C Class. As our big highlights, we will also be launching dream cars which are the brand shapers of our product range and we're very excited.



STRIPES AND STROKES EXHIBITION

Celebrating the colours of Malaysia

BY SITI WAJIIHAH KHOLIL

In the spirit of commemorating Malaysia’s 61st anniversary of independence this Aug 31, 2018, Georgetown Festival (GTF) Penang is holding the 'Stripes and Strokes' exhibition which started on Aug 14 and ends on Sept 2 at Dewan Sri Pinang . The event featured a set of portraits of various Malaysian personalities posing with the Malaysian flag, captured by Malaysia’s home-grown talented photographer, Mooreyameen Mohamad.

Also, the public was able to experience a portraiture photography for free conducted by the photographer himself on Aug 11 and 26 from 3pm to 5pm at Bangunan U.A.B. The purpose of this segment was to spread awareness of portraiture, providing the public with a better understanding of the art of capturing portraits with a hands-on crash course.

BEHIND THE MALAYSIAN FLAG

Originally exhibited as '60x60', the photographs were shot and exhibited in 2017 in celebration of the previous year’s independence. The photography project is a collection of 60 individual portraits of Malaysians from a cross-section of society. However, this year, GTF exhibits only 28 specially selected portraits from the full collection, showing the diverse faces of Malaysia. The variety includes the difference in age and race, against the

flag that unites them as a symbol of harmony and solidarity among the people of Malaysia. To Yameen, these photos represent not just pride and hope, but also the rejection of religious extremism, authoritarian intimidation and a rebellion against all that try to suppress the people's desire to live a life full of colour and glory, just like the Malaysian flag.

The portraiture project of featuring the Malaysian



flag or 'Jalur Gemilang' (Glorious Stripes) is of major significance. The first is to show that the flag is more than just a mere banner to hang on a tall flagpole, hung in government offices or making a cameo every now and then on the television screen. It’s to encourage Malaysians to get physically closer to the flag and incite them to feel the patriotic connection of what the flag embodies and represents. Secondly, the portraits serve as an encapsulation of what Malaysians look like after 61 years of independence. The project showcases each and every subject’s own story, struggles and triumphs for the past, present and future, and, collectively, of Malaysia, which will in turn be compiled into a book.

ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER
Born in Kuching, Sarawak,

Mooreyameen Mohamad graduated from the University of Edinburgh with a B.Eng (Honours) in Mechanical Engineering and from New York Institute of Photography. He joined Shell Malaysia in 1998 and his first major assignment was to be the area engineer for the Northern reGLON, based in Butterworth, Penang. Since then he has worked in Kuala Lumpur, The Hague and Jakarta.

In 2011, Yameen produced the Evening Edition for BFM radio, culminating in a nomination for the International Visitor Leadership Program. In 2012, he joined Petronas Lubricants International and spoke at industry conferences in Singapore and London. In 2015, he joined Petra Group and is now its chief of staff.

Yameen is the result of a mixed marriage and in some sense, has struggled with the idea of Malaysia, feeling that it’s a country that is uncomfortable with itself. However, having resided in Kuala Lumpur for the past 18 years, he has encountered various prominent figures whom he finds amazing. Not just because they are famous, kind, generous or highly accomplished, but because they are all a representation of what a life in Malaysia could potentially be against the odds. It was at this point that he was struck with the idea, the colours.

“Just as I am a child of a mixed marriage, I have been surrounded by people of various skin colours, incalculable number of different family backgrounds and life goals. It’s all possible here and

the possibilities are still endless,” said Yameen.

Yameen who once thought of leaving the country had a change of heart as he realised what he loves about Malaysia, symbolised by the colours in the ‘stripes of glory’, Jalur Gemilang, the Malaysian flag.

“Each of the subject that I have included in the book, famous or otherwise, is an individual that represents the wonderful kaleidoscope of Malaysian society. I am proud of each of them. I wanted to capture this feeling of pride, and hope - because our memories are fragile – so I will forever remember why I never made the move to leave,” he said.



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DS OWNERSHIP EXCLUSIVES:



Best of Malaysian Street food

Flavours of Malaysia

BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN

We are so lucky to be born in a country that is a paradise for food; we have everything one might ever crave for and this is what makes Malaysia unique. That said, we believe that the true Malaysian flavours are best presented through our street food, be it Indian, Chinese or Malay. Following is a list of our favourite Malaysian street food. Happy reading and eating!



Rojak Buah

Rojak buah is essentially a Malaysian rendition of a salad. Its sweet-and-sour taste is owed to the medley of fruits chopped into bite-sized pieces and generously doused with a shrimp-based sauce and garnished with crushed peanuts. The secret to a good rojak buah lies in its sauce. It has to be a perfect amalgamation of tanginess and sweetness to bring together the flavours emitted by the fruits.

Satay

Honestly, who doesn't love satay? Whether eaten as a snack or a meal on its own, this Malaysian delicacy can be found in almost every nook and cranny. While simple in appearance, if made right, it can send one into ecstasy. The marination of the meat, distribution of meat and fat on the skewer as well as the peanut sauce play an important role in the making of a good satay.



Hokkien Mee

One of the most popular noodle dishes in Kuala Lumpur has to be the Hokkien Mee. Braised in dark sauce, this guilty pleasure is seductive and heavenly on the taste buds. The mark of a good Hokkien Mee can be judged through the method of cooking; the best Hokkien noodles are usually made using charcoal fire.



Vadai

Ahh Vadai... its crispy on the outside and fluffy on the inside. The texture is light on the palate while the subtle hints of spices are almost like planned piquancy. The flexibility of this snack allows it to be eaten on its own, with dhal curry or Indian yoghurt (with various spices mixed in). Complement the Vadai with a glass of steaming masala chaiya; it's the perfect tea time or rainy day snack.

Lok Lok

We find Lok Lok best eaten with a group of people, huddled around the Lok Lok van and anxiously awaiting their skewers of choice to be cooked. Not only can it suit even the most discerning of palates, it also has a myriad of choices, and let's be honest, it's a pretty fun process picking the skewers and boiling these. Alternatively, for more flavouring, request for the choices to be fried. You can thank us later.



Putumayam

Putumayam is an all-time favourite. Back in the day, we could always hear the putumayam uncle before we saw him. Blaring the bicycle horn to announce his presence, he always came armed with a case full of steaming putumayam, fresh grated coconut and brown sugar. It is rather interesting how this simple snack can be utterly delicious for children as well as adults to indulge in.



WAN CHUN TING

Wan Chun Ting of Sofitel Kuala Lumpur Damansara is taking a traditional approach with a modern twist to the renowned Chinese delicacy. Making a debut is the limited edition Musang King Mooncake. Encased in a soft snowskin, it promises to bewitch you with its rich sweetness. The snowskin collection also boasts its new addition, the Sesame Seed Paste with Pine Nuts comprising smooth sesame seed paste accompanied with a generous serving of pine nuts. The Tiramisu with Cheese Truffle will delight those with a penchant for smooth, buttery toffee while the Matcha Paste with Champagne and Valrhona Caramella stands out with its melding flavours of the light matcha paste, the compelling taste of butter caramel and hints of sweetness from the champagne. Our favourite is the White Chocolate wit yam filling that is enough to intrigue without overwhelming the senses.

Mid Autumn Festival Cometh

Mooncake Mania

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

The Mid-Autumn Festival is my favourite Chinese festival after Chinese New Year, mainly because of the mooncakes. Can you blame me? The Mid-Autumn Festival is essentially a harvest festival, similar to Ponggal or Hari Gawai and this festival is celebrated in most East Asian countries, such as China and Vietnam. The festival takes place on the 15th of the eight month in the Chinese calendar. This year, it falls on Sept 24 and we have listed three places to get your mooncake fix.



HILTON KL

Boasting a pastiche of colours and a touch of opulence, Hilton Kuala Lumpur's offerings make this year's mooncake gifting a luxurious affair. Inspired by Malaysia's leading international fashion designer, Khoon Hoo, the exclusive and elegant mooncake gift box comes in a sleek satchel shape for your loved ones. Enveloped in brocade fabric used in Khoon Hoo's Fall collection, choose between the limited-edition Midnight Bloom or the collector's edition Blossom series box.

HÄAGEN-DAZS

This year, Häagen-Dazs introduces an extraordinary range of ice cream mooncakes featuring contemporary designs and exquisite flavours, showcasing the spectacle of the roundest moon. With five different sets to choose from, patrons are spoilt for choice between the Lune et Etoiles, Twinkle Night Mix, Mochi Collection, Line Friends Collection and Crispy Collection which can be paired with the special X Tea Forte hamper. Embrace the extraordinary celebration with Haagen Dazs lip-smacking ice cream mooncakes.



Best of Indian Fine Dining

Journey through an Odyssey of Spices

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



QURESHI

With branches in India, Oman and United Arab Emirates, it can be presumed that Qureshi only serves the crème de la crème. This renowned restaurant's history dates back to a chef, Imtiaz Qureshi, who used to prepare food for the royals back then. At Qureshi, you are in for a royal, treat featuring robust, original flavours of the yesteryear.

Address: Ground Floor, East Wing, TPC Kuala Lumpur No 10, Jalan 1/70D, Off Jalan Bukit Kiara, 60000 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: +603-2011 1007
Email: info@qureshi-intl.com

DELHI ROYALE

Serving the best of Northern Indian cuisine in an opulent and cosy ambience is Delhi Royale. Situated in the heart of the city, it appeals to patrons who appreciate a good tikka, kulcha, paneer and not forgetting guilty pleasures such as the gulab jamun to halwa. To complete the experience, get your hands on the array of cocktails and libations offered here.

Address: No. 33, Lots 2 & 3 (Ground Floor), Wisma Longrich, Jalan Yap Kwan Seng 50450, Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: 03 - 2165 1555
Email: info@delhiroyale.com



NADODI

Paying tribute to the rich history of nomadic gastronomy, Nadodi cleverly pairs modern cooking techniques with traditional recipes, bringing forth the flavours spanning Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka. Only the freshest, exclusively-sourced ingredients make it to the table and each dish is presented in the craftiest manner.

Address: Lot 183, 1st Floor, Jalan Mayang, Off Jalan Yap Kwan Seng 50450 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: +603 2181 4334
Email: info@nadodikl.com

Best of
Malay Fine Dining
Relish in Traditional Malay Flavours

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



BIJAN BAR & RESTAURANT

Bijan Bar & Restaurant is an award-winning establishment in Kuala Lumpur. Its ambience is warm and cosy with the interior, exotic and traditional. This restaurant boasts traditional and authentic Malay cuisine in an elegant setting. Its extensive wine list is the perfect accompaniment to the utterly delicious fare.

*Address: No. 3, Jalan Ceylon,
50200 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: + 603 2031 3575
Email : admin@bijanrestaurant.com*



BUNGA EMAS RESTAURANT

Tucked in The Royale Chulan Hotel Kuala Lumpur, Bunga Emas Restaurant is a fine-dining eatery that offers classic Malay dishes from oxtail soup to desserts such as bubur pulut hitam. The regal ambience contributes to a perfect date night with your other half or just to pamper oneself with some glorious food.

*Address: The Royale Chulan Kuala Lumpur,
6 Jalan Conlay, 50450 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: 03-2688 9688*



ENAK KUALA LUMPUR

Located under the roof of Starhill Gallery, Enak Kuala Lumpur is a stylish Malay fine-dining restaurant that uses family recipes that have been passed down through generations. This certainly makes its offerings special. Relish in harmoniously balanced flavours that are distinctively Malay here.

*Address: Feast Village Starhill Gallery at JW
Marriott Kuala Lumpur, 181, Jalan Bukit Bintang,
55100 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: +60 3 2782 3875
Email: feastvillage@ytlhotels.com.my*

Best of
Chinese Fine Dining
Oriental Flair

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN



WAN CHUN TING

Wan Chun Ting, which translates to Ten Thousand Springs Pavilion is the ultimate location for sophisticated Cantonese and Imperial dining in Kuala Lumpur. Elegantly designed, the main dining area reflects the refined blend of the east and west with rich dark timber note complimented by a soft touch of architectural detail. Elements of Chinese-inspired silhouettes and luxurious textures with accents of traditional pieces add the exclusivity and further elevate one's dining experience.

*Address: Sofitel Kuala Lumpur, 6,
Jalan Damanlela, Bukit Damansara,
50490 Kuala Lumpur.
Email: HA123-FB4@SOFITEL.COM
Tel: (03) 2272 6688*



SHANG PALACE

Shang Palace is Shangri-La Hotel's resident Chinese cuisine restaurant. This pork-free restaurant offers guests a contemporary twist to the culinary traditions of south-eastern China, and gets rave reviews on its dim sum. The classy ambience is elevated by traditional-meet-contemporary embellishments.

*Address: 11, Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur,
50250 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: 03-2074 3904*



LAI PO HEEN

Specialising in classic Cantonese delicacies and dim sum specialties, Lai Po Heen is inspired by the great ancestral homes of 19th Century Chinese tycoons. The décor is simply stunning with high ceilings, ornate chandeliers and beautiful parquet flooring. Guests can watch as the restaurant's illustrious chefs showcase their skills in an open kitchen, effortlessly preparing signature delights such as black pepper beef tenderloin and handmade dim sum.

*Address: Mandarin Oriental Kuala Lumpur, 50088 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: +60 (3) 2179 8885*

CHEESE

BY SITI WAJIAH KHOU

CHEESE HUNTERS, YOU ARE IN FOR A TREAT AS THIS MONTH WE SHARE WITH YOU THE MOST POPULAR CHEESE DISHES AND WHERE TO FIND THEM. BE SURE TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT AND MAKE YOUR WAY THERE FOR SOME DELICIOUS, APPETISING CHEESY GOODNESS.

MAC AND CHEESE

An American classic dish that is a family favourite and loved by kids is the mac and cheese. Tasty and cheesy, it's a comfort food that's just satisfying to your taste buds. If you have a profound love for it, I highly recommend you to visit Burnin' Pit, The Humble Chef or Thirty8. Their mac and cheese is absolutely delicious. Be forewarned, you will get hooked and crave for more. Don't be surprised if you find yourself making multiple visits every month.

LASAGNE

With thick tomato sauce, sheets of cooked pasta, savoury meat bits and abundant cheese, lasagne is an Italian dish that is highly sought-after. A food of comfort and tantalising taste, it's the cheese that completes the flavours. It helps balance the strong taste of the tomato sauce. A few places you can explore which serve the best of lasagnes in Klang Valley are Souled Out, Porto Romano and Jamaica Blue Fine Coffees.

CHEESY FRIED CHICKEN

Korean fried chicken seems to be the trend in Klang Valley, especially the ones that are wrapped in a lot of cheese. This urban Korean food is becoming a top favourite among patrons to a point where most eateries which serve it have people lining up in long queues to get it. People enjoy it as the cheese is 100 percent authentic mozzarella or mixed with various cheeses. Make your way to K'Fry, Nanda Chicken or Omay.

RACLETTE CHEESE

The past years saw the popularity of raclette cheese style dinners. While you enjoy your potatoes, lean meats, vegetables and more, you're served mouth-watering melted cheese that oozes onto your plate of dish. This has become such a hit due to how aesthetically pleasing it is as well as the satisfying sight of seeing the melted cheese flood on your plate. This is a definite heaven-on-earth

experience for cheese lovers. For a must-visit raclette cheese dinner experience, head to Cocott'. However, it's only served a few nights a month.

PIZZA

Who doesn't eat pizza? Everybody loves pizza. It's easy to find, delicious to eat and suits many celebrative occasions. However, cheese play such a significant role in making a pizza holistically tasty. Whether the cheese is mozzarella, parmesan or cheddar, a good-quality cheese determines how authentic the taste of the pizza is. When its stringy and flavourful, people love it even more. Topped with the right ingredients, it's phenomenal. Where can you get the best pizza? We highly recommend you Truffle Pizza from Botanica & Co., La Risata or Villa Danielli.



LISTINGS OF CITROEN SHOWROOMS & SERVICE CENTRE

NAZA EURO MOTORS HQ (GLENMARIE)

NEM Glenmarie Showroom(1S) No 15, Jalan Pelukis U1/46 Seksyen U1, Glenmarie 40150 Shah Alam Selangor
www.citroen.com.my
Sales : 03-5566 3685

NAZA EURO MOTORS (PUCHONG)

Lot No. 18, 19 & 20GF, IOI BUSINESS PARK, Persiaran Puchong Jaya Selatan, Bandar Puchong Jaya, 47170 Puchong, Selangor
Sales : 03-8076 1788

SING HUAT PREMIUM SDN BHD

No. 11, Jalan Satu, Off Jalan Chan Sow Lin, Sungai Besi, Wilayah Persekutuan, 55200 Kuala Lumpur
Sales : +60 3-9222 9126

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RM687

BOTTEGA VENETA
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AQUAZZURA
Seduction PVC and Leather Sandals
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ERDEM
Jio Floral-print Cotton-blend Faille Peplum Top
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CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN
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RIXO LONDON
Imogen Polka-Dot Crepe Top
RM804

MISSONI
Metallic stretch-knit wide-leg pants
RM3,737

Moisturisers for Men

Looking Good Isn't Self-Importance; It's Self-Respect

BY HIRANMAYIL AWLI MOHANAN

Grooming is an integral part of one's wellbeing. Looking good is one's armour to feel confident to take on the reality of everyday life. Skincare is an essential part of grooming, just as it is to women. Moisturisers especially, leaves one's skin looking supple, young and fresh. We took the liberty to list down moisturisers for men.



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This is a regenerating balm that is ideal as a daily nourishing, repairing and protective treatment for hair and body. Formulated with 99% natural butters and oils, including prickly pear seed oil, shea oil, cocoa oil, rice bran oil and almond oil, this universal product is a great alternative to silicone-based oils and serums. Prickly pear seed oil is a rare ingredient with powerful regenerating and restorative antioxidants. You can even use it as an intense treatment for the hands and feet. Simply apply the balm and slip on cotton gloves and socks for that added nourishment. Take it with you wherever you go to nourish, repair, protect and soften your hair and skin.



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Man with a Mission

TAN SRI YAHYA AWANG

BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN



Tan Sri Dr Yahya Awang needs no introduction. He is a humble man, from a distinguished family. Dr Yahya was born in Singapore on Sept 7, 1950. He graduated as a medical doctor from Monash University, Melbourne in 1974. After his graduation, he worked as a medical officer in Johor Bahru Hospital and Kota Tinggi Hospital. Later, he was transferred to Kuala Lumpur Hospital where he trained as a surgical registrar. In pursuit of more knowledge, he set his course to obtain the Fellowship of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons (FRCS) Glasgow in 1980.

Following the FRCS, Dr Yahya trained as a cardiac surgeon at Brompton Hospital in London for the next three years. Upon his return to Malaysia, he was attached to the Kuala Lumpur General Hospital and it was there where he realised there were a multitude of patients with heart disease who were in dire need of surgical intervention. It was a feat as during that time, cardiac surgery was still in its budding phase and KLGH simply lacked the facilities and medical personnel to cope with the surge in the number of patients. Most patients had to be kept on a long waiting list who would eventually succumb to their conditions or resort to treating it abroad.

This was when Dr Yahya played an instrumental and pioneering role in developing cardiac surgery in Malaysia. One might dub him the godfather of cardiac surgery in Malaysia. Realising the need for a specialised centre in cardiothoracic surgery and cardiology, with the help of the then Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his colleagues, Insitut Jantung Negara (IJN) was born. Dr Yahya spearheaded this establishment as the Head of Cardiac Surgery and continued to help the masses. With more than 30 years of experience in the industry, he has revolutionised cardiothoracic surgery and performed more than 5,000 surgeries.

In 1989, Dr Yahya had the daunting task of leading the surgery in both of Dr Mahathir's cardiac coronary bypass surgeries which were evidently successful. With the fate of the prime minister in hands, he gathered a team of the best surgeons in Malaysia. In a recent reunion

entitled, 'Doctors in the House' in conjunction with prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir's 93rd birthday, the prime minister attributed his good health to Dr Yahya. When asked on his choice to undergo his surgery locally, Tun Dr Mahathir answered that he was practising leadership by example and he wouldn't be practising it if he were to travel elsewhere for his surgery. He went on to mention that it was due to the surgery that he coined, 'Malaysia Boleh' and believed we could achieve anything we set our minds to. These were the monumental milestones that also instilled faith in the hearts of Malaysians to undergo cardiac surgery locally.

During his tenure at IJN, Dr Yahya established the Clinical Research Unit, which enabled the institute to undertake various clinical research and the collection of relevant clinical data in cardiac surgery. Since then, he has published a whopping 23 scientific papers in local and international scientific journals and made 15 presentations at various conferences. His appointment as president of the Asian Cardiac Surgical Society (1992-1994) led him to representing Malaysia in numerous international conferences pertaining to cardiac surgery.

Thanks to Dr Yahya, Malaysia is placed on the regional map as an excellent training centre for cardiac surgery and has since attracted trainees from Indonesia, Japan, Yemen, Myanmar and Bangladesh as mentioned in the 'Doctors in the House' interview. In addition, he founded the IJN Foundation, an organisation that provides financial assistance to financially disadvantaged patients requiring cardiac surgery, scholarships for cardiac trainees and research on heart diseases. It is noteworthy how cardiac surgical services have contributed towards medical tourism in this country, attracting patients from neighbouring countries such as Indonesia, Brunei and Myanmar, as well as the Middle East.

Besides that, Dr Yahya was influential in the training of cardiac surgeons and cardiac paramedics to cater to the needs of the nation. This man was responsible for the establishments of cardiac centres at Kuala

Lumpur Hospital, IJN and as a result now, cardiac surgical services are available across Malaysia. From an initial number of three cardiac surgeons in 1984, there are now over 57 in Malaysia and more continue to train and be trained.

Dr Yahya and his colleagues founded the Malaysian Cardiac Surgical Society of which he became its founding president in 1992. The society played an active role in regulating standards, credentials and accreditation of cardiac surgical services in Malaysia. Besides the major centres under the Health Ministry's hospitals, Tan Sri Dr Yahya also assisted in the establishment of cardiac surgery services in UKM and USM, Kubang Kerian. He carried out the first open-heart surgeries in these university hospitals.

Adding to his decorated belt of achievements was performing the very first heart transplant in Malaysia in 1997. With the assistance of a skilled and dedicated team, he successfully did the operation. Dr Yahya was the consultant cardiothoracic surgeon at Damansara Specialist Hospital, the chairman of the National Transplant Registry and a Council Member of the Association of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeons of Asia, and was appointed as the pro-chancellor of University Technology Malaysia (UTM).

His passion to help the masses led him to take cardiac surgery and cardiology in Malaysia to great heights. Dr Yahya hasn't stopped yet; his recent accomplishment was the inauguration of Cardiac Vascular Sentral Kuala Lumpur (CVSKL), a well-equipped hospital with a strong team of cardiac, vascular and related specialists under one roof. In conjunction with the launch of CVSKL, KL lifestyle magazine chatted with this esteemed gentleman on his humble beginnings and his journey in cardiothoracic surgery.

You come from a distinguished family of doctors. Were you ever pressured into medicine?

I wasn't pressured but because I come from a family of doctors, we often talked about sick people during dinner. I floated into this specialty of my own will and passion. My family never forced me.

Why Cardiology?

When I got my postgraduate degree in 1968 or 1969, my colleague, Dr Razali Watut told me that Malaysia lacked heart surgeons and there were many people on the waiting list that awaited our help. So I decided that I should play my role and contribute to the country.

Your father was the state governor of Penang. Did you feel the urge to follow his footsteps?

I never liked politics.

In your interview with BFM, you stated that IJN was born due to the lack of beds and facilities for cardiothoracic surgery in the KL General Hospital. Can you elaborate?

Yes. When we first operated on Dr Mahathir at GH, there was an opening for me to ask Tun for more beds there which led to him asking me the list of needs for the hospital. I told Tun in all honesty that we needed a stand-alone heart hospital to cater to Malaysians because at that time, GH simply lacked the resources. With the help of Dr Mahathir, IJN was born.

Tan Sri, IJN was founded in 1992 and CVSKL recently. How has cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery advanced since 1992?

I think there have been a lot of advancement in cardiology. In cardiothoracic surgery, of course, there are some advances but largely the advancement lies in cardiology. For example, the stents are now better and can last longer. Even in electrophysiology, they are doing a much better job for the patients with ablations and there are newer methods of ablation.

Can you please tell us how was CVSKL born and what did it entail?

Well, when I was in KPJ, I always had a dream that we should have more facilities, more equipment and services under one roof. When the opportunity arose and there were investors who wanted me to spearhead the project, I took on the opportunity and thereafter, CVSKL was born. I intend to make it the best hospital in Malaysia.

How do you select the doctors or specialists that come on board?

I didn't do the selection process alone. There was a panel of doctors and from there we identified the expertise in the various fields and approached them. We screened a lot of doctors but only about 14 joined us and they're all under one roof in CVSKL. The criteria that we looked for in the selected doctors were them being renowned in the field, good in their job, being compassionate and wanting to contribute back to society.

Relate to us the experience of performing the first heart transplant in Malaysia. What was it like and what did it entail?

The pressure was immense at the time but we simply had to take it on because we didn't want Malaysia to lag behind in terms of technology and expertise. We had a long list of people waiting with end-stage heart disease and we waited for the right opportunity and the donor. The very first donor for the heart transplant was from Ipoh.

How do you identify the donor for a heart transplant?

We take into consideration the term brain death, which means the brain is dead and has ceased to function but the heart is still beating. For heart transplants, we only take on patients or donors who are brain dead in medical term.

What were the challenges faced during that heart transplant?

The biggest challenge was to get the donor's heart into the recipient as soon as possible within the time limit. We had about four hours to do it and we managed to perform during the time span and the patient lived for many years after that.

Did you have any second thoughts before the surgery?

We did a lot of practice. We went to Universiti Putra Malaysia and performed experiments on sheep to familiarise ourselves with the procedure.

How many surgeries have you performed to date?

I can't remember but I believe it's been more than 5,000 surgeries.

Do you plan to put down the scalpel anytime soon?

I think I've raised the bar higher, now the retirement age is 95 (laughs). No, I don't have any retirement plan soon. I will carry on until such time that I myself know it's time to step back. I think I have a few more years and I want to see CVSKL succeed.

What is the mission and vision of CVSKL?

There are various missions and visions but the focus is to be the best. Secondly, we want to help the government in terms of our CSR. We want to be seen as a hospital that does CSR, not just any private hospital. Of course, as a private hospital we must make profit but that is then channelled into improving services to cater to the needs of the nation. We want Malaysians to have access to the highest technologies available pertaining to the heart and we will continue pushing ourselves in that arena, as well as promote medical tourism which is a revenue generator for Malaysia.

You performed two coronary artery bypass surgeries on Tun Dr Mahathir. Share with us the experience of operating on Tun.

I am human, so naturally I was nervous. But once I started getting into the groove of the surgery, the full concentration on the surgery itself eliminated all the fears I had. The surgery was quite straight - forward; I followed all the protocols and the standard operating procedures. There is such a thing as medical confidentiality so I am not able to divulge further on the procedure.

We watched the 'Doctors in the House' interview with yourself, Tun Dr Mahathir and Tun Dr Siti Hasmah on Astro Awani and in that interview, Dr Mahathir attributed his well-being to you. What are your thoughts on that?

It was an entire team actually; I was just one of the many. One of the reasons we perform bypass surgery is to improve longevity and Tun Dr Mahathir is living proof that it works. Also, Tun is a very disciplined man; he looks after his diet, he exercises, works hard and he keeps his mind ticking all the time. I think all these are attributed to his longevity apart from genetics of course.



BREATHING LIFE IN THE HEARTBEAT OF KUALA LUMPUR

Malaysia’s Prime Minister Launches Nation’s First Private Cardiac and Vascular Specialist



Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad during a photo moment at the Launch of Cardiac Vascular Sentral KL. On his left is Tan Sri Dato’ Dr. Yahya bin Awang (Chairman of CVSKL) and on his right is YAM Tunku Besar Seri Menanti Tunku Ali Redhaudin Ibnu Tuanku Muhriz (Chairman of CVS Holdings)

It was a momentous occasion when Cardiac Vascular Sentral Kuala Lumpur (CVSKL), one of the region’s first private cardiac and vascular specialist hospitals, was launched on Aug 16 by Malaysia’s Prime Minister, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The launch saw 300 distinguished guests in attendance including Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali, ministers, chief ministers and foreign dignitaries, industry players and government officials. As the prime minister, his wife, VVIPs and guests settled in, the event begun with a welcome speech by Cardiac Vascular Sentral KL Chairman, Tan Sri Dr Yahya Awang.

In his speech, he shared, “We wish to help reduce some of the government’s healthcare burden by providing Malaysians with a private option when it comes to cardiac and vascular diseases. We are able to offer our facilities, expertise and strengths, and would like to be recognised as a private hospital with CSR element delivering excellent care to our patients.”

Together, with TE Asia Healthcare, the hospital was founded on the chairman’s vision of a private hospital filled with experienced and established clinicians to provide top-class facilities to enhance cardiac and vascular care in the country and region.



Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad along with Tan Sri Dato’ Dr. Yahya bin Awang (Chairman of CVSKL), Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yacop, Dato’ Seri Azmin Ali (Minister of Economic Affairs), Dato’ Dr. Sharifah Suraya (Medical Director CVSKL), Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, and YAM Tunku Besar Seri Menanti Tunku Ali Redhaudin Ibnu Tuanku Muhriz (Chairman of CVS Holdings)



Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad on other prominent VVIPs on tour of the Operation Theatre in CVSKL

Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad signing a plaque to officiate the Launch of Cardiac Vascular Sentral KL. On his left is Tan Sri Dato’ Dr. Yahya bin Awang (Chairman of CVSKL) and on his right is YAM Tunku Besar Seri Menanti Tunku Ali Redhaudin Ibnu Tuanku Muhriz (Chairman of CVS Holdings)

The highlight of CVSKL’s grand launch was the plaque signing which took place after an insightful address by the prime minister. Then, led by Dr Yahya the prime minister and his wife were brought on a tour of CVSKL from the operating theatre to the catheterisation laboratories. Guests too toured the centre, virtually, through a large screen.

Since its opening in November 2017, CVSKL has treated thousands of outpatients and performed more than 70 cardiothoracic surgeries, 260 vascular and endovascular surgeries and 600 catherisation procedures.

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SCENE AT THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF CVSKL

The launch saw 300 distinguished guests in attendance including Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali, ministers, chief ministers and foreign dignitaries, industry players and government officials. As the prime minister, his wife, VVIPs and guests settled in, the event begun with a welcome speech by Cardiac Vascular Sentral KL Chairman, Tan Sri Dr Yahya Awang.



AIRLINK

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AIRLINK

AIRPORT TALK

Since the beginning of this year, we have embarked on several mission trips aimed at building stronger commitment and more mutually beneficial relationships with our airline partners. In our mission to Indonesia, we met up with several airlines such as Garuda and its low-cost carrier Citilink, Sriwijaya Air and Lion Air Group's affiliate airlines.

One of the main objectives of the trip is to touch base with their respective headquarters on their progress and plans for Malaysia. We are happy to note that Citilink, which had commenced its Jakarta flight to Penang in March, is planning to introduce more new routes to Malaysia this year. It recently announced its new international route from Banyuwangi in East Java to Kuala Lumpur.

Following our fruitful visit, Wings Air, an airline under the Lion Air Group's umbrella, launched its Medan-Melaka route in April. We are currently in talks with the Group to launch more flights to several destinations in Sabah later this year.

In our airline mission to India later this month, we will be wooing potential airlines to start their operations in Malaysia. India is one of the key priority markets for us besides China and ASEAN. Since there is no Indian-based carrier in Malaysia currently, we urge them to exercise their traffic rights and to take advantage of the growing passenger traffic between the two countries.

Within Malaysia, we have also been intensifying our engagements with existing airlines operating in our international airports such as Penang and Kota Kinabalu as part of our "health checks". During such airline visits, we are there to assure them of our continuous support and the offerings or incentives that are available at all the airports managed by us.

Acting CEO Speaks

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

This month, Raja Azmi Raja Nazuddin shares the relentless airline marketing efforts undertaken by Malaysia Airports to engage with its airline stakeholders in some of its key markets within and outside of Malaysia.

We also recognise that it is through the strong support and votes from our airline partners that our flagship, KL International Airport, emerged top in the over 20 million passengers per annum category in Routes Asia 2018 Marketing Awards held in Brisbane, Australia earlier this year.

We look forward to such continuous support at the upcoming World Route Development Forum or World Routes in Guangzhou, China, which has been the platform for us to not only develop more routes but also gain invaluable insights on key air service development issues affecting the route development community as a whole during the conference.

In our latest passenger traffic report for July, we are happy to note that our network of international and domestic airports recorded the highest monthly passenger movements for the year, surpassing the December passenger movements of previous years. Our international passenger movements of 4.6 million, the highest ever recorded for a month, was achieved with an average load factor of 78.4%. Coupled with the positive demand for international travel, we remain confident of the uptrend in passenger movements to our airports.



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China Remains Key to Malaysia's Growth

China and Malaysia celebrate 44 strong years of diplomatic relations this year, underscoring how the former has remained as Malaysia's largest trading partner for nine consecutive years besides being the top investor in Malaysia's manufacturing industry the last two years running.

The country has also been a main construction contracting partner to Malaysia for many years now. It continues to take the lead in terms of investments in Malaysia in 2018. According to Bai Tian, China's ambassador to Malaysia, bilateral trade between the two rose 14.7% from January to May to RM170.94 billion with

three Chinese companies announcing RM1.2 billion worth of investments into Malaysia immediately after the 9 May polls.

Bilateral trade between China and Malaysia last year stood at RM376.6 billion, attracting investors such as Jack Ma, executive chairman and founder of Alibaba Group, China's leading e-commerce company. Alibaba will be involved in a greenfield investment under phase two of the Digital Free Trade Zone (DFTZ) at KLIA Aeropolis via a partnership between its logistics arm, Cainiao Smart Logistics Network and Malaysia Airports.

At DFTZ's launch last November, Ma said he would provide the technology and platform to facilitate cross-border trading and e-commerce adoption by local small and medium enterprises. He returned in June this year to open his Alibaba's office in Bangsar South, which houses the group's first overseas electronic world trade platform (eWTP) hub.

Malaysia Airports partnered with Alipay last year to provide cashless conveniences, particularly to travellers from mainland China at over 60% of the retail outlets at KL International Airport (KLIA) and klia2. Alipay is also available at Malaysia Airports' other international airports such as Langkawi International Airport.

According to Alipay, Malaysia is the ninth largest market worldwide for Chinese tourists' spending overseas, recording an average per capita spend of RM635.97 during the recent three-day annual May Day holiday celebrated in China. Alipay is a third-party mobile and online payment platform by Ant Financial, an affiliate of Alibaba. It is accepted in over 18,000 merchants in Malaysia.

China's contribution to tourism

China also serves an important source market for Malaysia in terms of tourism. Out of the 25.9 million tourist arrivals to Malaysia last year, it contributed 2.28 million tourists after Singapore and Indonesia.

Last November, Malaysia Airports entered into a strategic collaboration with Tourism Malaysia to boost tourist arrivals from China and other key markets such as India and Europe. It is expecting to receive more tourists from China during the second half this year due to the latter's Golden Week holidays from October 1-7.

To facilitate inbound traffic from China into Malaysia, Tourism Malaysia launched a Chinese Affairs Travellers Help Desk at KLIA last year, making it the first Southeast Asian airport to do so. China is one of the key markets besides India and the Southeast Asian countries that will make up 75% of international passenger traffic in 2018 for Malaysia Airports.

Its growth potential has been largely aided by the government-to-government initiatives on visa relaxation as well as new and aggressive routes expansion mounted by the various airlines. Cultural similarities between China and Malaysia have also helped to be a key driver in drawing Chinese tourists to Malaysia, including Chinese applicants for Malaysia My Second Home (MM2H), whereby the Bank of China is a key partner in the financial aspect of this programme.

According to Malaysia Airports, Chinese carriers such as XiamenAir flew from Fuzhou to Kota Kinabalu on 9 January 2017 while low-cost Lucky Air from Kunming added Kuala Lumpur (KL) to its international network on 23 January 2017.

A member of the HNA Group, Lucky Air has switched to Airbus 320 on 18 May this year for its four weekly flights. Another low-cost carrier which has been servicing the Chinese market is AirAsia. Its president of China, Kathleen Tan, said, "We started flying to China since 2004. Currently, we serve 374 flights weekly covering 16 cities from mainland China.

"Apart from Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Guangzhou, the rest are tier two cities. However, if we are to look at Greater China, which includes Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, we have altogether 564 flights a week. "I believe we are the biggest low-cost carrier serving China, the world's largest source of outbound market."

Tan disclosed that plans are afoot to launch flights from KL to Tianjin and Zhengzhou in Henan province in the next few months. She also pointed out that AirAsia was the first carrier to link China directly to Sarawak when it commenced its Kuching-Shenzhen route on 26 December 2017.

Besides AirAsia, other local carriers like Malaysia Airlines have also opened up new Chinese destinations to Nanjing, Wuhan, Fuzhou, Chongqing from KLIA last year while Malindo Air's new destination launches included Guangzhou and Haikou. Meanwhile, the Langkawi International Airport welcomed China Southern Airlines, the world's six largest airline, from Guangzhou to its legendary island last year.

Come mid-October this year, Shenzhen Airlines will be mounting its inaugural four times weekly flights between Shenzhen and Kota Kinabalu on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Strategic meeting for air service development

Recently, Malaysia Airports' route development team met with four airlines from China : China Southern Airlines, Air China, XiamenAir and China Eastern Airlines – together with the Sarawak state government headed by its Assistant Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Datuk Lee Kim Shin.

The meeting's objective was to explore the possibilities of these carriers operating flights to Kuching International Airport and Miri Airport. Among the many matters discussed were future plans for these airlines and the promotion of tourism in China and the state of Sarawak.

A familiarisation trip to Miri would also be organised for agents and the airline's representatives to learn and experience more about the destination.

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Unique Growth Story as ISGIA Celebrates 10th Year Anniversary

Malaysia Airports has been investing steadily to grow its flagship overseas operation - Istanbul Sabiha Gokcen International Airport (ISGIA) in Turkey - since completing the 100% acquisition of this strategic asset in 2014.

As the airport operator celebrates ISGIA's 10th anniversary this year following the takeover of the terminal operation in 1 May 2008, it will be focusing on services and facilities upgrade in order to ensure its long-term growth.

This includes increasing its landside capacity, which involves extending its boarding hall and having a new domestic terminal to cater to its projected growth of passenger traffic. Since the opening of the new terminal in 2008, ISGIA has recorded a compound annual growth rate of over 20%.

Over the last one year, some of the improvements to the services and facilities at ISGIA include operationalisation of the international to domestic passenger transfer facilities, upgrading of fast track services for domestic passengers and graphical flight information system for arriving flights as well as improvement to the terminal services for disabled passengers.



Upon completion of the construction of the domestic boarding hall in August this year, ISGIA's current terminal capacity has increased from 33 million passengers per annum (mppa) to 41 mppa. The domestic boarding hall also has an additional four passenger boarding bridges and 20 bus gates.

Its Chief Executive Officer Ersel Goral expects the construction of a second runway at ISGIA to be completed by 2019, which will double its aircraft landing or take-off capacity to 80 total aircraft traffic movements (ATMs) per hour.

"So far, we have invested around 500 million Euros into ISGIA. After 2020, there are plans to invest a further 200 million Euros for the construction of a new domestic terminal building and car park. Upon its completion,

ISGIA's terminal capacity will increase further to 65 mppa.

Goral says plans are underway to also enhance ISGIA's customers' total airport experience. "We are working on a few innovative projects to improve customers' experience. They include self-bag drop, mobile payments, campaign management through mobile channels and customer loyalty.

"ISGIA has been using mobile apps and solutions for some time to improve our engagement with our customers."

He adds, "We target 2018 to be a turnaround year for us to become a profitable company. Our first decade was mainly a heavy investment and growth period.





"Once we reach critical mass and significant cash generation, our shareholders will start enjoying the return on their investments when the investment loans are paid back. Our appetite for new investments and related financing thereafter will be much higher."

Goral quips, "Our cargo business has also been increasing in recent years at the airport. Total cargo movements in 2017 rose 7.1% to 62,941 metric tonnes. Since we are located very near to the integrated industrial zones, ISGIA offers huge cargo potential to the region. We have started to formalise extension plans for our cargo facility."

Malaysia Airports' recent statement to Bursa Malaysia or the local bourse shows 12.4% increase in ISGIA's passenger growth to 16.2 million for the first half of 2018 (1H18), backed by strong international passenger traffic.

Its passenger traffic last year surpassed the 30 million mark to touch 31.3 million, driven by improved international passenger arrivals and load factor to Istanbul and not to forget the 19 new international and domestic routes that were launched.

This makes ISGIA the 13th busiest airport in Europe and second busiest secondary airport in Europe after London Gatwick. Goral expects ISGIA to close 2018 with positive growth.

While ISGIA's total aircraft traffic movements for 1H18 rose 7% to 107,524 compared to the previous corresponding period, its ATMs, including international, fell 4.7% last year compared to 2016.

Goral says 2016 was a very challenging year for ISGIA due to safety issues, political instability and terrorist attacks in Turkey. Passenger numbers fell significantly that year, affecting its load factor and also led the airlines to scale down their operations in 2017.

Although ISGIA's ATMs in 2017 were lower than 2016's, passenger growth prospects for Istanbul's second airport this year is expected to remain moderate based on the current market conditions.

Goral adds, "We are in close contact with various airlines, including long-haul carriers to increase our international passenger ratio to 40% from one third and have received positive feedback from some of them."

"Some of these carriers are in the midst of receiving new aircraft. We have received more interest than ever due to our airport's location and proximity to Istanbul's city centre along with the metro connection. It is a totally different catchment area, especially from those carriers flying point-to-point."

According to Malaysia Airports' Annual Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2017, 96% of ISGIA's traffic was contributed by Turkey's three major carriers: Pegasus Airlines, Turkish Airlines and Anadolujet.

Currently, there are over 50 airlines operating in ISGIA, with some additions this year. Wataniya Airways, for instance, launched its daily flights from Kuwait to Turkey on 25 March.

Goral says, "One of the key milestones for ISGIA this year has been the return of Emirates on 8 June with a five times weekly flight from Dubai using Boeing 777-300 ER."

This is Emirates' second gateway to Istanbul and ISGIA's first wide body scheduled airline operation. Totalling 360 seats, it comprises eight first-class, 42 business and 310 economy seats. It is the only Emirates operation in Turkey which features a first-class configuration.

Another milestone is Qatar Airways' introduction of the Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner in one of its existing thrice daily frequencies between Doha and Istanbul from 1 July to 27 October. Doha serves as an important connection point for Istanbul to Asia Pacific or the Far East destinations. This service will be ISGIA's second wide body scheduled operation after Emirates.

The other two frequencies will continue to be operated by Airbus 321 and 320. In the first five months of this year, Qatar Airways has carried over 100,000 passengers compared to 70,000 last year, 40% increase over the same corresponding period.

Pegasus Airlines, meanwhile, continues to expand its international routes, launching daily flights to Dammam, Saudi Arabia in June and thrice weekly flights to Muscat, Oman in July.

"We are also expecting two more new airlines this year," Goral discloses. "ISGIA plans to expand our international passenger traffic in the short-term to Iran, Russia, Poland, Greece and Ukraine while in the mid to long-term, we are eyeing America and the Far East regions."

"We are slowly becoming the preferred airport in Istanbul, even among those who fly often using the Istanbul Ataturk Airport, especially with the future metro connections and proximity to the city centre."

Highlighting ISGIA's unique selling points, Goral says it is the world's largest seismically isolated building that can move side-to-side during an earthquake. "We have 286 seismic isolators in the main columns of our terminal building, which can withstand an 8.5 Richter scale magnitude earthquake."

"ISGIA has a terminal crisis plan on what to be done during an earthquake. The US Risk Management Magazine selected our terminal building as one of the world's five most secure places in 2010."

Although Istanbul is sited in the earthquake zone, he asserts that there has been no long-lasting earthquake impact on the city.

"With outsourcing contracts executed between ISGIA and our subcontractors, we have 1,475 employees who are indirectly employed under security (730), duty-free (350), cleaning (300) as well as food and beverage services (95).

"Our company alone has a total of 535 staff, of which 421 people are employed by ISGIA and 114 by LGM. Overall, there are around 15,000 employees working in the airport."

Looking back, it was a huge milestone for Malaysia Airports when it became the first Asian company to fully own a European airport in 2014 which not only stands tall today as its major international operation outside of the country but also offers investors an attractive value proposition.

ERSEL GORAL
Chief Executive Officer,
Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen
International Airport (ISGIA)



QUICK FACTS

IATA CODE:
SAW

CAPACITY:
41 MILLION
passengers per annum

NUMBER OF AIRLINES:
53*

NUMBER OF DESTINATIONS:
115

PASSENGERS TRAFFIC:
31,316,109
(2017, +5.6%)

AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS:
219,666
(2017, -4.7%)

CARGO MOVEMENTS:
67,395 TONNES
(2017, +7.1%)

TOP FIVE AIRLINES 2017:
Pegasus Airlines
Turkish Airlines
Air Arabia
Qatar Airways
Flynas

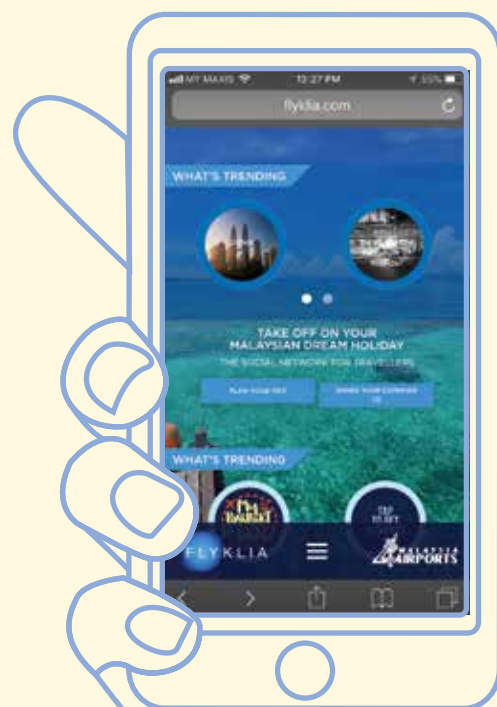
**schedule and charter services*





JOURNEYING WITH FLYKLIA.COM

The homepage of FlyKLIA adorned with photos of turquoise waters, mountains above the clouds and the rainforest immediately induced flights of fantasies of a holiday. The following page greeted me with the headline, *"Your Amazing Experience Starts Here. Where would you like to go?"* Paralysed with choice, it is perhaps one of the hardest question of all, to a traveller. I typed the first state that came to mind, that I have not been to, "Terengganu, Malaysia", and then, seeing an image of a white sandy beach, I clicked the, *"I can never have too much tan"* icon.



Presented with a page listed with blog posts and articles on Terengganu, I immediately set about my research into planning a trip there. One post caught my eye, "The Road to Old Terengganu". This post was about the old 'Route 3' built by the British during the colonial days in the 20's, which ironically, was then taken advantage by the Japanese when they invaded Malaya. Route 3 spanned across the whole of Terengganu, all the way to the Thai border. I was very intrigued, so then I decided I would embark on a journey to the far-reaches of the Malaysian peninsular country with nothing but the information contained from the post on the website and my adventurous spirit to guide me.

Next, I booked my flight with Malindo Air through FlyKLIA vis-à-vis the SkyScanner search engine.

A few days later, I found myself on the steps of the unique Sultan Mahmud Shah Airport (TGG), built in the style of 'Istana Melayu Lama' (Old Malay Palace), it is unlike any other local airport that I have seen. The airport exudes an atmosphere of pride for the heritage and tradition of the Malay culture.

Within half an hour, we got into our rented car from DYG Travel Rentals and drove southwards, from the airport to Chukai Town in the southernmost district of Terengganu called

Kemaman via the historical coastal road- Route 3. This path reveals some of the most beautiful parts of the country; we had glistening blue waves to the left, quaint village homes to our right and endless coconut and mangrove trees that come our way. The village scene is just as one sees in their secondary school history textbooks. I could not help but wonder if this was exactly the scene that met the eyes of British colonials and Japanese imperialists as they passed by this area.



1 Sultan Mahmud Airport (Kuala Terengganu)



2 Seberang Marang



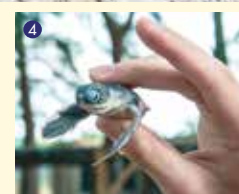
3 Rantau Abang



4 Kemaman Sands



5 Hai Peng Coffee Shop, Chukai



Interestingly, we discovered that the locals in Terengganu are very friendly. We were always greeted with a handshake from strangers, such as this when, a retired policeman came out from his home to introduce himself when we stopped to take pictures in a fishing village called Seberang Marang. Later, we passed by a beach about 50km away south from Seberang Marang called Pantai Rantau Abang, we stopped because a strange, large and distinct rock caught our attention. Mentioned in FlyKLIA, the beach had white sands and was situated next to a row of homes. Having parked next to a fisherman's house, another friendly villager came out to greet us with a handshake and offered us coffee. Even though we politely declined, we thought that this must be the epitome of 'true Malaysian hospitality'.

After two hours of driving through Route 3, we arrived in our hotel near Chukai in Kemaman. As we checked in, we realised that 'Kemaman Sands Resort' offered evening and night tours to release baby turtles and watch turtles lay eggs respectively. This is amazing, never would I thought this activity is freely available to the public and that I would see such an extraordinary sight. I wish information for these tours would be freely available on FlyKLIA as it creates opportunities for travellers to experience a spectacular natural phenomenon as well as bring awareness and support to sanctuaries that work hard to protect endangered turtles. Our guide mentioned that a team of veteran rangers patrol the beach for poachers and turtles. Travellers interested can contact their hotels to enquire about this, or contact 'Kemaman Sands' directly.

The next day, we made our way back to Chukai, where we had our breakfast at the historical Hai Peng Coffee Shop located in Jalan Sulaimani, now currently run by the grandson of the original founder. The grandson, Richard Wong, told us the story of how his grandfather moved from Hainan Island, China to Kemaman during the advent of the Japanese Invasion in China. His grandfather arrived in Malaya and worked in a rubber plantation until he eventually saved up enough money to open his own coffee shop. Life was hard, his grandfather was also the witness to the tragic executions conducted by the Japanese. "To this day, our coffee shop is frequented by locals of all races. It is a local household name as everyone in town has known us for generations", says Richard Wong. I have to say, this multi-ethnic phenomenon is in fact, a very common occurrence in Terengganu; the Malaysia's multi-ethnic spirit that flows throughout the town.



Bukit Besi

An hour from Chukai town, we made our way 98km, north-westward into the deep forests of Terengganu in search of ruined structures left behind by the Japanese. We found ourselves lost in the quiet town in Bukit Besi. However, we eventually stumbled upon the site after several enquiries to local passers-by. We found large and medium sized structures with no way of knowing what they were used for as well as tunnels that seem to go straight into the mountain. About 5km away in the centre of town, lies a tall chimney that extends directly out from the ground, which only adds to the enigma of Bukit Besi.

According to the official Terengganu State tourism website, it is rumoured that there was an underground network that runs throughout the town. Iron mined from this town was sent to Japan during the height of World War 2

Crystal Mosque,
Islamic Civilisation Park

to manufacture weapons and armaments. Perhaps, the mystery may be unravelled as we discovered that a museum is being built in the centre of the town. However, it is still a far cry from its better days, as research from FlyKLIA which indicated that when mining operations were undergoing, Bukit Besi and the nearby port town of Sura were booming with activity.

In hopes that the mystery will one day be resolved, we left and made our way north to see the Crystal Mosque situated on a small island in the Islamic Civilisation Park, Kuala Terengganu. Back in civilisation, this stunning mosque is certainly unique as it is built with steel, glass and crystal. Its glass domes glistened like a diamond as it reflects the warm rays of the sun. It is clear as to why this mosque is an often feature on FlyKLIA.



Sutra Beach Resort

An hour later, we left the state capital to check-in to 'Sutra Beach Resort' in Kampung Rhu Taipai, Setiu roughly 40 minutes away. In the late evening, we resigned to our villas as we enjoyed the sunset, the white sands under our feet and surprisingly a beach that seemed to span endlessly with no other building or person in sight. I enjoyed the beach and my quiet time when I jogged south from the resort with my bare feet; with the coconut trees to my right and the waves to my left that would occasionally crash gently onto my feet. My time at the beach was completed with time of solitude as the sun had set and dusk accompanied my walk back to the villa.

Terengganu
State Museum

The next day was spent at the Terengganu State Museum, acclaimed as the largest museum in Southeast Asia, the museum stood atop stilts that were three stories high. The architecture was designed based on a Malay village home. The museum was grand and monumental, we were amazed as we admired its beauty and proportion.

Despite this, the information provided by travellers on FlyKLIA as well as the functions for accommodation and flight booking was sufficient enough that our trip was planned well. And along the way, we had several pleasant surprises that would be worth documenting on FlyKLIA, so that many of the fellow travellers can learn more about the great attractions that is offered by Terengganu as well as the rest of Malaysia. It is also worth noting that our flight with Malindo Air



was pleasant and that we were lucky that all aspects of our trip went smoothly. Flights from KLIA to Terengganu is operated by Malaysia Airlines and AirAsia, while one can travel from Subang with Malindo Air and Firefly.



Our writer, **Leon Jake Lim** is an avid traveller and journalist who enjoys writing his experiences for travel articles and blogs from around the world.



FlyKLIA is a website where travellers from all walks of life can share their experiences, valuable information, photos and new findings from untrodden paths. Consequently, it is a hub where travellers gather information, book and go on an adventure. In sharing their experience, they contribute to a wealth of information so that their fellow travellers can partake, and finally go on an adventure of their own.

BEAUTIFUL SABAH

DECODING BORNEO'S HIDDEN TREASURES



As a one-stop destination for beaches, islands, wildlife, nature, culture and heritage, Sabah has diverse products and services to offer to different market segments. Its tourists are excited about the destination as they can find the iconic Mount Kinabalu, spectacular sunset, fantastic seafood, and many more treasures here.

Popularly referred to as the Land Below The Wind, Sabah is also noted for its good air connectivity. There are currently 18 airlines flying into Kota Kinabalu International Airport (KKIA). Out of the 196 international flights weekly, 91 are from China, which had more than 430,000 of its nationals visiting Sabah last year.

The state's agency, Sabah Tourism Board, also known as Sabah Tourism in short, has been focusing on social media over the last two years to create more awareness on the destination in the online platform.

Besides looking into Big Data Analytics to help get its marketing strategies right, it also works closely with all airlines, Malaysia Airports, tour operators, online travel agents and TripAdvisor to better understand what travellers want when they come to Sabah.

Sabah Tourism: Defining Success

Airlink sat down with Sabah Tourism general manager (GM) Suzaini Sabdin Ghani to discuss the directions the board would be looking at for this year and beyond. Prior to her appointment on January 2018, Suzaini was its deputy GM of marketing for the last two years. A hotelier before for 28 years, she is certainly not new to the industry.

Since moving up to your current position, what are your plans now that you are helming Sabah Tourism?

We intend to continue developing the long-haul markets from the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia and the United States. The American market

is small in numbers but it will grow. They are here for bird watching and animal sightings in the wild. We would like to see more air connectivity from Australia to Sabah which will help boost their arrival figures considering the flight time from their major cities to here is from six to 10 hours.

We are embracing digital marketing and see social media as the way to go in engaging with our tourists, especially from China and Asia Pacific. With communications nowadays using emails and WhatsApp, our marketing approach has shifted to using the Chinese microblogging website Weibo and WeChat, a multi-purpose messaging, social media and mobile payment app popularly used in China.

We just started WhatsApp marketing in certain markets. This will take time but we have to invest in new technologies to ensure our team is kept abreast. I have also been working with my team to enhance our promotion activities using big data to position Sabah as the preferred tourism destination.

We have stopped billboard advertisements overseas and locally, saving about RM5 million in 2016. We are also collaborating with the industry to change the way we do marketing. For certain markets like Europe, where it is still mainly offline business, we maintain our visibility but in other markets where we don't need to, we have joint campaigns with tour operators.

My immediate focus has been to sell beyond Kota Kinabalu (KK), encouraging tourists to visit other districts like Tuaran and Kota Belud and particularly the east coast of Sabah as we would like to extend the economic benefits to them as well. Within KK, we are doing very well.

We are focusing on a new segment, rural tourism in places like Kadamaian and Lahad Datu, which are very community based to generate income for the village folks and create job opportunities. We have also opened up new hills for visitors to hike within a 45-minute drive out of KK and are encouraging the government to invest in proper infrastructure and ensure that these districts are kept clean and have proper signages. With Grab and car rental, I believe tourists can use Waze and easily drive around to visit their surrounding attractions.

Ensuring that our environment is well kept and clean is also our priority because without a sustainable environment, how can you attract more tourists? This is also the direction that the new Malaysian government wants us to focus on. Since we are blessed with many natural attractions, we need to market them correctly. Looking at sustainability, caring capacity, including the islands, is not for us but for our next generation. Fortunately, most of the islands are run by the government or the parks, which make it easier for us to take care of the environment.

You have been attributed for transforming Sabah Tourism's marketing strategies to be "more focused, result-oriented and with lower expenses". Are you still very much involved in its marketing efforts? Was there a replacement when you moved up the ladder?

No one replaced me. Since I have been doing its marketing over the last two years, I would like to see continuity. As Sabah Tourism's job is to market and promote, it makes sense for me as the GM to do it. Marketing is about being hands-on. If not, you won't get the results. Meanwhile, I have entrusted my senior marketing manager Tay Shu Lan with more responsibilities.

My marketing team works with international hotel brands like Hilton, Le Meridien, Marriot, Shangri-La and Accor to promote their products and Sabah as a destination. This partnership helped us to reach out to new consumers.

We also have a strong relationship with Malaysia Airports and the government. We spent RM7.3 million last year to promote Sabah, working with airlines that flew into KK or Kuala Lumpur (KL) to boost arrivals into Sabah.

What works with us is partnering with the airlines and tour operators, where we conduct product seminars in certain locations with them. We also participate in selected consumer shows like the MATTA Fair in September where we are the largest local state government office representing 16 booths. Likewise, we are very focused on the trade shows we go to.

I brought the "result oriented" culture from Shangri-La, where I had worked the longest as a hotelier to my current team, instilling them to ask, "If this is my business or money, what would I do? Would I spend the money if there is no return on investment?" I have good team members who are very passionate in what they do. They understand now about the culture of discipline and being accountable.

Tourism is Sabah's third largest income generating sector after agriculture and manufacturing that supports over 80,000 jobs. Do you see the sector growing in greater importance under the state's economic development?

Tourism is very important to Sabah, which received a record 3.7 million arrivals and RM7.8 billion receipts last year. The opening of the Sabah International Convention Centre in KK by 2019-2020 is expected to see 10,000 more jobs created that will directly benefit the state. We have the ingredients to attract business tourism. What we need to do now is to strengthen our facilities, products and air connectivity as 99.9% of the tourists come to Sabah by air. Without the airlines, we are nothing.

Sabah Tourism's statistics show the three biggest sources of tourist arrivals come from Malaysia, Asia and Europe. However, European arrivals saw some decline last year. What were the reasons for it?

European arrivals to Sabah comprise a good 50:50 mix of frequent independent travellers (FITs) and groups. There has been a slight drop in arrivals for some European countries but their arrivals still matter to us as they make up the top 10 for length of stay and per capita spending, which are great contributors to our economy.



SUZAINI SABDIN GHANI

General Manager
Sabah Tourism Board

We still have the travel advisory warning about travelling to the east coast of Sabah where our natural assets are located although there has been no major incidents in the last two years. The Europeans like to go to the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre in Sandakan, Kinabatangan River and Turtle Island in Selingan; Tabin Wildlife Reserve and Danum Valley Conservation Area in Lahad Datu.

We are asking the Malaysian government to work with the foreign ambassadors to review their travel advisory. The lack of direct air accessibility, long-haul distance and air space regulations are other contributing factors.

I am not unduly worried about direct air connectivity for the Europeans. With low-cost carriers, they can come through Sabah from anywhere like Singapore, Brunei, Hong Kong (HK) or Manila besides KL. We thus see tremendous opportunities in the increase of another AirAsia's Singapore-KK flight on 1 August followed by the debut of its direct thrice weekly Bangkok-KK flights on 16 August.

Coupled with Silk Air's existing flight to KK, there will be thrice daily flights from Singapore, which augur well for business tourism. Many Singaporeans come here for nature and adventure like climbing Mount Kinabalu, trekking, running or diving.

The FITs for other markets are also important to us as we have expatriates living in KL, Bangkok, HK, Singapore, and the Philippines who visit Sabah for short trips. Since we are well connected in North Asia, we also hope to tap into the high expatriate communities in Seoul and Guangzhou, which have direct access to KK, by working with the airlines.

What's the targeted arrivals for 2018?

We expect last year's momentum to continue into 2018, albeit at a more sustainable pace. Based on the tourism trends and current situation affecting hotel rooms supply and the number of flight services, STB is targeting 4.5% increase to 3.85 million visitor arrivals and estimated tourism receipt of RM8.15 billion this year.

What are the unique selling points of Sabah?

We have always positioned Sabah as Borneo; which is exotic, mysterious and excites your curiosity. Our strength lies in our natural attractions and the people. Sabahans are very warm, friendly, harmonious and humble.

We have countless islands with wonderful beaches and many of them are still unexplored. Our products are suitable to all kinds of visitors, be it leisure seekers, hardcore adventurers, honeymooners and families. Sabah caters for all levels of market, including luxury. Our high-end resorts are located in both in the east and west coast of the state as well as in the heart of the jungle!

Flying here from the main gateways like China, HK and Singapore are easy. Geographically, we are very strategic, connecting to about 20 destinations around Asia Pacific.

English is widely spoken here and one of the main reasons why Chinese tourists like Sabah is the majority of the local Chinese here communicate well in Mandarin. Also, they enjoy the food here, particularly our variety of seafood. Although we had one or two cases of natural disasters, Sabah is fairly safe and peaceful.

STB website lists many activities tourists can do, including cruising. How is this industry or the North Borneo Cruise doing in the state? Is mountain climbing at Mount Kinabalu still a popular activity for students and international groups?

We ensure our website is kept very active, engaging, has lots of activities, images and videos. We get bloggers and influencers to get content and upload on our website, which we change from time to time and have influencers to comment on how good their stay is. We encourage private sector participation by featuring their products. North Borneo Cruise, for instance, was introduced only one-and-a-half years ago by a local village boy who bought his boat from China and started offering sunset cruise packages.

Mount Kinabalu, our most popular site is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the highest mountain in Southeast Asia. It is fully booked daily. You need to book six months in advance if you wish to climb it. The



student groups like it very much. We have started doing caring capacity here after the earthquake to ensure the climbers' safety and security. We now limit to a maximum of 125 people a day.

Having been in the hotel industry for 28 years, would you say there are enough hotel rooms to meet the tourist influx to Sabah?

In view of the current supply and demand, generally, the supply is relatively limited during peak seasons like the Chinese New Year and the months of July, August and December. Overall, the hotel supply is sufficient to meet the demand. However, we need more beach resorts and chained hotels as the tourists are here for our beaches and islands.

Hotels located in strategic locations that provide good quality service and those that have strong brand recognition and online presence will garner better demand over other hotels. We welcome more investors not only in the development of four or five-star properties and international hotel chains but also in building more tourism attractions, especially in districts such as Sandakan, Tawau and Semporna.

There were about 637 hotels with 27,325 rooms in Sabah last year, with about 35% of them sited in KK, including places like Tuaran, Penampang and Putatan. We have ample city hotels currently. Semporna is doing very well with the China market, receiving about 500 to 1,000 tourists daily. There is a shortage of five-star hotels, which is popular among tourists from China and Korea.

What do you enjoy the most about in your current role and how do you spend your free time rejuvenating yourself?

My current role allows me to assist the industry players to develop tourism and being a Sabahan, I am truly blessed with the state's natural beauty. During my free time, I prefer to spend quality time with my family and close friends.



KOTA KINABALU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Senior Airport Manager Sunif Naiman, 55, approaches his seventh year with his second term of serving at Malaysia's second busiest airport, Kota Kinabalu International Airport (KKIA) in Sabah, which functions as the gateway to Borneo.

His first stint at KKIA was from 1991-92 as Head of Security when the airport was managed then by the Department of Civil Aviation of North Borneo before Malaysia Airports took over in 1992.

Sunif, who hails from Ranau in Sabah, recalls, "The airport's passenger movements were not more than four million passengers per annum (mppa) then." Last year, this figure grew to eight mppa, of which 2.57 million were international passengers.

Northeast Asia made up 84% of the market share for its international passengers followed by Southeast Asia (15.3%) and Southwest Pacific (0.4%).

Built for nine mppa, he observes that KKIA's current terminal, which houses all flight operations, has reached 88% of its capacity with double digit growth posted by its passenger traffic in 2016 and 2017.

Malaysia Airports allocated a dedicated fund of about RM10 million to assist destination marketing activities undertaken by Sabah Tourism and the airlines to promote new routes such as Wuhan, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Shenzhen, Taipei and Singapore into KKIA. The airport reported 7% passenger growth in the first half of 2018 over the same period last year.

Aided by 519 staff, Sunif is responsible for ensuring that the facilities at the airport are in tip-top condition and are well maintained. That include the retail areas such as level 3, which caters to international passengers.

Here, the outlets such as KFC and McDonald's operate 24 hours daily while the shops at level 2 that serve domestic

departures close after midnight. However, the food and beverage and fast food joints such as Starbucks and Wendy's would remain open.

In an exclusive interview with Airlink, the Senior Manager, who has witnessed KKIA's robust growth over the years, shares in greater details the progress and some of the milestones chalked by KKIA.

What were the new commercial airlines that flew into Sabah last year?

Xiamen Air's inaugural thrice weekly Fuzhou-Kota Kinabalu (KK) route launched on 9 January 2017 has been a huge success, resulting in the carrier to debut its daily direct flights from Beijing to KK on 16 January this year.

Other new airlines that flew into Sabah last year were Thai Smile and Batik Air. The low-cost Thai carrier flew from Bangkok to KK four times a week for a five-month period while Batik Air started its twice weekly direct KK-Jakarta flights on 20 December 2017 and Malindo Air made its maiden Taipei-KK-Labuan charter flights in July last year.

How have they contributed to the increase in passenger growth?

KKIA saw eight million passengers' growth last year, 10.2% higher compared to 7.3 million passengers in 2016. Our projection for 2018 is 8.1 million passengers. However, based on our first half results, we expect KKIA to go beyond nine million this year.

We should be able to handle the increased capacity two to three years from now as the airlines do not fly in at the same time. KKIA's peak hours are from 9.30pm to 3am, with its last international flight from Wuhan, China arriving at 3.55am. However, the timing of this last flight by AirAsia would be deferred slightly when we close the runway for maintenance every Wednesday from 2.45am to 5.15am.





SUNIF NAIMAN
Senior Airport Manager
Kota Kinabalu International Airport (KKIA)

QUICK FACTS

IATA CODE:
BKI

CAPACITY:
9 MILLION
passengers per annum

NUMBER OF AIRLINES:
18

NUMBER OF DESTINATIONS:
40

PASSENGERS TRAFFIC:
8,000,046
(2017, +10.2%)

AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS:
73,237
(2017, +4.4%)

CARGO MOVEMENTS:
27,372,314
TONNES
(2017, -4.8%)

What's the latest figure on the number of airlines flying to Sabah? How many of them are international airlines?

We have 14 scheduled foreign-based airlines operating at KKIA and four local carriers, namely Malaysia Airlines, MASwings, AirAsia and Malindo Air. Malaysia Airlines operates one flight a week from KK to Perth.

The Koreans love to play golf. There are five golf courses in KK. After golf, they like to go to the islands. There are several Korean airlines that fly to KKIA, including low-cost carrier Eastar Jet which has been flying direct from Seoul and Busan since 2010 and 2016 respectively.

What's the latest status on charter flights to Sabah?

The charter flights are mostly from China with some from South Korea. Lucky Air, for instance, operates seasonal charter flights from Kunming to KK.

Can you provide us some interesting insights on KKIA since its opening in 1985?

The airport has really grown over the years, registering 4.7 million passenger movements in 2008 when terminal one was opened. If you were to divide last year's eight million passengers movements over 365 days, you would get close to 22,000 inbound-outbound movements daily. It's massive!

In terms of daily flights, its average movement is about 200; 100 for landing and another 100 for departure. KKIA's commercial aircraft movements last year rose 3.8% to 71,922. When it comes to all aircraft movements, it was up 4.4% to 73,237.

The airport's international passenger market segment has been growing. In the early days, the ratio for its domestic and international passengers was 30:70, but with its international passengers increasing over the years, the ratio is now 36:64.

Catering to the many late flights departing from KKIA, there is a napping zone facility with 20 capsules each for male and female. The charge is RM85 for five hours.

KKIA looks after the Kudat stolport, which serves Malaysia Airlines' MASwings flights to KK using Twin-Otter. I visit this small airport twice a year to meet up with its sole operator MASWings and government agencies besides facilitating a forum and airport safety meetings.

Please share with us KKIA efforts to be a green airport and how it has helped to reduce electricity usage.

KKIA has been participating in Malaysia Airports' Green Day programme to inculcate greater awareness of the environment. This includes encouraging our staff to switch off power during lunch hours.

Apart from our on-going recycling programme, especially for paper, we also do symbolic tree planting at KKIA. We invite all our stakeholders, including the airport's tenants and airlines to participate in green programmes such as Earth Hour.

On KKIA's ongoing upgrading exercise, what is the status on its installation of the RM18 million in-line hold baggage screening (ILHBS) system which kicked off in September 2017?

It was completed as scheduled on 5 July with a site acceptance test conducted the same day, which means KKIA is now fully implemented with a ILBHS system like KL International Airport for timely and efficient baggage security screening.

What is your wish list for KKIA?

With five more years before my retirement, I hope to witness KKIA's further expansion under Malaysia Airports' five-year business plan, 'Runway to Success 2020'. It is also my dream to not only see the airport's ageing facilities given a new facelift but also more operational efficiencies put into place.

For instance, the reconfiguration of our existing immigration counters to what is being done at other airports in Singapore and South Korea. I also wish for KKIA to have new, innovative technologies incorporated having seen how other airports have installed features like an automated voice that can speak to the passenger in different languages based on the nationality stated in their passport at the immigration counters.

ALLURING PENANG

COME TASTE, FEEL, SMELL
AND EXPERIENCE ITS MANY WONDERS



Not many are aware that Penang is the first British settlement with a rich historical past. Over the years, the state has grown to become a colourful melting pot of multi-races. It is filled with festivities and activities throughout the year, with a strong base for the development of arts and culture. This touristic state is also noted for being a gourmet paradise, including its street hawkers' food.

Penang's newly appointed Tourism Development, Heritage, Culture and Arts committee chairman Yeoh Soon Hin, is eager to bring in more direct flights to the state, whose busy Penang International Airport (PIA) currently services 283 international direct flights weekly that are connected to 17 destinations.

And, they bring in the affluent tourists from Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Vietnam and Qatar. While Yeoh laments that not enough attention has been given to the promotion of premium and luxury products and services for this northern state, the recent Penang Rendezvous event represents an excellent platform to promote such luxury lifestyle, high-end properties and quality offerings.

A strong believer in moving forward and bringing the tourism industry to the next level, he feels that there is no better time to do it but now as Penang celebrates the 10th anniversary of George Town's rich heritage.

During Airlink's interview with Yeoh, the 42-year-old lawyer shares how he will take up his new responsibilities and bring the Pearl of the Orient as Penang is popularly known as to greater heights.

What are your tourism development plans for Penang and how different are they from your predecessor?

My predecessor has done a very good job for the past decade but there is room for improvements given the fast-paced changes and emerging trends in the tourism industry.

My aim is to make Penang into a sustainable tourism destination, focusing on nature-based, eco- and cultural tourism. The goal is to brand Penang as the destination of choice for the region and a hub for culture, heritage and arts.



Penang's tourism is said to be focused on mass tourism by certain quarters. To what extent is that true and what is the state government doing about it?

Mass tourism, where tourists come in big numbers or via group packages, is the most popular form of tourism in the world mainly because it is the most affordable. In Penang, we welcome everyone from all social classes although over the years, we have seen an increase of choices for luxury travellers in terms of boutique hotels, premium restaurants and quality services.

While I am aware of the negative impact of mass tourism, the challenge is to strike a balance between keeping it accessible for the public, educating the tourists, regulating the policies and developing more exciting options for both the frequent independent travellers and the luxury market.

2017 was a record year for Penang's tourism in term of tourist arrivals. With two-thirds of the year gone now, what is the state's latest arrival figures like so far?

The first five months of our international arrivals this year rose 15.4% to 682,228 compared to the same period last year.

Who are your biggest source markets?

According to data from Penang's Immigration Department as of 20 May 2018, the top 10 foreign travellers coming through the PIA last year were from Indonesia (279,173), China (68,341), Singapore (67,774), Taiwan (26,610), Japan (24,346), Thailand (22,346), Australia (19,539), the United States (16,082), the United Kingdom (15,541) and India (7,155).

Are there sufficient hotel rooms and accommodation to cater to the tourist influx to Penang?

We have sufficient rooms most of the time. However, we encountered some difficulties during V-Convention 2017, which had over 20,000 delegates. However, with more hotels being built, we hope to address the room shortage.

As of 2016, we have 266 hotels in Penang with 22,614 rooms based on statistics from Tourism Malaysia. The majority of them are of three- to four-star category. We target to bring in more international five-star hotels.



How do you plan to encourage more air connectivity to Penang?

With the support of the new federal government, we hope to formulate better incentives to encourage more international direct flights to Penang. This will be supplemented by strategic marketing and promotion campaigns for the targeted destinations.

What is Penang's agenda for the development of arts? How do you hope to nurture it?

Over the years, we have seen an increase of artists and galleries mushrooming in George Town. Penang, a state where artists can express their art freely, is now a growing contemporary cultural hub. Coming up in November is a Literary Festival.

We are working closely with British Council and hope to nurture Penang's creative industry by engaging artists, craftsmen, educators and communities with interesting programmes and through the creation of creative spaces at the Penang Arts District.

When it comes to heritage or cultural tourism, how do you plan to make it sustainable, especially since George Town is a UNESCO World Heritage site?

There are many approaches to sustainable tourism. I believe Penang has to formulate our own approaches, especially with regards to culture and heritage. They include creating better facilities and spaces around the UNESCO World Heritage site as well as nurturing a strong and healthy partnership between the tourism industry, local councils, state representatives and local communities.

To unwind, where would you like to fly out to from Penang International Airport (PIA)?

I would like to explore Doha since there is new direct four-time weekly flight from Penang to Doha by Qatar Airways this year.



YB YEOH SOON HIN
Penang State EXCO (State Minister)
Tourism Development, Heritage, Culture & Arts



PENANG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Senior Airport Manager Mohd Nadzim Hashim returns to serve at Malaysia Airports' third busiest airport on 20 June after 10 years. His last four-and-a-half years were at Kuching International Airport while the earlier years were at KL International Airport (KLIA).

Opened in 1935 as Bayan Lepas International Airport, it was part of the British crown colony of the Straits Settlement, thus making it the oldest airport in Malaysia. It assumed its current name, Penang International Airport (PIA) in 1979 upon completion of its expansion works, where a terminal building of Minangkabau architecture was built and its runway extended to accommodate Boeing 747, the largest passenger jet aircraft then.

Mohd Nadzim, who started as an engineering manager at PIA in 2002, recalls when he left in 2008, the airport was catering to five million passengers per annum (mppa). Last year, its 7.2 mppa capacity has surpassed its 2020 target.

New developments and upgrading are certainly on the cards for this crowded airport. Plans to appoint the design consultant are underway with the design works expected to start next year while the physical works will commence in 2020, he discloses. In an interview with Airlink, Mohd Nadzim shares further insights on PIA.

What are the first things you plan to implement upon returning to PIA?

This year we will look into optimisation of the airport, which includes having snake queues to create more space at the check-in counters and adding more immigration counters. Plans are also afoot to have new baggage carousels to help us handle PIA's expansion to 12 mppa by 2022. After which, we intend to have a new terminal.



We will also be getting input from the various stakeholders such as agencies, ground handlers, retailers and the public and hope to come up with a wish list by November on enhancements for the airport. We plan to do some wall murals featuring Penang as a food haven.

Of the total 3.1 million international passenger movements to PIA, 83% of them are from Southeast Asia (SEA) followed by Northeast Asia (NEA, 17%) and Middle East (ME, 0.07%). How do you see this trend evolving in the future?

We expect to see more passenger traffic from the ME with Qatar Airways increasing its thrice weekly flight from Doha, which started from 6 February to four-time weekly flights on 1 July. Chinese arrivals from mainland China and Hong Kong have also been increasing. Penang, which attracts a number of medical tourists from Indonesia, saw increased arrivals last year. We are also aided by the many flights from AirAsia and Malindo Air.

How many airlines are currently flying to PIA? Any more new airlines coming this year?

The total count stands at 27 airlines, of which 15 are foreign carriers, four local airlines and eight handling cargo. Since this year, we have a number of direct flights coming to PIA. They include Malindo Air's thrice weekly flights from Banda Aceh on 15 March and Citilink's seven times a week flights from Jakarta on 25 March.

On 1 July, AirAsia launched its four times weekly flights from Hanoi and seven times per week flights from Phuket.

Apart from these new flights, we also have airlines mounting higher frequencies this year with Cathay Pacific increasing its Hong Kong-Penang sector from 10 to 14 times a week.



Thai Airways also increased its Bangkok-Penang flights from 10 to 14 times weekly from March 23 while Firefly had its flights to Phuket raised to seven times per week from 25 March. China Southern Airlines' Guangzhou-Penang flights were increased to 14 times a week from 1 June while China Airlines upped its Taipei-Penang to seven times weekly from 7 June.

What are the monthly flights arrivals like? Are there any charter flights to PIA?

As at July 2018, we have 2,787 flight movements for arrivals. Of this, 1,822 are international arrivals and the rest domestic. We have no charter service coming to Penang.

Cargo movements rose 2.8% to 134,187 metric tonnes in 2017 with 82% of from Northeast Asia and the rest from Southeast Asia. How do you see the outlook for 2018?

PIA is the second busiest in terms of cargo tonnage. From January to June, we have 195 and 197 metric tonnes of cargo movements for arrivals and departures respectively. While the tonnage are almost the same compared to the same period last year, in terms of revenue, the figure is much higher as most of these cargo are electronic components.

Please update us more on PIA's expansion plans.

The airport's expansion will include a new parking apron and check-in area. Thus, in the short term, we will be closing the eatery and parking areas. For the medium term, we will start physical work for a seven-storey car park in December. Half of the existing car park will be closed.

Besides the new baggage system and brand new terminal I mentioned earlier, we will also be relocating the Air Traffic Control Tower and the airport's fire station. The current building where our office is housed in will be demolished to accommodate the new Mitsui Outlet Park.

Meanwhile, the existing terminal's facilities will be upgraded. We need to create more space for the international passengers and to reconfigure our check-in system to be like the KLIA's island system when we have seven flights departing within four to five hours.

What are the efforts to make PIA into a green airport?

Definitely, it is Malaysia Airports' policy to have a new, intelligent and green building for PIA. At our existing facilities, we are switching to LED lights as they consume only half of the current power supply. We are also using a chill-water cooling system for the central air-conditioning instead of gas as it is cleaner.

Please share with us PIA's collaboration with other stakeholders to enhance its total passengers' experience?

Besides conducting passengers' satisfaction and airport satisfaction quality surveys, we have on-going collaboration with the state government and Penang Global Tourism on how to make PIA more attractive.

What are some other interesting facts about PIA that we have missed out?

Do you know that PIA is built on a swamp area and padi fields? Its runway, which is 3,352 m long can accommodate the B747 and A380.

QUICK FACTS

IATA CODE:
PEN

CAPACITY:
6.5 MILLION
passengers per annum

NUMBER OF AIRLINES:
27

NUMBER OF DESTINATIONS:
25

PASSENGERS TRAFFIC:
7,232,097
(2017, +8.2%)

AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS:
70,609
(2017, +6.6%)

CARGO MOVEMENTS:
134,186,969 TONNES
(2017, +2.8%)



MOHD NADZIM HASHIM
Senior Airport Manager
Penang International Airport (PIA)

Bangkok Airways is World's Best Regional Airline Again

Winning awards for being the best regional airline has become a common feature for Bangkok Airways. The airline has previously been awarded 'Best Regional Airline in Asia' by Skytrax World Airline Awards in 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009, 2014, 2016 and 2017. The airline also won 'Southeast Asia's Best Regional Airline' in 2006 and 2007 and 'World's Best Regional Airline' in 2014, 2016 and 2017.

To sum up for this year, Bangkok Airways won 'World's Best Regional Airline' and 'Best Regional Airline in Asia' at the Skytrax World Airline Awards 2018. The award ceremony was held at The Langham Hotel, London in July.

Mr Puttipong Prasarttong-Osoth, President of Bangkok Airways said, "It is a very special year for Bangkok Airways as we celebrate our 50th anniversary and the airline has been awarded by Skytrax World Airline Awards 2018 as winners for 'World's Best Regional Airline' for



the fourth time and 'Best Regional Airline in Asia' for the eighth time this year. The Skytrax World Airline Awards are well recognised and respected across the aviation industry worldwide. It is considered a global benchmark of airline excellence as the results are voted by global passengers".

Bangkok Airways flies daily direct from Kuala Lumpur to Koh Samui. The airline is represented by AVIAREPS as the General Sales Agent (GSA) in Malaysia.

For more information, please call 03 – 2148 8033

Cebu Pacific to Use Eco-Friendly Utensils

Cebu Pacific, the Philippines' largest airline based on the number of passengers it carries, will contribute to the sustainable agenda by replacing all its plastic cutlery, stirrers and cups with sustainable alternatives on all its flights from 1 October. The policy will also be carried out by its subsidiary Cebgo. On average, Cebu Pacific and Cebgo flights use 18,500 pieces of utensils daily.

Cebu Pacific serves Malaysian passengers from KL International Airport (klia2) and Kota Kinabalu International Airport to Manila and from October onwards, they would be using recyclable utensils on these flights.

Lance Gokongwei, President and CEO of Cebu Pacific said, "As we continue to help pump-prime local economies through accessible, affordable and available flights, we are also committed to reducing our impact on the environment. We want to cut down on our use of non-recyclable plastic to only what is necessary".



Cebu Pacific will shift to bio-compostable cutlery made from polylactic acid (PLA) derived from corn starch, which is a renewable resource. Plastic cups, on the other hand, would be replaced with bio-degradable paper cups; while plastic stirrers for beverages would be changed to compostable wood stirrers.

For more information, please visit www.cebupacificair.com



Condor Airlines Extends Frankfurt-KL Service

The much anticipated thrice-weekly direct service by Condor Airlines for its winter 2018/19 schedule will now not only commence on 1 November from Frankfurt to Kuala Lumpur (KL) but will also continue into summer 2019 with two flights a week.

This means that its Frankfurt-KL service will be available throughout the year instead of just seasonal as announced in December last year during the Memorandum of Marketing Collaboration between Tourism Malaysia, Malaysia Airports and the airline.

Thanks to the "open door" policy from its Malaysian counterpart, Carsten Sasse, Condor Flugdienst GmbH's Head of Sales, International Markets says this has made it much easier for them to plan for this destination.

The German-born Sasse, who was on his first trip to Kuala Lumpur recently, views the promotional fund set up between Tourism Malaysia and Malaysia Airports which Condor Airlines will be using in their joint marketing as an "excellent support," reiterating that "this is the final reason why we come to Malaysia."

He also attributes the country's other offerings such as its "exciting cities, dream beaches, jungles, culture, weather and friendly people" as the other contributing factors. Besides the appeal of adventure experiences, it is also good for shopping.

Concurring with him, his Senior Sales and Key Account Manager, International Markets, Jutta Deubel, quips that the variety of food in Malaysia also represents another draw for the Europeans.

To ensure the success of this route for the German or European market, Sasse says Condor Airlines has established an interline agreement with Malaysia Airlines Bhd recently to cover other destinations beyond KL. There are plans to convert this interline agreement into a codeshare.

"We envisage this route will be a success given our partnership with other European carriers that fly beyond Frankfurt. Malaysians will not only enjoy direct flights to Frankfurt but will also benefit from our strong network to other European destinations."

Updating on the latest changes prior to the start of its Frankfurt-KL service, Sasse says the airline will now be using the Boeing 767-300ER instead of the Airbus 330-200 as the former will fit better to serve the corporate business segment. It is also in tandem with the changes made to Condor Airlines' flight plans and frequencies in other regions and gateways.

He adds, "We have a modern fleet of 16 B767-300ER which has been refurbished three years ago. Our business class lie-flat seats are fully automatic with 170 degrees inclination and a resting area of more than 1.8 metres.



Meanwhile, the airline's final programme for winter has been updated in the Global Distribution System (GDS) and New Distribution Capability reservation systems. Reservations for this new route has opened since late last year with its promotional fares for this new Frankfurt-KL route valid for the first six months.

Condor Airlines' 13-hour non-stop service between KL and Frankfurt, which Sasse claims to be the fastest, will help close the gap between its corporate and leisure business segments besides meeting the demand from central Europe.

Part of Thomas Cook Group Airlines, Condor Airlines is a hybrid airline. "We provide a 'smart choice' of products based on the low-cost carrier model but our services such as meals and baggage allowance are that of a full carrier," reiterates Sasse, 44, who has been with Condor Airlines since 2004.

Condor Airlines' representative in Malaysia is AVIAREPS.

For more information, please call 03 – 2148 8033

BREATHE EASY

KISS THE SKY

INDULGE

MORE THAN NATURAL WONDERS, A GATEWAY TO EPIC EXPEDITIONS.

KOTA KINABALU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, THE GATEWAY TO GETAWAYS

It all begins at Kota Kinabalu International Airport (BKI). Make an aquatic friend, conquer Mount Kinabalu, and discover a world so exotic with more than 6,000 plant species, even the first season of reality TV show Survivor was filmed there. Plan your route to countless new adventures.

Qatar Airways Showcased its **A350-1000**

Award-winning Qatar Airways is keeping itself at the front of the pack with the state-of-the-art, ultra-modern Airbus A350-1000. The aircraft was showcased at the Farnborough International Airshow in July.

Together with the A350-1000, the airline also displayed their Boeing B777, both equipped with innovative and luxurious Qsuite Business Class seat.

At Farnborough, the airline also exhibited its Boeing 747-8 freighter, Gulfstream G500 Executive Jet, the Boeing 737 Max 8 and the JetSuiteX Embraer 135 Jet.

Qatar Airways is recognised as the world's fastest growing airline, and in 2018, it will add several new destinations including



Thessaloniki in Greece and Cardiff in the UK. It has a modern fleet of over 200 aircraft.

The airline has won many awards. In 2017 Qatar Airways was named 'Airline of the Year' by the 2017 World Airline Awards, managed by international air transport rating organisation Skytrax. It was also named 'World's Best Business Class', 'Best Airline in the Middle East' and 'World's Best First Class Airline Lounge'.

Qatar Airways is a member of the oneworld global alliance. The award-winning alliance

was named the World's Best Airline Alliance 2015 by Skytrax for the third year running. Qatar Airways was the first Gulf carrier to join the global airline alliance, oneworld, enabling its passengers to benefit from more than 1,000 airports in more than 150 countries, with 14,250 daily departures.

The airline operates triple daily flights from Kuala Lumpur and four times weekly flights from Penang.

For further information, please call 03 - 2118 6100



Philippine Airlines' **Non-Stop Route** to New York with A350-900



Philippine Airlines has earmarked their new Airbus A350-900 to operate the non-stop service between Manila and New York JFK from 29 October 2018. The announcement in July nullifies the previous consideration for the Boeing 777-300ER.

Malaysian passengers transiting in Manila will have the option to take the non-stop route to New York from Manila with Philippine Airlines. The airline operates daily flights between KLIA and Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

The Airbus A350-900 is quieter aloft

compared with the B777-300ER and feature different amenities and seating configuration. It includes the latest flatbed seating configured in a 1-2-1 layout, which is preferred over the B777-300ER's 2-3-2 Business Class setup.

The A350-900 will also sport a new premium economy cabin laid out in a 2-4-2 configuration, while its economy class will be nine-across compared with the B777-300ER's 10-abreast seating.

Overall, the A350-900 is set up with 30 seats in business class, along with 24 in premium economy and 241 in economy. This is fewer than the B777-300ER – about 80 seats fewer, though the overall upgrade will undoubtedly be seen as a positive one.

Along with the upgrade, the airline will operate five weekly flights to New York. The current schedule is four weekly flights.

Previously, the airline needed a re-fuelling stop at Vancouver before continuing the journey to New York. From October, it will be a non-stop flight between the two cities.

At 8,520 miles each way, the new direct flight will join the top 10 longest flights in the world, being just longer than the Singapore to San Francisco route, but just shorter than the Singapore to Los Angeles route.

For further information, please call 03 – 2141 0767



Scout Pioneers **Transactional Chatbox** in Asia

In July, Scout became the first Asian airline to introduce a transactional chatbox. It is a milestone in the airline's vision of improving the customer experience through a mobile-first approach.

The regional airline flies to six cities in Malaysia from Singapore, and mobile-savvy passengers travelling through these airports would welcome the new experience. Named M.A.R.V.I.E. (Scout's Most Awesome and Resourceful Virtual Intern Ever), it is located on Scout's Singapore Facebook page via Facebook Messenger. Its introduction coincided with the one-year anniversary merger with Tigerair into Scout.

The chatbox is able to assist customers with their questions about flying with Scout, help them to search for flights, display the same fares and availability as reflected on Scout's website and mobile app, make flight bookings, and allow for payment by credit card, hence enabling a full transaction flow.

Since it was launched, M.A.R.V.I.E. now services on average over 1,700 queries a day with a resolution rate of close to 60%. It has also successfully completed five bookings with an average transaction time of about seven minutes. Over time, the resolution rate will rise as M.A.R.V.I.E. is in constant learning mode, as more customers interact with it.

Scout's Chief Commercial Officer, Mr Vinod Kannan said, "One year on from merging Tigerair into Scout, Scout has grown significantly and our network now spans 66



destinations across 18 countries/territories. In the meantime, we have also invested heavily in several initiatives to improve our digital capabilities and customer experience. M.A.R.V.I.E. is one of Scout's efforts towards this goal; instead of having our customers come to us, we are committed to meeting them where they are, when it is convenient for them".

He added, "As the first airline in Asia to enable flight bookings and payment via our chatbox, we aim to make it simpler and more convenient for customers to realise their travel plans with Scout, through a mobile-first approach beyond just the website and mobile app".

M.A.R.V.I.E. was developed with the expertise of Caravelo, a technology company specialised in solutions for the airline industry. Caravelo's Chief Commercial Officer, Mr Jonathan Newman said, "We are super proud of M.A.R.V.I.E. and of our long-standing partnership with Scout. For the last two years, we've been pioneering conversational commerce in the airline industry and Scout's goals of meeting customers where they are

and making travel planning simpler resonate with our view of digital servicing and retail. It's great that Scout and M.A.R.V.I.E. are setting the standard in Asia".

In Malaysia, AVIAREPS is the General Sales Agents (GSA) for Scout.

For more information, please call 03 – 2148 8033



Talk to our FB chatbot
M.A.R.V.I.E

KLM Keeps in Front on Social Media with Dual Language Google Assistant



KLM takes its digital service seriously. With over 25 million fans and followers on various social media platforms, KLM leads the airline industry in this field. KLM receives over 180,000 mentions every week through these channels, 35,000 of which are questions or remarks. These are personally answered by more than 300 service agents, who form the world's largest and dedicated team.

In July, KLM introduced its latest digital service with the launch of its Dutch version of the Google Assistant. With this, customers can now search easily for KLM flights by giving spoken instructions in Dutch through this voice activated platform. The new KLM service is also available in English.

Malaysians and most other travellers with KLM would naturally use the English voice activated platform, whereas the Dutch travellers may opt to use the Dutch language platform. The service puts KLM further in front and it is one of the first companies in the world to offer a service on this platform in more than one language.

KLM's smart assistant BB, known as Blue Bot, helps customers to find suitable KLM flights. Once the desired flight has been found, BB sends

the customer a link which takes them straight to KLM.com where they can book the flight directly.

Pieter Groeneveld, Senior Vice President Digital Air France-KLM said, "Voice control will rapidly change the world. Consumers are discovering and using voice applications more and more in their everyday lives. KLM wants to be present on the platforms where its customers are and that automatically means a platform like Google Assistant. Providing the option to search for flights using voice commands in multiple languages is the next strategic step. In the interest of KLM's passengers and in line with our pioneering spirit, we are already looking forward to new voice applications. We aim to remain the frontrunner in online services".

On other social media platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook, Messenger, Twitter, WeChat and KaKao Talk, KLM offers her customers 24/7 service in nine different languages: Dutch, English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Chinese, Japanese and Korean. During office hours, 7 days per week, KLM also offers services in Italian. KLM was the first airline in the world to offer passengers the option of receiving their flight documents and status updates on WhatsApp, Messenger and Twitter. It was also the first Western airline to offer this on the Chinese platform WeChat.

For more information, please call 03 – 7712 4555



In July, the Ethiopian Airlines announced the celebration of the nation's gift to the world, in the country where coffee originated and calling it 'International Coffee Day'. The special occasion is to be celebrated for the first time in Addis Ababa on 18 November. The theme is 'Celebrate the International Coffee Day in the Land of Origins'.

Malaysian passengers can get to join in the celebration with Ethiopian as the airline operates five weekly flights from KLIA to Addis Ababa. The airline represents the largest aviation group in Africa and is a Four Star Global Airline certified by Skytrax.

Regarding the International Coffee Day celebration, Mr Tewolde GebreMariam, Group CEO, Ethiopian Airlines remarked: "Ethiopia introduced coffee to the world and it's only fitting that International Coffee Day is celebrated in the land of its origin. We thank the major stakeholders in Ethiopia in the public and private sectors for supporting this initiative. The celebration of International Coffee Day is part of our enhanced effort to promote the many treasures of Ethiopia, which we are not

sufficiently known by the rest of the world, and to boost the flow of tourism to the country".

The other major stakeholders involved in the organisation include Ethiopian Coffee & Tea Authority, Ethiopian Coffee Exporters Association, Ethiopian Tourism Organisation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Trade. The upcoming International Coffee Day is projected to bring together multiple stakeholders from all over the world including coffee exporters, coffee researchers, coffee roasters and exhibitors and will serve as an ideal platform for sharing and networking.

Another cause for celebration by the airline is the delivery of its 100th aircraft in June, a Boeing 787-900, the first for an African airline to operate 100 aircraft fleet in the continent's history. This affirms Ethiopian Airlines' leadership in the African aviation industry.

Mr Tewolde GebreMariam said, "It is an immense honour for all of us at Ethiopian to reach the milestone of 100 aircraft. This milestone is a continuation of our historical aviation leadership role in Africa and a testimony of the successful implementation of our fast, profitable and sustainable growth plan, Vision 2025".



He added, "Our new and cutting-edge fleet composed of B787s and A350s offer unparalleled on-board comfort to our customers and offer the best possible connections when travelling within Africa and between the continent and the rest of the world".

Ethiopian operates a mix of state-of-the-art aircraft with an average age of five years. The airline has five more Boeing 787-900 and 16 Airbus A350 airplanes on order, among others. Ethiopian was the first African airline and second only to Japan to operate the B787 Dreamliner in 2012 and the first carrier in Africa to usher in the Airbus A350 XWB in 2016.

For more information, please call 03 – 2141 2190

RJ Upgrades Crown Class Meals

Since July, Royal Jordanian (RJ) has upgraded its Crown Class meals. According to RJ President/CEO Stefan Pichler, the upgrade is part of many improvements carried out in response to passengers' suggestions and desires, expressed to RJ. He said that RJ is keen to continuously improve all guest services and part of this endeavour is the meal offer on RJ's flights.

RJ operates thrice weekly flights from KLIA to Amman, transiting at Bangkok. Malaysians travelling with RJ on Crown Class will be enriched with the meal upgrade.

The superior appetisers on Crown Class offer two choices: Arabic messe and Western hors d'oeuvres. They consist of a variety of meat and seafood choices, including smoked salmon, shrimps, calamari and roast beef, or stuffed vine leaves, tabbouleh, shankleesh and mutabbal. These choices will be changed every two weeks, during different cycles; at the

same time, the choices offered to passengers flying onboard RJ from Amman will be different from the choices offered out of Amman.

Pichler said, "We listen to our guests and want to receive their feedback, particularly in regard to our onboard services which RJ constantly works on improving".

For more information, please call 03 - 2148 7500



Air Canada Named Best North American Airline

Air Canada's achievements in recent years can be traced to a USD 10 billion investment in 2010, which included a fleet expansion with new aircraft. The airline's investment also included improving connectivity and services, resulting in enhanced passengers' experience.

The improvements continued over the years and in July 2018, it was named the Best Airline in North America for the second consecutive year by Skytrax World Airline Awards in a ceremony in London. The carrier was selected as the best in North America based on passenger satisfaction

surveys of approximately 20 million air travellers.

Air Canada is the world's tenth largest passenger airline by fleet size and operates to various destinations in Asia including Hong Kong, Taipei, Shanghai, Beijing, Tokyo, Osaka, and Seoul. Malaysian passengers can conveniently connect in one of these Asian cities to Canada and onward to the U.S., Latin America, and the Caribbean. The airline is also a founding member of Star Alliance.

Calin Rovinescu, President and Chief Executive Officer of Air Canada said on receiving the award, "We are pleased that Air Canada has again been recognised as the Best Airline in North America by the highly respected Skytrax

World Airline Awards. This is the seventh time in nine years Air Canada has been honoured with this award, demonstrating our successful transformation into a global carrier".

Edward Plaisted, CEO of Skytrax said, "Air Canada achieved a remarkable success winning this top accolade as the Best Airline in North America for the seventh time. Air Canada demonstrates that it is truly a passenger favourite as it continues to receive such a vote of confidence from customers".

In Malaysia, Discover the World is the General Sales Agent for Air Canada.

For more information, please call 03 - 2715 2053



AOC KLIA Bowling Tournament to Foster Friendship and Camaraderie



Airline Operators Committee of KLIA (AOC KLIA) was formed to build relationships and rapport among the airlines, government agencies, hoteliers and other associate members involved in the aviation industry. Currently, the AOC KLIA has 47 represented airlines as members, and 19 associate and non-airline members.

On 28 July at The Bowlers Arena located at Mesamall Shopping Centre, Nilai, Chairman of AOC KLIA Mokhtar Othman from Royal Brunei Airlines and Vice Chairman Eddie Ng from KLM Royal Dutch Airlines were in jovial spirit encouraging the various teams. They explained the importance and the significance of having regular inter-organisation building events. Amidst the bustling and lively atmosphere of the bowling tournament, Mokhtar pointed out, "KLIA is our home, friendship is the basis of everything...therefore it is important to know each other better so that issues between parties can be resolved much more efficiently".

In other words, the AOC KLIA has been successfully carrying out their constitutional objectives, as they aim to facilitate airport operations, safety and security pertaining to the clearance and handling of passengers, crew, baggage, cargo and aircraft. This refers to air navigation facilities and services, both in the air and on the ground. In addition, AOC KLIA is a platform for airline operators and authorities to ensure the smooth running of the airport, as well as involvement of all parties in the community vis-à-vis social activities.

For this particular event, 20 airlines including Malaysia Airlines, Malindo Air and AirAsia - participated as well as non-airline members such as Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA, Mövenpick KLIA, and associate members from Immigration Department of Malaysia (KLIA), Royal Malaysia Customs (KLIA), Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM), Pos Aviation and Aerodarat Services were amongst the ones who competed. Categories for the tournament consist of the team events, individual men's and individual women's.

"This is the second year that we are organising this event, following the success from last year", Eddie added, "A lot of planning was put into this; however, the extra work is outweighed by all the good things that come our way".

At the end of the event, Ritchie Chong, the Event Organising Chair of AOC KLIA from Etihad Airways announced the winners of the team and individual events:

Team Event:

- 1st place : Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA
- 2nd place : Polis Diraja Malaysia
- 3rd place : Immigration KLIA

Individual Event (Men's):

- 1st place : Kamaruddin Mohd Nor; Immigration KLIA
- 2nd place : Hisham Kassim; Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA
- 3rd place : Herman Bakar; Polis Diraja Malaysia

Individual Event (Women's):

- 1st place: Noraini Sulaiman; Polis Diraja Malaysia
- 2nd place: Farawahida Kamarudin; Malindo Air
- 3rd place: Kartini Rukman; Polis Diraja Malaysia

AOC KLIA Member Award: Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA

Another upcoming event by AOC KLIA will be a Gala Dinner with a nostalgic "Retro" theme to be held at Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA on 26 October 2018.



Lucky Shopper Wins **BMW 318i** at the Eraman Shopping Extravaganza



In August, Ms. Yap Teng Teng was pleasantly shocked when told that she had won a brand new BMW 318i for The Eraman Shopping Extravaganza – Buy & Win Contest.

Upon finding out about her windfall, Ms. Yap said, "I was very shocked and did not trust the caller at first. I really thought it was a scam. It took me a while to calm down and started to believe this amazing news. I travelled to Koh Sa Mui Thailand in May and I bought chocolates from the Eraman Duty Free Emporium at KLIA upon arrival. I remembered a girl at the cashier counter informing me that I was entitled to join the contest and so, I did. I still can't believe that I won the grand prize. It is such a wonderful surprise and never in my wildest dreams could I ever imagine that my purchase of RM350.20 would lead to this wonderful reward. Now I am walking away with a luxury car, a Bally bag and a year's worth of fuel by Petron. Thank you Eraman!"

Other than the grand-prize winner, fifty-four other lucky winners walked away with prizes worth over RM330,000 at the exclusive prize-giving ceremony held at KLIA.

The Eraman Shopping Extravaganza – Buy & Win Contest was first launched in June 2017, comprising of three phases and offering prizes worth more than RM1 million. It proved overwhelmingly popular garnering more than 400,000 entries with participants mainly from Malaysia, India, Indonesia and China.

General Manager of Malaysia Airports (Niaga) Zulhikam Ahmad said, "This shopping campaign is Eraman's way of supporting Malaysia Airports' Total Airport Experience initiative. Airport shopping is an integral part of the journey for travellers – contributing to a positive airport experience for the passengers. We will continue to foster close partnership with our brand principals as part of our promotional efforts to ensure that we carry the latest products and brands for passengers passing through our airports. We are pleased to also announce that by mid-August, renowned brands such as

La Mer, Tom Ford, Jo Malone and M.A.C. will be joining the Eraman family at Kota Kinabalu International Airport. We will also be increasing our Perfumes & Cosmetic kiosks with Gucci, M.A.C. and Jo Malone which will be available at Eraman Duty Free Emporium located at the Contact Pier KLIA soon".

Zulhikam also said that the third installation of the Eraman Shopping Extravaganza #25AmazingYears Contest 2018 was launched to commemorate the Eraman's 25th anniversary this year. It runs from July until October 2018 with prize offering worth more than RM1.2 million.

"With minimum spending of RM350 at any Eraman participating outlets, customers will stand a chance to win not one but two luxury cars from the Mercedes Benz CLA Coupe 200 AMG Line and many other prizes including international holiday packages to Scotland, Austria and Switzerland, gift vouchers, designer handbags and jewellery as well as points for Petron Miles Card and RM250 cash rebate for Maybank cardmembers", said Zulhikam.

Fashionable **Songket**

The fashion potential of songket struck a chord with Kraftangan and renown UK designer, Zandra Rhodes, resulting with their collaboration at the winter/summer collection in BFC Show Space, London in 2016.



collection, is the songket; woven from polyester and metallic yarn such as Lurex.

Karyaneka, the marketing arm for Kraftangan Malaysia has put up a selected range of outfit that exemplifies the fruits of the collaboration in a unique blend of contemporary style with songket patterns. The successful partnership forms part of a development programme to promote Malaysian textile in London.

Zandra, a specialist in textile design, first found her love in Malaysian batik when she visited Malaysia in 2013. The prime material that Zandra opted to use throughout her



First established in 1982, Karyaneka is a premium Malaysian handicraft boutique with outlets at KLIA and klia2, as well as other airports, such as the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Kota Bharu. On 1 September 2018, Karyaneka will re-open their outlet at Langkawi International Airport.

Puan Norizmah Mustaffa, General Manager of Karyaneka commented, "Karyaneka provides a wide range of handicraft product that exudes authenticity and class. This includes fashion, decorative accessories, gifts, souvenirs and interior decorative items. In order to cater to shoppers' convenience, these products are also available on our online store: www.karyaneka.my. All of Karyaneka's products are handcrafted by, as of now, 838 craftsmen from all corners of Malaysia".

Karyaneka is a wholly owned subsidiary of Perbadanan Kemajuan Kraftangan Malaysia ('Kraftangan'), a government agency under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia, and functions to market and promote craft products produced by local craft entrepreneurs from Malaysia. Its objective is to offer memorable handicrafts that reflect the Malaysian ethnic and cultural heritage as well as to sell them at an affordable price to international and local customers. This is reflected in its tagline, "Malaysian Craft At Its Best".

Puan Norizmah commented, "At the airports, foreign travellers often like to buy ethnic gifts which reflect Malaysian heritage and craftsmanship. Our products are of good quality and Malaysian batik is our top sellers amongst our largest customers from China and Europe".

The recent fashion range from Zandra Rhodes has introduced a fresh and stunning face to Karyaneka, demonstrating just how capable and versatile Malaysian songket can be.



Malaysia Airlines' Golden Child Makes a Comeback



Malaysia Airlines welcome all guests travelling with First and Business Class, Enrich Platinum and Gold members as well as oneworld Emerald and Sapphire members to their newly refurbished 'Golden Lounge'.

Adorned with beautiful artworks by local artists and newly refurbished interiors, Malaysia Airlines' certainly has a stunning new face. The satellite 'Golden Lounge', reopened in February 2018 this year oozes class and prestige. It now offers newly built facilities that places it above its competitors, which includes a live kitchen, diverse variety of food, coffee bar manned by a dedicated barista and a nyonya themed laksa bar. Dining offers hot

and cold entrees, salad and fruit, plus a fruit pastry tray. This is completed with a swanky bar and a kid's area.

Weary travellers can come in seek of rest and relaxation in this large lounge and refresh themselves with the newly built shower rooms as well as a cozy, dimly lit napping area. Or one can come in seek of solitude or hold a private meeting in their first-class suite situated at the end of the first class lounge.

The airline lounge also features tributes to local culture and art, as keen art enthusiasts are greeted with artworks by the likes of famous artist: Ibrahim Hussein and Yusof Ghani. One of the most eye-catching artwork by the latter called, 'Flight of Ideas' was specially commissioned by the airlines; an ode to the airlines' rebirth from adversity.

Head of Customer Experience (newly formed in June), Lau Yin May emphasised, "From now on, we prioritise wholeheartedly on the customer experience; it is our centre of gravity. We aim to make the customer's experience pleasant and smooth from the very first moment they book their business trip or holiday until they reach their destination. We want their experience to be wholesome". In addition, small initiatives such as increasing the amount of power sockets have been carried out for the Golden Lounge.

The airlines acknowledge that their customers are very informed, so they encourage customers to engage with them by sending in feedback. Their market research team are involved in measuring and analysing all aspects of the customer's experience. "We want to know our customers 360 degrees", as Yin May says. They also have future plans to roll out a new



point-redeeming system with their non-airline partners so that customers can use their points to dine in Hilton, for example.

It is safe to say that Malaysia Airlines are rolling out all the stops to impress, and at the centre of it all, their anchor product the new Golden Lounge, their 'golden child'.

The satellite lounge boasts a floor space of over 4,000 square meters, accommodating 330 guests in the business class area and 125 guests in the first class area at any one moment. It is opened 24 hours and located in the Mezzanine Floor, Satellite Building of KLIA.



Interview with Azli Mohamed

Chief Strategy Officer, Malaysia Airports

Having clocked in since 22 May 2017 as the CSO, a new position created by Malaysia Airports as it enters into its 4.0 digital transformation journey, Azli has been running on full steam and kept busy getting the building blocks of the Malaysia Airports' digitalisation progress on track.

Aviation has always been in my blood, declares Azli, who started his early career path in banking, strategising, handling mergers and acquisitions, business development and private equity in cross-border and multi-industry environment. Prior to joining Malaysia Airports, he was with General Electric for seven years wearing several hats, including as COO for Malaysia.

Azli, who turns 42 in November, was a musician, drummer and a back-up recording sessionist playing in studios and clubs. Now married with four children, with his youngest boy almost two years old, it's a wonder how he juggles his work-life balance and have time for his hobbies.

Please share with us what your job scope as Malaysia Airports Chief Strategy Officer (CSO) entails.

The main mandate is obviously to set the overarching strategy for amplification of the businesses via various different models, both on the core and non-core areas of business. At the same time, further emphasis has been put on driving efficiency and productivity as well as organic and inorganic growth of the company. Presently, much as my attention is on the Digital Transformation (DX) starting with KL International Airport (KLIA) and klia2 digitalisation roll-out. My focus is on drivers such as the operational efficiency, terminal optimisation, the regulatory framework and the monetisation aspect, which is how to increase revenue for Malaysia Airports.

Please update us on the latest progress made by Malaysia Airports towards the roll-out of its Airports 4.0 digitalisation plan.

Airports 4.0 consists of six main components, namely its driver and enablers, internet of things (IOT)/ industrial IOT (IIOT) framework, supporting building blocks consisting elements such as Intelligent Enterprise, Cyber & Information Security, Big Data Analytics (BDA) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The remaining two components are the seven solutioning clusters and the Unified Digital Platform (UDP), dubbed as the lifeline for the Airports 4.0.

As of now, all the main components are in place and we are rolling out in stages various initiatives that fall under the solutioning clusters such as Flow Monitoring and Management, Process Automation and Customer Engagement. Some of the initiatives are designed as minimum viable products (MVPs) and being implemented in the form of pilot or proof of concept (POC). This to allow the need to pivot or go for commercialisation without further delays.

At the same time, we have to recognise that the essence of the digitalisation process lies in providing real-time information of the services and facilities available at the airport. It requires integrating the information feeds from our stakeholders and this is no easy task.

Tell us more about Malaysia Airports' partnership with OpenText, the Canadian-based provider of Enterprise Information Management products and services, as part of your digitalisation initiative.

Our partnership with OpenText started in November 2017, with their role as the solutions provider for the BDA implementation at Malaysia Airports. OpenText's scope is to implement the UDP with both data lake and AI or machine learning capabilities and five business cases. They are namely Management of Passenger and Public Sentiments, Curb/Car Park to gate tracking of passengers, Mobile App, Retail Analytics and Financial Analytics, which will result in the total of 31 dedicated releases or projects. To date, we have completed the UDP, Mobile App, Washroom Response Management System (VRMS) and Washroom Inspection Management System (VIMS) with several more to be released in few weeks' time.

Would you care to elaborate on the UDP that Malaysia Airports is developing?

The UDP is the engine running our BDA. Anchored by the data lake to manage the analytics and AI or machine learning capabilities, it will be able to transform data into information, information into insights and insights into decisions and actions. Imagine with the 60 million passengers per annum going through both KLIA and klia2, and the ability to convert the data collected into something that is extremely valuable. With OpenText Magellan, this AI-powered analytics platform will be able to model and simulate the information gathered from the data lake and provide predictive and prescriptive solutions towards the problem solving.

Meanwhile, the data feeds coming from various IOT/IIOT to the data lakes could be in the form of elevators, people movers, aerotrans as well as cameras, beacons and sensors. It is important to have an overarching IOT/IIOT framework that is able to capture all the data coming from various different sources and in multitude of formats. There is no one size fits all IOT/IIOT solutioning. However, the framework needs to be robust enough to ensure flexibility in terms of options and scale.

With the immediate focus being on KLIA and klia2, when will the other international airports in Malaysia be able to benefit from this digitalisation journey?

While the roll-out of the digitalisation is anchored at KLIA and klia2, the other international airports are not side lined in the process. For example, Kuching International Airport is in the forefront from the e-commerce angle.

We are jointly creating a POC on the self service solutioning with IER, a French company, for Langkawi International Airport as its passenger profiling differs from other airports. For Penang, we are focusing on the terminal optimisation, where digitalisation will be supporting the infrastructure development in order to achieve the goal.

It is worth noting that various self service digitalisation initiatives such as self check-in via kiosks and self bag drop are implemented simultaneously in KLIA/klia2 as well as the other international airports in Malaysia. Although it is quite obvious that KLIA/klia2 will be the initial beneficiaries of the digitalisation efforts, we are working diligently to ensure how the roll-out could be implemented promptly across other airports factoring issues such as technology and infrastructure readiness.



There appears to be much hype about MYairports mobile apps at its recent launch. However, many of its features have yet to be put into place then. What is its status to-date?

We recently announced the second release of the MYairports mobile apps on 31 July with the add-on of the Dynamic Content and Home-to-Gate Journey Planner. The other update on 20 August highlighted on the Transit Journey Planner. The second release has a dynamic, new look and more interactive information on klia2, which was unavailable before.

With the continuous upgrade, we are able to provide more precise information for passengers. The Mandarin version of the apps is expected to be rolled out in September 2018.

You were at the recent Farnborough International Airshow (FIA). What are the benefits of attending such airshows or events for Malaysia Airports?

It is about attracting the tier 1 and 2 suppliers, aerospace companies and investors, enticing them to invest in Malaysia and creating more awareness about our KLIA Aeropolis and Subang Aerospace developments. In addition, the theme of FIA this year is on Aerospace 4.0 and innovation. We had good engagement and learnings on new technologies that could benefit the airport industry either directly or indirect.

How does the collaboration with the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) at FIA help Malaysia Airports in its tie-ups with investors and strategic partners from various foreign companies?

When the potential foreign partners decide to invest in Malaysia, one of the main criteria that will be assessed is the incentives mechanism. Sophisticated investors will be keen to have pre-engagement with MIDA and clarify all the concerns upfront as well as negotiate some unique value propositions. It is not just discussions about investment and the best lease rate they can get but how they can grow together with us. Having MIDA with us gives us more muscle when we try to woo the big boys, especially the tier 1 companies as the authority covers specific incentives that cut across multi-industries.

For those aspiring to be a CSO, what tips would you give them? Do they need to have certain prerequisites?

I am more interested to focus on the soft skills, which is something that I hold closely. The five elements I brand as the 5Hs are Head, Hand, Heart, How and Humility. Head refers to your ability to be resilient to learn new things but the drive has to be there. Hand is a must have and you need to ask yourself if you are able to roll up your sleeve and learn things the hard way rather than just be sitting on the ivory tower.

When it comes to Heart, I am a strong proponent of management by passion while the last two Hs are anchors to the first three elements. In How, it is all about integrity and the criticality of it. Always be alert of your moral compass and do not cut corners in achieving your goals. Lastly, you need to have Humility on the ground no matter how high you are in climbing the corporate ladder. These 5Hs need to be anchored by emotional intelligence as this is what separates you as a leader rather than a manager. Quoting one of my mentors, "Title is given, but influence and respect need to be earned".

On the personal front, what are your hobbies or favourite pastimes?

Aside from music, photography is my other passion. I have sold several of my photos during the course of my photography journey. Two of them were bought by KLM and I have also won several photography competition in the past. I tend to be attracted in shooting portraits, moments and landscapes



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THE EMERALD TEMPLE

Bangkok's emblem of inspiration

BY SITI WAJIAH KHOLIL

The Temple of Emerald, located in Bangkok and attracting thousands of visitors each day, is an architectural symbol of Thailand. Arguably one of the most photographed landmark in the country, it is no surprise that many artists have taken upon its wondrous beauty as the focal point of their artwork. Known as Wat Phra Kaew to the people, the glorious ornamented temple's aesthetics ignite a spiritual awakening to an artist's inspiration, thus, resulting in an artwork that emanates divinity and peace. Among the artists who have succumbed to their muse from witnessing the magnificence of the Temple of Emerald are artists like Choo Keng Kwang and Chia Yu Chian.

CHOO KENG KWANG

An ethereal art master

Born in 1931 in Singapore, Choo Keng Kwang is a beloved first generation artist and is the pride jewel of his country. Choo gained his well-deserved and exceptional reputation through his extraordinary traditional oil paintings of landscape, animals and nature, inspired mostly from his travels and exposure. A highly accomplished painter, a committed educationist and a generous supporter of social charities, his contributions and efforts since the 1950's have made him a cherished icon in the world of art.



Choo has had the privilege of holding and participating in various solo and group art exhibitions in Singapore and countries afar. His works have toured Southeast Asia, Japan, Europe and the United States. His artworks are valued by art aficionados and are found in the collections of national leaders, museums, institutions, as well as public and private corporations. More impressively, he was even invited to exhibit his paintings in Brunei to commemorate the Sultan of Brunei's 47th birthday in July 1993. In recent years, his paintings are well sought-after by art collectors. Therefore,

many of Choo's masterpieces have been sold at notable public auction houses such as Christie's International, Raffles Fine Art Auctioneers and Sotheby's.

Choo is distinguished for his landscape or landmark paintings, by his travels around the world which resulted in a series of exceptional pieces between the 1960's and 1970's. He clearly illustrated his exposure to diverse cultures from his tours, including amazing Thailand, and was obviously enchanted by the magnificence of The Temple of Emerald.

KLAS ART AUCTION

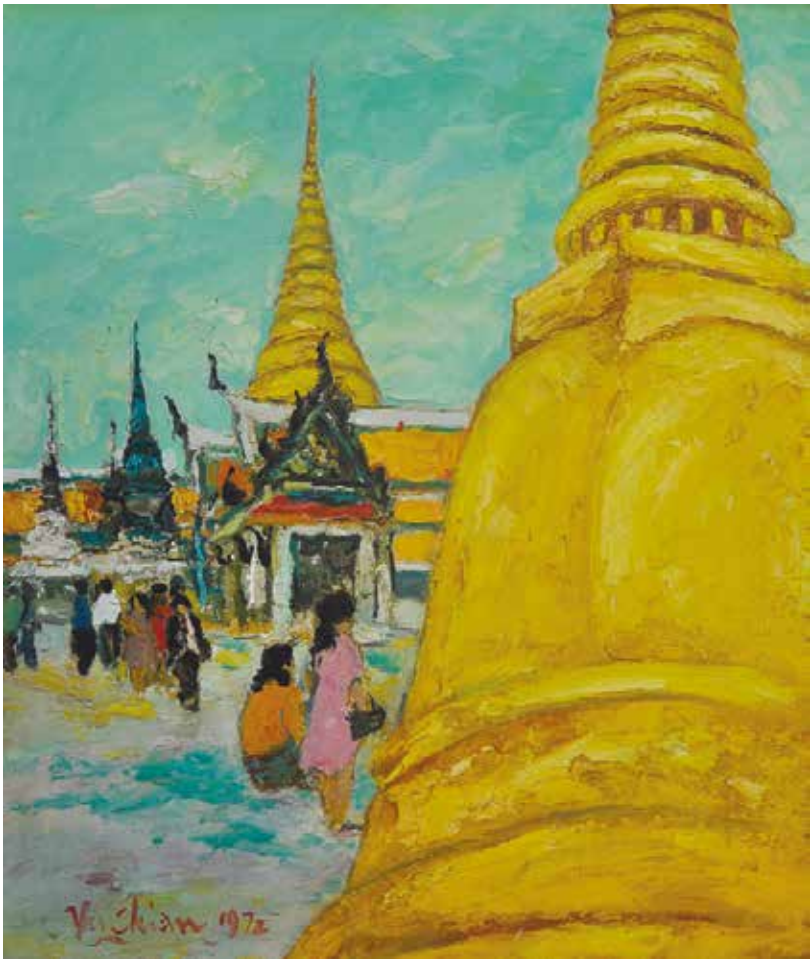
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His 1961 Temple of Emerald painting illustrates his impressionist art style which he did so successfully by bringing forth the temple's majestic aura. Choo retained his signature exudation of a dreamy aesthetic, luring viewers to not only see but feel its extraordinary mystical beauty. Though his use of mainly green, yellow and brown hues created vague figures and forms of the temple's silhouette, he still portrayed a realistic atmosphere of the surrounding. His smear of greens as seen on the artwork gives a tropical ambience that encloses the space. Combined with his immaculate ethereal quality and delicate brushwork, he undoubtedly did the emblem justice with his glorious masterpiece.

Emerald Temple, Bangkok, 1961
Oil on canvas board 60.5 x 45cm
RM 12,000 - RM 25,000



Emerald Temple, Bangkok, 1972
Oil on board 52.5 x 43.5cm
RM 18,000 - RM 36,000

CHIA YU CHIAN

A keen observer

Born in Johor in 1936, Chia Yu Chian studied at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in Singapore and graduated in 1958. He was known for being the first artist from the Straits Settlement to receive a French Government

scholarship at Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts in Paris and was commissioned by the Malaysian High Commission in Paris to paint a mural called 'Life in Malaysia'. In Paris, he was accepted for exhibitions 15 times, a few with honorary mentions by the Salon des Independent and Societe des Artistes Francaise. These achievements are deemed very impressive

as his only art background then was an informal guidance under another renowned artist, Chen Wen Hsi.

Throughout his career, Chia had numerous solo exhibitions and his artworks are found in the collection of various private collectors around the world, be they individuals or institutions. More impressively, prominent dignitaries such as the 11th Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah, the first Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman and politician Tun Dr Lim Chong Eu had attended his art exhibitions.

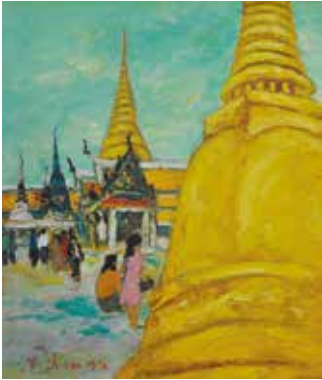
Most of Chia's artworks were oil paintings and once in a while, he would resort to pastel, ink and watercolour medium. In the 1950's, he painted mainly village sceneries, landscapes and people going about their daily routine. He was known to be the master of observation, keeping in mind every detail of what he saw. Post-1959, when he was living in Paris, his art underwent a Fauvist movement phase which had a more fluid texture, producing a piece like Paris (1961), his tribute to the French capital. He also had other attention-grabbing works like Petition Writer (1977) and Election Fever (1978).

Of course, Chia was also fascinated with the architecture of Buddhist temples, especially one that vibes such archaic power like The Temple of Emerald. His masterpiece of The Emerald Buddha Temple, Bangkok, 1972 oil on canvas depicts a scene of what goes on in a day at the sacred temple. He captured people visiting the holy sanctuary and primarily focused on the stupa, a significant feature and the focal point of the temple.

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For the art piece, he used vibrant colours that illuminates positive energy. There is something about his choice of colours that sends a surge of good vibes. The bright sky, the golden stupas and figures in various coloured attire, he painted his subjects with spiritual optimism. In his own way, he connoted his experience of the culture and expressed it with colour palettes that not only highlight the people in the scenery but also the temple's divine and grandiose topography. What is most apparent is the contrast of the different elements from one feature or figure to another which makes the painting visually brighter and more lively. Indeed, the late Chia knew how to channel the feel of his own experience and at the same time, illustrating the celestial motif of the Temple of Emerald impeccably.

Emerald Temple, Bangkok, 1972
Oil on board 52.5 x 43.5cm
RM 18,000 - RM 36,000



CHEUNG YEE (Zhang Yi)

BY SITI WAJIAH KHOLIL

Born in 1936 in Guangzhou, China, Cheung Yee thrived as a painter and sculptor with his incredible skill of producing works which encapsulate the olden times. He is wellknown for being the pioneer of incorporating Chinese elements in western art forms. Not only is he a notable artist whose eminent artworks are extraordinarily distinct, he is also very highly respected as he has mentored many of Hong Kong's aspiring artists, having been the professor of fine art at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

CHEUNG YEE'S ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Cheung graduated from the Fine Art Department of National Taiwan Normal University in 1958. He was a founding member of the Hong Kong Artists' Guild in 1987 and later founded the Circle Group with other local artists such as Hon Chi Fun and Wucius Wong in 1963. The group was deemed as Hong Kong's 'local avant-garde', creating abstract art pieces of unique concepts via a mixture of eastern and western mediums that embedded Chinese tradition. The group consists of more than

nine members, some of whom have become very well-known artists in the country. In the same year, Cheung exhibited at City Museum and Art Gallery in Hong Kong and later received a grant to the USA and Europe from the Institute of International Education the following year.

Between 1968 and 1973, Cheung was a tutor at the Extramural Studies Department of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Hong Kong. Over the years, he also had various successes through exhibitions around the world including one at the Commonwealth Institute in London. In 1976, he became a part-time lecturer of the Department of Fine Art of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and senior lecturer at the Department of Design, Hong Kong Polytechnic from 1978 to 1983. He then taught at the Department of Fine Art of the Chinese University of Hong Kong again in 1983 and then became the chairman of the Hong Kong Sculptors Association and also advisor to the Hong Kong Museum of Art. Today, he resides peacefully at his home in California and continues his passion for the arts.

HIS ARTISTIC TRADEMARK

Immediately from the get-go, it was apparent that Cheung's works in both technique and style were mused by Chinese ancestral tradition. He fused an old lost craft of paper with his sculptural technique, etching out wooden moulds, each individually unique on its own. Despite his traditional style, his masterpieces transcend time as they also exude a modern and contemporary feel, which is what makes his works so remarkable. What more with his signature 3-D mural sculptures of elaborate patterns and symbols that are often vibrant in monotonous colours of gold, red, blue and green.

Cheung's touch may seem simple but behind the simplicity are intricate carvings of archaic forms and cryptic symbols which illustrate various narratives. Be it an ancient Chinese poem, writings, story-telling figurines of legends, engraved fortune-telling tortoises or I-Ching hexagram patterns, these profound features set him apart from other artists, drawing the attention of art aficionados.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOLADES

As expected from a renowned artist, Cheung has an impressive artistic repertoire under his belt. As a pioneer of the contemporary art movement in Hong Kong, it is no surprise that his artistic, innovative talent and contributions have also won him The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Member class (MBE) in 1979 conferred by the Queen of England.

Throughout his career, he has exhibited his magnificent works in various exhibitions. To date, Cheung holds the record as the only living artist in the history of Hong Kong to have been specially invited to exhibit three solo exhibitions at the prestigious Hong Kong Museum of Art. He has had other exhibitions as well such as at the Sally Jackson Gallery in Hong Kong, The Luz Gallery in Manila, Museum of Modern Art in Mexico City, National Museum of History in Taipei, Taiwan Museum of Art, Taipei Fine Arts Museum and Kaohsiung Fine Arts Museum. His masterpieces can be found in many private collections in other parts of the world such as Sweden, Switzerland, England, USA, Canada, Japan, Germany, Italy, Greece, India, Spain, France and New Zealand.



Dubbed the 'Grandfather of Singapore Sculpture', Ng Eng Teng who was born on July 12, 1934, studied painting under first-generation masters such as Georgette Chen and Liu Kang. He then moved to England to further his studies in ceramics.

Upon returning to Singapore in 1966, Eng Teng produced prolific works throughout his career until his death in November 2001. He was a celebrated artist in Singapore, remembered for his large-scale sculptures gracing many public spaces.

Among Eng Teng's slew of sculptures, one stands out; it is an homage to a great art legend, Frank Sullivan. Sullivan's influential foothold in the art movement in Malaysia and Singapore inspired Eng Teng to create the 'Bust of Frank Sullivan' in the 1970's.

Eng Teng's sculpture, 'Bust of Frank Sullivan' which was previously in the private collection of an English estate in London, shows his meticulous brilliance, capturing the essence

and minutiae of Sullivan's features perfectly, from his smile to the waves in his hair.

It could also be assumed that both Sullivan and Eng Teng had crossed paths during Sullivan's active advocacy of the local art scene in Malaysia and Singapore that led him to pay a tribute to this great man.

ABOUT FRANK SULLIVAN

Frank Sullivan was one of Malaysia's pioneer in the Malaysian art movement. His contribution to the Malaysian and Singapore landscape is very well published in numerous art books in both countries.

Sullivan was the Australian Press Secretary to the first Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman. Sullivan had a close, lifelong association with Malaysia that began during the Pacific War. In 1946, he purchased his first painting in Singapore and became so engrossed with the art of Malaya that, in 1952, he co-founded the Malayan Arts Council (MAC).

At the brink of independence, in 1956, the MAC successfully broached the idea of a National Art Gallery with Tunku Abdul Rahman. With Tunku's support, the gallery was institutionalised in 1958, at his residence where it remained until moving to its current location in 1984. Sullivan was diligent in the materialisation and promotion of the gallery. His position in the gallery was initially as a secretary of the first Working Committee and then as a member of the Board of Trustees, a position he held until 1971.

Further promoting modern Malaysian artists, Sullivan opened the Samat Gallery, Malaysia's first commercial gallery for contemporary art, in 1967. It is without a doubt that he played a pivotal and integral role in the Malaysian art scene, discovering talents such as Khalil Ibrahim who held his first exhibition at Samat Gallery.

Frank Sullivan's influential foothold in the art industry in Singapore and Malaysia probably inspired Eng Teng to create the 'Bust of Frank Sullivan'.



FRANK SULLIVAN

Ng Eng Teng's Tribute to an Art Legend

BY HIRANMAYI AWLI MOHANAN

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The following sculpture shows his minimal concept, yet includes intricate round carvings of archaic forms which makes one wonder the inspiration behind it. The dark colours and random dotted narrative seems like an enigma that is only known to the artist himself. It could be a cryptic message of an ancient Chinese poem or maybe it's part of his infamous tortoises. Regardless, he remains his signature style that emanates simplicity with puzzling, yet ancient touches.

Writing, Edition 44/50
Embossed paper 85 x 59cm
RM 8,000 - RM 12,000

KLAS ART AUCTION
MALAYSIAN MODERN & CONTEMPORARY ART
SALE XXXIII

SAVE *the* DATE
23 September 2018



Eng Teng's sculpture which was previously in the private collection of an English estate in London, shows his meticulous brilliance, captures the essence and minutiae of Sullivan's features perfectly, from his smile to the waves in his hair. This tribute to Sullivan will be showcased in KLAS's upcoming art auction.

Study of a Man's Head, 1970s
Patinated clay on marble base 40 cm (Height)
RM 12,000 - RM 22,000



Tun Mahathir Returns to Launch Sepang International Circuit (SIC) Nightlights

Lighting the night ride away to a new era of track racing



Tun Dr. Mahathir touring the premise and enjoying the test night drive at the launch



Malaysia's Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir officiating the SIC Nightlights launch on August 1st, 2018



Due to popular demand with full bookings at an average of 98% per year in the last few years, the installation of circuit lights serves a purpose in allowing the selling of more track time, especially on weekends when the demand is especially high. This is an opportunity for SIC to increase its track bookings by being available at night. Also, there is a very high possibility that night racing will be very well accepted and has immense potential in becoming very popular in Malaysia.

"We have engaged specialists that have the expertise with circuit lighting and they were also responsible for installing lights at the Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi, Losail International Circuit in Qatar, Jukasa Speedway in Canada and Bahrain International Circuit amongst others. They were also responsible for the lighting at the National Stadium in Bukit Jalil for the KL SEA Games last year," said Tan Sri Azman Yahya, chairman of SIC, at the launch.

Rigorous test sessions were conducted late last year as it is crucial to determine the suitable lux level for the circuit, mainly ranging between 70 and 150 lux. After trials, it was evident that this range level was apt for night track racing. However, higher lux level is required for



broadcasting purposes, therefore, it will not sync with racing events such as the Formula 1 and MotoGP.

The circuit lights consist of 64 light poles, measuring a minimum of 17m to 43m, with a consistent illumination power of 150 lux throughout the circuit. Despite the technicality, it is crucial that the position of the poles and the lights were designed in a way that all parts of the circuit have the same illumination intensity. This is to ensure that motorbike riders can judge the braking zone as well as cornering apex and acceleration zone perfectly. The design and location of the poles have been approved by the International

Motorcycling Federation (FIM) and International Automobile Federation (FIA).

The initiative of lighting the circuit at night will continue to propel SIC's business sustainability and open up a new dimension to track experience. Spectators will be able to experience a different side to racing as the scene and atmosphere definitely differ during night time. The dark sky scape, the radiant nightlights and the cool breeze as the sun is away, give one a completely different feel altogether which must be experienced at least once in a life time. Truly, the launch of the circuit nightlights is only the beginning of a new era for SIC.

What a night Malaysia has witnessed as the Sepang International Circuit (SIC) is now lighted up for motorsport enthusiasts to enjoy the thrill of seeing night racing as of Aug 1, 2018. The SIC has taken the initiative to install lights around the 5.543km circuit, providing an exhilarating prospect for petrol heads as the smell of burning rubber at night will give a different depth to this new era of racing.

What was even more exciting was that the historic SIC Nightlights event was officially launched by none other than Prime Minister, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamed. After 19 years of the officiate at launch of SIC, he returned once again to officiate the iconic circuit. The premier was even seen all smiles as he experienced the fully-lit track around the circuit first hand and simply enjoying the night drive.

Since its inception in 1999, the SIC has been the crown jewel of Malaysian motorsports, accommodating extremely popular events like the Formula 1 and MotoGP. Although many new circuits have emerged around the globe, SIC is the first modern Formula 1 circuit in the world, and is deemed as one of the best platforms for pure racing. Undoubtedly, the launch of the circuit lights will advance and hoist the SIC name, becoming one of the very few circuits in the world to host night racing.



MANGALA RESORT & SPA

From a Desolate Land to an Eden

BY HIRANMAYII AWLI MOHANAN

The charming story of Mangala Resort and Spa began with a barren land. The land that this resort now sits on was historically used for tin mining from the 1930's till late 1970's. It was subsequently used for sand mining activities from the late 1970's till the 2000's in which its produce was primarily supplied to Kuantan Port. Since then, it became a wasteland with hundreds of unsightly gullies, pond, and small lakes with hardly any vegetation.

Lebuhraya Tun Razak,
26300, Kuantan, Pahang
Tel: 013 242 6788
Email: reservation@
mangalaresortandspa.com
Website: www.
mangalaresortandspa.com



Then, Mangala Resort and Spa underwent a 15-year adventure of rejuvenation that transformed a desolate land to a paradise. Today, the beautiful villas amid a large expanse of palm plantation, exotic flower, herb gardens, fruit trees, rehabilitated lakes and undisturbed wastelands. The luxurious, tropical retreat was consciously designed to enhance each guest's experience with nature, thereby fostering a gentle and mindful solidarity between guests and nature.

Mangala, defined as auspicious well-being in Sanskrit embodied into this establishment's concept and interior. This resort has recently bagged the FIABCI World Gold Winner Title under the environmental category for its rehabilitation and conservation. As soon as one passes through the gates of this Eden, it unfolds a beautiful passage enveloped by palm trees that eventually leads to the resort. This resort sits on a land that sprawls over a 400 hectares of palm



trees and land for a stay unlike any other.

The resort boasts four types of villa, ranging from the Sara Villa to the latest addition, Amani Villa. Each villa embodies a character of its own, evident in its facilities and interior, yet adhering to the simple mission of offering the fatigued a sanctuary to recharge from the bustle of the city.

SARA VILLA

Those who wish to be close to nature and bask in its beauty, Sara Villa is perfect for you. Overlooking the Mangala Wetlands, patrons can bear witness to nature's creations

such as various species of birds, seasonal migratory birds, ducks and fishes. We recommend cosying up to your loved one and enjoy the spacious, open-air private balcony.

JALA VILLA

Having stayed at Jala Villa, we can honestly say that this is something out of a novel. Perching on wooden stilts, this villa opens up to a breathtaking view of Mangala Lake, the focal point of the resort and offers a wide balcony for patrons to feast their eyes upon. Besides that, the pantry, whirlpool tub and rain shower under the skylight are goals for those who appreciate interior design.

VANA VILLA

Vana Villa pleases the nature-seekers by offering an exclusive, private enclosure. Pamper yourself to a romantic setting with your better half, encapsulated by palm trees and a myriad of bird species found at this resort. Enhancing this blissful experience is an outdoor rain shower, tub and pantry to truly immerse in the natural ambience. In addition, guests who enjoy a private pool can opt for the Vana Pool Villa

while families or friends who wish to share private moments together can choose the two-bedroom Vana Pool Villa.

AMANI VILLA

This recent addition to Mangala Resort and Spa is distinct for its private, saltwater plunge pool. What's more interesting is that this villa type is enveloped by a small orchard of mangoes and the ever so popular Musang King trees. If lady luck is on your side, you might be able to savour the king of fruits for free.

While offering a respite, this establishment proffers guests a host of recreational activities such as cycling around the estate, nature walks, kayaking, archery and many more. When hunger finally befalls the stomach, patrons can head over to the Lakeside Restaurant, Mangala's resident restaurant.

Striving to ensure a memorable experience at Mangala Resort and Spa, it now offers a special promotion where patrons can enjoy a stay at any of the four types of villa for the price of one. Hurry and pamper yourself this weekend!

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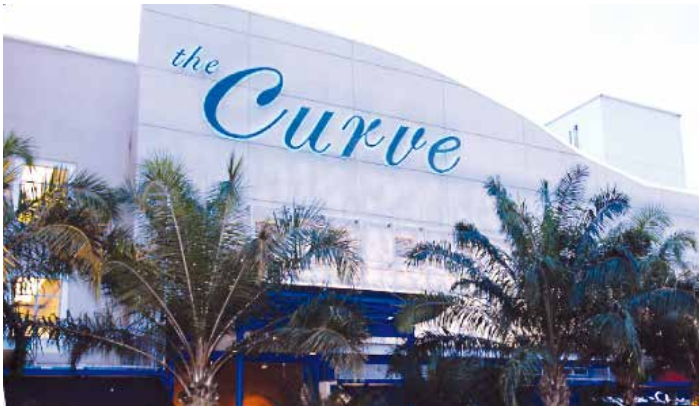
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Developer: Mayfair Ventures Sdn Bhd (1046201-T) • Developer's License No.: 14157-1/11-2017/0941(I) • Validity Period: 10/11/2015 - 09/11/2017 • Advertising & Sales Permit No.: 14157-1/11-2017/0941(P) • Validity Period: 10/11/2015 - 09/11/2017 • Approving Authority: Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya • Approval Plan No.: MBPJ/120100/7/P1079/2015 • Land Encumbrances: United Overseas Bank (Malaysia) Bhd • Land Tenure: Leasehold 99 years (Expiry 30 December 2114) • Expected Date of Completion: June 2019 • Type of Property: Serviced Residences • Total Units: 372 • Selling Price: RM809,200.00 (Min) - RM1,952,303.00 (Max) • Built Up: 862sqft (Min) - 2,218sqft (Max) • Bumiputera Discount: 10% • SOHO: Total Units: 62 • Selling Price: RM550,000 (Min) - RM 700,000 (Max) • Built Up: 441sqft (Min) - 452sqft (Max) • Restriction in Interest: This land cannot be transferred, leased or charged without prior consent from State Authority.



the Curve
Mutiarra Damansara, PJ
Tel : 03-7710 6868
Situating in PJ's golden triangle, this open-air mall boasts 700,000 sq ft of space spreading over 3 floors and accommodating 270 specialty shops. It is connected to Ikea, Ikano Power Centre and Tesco. • 10am-10pm daily.

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

Alamanda Putrajaya
Jalan Alamanda, Precinct 1, Putrajaya
Tel : 03-8888 8882
Accessibility: ERL Putrajaya & Nadi Putra (bus service) Located at the heart of Putrajaya, Alamanda offers a new resort-style shopping to suit the needs of all - from Parkson & Carrefour as anchor tenants, FOS, Somerset Bay, MPH and Toycity tagged with ARL Bowl.

CapSquare
Jalan Munshi Abdullah • 📍 M Tuanku
📍 Dang Wangi
Tel: 03-2697 7662
Strategically located in the heart of KL's midtown area, CapSquare is an eclectic mix of signature offices, Manhattan-inspired residences, a shopping centre and a vibrant 300-metre retail boulevard. It also houses intimate eateries, chill-out spots and a TGV cinema. • D6

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

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

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

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

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

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

IPC Shopping Centre (Formerly Ikano)
2, Jalan PUJ 7/2, Damansara Mutiara, PJ
Tel: 03-7730 0333
Located near 1 Utama and linked to IKEA, this centre only has XXL size stores. The 11 anchor tenants includes Harvey

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DINE



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Chinese

Celestial Court
03-2717 9988 📍 M Tuanku •
Sheraton Imperial Hotel
• Halal • Casual Dining • C6

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

Dynasty
03-2771 6773 📍 B Nanas • East Wing, Renaissance Hotel
• Non-Halal • Casual Dining • D7

Dynasty Dragon
03-4280 5666 📍 Ampang Water Front
• Non-Halal • Casual Dining • F8

Hakka
03-21431907 📍 Raja Chulan 6 Jalan Kia Peng • Non-Halal • Casual Dining • E9

Imbi Palace
03-2143 1128 📍 Jalan Bukit Bintang
Pavilion • Non-Halal • Casual Dining • F8

Kim Ma
03-8946 2333 • Palace of the Golden Horses • The Mines Resort City • Halal Fine Dining • Cantonese cuisine

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

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

Maju Palace
03-2691 8822 📍 M Tuanku S Ismail • Level 5, Maju Junction Mall • Halal • Casual Dining • C5

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

Marco Polo
03-2141 2233 📍 Raja Chulan • 1/F, Wisma Lim Foo Yong, Jalan Raja Chulan • Non-Halal • Casual Dining • E8

Meisan
03-2614 8056 📍 Bandaraya • Quality Hotel City Centre • Jalan Raja Laut • Halal • Casual Dining • Szechuan cuisine

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

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

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

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

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

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

French

Café Café
03-2141 8141 📍 Maharajalela • 175 Jalan Maharajalela • Halal • Fine Dining • Fr & Italian • H7

Fusion

Cilantro
03-2179 8082 • MiCasa All Suite Hotel, 368B Jalan Tun Razak • Pork-Free • Halal • Fine Dining • D10

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

Indian

Estana Curry House
03-2141 1958 📍 Raja Chulan • 23D, Jln Sultan Ismail • Halal • Casual Dining • C6

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

Spice Garden Imperial
03-2142 2220 📍 B. Bintang • 205 Jln Bkt Bintang.

International

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

The Resort Cafe
03 - 7495 2009 . Lobby Level, Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa
*Pork-Free Restaurant

Eight Gourmets Gala (EGG)
017 948 8684 . Suite G-01, Ground Floor, Pinnacle Annexe, Persiaran Lagoan, Bandar Sunway, 47500, Selangor

Maya Brasserie
03- 2711 8866 📍 B Nanas • KLCC • Hotel Maya KL • Halal • Casual Dining • Nyonya & International • D8

Melting Pot
012-399 0734 📍 B Nanas Concorde Hotel, 2 Jln Sultan Ismail • Halal • 24-hour • Casual Dining • D7

Still Water Restaurant
03-2333 1360 📍 B Nanas 📍 KLCC • Hotel Maya KL • Halal • Casual Dining • Japanese & Western • D8

PNB Darby Cafe
03-7490 3838 📍 Ampang Park • G/F, PNB Darby Park, Executive Suites, 10 Jalan Binjai • Halal • Casual Dining • D9



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Italian

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

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

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

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

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

Japanese

Tatsu Japanese Restaurant
03-2782 6118 📞 Ampang Park InterContinental Hotel
Halal • Casual Dining • C9

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

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

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

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

Iketeru
03-2264 2264 🚗 Stesen Sentral KL • Hilton Kuala Lumpur, 3 Jln Stesen Sentral
Halal • Casual Dining

Kampachi
03-2148 9608 🚗 Raja Chulan • Pavilion KL

Kokufu
03-4049 4412 • Sri Pan Pacific KL
Halal • Fine Dining

Komura
03-2161 8888 📞 Ampang Park Corus Hotel • Casual Dining • C9

Ozeki Tokyo Cuizine
03-2166 4263 🚗 B Nanas • Menara TA One • Halal • Fine Dining • D8

Yuzu
03-2284 7663 • The Gardens, Mid Valley City • Casual Dining

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

Korean

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

Koong Jung
03-2166 7181 📞 Ampang Park • PNB Darby Park • Halal • D9

Koryo Won
03-2143 2189 🚗 Bukit Bintang • Starhill Gallery • Halal • Casual Dining • E8

Thai

Rama V Fine Thai Cuisine
03-2143 2428 / 03-2143 2663 5, Jalan U-Thant, 55000 Kuala Lumpur • Halal • Fine Dining

★★★★★

Sheraton Imperial KL
03-2717 9900 • Jln Sultan Ismail • 🚗 M Tuanku • Essence (Int'l), Villa Danieli (Ita), Celestial Court (Chi) • From RM300- RM5,825 • D6

Hotel Istana
03-2141 9988 • 73, Jalan Raja Chulan • 🚗 R Chulan • Peach Garden (Chi), Urban Bistro (Aus), Taman Sari (Int'l) • From RM299-RM5000 • E8 • www.hotelistana.com.my

Hotel Maya KL
03-2711 8866 • Jalan Ampang • 🚗 Bukit Nanas 📠 KLCC • Still Waters, Maya Brasserie, Ramah Tamah • From RM325- RM1,800 • D8 • www.hotelmaya.com.my

InterContinental KL
03-2782 6000 • 165, Jalan Ampang • 📠 Ampang Park • Serena Brasserie, Tao (chi) , Tatsu (Jap), Bentley's Pub, Lobby Lounge & The Deli • From RM330- RM12,500 • C9 • www.intercontinental.com

JW Marriott Hotel KL
03-2715 9000 • 183 Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • 3rd Floor (Int'l), Marriott Café, Shanghai (Chi), JW Marriott Gourmet (Int'l), Havana Club • From RM400- RM8,000 • E9 • www.marriott.com

Le Meridien KL
03-2263 7888 • 2, Jln Stesen Sentral 5, KL Sentral • 📠 📠 📠 KL Sentral • One On One (Asian Fusion), Al Nafourah (Middle Eastern), The Conservatory (Lounge & Bar) • From RM 328- RM5,500 • H3 • www.lemeridienkualalumpur.com

Mandarin Oriental Hotel
03-2380 8888 • KL City Centre • 📠 KLCC • Lai Po Heen (Ch), Mandarin Grill and Mo Bar (Bar & Grill), Mosaic (Buffet), The Mandarin Cake Shop, Cascades (Int'l), Wasabi Bistro (Jap) • From RM409(Internet)/RM499(phone) • D8 • www.mandarinoriental.com

Philea Mines Beach Resort
03-8943 6688 • Jalan Dulang, Mines Resort City, Seri Kembangan, Selangor • 📠 Serdang • Abdul and Charlie's (local), Cheng Ho Court (Chi), Beach Hut and Sunset Lounge (drinks and snacks) • From RM200-RM2000

Sama-Sama Hotel KLIA
03-8787 3333 • Kuala Lumpur International Airport • 📠 KLIA Degrees (Int), Traveller's Bar & Grill, Palmz Lounge (Wn) • From RM570++ • www.samasamahotels.com

Parkroyal Kuala Lumpur
03-2147 0088 Jln Sultan Ismail • 🚗 B Bintang • Chatz Brasserie (Wn), Bossa Nova (Wn), Hot Gossip, Si Chuan Dou Hua (Chi), Klx Lounge • From RM270 • www.parkroyalhotels.com

PNB Darby Park Executive Suites
03-7490 3333 • 10, Jln Binjai • 📠 Ampang Park •The 39 Restaurant, Minmax (Chi), Koong Jung (Jap/Korean) • From RM350- RM686 • D9 • www.pnbdarbyparksuites-kl.com

Pullman Kuala Lumpur
03-2170 8888 • 4, Jalan Conlay • 🚗 Raja Chulan • Tai Zi Heen (Chi), Eccucino (Café), Enju (Jap) • From RM270-RM670 • E9 • www.princehotels.com

Renaissance KL
03-2162 2233 • Corner of Jln S. Ismail/ Jln Ampang • 🚗 B Nanas •Sagano(Jap), MED@Marche(Med), Vogue (Int'l) • East Wing: Dynasty (Chi), TEMPTations (Int'l) • From RM215-RM6,000 • D7

The St. Regis Kuala Lumpur
03-2727 1111 • Jalan Stesen Sentral 2, Kuala Lumpur Sentral • From RM850

Shangri-La Hotel KL
03-2032 2388 • 11 Jalan Sultan Ismail • 🚗 B Nanas • Shang Palace (Chi), Zipangu (Jap), Lafite (Fr), Lemon Garden Café (Int'l), The Pub • From RM364-RM12,000 • D7 • www.shangri-la.com

Sheraton Imperial Hotel
03-2717 9900 Jln Sultan Ismail • 🚗 M Tuanku • Essence (Int'l), Villa Danieli (Ita), Calestial Court (Chi) • From RM300- RM5,8250 • D6

The Gardens Hotel & Residences
03-2268 1188 • Mid Valley City • 📠 Mid Valley • The Soread (Int'l), Sage Restaurant & Wine Bar (Fr & Jap) • From RM600-RM2,600 • www.gardenshtres.com

Sunway Putra Hotel (Formerly The Legend Hotel)
03-4042 9888 • Putra Place, 100 Jalan Putra • 📠 PWTC • Museum (Chi), Di-Atas Brasserie (Int'l), Gen (Jap), Monkey Bar • From RM188-RM388 • B5 • www.legendhotelkl.com

The Ritz-Carlton KL
03-2142 8000 • 168, Jalan Imbi • 🚗 B Bintang • Li Yen (Chi), Rossini's (Ita) • From RM418 • F9 • www.ritz-carlton.com

The Ritz-Carlton Residences
03-2142 9000 • 🚗 B Bintang • From RM950-RM1,330 • F9

The Royal Chulan
03-2688 9688 • Jalan Conlay • 🚗 R Chulan • Deli Cafe (Ita), Bunga Emas (Mas), L'Heritage (Fr) • F6 • www.theroyalchulan.com.my

★★★★★

Aloft Kuala Lumpur Sentral
03-2723 1000
Jalan Stesen Sentral
KL Sentral • 📠 📠 📠 KL Sentral • Nook (International), MAI Bar (Bar Menu), w xyz(SM) Bar (Cocktails & Snacks) • From RM270 - RM388 • www.starwoodhotels.com/aloft-hotels

Ancasa Hotel KL
03-2026 6060 • Jln Tun Tan Cheng Lock • 📠 Plaza Rakyat • Saffron Brasserie and BabaReebal • Ancasa Spa • From RM165-RM416 • www.ancasa-hotel.com

Boulevard Hotel
03-2295 8111/2295 8000 📠 Mid Valley City, Lingkaran Syed Putra • Mid Valley • Wild Rice (Int'l) • Rates from RM290Nett – RM420Nett • www.blvhotel.com

Concorde Hotel
03-2144 2200 • 2 Jalan Sultan Ismail • 🚗 B Nanas • Spices (Western), Melting Pot (Int'l), Xin (Chi) • From RM178+- RM320++ • D7

Coronade Hotel KL
03-2148 6888 • Jalan Walter Grenier, Bkt Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • Makan-Makan (Local & Int'l), The Kasturi (Malay), Lobby Lounge • From RM208- RM500 • F8 • www.coronade.com

Corus Hotel KL
03-2161 8888 • Jalan Ampang • 📠 Ampang Park • Ming Palace(Chi), Dondang Sayang (Int'l), Komura (Jap) • From RM185-RM390 • C9 • www.corushotelkl.com

Dorsett Regency
03-2716 1000 • 172, Jalan Imbi • 🚗 B Bintang • Checker's (Café), Cellini's(Ita), Windows Lounge (Wn) • From RM200 onwards • F9 • www.dorsettregency-kl.com

Seri Bukit Ceylon
03-20201708 • No 8, Lorong Ceylon off Jalan Raja Chulan • From RM250-RM480 • E7



The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur
5 Jalan Sultan Hishammuddin, 50000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
03-2785 8000
www.majestickl.com

Federal Hotel
03-2148 9166 • 35, Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • Mandarin Palace (Chi), The Verandah (Int'l) Revolving Bintang (European) • From RM170-RM600 • F8 • www.fhhotels.com

Grand Seasons
03-2697 8888 • 72, Jalan Pahang • 🚗 Chow Kit 📠 KLCC • Season (Café), O'Las (Indian), Lobby Lounge (Wn), Kas Bah Bar (Wn) • From RM150-RM348 • B6

Impiana KLCC Hotel & Spa
03-2147 1111 • 13 Jln Pinang • 🚗 R Chulan • Tonka Bean Cafe (Int'l) • From RM219- RM368 • D8 • www.impiana.com

Novotel City Centre KL
03-2147 0888 • 2 Jln Kia Peng • Qing Zhen (Chi Muslim), The Square (Int'l), Fun Pub, Al Fresco • From RM260- RM660 • E8 • www.novotel.com

Pacific Regency Hotel Suites
03-2332 7777 • Menara PanGlobal, Jalan Punchak • 🚗 B Nanas • Soi 23, Luna, Olive & Geo Café • From RM290- RM500 • D7 • www.pacific-regency.com

Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa
03- 7492 8000 • Persiaran Lagoon Bandar Sunway Petaling Jaya

Quality Hotel City Centre
03-2614 8000 • Jalan Raja Laut • DBKL • Benteng Coffee House (Int'l), Meisan Szechuan (Chi), Club 300 • From RM150- RM550 • C5 • www.qualifi.com.my

Swiss Garden Hotel
03-2141 3333 • 117, Jln Pudu • 🚗 Hang Tuah • Blue Chip Lounge (Int'l), Flavours Restaurant (Int'l), Green Treats Delicatessen (Int'l), T@ste 6 Restaurant (Int'l) • From470+

The Royale Bintang KL
03-2143 9898 17-21 Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • Sunflowers Brasserie, Cafe Royale & Bar, Rimba Spa • From RM208 • F8 • www.royale-bintang-hotel.com.my

The Royale Bintang Damansara
03-7843 1111 • 6, Jalan PJU 7/3, Mutiara Damansara • The Restaurant (Int'l), Mystery Pub & Café • From RM195 • www.royalebintang.com.my

The ZON All Suites Residences on the Park
03-2164 8000 • 161D Jalan Ampang • 📠 Ampang Park • Terracotta Restaurant & Lounge • From RM253-RM396 • D8 • www.zonhotel.com.my

Traders Hotel
03-2332 9888 • Kuala Lumpur City Centre • 📠 KLCC • Gobo Chit Chat, Gobo Upstairs, Sky Bar, Lounge & Grill • From RM270 • This hotel is located in the vicinity of KL Convention Centre • D8

Vistana KL
03-4042 8000 • 9 Jalan Lumut, off Jalan Ipoh, Kuala Lumpur • 📠 Titiwangsa • Vistana (Asian) • From RM172-RM230 • A5 • www.vistanahotels.com

Hotel Capitol Kuala Lumpur
03-21437000 • Jalan Bulan Off Jalan Bukit Bintang • www.capitol.com.my

★★★

Alpha Genesis
03-2141 2000 • 45 Tingkat Tong Shin • 🚗 B Bintang • Tee Box Café • From RM150-RM380 • F7 • www.alphagenesishotel.com

Cititel Mid Valley
03-2296 1188 • Mid Valley, Lingkaran Syed Putra • 📠 Mid Valley • Citl Café • Rates from RM205Nett – RM320Nett

Corona Inn
03-2144 3888 • 22, Jalan Tong Shin • 🚗 B Bintang • Corona Café • From RM130- RM180 • F8 • www.coronainn-kuala-lumpur.com

Grand Continental
03-2693 9333 • Jln Bella/Jln Raja Laut • 📠 PWTC M Tuanku • Grand Star (Chi) , Lai Marble Coffeehouse • From RM135- RM800 • C5 • www.ghihotels.com.my

First World Hotel
03-6101 1118 • Genting Highlands • ristorante Torcello's (Italian), Lakeview Seafood Restaurant (Seafood), The Patio (Wn) • From RM85 – RM460

Midah KL
03-2273 9999 • 8, Jalan Kampung Attap • 🚗 Maharajalela • Attapia Coffee House (Int'l), Rolling Good Times Café • From RM145-RM250 • G5

Prescott Inn
03-2713 7887 • 23 Lrg Medan Tuanku 1, off Jln Sultan Ismail • 🚗 M Tuanku • Makana Restaurant • From RM110-RM170 • C5

HOTEL & RESORT
★★★★★

Ascott KL
03-2718 6868
9, Jalan Pinang • 🚗 R Chulan • From RM380-RM790

Berjaya Times Square Hotel & ConventionCentre
03-2117 8000 • 1 Jalan Imbi • 🚗 Imbi • Big Apple Restaurant (Fusion) Broadway Lounge, The Cafe, The Bar, • From RM245-RM700 • F8 • www.timesquarekl.com

Seri Pacific Hotel Kuala Lumpur
03-4042 5555 • Jalan Putra • 📠 PWTC Zende (Int'l), Kokufu (Jap), lounge to Chereza From RM198++ to RM3,000 • B5
www.seripacifichotel.com

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

The Westin KL
03-2731 8333 199 • Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 B Bintang • Prego (Ita), Living Room (Int'l), Qba (Bar & Grill), Treats (gourmet bakery), Eest (Pan Asian) • From RM480- RM7,000 • E9 • www.westin.com

Grand Millennium KL
03-2117 4888 • 160, Jalan Bukit Bintang • 🚗 Bukit Bintang • Zing (Chi), The Mill (Int'l) • From RM300-RM5,600 • www.millenniumhotel.com

Hilton KL
03-2264 2264 • 3, Jln Stesen • Sentral, KL Sentral • 📠 📠 📠 KL Sentral • Chynna(Chi), Senses (Fusion), Noodle Room, Sudu, Zeta Bar, Vintage Bank • From RM385-RM605 • G3 • www1.hilton.com

Hilton PJ
03-7955 9122 • 2 Jalan Barat, PJ • 📠 Asia Jaya • Toh Yuen (Chi), Paya Serai Coffee House, Genji (Jap), Caffè Cino, Uncle Chilli's • From RM220-RM1685

Holiday Inn Kuala Lumpur Glenmarie
03-7802 5200 • 1 Jalan Usahawan U1/8, Shah Alam •Fu-Rin (Jap), Kites (Int'l), The Mix Restaurant & Bar • From RM290 • www.holidayinn.com/glenmarie



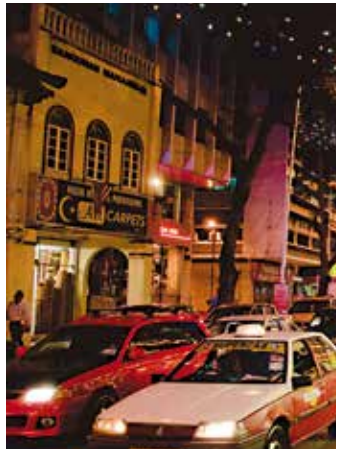
KL Tower
03-2020 5499
🚗 Bukit Nanas • Jalan Punchak, off Jalan P Ramlee. • The KL Tower stands at 421 metres. The tower houses a revolving restaurant and an observation deck which takes 58 seconds to reach. Catch the sunset or experience sky jumping from the tower roof. • Opens 9am 10pm daily • E7



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



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



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



National Museum
03-2267 1111 • 29 Jalan Raja • Displays a unique permanent collection of artifacts and materials showcasing the history and heritage of Malaysia • Opens 9am to 6pm daily • Admission RM1. Free for <12 yrs & students



Jamek Mosque
Jalan Tun Perak • Situated at the confluence of the Klang and Gombak rivers, this grand old mosque was designed by British architect AB Hubbock in 1909. It incorporates many features of Moghul architecture a • Opens 8am- 1:30pm & 2:30pm-6pm.

Swiss-Inn KL
03-2072 3333 • 62, Jln Sultan • 🇲🇾
Maharajalela
• Café Petaling • From RM130-RM175
• G6

The Plaza Hotel
03-2698 2255 • Jalan Raja Laut • 🇲🇾 Sultan
Ismail • Pago-Pago Café (Continental),
Plaza Court (Chi) • From RM110-RM178
• C5

SIGHTSEEING

Aquaria KLCC
03-2333 1888 • 🇲🇾 Raja Chulan 🇲🇾 KLCC •
All 60,000 sq ft of Aquaria encompasses
Evolution, Jewels of the Jungle, Deep
Forest, The Coasts and Touch Pool, The
Living Oceans and The Living Reef, with
over 5000 aquatic and land-bound animals
representing over 150 different species.
Don't miss the 90-metre underwater tunnel.
Opens daily from 11am-8pm. (Including
weekends, school and public holidays) Last
admission at 7pm. Entry RM38 (adult), RM26
(children) • D8



Craft Complex
03- 2164 8344
🇲🇾 Raja Chulan • 63, Jalan Conlay, •
Showcases ethnic handicrafts, batik
printing and pottery from the 13 states
of Malaysia. • Opens 9am- 6pm daily.
• E9 FREE

Lake Gardens
Jalan Parlimen • Located near the city
centre, this 9.2ha landscaped garden is
built around a lake. Several attractions
are found within the park including an
Orchid Garden, Hibiscus Garden,
Butterfly Park, Bird Park, Deer Park,
National Monument and the Asean
Sculpture Garden • F3

Malaysian Tourism Centre
03-9235 4848 • 🇲🇾 B Nanas • 109
Jalan Ampang • This is a one-stop
tourist service centre comprising the
information counter (7am-10pm)
Transnasional Executive Coach counter,
domestic tour booking counter, money
changer, restaurant and craft demo
centre. Built in 1935, the building was the
home of wealthy tin-miner and planter,
Eu Tong Seng. Cultural shows are on Tues,
Thur, Sat & Sun 2-2.30pm. • D7

Merdeka Square
🇲🇾 Masjid Jamek • Jalan Raja •
Opposite the Sultan Abdul Samad
Building, this is the site where the
independence of Malaya was declared
on 31 August, 1957. The 100m high
flagpole is the tallest in the world. Live
entertainment and cultural shows are
staged here on festive occasions. The
Royal Selangor Club and St. Mary's
Cathedral are located nearby. • E5

Batu Caves
03-6189 6284 • This popular Hindu
temple draws hundreds of thousand
of visitors during Thaipusam. It
consists of three grand caves: the
Dark Cave, the Museum Cave and the
Temple Cave with brilliant rock
formations. The Museum Cave at
the foothills has interesting display
of Indian mythology. To reach the
main Temple Cave, one has to climb
272 steps.

Bird Park
03-2272 1010 • Located at the Lake
Gardens, this 8.4ha bird park is the
world's largest free-flight walk-in
aviary. It is home to more than
3,000 birds from approximately 200
species. Opens daily from 9am-
6.00pm . F4

Butterfly Park
03-2693 4799 • Over 120 species
of butterflies can be found in this
park located at the Lake Gardens'
vicinity. Admission is RM9 for adults
and RM2 for children. Camera: RM3.
Opens 9am to 6pm daily. • F4



Telekom Museum
03-2031 9966
🇲🇾 Raja Chulan • Jalan Raja Chulan
• Displays interesting exhibits of
telephones and evolution of their
designs over the years.
• Opens 9am-5pm. Closed on Mondays
• E6 FREE

National Science Centre
03-2092 1150 • Persiaran Bukit Kiara •
Houses 9 galleries with different scientific
themes. Offers interesting interactive
displays for learning and entertainment.
• Opens 10am-5pm. Closed on Friday.

National Mosque
03-2693 7784 • 🇲🇾 KL • Jalan Perdana
• This mosque embodies contemporary
designs, together with traditional Islamic
art, calligraphy and ornamentation.
The main dome with its 18-point star,
represents the 13 states of Malaysia
unified by the Five Pillars of Islam. Visitors
must dress conservatively and remove
their shoes before entering the mosque
• Opens 9am to 12noon; 3pm to 4pm;
5:30pm to 6:30pm daily. • F4

National Planetarium
03-2273 4303 • Lot 54 Jalan Perdana •
Located close to the National Mosque,
the attractions include space science
and astronomy exhibits, a theatre
screening 3-Dimensional movies, a
viewing gallery and an observatory •
Admission is RM1 for adults and children
over 12 years [extra charges for all
shows]. Opens 9:30am to 4:15pm daily.
Closed on Monday except public &
school holidays • G4

Bukit Nanas Forest Recreational Park
03-2306 3421 / 2064 4741 • 🇲🇾 Bukit Nanas
• Nestled in the heart of KL, the virgin
forest-clad hill is a 10.5 ha park offering a
10-minute & a 20-minute walk trails from
the Forest Information Centre at Jalan
Raja Chulan to KL Tower. • E7

Central Market
03-2274 6542 • 🇲🇾 Pasar Seni Once the
city's biggest wet market, it is now a
centre for food and cultural activities.
Cultural performances are staged during
weekends at the riverside amphitheatre.
Handicraft, souvenirs, art & portrait
paintings are sold at bargain prices. The
Annexe Gallery at CM is a progressive
art centre. • Opens 10am to 10pm daily.
• F5

Deer Park
03-2693 0191 • Enclosed within a 2-ha
ground at the Lake Gardens, the deer,
fawns and does roam freely in a cool
and peaceful habitat with lush trees and
shrubs and ponds. • F3



Sultan Abdul Samad Building
🇲🇾 Masjid Jamek • Jln Sultan
Hishamuddin • Also known as the Big
Ben of KL, this historical landmark and
heritage building is well known for its
Moghul architecture dating back to
1897. Originally the offices of the Colonial
Secretariat, it then housed the Supreme
Court. • E5

National Zoo
03-4108 3427 / 4108 3422 • Located in
Hulu Kelang. 12km from the city centre,
the zoo is home to 400 species of local
birds, mammals, reptiles and fishes. •
Opens 9am - 5pm daily. Night Zoo is on
Saturdays 7.30am - 10.30pm. Admission
RM 32 for adults and RM11 for children
3 to 12 years old

Old KL Railway Station
Jalan Hishammudin • Built in 1910,
the Moghul-inspired building was a
hub for Malaysian rail transport until it
was replaced by the new KL Sentral
Station. It remains a landmark and the
refurbished Heritage Hotel is still open for
business. Across the road, the Malaysian
Railway administrative building is also a
breathtaking architectural showpiece
• G5

Petrosains, The Discovery Centre
03-2331 8181 • 🇲🇾 KLCC • Petronas Twin
Towers, Level 4 Suria KLCC • Focusing on
Malaysia's oil and gas industry, it offers
an interactive approach to learning.
It takes you through a unique voyage
of discovery of science. • Opens daily
9.30am to 6pm. Last admission 4.30pm.
Closed on Monday • D8

Istana Negara
Official residence of Malaysia's King,
visitors can witness the changing
of the royal guards daily. The Rulers
Conference, various royal and national
ceremonies, investitures and official
banquets are held at this palace. • H5

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

Jamek Mosque
🇲🇾 Masjid Jamek • Jalan Tun Perak
• Situated at the confluence of the
Klang and Gombak rivers, this grand old
mosque was designed by British architect
AB Hubbock in 1909. It incorporates
many features of Moghul architecture
a • Opens 8am-1:30pm & 2:30pm-6pm.
• E5



PETRONAS Twin Towers
03- 2615 8188
🇲🇾 KLCC • KL City Centre • The
88-storey Petronas Twin Towers stand at
451.9 metres. Seated in the heart of KL
and amidst a 50-hectare landscaped
park, a skybridge on the 41st floor is
open to visitors between 9am-7pm
daily, closed on Monday • D8

Royal Selangor Visitor's Centre
03-4145 6000 • 4, Jalan Usahawan Enam,
Setapak Jaya • Located 15 minutes from
the city centre, the Royal Selangor which
is internationally known for its fine designs
and craftsmanship, offers a complete
visitor experience, enabling them to see,
hear, touch and learn how pewter is
made. • Opens daily from 9am-5pm.

Royal Selangor Club
03-2692 7166 • 🇲🇾 Masjid Jamek • Jalan
Raja • Once nicknamed 'The Spotted
Dog' during the colonial days, this club
which features Mock Tudor architecture,
is one of the oldest membership clubs
in KL. • E5

Thean Hou Temple
03-2274 7088 • 65 Persiaran Endah, off
Jalan Syed Putra • A beautiful blend of
Chinese and contemporary architecture,
this is one of the largest and most ornate
Buddhist temples in the region and a
venue for major religious festivals. Also
check out the herbs garden, wishing
well and souvenir stall • Opens 9am to
9pm daily.

MUSEUMS

Asian Arts Museum Universiti Malaya
03-7967 3805 • Uni. of Malaya • A unique
collection of Asian art & sculptures,
ceramics, including Islamic & Malay art
and textiles • Opens Mon - Sat. Closed
on Sunday & public hols.

Forest Research Institute Malaysia
03-62797 000 • Kepong • Located
within the 1,500 hectares of natural
land reserve, the institute showcases
Malaysia's rich forest heritage. • Opens
8am-4pm. Fri 9am- 12pm.

Heritage Centre
03-2144 9273 • 2, Jln Stonor • Showcases
Malaysia's architectural heritage, the
centre also conducts 2 guided tours
a day (11am & 3pm) of the Rumah
Penghulu or Village Head's abode which
has been furnished to reflect a house in
the early thirties • E10

Islamic Arts Museum
03-2274 2020 • Jalan Lembah Perdana
• Opened in 1998, the museum focuses
on the rich diversity of Islamic arts and
culture. Miniature replicas of Taj Mahal
and other Islamic architectural wonders
are on display • Tickets at RM12 (adults),
RM6 (under 18, students & senior citizens)
• Opens 10am to 6pm daily. • G4

Museum Orang Asli
03-6189 2122 • Km 24 Gombak • Displays
a collection of over 3,000 artifacts
showcasing the history, culture &
lifestyle of indigenous tribes of Peninsular
Malaysia. • Opens 9am-5pm. Closed
Fri. FREE

National Museum
03-2267 1111 • 29 Jalan Raja • Displays a
unique permanent collection of artifacts
and materials showcasing the history
and heritage of Malaysia • Opens 9am
to 6pm daily • Admission RM1. Free for
<12 yrs & students

ARTS & CULTURE

National Theatre (Istana Budaya)
03-4026 5555 • Jalan Tun Razak •
Designed by Malaysian architect
Muhammad Kamar Ya'akub, this
modern theatre is one of the world's most
sophisticated theatres with state-of-the-art
stage equipment. It holds drama, dance
and musical performances regularly. • A7

Petronas Philharmonic Hall
03-2331 7007 • 🇲🇾 KLCC • Located within
the Petronas Twin Towers, it is home to
the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra
and the National Choir. It features
performances of highest quality by visiting
orchestras and world-renowned soloists,
besides performances by the MPO which
now ranks among the top orchestras in
the region • D8

OTHER FUN-TASTIC THRILLS & SPILLS

Casino
03-2718 1118 • Genting Highlands Hotel

Flying
03-2141 1934 • Royal Selangor Flying Club

Horse Racing
03-9058 3888 • Selangor Turf Club, Jln
Sungai Besi

Horse Riding
03-4256 4531 • Royal Selangor Polo Club,
Jln Ampang Hilir
03-2094 1222 • Bukit Kiara Equestrian Club,
Jln Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur

Theme Parks
Berjaya Times Square Theme Park
1 Jalan Imbi, Level 5 & 7, Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03-2117 3118

Sunway Lagoon Theme Park
3 Jalan Pjs 11/11, Bandar Sunway,
Petaling Jaya . Tel: 03-5639 0000

Genting Highlands Theme Park
Genting Highlands Resort
Tel: 03-2718 1118

District 21
Level 1, IOI City Mall, Putrajaya
Tel: 03-8328 8888

National Library
03-2687 1700 • 232 Jalan Tun Razak. • This
7-storey building which blends traditional
design with modern architectural
elements houses more than 1.5 million
books, some of them extremely rare.
• Opens daily except Monday • A8 FREE

Galeri Petronas
03-2051 7770 • 🇲🇾 KLCC • Level 3 Suria
KLCC. • Exhibits artworks by local and
international artists.
• Opens 10am to 8pm. Closed on
Monday. • D8 FREE

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31 Jalan Utara,
46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor,
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Tel: +603 7932 0668
Email: info@mediate.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR

The map displays the city of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with a grid system. The vertical axis is labeled with letters A through E, and the horizontal axis is labeled with numbers 1 through 5. The map shows a dense network of streets, including major highways like the Mahameru Expressway and the Putrajaya Expressway. Key landmarks and buildings are marked with icons and labels, such as the Petronas Twin Towers, National Art Gallery, National Theatre, and various hotels and museums. The map also shows the city's layout with rivers, parks, and administrative boundaries. The map is oriented with North at the top.

- Road / Jalan J.
Lane / Lorong L.
River / Sungai Sg.
Village / Kampung ... Kq.

Getting around in Kuala Lumpur is easy. The transit systems are efficient, taxis are plenty and buses are cheap. The public transportation usage peak hours are from 7am to 9am and 4.30pm to 6.30pm during the working days.



By Transit systems

The KL monorail and LRT coaches are air-conditioned and comfortable and run from 6am to midnight. The systems are connected to each other at several points and the network covers most parts of the city. Fares range from RM0.90 to RM2.80 per single journey.



By Taxis

Taxis are easily available at hotels or at taxi stands. Fares start at RM3 for the first kilometre and RM0.25 for every 11.5 metres thereon. There is a 50% surcharge on the metered fare from midnight to 6am and a baggage charge of RM2 per piece stored in the boot. There is also an additional RM1 for 3rd passenger (maximum 4 in a car). For an extra charge of RM2, you can book a taxi by phone.



By Ecovans

Ecovans can accommodate up to 5 passengers. They serve mainly guests at major hotels and follow the fare structure of taxis but charge RM4 instead of RM2 for the first kilometre.



By Buses

Buses serve all parts of Kuala Lumpur with fares beginning from RM1. Some hotels also offer free bus shuttle services to major shopping malls in the city.



KL Hop-on/Hop-off Bus Service

Links you to 40 attractions around the city with 22 designated stops. 8.30am to 8.30pm. Ticket: RM38 with discounts for locals, senior citizens, students and children. 03-2691 1382

GETTING TO THE AIRPORT



KLIA Ekspres: The journey takes about 28 minutes from KL Sentral and another 3 minutes to KLIA2. The fare is RM55 per person per way. There is also check-in facility at KL Sentral for some airlines.



Taxi: The fare from the city centre to the airport is RM90 – RM120 per taxi.

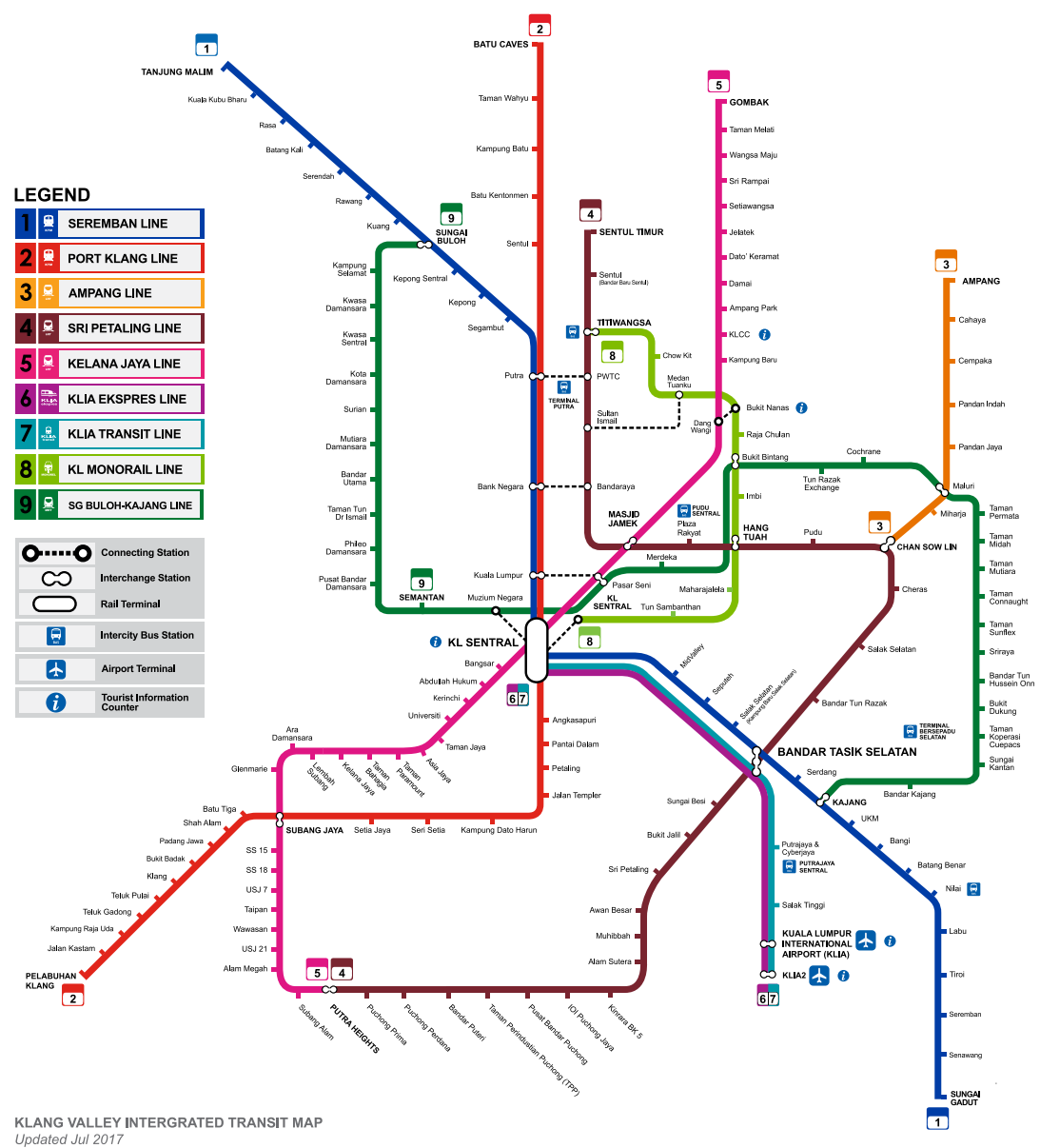


Eco Transit: Eco Transit can accommodate up to 5 adults and has a fixed fare of RM130/ trip.



Limousine: Can be arranged with the hotel concierge and fare range from RM100 – RM200.

Klang Valley Rail Transit Map



COACHES TO KLIA AND/OR LCCT

- Airport Coach - +603-6203 3067
- Sky Bus - +6016-217 6950
- Aerobus - +603-3344 8828
- The Star Shuttle - +603-4043 8811

TRANSPORTATION

Air Travel

- Kuala Lumpur International Airport +603 8776 2000
- Klia2 +603 8778 5500
- Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport +603-7845 3245

Domestic Airlines

- MAS +603-2161 0555
- MAS Reservation Number +603-8890 3702
- AirAsia +603-2171 9333

- FireFly +603-7845 4543
- Malindo Air +603-7841 5388



Rail

- KL Sentral 03-2274 7435
- KLIA Ekspres 03-2267 8000
- KTM 03-2267 1200
- Rapid KL 03-7885 2585
- KL Monorail 03-2273 1888



Car Rental

- Galaxy Asia 012-368 0117
- AVIS +603-5885 2300
- ORIX Auto +603-9284 7799
- Eazy Peezy +6011-1166 6545
- WVS Rent-A-Car 03-4256 6999



Taxis

- Sunlight Cab +603-9200 1166
- Public Cab +603-6259 2929
- MyTeksi +601-300-80-5858

- Saujana Teksi +6011-1929 0976
- Grab Malaysia +601-300-80-5858

Emergency Services

- KL Tourist Police (24 hours) 03-2166 8322
- Police & Ambulance 999 or 112 (mobile phones)
- Fire & Rescue 994
- KL City Council 03-2691 6011

Tourism Offices

- Ministry Of Tourism Malaysia +60 3-2161 5161
- Pusat Pelancongan Malaysia (MATIC) +60 3-9235 4827
- Tourism Malaysia +603-8891 8000
- Melaka +60 6-288 1549
- Putrajaya Tourism Malaysia State Office +60 3-2615 8188

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