Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2015

EXPERIENCE MALAYSIA IN MARCH 2015

March is the time for Formula 1 Malaysian Grand Prix and 1Malaysia GP Sale—a great month for lots of action on Malays racing and shopping circuits!

Besides these two signature tourism events, March is also the month for multi-colored hot air balloons in various shapes ar sizes to take to the Putrajaya skies in the annual Putrajaya International Hot Air Balloon Fiesta. Meahwhile, the Le Tour d Langkawi 2015 race from Langkawi to Kuala Lumpur will keep cycling fans on the edge of their seats.

Besides sports, culture enthusiasts will have plenty to fill their days with events such as Mah Meri Ancestors Day Festiva Chap Goh Mei Celebration, and Chingay Parade Festival.

Full lineup of events and festivals happening throughout Malaysia in the month of March:

Putrajaya International Hot Air Balloon Fiesta (HABF)

Enjoy a spectacular scenery as beautiful helium balloons decorate the Putrajaya's skyline during the Putrajaya Internation Hot Air Balloon Fiesta. Photo enthusiasts and selfie lovers will have the time of their lives snapping away during this colorf spectacle, while other visitors can experience viewing Putrajaya from a bird's eye view with the 'Helicopter Joy Rid attraction! Don't forget to bring your picnic mats to the picnic area, where you can pick up a bean bag and choose a spot t laze with a stunning view of the Putrajaya lake, while enjoying your pre-ordered meal from the 'Balloon and Breakfast' menu

Organizer: AKA Balloon Sdn. Bhd with the cooperation Of Putrajaya Corporation
Date: March 12-15
Venue: Monumen Alaf Baru, Precint 2 Putrajaya
Website: www.myballoonfiesta.com

Mah Meri Ancestors Day Festival

This annual festival of the aboriginal Mah Meri attracts many international visitors. The Mah Meri tribe of Selangor celebrate Hari Moyang (Ancestor's Day), a celebration about giving thanks to the spirits for all the good things that had been bestowe upon the villagers. It is celebrated by offering prayers and blessings to their ancestors especially to Muyang Gadeng, a fema spirit guardian. Mah Meri people are skilful with craftwork; their weaving skills are seen showcased in the neatly woven skirt headbands and sashes worn during the celebration.

This three-day festival features a special dance called Mayin Jo-oh, to invite the ancestral spirits to join the festivity. The me would wear wooden masks and perform with movements to reflect their daily routine that includes fishing and farming, whi the women make music from bamboo, viola, drum, and brass gong.

Organizer: Mah Meri Cultural Village
Date: March 7

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Venue: Mah Meri Cultural Village, Pulau Carey, Selangor
Website: www.mmcv.org.my

Le Tour de Langkawi 2015

Asia's premier cycling event, Le Tour de Langkawi 2015 is back! Featuring 22 international teams, the race goes throug states namely Kedah, Perak, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan in one of the biggest events on th UCI Asia Tour Calendar.

Organized by Human Voyage Sdn Bhd, the 20th edition of Le Tour de Langkawi (LTdL) from March 8-15, 2015 is set to cove more than 1,000km over 8 stages.

The race will kick off from Malaysia's legendary island of Langkawi on March 8 for an eight-day journey to Kuala Lumpur v the east coast and Genting Highlands.

Organizer: Ministry of Youth and Sport, Human Voyage (M) Sdn. Bhd.
Date: March 8-15
Venue: Kedah, Perak, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Pahang, Terengganu, Kelantan
Website: www.ltdl.com.my

Penang Sports Club International Soccer Tournament

This is the Veterans 7-aside football tournament that attracts footie stars of yesteryears including former international playe who are still actively involved in the game. A total of 44 teams around the world will participate in this tournament, includin teams from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Australia, Maldives, China, Brunei, Hong Kong and Europe.

Organizer: Penang Sports Club (PSC)
Date: March 7-8
Venue: Penang Sport Club (PSC), Georgetown, Penang
Website: www.pgsportsclub.com.my

Chap Goh Meh Celebration

Chap Goh Meh is celebrated on the 15th night of the Lunar New Year and it is also known as the Chinese Valentine's Da On this night, with the full moon shining down, young ladies of marrying age venture out to popular sea promenades to thro oranges into the sea, wishing for a good soul mate.

In Penang, the celebration takes place at the Esplanade waterfront. Enjoy delicious Penang Street food as well as game performances and a grand fireworks display.

Organizer: Penang State Tourism Development & Culture Office
Date: March 5
Venue: Esplanade, George Town, Penang
Website: www.visitpenang.gov.my

Raptor Watch Week

Raptor Watch is an exciting event for birdwatchers. Enthusiasts converge at Tanjung Tuan to watch the annual migration these birds of prey on their journey back to the northern hemisphere.

Organizer: Malaysian Nature Society
Date: March 14

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Venue: Tanjung Tuan Lighthouse, Melaka
Website: www.msnraptorwatch.wordpress.com

LIMA'15 Tourism Carnival

The biennial event organized by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia and is held in conjunction with the Langkaw International Maritime & Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA 2015), a dedicated exhibition for defence, civil and commerci applications.

Organizer: Ministry of Tourism and Culture Malaysia (MOTAC)
Date: March 17-21
Venue: Langkawi Island
Website: www.motac.gov.my

1Malaysia GP Sale

The 1Malaysia GP Sale is held in conjunction with the annual Formula 1 Grand Prix race event. This event is one of the thre great sales of the year besides the Malaysia Mega Sale and the Malaysia Year End Sale. Stores around Malaysia offer gre bargains and discounts. Visitors who plan to attend the Formula 1 races should set aside some time to enjoy a shoppin spree.

Organizer: Shopping Malaysia Secretariat, Tourism Malaysia
Date: March 14 to April 5
Venue: Throughout Malaysia
Website: www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my

International Drum Festival

Drums are one of the signature products in Malaysia's tourism products. This festival showcases various drum performance and drum-making workshops to share this art of craft-making and playing to the new generation. This program not on promotes Malaysia's great culture but is also a platform to hand down drum-making knowledge to the younger generation.

Without this effort, Malaysia may lose the art and know-how of this craft that is popular amongst tourists.

Organizer: Kelantan Tourist Information Counter (TIC)
Date: March 14-15
Venue: Stadium Sultan Muhamad IV Grounds, Kota Bharu, Kelantan
Website: www.tic.kelantan.gov.my

Formula 1 Petronas Malaysia Grand Prix

Catch the blazing action of high speed rubber burning on one of the world's most challenging tracks as the 2015 Formula Petronas Malaysia Grand Prix returns. This season, eleven teams and 22 drivers will be competing at the world's hottest rac in the Grand Prix City of Kuala Lumpur.

Organizer: Sepang International Circuit Sdn. Bhd.
Date: March 27-29
Venue: Sepang International Circuit, Selangor
Website: www.formula1.com

New Tourism Malaysia Promotional Materials

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Tourism Malaysia has produced the following promotional materials recently. Some of the materials produced are:-

- Tourist Map of Malaysia
- Malaysia Travel Guide
- Mega Events & Festivals 2015
- Putrajaya Bicycle Ride Events montage video
- “Malaysia Truly Asia” video
- KL Map & Guide
- Cultural Dances video The materials can be obtained from the Tourism Malaysia headquarters, Tourism Malaysia domest offices, and Tourism Information Centers. The brochures are also downloadable from the Tourism Malaysia website http://www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my

NEW SHOPPING ATTRACTIONS!

IOI City Mall Putrajaya & Quill City Mall

Hello Shopaholics! Let’s experience the new atmosphere of shopping at IOI City Mall. It is a brand new lifestyle an entertainment mall located in Putrajaya – just 20 minutes from KLIA and 30 minutes away from Kuala Lumpur. IOI City Ma has over 350 specialty stores, and restaurants, and a huge movie theater. The best feature of the mall is the Olympic siz skating rink and indoor sports & recreation themed action adventure park called “District21”.

Location: IOI City Mall
Lebuh IRC, IOI Resort City, Putrajaya
Website: www.ioicitymall.com.my
Apart from that, Quill City Mall is another new shopping center in Kuala Lumpur located along Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kua Lumpur. This shopping mall has more than 320 trendy lifestyle stores, an exciting entertainment hub and an exclusive K Zone spread across its spacious area.

A favorite hang-out place at the mall is its sky alfresco dining area, the first of its kind in Kuala Lumpur. The dining area has a organically shaped roof consisting of multi-colored glass and opaque panels that allow for maximum daylight and fantast views of the surrounding area.

Some of the major retail outlets that can be found in Quill City Mall include AEON department store, Daiso, H&M, App Concept Store, Vans, Adidas, Guess, Hush and much more!

Location:
Quill City Mall
Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur
Website: www.quillcitymall.com.my

All information is correct at time of publication. Visitors are advised to contact the event organiser for the latest updates.

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For more information, please contact Lauren Halley at lhalley@saeshe.com.

***Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board** or **Tourism Malaysia** is an agency under the Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Malaysia. Tourism Malaysia's objective is to promote Malaysia as an outstanding touris destination and aims to showcase Malaysia's unique wonders, attractions and cultures.*

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