Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 21, 2015

EXPERIENCE MALAYSIA IN FEBRUARY 2015

Malaysia is certainly a country blessed with many cultural celebrations and holidays. In this second month of the Malays Year of Festivals 2015, we see the celebration of the Federal Territory Day on February 1st, which is typically marked wi street parades; Thaipusam on February 3rd; and the Chinese New Year on February 19th and 20th.

Since Malaysia is a melting pot of culture, all are welcome at cultural celebrations. We encourage visitors to attend loc events to absorb the local culture and learn what Malaysia is all about.

Thaipusam

Customarily, Thaipusam is celebrated during the month of Thai in the Hindu calendar (January 15 – February 15) at a astronomically significant point of time. This year, the Hindu devotees in Malaysia will celebrate Thaipusam on 3 February.

During this day, the Hindu temple at Batu Caves, Kuala Lumpur, will be a hive of activity as it becomes the centre of th largest religious gatherings. Hindu devotees from all over the world will come and celebrate the festival in Batu Cave beginning with an 8-hour procession from the Kuala Lumpur city centre to the cave temple, bearing offerings as simple as mi in pots to elaborate kavadis carried on their shoulders.

Organizer: Batu Caves Hindu Association
Date: February 3, 2015
Venue: Batu Caves, Selayang, Selangor
Contact: 03 61896284
Email: batu_caves@malaysia.com

Penang Hot Air Balloon Fiesta 2015

For the first time in Penang, a one-of-a-kind experience can be found at the Penang Hot Air Balloon Fiesta. There will be 1 hot air balloons over the two-day festival and they will float against the picturesque backdrop of the UNESCO World Heritag Site of George Town. Besides the impressive hot air balloons, there will also be family-friendly activities such as fun inflatab playgrounds, creative workshops, photography competition and more!

Organizer: Supported by the Penang State Government with the cooperation of the Municipal Council of Penang Island Penang Global Tourism
Date: February 21-22, 2015
Venue: Padang Polo
Contact: +6 04 264 3456
Website: www.mypenang.gov.my/hab

World Kite Festival 2015

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The skies over Pasir Gudang in Johor will be filled with beautiful, colorful and unique kite creations during the World Ki Festival 2015, said to be the largest in Asia. Some kites look too huge to even make the lift-off, but don't be surprised th when they do, they will fly beautifully!

Kite enthusiasts from all over the world gather at this annual event and they certainly take their kite-making and kite flyin activities seriously! Last year, 180 kite-flyers from 25 countries took part, all wanting to show off their latest creations and kit flying technology! Be enchanted by the amazing variety of kites while you enjoy parades, contests, kite-flying demonstration displays as well as an assortment of food.

Organizer: Pasir Gudang Municipal Council
Date: February 25, 2015 – March 1, 2015
Venue: Bukit Layang-Layang, Taman Bandar Pasir Gudang, Johor
Contact: +6 07 251 3720
Website: www.mppg.gov.my

Johor Bahru Jazz Fest 2015

The Johor Society for the Performing Arts (JSPA), organizers of eleven years of the JB Arts Festival, is proud to present a ne event set to bring live, improvised music sure to quicken the pulse of jazz fans around the region – The Johor Bahru Jazz Fe 2015.

Living legends are coming to JB to entertain you! The JB Jazz Fest 2015 will feature world-class saxophonist Sada Watanabe, Italian acapella group Mezzotono, along with well-known jazz names from around the region such as Stev Thornton, Jeremy Monteiro and Alberto Marsico with the Jazz-Blues Brothers, The David Gomes Jazz Ensemble with Jur Delfino, together with Xiong Quintet.

Tickets will be available at www.ticketpro.com.my from mid-January onwards. Don't miss the special early-bird promotions.

Organizer: The Johor Society for Performing Arts
Date: February 26-28, 2015
Venue: Double Tree by Hilton Hotel
Contact: +6 019 713 9900
Website: www.facebook.com/events/1611264682428463/

Malaysian Chinese New Year Open House Celebration

This is when the Chinese usher in the Lunar New Year with lion dances and mandarin oranges. Experience the festivities in a "open house" celebration, a program that brings people together to celebrate the country's various festivals in line with th spirit of 1Malaysia. Guests will be enthralled by cultural performances and traditional delicacies. All are invited to this fre event!

Organizer: Ministry of Tourism and Culture Malaysia (MOTAC) No. 2, Tower 1, Jalan P5/6, Precint 5, 62200 Putrajaya
Date: February 28, 2015
Venue: Teluk Intan, Perak
Contact: +6 03 8000 8000 / +6 03 8891 7100
Website: www.motac.gov.my

Penangites' CNY Celebration

Welcome the Chinese year of the goat with various activities and performances around the heritage area of George Town. Th celebration promotes the Penang Chinese community's intangible heritage like its cultural practices, religious festival traditional arts and performances, cuisine and more.

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Learn about the various clan associations and their history in Penang, the process of making traditional snacks and dishe Chinese chess, calligraphy, music and martial arts. Witness art and craft demonstrations of making Chinese knot printmaking, opera mask making as well as enjoy snake shows, traditional poem presentations and more.

Organizer: Penang State Government & Penang Chinese Clan Council
Date: February 28, 2014
Venue: The Heritage Precincts of George Town
Contact: +6 04 262 1957 / +6 04 264 2020
Website: www.penang.gov.my

New Attraction! The China-Malaysia Friendship Garden

To celebrate the good bilateral relations between Malaysia and China, the China-Malaysia Friendship Garden was bu recently in Putrajaya, Malaysia's administrative city centre. The design of the garden is in the style of the Lingnan Garden th emphasizes the elements of mountain, water, stone, building, calligraphy and plants.

A stroll in this serene lake-side garden will bring one to appreciate the unique flowers and plants, architecture, courtyar pavilion and scenery, which all stand as a testimony to the long-lasting friendship between China and Malaysia.

Location: Anjung Floria, Precinct 4, Putrajaya
Product Owner: Putrajaya Floria Sdn Bhd
Contact: General line +603 8887 7137 Mr. Ariff Yunus (+6016 208 2042/ariff@ppj.gov.my) Ms. Sashikala Nathan (+6012 90 6005/ sashi@ppj.gov.my)

All information is correct at time of publication. Visitors are advised to contact the event organizer 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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