

VOL 47

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2024 NEWS FOR ASIA'S TRAVEL PLANNERS

NEWS UPDATES at www.ttrweekly.com



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WELCOME TO OUR WORLD

Welcome to WorldHotels. Welcome to a World of Your Own.



Arabian Adventures opens new desert attractions

A new, multi-experience destination has opened in Dubai, offering travellers a 'taste' of the Arabian desert with a new range of desert experiences from the team at Arabian Adventures.

Located in the village of Lisaili, a popular gateway...

Green Fare options on long-haul flights

The Lufthansa Group is expanding its tariff for more sustainable flying to include long-haul flights covering the group's global route network.

The Green Fares will be bookable in all travel classes for more than 850,000 flights per year from 4 December...

Philippines eases visa for Indian tourists

The Philippines is ready to capture India's rising outbound market, the Department of Tourism (DOT) reported earlier this week as the country fully implements its new e-Visa system in India.

The development of the e-visa system in the Philippines began in 2019, with the...

AirAsia flies HCMC to Kota Kinabalu

AirAsia expanded its network in Vietnam by launching a new direct route from Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, to Ho Chi Minh City on 2 December, flying three times weekly on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Using an 186-seat A320, the inaugural flight departed from Kota Kinabalu International Airport at 1145 and reached Tan Son Nhat International Airport in Ho Chi Minh...

Ponant explores New Zealand

Ponant has officially kicked off its New Zealand sailing season aboard two luxury expedition vessels, Le Soléal and its Explorer class vessel, Le Jacques Cartier, for her inaugural season in New Zealand waters.

Until March 2025, the ships will embark on eight departures, visiting 23 ports of call, offering guests an opportunity to "discover the hidden treasures of New Zealand as well as two epic...

Disney Adventure makes Singapore home

Guests will soon be able to book vacations at sea on Disney Adventure, Disney Cruise Line's first ship to homeport in Asia.

The Disney Adventure will sail from Singapore on...



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CATEWAY TO BORNEO

Explore the unique charm of Sarawak, where nature, culture, and adventure come together in harmony. Discover the enchanting Three Sisters Keluan Waterfall, a symbol of natural beauty and serenity. Nestled deep in the forests of Miri, this cascading wonder invites you to immerse yourself in the tranquillity of Sarawak's pristine landscapes. Find peace and wonder in the heart of nature's embrace.

Three Sisters Keluan Waterfall, Long San, Miri www.sarawaktourism.com







MS Seven Seas Explorer visits Sabah

Sabah welcomed 667 passengers and 547 crew aboard the MS Seven Seas Explorer last week on a cruise stay may be short, we hope you'll enjoy the charm of Kota Kinabalu — its landscapes, cuisine, and warm, friendly

people."

Meanwhile, Bernama reported

that Sabah welcomed

2.41 million visitors

international) during

the first nine months

of 2024, and tourism-

generated revenue

reached MYR5.62

(domestic and



itinerary that explored Borneo Island destinations: Sabah, Brunei and Indonesia.

Sabah Tourism welcomed passengers on its Facebook post, saying, "We're delighted to have you dock in the vibrant heart of Borneo. Though your According to State Tourism, Culture and Environment Minister Datuk Christina Liew, Chinese visitors made up 39% of the total count.

million.

It represented a 28.3% cent increase compared to the same period last year.

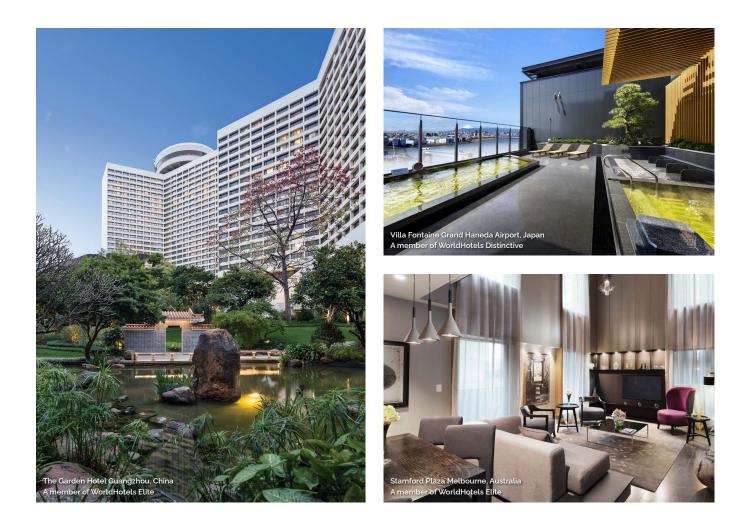
Bernama quoted the minister as saying, "This impressive growth is attributed to increased flight connectivity, with 98% of arrivals via air travel. Sabah currently benefits from 377 weekly domestic flights offering 66,546 seats, linking the state to various regions across Malaysia.

"On the international front, Sabah is linked to 17 destinations through 126 weekly flights, with a total capacity of 23,394 seats," she reported.

For more information on Sabah, visit: <u>https://</u> <u>sabahtourism.com</u>



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Energy expo to convene in Kuching

Borneo's biggest international energy expo and summit is coming to Kuching Sarawak in July 2025, hosted by the Ministry of Energy and **Environmental Sustainability** (MEESty) Sarawak and supported by the State Government of Sarawak.

A biennial event, the 6th edition of the International Energy Week (IEW), will be held from 15 to 17 July 2025 at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching, adopting the theme: "Transitioning Towards A Net Zero Carbon Future."

Expo space is now open to exhibitors starting at MYR1350 per sam. For more info, visit https://www.iew.my/.

First held in 2009, the International Energy Week (IEW) is recognised as the most prominent international event in East Malaysia, celebrating the future of energy.

A pivotal platform gathering top-level decision-makers,



SAVE THE DATE **Borneo's Biggest International** Energy Expo & Summit Transitioning Towards A Net Zero Carbon Future

policymakers, innovators and thought leaders to converge to shape the trajectory of sustainable energy.

Against the backdrop of Borneo Island's natural beauty and rich biodiversity, this event explores cutting-edge technologies and renewable

energy solutions, dialogue on environmental stewardship, global energy transitions and investment opportunities in Borneo and the region.

For more on Sarawak's business events, visit: https:// businesseventssarawak.com/

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Malaysian Borneo

▶ youtube.com/sbhtourism



Festive fun at Centara Grand Mirage Beach Resort



Centara Hotels & Resorts, Thailand's leading hotel operator, is bringing new life to its iconic Lost World-themed property as Centara Grand Mirage Beach Resort Pattaya introduces captivating new features in December 2024.

This celebrated family destination will welcome guests to an even more immersive experience, enhanced with newly added facilities designed for guests of all ages.

Just a two-hour commute from Bangkok, the resort will deliver exceptional family entertainment across four dynamic new water park zones. Volcano Island boasts dramatic eruptions and light displays, while the Giant Slider, interactive Jungle Water Park, and serene Misty Forest each provide unique aquatic adventures. At the heart of the resort, the Lost World Adventure Land theme park delivers aerial obstacle courses, a three-level playground with thrilling slides, a trampoline zone, and a dinosaur bone excavation site—making it an oasis for exploration and unforgettable family moments.

Guests will also enjoy an array of delectable dining options, including the Coast Beach Club & Bistro, set to establish a new standard for beach clubs in Pattaya, as well as a newly designed lounge bar and a stunning new rooftop haven to suit every palate and preference. Additionally, various activities and amenities await, with the innovative, kid-focused Candy Spa and awardwinning SPA Cenvaree providing relaxation and indulgence for the entire family.

As Centara Grand Mirage Beach Resort Pattaya completes this exciting revitalisation, it stands poised to deliver an elevated guest experience, blending the resort's legendary Lost World charm with 5-star service and family

entertainment.

From now until 27 December 2024, guests booking stays until 31 March 2025 will enjoy complimentary entrance to the Lost World Adventure Land for two children under 12 years, along with THB 1,000 dining credit at the COAST Beach Club & Bistro, set to establish a new standard for beach clubs in Pattaya, and THB500 Candy Spa Experience credit for the ultimate kidfocused pampering. Guests will also receive daily breakfast for two adults and access to special rates for optional private speedboat excursions to nearby Koh Larn Island. For more information, visit www. centarahotelsresorts.com/ centaragrand/cmbr

THE PLACE TO BE

The world is yours to explore. Across Thailand, Laos, the Maldives, Vietnam, the UAE, Oman, Qatar or Japan, you can find a place you want to be. This is the essence of Centara Hotels & Resorts. Whether your clients are planning a family beach holiday, an immersive cultural experience or an exciting urban getaway, Centara's signature hospitality, warm Thai family values and worldclass service will be at the heart of their stay anywhere in the world.

옷 Varivana Resort Koh Phangan



Visit our dedicated trade website centarahotelsresorts.com/b2b



Pandaw presents four-country cruises



comfort of locally crafted Pandaw vessels.

New for 2024, this cruise expedition will sail from central Saigon, embarking or disembarking in Vietnam's bustling metropolis.

This combo cruise includes a flight and one-night accommodation between cruises in the package price. Flights and hotels are subject to routing and availability at the time of booking.

The Full Mekong, Four Country 21-Night Combo Cruise SAIGON – VIENTIANE-11 nights

For the intrepid explorer seeking off-the-beatenpath adventures, Pandaw's ultimate four-country, 21-night expedition aboard the RV Mekong between Vietnam and Cambodia is the perfect fit.

This expedition seamlessly combines with Pandaw's spectacular Laos river cruise, allowing you to discover the undiscovered as you travel on the Upper Mekong River through northern Laos and Thailand. The exclusive combo cruise offers a unique blend of adventure and refinement, perfect for the discerning traveller.

For the first time, join Pandaw presents an in-depth exploration of the Mekong River from South to North. The itinerary combines two 10-night Mekong expeditions through Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Sailing all of





this mighty river's navigable stretches, you will learn how one river can support a vast and diverse group of peoples and cultures, all from the



For full details, visit: <u>River Cruise Itinerary for The</u> <u>Full Mekong, Four Country 21</u> <u>Night Combo Cruise | Pandaw.</u> <u>com</u>



JOURNEY TO THE JEWEL OF LANGKAWI

Discover the cascading grace of Langkawi's storied sanctuary of water and wonder. Amidst the lush greenery, the falls create a symphony of sounds and a refreshing mist that enlivens the soul. A place of legends, tranquility, and natural splendor invites you to explore its seven mystical pools.

Telaga Tujuh Waterfall

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