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Over a million tourists arrivals in Malaysia since border reopening

Malaysia has managed to attract over a million tourists so far, over half of the targeted two million international tourists set by the government this year since the border reopening on April 1, Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri.

She said a large part of the total was from Singapore and it is expected many more tourists from Japan, Iran and Korea will be arriving in Malaysia.

“In the past two months, we have received around 600,000 tourists from Singapore, and I feel currently we have surpassed 1 million tourists from Singapore alone,” she said at a media conference after launching the FireFly Airlines aircraft livery and #GoJalanLah campaign on June 4.

The #GoJalanLah promotion campaign, a smart partnership between Firefly and Tourism Malaysia, offers flight tickets and hotel accommodation at discounts of up to 35%. Bookings can be made at www.fireflyz.com.my till June 30, 2022 for the travel period until Dec 31, 2022. [**READ MORE**](#)



Matta projects 5 million tourists by year end

Tourism players are keeping their fingers crossed that tourism arrivals will hit the five million mark by the end of the year.

Having already reached the one million mark since the country's borders were reopened on April 1, they believe that the target is achievable, given Malay-sia's position on the tourism front.

Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents (Matta) president Datuk Tan Kok Liang said Malaysia currently had the upper hand in boosting its tourism industry given that most Covid-19 restrictions had been lifted.

He said while Tourism Malaysia had announced that 600,000 of the recent one million arrivals were from Singapore, industry players were looking forward to those from India, Australia and Europe.

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PARKROYAL COLLECTION Kuala Lumpur opens its doors from June

PARKROYAL COLLECTION Kuala Lumpur, the first PARKROYAL COLLECTION brand in Malaysia by Pan Pacific Hotels Group, opens its doors to welcome guests from June 1 onwards.

Located in the heart of Bukit Bintang, PARKROYAL COLLECTION Kuala Lumpur comprises 527 rooms and suites, roof terrace greenery making up 13,000 sq ft of lush plants, and a vertical garden façade with sky planters. Other facilities are a St Gregory spa, gymnasium, a fitness studio, as well as a swimming pool surrounded by lush greenery.

Sharing the same mixed-use complex owned by Singapore-listed UOL Group Ltd with PARKROYAL COLLECTION Kuala Lumpur is the Pan Pacific Serviced Suites Kuala Lumpur. The latter is expected to open its doors in the second half of 2022 with 210 luxury suites.

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PARKROYAL
COLLECTION

HOTELS & RESORTS

New World PJ Hotel Rebrands to Le Méridien Petaling Jaya

LE MERIDIEN Hotels & Resorts, which is part of Marriott Bonvoy's portfolio of 30 extraordinary brands, announced the opening of Le Meridien Petaling Jaya on June 1.

The hotel was formerly known as New World Petaling Jaya Hotel and is located at Paradigm, Jalan SS7/26 in Petaling Jaya.

The owner, Jelas Puri Sdn Bhd (a subsidiary of WCT Holdings Berhad), entered into a franchise agreement with Marriott International to rebrand the 5-Star luxury hotel. The 300 rooms property will continue to serve both business and leisure guests, offering global customer service standards in tandem with the Marriott International standards.

Taking a cue from the brand's mid-century modern design aesthetic, the property will bring Le Meridien's distinctive European heritage to Petaling Jaya.

The opening marks the fourth hotel by the Le Meridien brand in the country. [READ MORE](#)



The Palace of the Golden Horses will be transformed to accommodate medical tourism

Country Heights Holdings Bhd intends to convert the Palace of the Golden Horses in Seri Kembangan, Selangor, into a wellness hotel aimed at domestic and international tourists.

The group's founder and major shareholder, Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, plans to add a rehab centre with facilities to help people boost their immune systems and self-healing abilities.

"We're considering several options, including establishing a confinement centre. Outsiders visiting Malaysia will not simply be staying in a hotel. Within the hotel complex, they can have their wellness and well-being rebuilt. Since the Covid-19 outbreak, we've seen increased interest in this area.

Country Heights built it in the 1990s on a deserted mining pit (Sungei Besi Mine), along with other properties such as the Mines Wellness Hotel, The Mines Shopping Mall, and the Mines Exhibition & Convention Centre, for recreational and tourism purposes. The four-star hotel closed partially in 2020 for a major facelift and reopened on January 1, 2021. [READ MORE](#)



Berjaya Tioman Resort has reopened with a fresh new look

The Berjaya Tioman Resort on Tioman Island in Pahang reopened on April 25, 2022, following an upscale renovation.

The more than 50-year-old luxury resort has been closed since June 15, 2020, to allow for renovations to revitalise its rooms and facilities.

The property is managed by Berjaya Hotels & Resorts, a subsidiary of the Berjaya Corp Group of Companies, and features exclusive chalet-style lodging and an 18-hole international golf course across 210 acres of tropical rainforests.

According to resort manager Simon Tan, Berjaya Tioman Resort is currently offering an "Infinite Getaway" experience that allows guests to enjoy a hassle-free island vacation starting at RM1,275 nett per person, based on twin sharing.

It includes two nights' accommodation, a complimentary shuttle from Tekek Jetty to the resort, and a welcome hygiene kit. [READ MORE](#)



Ascott acquires lyf co-living property in Sydney through private equity fund

CapitaLand Investment Limited's (CLI) wholly owned lodging business unit, The Ascott, is acquiring its first lyf-branded co-living property in Sydney, the group said in a press statement on Thursday (Jun 2).

The 197-unit freehold co-living property, to be named lyf Bondi Junction Sydney, is located in Bondi Junction – Sydney's fifth-largest business district. It is also in the vicinity of Bondi Beach. It will open in 2024 and cater to transient young professionals, business and leisure travellers in the city, Ascott added.

Ascott will make the acquisition through the Ascott Serviced Residence Global Fund (ASRGF), its private equity fund with Qatar Investment Authority. This will bring the number of properties held under the ASRGF to 11, with about 2,200 units.

Mak Hoe Kit, Ascott's managing director for lodging private equity funds and head of business development, called lyf Bondi Junction Sydney a rare purpose-built asset in a "highly sought-after location for business and tourism". [READ MORE](#)

