

ISSUE 228

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WEEKLY INSIGHTS

HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY NEWSLETTER



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Malaysia sets new target of 9.2mil tourists this year

The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (Motac) has revised and set a new target of tourist arrivals at 9.2 million with tourism receipts of RM26.8 billion this year.

Minister Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri said this came after the country had almost surpassed the astounding target that it had set for this year at 4.5 million tourist arrivals with RM11.1 billion in tourism receipts, with over 3.21 million tourist arrivals and RM9.35 billion of tourism revenue recorded from January until July.

“This is made possible only with the vigorous initiatives and incentives, including by bringing in international delegates through business events to our country since the reopening of borders and the easing of restrictions for inbound visitors,” she said.

Speaking at the 7th Meet in Malaysia @ Malaysia Business Events Week 2022, Nancy said like other tourism segments, the business events undeniably stimulate business for hospitality-related companies.

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Malaysia's first Hyatt Place hotel to open in Bukit Jalil mid-2023

Hyatt Place Kuala Lumpur in Bukit Jalil was structurally completed on Monday (Aug 29). Managed and operated by Hyatt Hotels Corp, the four-star hotel is developed by Malton Bhd, owned by Mygres Ceramiche Sdn Bhd, and constructed by Siab Holdings Bhd. The hotel was launched in 2020, and is expected to open its doors in the middle of 2023.

Hyatt Place Kuala Lumpur, Bukit Jalil is the first international branded hotel in Malton's 50-acre (20.23-hectare) Bukit Jalil City integrated development, which also comprises three-storey shop offices, the 1.8 million sq ft Pavilion Bukit Jalil shopping mall, and residential components, such as The Park Sky Residence and The Park 2.

Sitting on a 0.64-acre freehold tract, Hyatt Place Kuala Lumpur, Bukit Jalil comprises a 14-storey block featuring a total of 250 hotel rooms and suites with built-ups ranging from 344 to 1,291 sq ft. Visitors will be able to do contactless check-in to and check-out of their hotel rooms via the World of Hyatt application on their mobile devices, eliminating the need of picking up a physical room key. [READ MORE](#)



Malaysia Airlines launches direct flights for Kota Kinabalu–Singapore route

Malaysia Airlines marked another milestone in its network expansion plan by introducing a new direct flight route between Kota Kinabalu and Singapore, which commenced operations on Saturday (Aug 27).

Captain Izham Ismail, the group chief executive officer (CEO) of Malaysia Aviation Group, which runs Malaysia Airlines, said the route will further boost connectivity and flexibility for passengers bound for Singapore, as the airline also offers direct flights to the country via its main hub of Kuala Lumpur, Penang, and Kuching.

“With this new service, passengers from Singapore can seamlessly connect to the Land Below the Wind to discover the scenic attractions of Sabah and even fly to surrounding states from BKI via sister airlines Firefly and MASwings.

“We look forward to further expanding our growth, introducing new strategic routes, and increasing our capacity to achieve more than 70 per cent of our pre-COVID-19 capacity by year-end,” he said in a statement, today. [READ MORE](#)



8 Conlay's full completion would depend on talks between the contractor and the developer

The conclusion of a discussion between the contractor and the developer of Kuala Lumpur's 8 Conlay might now specify when the entire mixed development will be completed.

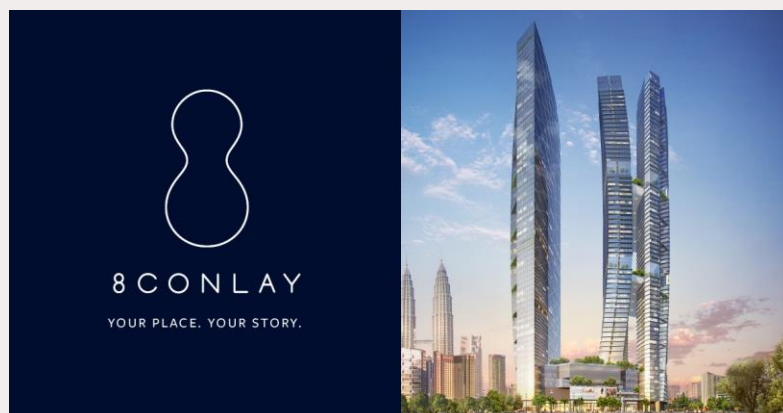
On August 16, 2022, Damai City Sdn Bhd (DCSB), the project's principal contractor and a subsidiary of GDB Holdings Bhd (GDB), served a suspension notice to DCSB over the project's works.

DCSB is a wholly-owned subsidiary of KSK Land Sdn Bhd, which in turn is a wholly-owned unit of KSK Group Bhd, the developer of 8 Conlay in Kuala Lumpur city centre.

Grand Dynamic received an RM1.25 billion contract from DCSB in late 2020 to complete the mixed development project's construction.

8 Conlay is an RM5.4 billion mixed-use development that is known as the tallest twisted twin residential building in the world. The project includes a five-star luxury hotel, The Kempinski Hotel Kuala Lumpur (Tower C), a lifestyle retail platform, and two towers of branded residences (Tower A and Tower B), both of which have an eye-catching tilt. The branded residences are known as YOO8 serviced by Kempinski.

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Legoland Malaysia celebrates 10 years of awesomeness

Legoland Malaysia, the country's first international theme park and the first Legoland theme park in Asia, is celebrating its 10 years of awesomeness with a month-long exclusive shows and loads of specially curated activities.

The celebration kicked off last Friday with, among others, the unveiling of the largest Lego Cake standing at 12-feet tall, made with more than 90,000 Lego Duplo bricks and took up to 320 hours to build!

Designed with a touch of Malaysian flair, the anniversary cake features the Hornbill, Wau, and Hibiscus flowers and will be displayed for the entire month.

Guests were invited to build precious memories with Legoland Malaysia by building their very own Lego DOTS masterpiece, and meeting the newest Lego Character Friends.

They also stand a chance of walking away with special prizes worth up to RM50,000 in the Lucky Wheel session to win Legoland Hotel stay, day tickets, annual passes, Lego sets and exclusive Legoland merchandise.

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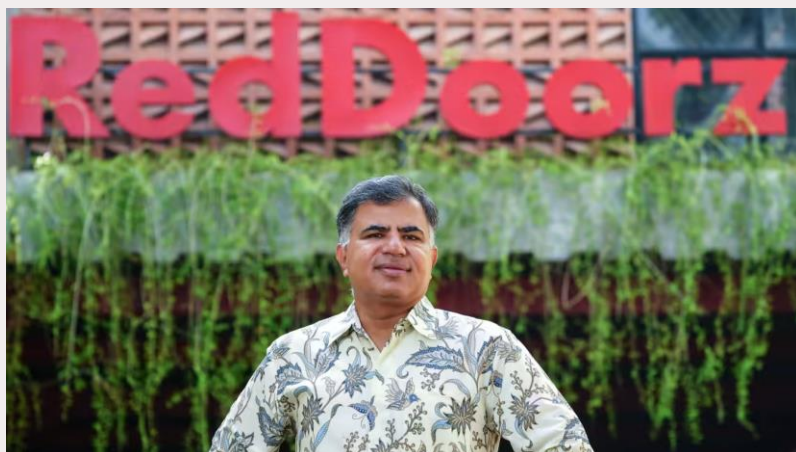
RedDoorz to add up to 2,000 hotels from Indonesia to Thailand

Budget hotel chain RedDoorz is aiming to add as many as 2,000 member inns to its network across Southeast Asia by the end of 2023, the founder and CEO of the Singapore-based company told Nikkei Asia.

As RedDoorz Partners, hotels must conform to a set of standards in areas such as cleanliness and reliability of internet connections. The company's proprietary system uses big data to predict demand and set room rates accordingly for these hotels, allowing them to benefit from economies of scale.

The company has more than 3,500 hotels in its network across Southeast Asia. Indonesia, where the startup launched its first hotel in 2015, is its biggest market, but RedDoorz also operates in its home base of Singapore, Vietnam and the Philippines. In a major step, it entered Thailand this year.

"If you really want to build a pan-Asia business, Southeast Asia business -- and our ambition is to be the largest Southeast Asian new age hospitality company -- you cannot ignore Thailand," founder Amit Saberwal said in an interview last week. "So for us, Thailand is a future-proofing market for growth for 2023 to 2024."[READ MORE](#)



Accor Announces Luxury Integrated Lifestyle Resort in Clark, Philippines

Accor is expanding its presence in the Philippines with the signing of two new properties in Clark City.

Located within a luxury integrated resort, Hann Lux, Sofitel Clark and Emblems Clark will offer convenient access to high-end fashion stores, French inspired cafes and convention facilities. Sofitel Clark will comprise 300 guest rooms while the Emblems Clark will feature 200 guest rooms. The landmark multi-agreement signing will see the expansion of a well-established partnership between Hann and Accor to six hotels in Clark, Philippines.

“We are excited to expand our partnership further with Accor, a global leader in the hospitality industry. Having Sofitel Clark and Emblems Clark in Hann Lux will surely make it a celebrated destination, attracting tourists not only from all over the Philippines but also from around the world,” said Daesik Han, Chairman and CEO, Hann Philippines Inc. (HPI).

Accor is one of the leading international operators in the Philippines with 10 hotels across three regions and a strong pipeline of 14 committed projects across the country. [READ MORE](#)

