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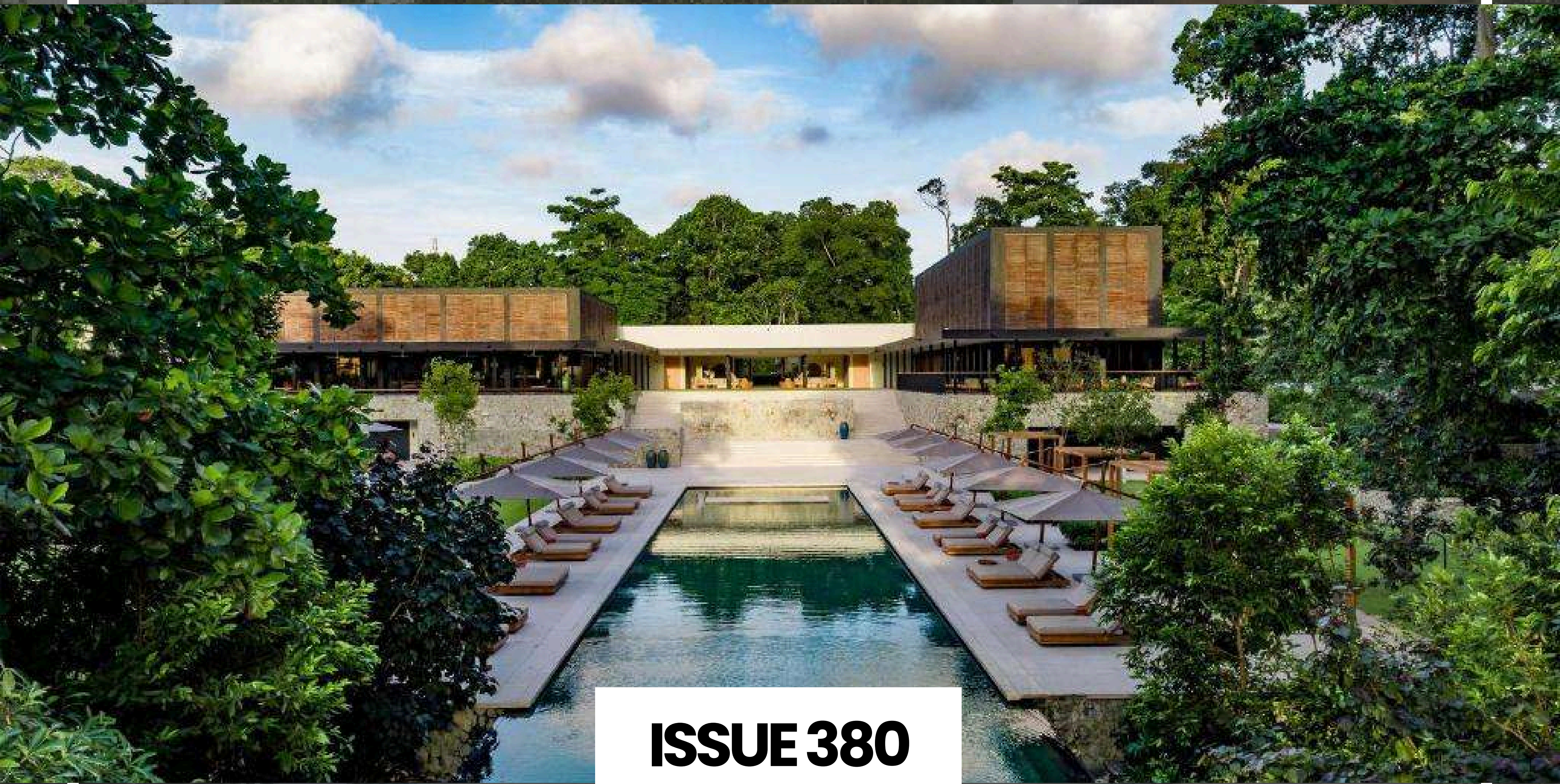

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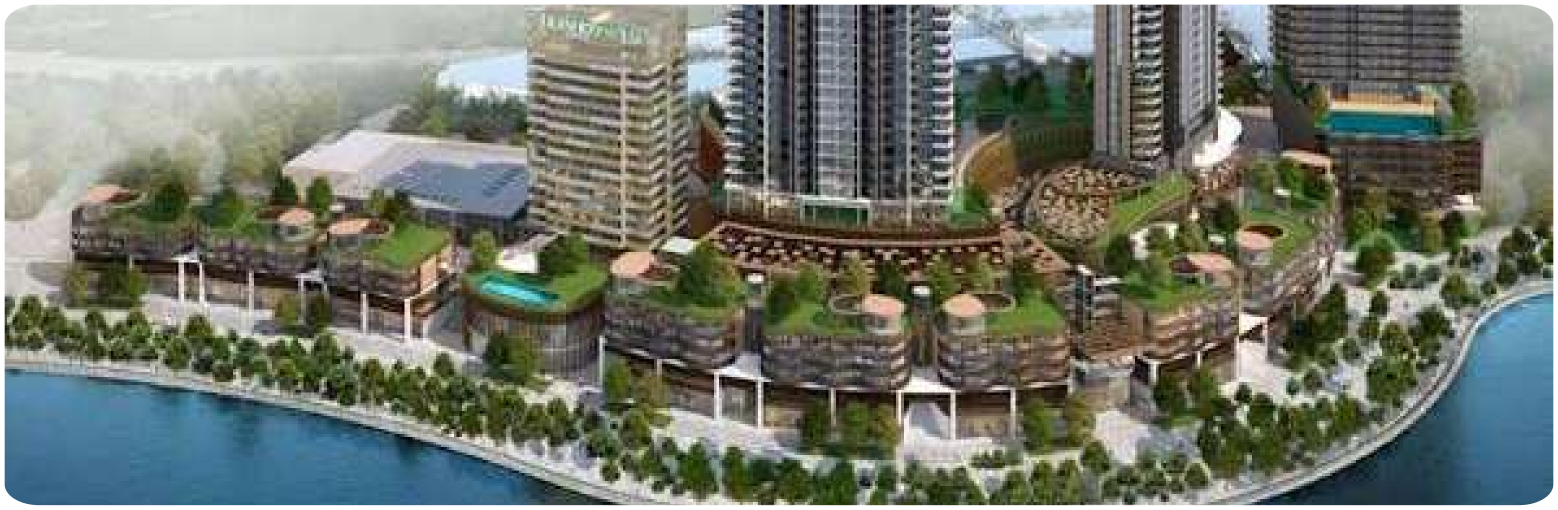
Frasers Hospitality Debuts In Putrajaya With 283 Unit Serviced Residence



Frasers Hospitality, a unit of Frasers Property, has opened Fraser Residence Putrajaya, a 283-unit serviced residence within Terra, Putrajaya's first integrated mixed-use development. The launch marks the Fraser Residence brand's debut in Malaysia and is designed to serve modern families as well as professionals in transit, offering a fresh long-stay option in the administrative capital.

The property features four room categories across nine types, ranging from studios to three-bedroom lakeview apartments with balconies. Each unit has a fully furnished kitchen and generous living space, and residents can enjoy a games room, a children's playroom, a gymnasium and a pool. Two dining options, the all-day Relish restaurant and the Lakeside Cafe, round out the offering.

Meanwhile, Terra is developed by Putrajaya Holdings, a subsidiary of KLCC Holdings, and also comprises a 348-unit condominium, a 170,000 sq ft community mall and a 35,000 sq ft event hall. Positioned along Putrajaya Lake, within 20 minutes of Kuala Lumpur International Airport and next to Cyberjaya, the precinct will further benefit from an upcoming mall and the 1,000-seat Terra Acara convention hall, slated for 2027.

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The Federal Kuala Lumpur Reopen In Bukit Bintang With Full Refresh

The Federal Kuala Lumpur, a longstanding Bukit Bintang landmark, has reopened to guests following a refurbishment of its guestrooms and public spaces. The hotel now offers 150 refurbished rooms and suites, featuring updated furnishings, neutral tones and more natural light, with several units overlooking Jalan Bukit Bintang and the city skyline.

Beyond the guestrooms, the upgrade extends to the lobby, social areas and retail spaces, while the property has retained key original features, including its façade and the white marble lions at the entrance. The rooms have also gained a mini pantry, and sustainability measures were incorporated as part of the works. First opened in August 1957, shortly before Merdeka, the hotel was Malaysia's first international-class property and has remained part of the capital's hospitality scene.

To mark the reopening, Malaysian residents can enjoy a package from RM368 nett per night, inclusive of buffet breakfast, available for stays until November 30, 2026. The relaunch also coincides with Visit Malaysia 2026, positioning the refreshed property to capture continued demand from local and international travellers heading into the city centre.

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Minor Hotels To Introduce Avani Brand In Kota Kinabalu By 2027

Minor Hotels has announced Avani Kota Kinabalu, a 352-key premium lifestyle hotel set to open in the first quarter of 2027, marking the Avani brand's entry into Sabah. The property forms part of The Logg Luyang, an integrated development by KTI Landmark, and adds to Minor Hotels' growing footprint in Malaysia alongside Anantara Desaru Coast Resort and Villas in Johor.

Positioned about 10 minutes from Kota Kinabalu International Airport, the hotel is designed to serve leisure and corporate demand, giving guests convenient access to the city's business districts, residential neighbourhoods and visitor attractions. It will offer five dining and social venues, including an all-day restaurant serving Sabahan, Malaysian, Korean and international cuisine, alongside a rooftop SEEN Restaurant and Bar concept new to the state.

The announcement supports Minor Hotels' strategy of expanding its lifestyle portfolio in destinations with strong domestic, regional and international demand. By anchoring the hospitality component of an integrated development, Avani Kota Kinabalu is well placed to capture rising demand for experience-led stays, strengthening Sabah's position as a gateway to Borneo and a growing regional business hub.

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MOTAC Issues 15 Notices In Kuala Lumpur Tourism Enforcement Sweep

The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC) issued 15 inspection notices during a two-day enforcement operation in Kuala Lumpur, targeting breaches under the Tourism Industry Act 1992. Nine of the notices were issued for operating a tourism business without a valid licence, following inspections across three tourist locations, nine business premises and three individuals.

The operation, carried out with the Kuala Lumpur Tourist Guide Association, also identified individuals suspected of offering tourist guide services without valid licences, alongside other violations such as using private or unlicensed vehicles to ferry tourists and breaching licence conditions. Cases involving unlicensed vehicles will be referred to the Land Public Transport Agency and the Road Transport Department, while further investigations continue before any legal action is taken.

Motac reiterated that offences under the Act carry compounds of up to RM250,000 or fines of up to RM500,000, alongside possible imprisonment. The ministry encouraged the public and industry players to report suspected violations through its complaints system, reinforcing its commitment to fair, accountable enforcement that safeguards standards across Kuala Lumpur's tourism sector.

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RTS Link Fare And Launch Date Set For Joint Announcement Soon

The ticket price and exact operational date for the Rapid Transit System (RTS) Link connecting Johor Baru and Singapore will be jointly announced by the transport ministers of Malaysia and Singapore, said Transport Minister Anthony Loke. Speaking during a site visit to the RTS Link and Bukit Chagar integrated immigration complex, he confirmed fare discussions are still ongoing.

As the project is a bilateral undertaking between the two countries, Loke noted that neither side can make unilateral announcements on pricing or the launch date. During an earlier visit in April, he indicated rail operator RTS Operations Pte Ltd was expected to present proposed fare rates in the third quarter, keeping the project on track for its planned debut.

The RTS Link spans about 4km with two stations, one in Bukit Chagar and one in Woodlands, and is designed to carry up to 10,000 passengers per hour in each direction. With an anticipated daily ridership of around 40,000 passengers, the link remains on schedule to open on January 1, 2027, strengthening cross-border connectivity between the two economies.

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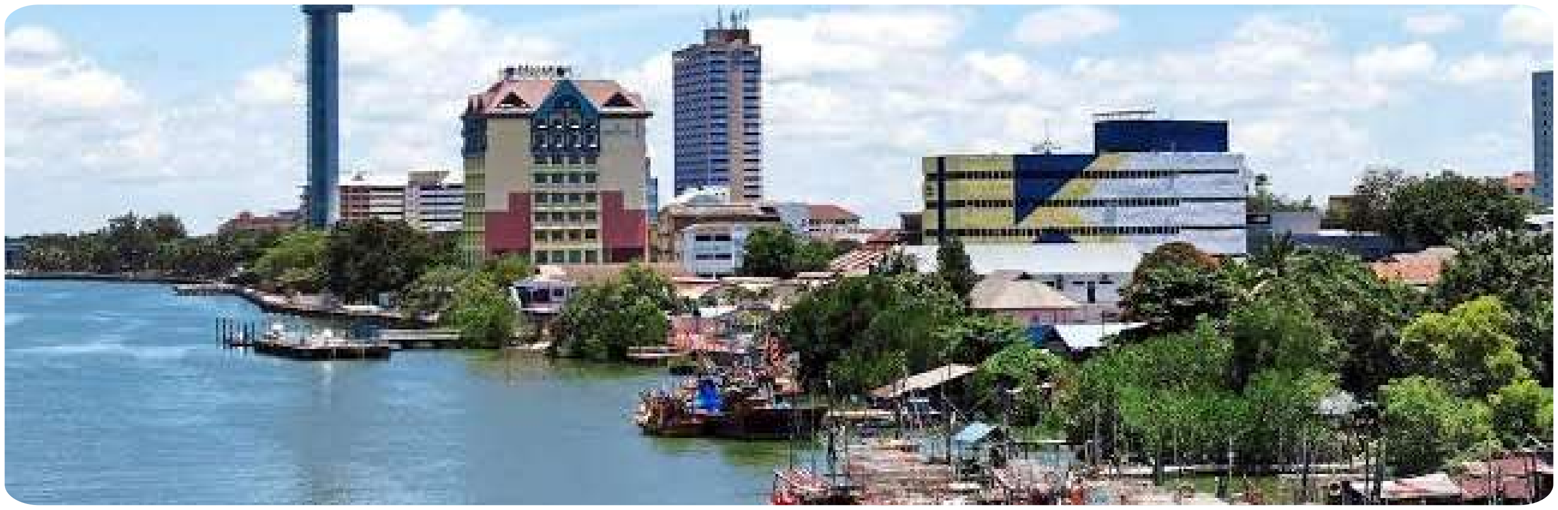
Pahang Rolls Out New Tourism Zones To Boost Consumer Confidence



Pahang has introduced the Compliant Tourism Hotspot Zone (ZTPP), a new consumer-protection initiative requiring traders at tourist destinations across the state to follow transparent pricing rules and use certified weighing scales. The measure is aimed at preventing visitor exploitation and strengthening confidence in the state's tourism sector, as Pahang continues to draw strong domestic interest.

The ZTPP is built around three focus areas, namely consumer protection, trader empowerment and regulatory compliance. Participating businesses are now required to display clear pricing and use verified measurement equipment, while a new reporting mechanism allows tourists and residents to flag non-compliant traders directly, encouraging fair practices across popular tourist destinations statewide.

The launch builds on Pahang's position as Malaysia's top state for overnight domestic tourists in 2025, with 11 million visitors recorded, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia. The state is targeting 15 million total visitors and RM13.4 billion in tourism revenue for 2026 under the Visit Malaysia campaign, and the ZTPP initiative is expected to support this growth by reinforcing trust between traders and travellers alike.

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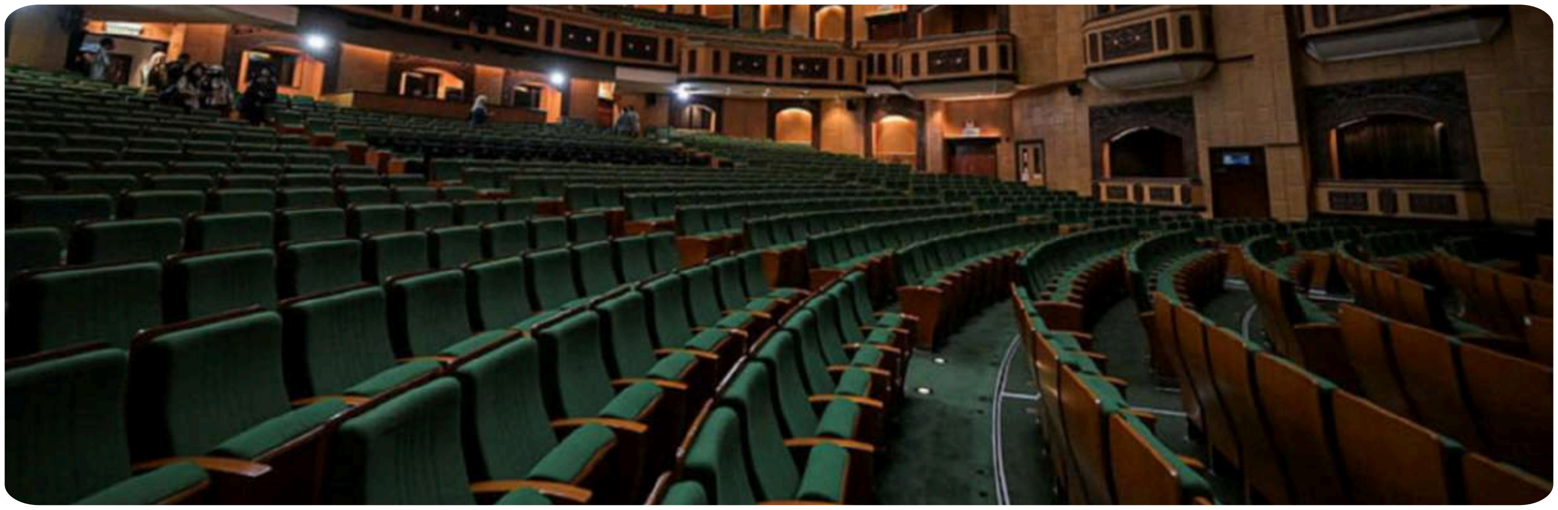
Istana Budaya Reopens After Two-Year Roof And Stage Upgrade



Istana Budaya has reopened its doors after a two-year closure for roof repair and comprehensive upgrading works, positioning the national theatre for a new chapter of world-class stage performances. The venue had been shut since January 2024 to allow for enhancements to its physical infrastructure and a modernisation of its stage technology ecosystem.

The transformation included a complete revamp of the main Panggung Sari auditorium, which seats up to 3,000 people, along with the installation of a new sound system reportedly ranked among the top three in the world. The government allocated RM80 million for the facility upgrades, reflecting its commitment to securing Istana Budaya's world-class status and supporting the wider Visit Malaysia Year 2026 campaign.

With safety compliance requirements now met, the venue is set to host a fuller calendar of productions, including musical theatre, orchestral performances and community programmes, following an interim period when limited stage facilities were used. The reopening restores a key cultural landmark to Kuala Lumpur's arts scene, adding further momentum to the capital's cultural and tourism offerings this year.

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Vietjet Thailand To Launch Daily Bangkok-Kuala Lumpur Flights In October

Vietjet Thailand, the subsidiary of low-cost carrier Vietjet Air, will begin flying daily between Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur from October 9, marking the airline's first direct service to Malaysia. The route will be operated using its new Boeing 737-8 aircraft, configured with 189 seats, connecting Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport with KLIA Terminal 2.

Under the new schedule, flight VZ680 will depart Bangkok at 11:00 and arrive in Kuala Lumpur at 14:10, while the return flight VZ681 will depart Kuala Lumpur at 15:15 and land in Bangkok at 16:30, local time. The convenient midday timings are designed to suit both business and leisure travellers seeking flexible round-trip itineraries between the two Southeast Asian capitals.

Vietjet Thailand said the new service will also connect Malaysian travellers to its wider domestic and international network, which spans destinations across Japan, China, Vietnam, Taipei, Cambodia, India and South Korea, among others. The launch supports the airline's continued fleet expansion and reinforces Thailand's role as a regional aviation hub, while widening affordable travel options between Malaysia and Thailand.

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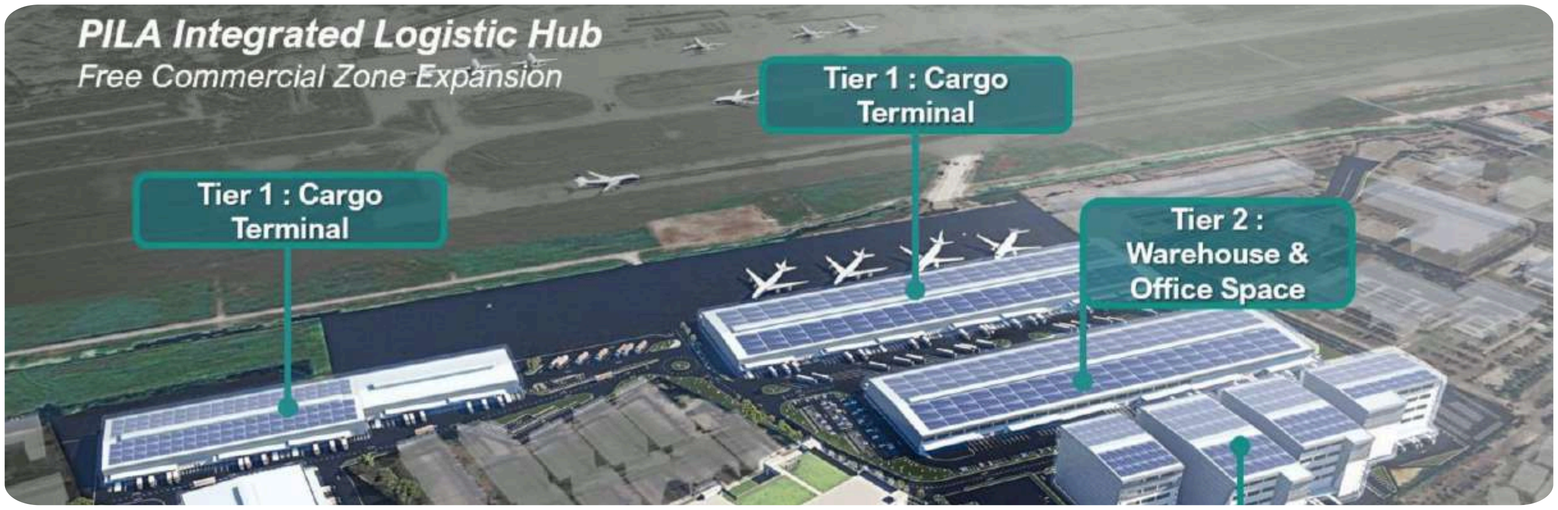
Penang's New Air Logistics Complex To Lift Northern Cargo Capacity



The Penang International Logistics Aeropark (Pila) is set to significantly boost air cargo facilities and capacity in Malaysia's northern region, said Transport Minister Anthony Loke. The project, an expansion of the existing Penang air cargo hub, will strengthen the region's role as an air logistics centre while adding much greater handling capacity for the years ahead.

Construction is already underway, led by Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) in collaboration with Penang Development Corporation (PDC), following the formation of joint venture company Pila Sdn Bhd through an agreement signed in April 2026. The project forms part of MAHB's broader plans to upgrade air cargo facilities not only at Kuala Lumpur International Airport but also in Penang, with the government facilitating private-sector investment in strategic infrastructure.

The first phase involves a new free commercial zone-class air cargo warehouse, expected to be completed and operational by 2029. Overall, Pila is projected to accommodate a cargo capacity of up to 500,000 tonnes annually by 2050, with warehouse space exceeding two million square feet, further cementing Penang's role in the region's logistics network.

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