



PRESS RELEASE

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WAITGC 2015 GRAND FINAL ARRIVES IN SELANGOR

SELANGOR, 17 November 2015 – After five challenging qualifying rounds, the champion of this year’s World Amateur Inter-Team Golf Championship (WAITGC) will be determined at the Sungai Long Golf & Country Club and The Mines Resort & Golf Course.

The 3-day Grand Final kicked off today with a participation of 25 teams (100 players) from Australia (8 teams), Brunei (9 teams), India (1 team), Japan (2 teams), and Malaysia (5 teams).

The 18-hole Sungai Long Golf & Country Club is designed by famous golf master Jack Nicklaus. Dubbed as the “Garden of Eden”, it features a unique, modern yet classy layout that offers a fair challenge for golfers of all levels.

The Mines Resort & Golf Course has won numerous accolades, which includes ‘The Best Golf Course in Malaysia’, with its beautiful 18-hole par 71 course. It maintains the greens immaculately with strict ‘buggy only’ rule.

Tourism Malaysia has invited 11 media from Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Switzerland, to cover the Grand Final and help promote the 2016 WAITGC in the European market.

The 22nd WAITGC attracted a total of 126 teams with 504 players from Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates. They participated in five qualifying rounds, which were held in Johor, Sabah, Langkawi, Kuala Lumpur, and Melaka, from March to October.

WAITGC is Tourism Malaysia’s initiative to promote the country as a top-of-mind golf destination in the region, attracting more than 500 international amateur golfers and spouses annually. Since its debut in 1994, WAITGC has emerged as a well-regarded tournament and one of the highly anticipated golfing events in the region. WAITGC is managed by the Golf Club Managers Association of Malaysia (GCMAM) and sanctioned by the Malaysian Golf Association (MGA).



MALAYSIA TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD
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To golfers, WAITGC is more than just a gateway for them to compete against golfers from other countries, or to test their talent and skills and conquer some of the best fairways and greens in the country; it is also a perfect holiday package, where they get to visit some of the country's best tourist attractions.

Golf tourism has been identified as one of the key priority sectors to increase the nation's tourism contribution to the economy and has been underscored in the country's Economic Transformation Programme (ETP). Last year, golf tourism receipts amounted to RM312 million.

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MALAYSIA TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD OR TOURISM MALAYSIA is an agency under the Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Malaysia. Tourism Malaysia focuses on the specific task of promoting Malaysia at all levels. Since its inception, Tourism Malaysia has grown by leaps and bounds and it has emerged as a major player in the international tourism scene. In 2014, Malaysia registered 27.4 million tourist arrivals and RM72 billion in receipts, making tourism its second largest foreign exchange earner.

Malaysia celebrated its fourth **VISIT MALAYSIA YEAR (VMY)** in 2014 with the theme "Celebrating 1Malaysia Truly Asia". The promotion of the country continues with the **MALAYSIA YEAR OF FESTIVALS (MyFEST)** campaign in 2015 with the theme "Endless Celebrations" emphasising the various festivals celebrated by its multicultural society. Both campaigns are key drivers towards achieving the country's target of 36 million tourist arrivals and RM168 billion in receipts by 2020, as outlined in the Tourism NKEA (National Key Economic Area).

Through the Tourism NKEA, collaborative efforts between the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, other Government agencies and the private sector have been enhanced to help secure Malaysia's position as a leading tourist destination. The targets set under the Tourism NKEA will be achieved through the implementation of twelve Entry Point Projects (EPPs) clustered under five themes: Affordable Luxury; Nature Adventure; Family Fun; Events, Entertainment, Spa and Sports; and Business Tourism.

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