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MALAYSIA'S TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS – AUGUST 2013

PUTRAJAYA, 14 June 2013 – August is an important month for Malaysia as the National Day falls on the 31st of this month. Besides this special event, the month is also filled with other interesting programmes from art to sports. Some of the major tourism highlights in August include:

1MALAYSIA CONTEMPORARY ART TOURISM FESTIVAL (1MCAT)

The 1Malaysia Contemporary Art Tourism Festival (1MCAT) continues on in August after an exciting month of art exhibitions in July. More events are scheduled this entire month of August, with art exhibitions, seminars and unique displays in art galleries around the country.

The event acts as a platform for art enthusiasts from artists to gallery owners to forge business alliances, as well as to share their ideas and information about the new contemporary art of Malaysia.

Organiser: Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Malaysia
Date: 1 July – September 2013
Venue: Throughout Malaysia
Contact: +6 03 8891 7519

HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI 2013

After fasting from dawn to dusk for a month, this is the time to celebrate! Hari Raya Aidilfitri marks the end of the Ramadan month (fasting season) and every year this festive occasion is celebrated in a grand scale in Malaysia.

The highlight of this joyous occasion is the open house where the Muslims will invite their friends from various ethnics and cultures to their house to join in the merrymaking and enjoy traditional Malay favourites such as *ketupat*, *rendang* and satay!

Date: 8 – 9 August 2013
Venue: Nationwide



MALAYSIA TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD
(MINISTRY OF TOURISM & CULTURE, MALAYSIA)
No. 2, Tower 1, Jalan P5/6, Precinct 5, 62200 Putrajaya, Malaysia
Tel: +603 8891 8000; <http://www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my>
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SANDAKAN MEMORIAL DAY 2013

Sabah Memorial Day 2013 is held annually to commemorate the 2400 fallen heroes who perished on three separate torturous 240-km marches from Sandakan to Ranau, known today as the infamous Death March.

Every year, visitors will travel to the Sandakan Memorial Park, which was once the site of the Prisoners of War Camp, to commemorate these brave souls with a memorial service in their honour, 'Lest we forget'.

Organiser: Sandakan Municipal Council
Date: 15 August 2013
Venue: Sandakan Memorial Park, Sandakan, Sabah
Contact: +6 089 273 753
Website: www.sabahtourism.com

MELAKA MITS MATTA FAIR 2013

MATTA Fair is coming to Melaka town! The Melaka MITS MATTA Fair 2013 offers visitors a great selection of exciting tour packages and fares that suit their travel needs.

Besides that, visitors and consumers will also be able to find many attractive bargains and great discounts for various tourism-related products. It's time to make plans for your holiday. Come, compare, and purchase!

Organiser: MATTA Melaka Chapter & Melaka Tourism Promotion Division
Date: 23 – 25 August 2013
Venue: Melaka International Trade Centre (MITC), Melaka
Contact: +6 06 286 9668/ +6 016 630 6971 (Cik Hanitah)

RACE FOR 12 HOURS!

The biggest motorsports endurance race in Asia, the Merdeka Millenium Endurance Race (MMER) 2013, will be back for the 14th edition!

Each team will have three drivers who will race for at least 70 minutes before being allowed to switch. Young motorsports enthusiasts will have a new way and new place to celebrate Malaysia's Independence Day.

Organiser: Sepang International Circuit (SIC)
Date: 29 – 31 August 2013



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Venue: Sepang International Circuit (SIC), Selangor
Contact: +6 03 8778 2200
Website: www.sepangcircuit.com.my

HARI KEMERDEKAAN (INDEPENDENCE DAY) MALAYSIA 2013

"Merdeka! Merdeka! Merdeka!" Hari Kemerdekaan is a national holiday which is celebrated on 31 August every year to commemorate the independence of the Federation of Malaya from British colonial rule in 1957.

Traditionally, a grand and colourful parade will be held in the morning at the Merdeka Square in Kuala Lumpur for everyone to attend and celebrate this important occasion together. Similar parades will also be held in every state simultaneously. This year's celebration marks the 56th anniversary of Malaysia's independence.

Date: 31 August 2013
Venue: Nationwide / Merdeka Square, Kuala Lumpur.

All information is correct at time of publication. Visitors are advised to contact the event organiser for the latest updates.

For more media releases, media info and media features on Malaysia's tourism industry, kindly visit the Media Centre of Tourism Malaysia's website at <http://www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my/>

MALAYSIA TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD OR TOURISM MALAYSIA is an agency under the Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Malaysia. While the Ministry of Tourism & Culture implements tourism policies, conducts studies and offers incentives for industry players, Tourism Malaysia focuses on the specific task of promoting Malaysia at the domestic and international level. Driven by its aspiration to promote Malaysia as a destination of excellence in this region, Tourism Malaysia has grown by leaps and bounds since its inception and has emerged as a major player in the nation's socio-economic landscape. In 2012, Malaysia registered 25 million tourist arrivals and RM60.6 billion in tourist receipts.

In 2014, Malaysia will celebrate its fourth **VISIT MALAYSIA YEAR (VMY)** with the theme "Celebrating 1Malaysia Truly Asia". The VMY 2014 promotional campaign has started this year with a series of year-long special events and activities leading to VMY 2014. It will contribute to the Government's target to receive 36 million tourist arrivals and RM168 billion in receipts by 2020, as outlined in the Malaysia Tourism Transformation Plan (MTTP) 2020.

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