



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MALAYSIA'S TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS – FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2014

**PUTRAJAYA, 23 January 2013** – The first quarter of Visit Malaysia Year (VMV) 2014 sets to bring you a combination of shopping, festive, sports and cultural tourism events. The highlights include:

### **Gong Xi Fa Chai!**

Come and join in the festivities of celebrating the Year of Horse at the **Malaysia Chinese New Year Open House Celebration 2014** in Taiping, Perak!

Be enthralled by the Chinese cultural performances such as the exciting lion and dragon dance, traditional music and dance performance, together with the serving of delicious traditional delicacies during this 15-day Spring Festival.

Organiser: Ministry of Tourism and Culture Malaysia (MOTAC)  
Date: 8 February 2014  
Venue: Taiping, Perak.  
Contact: +6 03 8891 7000  
Website: [www.motac.gov.my](http://www.motac.gov.my)

### **19<sup>TH</sup> WORLD KITE FESTIVAL 2014 (FESTIVAL LAYANG-LAYANG SEDUNIA)**

Watch incredible swirling performances as kite-flyers from over 30 countries display their skills with their colourful and unique kites gliding across the Pasir Gudang sky!

The festival will be filled with domestic and international contests, demonstrations, spectacular ground displays, and some of the most amazing kites you will ever see including our very own traditional *Wau Bulan*, *Wau Kucing* and *Wau Jala Budi*. Don't forget to visit the Kite Museum which is within the festival site too!

Organiser: Pasir Gudang Municipal Council  
Date: 19 - 23 February 2014  
Venue: Bukit Layang-layang, Taman Bandar Pasir Gudang, Johor.  
Contact: +6 07 251 3720/21/22  
Email: [mppg@johor.gov.my](mailto:mppg@johor.gov.my)  
Website: [www.mppg.gov.my](http://www.mppg.gov.my)



**MALAYSIA TOURISM PROMOTION BOARD**  
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### **It's all about sand!**

The **Port Dickson 4x4 International Sand Challenge 2014** does not offer the usual challenges like jungle bashing, river crossing, rock climbing or getting stuck in deep mud up to your nose. It is an endurance event that will make you eat sand and drink sand!

Contenders from as far as Holland, India, and Ireland have confirmed their participations in this gruelling competition. It will be a test of winching, handling, obstacles and may more!

Organiser: Negeri Sembilan Tourism Board  
Dates: 28 February – 2 March 2014  
Venue: Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan  
Contact: +6 06 765 9725/9734  
Website: <https://www.facebook.com/pdisandchallenge>  
Email: [admin@nstourism.com.my](mailto:admin@nstourism.com.my)

### **Shop to race, race to shop!**

Held in conjunction with the annual 2014 Formula 1 Petronas Malaysia Grand Prix, the **1Malaysia Grand Prix (GP) Sale 2014** is all set to tempt F1 fans to stay longer in Malaysia to enjoy great bargains and attractive offers throughout the two-month shopping fest.

So let's gear up for the race and load your shopping carts with all discounted and promotional items that you want in this shopping-paradise country!

Organiser: Shopping Malaysia Secretariat, Tourism Malaysia  
Date: 15 March - 6 April 2013  
Venue: Nationwide  
Contact: +6 03 8891 8000  
Email: [enq-megasales@tourism.gov.my](mailto:enq-megasales@tourism.gov.my)



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**We are all in this together: People, Nature, Birds**

Witness one of nature's most exquisite offerings at **Raptor Watch 2014** as the migratory birds of prey such as Oriental Honey-Buzzard, Black Baza, Japanese Sparrowhawk, Chinese Goshawk and Grey-faced Buzzard fly over Tanjung Tuan before continuing their perilous journey to the Northern Hemisphere.

Organised by Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), this very significant event also aims to educate the public on the effects of climate change on raptor migration and the habitats that host them as well.

Organizer: Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)  
Date: 8 - 9 March 2014  
Venue: Tanjung Tuan PNB Ilham Resort, 10<sup>th</sup> Mile, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan  
Contact: +6 03 2287 9422  
Website: <http://mnsraptorwatch.wordpress.com/>

**2<sup>nd</sup> FAI ASIAN PARAGLIDING ACCURACY CHAMPIONSHIP (FAPAC) 2014**

Glide in the sky and enjoy the beautiful view of valley, villages and the majestic Mount Kinabalu at the 2<sup>nd</sup> FAI Paragliding Accuracy Championship (FAPAC) 2014, which is part of a world tour organised by the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI).

Set against the beautiful view of the valley, villages, and the majestic Mount Kinabalu, top pilots from as far as Hungary, Japan and Slovenia will gather to compete for the champion title. Now everyone can truly fly.

Organiser: Kinabalu Paragliding Club (KLUK)  
Dates: 12 - 19 March 2014  
Venue: Ranau Paragliding Park, Ranau, Sabah  
Contact: +6 019 860 8700 (Major Haznain Ngamil), +6 010 534 7375 (Evelina Sitem)  
Website: [www.borneoparagliders.com/fapac2014.html](http://www.borneoparagliders.com/fapac2014.html)  
Email: [flyhighconsultsb@gmail.com](mailto:flyhighconsultsb@gmail.com)



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### **Rumble in the Jungle! - The return of Future Music Festival Asia (FMFA) 2014**

Dubbed as the largest music festival to ever hit Southeast Asian shores, Future Music Festival Asia (FMFA) 2014 is back to take over the Mines Wonderland, Mines Resort City's entire vicinity from 13 - 15 March 2014 with an estimated 75,000 fans expected to converge over the three days.

With the theme "Safari" this year, the festival features a colossal list of big names which includes Deadmau5, Paul Van Dyk and also the of Armin Van Buuren's legendary 'A State of Trance 650: New Horizons'. Let's rumble!

Organiser: Future Music Australia and Livescape Asia  
Date: 13 - 15 February 2014  
Venue: Mines Wonderland, Mines Resort City, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Website: [www.futuremusicfestival.asia](http://www.futuremusicfestival.asia)  
[www.facebook.com/futuremusicasia](http://www.facebook.com/futuremusicasia)

### **THE 5<sup>TH</sup> MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL SHOE FESTIVAL (MISF) 2014**

Attention all shoe-paholics! Asia's hottest shoe designers and their creations will be here at the Shoe City of Asia - Malaysia for the 5<sup>th</sup> Malaysia International Shoe Festival (MISF) 2014!

Sexy stilettos, comfy flats, stylish pumps, trendy sneakers, classic leather wear- just name it, and you will find it at this four-day shoes extravaganza which will feature over 50 brands and more than 200 booths from international countries such as Australia, Hong Kong and Japan. It's a one-stop shoe shopping experience!

Organiser: Malaysian Footwear Manufacturers Association  
Dates: 27 - 30 March 2014  
Venue: Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur.  
Contact: +6 03 9285 5382, +6 012 273 5933  
Website: [www.malaysiafootwear.com](http://www.malaysiafootwear.com)  
Email: [misfshoe@gmail.com](mailto:misfshoe@gmail.com)



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### **Colours in Putrajaya's skies!**

The empire strikes back as Darth Vader — or rather, the Darth Vader balloon from Belgium — marks its return at the upcoming **6th Putrajaya International Hot Air Balloon Fiesta 2014**.

Besides Darth Vader, this year's fiesta will also feature Buzzy, the green monster balloon from the United States, a pair of love 'Bees' – cartoon bee characters also from the United States, an ice cream cone-shaped balloon hailing from Belgium and a heart-shaped balloon from Taiwan.

Among the attractions and side events are hot-air balloon rides, Mountain Dew Extreme Zone, helicopter joy rides, and the back-by-popular-demand Night Glow event where hot air balloons and strobe lights are lit in sync to the sounds of popular music, creating a glorious atmosphere before culminating in a display of fireworks.

Admission is free!

Organiser: AKA Balloon Sdn. Bhd.  
Dates: 27 - 30 March 2014  
Venue: Monument Alaf Baru, Precinct 2, Putrajaya.  
Contact: +6 03 7981 8769/8712  
Website: [www.myballoonfiesta.com](http://www.myballoonfiesta.com)  
Email: [myballoonfiesta@gmail.com](mailto:myballoonfiesta@gmail.com)

### **2014 FORMULA 1 PETRONAS MALAYSIA GRAND PRIX 2014**

Watch the adrenaline-pumping action at one of the world's most challenging tracks as the Formula 1 Petronas Malaysia Grand Prix 2014 returns.

With the overwhelming heat and humidity condition as natural obstacles, the Sepang International Circuit (SIC) will definitely test the skills of the world's finest racers and distinguish the outstanding from the best. Don't miss this Hot! Hot! Hot! Race!

Organiser: Sepang International Circuit Sdn. Bhd.  
Dates: 28 - 30 March 2014  
Venue: Sepang International Circuit, Selangor  
Contact: +6 03 8778 2200  
Website: [www.formula1.com](http://www.formula1.com)  
[www.sepangcircuit.com](http://www.sepangcircuit.com)

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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. 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 2012, Malaysia registered 25 million tourist arrivals and RM60.6 billion in tourist receipts, placing the country firmly as the 10<sup>th</sup> most popular tourism destination in the world.

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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