



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **ENDURANCE CYCLISTS RIDE 800KM ACROSS PENINSULAR MALAYSIA WITHIN 2 DAYS**

**KOTA BHARU, 31 May 2012:** Fifteen expats living in Singapore will embark on a cycling tour today, riding over 800km within 48 hours from Thailand to Singapore. The inaugural Trans Malaysia Express (TME) bike ride is set to showcase Malaysia as a great cycling destination, as the cyclists travel along the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia.

The journey officially kicks off at the border town of Sungai Golok at 10pm, where the endurance cyclists will ride all night and all day, heading towards Kuantan via Terengganu, before a stopover at the town of Pekan for a six-hour rest. Fifty cyclists from the Pahang Cycling Club are expected to join them along the route from Kuantan to Pekan.

On 2 June, the cyclists will resume their journey towards Johor Bahru at 12.45 am via Rompin and Mersing, before making their way first to the Sultan Iskandar CIQ Complex, and then to the Singapore Woodlands CIQ Complex.

At around 5pm, they are expected to reach the High Commission of Malaysia in Singapore where they will be given a warm reception to celebrate the completion of their ride.

The Trans Malaysia Express (TME) bike ride is no doubt an arduous affair. Nevertheless, those who have chosen to participate in this ride are seasoned cyclists drawn from a wide selection of Singapore cycling clubs. In fact, three of them have previously completed the gruelling Paris-Brest-Paris race of 1,200km in 3 days.

The Trans Malaysia Express (TME) is jointly organised by Tourism Malaysia and Trans Malaysia Express Singapore, with KTM Berhad as the main sponsor of transportation.

This collaboration between Malaysia and Singapore is expected to benefit both countries, as Malaysia's scenic cycling routes will attract cycling clubs in Singapore to organise long-distance cycling trips here.

Earlier this year, the Ministry of Tourism launched the ‘*Pakej Berbasikal Cuti-Cuti 1Malaysia & Kayuhan Sihat 1Malaysia*’ in Raub, as a new tourism product. Under this campaign, a total of 33 Cuti-Cuti 1Malaysia (CC1M) cycling tour packages have been jointly developed between Tourism Malaysia state offices and 21 local tour agents.

There are various cycling packages with a price range from RM100 for the half-day “Photography Package” in Putrajaya to the RM1,499 5-day/4-night “Kinabalu Mountain Biking” at Mt. Kinabalu, Sabah. Other packages are also available in various states around the country such as Penang, Perak and Sarawak.

The Ministry of Tourism has also invested in cycling infrastructure such as upgrading the bicycle track in Teluk Chempedak, Pahang, in 2009 which cost RM150,000. Since then, the track has attracted cyclists from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines and Iran, and it was also used as the location for the Downhill International Cycling Competition in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

For more information on the Trans Malaysia Express bike ride, please contact:  
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