



Hello Readers!

April is an exciting month to travel around the country to experience the Malaysia Year of Festivals. Let the Bajaus of Sabah share their love for the sea with you during the colourful Regatta Lepa race. Or enjoy the traditional food, culture and past times of the Sarawakian Melanaus during the Kaul Mukah Festival.

There's also a silat carnival, featuring Malaysia's martial arts tradition, going on in Kelantan.

For more modern pursuits, Penang's World Music Festival, Ironman 70.3 Putrajaya and shopping bargains during the Grand Prix sale promises lots of fun.

To give you some ideas of what to do this April, here's a line-up of well-balanced events for tourists, both local and foreign, to enjoy in Malaysia. Plan your trip well, or engage the services of a licensed tour operator/travel agent.

Happy holidays!

Mohmed Razip Hasan  
 Director of Communications & Publicity  
 & the Editorial Team  
 Tourism Malaysia

### Penang World Music Festival

Penang World Music Festival features a colourful assortment of performances ranging from traditional to fusion. Experience mind-blowing performances by international musicians from Spain, Germany, South Africa, India and more. Marvel at the fusion of historic and contemporary attractions, right in our UNESCO Heritage City. We invite you to experience food that will exhilarate your taste buds while indulging yourself in this all-in-one music and culture trip.

Date : 11 to 12 April  
 Venue : Esplanade, Penang  
 Organiser : Penang State Tourism  
 Website : [www.penangworldmusic.gov.my](http://www.penangworldmusic.gov.my)  
 Contact : +604-650 5136



### Labuan National Water Festival

This water-splashing event invites visitors to come and enjoy, relax, eat, play and compete in numerous water-related activities such as fishing, round-island kayaking, cross-channel swimming, and shore fishing. Take part in a beach tug-of-war competition, test your agility in climbing a slippery pole or take out the competition in a fun pillow fight! Visitors are also welcome to join the Labuan International Sea Challenge which is part of the annual Malaysia Water Festival; it is among the biggest and popular water sports events in the country. If you are a water sports lover, then Labuan is the place for you.



Date : 24 to 26 April 2015  
 Venue : Federal Territory of Labuan  
 Organiser : Ministry of Tourism and Culture  
 Malaysia  
 Website : [www.motour-labuan.com](http://www.motour-labuan.com)  
 / [www.lisc.com.my](http://www.lisc.com.my)  
 Contact : +6087-422622

### 1Malaysia Grand Prix Sale



The 1Malaysia Grand Prix Sale, held in conjunction with the annual Formula 1 Grand Prix, is a highly-anticipated sale in which shoppers can expect to buy fabulous products at a bargain. Tourists coming to

enjoy the F1 race can later experience the Truly Malaysian shopping thrill off-circuit which not only offers the best prices with the best varieties of items but also offers an array of dining choices that will ignite your senses. From seductive culinary temptations and fun and recreation to relaxation and entertainment, experience it all at the 1Malaysia Grand Prix Sale.

Date : 14 March to 5 April  
 Venue : Participating malls throughout Klang Valley  
 Organiser : Ministry of Tourism and Culture  
 Website : [www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my](http://www.tourismmalaysia.gov.my)  
 Contact : +603-8891 8000

### Ironman 70.3



The Ironman event is not for the faint-hearted. If you have the iron will and determination to swim for 1.9 km, cycle for 90 km, and run for 21.1 km, then you might just cross that finish line with bragging rights. But if you don't, it's still great to watch the sheer physical and mental strength of man from the sidelines. Date : 5 April  
 Venue : Millennium Monument, Precinct 2, Putrajaya  
 Organiser : World Triathlon Corporation  
 Website : <http://www.ironman.com/>  
 Contact : +603-7491 0591

### Wings of Kuala Kubu Bharu- Selangor Bird Race

The fourth Wings of Kuala Kubu Bharu is a great opportunity for birders to come together to enjoy nature and expand their knowledge of the different species of birds and their habitats. Participants will go through 10 different checkpoints starting from the charming town of Kuala Kubu Baru, past the Kalumpung Hot Springs and ending at the Genting Highlands Awana Resort. The area is part of the Important Bird Area and has gems such as the Marbled Wren Babbler, Pygmy Wren Babbler, Large Niltava, Silver-Breasted Broadbills and three hornbills namely Rhinoceros, Great and Bushy Crested. Experience the green side of Malaysia here at the Wings of KKB Selangor Bird Race event.



Date : 24 to 26 April  
 Venue : Kuala Kubu Bharu and Awana Resort,  
 Genting Highlands  
 Organiser : Hulu Selangor District Council  
 Website : [wingsofkkb.blogspot.com](http://wingsofkkb.blogspot.com)  
 Contact : +603-60641331

### Nasi Ambeng Carnival



Nasi ambeng or nasi ambang is a fragrant rice dish consisting of white rice served with chicken curry or chicken cooked in soy sauce, vegetables, fried noodles, some salted fish, fried coconut flesh, and so on. It is cooked during important celebrations and served in a tray to be shared by four to five people. Come and experience the unique, communal dining style and delicious food of the Javanese-Malay people at the Nasi Ambeng Carnival.

Date : 17 to 18 April  
 Venue : Banghuris Homestay, Sg. Pelek, Sepang Selangor  
 Organiser : National Department for Culture and Arts  
 Website : [www.jkkn.gov](http://www.jkkn.gov)  
 Contact : +603-5510 2664

### UNESCO World Heritage Exhibition

The UNESCO World Heritage Exhibition is being held at Sultan Abdul Samad Building, Kuala Lumpur. This exhibition features the four UNESCO World Heritage sites in Malaysia namely the cities of Melaka and George Town, the Archaeological Heritage of Lembah Lenggong, Gunung Mulu National Park and Kinabalu Park. Though small, the exhibition is packed with many interesting exhibits and information about each UNESCO site, and is a great stop before tourists decide to visit any of the actual destinations. The UNESCO World Heritage Exhibition runs until 31 December 2015. Admission is free.

Date : Until 31 December 2015  
 Venue : Sultan Abdul Samad Building, Kuala Lumpur  
 Organiser : Department of National Heritage  
 Website : [www.facebook.com/jabatanwarisannegara](http://www.facebook.com/jabatanwarisannegara)  
 Contact : +603 2260 9000



### Regatta Lepa Fiesta



The Regatta Lepa traditional boat race occurs annually in April and it is a vibrant festival that pays homage to the *lepa*, the traditional single-mast sailing boat of the Bajau people of Semporna, Sabah. Witness a fleet of colourful *lepas* decorating the coast of Semporna during the annual Regatta Lepa event. Enjoy unique cultural performances, the Lepa Beauty Pageant, the Most Beautiful Lepa competition, fireworks displays and so much more!

Date : 24 to 26 April  
 Venue : Regatta Lepa Square, Semporna  
 Organiser : Sri Pelancongan Sabah Sdn Bhd  
 Website : [www.sabahtourism.com](http://www.sabahtourism.com)  
 Contact : +6088-232121 / +6013-850 4007



### The Nusantara Silat Carnival



The Nusantara Silat Carnival 2015 is organised by the Kelantan Tourism Information Centre. This event brings *silat* practitioners all the way from Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Brunei. Kelantan is proud to be the birthplace of the *silat jatuh* which is a very unique form of martial arts. Visitors are welcome to learn about the unique martial art culture of *silat* in the beautiful and culture-rich state of Kelantan.

Date : 5 to 7 April  
 Venue : Kota Bharu City Hall Council, Kelantan  
 Organiser : TIC Kelantan  
 Website : [tic.kelantan.gov.my](http://tic.kelantan.gov.my)  
 Contact : +609-748 5534/+609-748 3543

### Kaul Mukah Festival

Come and experience the lifestyle of the Melanau community living along the coastal area of Sarawak, and celebrate one of their highly cherished traditional festivals. The Kaul Mukah is celebrated as a religious ceremony to appease spirits of the sea, land, forest and farm, making it the most important festival in the Melanau traditional calendar. The festival site is on the banks of the Mukah river estuary where visitors can relax, soak in the culture and participate in the activities, traditional games (a major highlight is the giant traditional swing called "Tibow") as well as savour their unique delicacies. The Kaul Mukah festival provides an amazing opportunity for visitors to experience the Truly Malaysia cultural heritage that in its essence is what makes Malaysia a diversified and culturally rich country.

Date : 25 to 26 April  
 Venue : Mukah Festival Ground  
 Organiser : Kaul Mukah Festival Committee  
 Website : [www.kaulmukah.com](http://www.kaulmukah.com)  
 Contact : +6016-5781945 (Mrs Jennifer)



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

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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 2013, Malaysia registered 25.7 million tourist arrivals and RM65.4 billion in receipts, making tourism its second largest foreign exchange earner and the sixth highest contributor to its Gross National Income (GNI).

Malaysia continues promoting the country with the **MALAYSIA YEAR OF FESTIVALS (MyFEST)** campaign this year 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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