



MEDIA RELEASE

AUGUST ARRIVALS REACHED 10 MILLION MARK

Malaysia has recorded a total of 10,878,740 tourist arrivals from January to August 2005 compared to 10,384,784 tourist arrivals for the same period in 2004, representing an increase of 4.8%.

For the month of August 2005, tourist arrivals showed an increase of 9.9% with 1,393,666 tourists compared to 1,268,306 for the same month last year.

At a glance, Malaysia has been recording a steady average of some 1.3 million foreign visitors per month. During **March 2005, Malaysia registered 1,419,275 visitors, the highest ever recorded in a month.** It was an increase of 11.4% compared to last year's March figure of 1,274,039 visitors.

This year, the visitor arrivals registered so far are as follows: January - 1,394,032; February - 1,346,550; April - 1,317,749; May - 1,351,141; June - 1,339,051 and July – 1,317,276.

During the month of August 2005, the South Korea market performed the best with a sharp growth of 91.1%. Meanwhile, double-digit growth was recorded for arrivals from Australia (51.1%), USA (44.2%), Japan (41.0%), Scandinavia (35.0%), India (34.0%), France (32.7%), Italy (32.1%), Thailand (27.2%), Germany (25.4%), Indonesia (25.2%), United Kingdom (22.6%) and West Asia (21.0%).

The top ten tourist generating markets until August 2005 are Singapore (6,407,101), Thailand (1,228,663), Indonesia (642,343), Brunei (307,013), Japan (215,362), China (202,620), Australia (177,502), United Kingdom (160,543), India (152,216) and West Asia (113,339).

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