

Happenings

in Sarawak



TAKE a *Swing*
at EASTWOOD



SARIKEI
AN IDEAL FOR
AGRO-TOURISM DESTINATION

APPLE
ANOTHER ATTRACTION
AT THE HIGHLANDS OF BA KELALAN

WALKING THROUGH HISTORY





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for event listings Event listing must include the name of the event, venue, website, short description, contact details, date, time and photographs. For enquiries, please contact the publisher. Happenings makes every effort to ensure that the information given is accurate at the time of publication. The publisher shall not be held liable for any omission, error or inaccuracy. No parts of this magazine may be reproduced without the written permission of Sarawak Tourism Board.



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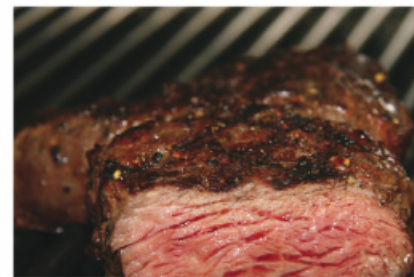
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www.merdekapalace.com



MERDEKA PALACE
HOTEL & SUITES



FABULOUS RECYCLED Jewelry

Text & Photos Cherilyn Phin

It can only be love for mankind and our beloved earth when the people behind jewelry brand Elizabeth Kiing turn to nature for inspiration that aims to bring quality environmentally-friendly fashion products to its clients. This nature-conscious brand is well aware of the state of our environment today and is doing its part, in its own special way, to help conserve nature and its fast-depleting resources.

Elizabeth Kiing (EK) has been around for two years with its head office in Hong Kong, before setting up a branch in Kuching about Eight months ago. EK's clientele are basically built through word of mouth or via their website and online shop at www.ekiingbeads.com. It may be relatively unknown but it does have a strong following of loyal customers who love their beautiful and one-of-a-kind custom made jewelry.

The brand carries a range of handcrafted fashion jewelry such as earrings, necklaces, bracelets, anklets, watches and products like phone and car trinkets, key chains, jewelry boxes, coasters and even rosaries.



According to Kiing, a Sarawak-born business woman and an enterprising jewelry designer, EK has been receiving consignments of rosaries for churches around Sarawak; their creations apparently a hit with many parishioners.

An avid traveler herself, Kiing sourced for materials from around the world. The beads are from Russia, Austria, Brazil, Venice and China, and are made of wood, crystals, freshwater pearls, acrylic, glass, polymerclay, semi-precious gems, stones and so on. They are later linked together with wires of 925 silver, copper, rhodium, nickel, bronze, 14K gold-plated and gold-coated wire.

She will then design the jewelry and create the pieces all by herself or by her very own beaders. EK products are generally tagged at RM6 to RM500. EK also sells Sarawak antique beads.

EK will be launching a new collection soon, just in time for the 10th Rainforest World Music Festival (RWMF) come this July 13 to 15. The new collection features a more environmentally friendly concept using recycled materials from driftwood, belian shingles and coconut shells, sourced locally in Sarawak.



The belian tree is gradually depleting from the Sarawak forest. Belian wood is known for its strength and durability even if aged over 100 years old. Salvaged belian driftwood and shingles (leftovers from the construction or furniture industry), some already beautifully textured by nature are recycled into various wearable fashion accessories. EK believes that wood wastes shouldn't just go into the dumps, as they can be converted into valuable works of art.

At this coming RWMF, EK is setting up a booth at the Sarawak Cultural Village throughout the three-day long international event. It will introduce its new collection there, along with other jewelry pieces for sale. One of the highlight pieces would be a small tree-shaped pendant craved out from belian shingles. A tree-shaped pendant with necklace is priced at RM3 each. This beautiful piece is an innovative way of creating conservation awareness by wearing a tree with you wherever you go.

As EK does not have a shop in Kuching (the branch here merely serves as a workshop and showroom and a plan is pm the table to open a jewelry boutique in the city some time next year), all are welcomed to see and purchase their fashionable pieces at the booth during RWMF. Another alternative is to order through its website or contact Kiing at **+6082-450 040** or **012-8550 703** for appointment. Kiing can also be reached at fran@ekiingbeads.com.



EK is currently undergoing an expansion to diversify its business, which will include a clothing line and food catering. They will also set up a food stall, apart from the jewelry booth, during this RWMF. The brand will introduce hungry festival-goers with its menu of Oriental, Thai and Western cuisines. So drop by and order some delicacies like Deep Fried Thai Spring Rolls, Thai Olive Rice, Fried Emperor Noodles, Fish Fillet in Black Bean Sauce, Boxing Chicken and African Grilled Beef Slices. Yum!

Reading this, one would be wondering by now if Kiing is just one-half of the brand name, but who's Elizabeth? Well, Elizabeth happens to be Kiing's four-year-old daughter – the precious little one who originally sparked the idea of starting the company selling pretty things.



meet KUCHING'S
VERY OWN

Belinda Chee

Host of 8TV's travelogue
'Teman' and 8TV's Quickie



HER INSIDE TIPS ON TRAVELLING IN STYLE:

"While packing, coordinate your outfits around a few central pieces, whether it's that pair of pants, or that top you love, choose several sets of outfits you can wear with those catchy pieces so you can re-use stuff but still look fashionable."

"Pack a set of outfit, including inner-wears, in your hand carry, just in case your luggage does not reach at your destination in time. At least you'll have something else to wear until your luggage arrives!"

"Hats and head bands are great for bad hair days, or days when you're enjoying your holiday and can't be bothered to style your beach-drenched hair!"

Wickedly Green-

A smart-casual dress that fits in all the right places



Print Couture-

Edgy print cocktail dress



Innocence-

Sexy, delicate cocktail dress



Cocktail Shaker-

Empire-cut halter dress



Bag Lady-

A versatile bag for all occasions



Futurist-

Bag this shimmery mix essential

COZZI BOUTIQUE (082-238 655) is located at 1st Floor, No. 35, Padungan Road and operates daily from 10am to 9pm.

We women all love shopping, right? No fashion-conscious woman can resist the temptation to shop, especially when it comes to shoes for we all know that a beautiful pair of sleek shoes are among our must-have staples.

To grab a pair of shoes that screams exclusivity, pop over to 17PM at Jalan Song where you will be able to slip your feet into a collection of women's footwear that ranges from spiky heels to comfy boots, all of which boast the most stylish and latest designs.

These exclusively designed for every occasion-wear are imported from Hong Kong, Thailand and Korea.

For the young and adventurous looking for a pair of sexy stilettos especially for those special evenings out and about in town, 17PM carries a variety of Korean-made eye-candy heels. From colourful beaded pairs to glossy peep-toe kitten heels, you'll be spoiled for choice.

Looking to give your feet a break from your strappy heels?

Make a quick switch to flats and jazz up your shoe collections with flats adorned in dynamic colours and materials for that ultra-stylish look.

And if the 'Guess' brand happens to be one of your favourites, you're in luck for 17PM has just brought in a few pairs of limited edition Guess shoes from the US that are simply irresistible. Be forewarned though, they are available in one size only; so if the shoe fits, you're in luck!

Apart from the trendsetting footweares, the outlet also carries the latest range of funky, trendy accessories such as chunky chain necklaces as well as adorable handbags of various shapes and sizes catering mainly for today's sassy chicks.

And at 17PM, those who spend **RM100** and above in a single receipt are given a lifetime membership that entitles them to **15%** discounts on every new arrivals and regular-priced items.

New arrivals are available every three months. The shoes at this outlet are also available on wholesale, and they are being distributed to other boutiques in Kuching as well as Sibu and Miri.

Let's face it, ladies. We can never have enough shoes. Whether it's a pair of striking pumps or a comfortable pair of wedges, when it comes to footwear, it's a must-have.

These SHOES are made for WALKING...



is located at No. 33, Tabuan Heights Commercial Centre, Jalan Song and operates from 12 noon to 10 pm every Tuesday to Saturday and 3pm to 9pm on Sundays. For further enquiries, please call 082-451 171.

Wasabi is now open!
The hottest boutique in town!



Sarikei

Agro-Tourism Destination

an ideal for

Text & Photos Lily Lee

The riverine town of Sarikei, one of Sarawak's major town centres, has been transformed into an idyllic destination for agro-tourism.

This is largely because Sarikei has fully exploited its soil resources to create another niche activity that is fast becoming a fruit belt for Sarawak.

Once known for its fishing and timber industry, Sarikei has now carved its name as an agro-tourism attraction.

The local authority has been instrumental in encouraging the local populace to embark on large-scale farming of fruit trees. Among the many fruits that grow well in Sarikei are the pampelo, oranges and pineapple.

Pineapple has been thriving so well in Sarikei that the fruit has become the symbol for the town. As a tribute, a concrete sculpture of the pineapple now stands majestically at the waterfront esplanade of the town.

Described as sweet and juicy, pineapples grown here are said to be huge in size and can easily fetch a handsome price in the market.

The local pineapple growers have also been enjoying brisk business selling the fruits directly to consumers at the local-produce market as well as to restaurants, including to factories involved in canning the fruit.



Pineapple rice

One such grower is Liong Poh Siong who has his hands full in supplying pineapples to restaurants and supermarkets both in Sarikei and in Sibul.

Liong also opens his farm to visitors who want to see his pineapple garden located along Sungai Nyelong, just across Sarikei town.

Ever ready to take in visitors on a tour of his farm, Liong provides boat service to ferry visitors to his seven-acre size farm. Having been in the business for sometime now, Liong had also won many awards for his contribution to the fruits industry.

With a distance of more than 500km from the state capital, Sarikei can be reached either from Kuching or Sibul. Visitors from outside the state can opt to fly in into Kuching or Sibul, then take either the road or river transport to this very serene town.

For those who are keen to pay a visit to the farm, Liong can be contacted at **012-8815991** for an appointment as well as transport arrangements.



Pineapple (nenas sarikei) sculpture



Sarikei is famous for its pineapple. The town is the pineapple capital of Sarawak. It lies in the centre of an agricultural area. Pineapple is the 'star' of the town where there will be a Pineapple Festival held every year. In fact, right in the middle of town, there stood the town's emblem standing at five metres tall on the waterfront.

The fruit bears testament to a true 'winner' of the agricultural sector, it contains sugar content of 17 per cent, low acid and few pickles on its leaves. The fruit can be kept cool and has a long shelf life.

During the festival, various classes of pineapple were judged for sweetness, shape, colour and appearance - Nanas Madu, Nanas Sawi and Nanas Paun.

"To promote Sarikei as tourist destination and to be known base as Fruit Basket of Sarawak"

venue : Dewan Suarah Sarikei
 organiser : Majlis Daerah Sarikei
 contact : Pn. Norashikin Binti Brahim
 website : www.sarikeido.gov.my



Liong's pineapple farm

Your Preferred One-Stop Hospitality Choice

Located strategically
in
Borneo Island
of

Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia



a seamless blend of comfort & convenience

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Hearty food at Hanii's

Hanii's Bistro

Lot 160, Section 49,
Jalan Chan Chin Ann, 93100 Kuching.
Tel: 6082-248 030
Opening hours – operates daily from
10am to 10.30pm and 6pm to 10.30pm

Haricot Oxtail is quite a sought-after dish, though it is not easy to find eateries that serves the best one in the city. However, there is one cafe located at a prime area of the state capital boasts that its popular delicious and hearty dishes of **Haricot Oxtail** and **Oxtongue** are ever popular with Kuchingnites.

Hanii's Bistro tucked away off the main road along a row of shophouses at Jalan Chan Chin Ann is not far from Sarawak Plaza Shopping Complex. The Bistro has been around over the past seven years, serving both Western as well as local cuisine.

Haricot means "bean" in French though strange enough, the dish doesn't necessarily contain any bean as part of its ingredients. It is a slowly-braised concoction of vegetables and oxtail. The oxtail - imported from Australia or New Zealand - itself is usually cooked one day ahead, simmered for hours until the flesh around the joint of the oxtail softens (hence, no tenderizer is used) and its natural juices makes up the thick gravy.

These house specialty dishes of Haricot Oxtail, Haricot Oxtongue or a mix of both will go from RM20 up to RM27 per generous serving.

If one prefer a taste of local cuisine however, order the **Tomato Kuay Teow** (thin, broad rice noodles), another must-try item at Hanii's Bistro. The tomato-based gravy goes well without overwhelming the taste of the other ingredients like the assortment of vegetables and seafood. This item also comes with a choice of noodles/mee or beehoon.

One can opt for the **Egg Omelette** if one decide on a light snack to go with one's drink. The Bistro has several choices of omelettes from chicken to cheese. Try the **Mushroom Omelette**, where sliced button mushrooms and melted cheese are folded into the fluffy egg omelette. This comes together with a serving of crinkle-cut fries.

The Bistro's **Chicken Pie** is also highly recommended. At RM5.50 a piece, the pie is a home-made delicacies by the chef with chicken pieces, mixed vegetables and a heavy, creamy mashed-potato-like paste whipped up from flour, wrapped up in a light pastry. Certainly a great treat for tea.

Hanii's Bistro caters for brunch or lunch and dinner. The menu is pork-free. Also provides catering services for BARBEQUE or BUFFET.



Minoru Japanese Restaurant

Lot 493-G, Section 10,
Rubber Road, 93400 Kuching.
Tel: 6082-251 021
Opening hours – operates daily from
11.30am to 2.30pm and 6pm to 10.30pm

Minoru Japanese Restaurant is tucked at one corner of shophouses along the bustling streets of Rubber Road. Founded by Richard Loi, the 14-year-old restaurant showcases an array of premium authentic Japanese cuisine served within a warm and cosy ambience.

Just ask any Japanese food aficionados and they will certainly agree Loi and his team of chefs have certainly gone all out in bringing a slice of Japan to Kuching.

Having mastered their Japanese culinary skills in the country of origin, every dish has been specially prepared to embody the traits of Japanese cuisine. Furthermore, only imported ingredients from Japan and Singapore are used for all the delectable dishes served at the restaurant.

With plenty of choices to choose from, diners can start off with the restaurant's array of sushi and sashimi, all pack a punch in freshness and imbued with sweetness and intense colour.



INDULGE, CHEERS & BE JOLLY

For an alternative, there are also different types of maki (rolled sushi) such as **Canadian Maki** made of ingredients such as salmon skin and avocado, "**Rock and Roll**" Maki, which is made with **Nori** (seaweed), eel and avocado, and **Dragon Maki**, which comprises of tempura prawn, eel, avocado and ebiko (prawn roe).

On a hot day, nothing beats a good bowl of **Zaru Soba**, otherwise known as cold soba noodles, to cool you down. Simply dip a handful of the smooth texture noodles into the soy-based dashi broth and slurp away.

On the other hand, there are other noodle dishes one can try such as **Tempura Udon**, in which the thick wheat-based noodle is served hot in flavoured broth and topped with tempura fritters of prawns, or **Nabeyaki Udon**, in which the noodle broth is topped with fresh seafood such as tempura prawn, fish cake, vegetables and an egg.

Diners should also try the chef's "*Special of the Day*" dishes, which promise not to disappoint. One such dish is the salmon fish head cooked with black sauce. The fish is cooked till medium rare but does not leave the slightest hint of lingering fishy taste in your mouth.

To cap off the fulfilling meal, do request for Mrs Loi's home-made pineapple tarts that melts in your mouth, leaving a wonderful burst of flavour.

Tickle your taste buds at
Minoru Japanese Restaurant





Bottom's up!



Piccadilly's

Ground Floor, Section 47
Jalan Bukit Mata, Kuching.

Opening hours – from 11am to 1am (weekdays) and 11am to 2am (Friday, Saturday, and eve of public holidays)

The nightlife scene in laidback Kuching city has become quite a 'happening' lately.

So much so that eateries, pubs and clubs have been established within reach of one another enabling the "night-owls" to eat, drink and be merry all in the same place without having to travel from one place to another.

However, at Piccadilly's, one can eat, drink and be merry all under one roof.

Bistro by day and bar by nightfall, the newly-opened bistro bar has since garnered quite a steady number of customers who look forward to unwind themselves after a long hectic day.

Serving an array of local favourites from 11am onwards, customers can satisfy their hunger with Piccadilly's special '**Kachang Ma**', a well-known local dish of chicken cooked with herbs, ginger and white wine, or opt for the tantalising **Chicken Curry**.

As soon as Happy Hour hits, chill out to the sultry music of Jazz or R&B while enjoying your favourite concoction for the evening.

On the other hand, there's also a pool table readily available for those who're looking for a game of pool with their friends.

Goal Pub & Bistro

No. 24 Lot 312, Ground Floor
Section 47, Jalan Bukit Mata, Kuching.
Tel: 6082-232 623

Opening hours – operates daily from 3pm until late
Email: goalcafe@hotmail.com

If you're looking to catch some football action over a pint of beer within Kuching city centre, then look no further 'cause Goal Pub & Bistro is simply the ideal place to be.

Tucked along Jalan Bukit Mata, the quaint sports bar cum music café is no newbie to the nightlife scene having welcomed their regulars comprising of Kuchingnites and visitors from other countries with open arms since 1997!

At Goal Pub & Bistro, one can choose from an assortment of beverages to go along with your Happy Hour session. What better way to cap off the evening than to chill out to sultry music over a mug of cold beer or even bubbly champagne in a swanky fluted glass.

For those who are feeling a little hungry, the bar also serves a mighty spread of popular finger food such as fried chicken wings, french fries and so on.

While waiting for your food and beverage to arrive, grab the cue sticks for a game of snooker at the pool table or you can also play the traditional pub game of darts as well.

Currently, the bar is also having a beer promotion whereby those who purchase three bottles of Tiger Beer will be given an extra bottle for free.

If you fancy for a Karaoke session, there's one just right next door.

So, the next time you're within the vicinity of the city centre, drop by Goal Pub & Bistro for a drink or two and be rest assured, you'll kick the blues away.



Wind down at Piccadilly's



chillOUT bar with a VIEW

There's only one entertainment outlet in Kuching that literally makes you feel like on top of the world. Links Bar at Jalan Taman Budaya sits high atop one of the city's notable landmark, the towering Civic Centre.

Take the elevator up the tower and prepare yourself to "get high" at this cosy yet lively bar – one of the hottest place-to-be in Kuching.

The bar overlooks the spectacular panoramic view of the Kuching skyline. As the sunset welcomes the night, Links welcomes you to party the night away with great entertainment and a wide selection of beverages.

Links promises live DJ performances of the latest grooves from House, R&B to Retro Classics. With the state-of-the-art sound and intelligent lights show that throbs together with the beat of the music, the DJs will create the right ambience to put you in the grooving mood.

Wind down and relax to the cool smooth sounds of Lounge and Jazz music every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. Go down memory lane or journey back in time with the psychedelic days of disco on Retro Night on Mondays. Or ooze sensuality with the sexy harmony of modern R&B on Wednesdays. Bring the house down with the latest and the best of House music every Friday and Saturday.

Links is well stocked with a long list of beverages. From beer to wine, cocktails to a good bottle of fine whisky, the bar would sure to have something to entice you.

The bar is currently running several promotions. Happy Hour happens everyday between 5pm and 9pm with Heineken



Draught at RM8 nett. Wednesdays is Ladies' Night starting from 5pm to 9pm with a free flow of cocktails for ladies only.

Craving for cocktails? Favourites like Cosmopolitan, Blue Kamikaze and Screaming Orgasm are on promotion for RM10 nett each.

Links is more than just a bar. It combines a restaurant and a café serving a menu of delicious cuisine that would please the taste buds.

Regular patrons would find more value signing-up for Links membership. The benefits includes four to six free bottles of your choice (Moët & Chandon, Hennessy VSOP, Johnnie Walker Black Label, Belvedere Vodka, Glenmorangie 10 years), free entrance for each cardholder and five guests, and the use of their VIP rooms.

In addition, upon reaching a total expense of RM10,000 on each card, the member is entitled to a complimentary dinner for ten persons at the restaurant.

Should you decide to have a good meal, great drinks or just dance the night away, Links have all you need in one spot with a breathtaking view no one can deny, the beautiful city of Kuching.

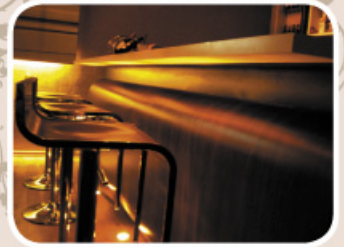
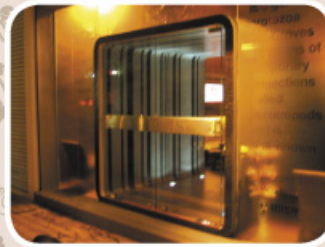
Visit Links website for more updates on new promotions.



w : www.links-entertainment.com
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lust & sexiness



WEEKLY PROMOTION

SUN, MON & TUES:

HAPPY HOUR

(All Night Long)
cans:RM25 per jug
bottles:RM36 (5btls)

WED:

THIRSTY LADIES

~After 9pm~
Ladies Free Flow
(House Pour)

Every Wed & Thurs (All Night Long)
cans:RM25 per jug bottles:RM36 (5btls)

Every Fri & Sat (5pm-12am)
cans:RM25 per jug bottles:RM36 (5btls)

THURS:

SEXY COCKTAILS

(All Night Long)
30% off for all cocktails

FRI & SAT:

NIGHT SESSION

(Extend to 12am)
cans:RM25 per jug
bottles:RM36 (5btls)

Nothing beats hanging out with some of your closest friends over a couple of drinks after a long hard day's work.

A great place to unwind is the up-and-coming amoeba'r, located at Travillion Kuching, a favourite nightspot of the young and restless Kuching folk.

The ambient and chillout lounge is more than what one could possible imagine. Apart from being a spot that's perfect for relaxation, a meeting or just plan gossiping, it also provides a cosy atmosphere with its retro yet modern and unique-style décor.

For the music enthusiasts, sway away to the soothing blend of chill out music that further enhances the bar's warm, relaxing and sensuous atmosphere.

And, be charmed by the bar's assortments of luscious cocktails such as Mojito, Woo Woo, the infamous Long Island Tea and two brand-new cocktails Amoeba and Nude Dimension, beers and premier liquor. Professionally-trained and friendly staff assure that everyone is given the best service at all times.

If you're starting to feel a little peckish, replenish your hunger with our finger food varieties comprising of chicken wings, fish fingers, french fries, wedges, pizza, onion rings and garlic bread.

And that's not all, folks!

Each week, amoeba'r headlines numerous special promotions that guarantees satisfaction for all those avid clubbers out there.



Grd Flr, Lot 414, Section 54
Travillion Commercial Centre
Jln Petanak, 93100 Kuching

Operation Hours:
Sun to Thurs 5pm to 1am
Fri & Sat 5pm to 2am

Apple

Another attraction at the highlands of Ba Kelalan

Ba Kelalan, located on the plateau at the foot of Mount Murud, Sarawak's highest peak, is a picturesque highland settlement of the Lun Bawang community.

While it provides the serenity of the cool highland, Ba Kelalan offers another attraction apart from the rich culture and traditions of the hospitable Lun Bawang community.

Like any other highland of Malaysia, the Ba Kelalan highland is also ideal for the cultivation of crops that dwell well in temperate climate. Here, at 3,000 metres above sea level, the Lun Bawang community is cultivating apples of various varieties.

And, they had proven to succeed in doing so, as recently the community proudly celebrated their 38th harvest; a bountiful one too.

Their initial association with apple growing began in 1986. However, it did not take-off well because at that time no one actually knew anything about apple growing. Nevertheless, some of the local people particularly a prominent headman of Buduk Nur village did not lose hope of seeing apple thriving in their farm. Buduk Nur, which mean Summit of Nur tree (a type of hardwood), is one of the 13 villages of Ba Kelalan.

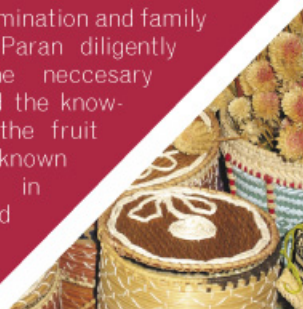
With fiery determination and family support, Tagal Paran diligently sought all the necessary information and the know-how to grow the fruit which has been known to grow well in far away cold countries.

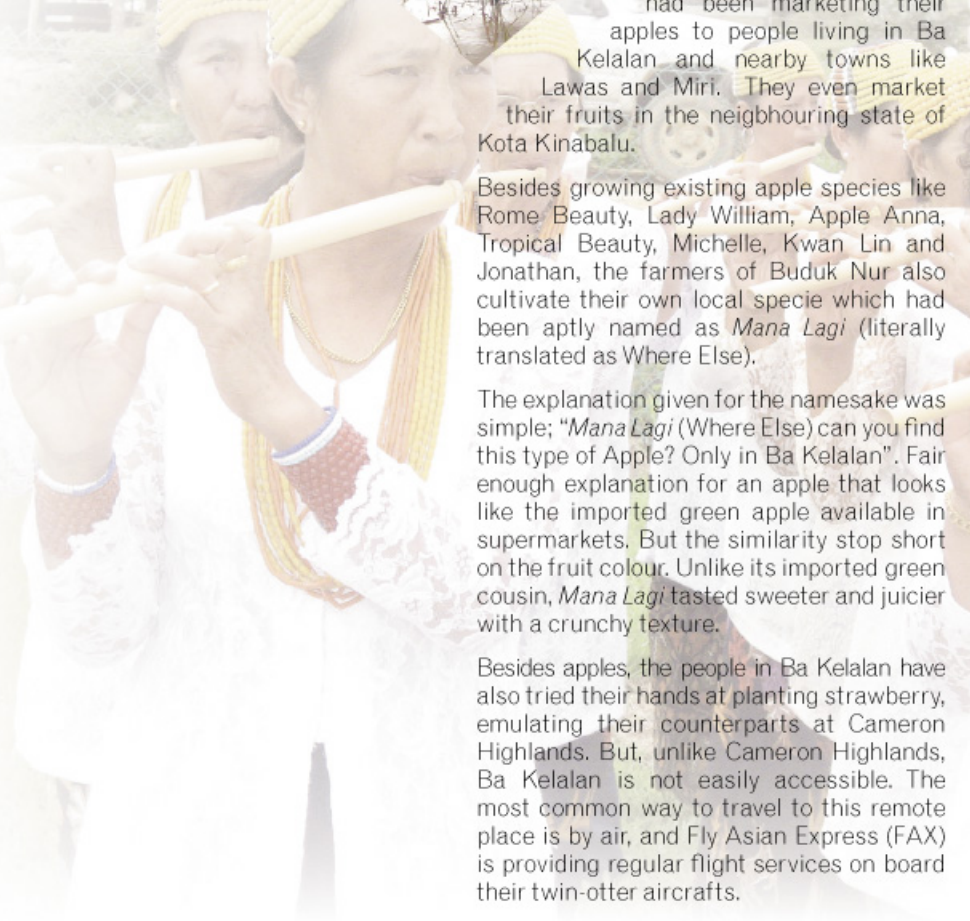
A few years later, Tagal courageously embarked on a large-scale apple growing project. It was a pilot project with 1,000 saplings spread over an area of two acres. This time around he had better knowledge on how best to grow the fruit trees and furthermore, he also had the support of the Sarawak Agriculture Department.

He started to see his labour fruiting in 1990, and it was not just one harvest that year, but twice. As the saying goes, after that first bounty harvest, the rest is history.

Today, even though the people in Buduk Nur have been enjoying good harvests, they are still too low for export, but their sheer determination will see this happening in the not too distant future. They keep themselves abreast with the latest information

Text & Photos Lily Lee





and knowledge on how best they could enhance their production. In fact, they had been marketing their apples to people living in Ba Kelalan and nearby towns like Lawas and Miri. They even market their fruits in the neighbouring state of Kota Kinabalu.

Besides growing existing apple species like Rome Beauty, Lady William, Apple Anna, Tropical Beauty, Michelle, Kwan Lin and Jonathan, the farmers of Buduk Nur also cultivate their own local specie which had been aptly named as *Mana Lagi* (literally translated as Where Else).

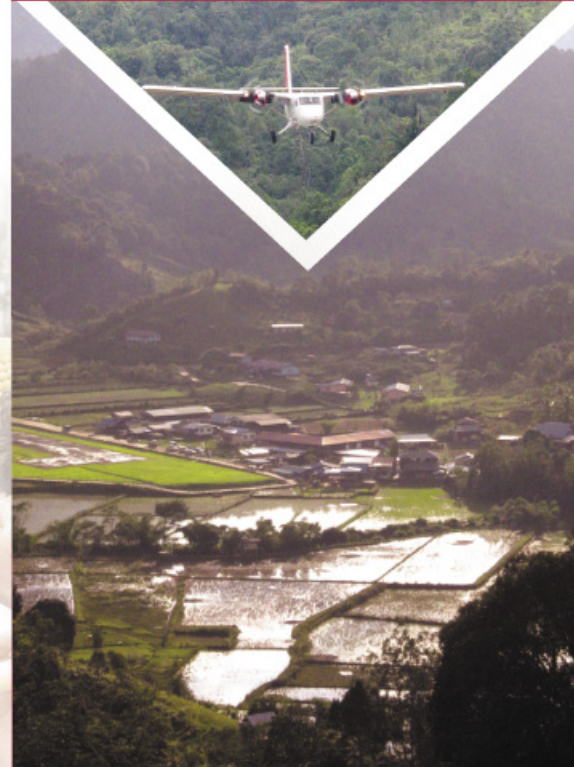
The explanation given for the namesake was simple; "*Mana Lagi* (Where Else) can you find this type of Apple? Only in Ba Kelalan". Fair enough explanation for an apple that looks like the imported green apple available in supermarkets. But the similarity stop short on the fruit colour. Unlike its imported green cousin, *Mana Lagi* tasted sweeter and juicier with a crunchier texture.

Besides apples, the people in Ba Kelalan have also tried their hands at planting strawberry, emulating their counterparts at Cameron Highlands. But, unlike Cameron Highlands, Ba Kelalan is not easily accessible. The most common way to travel to this remote place is by air, and Fly Asian Express (FAX) is providing regular flight services on board their twin-otter aircrafts.

There is also a logging road connecting the highland to the nearest town of Lawas but the journey takes about five hours and the 4WD rides are rather bumpy and slippery, particularly during the wet rainy seasons.

Despite the difficult connectivity, Ba Kelalan is also a popular eco-tourism destination of Sarawak. There are various attractions for those who are game for nature adventures like jungle and mountain trekking. Trekkings to Mulu, Merarap Hot Spring, Bario Highlands and to Indonesia are among some of the interesting out-bound activities of Ba Kelalan.

Accommodation of Ba Kelalan is homestay-style, and it is inevitably the best way to learn about the rich culture and traditions of the Lun Bawang.



Borneo Jungle Safari Sdn Bhd arranges regular tours to Ba Kelalan, and it also operates the Apple Lodge, a modest accommodation in the village.

To get to Ba Kelalan, visitors have first to fly to Miri before taking the twin-otter to the highland.

Borneo Jungle Safari Sdn Bhd,
 Lot 1396, 1st Floor, Jalan Kubu,
 Centrepoint Commercial Centre II,
 98000 Miri, Sarawak.
 Tel: +6085-435 736 Fax: +6085-417 984



TAKE a *Swing* at EASTWOOD

Text Cherilyn Phin

Miri's newest golf attraction – EASTWOOD VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY RESORT – carved out of a forest site where its lush natural surroundings embraced the landscaped green, opened in 2005. It boasts an international golf facility comprising an eighteen-hole course designed by the well-known US-based Nickles Golf Group Ltd of San Francisco, California. The big and impressive course is richly complemented by the pristine Seasaw Paspallum fairways running through its natural tree lines and generous lakes.

The resort's majestic colonial-style double-storey Clubhouse also takes advantage of the man-made lakes and the golf course panoramic view. With a modern five-star interior decor, the clubhouse proudly displays an array of fantastic facilities. On the upper floor lies one of Miri's biggest banquet hall that can seat 1,000 people. With collapsable walls to cater for smaller functions, it has four other well-equipped function rooms built on the "Chalet concept". And there's also a restaurant, a well-stocked pro shop, shower and locker rooms.



What The Resort Offers

With a superb course – and a signature hole on the par-three 160-metre 13th with its island green – golf enthusiasts are assured of a challenging fun time at Eastwood. And being fully committed towards the development of the game, the golf and country resort provides first-class all-weather practice facility – forty bays of full-length floodlight-lit driving range with chipping and putting greens. The facility includes a golf academy featuring the latest state-of-the-art video and computer-aided swing analysis and golf teaching



methods of PGA professionals. Eastwood is also to be a centre for junior golf development. Thus, putting Eastwood at the top of the games: the development of the sport for enthusiasts of all ages, levels or handicaps.

Accommodation at Eastwood offers an integrated resort lifestyle: a 48-room chalet-style accommodation and 32-unit Longhouses located within the sprawling golf course area. The chalets, all built of natural timber and spread around a beautiful and lush natural landscape, are fully-equipped with a fitness centre, complete with sauna and jacuzzi facilities.

The Kampung (village) – inspired chalets are grouped into four categories: longhouse, standard, superior and junior suites with room rates ranging from RM88 to below RM300 per night. They all come with individually-controlled air-conditioning, bathroom with shower, mini bar, colour television, IDD/STD and local drinking water. Hair dryer, iron and iron board are available upon request.

HOST VENUE FOR:



Where To Eat

Lakeview Terrace, the restaurant at the Clubhouse serves international, chinese and local cuisines.

Perfect for al fresco dining is the **Next Too**, ideally located at the front of the Clubhouse. With seating capacity of 100, it has gained its popularity by being the most unique venue for outdoor functions like BBQ, garden parties and dinners.

And adjoining the driving range sits a cafe that serves snacks.

What Else You Need To Know

This golf and country resort also offers unrivalled packages for functions like weddings, seminars and workshops, corporate events, meetings and family retreats. Business professionals can even combine work and play with its Meeting and Golf Packages, either on a half-day or a full-day usage.

Eastwood is currently running a special promotion for senior citizen and lady golfers, and non-member packages.

How To Get There

The resort and its Clubhouse is a 15-minute 5km drive from the Miri International Airport. It is situated along the stretch of the new Miri Bypass.

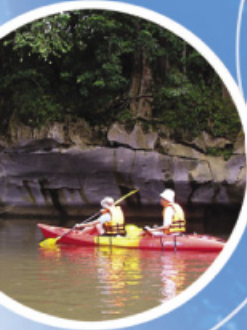
Reservation enquiries can be made via e-mail at info@eastwood-valley-golf.com Lot 1379, Block 17, KBLD, 98000 Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia.



Visit their official website at www.eastwood-valley-golf.com for more information about the packages and on Eastwood itself, or call +6(085) 421 010

KAYAK half-day TRIPS

discover fun & adventure!



a. RAINFOREST KAYAKING ADVENTURE

Meander along a river run through the limestone hills amongst the tropical rain forest. Flat water punctuated with Class 1 to Class 2 rapids for a thrilling water ride. Breaks along the way to savor the beauty of the forest and to have a swim in the cold refreshing mountain water. End at Wind Cave, Bau for the return trip to Kuching. We highly recommend this; our MOST POPULAR trip.

DURATION : 6 HOURS
FITNESS LEVEL : EASY TO MODERATE
MINIMUM* : 2 PERSONS

R\$188/-per person

b. BORNEO HIGHLANDS KAYAKING & ORANG UTANS (Semengoh Wildlife Rehabilitation Center) ADVENTURE

Kayak through the rainforests between the foothills of soaring Limestone Mountains. Visit a friendly Bidayuh Village along the way, traverse rapids and take a swimming and lunch break on a sandy beach bank before reaching Kg Semadang. After the kayak trip we will proceed to the Semengoh Wildlife Rehabilitation Center to see the orangutans at feeding time. A full and exciting day of fun and adventure awaits you!

DURATION : 8 HOURS
FITNESS LEVEL : EASY TO MODERATE
MINIMUM* : 2 PERSONS

R\$218/-per person

(including Packed Lunch & Entrance Fee)

c. DOLPHINS SPOTTING KAYAK ADVENTURE

The Irrawaddy Dolphins are considered one of the most endangered amongst the dolphins and whales in the world and Sarawak is one of the best places in Southeast Asia to view them. These rare and unusual mammals are known locally as "pesut" and to be able to spot them in the wild in close proximity floating just inches above the waters is truly a rare and privileged experience of a lifetime.

**ONLY OFFERED ON CERTAIN DAYS!
Check with us for details*

R\$188/-per person

DURATION : 4 TO 5 HOURS
FITNESS LEVEL : EASY TO MODERATE
MINIMUM* : 2 PERSONS

For Bookings/Reservations,
call **082-253 005** or
016-522 1358

OLD WINE JAR

Bulbous brownish black glazed jar, small mouth and inverted mouth rim with four small horizontal loop-handles. The finished surface of the body is rather rough with a small base. The glaze do not cover the bottom completely.

Height: 9.5" (24cm)

Period: Late Ming Dynasty 17th Century. This special jar is known to be kept as heirlooms by Melanau families in Dalat, Sibul Division



HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Coronation 2nd June 1953

Portland Ware

Made in England by

The Metal Box Company Limited



WINE JAR

Chinese brown Wine Jar with 4 raised bosses. The glazed do not cover lower half of the base. Collected from the Interior of the First Division of Sarawak. (Ming Dynasty 1368 – 1644)



BACK to BASICS

In the face of the onslaught of pollutions to our environment these days, there's inevitably so much we can do to embrace the green way of life.

Diancraft Industries Sdn Bhd has taken some conservation and steps into their own hands by salvaging *belian* wood from old materials as well as driftwood found along the Sarawak River and turning them into eco-friendly products.

Known as the most durable tree grown in Malaysia, the *belian* wood is known for its attributes to withstand adverse weather conditions and yet maintain its shape, strength and quality for the next hundred years.

Found in the forest of Sabah and Sarawak, it was used by locals to build houses and bridges among many other things in olden times. With its long life-span, the *belian* has been "recycled" into products such as photo frames, jewellery boxes, coasters and many more by Diancraft Industries Sdn Bhd.

Gathering only the best pieces of *belian* from discarded items, the talented craftsmen at Diancraft will carefully assemble and construct them into various items, resulting in "brand-new" decorative items for homes and even industries such as hotels and corporate offices.

One will soon be able to observe the makings of these fine items at Diancraft Industries' factory and showroom, to be completed in the near future.

For further enquiries about Diancraft Industries Sdn Bhd products, please call Christopher Chen at 019-879 0379 or email him at ats@tm.net.my or visit the factory at Demak Laut Industrial Estate and showroom "Leboh Gadung" at Greenroad.



Chinese History Museum

Originally a Chinese court, the building was declared open in 1912 by the Rajah and was used by the Chinese community as a court to administer the laws and customs on marriage, divorce and probate, and took care of all civil cases involving Chinese litigants before it was dissolved in 1921. It was then used as an office by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce (formed in 1930) until 1990. Three years later, the building was missioned by the Sarawak Museum as a Chinese History Museum that operates till this day.

Steamship Building

In 1930s, the building was used by the Sarawak Steamship company as a warehouse and as an office. After it was extensively renovated, it has now become a bustling commercial centre comprising of a restaurant, a fast food outlet and a convenience store.

Square Tower

The Square Tower served as sentry posts on each side of the Sarawak River along with Fort Margherita. Both forts were completed in 1879. With the first Kuching Prison next to the tower, it served as a maximum-security detention centre before it was later converted to a dancing hall for Brooke's officers and servants during weekends.

Round Tower

Completed in 1886, the Round Tower was the town dispensary when the Pavilion was the Medical Headquarters. Nonetheless, due to its strategic site it was believed that the building was intended as a sentry post and possibly also as a defence outpost for the Brooke administrators.

Old Kuching Courthouse

Began in 1868 as the first Brooke era administrative building, it housed all government functions under one roof. It is now known as the Sarawak Tourism Complex after conservation works for the Old Kuching Courthouse for Adaptive Re-use was completed in 2003, winning several national awards for conservation since its completion.

Charles Brooke Memorial

Designed by Architect Messr. Swan & McClaren (Singapore) to honour the second Rajah, Charles Brooke for his services and dedication to the State, the 6-meter high granite obelisk (commissioned in 1924) contains a bronze panel at each corner with figures representing the ethnic diversities found in the State.

Astana

The Astana was built as a bridal gift to Rajah Charles Brooke's beloved wife, Ranee Margaret. Before it was built on this site, the Astana was known as 'The Grove'. It was James Brooke's first residence before being replaced by 'The Government House' after a fire in 1857. When the Astana was completed in 1870, 'The Government House' was demolished. The Brookes continued to stay there until World War II. The Astana is now the official residence of the State Governor.

Fort Margherita

Named after Charles Brooke's wife, Ranee Margaret, this fort situated across the Sarawak River, was established by the second Rajah as his first line of defence only to be besieged later by the Japanese who marched into Kuching through the Satok Bridge. It was also turned into the Police Museum until 1999.

There's much to discover about the quaint little town of Kuching. With the help from the experience guides of Rajah Brooke Trail, visitors of Kuching will gain some memorable insights into the history and legacies of Kuching city. Starting at James Brooke Bistro situated at Kuching Waterfront before retiring at Abas Homestay, the only Malay village homestay in Kuching, these are some of the historical buildings that will unravel before your eye.

For further enquiries about Rajah Brooke Trail, please call Haji Mahmud Haji Sabli at **019-8571 774** or email him at mahsaf@tm.net.my

WALKING THROUGH HISTORY RAJAH BROOKE TRAIL

Post Office

Designed by Denis Santry of Messr. Swan & McClaren Architects (Singapore), this building was completed in 1932 and was once used as a police station and also as the Rajah's Stables.

Pavilion

Originally used as the Medical Headquarters, the three-storeys high building housed consulting rooms, a laboratory and offices on the ground floor, while a 'European Hospital' and nurses' quarters occupied the first and second floor respectively. After World War II, the Japanese used it as a propaganda headquarters. It was occupied by the Education Department until the 1970. Then it was used by the Judiciary Department. It has since been conserved and is currently the Sarawak Textile Museum.

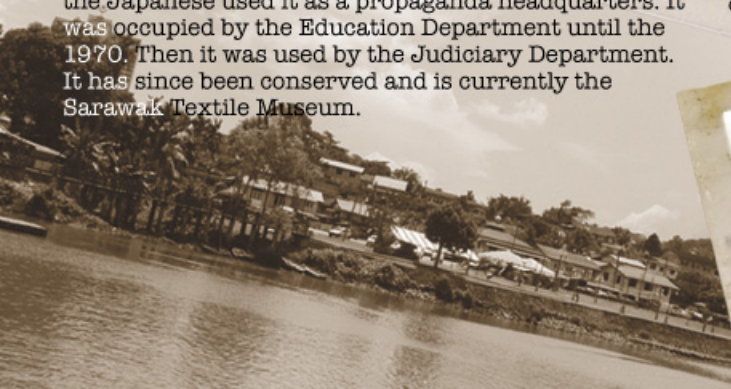




photo courtesy of Calcutty

Chinese History Museum



Steamship Building



photo courtesy of Calcutty

Round Tower



photo courtesy of SFB

Post Office



photo courtesy of Alex Teo

Square Tower



photo courtesy of Alex Teo

Old Kuching Courthouse



photo courtesy of Calcutty

Astana



photo courtesy of Calcutty

Pavilion



photo courtesy of Alex Teo

Charles Brooke Memorial



photo courtesy of SFB

Fort Margherita

CITY living, VILLAGE hospitality- Abas Homestay

Text S Inn Photos Abas Homestay

Staying at hotels inns or lodging house has become a norm for tourists. However, as much as these accommodations can provide them with the necessary basic amenities, lacking is the opportunity to really experience the lifestyles and the rich cultures of the local in the community.

This is where the option to lodge at homestays comes in.



In Bandaraya Kuching where locals comprise multiracial and multilingual communities, Abas Homestay invites visitors to experience Malay hospitality and traditions.

Supported by Tourism Malaysia, the village, known as Kampung Panglima Seman Lama, is currently the only Malay village homestay program in Bandaraya Kuching. Each homestay operator provides guests clean rooms with comfortable beds, wardrobes, and dressing tables as well as bathroom and cooking facilities.

But the basic difference is, guests are treated like members of the family. They are given the opportunity to partake in a number of village activities such as playing the traditional game of congkak, flying kites and learning some dance steps of some Malay traditional dances. The ladies will get the chance to obtain the recipes for some delectable local delicacies while helping out at the kitchen at meal times.

What's so special and unique about staying at Kampung Panglima Seman Lama is that the city centre is just a stone's throw away as the village is

nestled along the riverbank of the Sarawak River; the city centre sitting alluringly at the opposite side. Simply board the perahu tambang, otherwise known as river taxis, and one will reach the city centre within minutes, with much to explore during the day, and captivating sights to savour at night.

There are three homestay packages available with tenancy rates ranging from RM150 (2 days, 1 night) to RM350 (3 days, 2 nights), all inclusive of a welcoming ceremony, a welcome drink, three meals a day, accommodation and a range of activities to choose from such as Moonlight Cruises and jungle trekking.

Abas Homestay, in collaboration with the registered travel and tour agents, also provides services such as city tours and visits to the main tourist attractions like excursions to Semenggoh Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre, Matang Wildlife Centre, Jong's Crocodile Farm, Sarawak Cultural Village and the famous Sunday Market.

For further enquiries, please call Haji Mahmud Haji Sabli, Abas Homestay coordinator, at 019-857 1774 or email him at mahsaf@tm.net.my / eduquest@streamyx.com



Text S Inn

Imagine waking up to the soothing sounds of nature with a majestic view of the enchanting South China Sea just outside your bedroom. Sounds too good to be true?

EXCLUSIVE fine living at Santubong Suites

At Santubong Suites, breathtaking scenery is but just one of the many perks one experiences as a resident of the exclusive apartment complex. Views of treetops, outlying islands, mangrove forests and not forgetting the scenic Damai Golf Course and Damai beaches just a few minutes away are among the treasures each apartment owner savours everyday.

Set around Sarawak's luscious tropical rainforests and backed by the legendary Gunung Santubong with Bandaraya Kuching just a 45 minutes leisurely drive away, this superior condominium is ready for occupancy. It comprises 132 units that are incorporated in two towers, the Santubong and Sejinjang (named after two fabled mountains in the area), each at fifteen storey high.

Sited on more than four acres of prime land, the units are available in several distinctive configurations of various dimensions to serve a diversity of requirements and preferences while consistently ensuring high standards and quality of maintenance, operation and usage.

Built with the concept of strata titles and with a remaining lease term of 810 years, ownership is open to both locals

and foreigners, affording each the same privacy and serenity of living in a deluxe setting like no other, while technologically advanced facilities ensure that nothing is left to be desired.

In each tower, level 1 houses unique apartments, one of which has a private garden making it an exclusively exceptional property. Levels 2 to 13 house more apartments with five units per floor ranging in area from 1408 to 1673 square feet (130 to 155 square meters), while levels 14 and 15 house two luxuriously-endowed penthouses on each floor with a spacious area of 4015 square feet (373 square meters).

The Kempas timber strip flooring at each unit exudes a warm and inviting ambience, creating a comfortable yet tranquil atmosphere for residents. Each unit is equipped with five units of split-unit air-conditioners, for the three bedrooms as well as the living and dining room. Apart from that, a hot-water cylinder, built-in wardrobes, and a built-in kitchen cabinet with granite top finish are also provided.

Santubong Suites is a security and privacy-conscious living facility. Lift lobbies and lifts, the primary access into the building for residents, require access on card for every

entry thus enabling secure and covered passage from the outside world to their seaside retreat.

Visitors to Santubong Suites arrive at a reception area, common to the two towers, where they are greeted by Security and Reception personnels. Below the reception area is the café lounge that extends to the outdoor pool terrace and swimming pool. The edgeless pool blends infinitely into the lush mangrove landscape and the sea. From here, covered linkways lead to the fully-secured lift lobbies in the two towers.

On the lower-most floor, overlooking the natural garden is a gymnasium complete with changing rooms, meeting rooms, children's play room and clubroom. The entire podium has been designed to blend with the natural surroundings or to be otherwise obscured.

To experience fine living at its best, there's no other place like Santubong Suites.

For further enquiries on **SANTUBONG SUITES**, please call Ms. Alice Kon of SCIB Properties Sdn Bhd at **012-8918 698** or **082-338 028** or visit the company's website at **www.scibproperties.com.my**



HORNBILL SKYWAYS SDN BHD

Fly with majestic Hornbill Skyways to **Fulfill & Realize** your dreams...

From a humble beginning, this year we celebrate our 30th anniversary and geared to continue our expansion to meet the demanding market needs in domestic and regional air services in the State of Sarawak in particular and Malaysia in general.

As this is the Visit Malaysia Year, and with the Rural Air Services as one of our product, there is no doubting our key contributions to the tourism industry.

With a present staff strength of over 120, qualified and experienced in various disciplines, we have since inception been moving from the twilight to the sunshine, from a narrative to a legend. Capable and diligent professionals provide practical and authoritative expertise, which ensure that our services are of premium standards.

Our fleet has also grown tremendously and now consists of an Executive Jet (Citation X), 2 units of passenger airplane (Dornier 228) and a range of helicopters (EC 135, Bell 430, Bell 206 L4 and Bell 206 B3).

We maintain a headquarters and principal operational base at the Kuching International Airport and also a hangar in Miri to serve the northern region of Sarawak.

OUR SERVICES

- Rural Air Services
- Aerial Surveys
- Aerial Mapping Powerline Surveys
- Timber Surveys / Reinforcement
- Aerial Photography
- Filming and Documentaries
- Freight / Cargo Transport
- Ground Handling Services Underslung
- Geological Surveys
- Emergency Medical Surveys
- Passenger Flights
- Sightseeing Tours / Joyrides & Golfing
- Wedding (Married in the air)

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Kuching International Airport,
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Tel: +6082-455737
Fax: +6082-455710 (Marketing Dept.)
+6082-455736 (General)

Regional Office:

Miri Base, Miri International Airport,
P.O. Box 1702, 98008 Miri
Tel: +6085-611066/614220 Fax: +6085-614066
Email: marketing@hornbillskyways.com



The Sarawak's Traditional **Body & Soul** Therapy

One of the best treats we can give ourselves is to indulge in a little pampering every once a while. And what can be better than a day with the masseuse for some rejuvenating massage.

Tribal Remedy, a newly-opened wellness centre provides an assortment of professional services such as facial, body and spa treatments, body massage, foot reflexology, as well as manicure and pedicure services.

The centre, catering for both men and women, exudes a warm and inviting ambience with its interior décor comprising mainly Sarawak's ethnic decorations.

The centre also provides tailoring services with direct consultancy from fashion designers.

Popular treatments among the regular patrons are the whole body massage and the foot reflexology. Whole body massage consists of 15 minutes thorough massaging using a special machine that helps to improve blood circulation before a masseuse takes over the next 45 minutes, whereas the foot reflexology helps those tired feet recuperate with the centre's therapy machines imported directly from Japan.

The centre's variety of spa treatments are also a must-try. These include the **Red Wine Spa**, a pioneer in South East Asia where red wine used in the treatment efficiently nourishes and moisturises our skin. It triggers the growth of new skin cells and has water retention properties, tightening and whitening effects resulting in a softer, smoother and brighter skin.



TRIBAL REMEDY
Sdn. Bhd. (455522-0)

For the ultimate in total rejuvenation, try the **Tapai Spa** which contains a magical anti-aging effect with the use of fermented glutinous rice grains that can effectively nourish and promote new skin growth thus leaving a total fairer and younger you.

For those trying to get rid of stubborn fats from their bodies, professional slimming treatments are also available. This package focuses on shaping the desired body contour by effecting a total rebalancing of body hormones. At the same time, the treatment detoxifies our body system and helps maintain a healthier you from within.

And for only **RM1000** (original package worth **RM2000**) Tribal Remedy provides members with twenty sessions of any beauty, slimming, bust and spa treatment including the traditional oil massage.

Furthermore, the first ten foot reflexology customers each day pay only **RM25** for a half-hour treatment or **RM35** for an one-hour treatment.

TRIBAL REMEDY is located at P-11-G-1(A), 2(B), 3(B), Chonglin Park, Jalan Tabuan and operates daily from 10am to 12 midnight. For further enquiries or to make an appointment, please call **082-419 448** or visit their website at www.tribalremedy.com



Spas or wellness centres offering massage and reflexology treatment is now a booming industry worldwide. Kuching is no different. Such new businesses are popping up almost everywhere in this city, thanks to the growing demand of the local urban populace.

People nowadays are becoming more aware the need to break away from their hectic lifestyles to breathe and rejuvenate - even if it is only for an hour. A good massage is a perfect remedy for those days when one needs a quick pick-me-up.

Whether you're a city folk who want a break from the daily routine or a tourist looking for a place to ease the tired body, a spa or a wellness centre may just be the answer to your need.

Like its namesake, Lavender Foot Reflexology is hard to miss with its eye-catching purple-coloured shoplot found on the first floor of Block C, Phase 2, Jalan Petanak (above Bestberry Cafe). Though the location is a little off the city centre, visitors who are adventurous enough to journey down Jalan Petanak can find the centre without much difficulty.

Inside, the wellness centre is as equally purple as its exterior. Its clean, uncluttered decor creates a calm ambience for people to relax while they indulged in some pampering.

Lavender is new in the wellness market here in Kuching. Opened for business since last February, it offers treatments like full body massage, shoulder massage, foot reflexology, aromatherapy and lymphatic therapy.

The centre has private rooms for body massages, including two rooms catering specially for spouses who want to enjoy the treatment together. Foot reflexology is done in an open area where clients can watch television or read magazines as well.



For an hour indulgence, Lavender's professionally trained massage therapists will be in attendance to pamper its clients, easing tired muscles and calming nerves thus rejuvenating the whole body. For one hour, Lavender's professionally trained massage therapists will pamper its clients, easing tired muscles and calming nerves while rejuvenating the body.

Though the centre offers the usual range of massage treatments like other spas, there is but one treatment that they are specialised in. Lymphatic therapy is a treatment formulated specially to stimulate the lymphatic flow by removing lymphatic blockages. This, in turn, helps to strengthen the immune system.

This treatment is considered beneficial to those who suffers from sinus problems,

headaches, joint aches, inflammation, allergies, cellulite, immune and fatigue problems amongst others. It may also be beneficial for people with an imbalanced lymphatic system as part of a holistic approach to health restoration and maintenance.

This makes the lymphatic therapy a specially recommended treatment at Lavender.

Regular clients can also consider signing up for a Lavender membership, as only members will receive special rates for its services. A membership fee is RM100 annually.

Massage packages for various treatments are also available for regular clients; with value-added rates, of course.

薰衣草有限公司 男女指压足疗坊

LAVENDER FOOT REFLEXOLOGY SDN. BHD.

opens daily from 11am onwards and accepts its last appointment at 10pm. Reservations are encouraged. Contact 012-8964 848 to book.





Miri - Young & Vibrant

DATE	EVENTS/ ACTIVITIES	VENUE	ORGANISER/CONTACT PERSON
1 - 31 May	Miri May Fest 2007 Photogenic Competition	Venues of Miri May Fest events	Miri Photographic Society <i>Mr. Siew Tick Chai</i> 085-433690 / 019-8843690
1 May (7am - 5.30pm)	Miri Street Basketball (Miri May Fest Launching Event)	Boulevard Parking Area	Miri Basketball Association <i>Mr. Loo Chung Hon</i> 085-433501
1 May (7am - 5.30pm)	Kejohanan Angkat Berat Remaja Sarawak 2007	Boulevard Parking Area	Majlis Sukan Negeri Sarawak <i>En. Harifen B. Hj. Mansor</i> 085-420708
1 May (5.30pm - 10.00pm)	Miri City Day Singing Competition	Boulevard Shopping Complex	Boulevard Shopping Complex <i>Mr. Johnson Wee</i> 019-8845918
1 - 12 May	Healthy Lifestyle Road Show	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza / OSIM (M) Sdn. Bhd. <i>Mr. Andy Fong</i> 016-8502248
4 May	Kelihat Kumang Keling Contest	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza <i>Mr. Andy Fong</i> 016-8502248
5 May	'Most Wonderful Mama' Contest	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza <i>Mr. Andy Fong</i> 016-8502248
6 May (6.30pm)	Divisional Gawai Dayak Celebration	Dewan Suarah Miri	J/K Perayaan Gawai Dayak Bahagian Miri <i>Cr. Dennis Ngau</i> 085-421111
6 May (1.30pm)	2nd Miri City Day Colouring Contest (Age Group - 7 to 9 years old)	The Imperial Mall	The Imperial Mall Hyper Market <i>Ms. Flora / Mr. Darren</i> 019-8288881 / 013-8385752
6 May (7am - 6pm)	Pesta Pantai Saberkas 2007	Luak Bay Esplanade	SABERKAS Daerah miri <i>Mr. Bee bin Li</i> 012-8471412
6 May	Spiderman Colouring Contest	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza <i>Mr. Andy Fong</i> 016-8502248
11 - 12 May	Miri International Jazz Festival	The Pavillion Park City Everly Hotel	Sarawak Tourism Board <i>Mr. Michael Lu</i> 085-434181
12 - 13 May (8am - 5pm)	Open & Under 18 Football Tournament	MCC Padang	KSRK MPM <i>Mr. Matassan Abon</i> 085-433501
12 - 13 May	Miri City Day Art Exhibition (2 days) & Colouring Contest (13 May)	Boulevard Shopping Complex	Boulevard Shopping Complex <i>Mr. Johnson Wee</i> 019-8845918
12 - 13 May	Miri Motor GP 2007	Miri Go-Kart Racing Track	Persatuan Melayu Miri <i>Mr. Sardon Zainal</i> 013-8303100
13 May (1pm - 4pm)	Miri City Day Boulevard's Mother & Daughter/Son Cake Decoration Competition	Boulevard Shopping Complex	Boulevard Shopping Complex <i>Mr. Johnson Wee</i> 019-8845918
13 May (1.30pm)	2nd Miri City Day Colouring Contest (Age Group: 10 to 12 years old)	The Imperial Mall	The Imperial Mall <i>Ms. Flora / Mr. Darren</i> 019-8288881 / 013-8385752
13 May (8am - 12pm)	May Fest Fishing Competition	Miri River Mouth	Kelab Pemancing Miri <i>Mr. Nelson Ngu</i> 013-8333550 / 085-413550
15 May (Kick-off at 5.15 p.m.)	Miri City Run	Balcony Lounge, Pelita Commercial Centre Starting/Ending Points	Miri Hash House Harriers <i>Mr. Chin Khioh Voo</i> 016-870-7866
18 - 20 May (10am - 9pm)	Miri City Day Boulevard "May Flower" Wonderland Wedding Fair	Boulevard Shopping Complex	Boulevard Shopping Complex <i>Mr. Johnson Wee</i> 019-8845918
19 May (8.30pm onwards)	Miri City Day Anniversary	Miri City Fan	Miri City Council <i>Cr. Kah Ek Chong</i> 085-412890
19 - 20 May	Miri City Council's Rating & Valuation Department Awareness / Promotion Pgramme	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza / Miri City Council <i>Rating & Valuation Dept. Miri City Council</i> 085-433505 ext. 247
19 - 20 May	Pertandingan Permainan Catur Terbuka	Persatuan Melayu Miri	Persatuan Melayu Miri <i>Mr. Bujang Poli</i> 019-8147018 / 085-454176
20 May (7 - 9am)	Group Taiji Qigong Shibashi Fellowship Exercise	MCC Padang	RT Taman Hilltop <i>Mr. Thong Sai Kaw</i> 016-8715901 / <i>Mr. Nicholas Jong</i> 019-8758867
20 May (6pm)	Yuanji Mass Exercise	MCC Padang	Yuanji Co-Ordinating Committee <i>Mr. Dennis Yee</i> 016-8705088
24 - 27 May (10am)	Sony Gawai Road Show	The Imperial Mall	The Imperial Mall <i>Ms. Flora / Mr. Darren</i> 019-8288881 / 013-8385752
25 - 26 May	Cosmetic Road Show	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza / Estee Lauder <i>Mr. Andy Fong</i> 016-8502248
25 - 26 May	The 3rd Borneo Cup Lion Dance Competition 2007	Miri Indoor Stadium	SUPP Lion Dance Group jointly organised with Miri City Council & Selangor / Kuala Lumpur Lion Dance Association <i>Kapitan Khoo Choo Ken</i>
25 May - 3 June	Electrical Products Fair	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza / HSL Circuit City <i>Mr. Andy Fong</i> 016-8502248
26 May (5.30pm - 1am)	Gawai Dayak 2007	Dewan Masyarakat Kpg. Tunku Abdul Rahman Lambir off Miri/Bintulu road	Jointly organised by 18 longhouses from Miri/Sibuti <i>Pemanca Wilson Siang Lim</i> 013-8396849 <i>T.R. Randi ak Elon</i> 019-8456085
26 May (Flag-off at 8am)	Miri 7th Bakam Challenge	Sungai Rait	Miri Hash House Harriers & Miri Mountain Bike Club <i>Mr. Eric Meraff</i> 019-8068106 / <i>Mr. James Boon</i> 013-8362688
26 - 27 May (10am Flag off) (12pm Prize Giving)	Deep Sea Fishing Competition	South China Sea	Kelab Pemancing Miri <i>Mr. Nelson Ngu</i> 013-8333550 / 085-413550
27 May	Blood Donation	Bintang Plaza	Bintang Plaza / Miri Chawan Association <i>Mr. Andy Fong</i> 016-8502248
27 May	Miri City Day Mr. Norvice (Body-Building & etc)	Boulevard Shopping Complex (Level 3)	Boulevard Shopping Complex <i>Mr. Cheyenne</i> 016-8525161 / 085-431133
31 May - 3 June	Miri City Day Chinese Chess Competition	Boulevard Shopping Complex	Miri Chinese Chess Association <i>Mr. Liew Teck Kwee</i> 012-8536106 / 085-433616

Miri MAY FEST 2007



In Year 1989, Miri Municipal Council started to hold month-long activities and celebrations during certain period of the year. The name of this celebration

was called Pesta Miri. Owing to its increasing popularity, Pesta Miri, from then onwards, were held annually. The objectives of this event were to promote Miri as a popular tourist destination and to create an opportunity for the people of Miri to come and have fun together like a big family. Pesta Miri has always been one of the most enjoyable events happening in this modest yet attractive town in the yesteryears. During this event, the whole of Miri became livelier in terms of public enthusiasm and cooperative participation.

In 1994, the festival had been renamed as "I Love Miri" Campaign thereby "Sea Horse" has, for the first time, being chosen as Miri's mascot.

In Year 2002, it had been further renamed as The Miri May Fest. This is in line with the Council's mission to transform Miri as the ninth city of Malaysia by May of Year 2005 with the Council to become the 10th city council in the country. From that year onwards, the activities and events organised under Miri May Fest are being held in May each year. The events of Miri May Fest have now become a calendar of events in Sarawak Tourism Promotion.

Miri May Fest 2007 is the second festival being held after Miri has achieved city status on 20th May 2005. Therefore, the festival this year will also mark the second anniversary celebration of Miri becoming a city.

Though Miri City Council (formerly called Miri Municipal Council) is the initiator of Miri May Fest, a lot of activities are being organised in conjunction with other government agencies, social clubs, non-government organisations and commercial houses. This is in line with its original objective of getting all walks of life to be involved and participated in the festival. Everyone is being part of the Miri community and together we celebrate, transform Miri into a better place to live in and develop Miri into a preferred resort city to the visitors.

venue : Miri
 organiser : Miri City Council
 tel : +6085-424 111
 fax : +6085-415 486
 website : www.miricouncil.gov.my

All information contained herein is correct at the time of production. Miri City Council cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracy, omission or alteration that may occur. For detailed information, kindly contact the organisers of the respective events.

happenings

Miri International Jazz Festival

11 – 12 May

The aim's to be the leading tourism-driven music festival in the region. By assembling regionally and internationally recognized, jazz musician, the musical event aims to draw visitors to Miri and the Northern Region of Sarawak for a fun-filled and entertaining experience and at the same time showcasing Miri as a city of cosmopolitanism and relaxing lifestyle.

venue : The Pavilion, Park City Everly Hotel, Miri
 organiser : Secretariat of Miri Jazz Festival
 Sarawak Tourism Board
 tel : +6085-434 181
 fax : +6085-434 179
 email : info@mirijazzfestival.com
 website : www.mirijazzfestival.com



World Harvest Festival

26 - 27 May



This year, the popular World Harvest Festival (formerly known as Gawai Tourism Night) will be held at the Sarawak Cultural Village. Among the highlights are the staging of a theme play on an Orang Ulu legend warrior, an ethnic beauty pageant "Miss Fair & Lovely WHF 2007". Other than that, there will also be Food & Craft Fiesta. At night, Sarawak Cultural Village will be filled with radiant performances and there will also be open houses in all the three longhouses (Iban, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu) where guests are treated to traditional cuisines. Experience the cultures and be a part of the celebration!!

venue : Sarawak Cultural Village, Santubong
 organiser : Sarawak Cultural Village
 tel : +6082-846 411
 fax : +6082-846 988
 email : info@scv.com.my
 website : www.worldharvestfestival.com

Petrosains DinoTrek

3 April - 31 December

DinoTrek was conceptualised by Petrosains, a science discovery centre located in Suria KLCC, Kuala Lumpur. It started from scratch and the whole concept was developed based on just a few set of dinosaurs. Some of the exhibits were brought in from Japan and Australia while others were fabricated internally.

The objectives in introducing Petrosains DinoTrek is to provide a unique exhibition which will encourage visitors to observe, explore and discover about prehistoric era while at the same time stimulate their curiosity and promote discussions among them. As DinoTrek is not merely a static exhibition, its interactive displays will require contact between the visitors and the exhibits as well as with the facilitators.

DinoTrek is especially designed for families with children. Its setup is aimed at encouraging visitors to be actively interacting, talking with each other, parents-children, with the facilitators, probe the data provided, delve on the facts, come out with new questions and so on.

venue : Tun Abdul Razak Hall,
 Sarawak Museum, Kuching
 organiser : Petronas
 time : Monday - Sunday (9am - 5.30pm)
 Last Admission (5pm)
 tel : 017-815 1834



Gawai Dayak Thanksgiving Mass

18 May

venue : St Joseph's Cathedral,
 Jalan Tun Haji Openg, Kuching
 time : 7:30pm
 tel : +6082-423 424

Miss Tourism Intercontinental 2007 Preview

organiser : Alaric's productions
 tel : +6082-335 371
 fax : +6082-332 612
 email : alapro@tm.net.my

27 May | 1 June | 9 June
 venue: Kuching | venue: Miri | venue: Sibü

This grand celebration which mark the end of the rice-harvesting season and is celebrated by the three major ethnic groups; the Ibans, Bidayuh and Orang Ulu. During the celebration, Sarawak Cultural Village will extend special promotion entrance rates and the visitors will be served with traditional delicacies at the three longhouses.

Sarawak Cultural Village Gawai Open House

1 June

venue : Sarawak Cultural Village
 organiser : Sarawak Cultural Village
 tel : +6082-846 411
 fax : +6082-846 988
 email : info@scv.com.my



Corpus Christi

9th June

Holy Mass with procession.

venue : St Joseph's Cathedral
 Jalan Tun Haji Openg, Kuching
 time : 6:00pm
 tel : +6082-423 424



Padawan Festival
(July - November)

MPP is celebrating its 11th anniversary this year with the objective of fostering closer rapport with its customers and the general public within its area of jurisdiction. Several events have been planned and lined up which include MPP Commemoration Day on 31st July to be held at the MPP compound; River Safari is scheduled on 21 October to be held at Kampung Danu (flag-off) and Kampung Git; Foodfair, Funfair and Trade Fair to run from 25th June to 29th July at MJC Batu Kawah New Township; Property Fair to be held at Kota Sentosa; Football Competition to be held at MPP Stadium at Siburan from 19th May to 14th August; Landscape Competition at Kota Padawan from May to November; and Battle of the bands and Stage Show to be held at Tapah Community Hall sometime in September.

Besides, other activities like Customers Day, Integrity Day and ICT Seminar will also be organised in conjunction with the celebration. The ultimate intention to have the events spread out at various venues or localities is to enable the residents to feel and share the joy of this annual festival together.

venue : Padawan
 organiser : Majlis Perbandaran Padawan, Kota Padawan.
 tel : +6082-615 566 (Mr. Boon)
 fax : +6082-611 832
 e-mail : mpp@tm.net.my
 website : www.mpp.gov.my



Babulang Festival & Buffalo Race
8-9 June



venue : Batu Damai Festival Site, Limbang
 organiser : Sarawak Bisaya Association in collaboration with The Resident Office, Limbang and The Ministry of Town Development & Tourism Sarawak
 tel : +6085-433 503 / 433 504 (Mr. Antonio Kathi Galis)



Babulang or "Nakod Babulang" once used to be an elaborate and lavish show of wealth and status within the elites of the Bisaya community (a minority ethnic group of Sarawak). This festival however, being inconsistent with today's reality, has refocused its concept into an income-generating activity: the preservation and promotion of the unique arts and culture of the Bisaya. By tapping into the tourism industry, it coincidentally contributes towards the nation's objective: 2007 being Visit Malaysia Year.

In consonant with its other noble aim of promoting unity and quality leadership. Babulang showcases buffalo races, beauty queen contests, traditional music and dances, games and a rich display of ethnic dresses and handicrafts. Consequently, the spirit of "SAGANAO" is relished through the goodwill and coorporation of the relevant ministeries and government agencies.

Miri 4x4 Challenge
29 July



Siong Fah Motors is organising a 4 x 4 challenge and the venue is tentatively set at a plot of land next to Miri Golf Club. The event is open to all 4 x 4 enthusiasts in the region in conjunction with the Visit Malaysia 2007 working in collaboration with the Sarawak Tourism Board and Miri City Council.

The objective is to promote recreational Off Roading as a popular sport and to promote Sarawak as an adventure destination. The competition involves assessment of participants'

Navigation, Speed, Winching and Driving Skills, and points will be awarded; attractive prizes are waiting to be won.

venue : Miri
 organiser : Siong Fah Motors collaborating with Sarawak Tourism Board
 tel : +6085-418 802, 019-8152 909
 email : siongfah@tm.net.my
 entry fee : RM150 for Group A - PTO Super Winch or Standard PTO & Electric Winch RM100 for Group B - Unmodified Cars or Mud Terrain Tyres - MT

Catscity.com.my:
Kuching Travel Information Site

Where can you find the latest happenings, news, events, photos and development of Kuching on the Internet? Try www.catscity.com.my, a website created in 2003 by the community for the community. Visitors will be able to find out all there is to know about Kuching from original articles and coverage on events posted at the website as well as browse through a huge collection of photographs taken of the city and its attractions. There is also an active forum discussion where locals as well as tourists will be able to participate and post their views and opinions.

The founder/web administrator of the website:
Kho G. A. contact no: +6012-883 8318 email: kho@catscity.com.my

Topic	Replies	Views	Last Post
General Discussion: How you ever NOT pay your parking fines in Kuching?	2	2	Today 14:13:00
General Discussion: The subscribers get unwanted mail service	9	45	Today 14:00:00
Kuching Talk: Shipping orders in Kuching (1)(2)(3) (2)	0	10003	Today 13:44:34
Register user!	9	92	Today 13:40:45
General Discussion: A true local greeting	1	52	Today 13:18:00
Local News: If you only had 10 minutes... (1)(2)(3)	26	112	Today 13:07:00
News Today: Tourism might to reward top hotel operators	2	22	Today 13:00:00
General Discussion: Lotus road stop here purpash and after coming Miri? (1)(2)	14	78	Yesterday 11:00:00
Photo Album: Malaysian newspaper sees Singapore in landmark case	1	44	Yesterday 10:22:00
Articles: Singapore in Malaysia Landmark	2	20	Yesterday 10:04:00
Kuching Travel: Education	1	1	Yesterday 10:04:00
Weblogs: Fun and Honour	1	79	Yesterday 10:00:00
Classified Ads: driving school and car licence	1	18	Yesterday 10:00:00

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Contact :
 Kho: +6012 883 8318
 Alex Teo: +6016 809 0402

website: <http://photo.catscity.com.my>
 email : photo@catscity.com.my

2nd Borneo International Tattoo Convention

29 June – 1 July

The 2nd Borneo International Tattoo Convention 2007 will be held at the Taman Jubli Bukit Aup just a little about 15-20 minutes drive from the centre of Sibul Town. The venue is located on top of a small hill park surrounded by neighboring Iban longhouses.

The 2nd Borneo International Tattoo Convention 2007, will bring together international acclaimed tattoo artists from all over the world and also local talents. The Art of tattooing will be highlighted by traditional performances, traditional music, cultural dances, tribal peace offerings to the spirits and parades from all the major tribal cultures and what is left of the elders who were tattooed the way it was a long time ago. In other word, it will be bringing you back in time when the tattoos worn by the individual glorifies the life of oneself.

This will be the sequel to the preservation of a tradition and culture that only can be kept alive on a living individual, a form of art that lives as long as we live, so the only way to keep this tattoo culture alive is to get tattooed!

The Sarawak Borneo tattoo culture has been known all over the world because of its cultural and traditional roots. Come for an unforgettable experience in Sibul this coming June/July.

venue : Sibul
 organiser : Sibul Municipal Council (SMC) in collaboration with Borneoheadhunters Tattoo Studio, Kuching
 tel : +6084-333 411
 fax : +6084-320 240
 email : smc@smc.gov.my
 website : www.borneotattooconvention.com.



International Dance for Humanity

24 June

venue : Miri
 organiser : Miri Red Crescent Society
 tel : +6085-425 421
 fax : +6085-420 722



Kain Songket Sarawak Exhibition

July - September

A 3 month exhibition featuring Kain Songket Sarawak.

venue : Sarakraf Pavilion ID Showroom
 organiser : Sarakraf Pavilion
 time : 8.30am till 4.30pm
 (lunch time from 12.00noon till 2.00pm)
 tel : +6082-258 771
 fax : +6082-232 771



Borneo Cultural Festival (BCF) is an annual cultural festival organised by Sibul Municipal Council, the local authority for Sibul, one of the major towns in the State of Sarawak on Malaysian Borneo. The event is a showcase of the rich racial and ethnic culture in this region of Borneo Island. It also aims to promote Sibul as the gateway to Central Sarawak and a City of Culture & Festivals.

Welcome to the 6th Borneo Cultural Festival (Since 2002). Following previous years' success, we are most pleased to bring you an even bigger range of events this year. You will enjoy the best of Beauty in Ethnic Diversity at Sibul Town Square.

venue : Sibul
 organiser : Sibul Municipal Council
 tel : +6084-333 411
 fax : +6084-349 411
 email : smc@smc.gov.my
 website : www.sibul.gov.my

Borneo Cultural Festival

30 June – 7 July

> Variety Cultural Shows

Featuring hundreds of singers, musicians, and dancers who will perform continuously throughout the eight days event on multiple stages, the Borneo Cultural Festival showcases the very best in local talent.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Mandarin Fest**
 Dragon and lion dance | Qi gong (martial arts) | Cheong-sam show | Lantern competition
- **Malay/Melanau Fest**
 Silat (martial arts) | Bangsawan (traditional theatre) | Joget | Drama and Traditional costume
- **Dayak Fest**
 Blowpipe contest | Ngajat Warrior Dance | Dayak musical instruments | Poetry recital & Chanting



> Food Fair

Have you ever tried 'Bamboo-Chicken'? Satay? Kompia? And other food which you might not even heard of?

So join us for a scrumptious medley of traditional Chinese, Malay/Melanau and Dayak dishes at down-to-earth prices. You will be fascinated by the rich varieties of local delicacies presented by the local communities.

> Trade & Exhibition

The Trade & Exhibition is definitely a must-participate for parties who want an ideal platform to showcase their products and services. It will start earlier than the BCF proper this year that is from 22nd June till 7th July 2007.

It gives you the opportunity to place your product/service in front of thousands of prospective customers from the Central Region of Sarawak within a span of 16 days. The event keeps on growing and this year we will have more stalls (185 stalls) to accommodate a wider range of products and services.

> Craft Work & Souvenirs

The rich variety of ethnic culture promises unique yet attractive arts and crafts. There are skilled artists and craftsmen, selling and demonstrating their unique products. You may find interesting indigenous handicrafts, traditional clothings and accessories, beadwork, embroidery and floral arrangements.

If you're looking for a week packed with great Borneo bands, dancers, plays, food, games, handicrafts and the warmth of the local community in Sibul, Sarawak, Malaysian Borneo, meet us at the coming Borneo Cultural Festival on 30th June – 7th July 2007Join us in this exciting Fiesta!

Our contact:

Secretariat of Borneo Cultural Festival 2007
 c/o Sibul Municipal Council, Level 19-24, Wisma Sanyan, No-1, Jalan Sanyan, 96000 Sibul, Sarawak

Rainforest World Music Festival 10th Anniversary

13 - 15 July



The Rainforest World Music Festival is a unique festival that brings together on the same stage renowned world musicians from all continents and indigenous musicians from the interiors of the mythical island of Borneo.

Its formula of afternoon informative workshops, ethno-musical lectures, jamming sessions and mini concerts, followed by evening performances on the main stage has proven to be a hit with the audience, who come from near and far.

The festival site also sets up a variety of food and drink stalls, an arts and crafts area as well as a counter for festival memorabilia, Sarawak souvenirs and CDs by the performing artists, all this contributing to a fun filled, wholesome festival experience. World Music plus a country fair atmosphere in the midst of lush greenery.

The Rainforest World Music Festival, a not-to-be-missed occasion, guarantees a smashing time in the heart of the Borneo Jungle!

venue : Sarawak Cultural Village
 organiser : Sarawak Tourism Board
 tel : +6082-423 600
 fax : +6082-416 700
 email : stb@sarawaktourism.com
 website : www.rainforestmusic-borneo.com





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 Wisma Yee Soon Yew,
 Jalan Song Thian Cheok,
 93100 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.
 Tel:(6) 082 -245335 Fax:(6) 082-245336
 E-mail:nmep@streamyx.com




Miri International Food Festival (Throughout July)

venue : Miri
 organiser : Miri Marriott Resort & Spa
 tel : +6085-421 121



Nanyang Wushu 'Kung-Fu' Festival

21 July

See and experience this traditional art of self-defence. Kung-Fu, an age-old tradition of Chinese martial arts is known to improve both physical and mental awareness. Be fascinated as you watch a system of sophisticated movements designed to build strength, stamina and confidence.

venue : Kuching
 organiser : Nanyang Wushu Federation of Sarawak
 tel : 019-886 6879 (Prof. Dr. Song Swee Hee)
 fax : +6082-246 952
 email : nanyangwushu@yahoo.com
 shsong@pc.jaring.my
 website : www.visitsarawak.com/wushu

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Kota Kinabalu

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Fax: (09) 514 5001

Kuching

Tel : (082) 428 529
Fax: (082) 424 512

Melaka

Tel : (06) 282 5169 / 281 3158
Fax: (06) 284 1097

Miri

Tel : (085) 410 233 / 420 233
Fax: (085) 422 188

Penang

Tel : (04) 261 7998
Fax: (04) 262 0784

Seremban

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