

DO YOU KNOW

By ANNA VIVIENNE

WHERE TO STAY

One of the subset of tourism is Cultural tourism. Most of us may think that cultural tourism means cultural performances on stage.

We may not be wrong but then again we may not be totally right either. Although dance performances on stage accord tourists a glimpse of the people's cultural heritage, it does not showcase our culture in its entirety. Cultural tourism therefore means a form of tourism that encompasses a country's culture through arts and traditions.

In the case of Sabah, cultural tourism focuses on its native communities which have diverse customs, with unique form of art and distinctive social practices. These norms distinguishes it from other culture of peoples found everywhere in the international community.

Cultural tourism in Sabah usually centres in the suburban and rural areas where the indigenous people of Sabah are concentrated. They usually showcase their lifestyle, such as agricultural norm, social interaction and values. They also share their festivals and rites as well as rituals that go with it.

In more developed countries or large cities historical sites, museums and theatres may be zeroed on as cultural tourism products.

Cultural tourism is feasible as it accord the community the opportunities for tourism and economic development. In the broader picture the State and Country stands to gain especially where revenue is concerned.

Some thoughts have to be put into the matter however as an indigenous culture that has been maintained may stand to be eroded by foreign culture their hosts bring in.

Since the culture is the main attraction in a certain region, sustainable development of the area is vital for them to prevent the negative impacts of tourism.

Negative impacts in this matter can be the zealoussness of the hosts themselves. These include satisfying tourists' interest; dolling up the traditional clothes, dramatising dances until they become almost unrecognisable to the original moves and exaggerations.

In Sabah, cultural tourism is being promoted actively. Various festivals are being carried out to promote the culture and tradition of the people of Sabah. They include the Harvest Festival which commemorates the harvest of Paddy, the people's staple food; the Sago Festival in Kuala Penyu which commemorates the Sago Palm Tree where the sago starch is extracted; the Maize Festival in Kota Marudu which commemorates the food plant and many others.



CULTURAL TOURISM

FEBRUARY EVENTS

NEW TALENT PAINTINGS EXHIBITION

Date : 04 January - 05 February 2007
 Organiser : Sabah Art Gallery
 Contact Person: Dtk Yaman Hj. Ahmad Mus
 Telephone : +60 88 268875
 Fax : +60 88 210040
 Email Contact : gallery_9@msn.com

KOTA KINABALU CITY IDOL

Date : February 2007
 Organiser : Kota Kinabalu City Hall
 Contact Person : Joannes Solidau
 Telephone : +6088-521800
 Fax : +6088-316137
 Email Contact : joannes@dbkk.sabah.gov.my

KK CITY DAY CELEBRATION

Date : 02 February 2007
 Organiser : Kota Kinabalu City Hall
 Contact Person : Faradillah Abdul Rani
 Telephone : +6088-521800
 Fax : +6088-233815
 Email Contact : faradillah@dbkk.sabah.gov.my

Grand Celebration

1st February 2007
 9:00PM - 12:30AM
 Venue: Promenade Boulevard, Jalan Tun Fuad Stephens
 -Float Parade
 -Performance by Popular Artistes
 -INTERNATIONAL Cultural Performances (Australia, South Africa, Indonesia, Philipines, Yongin City, Korea, China)
 -Flag-raising Ceremony
 -Firework Display
Lauching of The City Gallery
 2nd February 2007
 3:00PM
 Venue: 7th Floor, Centre Point Sabah

Batik Show

2nd - 6th February 2007
 9:00AM - 9:00PM
 Venue: Palm Square, 4th Floor, Centre Point Sabah
 * Launching ceremony on 3rd February at 2:00PM

Chinese New Year Carnival

10th - 15th February
 6:00PM - 10:00PM
 Venue : Deasoka Garden, Gaya Street
City Run
 11th February 2007
 7:00AM

Venue : Padang Merdeka, Kota Kinabalu
International Dart Tournament
 23rd - 25th February 2007
 10:00AM - 5:00PM

Venue : Dewan Masyarakat Kota Kinabalu

VIP Golf Tournament

24th February 2007
 6:00AM - 2:00PM
 Venue : Nexus Resort Karambunai, Menggatal
KK City Tourism Treasure Hunt
 25th February 2007
 6:00AM - 2:00PM
 Venue : Nexus Resort Karambunai, Menggatal

BATIK SHOW

Date : 02 - 06 February 2007
 Organiser : Kota Kinabalu City Hall
 Venue : Palm Square, 4th Floor, Centre Point
 Contact Person : Mdm Jainab Saidi / Ms Suzanah Abd Hamid
 Telephone : +60 88 244000 ext 225 / 521800 ext 787
 Fax : +60 88 246501 / 219175
 Email Contact : jainab.saidi@dbkk.sabah.gov.my, suzanah.hamid@dbkk.sabah.gov.my
 Event Website : http://www.dbkk.sabah.gov.my

KOTA BELUD CULTURAL CARNIVAL 2007

Date : 10 - 11 February 2007
 Organiser : Sabah Cultural Board
 Contact Person : Mackey Apison
 Telephone : +60 88 268812/268884
 Fax : +60 88 264235
 Email Contact : Rusman.Abdullah@sabah.gov.my, Mackey.Apison@sabah.gov.my

Other Cultural Events:

Papar Cultural Carnival

Date: 24th - 25th February 2007

Venue: Papar Community Hall

Lahad Datu Cultural Carnival

Date: 10th - 11th March 2007

Venue: Lahad Datu Community Hall

Tawau Cultural Carnival

Date: 24th - 25th March 2007

Venue: Tawau Town Field

Tenom Cultural Carnival:

PESTA KALIMARAN

Date: 14th - 15th April 2007

Venue: Murut Cultural Centre, Tenom.

Sandakan Cultural Carnival

Date: 9th - 10th June 2007

Venue: Sandakan Town Field

Tuaran Cultural Carnival

Date: 21st - 22nd July 2007

Venue: Tuaran

Kudat Cultural Carnival

Date: 27th - 28th October 2007

Venue: Esplanade Sidek, Kudat

For more Information please contact:

Sabah Cultural Board

Telephone : +6088-268812/268884

Fax : +6088-264235

Email : Rusman.Abdullah@sabah.gov.my or Mackey.Apison@sabah.gov.my

Winner Hotel
 Phone: 60 088 243222
 Fax: 60 088 217345

Hotel Deleton
 Phone: 60 088 252222
 Fax: 60 088 267999

Kinabalu Daya Hotel
 Phone: 60 088 240000
 Fax: 60 088 263909

Berjaya Palace Hotel
 Phone: 60 088 211911
 Fax: 60 088 211600

Hotel Shangri-La
 Phone: 60 088 212800
 Fax: 60 088 212078

Likas Square Business Suites
 Phone: 60 088 252233
 Fax: 60 088 251122

Tang Dynasty Hotel
 Phone: 60 088 263389 / 251155
 Fax: 60 088 263989 / 265566

Beverly Hotel
 Phone: 60 088 258998
 Fax: 60 088 258778

Promenade Hotel
 Phone: 60 088 265555
 Fax: 60 088 246666 / 253980

Hyatt Regency Kinabalu
 Phone: 60 088 221234
 Fax: 60 088 225972

Le Meridien Kota Kinabalu
 Phone: 60 088 322222
 Fax: 60 088 322223

Nexus Resort Karambunai
 Phone: 6 088 411222 / 411030
 Fax: 6 088 411020 / 412028

Shangri-La Tanjung Aru Resort
 Phone: 60 088 225800 / 41800 / 293306 (Reserv)
 Fax: 60 088 244871 / 217155

Sutera Harbour Resort - Magellan Sutera
 Phone: 6 088 318 888
 Fax: 6 088 317 777

Sutera Harbour Resort - Pacific Sutera
 Phone: 6 088 318888
 Fax: 6 088 317777

Hotel Capital Sdn Bhd
 23, Jalan Haji Saman
 P.O Box 11223, 88813
 Kota Kinabalu
 Phone: 6 088 231 999 (10 lines)
 Fax: 6 088 237 222
 E mail: capitalh@streamyx.com

Beringgis Beach Resort, Papar
 Phone: 6 088 752 999
 E mail: bbrpapar@tm.net.my

Impiana Mutiara Hotel
 Ground Floor, No 3, Block BC
 Lot 15, Lorong Ikan Juara 3
 88100 Sadong, Kota Kinabalu
 Phone: 6 088 268 823 / 268 824
 Fax: 6 088 258826

Weekly TAMU (Open Market) in Sabah

■ Tamus are held in almost every town/district in Sabah. Most local traders gather to buy, sell or barter their farm produce, handicrafts, traditional ware, musical instruments, etc.

SUNDAY 6am - 2pm
 Kota Belud, Tuaran, Putatan, Papar, Babagon, Tambunan, Tenom, Membakut, Kota Marudu, Sikuati, Gaya Street Fair (Kota Kinabalu)

MONDAY 6am - 2pm
 Tandesk

TUESDAY 6am - 2pm
 Kiulu

WEDNESDAY 6am - 2pm
 Pinggan-pinggan, Tamparuli & Kudat

THURSDAY 6am - 2pm
 Donggongan, Telipok, Tenghilan, Pekan Nabal, Sipitang, Tambunan, Keningau

FRIDAY 6am - 2pm
 Donggongan, Sunsuron, Weston, Mesapoi, Kanibangan

SATURDAY 6am - 2pm
 Kinarut, Beaufort, Sindumin, Matunggong, Pekan Pitas

sabahtravelguide.com

The Ultimate Travel Guide to Sabah, Borneo's Paradise

Sabah Travel Guide.com (STG) is a comprehensive online free travel guide for visitors to Sabah, Malaysia. It is also presently the most accepted and complete information hub for tourism industry of Sabah. Main focus of STG is to create more awareness of visiting Sabah to the global tourism market and to provide an online automated market place for tourist and tour operators.

To subscribe to STG newsletter, please sign up as a member and enjoy special offers