

TM 21st Mt Kinabalu International Climbathon, 25–26 August

It will be an exciting race to the peak and back during the TM 21st Mt Kinabalu International Climbathon. This annual mountain race has grown into a world renowned sporting event that attracts top mountain runners from around the world, including Spain, Andorra, the UK, Venezuela, Mexico, Japan, Germany, Singapore and the Philippines. During the competition, runners complete the 21-km trail in an amazing time of 2–4 hours, scaling the 4,095.2 metre-high Mount Kinabalu. The Climbathon is endorsed by the Federation of Sport at Altitude as one of official races for the 7-series Federation for Sport at Altitudes (FSA) Buff Skyrunning World Championship, and offers a total prize money of US\$33,400.

This year, TM is once again the official title sponsor of the Climbathon, having generously sponsored RM400,000.00 for the success of this event. The Women's Open and Men's Veteran races will take place on 25 August, followed by the Men's Open on the next day. Apart from watching the race, spectators can also take part in the many activities organised by TM for all to enjoy, including the drawing competition for students.

The Climbathon first started in 1987 as a Sabah Parks' project to develop a rapid rescue squad—a team of rangers who can bring down injured climbers fast (especially useful during bad weather when helicopter rescue is not possible). The Sabah Tourism Board took over the organization of this event in 1995.

For more information, contact Balwant Singh Kler (Race Director) or Zachary Mobijohn (Organising Secretary) at tel. no 088-232121 or send an e-mail to balwant@sabahtourism.com or zachary@sabahtourism.com



Sandakan Memorial Day 15 August

A poignant service will be held at the Sandakan Memorial Park to commemorate the Allied servicemen and locals who suffered the atrocities of the Sandakan Death March during World War II. The Sandakan Death March saw groups of prisoners sent on three separate 160-mile marches from Sandakan to Ranau between January and June 1945. Only six men survived. Relatives and friends of the POWs will attend the memorial service, which begins at 7 am, and witness a wreath-laying ceremony. All are welcome.

For more information, please contact Catherin Chua at 089-224026, fax 089-274659, e-mail Catherin.Chua@sabah.gov.my

Fruits & Flowers Festival, 18–19 August

Come and see the sprawling Sabah Agriculture Park and Gardens in Tenom in full bloom during the annual Fruits and Flowers Festival. The two-day event is a great opportunity for visitors to stroll through fruit orchards and sample local delights including mangosteens, rambutans, dragon fruit and the King of Fruits, the durian. Every year, the Park puts up a mini fruit sculpture, made up of many different kinds of fruits and nuts obtained

from the Living Museum of Crop Plants in the Park—a sight not to be missed! Visit the various gardens at the park and marvel at the wide array of blooms, from rare orchids to lush ferns.

For more information, please contact Sabah Agriculture Park at tel. no 087-737952/ 088-258529, fax 087-737571 / 088-258529 or e-mail agripark@sabah.net.my. Alternatively, visit the website at www.sabah.net.my/agripark.

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