

e-Newsletter

SENSES

of MALAYSIA

INSIDE SENSES e-News

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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About This Magazine

Senses of Malaysia is a new breed of tourism and travel magazine which highlights Malaysia's best beaches, finest foods and most luxurious hotels and the many unique holiday destinations and adventures which makes this country fascinating. The magazine covers a host of topics from relaxation and recreation to education, world music to flora and fauna, horse riding to golf. Adventures and stories covering the length and breadth of Malaysia.

Senses of Malaysia is published once every two months, and is available by subscription or in bookstores and magazine stands around Malaysia. You can subscribe [here](#).

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Focus

In 2011's March-April issue of *Senses of Malaysia*, we celebrate some of the most incredible and exotic creatures that call this country home. In our "Amazing Animals" section, we focus on some of Malaysia's signature species including orang utans, hornbills, elephants, tapirs, wild cats and many others that inhabit this tropical country. We also take a look at several other animal-related topics such as animal trafficking, zoos and parks, and the Malaysian Nature Society

Senses of Malaysia Mar-Apr 2011 is available at all good news stands and book stores for RM12, or you can sign up to an annual subscription www.sensesofmalaysia.com/subscribe.php starting at just RM72 per year.



Highlights

Highlights in this Issue



Malaysia, The Land of The Hornbills

With a name that mirrors their appearance, hornbills grace the skies of both Peninsular and East Malaysia. Ravinder Kaur learns and writes about these giant, strange-but-beautiful birds.



Looking Further East

When it comes to Islamic art, works by East Asian cultures tend to be overlooked. Lucien De Guise, senior curator of the Islamic Arts Museum (IAMM), writes about the beautiful and invaluable contributions made by the East.



Cartooning Kampung Life

The Malaysian cartoon duo of Upin and Ipin are taking the world by storm with their captivating tales of Kampung life. Hugh Ujhazy goes behind the scenes and talks with the creators of these widely and wildly popular characters.



The Vegetarian's Guide to Malaysia

Katrina Melvin has been a vegetarian for 15 years. Here she shares with you her knowledge and experience gained over five years of surviving as a vegetarian in Malaysia, making several mistakes along the way so you don't have to! She hopes her advice will save you from the steaks!

The most delectable dishes and desirable deals are now all in one place.



Find us at:  facebook.com/dinemalaysia  twitter.com/dinemalaysia

Featured Restaurants:



Le Midi

Located among the swanky third-floor eateries in Bangsar Shopping Centre, Le Midi offers diners a magnificent view of the KL sky line. Serves authentic cuisine from Italy, Spain, France, Morocco and Lebanon.

Address: Lot T3, 3rd Floor, Bangsar Shopping Centre, East Wing, KL.
Tel: 03.2094 1318



TwentyOne Tables + Terrace

The perfect place to unwind. Chill out at the fountain, lounge in the sweeping open terrace, soak in the amazing views and indulge in the awesome food. Serving modern European cuisine with a subtle Asian twist.

Address: T1, 3rd floor, Bangsar Shopping Centre, KL.
Tel: 03.2287 0021



Celsius Restaurant + Bar

Celsius Restaurant + Bar simultaneously stimulates your senses and calms your nerves. With a nibble and tippie selection described as 'locally global', the kitchen and bar meet even the exacting standards of anyone who demands nothing less than the best of the best.

Address: 179, Jalan Bukit Bintang, KL.
Tel: 03.2145 3131

Promotions:

- Le Midi, Bangsar Shopping Centre Complimentary caraffe of wine for MBF Mastercard and promotion holders.
- Complimentary dessert of the day when you celebrate your birthday at Le Midi, for MBF Mastercard holders.

- Bosphorous, Pavilion KL 15% off for all MasterCard holders when you spend over RM100 in a single receipt.

- House Frankfurt, Telawi Bangsar 15% discount on food for MasterCard holders and 20% discount for MBF MasterCard holders

Visit www.dinemalaysia.com to find out more about these and other great dining promotions.

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Fabulous A

MUCH OF MALAYSIA WAS ONCE COVERED IN TROPICAL RAINFOREST AND THERE ARE STILL MANY AREAS TO EXPLORE AND TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES. GO JUNGLE TREKKING, CAVING, WHITE-WATER RAFTING, SHOOTING RAPIDS, CLIMB HIGH MOUNTAINS AND EXPLORE THE LUSH RAINFOREST CANOPY. THE SURROUNDING SEAS ARE THERE TO DIVE, TO KAYAK ACROSS AND TO SET SAIL ON THE MONSOONAL BREEZES. THE WORLD'S HIGHEST "IRON ROAD", LOCATED IN SABAH IS THE MOST RECENT ADVENTURE FOR THRILL-SEEKERS TO DISCOVER WHEN NEXT IN MALAYSIA. FOR THRILL-SEEKERS TO DISCOVER WHEN NEXT IN MALAYSIA.



Canopy Walk, Taman Negara



Taman Negara is Malaysia's largest national park and apart from shooting the rapids here and going on various jungle treks, the most adventurous activity is to explore the rainforest canopy via a series of suspended walkways high above the rainforest floor. It's a 450m-long canopy traverse broken up into smaller sections. The rainforest floor is 25m below and the perspective is quite surreal as you feel like an animal peering down to the ground below. There are also distant views of the Tembeling River and the really observant will see wildlife such as birds, squirrels, shrews and reptiles.

Visitors can trek to the canopy walk from the Mutiara Taman Negara Resort or use the services of a river sampan to get there.

Contact - Asian Overland Services, T: +603 4252 9100, W: www.asianoverland.com.my

Rainforest Canopy Adventure, Langkawi

This is not for the faint-hearted but those who like to push themselves and love a challenge. The three-hour zip-line adventure includes rappelling, abseiling, crossing narrow crevices and zipping through the rainforest canopy on a spider-web of ropes and wires. Just like Tarzan, you can swing through the rainforest canopy on what is best described as a giant flying fox. Things start off quite easily and build up as the adventure proceeds but the last glide, 30m above the ground, is the one that gets the heart racing. Then the hard part starts as you have to rappel down from the 30m-high tree which you just zip-lined into.

Contact - T: +6012 466 8027, W: www.langkawi.travel



White Water Rafting, Padas River



Sabah's Padas River is chilli hot when it comes to white-water rafting. Add a little spice to your adventure with some rafting mayhem down the swirling waters of the Padas River that dissects Borneo's tropical rainforests. Waters swirl where rapids occur so it's negotiating the rocky rapids that make this so thrilling. This one is for the wet and wild depending upon the river level. From start to finish, it's one long rollercoaster ride and travelling through the jungle to the starting point is half the fun.

Contact - Intra Travel, T: +6088 261 558, www.intra-travel.com.my

Via Ferrata, Mount Kinabalu

At 4,101m, Mount Kinabalu is Malaysia's highest mountain and now the world's highest via ferrata ("iron road" or mountain walkway). It's possible to walk your way along steep rock faces between 1,800m and 3,800m on the side of this majestic mountain. While the climb is for both novices and the experienced, it is not a stroll in the park and participants need to be physically fit. It is also thrilling but safe as the climbing is done in a controlled and safe environment. While many come simply to admire the flora and fauna of this UNESCO World Heritage Site others can now negotiate the series of iron ladders and rails of the via ferrata while taking in the panoramic mountain scenery.

Contact - T: +6088 251 730, W: www.mountaintorq.com



m a r c h e v e n t s



2

A light hearted look at Malaysian politics. "This Cannot, That Cannot", directed by David Lim, consists of short plays by Kakiseni's Kakiscript winners and the highlight of the show is a short play by Malik Imtiaz Sarwar. The show plays from 2 - 6 March at Pentas 2, KLPAC. Visit www.klpac.com for tickets and details.

4



Asia's undisputable king of R&B and hip hop Jay Chou, will heat up Putra Indoor Stadium, Bukit Jalil, from 4 - 5 March as part of his 40-venue "The Era World Tour" which has earned rave reviews as the most impressive concert production ever launched in Asia. Tickets can be booked from www.ticketcharge.com.my and are priced from RM130.

The most awaited and anticipated travel fair of the year returns with loads of offers from hundred of exhibitors. MATTA FAIR 2011 will be held at Putra World Trade Center (PWTC) Kuala Lumpur from 11 - 13 March. Visit www.matta.org.my for details.



11



Raptor Watch 2011, held on 12-13 March at the grounds of PNB Ilham Resort, Tanjung Tuan (10th mile Port Dickson), is where birdwatching enthusiasts can delight in spotting hundreds of migratory raptors flying across the Straits of Malacca in their annual journey back to the northern hemisphere. Admission is free. Visit www.raptorwatch.org for details.

17



Hot air balloons in various shapes and sizes from all over the world will colour skies during the Putrajaya Hot Air Balloon Fiesta 2011 from 17 - 20 March, 7am - 9pm at Monumen Alaf Baru, Precint 2, Putrajaya. There will be hot air balloon rides for the public as well. Visit www.myballoonfiesta.com for details.

25



Hot-wired US rockers MGMT hits KL Live for their first ever Malaysian concert. Crossing psychedelic rock with pure adrenaline electro-pop, MGMT is the band behind massive international radio hits Time to Pretend, Kids, Electric Feel and It's Working and the albums Oracular Spectacular [2008] and Congratulations [2010]. Tickets are priced from RM158. Visit www.kl-live.com.my for details.



23

The Actors Studio @ Lot 10 will be celebrating the arts with FUSED, a bi-monthly experimental series from 23-27 March, featuring a fusion of artists, ideas and performances. Feast on something different every night of the week with an array of performances as well as workshops. Visit www.klpac.com for tickets and details.

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Perfect Livin 2011, held from 31 March - 3 April at PWTC, KL, is the place to be for homeowners looking for the most complete and up-to-date range of technologies and products for a heightened home-ownership and lifestyle experience. Visit www.perfectlivin.com for details.



april events



Your family's favourite Disney moments will come to life at "Disney on Ice Worlds of Fantasy", held from 1-3 April at Stadium Putra, Bukit Jalil. Be enthralled with dazzling skating, special effects and beloved Disney characters creating a lifetime of memories. Tickets are priced from RM55. Book online at www.ticketpro.com.my

1

From glamorous stilettos to stylish sandals, classic pumps and trendy boots, the Malaysia International Shoe Festival, held from 7 – 10 April at PWTC, Kuala Lumpur, will take visitors on a fascinating journey into the world of designer footwear.



Catch the blazing action of Petronas Malaysian F1 Grand Prix, held from 8-10 April at Sepang International Circuit, one of the most challenging tracks in the world. With its extreme hot and wet conditions, the race will test the skills of the world's finest racers. Tickets are priced from RM60. Visit www.malaysiangp.com.my for details.



8



At the age of 16, Justin Bieber is a worldwide phenomenon. Catch this teenage star at his "Justin Bieber My World Tour", 8.30pm at Stadium Merdeka, Kuala Lumpur. Tickets are priced from RM98 and can be bought online at www.airasiaredtix.co

21

The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPAAC) will be bringing together two outstanding artists Michael Veerapen and Joanna Bessey, for an unforgettable night of jazz and blues in "Love Journey 2" from 27 April to 1 May. Visit www.klpac.com for tickets and details.

27

The 12th Sabah Adventure Challenge, held from 22 – 24 April, will see international participants take on gruelling multiple challenges such as bamboo rafting, tyre tubing, mountain biking and trail hiking as they race across 120 kilometres in the highlands of Sabah. Visit www.sabahadventurechallenge.com for details.



22



Semporna, Sabah, comes to life on 22 & 23 April with the Bajau seafarers unique 18th Regatta Lepa where a competition of the most beautiful traditional sailboats is held. Witness telematches such as the boat-tug-war, kayak race and boat races. Visit www.sabahtourism.com for details.

American rock band Maroon 5 is set to rock their Malaysian fans at 8pm, Stadium Putra, Bukit Jalil. Tickets are priced from RM115. Visit www.prworldwidelive.com for details.

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