



GAYA ISLAND RESORT

DISTINCTIVELY BORNEO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EMBARK ON A CULTURAL JOURNEY AT GAYA ISLAND RESORT'S DISTINCTIVELY BORNEO HARVEST FESTIVAL WEEKEND



KOTA KINABALU, MALAYSIA – 26 March, 2025 - [Gaya Island Resort](#) is delighted to announce the eagerly anticipated Distinctively Borneo Harvest Festival Weekend, taking place from 30 May to 1 June 2025. Nestled within the protected Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park, this exclusive event promises guests an enchanting immersion into the heart of Borneo's cultural heritage and traditional harvest celebrations.

The Harvest Festival, known locally as Tadau Kaamatan, holds profound significance for the indigenous communities of Borneo, symbolising the culmination of the rice harvesting season with jubilant festivities and time-honoured customs. Rooted in centuries-old traditions, this annual celebration embodies gratitude for abundant harvests, prosperity, and the revitalisation of communal bonds through cultural rituals, feasting, and camaraderie. Traditional attire adorns the Kadazan, Dusun, Murut, and Rungus communities as they come together, showcasing Sabah's rich cultural tapestry. Gaya Island Resort's Distinctively Borneo Harvest Festival Weekend is dedicated to honouring this venerable tradition, offering guests an array of immersive experiences that capture the essence of Borneo.

Guests will have the privilege to partake in authentic ceremonies, including the symbolic "Bambarayon" ceremony, where offerings are made to express gratitude for the bountiful harvest. Traditional dances, mesmerising music performances, and cultural demonstrations will provide insights into Borneo's vibrant heritage, fostering a deeper appreciation for local customs and traditions.

Culinary aficionados will relish the gastronomic journey curated by the resort's skilled chefs, featuring a menu inspired by traditional Bornean flavours and ingredients. From delectable indigenous delicacies to contemporary interpretations of classic dishes, the culinary offerings will tantalise palates and celebrate the diverse culinary heritage of Borneo.

Indulge in the essence of the Distinctively Borneo Harvest Festival with our exclusive package, offering a luxurious 3-day, 2-night retreat for two starting from RM2,980++. Immerse yourself in a culinary journey with daily breakfast, lunch, and dinner at handpicked restaurants, including a special Kaamatan dinner at Fisherman's Cove and delight in refreshing cocktails at the Pool Bar & Lounge

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YTL Travel Centre
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Owned by Magna Boundary Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 200501020915 (703041-K)

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while experiencing the vibrant atmosphere on 30 May. On 31 May, partake in a guided tour of the Harvest Festival Celebration, followed by a Borneo Culinary Journey Cooking Class and a tantalising dining experience with The Singgah Singgarung Night. Your stay is complemented by convenient round-trip scheduled speedboat transfers between Jesselton Point and the resort.

Join us for an unforgettable celebration of Borneo's cultural heritage and natural beauty at Gaya Island Resort's Distinctively Borneo Harvest Festival Weekend.

For reservations and enquiries, please contact YTL Travel Centre at +60 3 2783 1000, email travelcentre@ytlhotels.com or visit www.gayaislandresort.com

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About Gaya Island Resort

Situated on Pulau Gaya within the Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park in Borneo, Gaya Island Resort is a natural sanctuary nestled in the hillside of an ancient rainforest. The 121 villas respect Sabahan elements and blend harmoniously with the natural environment while interiors are designed with a contemporary elegance. Integrated within the mangroves is Spa Village Gaya Island offering programmes that reflect the region's healing practices, from the specialised rice scrubs and masques of the Kadazandusun to the age-old practices of the Bajau sea nomads. Discoveries and authentic experiences with nature all prevail across the YTL Luxury Resort's land and seascape, offering travellers an escape that is all distinctively Borneo. www.gayaislandresort.com

About YTL Hotels

YTL Hotels owns and manages a prestigious collection of award-winning resorts, hotels, boutique experiences and Spa Villages with a hospitality footprint across Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, Australia, France, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom, including Pangkor Laut Resort, voted the world's best resort in 2003 by Condé Nast Traveller UK. The Gainsborough Bath Spa, a part of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World's collection of legendary hotels, was named in the 2017 Condé Nast Traveller Awards World's Top 100 and listed amongst the Best Hotels in the UK as well as the Top Destination Spa Resorts in the World in the 2022 Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Choice Awards.

The portfolio, which embraces the brand promise of Treasured Places, Treasured Moments, also encompasses the ownership management of Marriott International properties in Australia and Kuala Lumpur as well as properties under the brand's distinctive Autograph Collection banner. Properties under the Marriott International partnership include The Ritz-Carlton, Koh Samui as well as Higashiyama Niseko Village, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve, named in TIME's World's Greatest Places 2021 list and also the first Ritz-Carlton Reserve in Japan, complementing YTL Hotels' master plan for Niseko Village.

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With each new experience that it presents, the company strives to embrace and highlight the natural essence of culture, character and tradition of its surroundings. YTL Hotels is the hospitality arm of YTL Corporation Berhad. Visit ytlhotels.com for more information and follow us on our social media platforms for #YTLTravels

Facebook : facebook.com/ytlhotels
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