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## MDTF 2009: More than just travel deals

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At the coming Malaysian Domestic Tourism Fair, you can get travel bargains and learn about our heritage, eco-tourism, local cuisine, shopping for health care, travelling on a budget and more



Tourism will talk about local heritage sites including Badan Warisan Malaysia's Fair headquarters in KL at

Putra World Trade Centre on Saturday, July 4. These sessions will run concurrently with the fair itself from July 3-5, a must visit simply because of the bargains up for grabs.

The organisers have put together nine sessions on how tourism relates to lifestyle, health and beauty. These talks, which are free, will be presented by experts in the field and include things like eco-tourism, heritage and budget travelling. The venue for each of these sessions can only seat up to 120 people and will allow opportunities for interactive participation.

10am: Speaker Dr Alice Pretima, a consultant aesthetic physician, cosmetic surgeon, dermatologist, laser surgeon and anti-ageing physician. Alice, who runs a thriving practice in Bangsar, will host a session titled "Look young ... turning back the years". One of the things to listen out for during her session is where to go locally to get first class service at value prices.

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11am: Speaker Mark Gibson from Badan Warisan Malaysia. Gibson, whose topic is "A Surprise Around the Corner – The Living Heritage of Malaysia" will talk about local heritage sites. This "local" Englishman will take his listeners on a series of trips in which he discovers strange and wonderful examples of our nation's living heritage.

Enjoy the glimpses he gives us of our amazing past, and find out how you can enjoy it for yourself.

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Noon: Speaker Anthony Wong, group managing director Asian Overland Services Tours and Travel Sdn Bhd, adjunct professor, Universiti Utara Malaysia, secretary-treasurer of Pata, vice president MNS Langkawi and pro-tem member of Malaysian Eco-tourism Association. Wong's topic relates to a new shift in tourism and is titled "Green & Eco-tourism – the fastest growing tourism sector. How does one get in?" Participants of his session can be sure to discover the many attractions and explore the wonders of nature's gift.

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1pm: Speaker Anne Molly Cameons, honorary secretary general, Malaysian Tour Guides Council. She will give a talk titled "Enhancing your tour experience and getting value for your money" that will give an insight into the experiences of tour guides here. Participants will also get to hear how this profession can open up the doors to a career pathway that is both financially beneficial and allows you to discover the attractions of Malaysia.

2pm: Speaker Alice Yong, author of Not Just A Good Food Guide, will present her session on Malaysian gastronomic trails. Her session, titled "Makan-makan travel", will give you tips on where you can find your favourite local cuisines like char kuey teow, yong tow foo, ikan bakar, curry laksa, rojak, satay or nasi lemak.

3pm: Speaker Dr Beh Chor Khim, heart specialist and managing director of Mehameru International Medical Centre, will give a session titled "Sihat-sihat & Cuti-cuti Malaysia – Guide to Shopping for Healthcare in Malaysia". Beh will talk on the importance of why keeping a healthy heart and maintaining good health is crucial to enjoy a great vacation.

4pm: Speaker Dennis de Witt, author of two books, Reconnecting Through Our Roots and History of the Dutch in Malaysia. He is an award recipient of the Dutch Incentive Prize for Genealogy. His session is titled "Secret tunnels of Malacca - Fact or Fiction?" and talks about a network of forgotten tunnels under the hills of St Paul, the touristic icon in Malacca. Be sure to tune in and find out what exactly those tunnels were used for.

5pm: Speaker P.K. Leong, the Malaysian Budget Hotel Association deputy president, will speak on "Malaysia - on a shoe-string". He will disclose tips on how to travel on a budget around the country, from choosing the right mode of transportation and accommodation to facilities and seasons for travelling. This will allow travellers to see more and spend less, therefore enjoying a good holiday experience.

6pm: Speaker Master Ooi, feng shui master. Ooi will present a session titled "Feng Shui Holidays" which will help travellers pick the right time and right place to gain the best holiday experience. Enjoy and be enlightened by this charming, young master of feng shui and learn how feng shui can affect or enhance your holiday lifestyle.



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