



**ASEAN TOURISM FORUM
BRUNEI 2020**
12 to 16 January • Bandar Seri Begawan

MEDIA RELEASE

ATF 2020 / 006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE ASEAN TOURISM AWARDS CEREMONY; AND THE ASEAN TOURISM CHAIRMANSHIP HANDOVER AND CLOSING CEREMONY, 16 JANUARY 2020

Bandar Seri Begawan, [Thursday, 16th January 2020] – ASEAN Tourism Ministers this afternoon attended the ASEAN Tourism Awards Ceremony at the Indera Samudra Ballroom, The Empire Brunei, Jerudong.

The Ministers accorded a number of Awards to establishments and entities in ASEAN as a token of appreciation and to recognise their achievements and contribution to the promotion of the ASEAN Tourism Standards. 46 establishments in the region were honoured with the 7th ASEAN Green Hotel Award, 41 establishments were awarded with the 2nd ASEAN MICE (Meetings, Incentive, Conference and Events) Venue Awards, 21 cities in ASEAN were honoured with the 2nd ASEAN Clean Tourist City Awards 2020, and 18 establishments were honoured with the 2nd ASEAN Sustainable Tourism Awards 2020. The Ministers hoped that the achievements of those establishments could inspire more to follow suit and participate in creating ASEAN as a high-quality tourism region. A total of 126 awards were presented.

Brunei Darussalam was among the recipients of the ASEAN Tourism Awards - the 7th ASEAN Green Hotel Award, the 2nd ASEAN Clean Tourist City Award, the 2nd ASEAN MICE Venue Award (Category Meeting Room) and the 2nd ASEAN Sustainable Tourism Award on Rural Sustainable Category and Urban Sustainable Category.



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The 7th ASEAN Green Hotel Award was awarded to two recipients – Ulu Ulu Resort and Radisson Hotel for their green initiatives in energy saving, use of green products and community involvement.

The 2nd ASEAN Clean Tourist City Award was awarded to Pekan Bangar, Temburong. The ASEAN Clean Tourist City Award is a recognition for tourist cities within the ASEAN region which comply with several criteria's where cultural, natural and/ or man-made attractions exist.

The 2nd ASEAN MICE Venue Award (Category Meeting Room) was awarded to Radisson Hotel (Mutiara Ballroom), Armada Properties Sdn. Bhd. (Syndicate Rooms) and Terindak D'Seni (Serambi Suluh Hall). This award is in recognition of MICE Venues that comply with the best practices on hosting meetings where the indicators such as Physical setting; Technology; and Service was taken into account during the assessment.

The 2nd ASEAN Sustainable Tourism Award (ASTA) on Urban Sustainable Category was awarded to Kampong Ayer, Bandar Seri Begawan with the Brunei Muara District Office as the lead partner. ASTA recognises and motivates ASEAN Tourism destinations and stakeholders to conjointly take responsible actions for an inclusive development of tourism, decreasing environmental socio-cultural and economic issues induced by a rapid tourism expansion.

The ASEAN Tourism Awards Presentation Ceremony aimed to increase the quality of human resources, services and facilities through standards in the ASEAN region. It is sought to recognise stakeholders who fulfilled the standards developed by ASEAN member countries in the tourism sector.



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Following the Award Ceremony was the Chairmanship Handover and Closing Ceremony of the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) , during which Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Apong handed the ATF plaque to His Excellency Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism, Kingdom of Cambodia.

In his closing remarks, Yang Berhormat Dato extended a special thank you to the ASEAN Tourism Ministers and their delegations; as well as our partners – Royal Brunei Airlines, Association of Travel Agents Brunei and the Brunei Association of Hotels for their active participation and support. He also thanked the media, buyers and sellers for coming together under the TRAVEX platform with the aim to drive more tourists and enjoy the diverse experiences in the ASEAN tourist destination; as well as the Sponsors and Volunteers for their contributions in making ATF 2020 a success.

In conclusion, Yang Berhormat Dato said that as the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2020 comes to an end, Brunei Darussalam would like to hand over the Chairmanship to The Kingdom of Cambodia, as the Host Country of the 40th ASEAN Tourism Forum 2021 with the theme “ASEAN - A Community of Peace and Shared Future”.

The next ASEAN Tourism Forum will be held in January 2021 in The Kingdom of Cambodia.

/END.

Prepared by:

Brunei Darussalam

Date: 16th January 2020