



MEDIA RELEASE

ASEAN CLEAN TOURIST CITY PLAGUE PRESENTATION CEREMONY 4TH MARCH 2018 – BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

1. At the recent ASEAN Tourism Forum 2018 held on the 26th January 2018 in Chiang Mai, Thailand, Bandar Seri Begawan was awarded the ASEAN Clean Tourist City Award during the event which was presented by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism.
2. As a follow up to this award The ASEAN Clean Tourist City Plaque Presentation Ceremony was held on the 4th March 2018, at the *Tugu Peringatan Penukaran Nama Brunei Menjadi Bandar Seri Begawan, Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddin*.
3. In attendance to present the ASEAN Clean Tourist City Plaque were Yang Mulia Awang Wardi bin Haji Mohammad Ali, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism to the Chairman of the Bandar Seri Begawan Municipal Board. Also in attendance were Bandar Seri Begawan Municipal Board Members, officials from the Standard Committee and Technical Committee on Tourism headed by Tourism Development Department.
4. 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 indicators evaluated in the ASEAN Clean Tourist City Standard are based on several criteria's including Environmental Management, Cleanliness, Waste Management, Awareness-Building About Environmental Protection and Cleanliness, Green Spaces, Health Safety and Urban Safety and Security As Well As Tourism Infrastructure And Facilities.
5. The purpose of the ASEAN Clean Tourist City Standard (ACTCS) is to provide ASEAN member countries with a tool that will improve the quality of tourism in their cities, increase their marketing competitiveness but also improve the situation of local residents and their livelihood by alleviating poverty. It is also designed to protect the environment thus responding to the impacts of climate change and contributing to the sustainable development of ASEAN cities.

6. In addition, Brunei Darussalam also received several awards during the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2018, such as ASEAN Green Hotel Award (received by Ulu-Ulu Resort and Radisson Hotel) and ASEAN MICE Venue Award (was awarded to Radisson Hotel, V-Plaza Hotel and The Empire Hotel and Country Club).
7. In preparation for the ASEAN Tourism Awards 2019, Brunei Darussalam as the lead coordinator for the ASEAN Public Toilet Standard will be conducting blind audits to previously graded public toilets within the country. Those toilets who comply with the ASEAN Public Toilet Standard will be nominated to receive the ASEAN Public Toilet Award during the ASEAN Tourism Forum 2019. Tourism Development Department urges previously graded public toilet owners/managers to continue maintaining cleanliness and toilet facilities. For further information on the ASEAN Tourism Standards, interested parties may visit www.tourism.gov.bn.

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