



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**ASEAN TOURISM AWARDS PRESENTATION**  
**14TH FEBRUARY 2019**

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1. At the recent ASEAN Tourism Forum 2019 held on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in Ha Long City, Viet Nam, Brunei Darussalam was amongst the recipients of the ASEAN Tourism Awards namely the **1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Public Toilet Standard Award, the 1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Spa Standard Award, the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Community-Based Tourism Standard Award** and the **3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Homestay Standard Award**.
2. The objective of the awards is to increase the quality of human resources, services and facilities through standards in the ASEAN region. The awards is also to give an appreciation and recognition at ASEAN level to stakeholders which have fulfilled the standards developed by ASEAN member countries in the tourism sector.
3. The **1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Public Toilet Standard Award** was awarded to **5 recipients** which were **The Brunei International Airport Public Toilet, the Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Complex Public Toilet, the Tasek Merimbun Heritage Park Public Toilet, Brunei Malay Technology Museum Public Toilet and the Horizons Seafood Restaurant Public Toilet**. The ASEAN Public Toilet Standard was developed with the objective to ensure the quality, comfort, safety and proper waste management of public toilets in general at touristic destinations within the ASEAN Region.
4. The **1<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Spa Standard Award** was awarded to **5 recipients** namely **Trueliving Spa & Studio, the Empire Hotel and Country Club Spa/Day Spa, Essensuals Beauty Hair & Nail Spa, Reflection Eco Holistics (B) Sdn Bhd and Cantik Spa Beautyline**. The ASEAN Spa Standard deals with the following essential elements of professional and quality spa operations namely looking into: the Place, the Service, the People, the Product, the Equipment, the Management, and the Environment.
5. The **2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Community Based Tourism Standard Award** was awarded to **Sungai Bunga Village Consultative Council and Sumbiling Eco Village**. The objective of this standard is to create quality visitor experience by showcasing community livelihoods and natural and cultural assets in a presentable, safe and attractive manner. The Standard can be applied to Community Based Tourism initiatives throughout ASEAN countries as a benchmark of performance needed to assure visitors that their visit will be enjoyable, meaningful and meet expectations. It also seeks to ensure communities, and their natural and cultural heritage resources are protected, and that income flows to the community to improve local well – being.

6. The **3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Homestay Standard Award** was awarded to **Seri Tanjung Homestay, Kampong Sungai Bunga**. The ASEAN Homestay Standard focuses on the homestay, where guests will stay with the host's family and experience the everyday way of life of the family and community in both a direct and indirect manner and focuses on criterias such as the host, accommodation, activities, authenticity, management, location, safety and security, marketing and sustainability principles.
7. A presentation of ASEAN Tourism Awards Ceremony was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism. In attendance to present the awards was Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism. Also in attendance was Yang Mulia Awang Wardi bin Haji Mohammad Ali, the Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism.
8. For further information on the ASEAN Tourism Standards, interested parties may visit [www.tourism.gov.bn](http://www.tourism.gov.bn) under the '*Information on Services*' tab.

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