



Volume 9

PP 14252/10/2011(026531)

foreword

Dato' Hamidah Osman
State Executive Councillor for Tourism

April has been another busy month for Tourism Perak. Despite the many hiccups, I have yet again managed to keep Visit Perak Year 2012 right on track. For this, I have to thank my staff for their dedication. Without their resolve and fortitude we would have been overwhelmed.



One significant event that took place in April was the emergence of telco giant, Celcom as a partner to promote VPY 2012. I ought to remind readers that VPY 2012 is not an exclusive affair. We welcome individuals and corporations to join the party and become partners in realising our noble aim. I am pleased that many have come forward to help rather than to criticise. This is a welcome change.

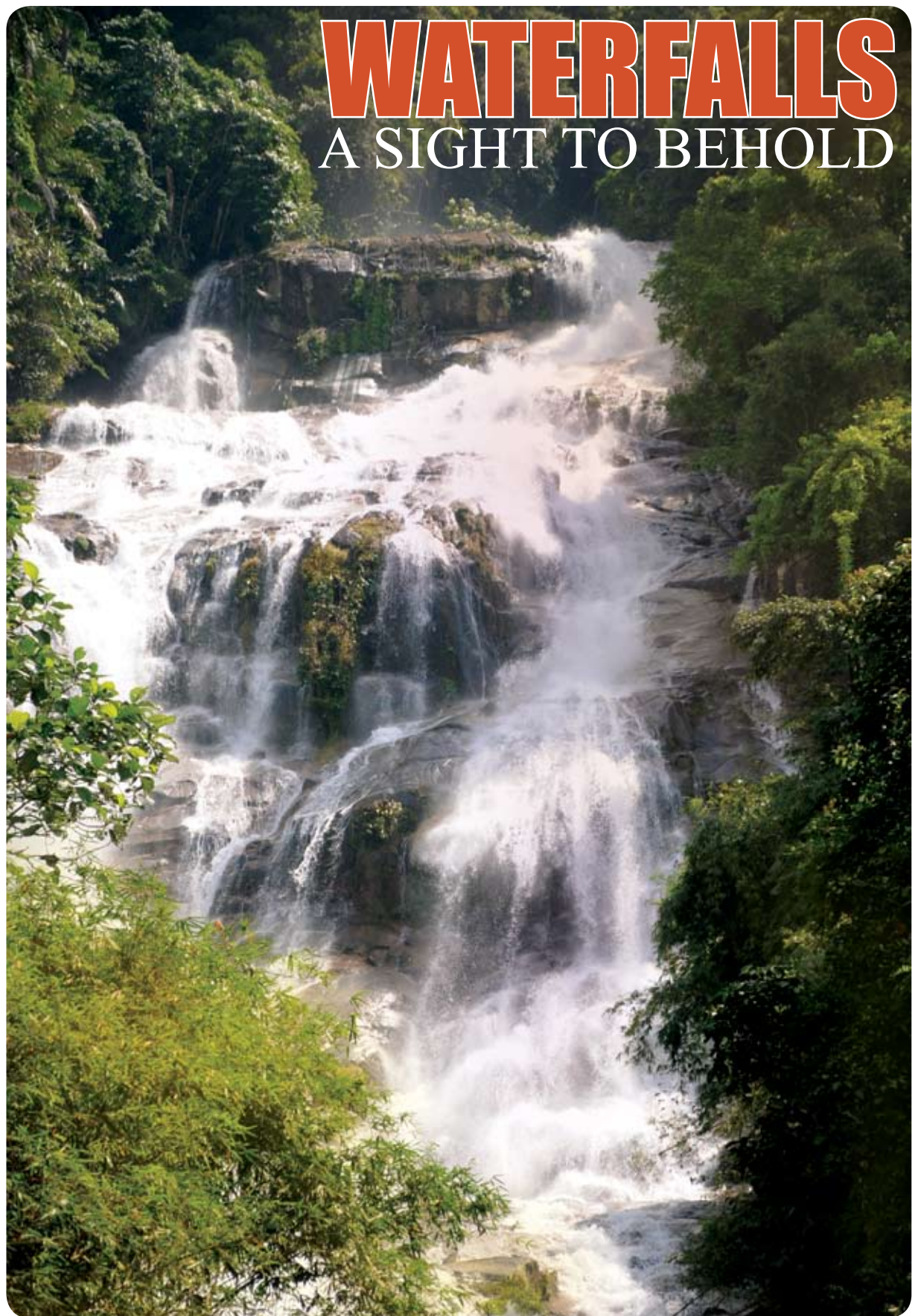
Programmes and touristic activities slated for the month of April have proceeded as planned. Of interest is the 3P programme (*Program Pelancongan Pelajar*) aimed at instilling interest in tourism in students. The programme, launched at the Regional Transformation Centre in Gopeng in early April, was well received. Our youths should be encouraged to make tourism a way of life. It is the way forward.

The seminar on biodiversity and tourism held on April 26 at the Kinta Riverfront Hotel and Suites, Ipoh was a success. The numerous discourses on ways to profit from the abundance of biodiversity hotspots in Perak are indicative that eco-tourism is on its way up, not down. I laud the participants, who came from near and far, for their input. Tourism Perak will act on their recommendations.

I wish to again thank the media for playing their role to the hilt. Their continued portrayal of Perak as a desirable tourist destination is most refreshing. I am truly indebted to the electronic and print media for their undying support.

We are now into the fifth month of Visit Perak Year 2012. More activities are in the pipeline to ensure that VPY 2012 meets its targets. Our ultimate aim of getting 5 million visitors to Perak is not an idle boast.

The emphasis in this instalment of Perak Tourism News is on waterfalls. Our high precipitation rate is the reason why water is in plentiful supply. Excess water flows from mountain tops over rocks and cliffs to create waterfalls which we all come to marvel. Needless to say, the waterfalls in Perak complement eco-tourism.



The country's tropical climate, coupled with a high precipitation rate, makes water an integral part of our eco-system. The presence of a natural barrier, in the form of a mountain chain that runs the length of the country, helps create waterfalls. The cascading water that gushes down rocky walls is a sight to behold. Perak has a number of waterfalls known locally as "lata." The tallest waterfall in the country is located here in Perak. Accessing these natural wonders is half the fun; the other is feasting your eyes on them.

We shall visit five waterfalls which are within striking distance of one another. Four of the falls have their sources from the Main Range while one from the Bintang Range.

Lata Iskandar

Lata Iskandar is located along the Tapah-Cameron Highlands road at the 14th milestone or Batu Empat Belas. Its elevation, at over a thousand feet above sea level, makes it a perfect place to relax.

The fall is visible from the roadside. A hike up the jungle trail that runs parallel to the fast flowing stream brings you to a second waterfall. However, the feat requires a pair of steady feet and hands. Again do not attempt to climb if you are not in shape, physically.

A number of food and handicraft stalls are located by the roadside. Mobile phone reception is non-existent at the fall area. It will be prudent to be extra cautious when visiting the site.



Lata Kekabu



Lata Kekabu near Lenggong is wonderful place to be. The base is located within a recreational park. Therefore, sporting activities such as hiking and jungle trekking are available for the adventurous.

The fall is about a kilometre off the Kuala Kangsar-Lenggong trunk road. The paved tarmac road is accessible by cars and vans.

Exercise extra caution when crossing the suspension bridge, as there are wide gaps in between the planks. Do not attempt to cross the last bridge, especially those with children in tow. Keep to rocky pools around the base, it is a lot safer.

Batu Berangkai



Located about 2.5km from Kampar, **Batu Berangkai** is a popular picnic spot for students who frequent the place to enjoy the refreshingly cool waters. It is accessible from the old Kampar-Tapah trunk road.

The fast-flowing water is crystal clear. A short climb away, picnickers will chance upon puddles and pools formed in between rocks. A quick dip is simply too inviting. Unfortunately, accessibility is limited to the lower reaches, as the waterfall is in a remote area of the Kampar hills.

The road to the fall takes visitors past an Orang Asli settlement. The narrow road

is steep but is passable to cars. Beware of on-coming cars as the road can only accommodate a single vehicle at any one time. Facilities are, however, negligible.



This publication is wholly financed by the Perak State Government via Tourism Perak Management Bhd in collaboration with the Perak Tourism Association.

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Published by Ipoh Echo Sdn Bhd,
A-G-1, No. 1 Persiaran Greentown 2,
Greentown Business Centre,
30450 Ipoh.

Printed by Konway Industries Sdn Bhd,
Plot 78, Lebuhraya Kampong Jawa,
11900 Bayan Baru, Pulau Pinang.

Air Terjun Salu

The beauty of the **Salu Fall** is awesome. Located in Kuala Dipang, Kampar the waterfall is accessible from the old Ipoh-Kampar trunk road. It is on the way to Sahom, near Sungai Siput Selatan. The fall is in seven segments, as one navigates up the steep rock formation. The climb is strenuous. Do not attempt if you are not in the right physical condition.

Amenities are ample. They are, however, very basic to serve the occasional visitors.

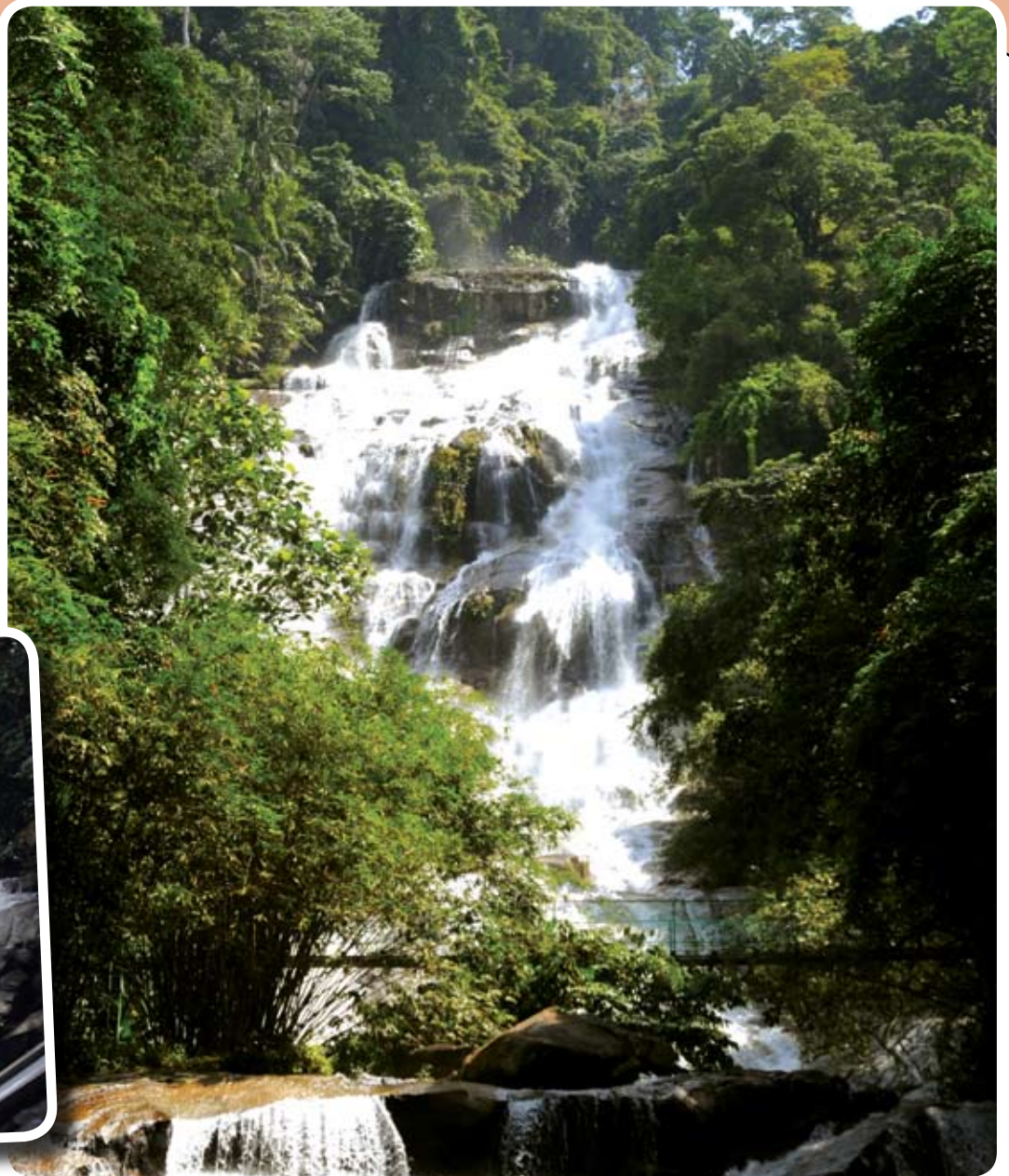


Lata Kinjang

An iconic landmark in its own right, **Lata Kinjang** can be seen clearly from the North-South Expressway. Go past the Tapah Plus tollgate and head for Tapah town. At the old trunk road turn right towards Kampar and follow the signage. Turn right into Chenderiang and keep your sight on the majestic fall. It will lead you to the tallest waterfall in the country.

Legend has it that *Sang Kelembai*, a female giant with red hair was feared by villagers, as her curse would turn anything into rock. The rocky terrain of Lata Kinjang was supposedly formed when she cursed the spot where her child was crushed by a tree.

Camping and picnic areas are available at ground level where a pool is found. Water cascading about 850 metres down the rocky mountain side makes Lata Kinjang a real sight to behold. Facilities are ample. The state government has initiated efforts to improve facilities. RM3 million is currently being invested to make this a true tourist haven.



Tourism Roundup

Seminar on Biodiversity and Tourism



An international forum on biodiversity and tourism was held at the Kinta Riverfront Hotel and Suites on Wednesday, April 26. The one-day seminar organised by Tourism Perak brought together experts on biodiversity conservation and eco-tourism to discuss related issues. Executive Councillor for Tourism, Dato' Hamidah Osman officiated during the opening ceremony.

Six papers were tabled and deliberated by participants numbering over a hundred. The wrapping-up session was most lively with both panelists and audience trading questions on the topics in discussion. Professor Amran Hamzah of Universiti Teknologi and President of Malaysian Ecotourism Association moderated.

The participants were taken on a day trip to the Royal Belum State Park the following day.



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Larian Bendang Menara Condong 2012

Larian Bendang Menara Condong 2012, which made its debut in Teluk Intan recently, was a huge success. Over a thousand participants, both foreign and locals, were at the starting line all geared up for the run.

The event was divided into several categories from Junior Men and Women to the Open Category where a number of professional runners were registered. It was organised by the Teluk Intan Municipal Council and was sanctioned as a scheduled event of VPY 2012. Dato' Zainol Fadzi, Executive Councillor for Arts, Sports and Culture, were among the dignitaries invited to flag off the runners.

Frenchman Lautredoux won the Men's Veteran Category while the Women's Veteran Category was won by Susan Khoo from United Kingdom. As expected, Kenyan Sammy Kirrop Kitton, took pole position for his stellar performance in the Open Category.



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Celcom Joins the Fray



Malaysia's premier mobile phone service provider, Celcom has consented to be a joint sponsor, along with Tourism Perak, to spearhead Visit Perak Year (VPY) 2012. Not wishing to be left behind, the telco has initiated the move for reasons of expedience. It foresees the benefits the partnership would bring.

A signing ceremony was held at the Secretariat Building Ipoh recently to formalise the deal. Dato' Hamidah Osman, the Executive Councillor for Tourism and Celcom's Regional Sales Manager, Farizad Khan signed and sealed the agreement on behalf of both parties.

"Celcom's participation is a big boost to VPY 2012. Its huge customer base is the primary reason why this is viable," Hamidah told reporters.

Farizad echoed Hamidah's sentiments saying that the partnership will enable its 13 million clients to receive news and updates on VPY 2012 from time to time. Freebies in the form of extended-time calls and extra text messaging will be given to those who actively participate in the VPY 2012 programmes. It is a win-win situation one that will benefit both entities.

TOURISM CALENDAR – MAY 2012

1. **International Conference on Wildlife Tourism, Royal Belum Rainforest Resort** – May 6 and 7 (Tourism Perak/Universiti Teknologi Malaysia: **605-529 0894/607-553 3333**. Link: <http://www.peraktourism.com.my>).
2. **Malaysian Match Racing Circuit, Lumut** – May 11 to 13 (T-Best Sdn Bhd: **603-7954 2204**. Link: <http://www.monsooncup.com.my>)
3. **Pertandingan Gasing Terbuka Perak, Kuala Kangsar** – May 15 and 16 (Exco Kebudayaan/Persatuan Gasing Negeri Perak: **605-254 7104/016-561 0544** – En Mustapa).
4. **International Bird Watching, Kinta Nature Park, Batu Gajah** – May 19 and 20 (Tourism Perak/Majlis Daerah Batu Gajah/Kinta Heritage: **605-529 0894/605-363 2024/605-522 5006**. Link: <http://www.mdbg.gov.my>).
5. **Hockey Sultan Azlan Shah Cup, Ipoh** – May 24 to June 3 (Malaysian Hockey Federation/Majlis Bandaraya Ipoh: **603-8998 6195/605-208 3333**. Link: <http://mbi.gov.my>).
6. **Citrawarna Perak, Ipoh** – May 25 to 27 (Tourism Perak/Majlis Bandaraya Ipoh: **605-529 0894/605-208 3333**. Link: <http://www.mbi.gov.my>)
7. **1PERAK: Pesta Rakit, Padang Bandaran Majlis Daerah Selama, Sg Bayur & Sg Kerian** – May 25 and 26 (Majlis Daerah Selama: **605-839 2021** – Cik Siti Norbaya. Link: <http://www.mdselama.gov.my>).

Dates subject to changes.