



PLANTING TREES FOR THE FUTURE AT THE DATAI LANGKAWI

Langkawi/Malaysia, 22 March 2021: The Datai Langkawi celebrated the International Day of the Forests this weekend with a communal tree planting activity, inviting team members and guests alike to participate in efforts for reforestation.



In the unprecedented times the world has experienced since early 2020, and with nature undergoing a rare reprieve from human impact due to restrictions on everyday life around the globe, the management of The Datai Langkawi has worked harder than ever on its conservation and sustainability efforts in keeping with its core ethos of 'Where Nature Thrives, We are Revived'.

As part of these efforts, the resort's team of Resident Naturalists has been implementing a variety of initiatives, one of them being an ambitious reforestation

programme for certain areas of Langkawi. The goal is to prepare 20,000 seedlings for replanting in various areas of Langkawi island by the year 2022. To that end, the nature team engages in regular seed collection activities and a tree nursery has been established. Once seeds have been collected, it will take around one year to grow and nourish them so that they are ready to be replanted in the wild. As of now, our Native Tree Nursery already contains 600 seedlings from seeds collected around the resort, plus, 1,000 saplings that have been sent in a generous donation by the Forestry Department.



This weekend, Head Naturalist, Irshad Mobarak, and Nature Centre Manager, Dev Abdullah, assembled 30 volunteers to assist in replanting 60 saplings. These saplings were placed in the ground in the rainforest along Teluk Datai, to commemorate the International Day of the Forests in line with this year's theme of 'Forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being'.

Nature Centre Manager, Dev Abdullah, comments: "The trees that we planted today were Meranti and Keruing, in an effort to enrich the forest and increase biodiversity. I am grateful to have such support from the management and enthusiasm from the team – there is nothing more energising than seeing what an impact each and every one of us can have, especially when we come together and work as a team. I look forward to seeing our newly planted trees grow, and we will organise regular research visits to monitor their development."

Malaysia is one of 17 mega-diverse countries in the world, with about 12,500 species of flowering plants, more than 300 species of mammals and over 800 species of birds recorded.

Worldwide, there are presently 36 recognised biodiversity hotspots, and Langkawi lies at the fusion point between two of these hotspots, i.e. the Indo - Burma hotspot and the Sundaland hotspot. The island has been designated a UNESCO Global Geopark in 2007 for its rich archaeological and biological heritage, with three areas given special focus as Machincang Cambrian Geoforest Park and Kilim Karst Geoforest Park and Dayang Bunting Marble Geoforest Park.

Forests are close to the heart of the team at The Datai Langkawi, as they provide a home for approximately 80% of the world's terrestrial biodiversity. The resort is unique in its location amidst an ancient rainforest, filled with an abundance of wildlife, from the shy Sunda Colugos, to mischievous Macaques, the gentle Dusky Langurs, the colourful Great Hornbills, the White-bellied Sea Eagle and the Red Giant Flying Squirrels. The resort management used the time of renovation in 2018 to refocus efforts on overall regenerative travel measures and incorporated them more profoundly in every aspect of its operations. In 2019, The Datai Langkawi was the first organisation worldwide to be awarded the EarthCheck ECO Terrestrial Certification Program for terrestrial (land based) tourism projects, after going through a rigorous evaluation process where all of its processes and procedures were tested for their sustainability impact.

“Preserving this pristine rainforest is a duty we take very serious at The Datai Langkawi. Conserving nature has never been so important, so I would like to thank my team as well as our guests for participating in this important activity. We are believers in making a difference within our capacity and are confident that our initiative as pioneers will make a significant impact on the welfare of the wildlife and community within Datai Bay and Langkawi Island,” states Arnaud Girodon, General Manager of The Datai Langkawi.

The Datai Langkawi will continue on its path towards conservation, adding to existing measures such as the resort's in house permaculture garden that provides home grown fruits and vegetables for the hotel kitchen, The Lab where guests can join in upcycling workshops to make candles, soaps, or join in activities organized with local partner NGOs.

-ENDS-

NOTES TO EDITORS:

For high resolution photos and a video of the tree planting activity, please [click here](#)

For high resolution photos of The Datai Langkawi, please [click here](#)

ABOUT THE DATAI LANGKAWI

One of the world's most stunning resorts, The Datai Langkawi, is situated on the northwest tip of the island of Langkawi in Malaysia. Located in an ancient rainforest rich in wildlife and overlooking the tranquil Datai Bay awarded by National Geographic one of the Top 10 Beaches worldwide, the iconic property enchants with mesmerising nature, visionary architecture, understated elegance and Malaysian hospitality. All of the 121 rooms, villas and suites at The Datai Langkawi, including the five-bedroom The Datai Estate Villa, offer breath-taking views of the surrounding nature. Elevated among treetops, set in the very heart of the rainforest and located directly on the coastline, the dining outlets which include the award-winning The Gulai House, The Pavilion, The Dining Room and The Beach Club, pay homage to the exotic flavours and culinary traditions of the region and beyond. Bespoke facilities include The Nature Centre, an educational facility home to resident naturalists and marine biologists, and The Spa featuring Ramuan treatments, its own Akar retail range and Phyto 5 facials. Leisure facilities include three pools, a state-of-the-art fitness centre at The Health Club; an array of wellness activities including silat and yoga, retail outlet The Boutique, a reserved space to showcase local arts and talents at The Atelier, as well as one of the most scenic golf courses in the world designed by golf legend Ernie Els, The Els Club Teluk Datai. The Datai Langkawi is managed by Themed Attractions Resorts & Hotels Sdn Bhd, an investment holding company incorporated to develop, manage and operate hospitality and attraction destinations.

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