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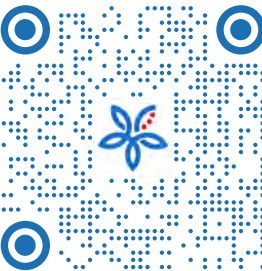
# A S O M A N I



MEMPERSEMBAHKAN

**MEMORI ABAH**

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# Celebrating Raya *with* AFFIN's Festive Inspiration

As we approach the festive season of Raya, it is important to remember the value of love and family, which makes us who we are. After two long years of being cautious and staying apart, Raya celebrations provide us with hope and the opportunity to reunite with loved ones and reignite the Aidilfitri spirit once again.

In this issue of AFFIN Ascend, we explore what Raya will look like for three individuals, and provide you with plenty of inspiration for the festive season. Whether it's exploring traditional Hari Raya dishes from around the world, indulging in a delicious iftar feast at one of our top hotel picks, or taking a test drive in the BMW iX xDrive40 for a comfortable balik kampung experience, we've got you covered.

For those spending the festive period in the city, we also recommend planning a short getaway to Kuala Lumpur and discovering the city's one Michelin Star restaurant for a truly indulgent experience during the Raya long weekend.

As Malaysians, we know that every special occasion is a time for reflection and joyful celebration, and we hope this Raya will bring you closer to those who matter the most to you. Let's cherish our loved ones and the spirit of Raya, and make it a memorable and meaningful celebration.



# 10 Traditional Hari Raya Dishes from Around The World

Eid al-Fitr is a significant Islamic festival, also known as the "festival of breaking the fast." It marks the end of Ramadan, a month-long period of fasting and spiritual reflection. This occasion is an opportunity for Muslims to come together and celebrate, often with delicious food being a key element of the festivities. In various regions of the world, Muslims indulge in different traditional dishes during Hari Raya, the local name for Eid al-Fitr.

Are you curious about what kinds of foods Muslims around the world enjoy during this special holiday? In our part of the world, we might feast on plates overflowing with rendang, ketupat, lemong, satay, and more. But let's take a culinary journey and explore some of the traditional dishes served in different countries to mark this occasion.

## Rendang Ayam

Rendang ayam is a delicious and popular dish that is often served during the festive season of Raya in Malaysia, Indonesia, and other parts of Southeast Asia. This savoury dish is made from chicken that is slowly simmered in a rich and flavourful blend of spices, coconut milk, and herbs until it becomes tender and succulent.

## Lemang

Lemang is a popular Malaysian and Indonesian food served during Raya. It's made from glutinous rice cooked in bamboo tubes over an open fire, giving it a smoky flavour. Lemang is a chewy rice cake served with rendang and is a must-have dish for Raya celebrations.



## Sheer Kurma

Sheer kurma is a sweet dessert enjoyed by Muslims in Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh during Hari Raya. It consists of roasted wheat vermicelli in sweetened milk, garnished with nuts, and can be served warm or cold.

## Tufahija

Tufahija is a sweet Bosnian dessert enjoyed during Eid. Poached apples are stuffed with walnuts and soaked in sugar, then served in a glass filled with syrup and whipped cream to celebrate the end of fasting.



## Nalli Nihari

Nalli Nihari is a popular slow-cooked mutton dish in India made with shank meat of goat or lamb. It takes up to four hours to prepare but is worth it for its flavorful blend of spices. It is also considered a signature dish of Raya, a small town in Uttar Pradesh, India.



## Maamoul

Maamoul is an ancient Arab dessert that comes in the form of a dome, ball, or flattened cookie and is filled with ingredients such as dates, walnuts, pistachios, almonds, and figs. It is a popular sweet in countries like Syria and Lebanon.



## Lokum

Lokum, commonly referred to as 'Turkish Delights', are bite-sized sugary cubes that are a beloved sweet treat in Turkey. This gel-like dessert is made with a combination of starch, sugar, and various fillings such as dates, pistachios, and walnuts. Lokum comes in different colors and is known for its attractive appearance, making it one of the most visually pleasing Eid sweets.

Find a variety of traditional Raya recipes from Malaysia by clicking the link below and explore the rich and diverse cuisine of the country. Don't miss out on the 20 savoury Hari Raya recipes available on this [link](#).



## Bolani

Bolani, a flatbread stuffed with various fillings like spinach, potatoes, pumpkin, or lentils, is a traditional Afghan dish commonly served during Eid. It is one of the few savoury dishes that people enjoy during the festive season, and it can be found on most households' tables in Afghanistan.



## Haleem

Haleem is a popular dish in many countries including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the Middle East. It is a ghee-rich lentil and minced meat porridge made with gram moong dal, chana dal, and wheat, and is typically served hot with naan. The dish is garnished with fried onions, ginger, green chili, lemon juice and coriander leaves, and is slow-cooked for 8-10 hours for the perfect flavor.

## Tagine

Tagine is a popular Moroccan dish, a slow-cooked stew made with meat, vegetables, and spices like turmeric, cinnamon, onion, and ginger. Served with couscous, it's a traditional and delicious meal.



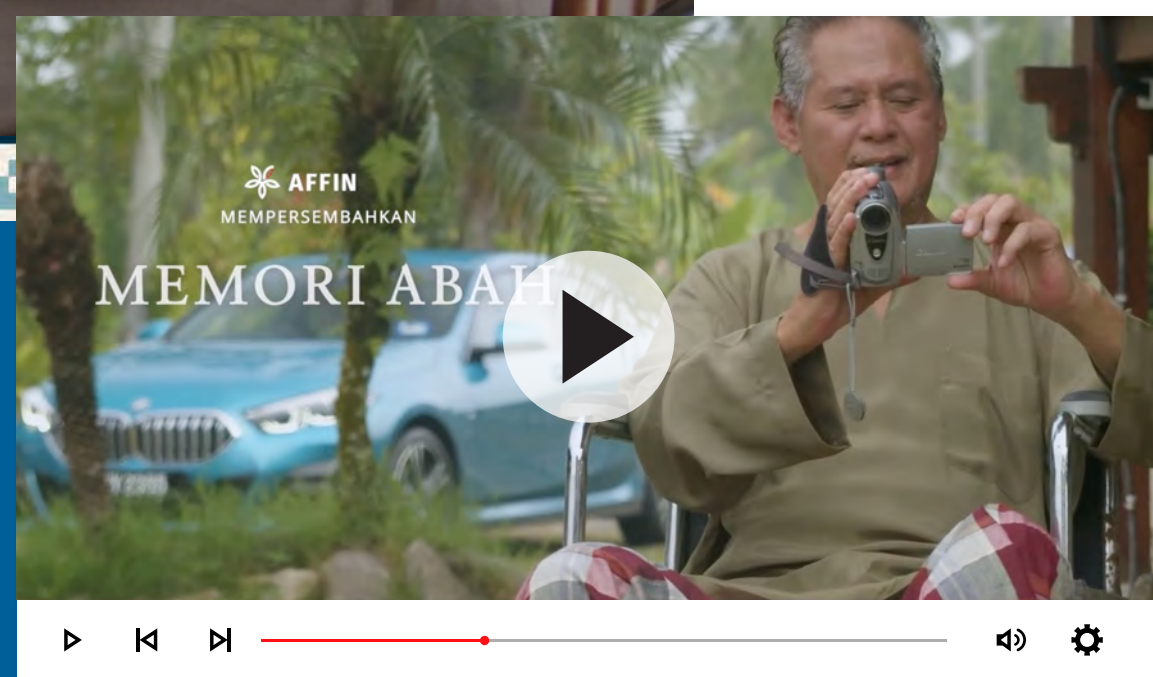




Sebuah kisah yang menyayat hati,  
dibawakan khas oleh AFFIN.

# MEMORI ABAH

*AFFIN Iklan Raya 2023*



You can check out the full **AFFIN Iklan Raya 2023: Memori Abah**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3bHf7Gph04>

During Hari Raya, the importance of patience is often highlighted through the storey of Prophet Ibrahim (AS), who demonstrated remarkable patience and trust in a higher power. However, it is essential to remember that patience goes hand in hand with love and care towards family and friends.

Being patient with loved ones demonstrates sincerity and tenderness towards them. It shows that individuals care about their feelings and are willing to listen and understand, even in challenging situations. This is especially important during festive seasons like Hari Raya, where families and friends come together to celebrate.

Love is an essential aspect of human life that should not be overlooked. It helps individuals remain positive, kind, and compassionate towards others. When individuals show love and care towards family and friends, it strengthens their relationships and brings joy and happiness to everyone involved.

In conclusion, during Hari Raya and beyond, individuals should strive to cultivate patience, love, and care towards family and friends. These virtues help individuals navigate challenging situations and strengthen their relationships with loved ones. It is important to remember that patience and love go hand in hand and should be spread and shared throughout the year.





# Celebrating Raya with AFFIN's Festive Inspiration

My way of Celebrating

AFFIN's heart-wrenching story of MEMORI ABAH reminds us of the meaningful Raya experiences we've had with our loved ones. As Malaysians, Raya symbolises love and togetherness. Three AFFIN customers share how they'll celebrate Raya with family, friends, and colleagues, from traditional gatherings to virtual celebrations. Their experiences showcase the various ways we can come together, even in challenging times, to celebrate the essence of Raya - reuniting with love and family.

## The 5 Questions

- 1 How do you typically celebrate Raya with your family and friends?
- 2 Can you share a particularly memorable or meaningful Raya experience you've had in the past?
- 3 What is your favorite Raya dish or treat to enjoy during the festival?
- 4 Have you ever traveled for Raya? If so, where did you go and what was that experience like?
- 5 How does your workplace celebrate Raya, and what events or activities do you typically participate in?



Nur Aishah

### Question 1

Usually, in the morning after the Eid prayers, all the siblings gather at our house because my husband is the eldest in the family. Therefore, the first and second day are reserved for family and close friends.

### Question 2

I would say that it was the Raya of the year 2020 when we celebrated the new norm Raya during the pandemic. Although it gave me a new experience, it was still meaningful because my Raya celebration that particular year was not the same as the past celebrations. We did not buy any new clothes that year, and I prepared the Raya dishes only for my small family. We couldn't visit our parents, relatives, or friends. I remember we did a video call to convey our Raya wishes.

### Question 3

Typically, the night before, I cook rendang and ketupat, and the traditional homemade lamb curry is a must. My favourite dishes are Chicken Rendang, Ketupat Palas & Lemang, and, of course, the Raya cookies such as Pineapple Tart, Mazola, and Samperit.

### Question 4

We rarely travel on Raya day itself as we are the hosts for the family gathering, but there were times when we traveled to Penang to visit relatives and to Kedah to visit my foster parents.

### Question 5

We have a committee responsible for organising the celebration for the entire division. We participate by decorating and helping out with arrangements where needed. Usually, we wear our colorful traditional clothing such as baju kurung or baju melayu while enjoying classic Raya songs and indulging in lots of delicious food.



Yuslina Mohd Yunus

### Question 1

My Raya celebration starts on Raya eve with my siblings at our parents' house. We decorate, prepare food and play with firecrackers. On the first day, we wake up early, have breakfast, together visit the mosque for Eid prayer and then enjoy a festive feast with family. We seek forgiveness, give 'duit raya' and enjoy our festive feast with all time favorite dishes such as lemong, ketupat, rendang. At night, we light fireworks and play with firecrackers.

### Question 2

My most memorable Raya experience was during MCO when my family had Eid prayer at home for the first time. Being together with close family brought us joy and peace, and strengthened our bond as we spent more time together.

### Question 3

My all time favourite Raya dish is home made lemong and my mom's rendang also the 'nasi impit with kuah kacang'. Other than that, we normally had 'nasi tomato / biriyani with mutton curry' which was served during lunch on the first day of Raya. Aside from this are all other side dishes such as laksa, kuih muih, raya cookies, cakes and desserts. You can call it a day of nonstop makan fest.

### Question 4

During Raya, I usually travel to Penang or Negeri Sembilan to visit family and friends. In Penang, I enjoy the local hawker food in Georgetown, while in Negeri Sembilan, I love experiencing traditional Malaysian culture and trying authentic home-cooked dishes in a peaceful kampung setting.

### Question 5

My workplace celebrates Raya with multiple events, both within divisions and organisation-wide. I enjoy both types of events - in smaller groups, we have potluck with traditional dishes from different places, while in larger events, there are performances and opportunities to meet new people, all while enjoying delicious food.



Dr. Safwan Marwin Abdul Murad

### Question 1

Every year, we usually have an open house on the first day of Raya, and we prepare all the food together to serve during the open house.

### Question 2

In the past, I had a tradition of always changing from my "baju" Raya to my "baju rumah" when I returned from Raya's prayer. Here comes the funny part: when people came over to our house, we quickly changed back into our Raya clothes again.

### Question 3

No Hari Raya celebration is complete without the traditional cuisine usually offered at open houses, such as Lemang, Rendang, Ketupat, fruit cake, Kuah kacang, Lontong, Dodol, and more. My personal favourite is Lemang mixed with Ketupat, Rendang, and Kuah kacang, all on the same plate.

### Question 4

I have travelled to several countries, and sometimes, my family and I simply travel locally. It's fun to spend Raya overseas because we usually visit countries where Raya isn't a public holiday, and most shops and attractions remain open as usual. While abroad, we maintain our traditions, such as wearing our baju Raya and looking for halal meat to cook rendang. One of the best experiences I gained from this was visiting mosques in different places to perform our Aidilfitri prayers.

### Question 5

Open house, decoration, competition, giving out small gifts/rewards.





## Escape to Paradise - *The Kasturi Resort*

The Kasturi thekasturi

Nestled along the pristine Chendor Beach in Pahang, The Kasturi Resort is a five-star gem that offers the perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. Boasting breathtaking views of the South China Sea and the lush Tanjong Geliga forest, this idyllic retreat is a true paradise for those seeking peace and tranquillity.

Whether you're travelling solo or with your loved ones, The Kasturi Resort caters to all kinds of travellers. If you're someone who craves privacy and luxury, without the overwhelming number of facilities that you may never use, this is the perfect destination for you. Located just over three hours away from Kuala Lumpur by car, the laid-back coastal town provides a range of accommodations to suit every need, and The Kasturi stands out as the finest small luxury resort along the East Coast. Immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the region, indulge in luxurious amenities, and create memories that will last a lifetime.

### Discover the Perfect Balance of Luxury and Nature

The Kasturi Resort is distinguished by its dedication to sustainability, preserving big trees and keeping the environment untouched. With 23 luxurious villas and suites, it provides an exclusive experience, surrounded by the rainforest and beach. Here, guests can indulge in the ultimate luxury of being surrounded by both land and sea,

ultimate luxury of being surrounded by both land and sea, with the rainforest as their backdrop and the beach at their doorstep. The resort strikes the perfect balance between rustic charm and modern amenities, ensuring that guests can enjoy all the comforts they desire while immersing themselves in nature.

### A STUNNING CHOICE OF ACCOMMODATION

Most of The Kasturi Resort's villas are situated right on the beach, offering spectacular views of the ocean and private pools for a truly luxurious experience. The villas themselves are designed with A-frame structures that resemble folded origami, adorned with beautiful rubble walls and lush greenery for added privacy. With six different types of rooms to choose from, guests can pick the perfect accommodation to suit their needs and preferences.

#### // Beach Front Villas

The Beach Front Villas offer a private and luxurious enclave with a lotus pond, private pool, and direct beach access. The villas feature original artworks from the Rimbun Dahan collection, an elevated sleeping area, luxury bathroom, and open-air shower garden enhanced by herbal plantings and beautiful stone walls.

#### // 2 Bedroom Beach Front Family Villas

Four of the beachfront villas have two bedrooms and two bathrooms, making them perfect for families or two couples. Preserved forest trees add to the natural ambience, with luxurious Asian design and artwork inside.

#### // 3 Bedroom Forest Family Villas

Nestled in the green forest adjoining our beach are four double-storey family villas, the newest addition to our resort. Each has three bedrooms and three bathrooms, as well as a private pool and dining deck, and a comfortable lounge for all. Perfect for families or couples holidaying together.

#### // 2 Bedroom Rooftop Penthouse

The penthouses in the main building offer an extraordinary view of Tanjong Geliga and the South China Sea. Guests can join both rooms to create a two-bedroom suite with a spacious entertainment area. However, please note that access to the penthouses is by staircase only.

#### // Ocean View Suites

Staircase from the main foyer leads to four suites with private verandas, overlooking the beach from an elevated vantage point. Each suite includes a veranda, generous bathroom, dressing area, and lavish bedroom cum lounge.

Private Dining Room in Kenyang Restaurant



### DINING - EPICUREAN DELIGHTS OF MALAYSIA

Indulge in a scrumptious feast of authentic kampung delicacies with your loved ones at Kenyang Restaurant. Located in the main building, the restaurant offers a luxurious dining experience with the option to dine in air-conditioned comfort or on the verandah overlooking the main pool. The Talam Selera Kampung set dinner is available every day for both in-house and walk-in guests at an irresistible price of only RM68nett for adults and RM50nett for children. Using locally sourced ingredients, the cuisine celebrates Malaysia's gastronomic paradise with a blend of cultural influences for an authentic and flavourful experience.

Each villa has a private pool and direct access to the beach. Other amenities include a spa, public pool, and gym. Bicycles are available for guests, and walking along the beach or in the nearby forest is a great option. Don't miss the turtle hatchery or kayaking on the mangrove-fringed river, which can be arranged by the staff.

Enjoy a romantic getaway at The Kasturi Resort with their 2-day, 1-night package. Rates start at RM1,580.00 for 2 persons for the Ocean View Suite and RM2,000.00 for 2 persons for the Beach Front Villa. This offer is available until December 15, 2023. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity!

To learn more about this promotion, please visit their website.

<https://the-kasturi.com/>

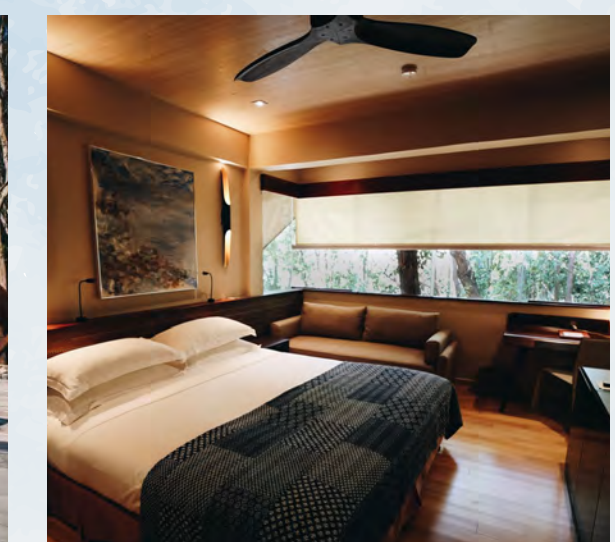
### Villa & Suites



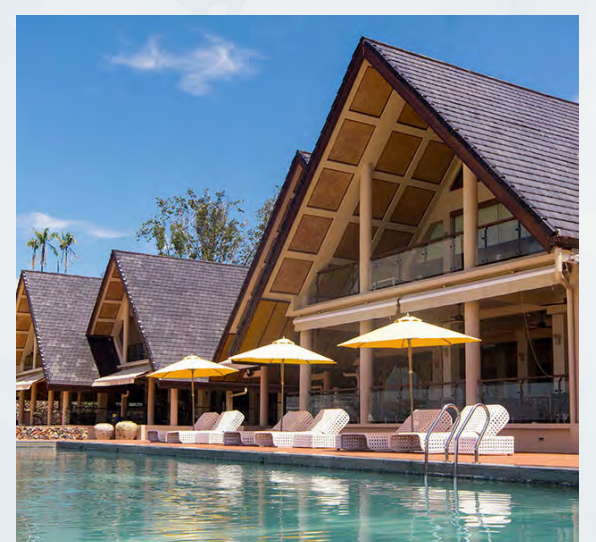
Beach Front Villas



2 Bedroom Beach Front Family Villas



3 Bedroom Forest Family Villas



2 Bedroom Rooftop Penthouse



# Savour & Flavours of Malaysia

Experience the ultimate iftar feast this Ramadan with our top hotel picks in the Klang Valley. From traditional Malay dishes to international cuisine and fusion flavors, these hotels offer special Ramadan buffet menus that will satisfy your cravings for breaking the fast. Take a look at our top hotel picks for the ultimate iftar feast this Ramadan.

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Savour the Flavours of Ramadan

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EQ KUALA LUMPUR, Citarasa Nipah

Nasi biryani kambing Batu Pahat

Assorted Traditional Malay Kuih

Sambal Tumis Udang Harimau



**Nipah**

@ EQ Hotel Kuala Lumpur

- Buffet Lunch, 12 to 3.00pm  
Mondays to Sunday **RM158+** per adult | **RM69+** per child (Aged 6-12Years)
- Buffet Dinner, 6.30 to 10.30pm  
Thursday to Sunday **RM168+** per adult | **RM79+** per child (Aged 6-12Years)
- Equatorial Plaza, Jalan Sultan Ismail,  
50250 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Enjoy a festive feast of traditional Malay cuisine and innovative takes on Malaysian favorites at Nipah, EQ this season. Indulge in signature dishes like satay and kambing golek, as well as Gulai Lemak Cili Padi Daging Salai, Nasi Bheriani Kambing Batu Pahat, and Som Som Gula Melaka. The wide variety of kerabu by Chef de Partie Saadiah is a must-try. Don't forget to satisfy your sweet tooth with delicious desserts like rangka choux and durian crepe, traditional kuih, pavlova, local fruits, and sorbet gelato.

For reservations, please WhatsApp +6012 278 9239, or email [dineateqkl@kul.equatorial.com](mailto:dineateqkl@kul.equatorial.com). You can also make your bookings [here](#).



**Mosaic**

@ Mandarin Oriental Kuala Lumpur

- Buffet Lunch, 12 to 2.30pm  
Mondays to Saturdays **RM168** nett per person
- Buffet Dinner, 6 to 10pm  
Mondays to Sundays **RM208** nett per person
- Sunday Brunch, 12.30 to 3.30pm  
**RM208** nett per person

- Kuala Lumpur City Centre, 50088 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mandarin Oriental's Mosaic restaurant presents the Santapan Warisan Melayu buffet, which offers unique dishes from all 13 states of Malaysia, showcasing their cultural and traditional essence. The menu, created by sous chef Saiful Asrul bin Sadin, offers mouth-watering specialties like Udang Galah Lemak Asam Nenas from Perak, Siput Sedut Lemak Kuning from Negeri Sembilan, and Puyuh Goreng Berempah Bonda from Perlis. Enjoy the journey while listening to live Gamelan performances at the hotel lobby from 6.30pm to 9.00pm daily.

To make a reservation, please call or WhatsApp +603 2380 8888 or email [mokul-fb@mohg.com](mailto:mokul-fb@mohg.com).

Udang Galah Lemak Asam Nenas

Puyuh Goreng Berempah Bonda





## The Brasserie @ St. Regis Kuala Lumpur

- Every Sunday, 12 to 3.00pm  
**RM288+** per person for food only  
**RM563+** per person with free-flowing sparkling wine, white & red wine, selected cocktails
- 6, Jalan Stesen Sentral 2, Kuala Lumpur Sentral, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur

The St. Regis Kuala Lumpur is celebrating the holy month with its annual Warisan Melayu theme. Guests can embark on a journey through Malaysia's 14 states with the Malam Warisan Melayu buffet, which showcases the country's diverse flora and rich taste. The buffet menu features traditional ingredients such as Hibiscus (Bunga Raya), Papaya Flower (Bunga Betik), Torch Ginger Flower (Bunga Kantan), Roselle (Bunga Roselle), Banana Blossom (Jantung Pisang), and more. These local herbs and flowers provide both flavour and nutrition and have been treasured by Malaysians for centuries.

For bookings & enquiries,  
Call: +603 2727 6696  
WhatsApp: +6012 280 1303  
Email: [dining.kualalumpur@stregis.com](mailto:dining.kualalumpur@stregis.com)



# Modernise Your Raya Look *with* Homegrown Brands

By infusing traditional elements with new designs and materials, these brands offer a fresh and exciting way to celebrate. Upgrade your Raya wardrobe with their unique and contemporary Baju options.

## ◆ For Her

### ► House of Maslea

House of MASLEA has released its 2023 collection, "Permata Jiwa," which celebrates life, love, and family. The collection combines 80s style with modern touches to create versatile and timeless pieces suitable for any occasion or season. The collection aligns with their Eid 2023 theme, "Celebrating The Moments of Life."

SHOP MASLEA 2023 RAYA COLLECTION [HERE](#)



## ◆ For Him

### ► POKOKS

POKOKS offers unique, nature-inspired Eid clothes for the entire family, including matching Baju Raya Sedondon for adults, kids, and babies. Their Baju Melayu stamping design features intricate woven patterns on rich Jacquard material. They also offer a luxurious **LUXURY GOLD design made with semi-synthetic fibers** that mimic the look and feel of silk with a distinct shine.

SHOP POKOKS 2023 RAYA COLLECTION [HERE](#)



## ◆ For Family

### ► Jannahnoe

Elevate your family's style this festive season with Jannahnoe that offer chic and minimalist options. From toddlers to grandparents, everyone can look their best during the balik kampung journey. Experience the Eid vibe with Jannahnoe's Lebaran 2023 collection.

SHOP JANNAHNOE 2023 RAYA COLLECTION [HERE](#)







Driving towards a Sustainable Future:

## Make a Statement this Raya with BMW iX xDrive40

Celebrate this Raya in style with the BMW iX xDrive40, an eco-friendly electric vehicle that offers a luxurious and comfortable ride. With its sleek, minimalist design and spacious interior, every journey will be a delight. BMW is working in partnership with GreenTech Malaysia to expand the local charging infrastructure network, demonstrating their commitment to a low-carbon mobility future. Join the next generation of sustainable driving and experience the BMW iX xDrive40 this Raya.

### THE NEW BMW iX - THE FIRST FULLY ELECTRIC BMW WITH ALL-WHEEL DRIVE.

Power, traction, efficiency - but above all, one thing: absolute euphoria, again and again. With a drive system from the latest BMW eDrive generation, you can experience maximum driving pleasure in the first fully electric BMW with all-wheel drive. Comparable to the BMW X5 and BMW X6, the iX is 4,953 mm in length and has a wheelbase of 3,000 mm. The First-Ever BMW iX also provides 500 litres of cargo space.

The BMW iX features agile and comfortable handling, typical X seating, and a spacious feel. Its dynamic configuration is supported by supreme body strength, balanced weight distribution, and a low center of gravity. The iX's large wheels dramatically reduce any rocking and enhance agility, providing an exhilarating driving experience that delivers a rush of endorphins. The emotional driving pleasure offered by the iX is limitless.



**BMW GEN5**  
Components of battery-electric drive system architecture.

### MODERN, STABLE AND WELL THOUGHT-OUT - LIGHTWEIGHT CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEW BMW iX.

The BMW iX embodies the principle of form following function in every aspect, aiming to provide a unique driving experience that combines maximum range, efficiency, and dynamics. Its aerodynamic design is immediately noticeable, featuring wing mirrors integrated into the window well strips, flush-embedded door handles, lightweight Air Performance alloy wheels, and a flat, smooth underbody. These refinements are designed to minimize air resistance, and the iX achieves an impressive drag coefficient of  $c_W = 0.25$ . The aerodynamics are visible, with vertical air curtains guiding airflow to the wheels and black streamflow sections symbolising optimized airflow around the passenger compartment. The frameless doors, slim profiles, and visible carbon structure in the entry and tailgate sections showcase the weight-optimized material mix of the body. The use of aluminium, carbon, and high-strength steels is tailored to reduce weight, improve interior feel and handling, increase range, and provide an enjoyable driving experience with intelligent lightweight construction.

### CONVENIENCE KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES: MORE OFFERS BY BMW CHARGING.

BMW offers customised charging solutions to enhance your charging equipment, such as the Wallbox, for convenient charging at home. Our installation service can connect and install it for you. You can also opt for a green electricity tariff based on renewable energy for at-home charging, providing low-emission charging and driving for your new BMW iX. With BMW Charging, the possibilities are nearly endless, allowing you to experience a wide variety of modern mobility options.

For more information on Hire Purchase Financing, please contact your nearest AFFIN BANK/AFFIN ISLAMIC Branch, or visit our website at <https://www.affinalways.com/en/affin-bank-vehicle-loan>

### THE INTERIOR DESIGN OF THE NEW BMW iX.

The new BMW iX prioritises absolute well-being with an innovative design philosophy that transforms it into a living space, a favourite place, and a playground for the senses. Drawing inspiration from boutique hotels, the iX features a spacious and serene interior that creates an oasis of attentiveness and tranquillity amidst the hustle and bustle of daily life. Intelligent functions and intuitive technologies blend seamlessly into the design, highlighting its elegance and sophistication. The iX's interior places you and your needs at the forefront, making a bold statement about the future of automotive design.



If you're looking for an electrifying driving experience and want to make this Raya season unforgettable, the BMW iX xDrive40 electric SUV is the perfect choice. With a starting price of RM419k, the iX xDrive40 delivers unparalleled driving pleasure, sustainability, and innovation. Don't miss out on the opportunity to reinvent your tomorrow and experience the future of driving with the BMW iX xDrive40.





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ASCEND

Consider these three tranquil nature getaways for a last-minute escape during the upcoming long Raya weekend. Relax and rejuvenate amidst peaceful surroundings, and make the most of the holiday weekend with either relaxation or adventure.

## Celebrate Raya in Serenity with Airbnb Retreats in Malaysia



田畝一  
**THE ACRES**  
@ theacresresort

Nestled in the **heart of Kampung Bukit Tinggi, Pahang**, the Acres Resort offers a modern and sophisticated nature retreat just a short 40-minute drive from Kuala Lumpur. The resort boasts a sleek design with a fusion of deep greys and soft lighting, providing guests with exceptional service and a peaceful atmosphere. With temperatures dropping as low as 22°C in the evening, you can escape from the hustle and bustle of city life and enjoy a tranquil and rejuvenating getaway surrounded by nature. The resort also caters to Muslim guests by offering Muslim-friendly ingredients for their culinary endeavors. Leave your weekday worries behind and indulge in a blissful experience at the Acres Resort.

Price Range is around RM480 - RM3680.  
For more information about the resort, please visit their official [website](#).



"Feel at Home While You're Away" 🌿

## Alamanda Villas Langkawi

Experience the peaceful and tranquil atmosphere of **Markisa Villa**, situated amidst the lush gardens of **Alamanda Villas Langkawi**. This serene getaway showcases stunning Malay architecture and provides a quiet escape from the busy pace of daily life. The nearby village is renowned for its peaceful ambiance, accompanied by the picturesque expanse of lush paddy fields.

Relax and unwind by taking a refreshing dip in the communal infinity pool or lounge in the adjacent seating area, soaking up the peaceful surroundings.

During the day, immerse yourself in nature, surrounded by tropical birds and the occasional playful monkeys. As night falls, marvel at the stunning sunsets and gaze up at the sparkling stars that adorn the sky. Markisa Villa provides the ideal escape for a tranquil and rejuvenating retreat.

Price Range is around RM330 - RM476.  
For more information about the villa, please visit their official [website](#).





# MICHELIN 2023

Looking for a delicious and indulgent experience during your upcoming Raya long weekend? Why not plan a short getaway to Kuala Lumpur and explore the city's culinary scene like never before! Spend one day at Gamuda Splash Mania, a thrilling water park with exciting slides and attractions for all ages. Then, indulge in the city's Michelin Star restaurant the following day.

For the rest of your trip, explore more of Kuala Lumpur's exciting attractions and landmarks. From the iconic Petronas Twin Towers to the vibrant street markets of Chinatown, there's plenty to see and do in this bustling city.

With a 3-day, 2-night trip to Kuala Lumpur, you can experience the best of both worlds – thrilling water park fun and unforgettable culinary experiences – all in one trip.

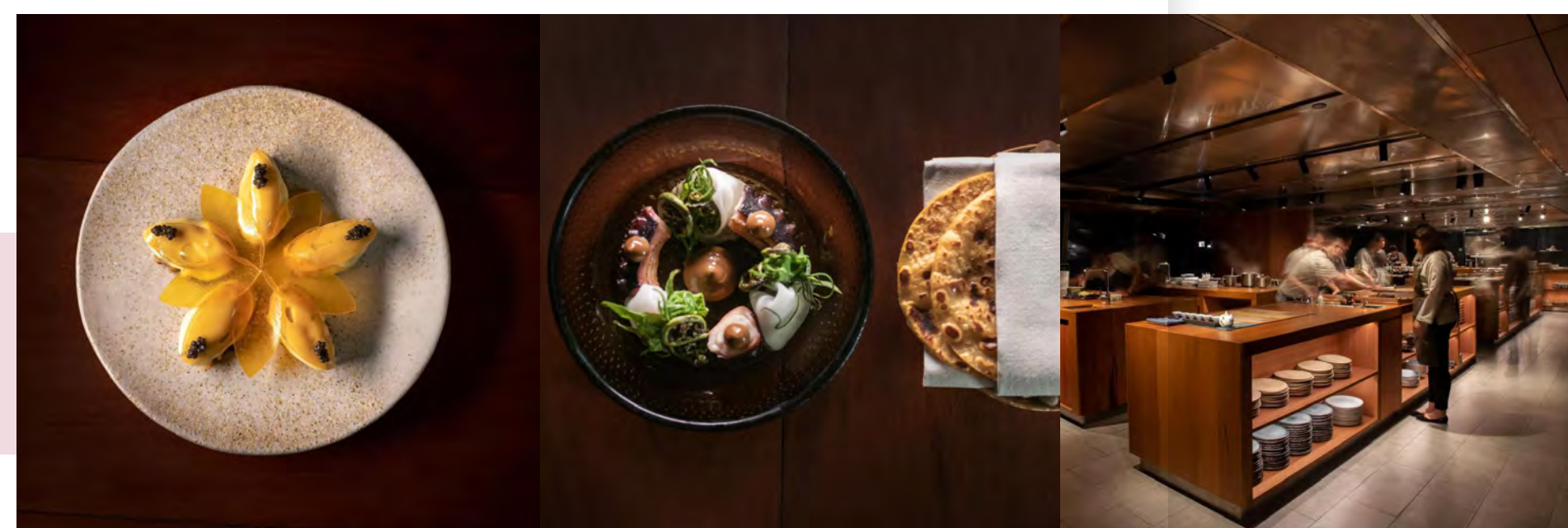


COVER The country's first recipients of the much coveted Michelin stars are Restaurant au Jardin, DC Restaurant, Dewakan and Auntie Gaik Lean's Old School Eatery with one star each (Photo: Michelin Guide)

The MICHELIN Guide Kuala Lumpur and Penang 2023 has released its inaugural selection of 97 restaurants in Malaysia. Out of these, **4 restaurants have been acknowledged for their high-quality cooking with one MICHELIN Star**, while 32 establishments have received a Bib Gourmand for providing excellent food at reasonable prices.

## Dewakan

\$\$\$ · Malaysian, Contemporary



Among the listed restaurants, two in Kuala Lumpur have been awarded One MICHELIN Star: **Dewakan**, which presents modern Malaysian dishes made from indigenous and local produce, emphasizing their origins; and **DC. By Darren Chin**, which serves French classics with a focus on regional live seafood and local ingredients.



In Penang, the two restaurants that have been awarded one MICHELIN Star are **Auntie Gaik Lean's Old School Eatery**, which offers Peranakan cuisine prepared using chef Auntie Gaik's secret recipes and high-quality produce, and **Au Jardin**, which serves sophisticated European cuisine with subtle local twists.

Gwendal Poullennec, the International Director of the MICHELIN Guide, stated that their first selection in Malaysia showcases the diversity of cuisine in Kuala Lumpur and Penang. This reflects the unique multi-ethnic culture of the country's gastronomy. He added that this is only the beginning of the gastronomic journey in these cities.

The MICHELIN Guide inspectors have been impressed by the new creations in Malaysian cuisine, which are a blend of traditional cooking and various national cuisines. The inspectors are excited to explore more of Malaysia and taste the diverse offerings of local culinary talents. It is encouraging for the inspection team to see the vitality of a city like Penang, which has an equal number of Bib Gourmand restaurants as the capital city.

The intimate ceremony also revealed the Bib Gourmand selection, which consists of restaurants known for good quality and value fare. The full list of 32 restaurants can be found below:

### Kuala Lumpur

- Aliyaa
- Anak Baba
- Congkak (Bukit Bintang)
- Dancing Fish
- De. Wan 1958
- Hai Kah Lang
- Lai Fong Lala Noodles
- Nam Heong Chicken Rice
- Nasi Ayam Hainan Chee Meng (Jalan Kelang Lama)

### Penang

- Bridge Street Prawn Noodle
- Communal Table by Gen 根
- Green House Prawn Mee & Loh Mee
- Ivy's Nyonya Cuisine
- Ming Qing Charcoal Duck Egg Char Koay Teow
- Moh Teng Pheow Nyonya Koay
- Neighbourwood
- Penang Road Famous Laksa
- Rasa Rasa
- Sardaarji
- Taman Bukit Curry Mee
- Teksen
- Thara
- Theeni Pandarams
- Tho Yuen
- Wan Dao Tou Assam Laksa

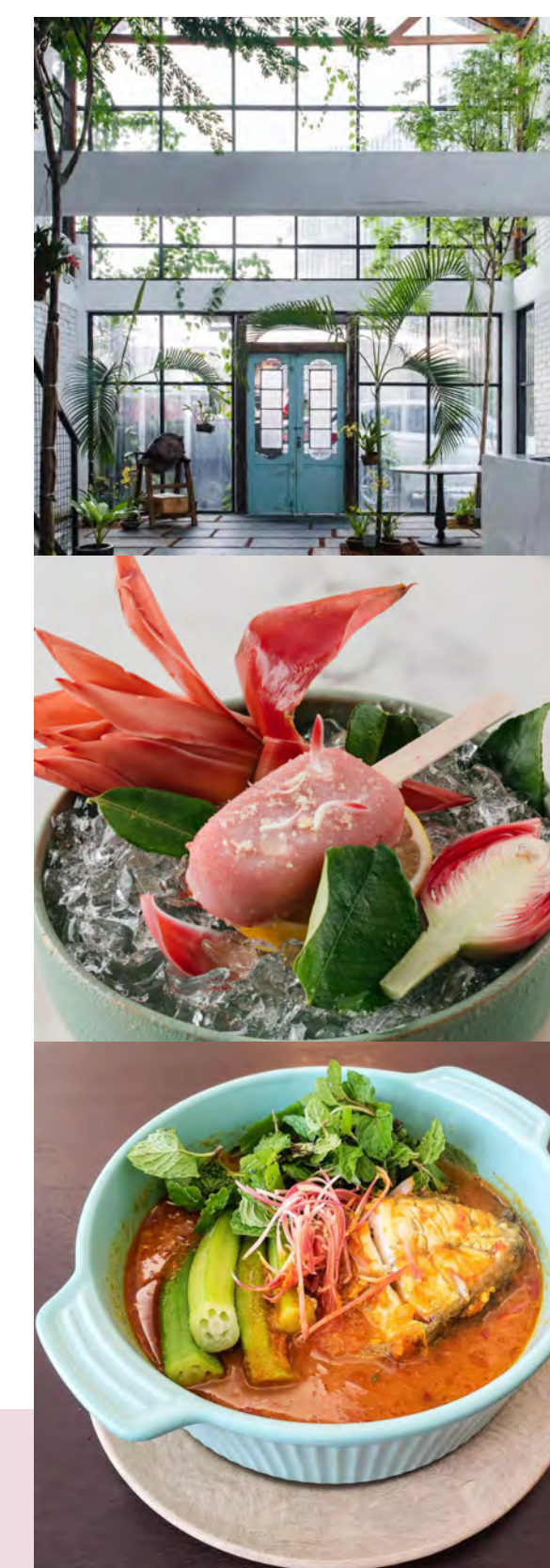
Full MICHELIN Guide refer to [here](#)

## D.C By Darren Chin

\$\$\$\$ · French Contemporary

## Auntie Gaik Lean's Old School Eatery

\$\$ · Peranakan



## Au Jardin

\$\$\$ · European Contemporary





### Ticket Price

ADULT Height above 120cm	CHILD Height 90 - 120cm (FREE admission for child below 90cm with a paying adult)	SENIOR CITIZEN 60 years old and above
RM79	RM63	RM63

[Get your ticket now! >](#)

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### Get Soaked in SplashMania: The Ultimate Waterpark Adventure!

SplashMania, a new water-based theme park by Gamuda Land, has just opened at Gamuda Cove, conveniently situated along the Elite Highway with a direct connection to Cyberjaya. Along with camping and picnicking, water activities are a major attraction for both local and international tourists visiting our country. There are several water-based theme parks in Malaysia, each offering its own distinctive features. SplashMania, with its unique offerings, is the latest addition to this list.



The park spans across 18 acres and boasts 24 slides and 15 primary attractions. Enthusiasm filled the air as individuals of all ages eagerly anticipated experiencing the numerous exhilarating slides.

### Starting your day at SplashMania

For those who are planning a trip to SplashMania Waterpark in Gamuda Cove and are worried about the safety of their belongings, fear not! The management provides lockers at a reasonable cost, payable in cash. Choose from small, medium, or large sizes for RM 15, RM 35, and RM 40 respectively.

To ensure a comfortable and convenient changing experience, visitors can use the provided changing rooms and toilets. If you're in need of a refreshing shower, remember to bring your own soap and shampoo, as these are not provided.

For our Muslim friends, a surau is available within the park for prayers.

Feeling hungry before embarking on a day of fun-filled adventure? There's a café on-site to grab a bite. However, be aware that the prices of food may be considered expensive when compared to restaurants outside. For instance, a small pizza and coke combo will set you back RM 20.80.

When it's time to dine, simply order your food at the counter and wait for your number to be called. Don't miss out on the excitement that SplashMania Waterpark has to offer, and take advantage of these amenities to make your day as comfortable and enjoyable as possible.

One of the park's most impressive attractions is the 78-metre multimedia and audio water slide equipped with dazzling LED light effects. Brace yourself for a sensory overload as you slide down this mesmerising ride.

But wait, there's more! Visitors can also enjoy a plethora of exhilarating slides and attractions, including the Amazonia, Omba'King Cove, and the Titanic Experience. For a wild ride, take on the Rainforest-Style Rapids or the Typhoon Terror. The daring can attempt the Rain Shooters, but beware of the powerful water shooting out from both sides. Remember to cover your face or put your head down to avoid getting soaked!

For those seeking a milder experience, the Wave Ball Pool and Mini Mania offer a more relaxed option. But don't underestimate the Wild Rush! This ride may seem like a breeze, but the pool is three metres deep, so be sure to exercise caution. If you need help, a vigilant lifeguard is on duty to assist.

So whether you're an adrenaline junkie or looking for a more laid-back day out, SplashMania Waterpark has something for everyone. Get ready to make a splash and create unforgettable memories!

From April 21 onwards, SplashMania Waterpark will be open from 10 am to 6 pm, Wednesdays to Mondays, and closed on Tuesdays (except public/school holidays). Dress comfortably, but decently, with no specific attire restrictions. Pets are not allowed in the park. Come and enjoy a fun-filled day at SplashMania!





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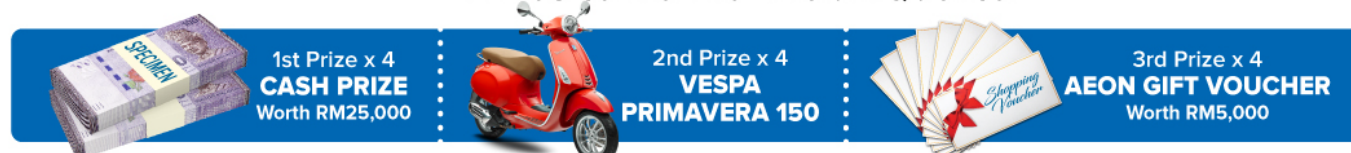


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