



# Best Face Forward

The Saujana Hotel Kuala Lumpur Celebrates Its New Look

The sky over the Saujana Hotel Kuala Lumpur was lit up by fireworks on the night of the 12th of June; the thrilling conclusion to an evening celebrating the launch of the Saujana's reinvented, refurbished and revitalised look. The event marked the successful completion of a journey which started almost two years ago in July 2013. It is a journey which has resulted in the Saujana incorporating contemporary elements while successfully retaining its character as an urban-resort providing an oasis of calm in the hustle and bustle of the city.

Themed "Malaysian Extravaganza", the festivities took place under a huge marquee tent near the Saujana's pool area. There were probably some hearts-in-mouths when, an hour or so before the start, the sky darkened, followed by a deluge. Thankfully though, it was a mere, momentary shower and – if not for anything else – the rain cooled the air and reduced the stifling humidity in the atmosphere.

A hearty performance by a Chinese Drums ensemble kicked off the evening. This was followed by an exercise where guests released sparrows – representing love – into the sky. Next came the welcome address by Peter Hourigan, Vice-President of Operations at Saujana Hotels & Resorts and General Manager of Saujana Hotel Kuala Lumpur.

Aside from thanking attendees and speaking of the various changes that have been incorporated, such as refurbished rooms and a new restaurant – Charcoal, Hourigan also revealed that the Saujana Hotel Kuala Lumpur has joined Worldhotels. A global alliance of hotels with approximately 500 member establishments in 65 countries, Worldhotels' loyalty programme has more than 400,000 members.

Fitting in with the theme of the night, guests tucked into fare from the Malay, Chinese, Indian and Western kitchens, while being regaled with performances that showed the cultural diversity of the country. These include a rip-roaring Indian banghra, a mesmerising Chinese mask-changing dance and a traditional Malay ensemble.

**Above:** Saujana Hotels & Resort Vice President of Operations and Saujana Hotel Kuala Lumpur General Manager Peter Hourigan releasing a sparrow into the air; behind him is Worldhotel's Executive Vice-President, Asia-Pacific Roland Jegge.

**Right:** The lush greenery of the garden at the Saujana Kuala Lumpur reflects the tropical ambience of this resort in the heart of the city.



As the night went on, the entertainment became even more upbeat and thrilling... Belly dancers showing off their skills, daring fire-eaters spinning flames, an electric violinist and beat-boxer in a unique duet. The build-up was such that the magnificent explosions of pyrotechnics were a fitting end to the revelries and to two years of work and planning. **IBR**