Official Opening of Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing
Venue: Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing
Date: 26 February 2018

Abang Johari (fourth left) starts a paper heart tour as a prelude to launch the Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing yesterday. Also seen (from left) are Lee Lian, Abdul Karim, Dr Sim Kui, Aziz, Tahir and Sandiman. — Photo by Chenee Uyan

Abang Johari (third right) and other guests sign a tour of the Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing after the launch yesterday.

BP (27/2)

Catering to growing number of tourists

By Jeremy Voon
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KUCHING: The state tourism industry is set to make leaps with the official launch of the Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing, which is a growing number of tourists arriving in the state.

At the launch of the hotel's Astana Wing yesterday, Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Johari Tun Openg said the four-star hotel will benefit from future attractions and urban renewal projects, mainly along the Sungai Sarawak corridor in the Padungan area.

"The service must be majestic, because we are staying in a palace (Astana) in a very strategic location," he added.

He revealed that the hotel will be managed by Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC), which has played a pioneering role in the transformation of the state's tourism industry since its formation 40 years ago.

According to him, SEDC has played a key role in the development of Sarawak's first international class hotel in Kuching, the Holiday Inn Kuching—now known as Grand Margherita Hotel and the Holiday Inn Resort Damai Beach Resort) in 1980.

He said that the addition of the Astana Wing is a timely move by SEDC to keep abreast with the competition and to maintain its role as a major player in the state's tourism industry.

With the new wing, he added, hotel guests will be able to visit the Sarawak Museum by foot or on foot while enjoying the beauty of the city along the Waterfront.

He mentioned that among the attractions in the vicinity of the area is the cascading water feature that will be built near the State Legislative Assembly building.

On the technological front, he applauded SEDC for adopting 'Sarawak Pay', a wallet for payments at the hotel—the first in the state, he said.

In view of this state government's roadmap to enhance airline connectivity in Sarawak, Abang Johari suggested that SEDC top up its services by providing "SEDC class" accommodation for those seeking a premium experience in a place where guests can stay as well as enjoy the amenities such as physiotherapy, he added.

He mentioned Thailand has implemented this model in the medical tourism segment.

"I hope that SEDC will be able to identify a hotel (for the niche industry)," he added.

"In his speech, SEDC chairman Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah mentioned that their biggest investment is in tourism and hospitality sectors which accounts for more than RM450 million or 74 per cent of their total investment.

"We have decided to name the Holiday Inn Kuching hotel, 'Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing' for the simple reason that it is surrounded on three sides by the Astana Nuyat, Sungai Sarawak, Sungai Sarawak Kecil, Darul Hana bridge, Sarawak River as well as Gunung Serapi and Gunung Santubong in the background," said Aziz.

"To further compliment the hotel's new wing, he said SEDC has decided to name the existing wing the 'Pulau' Wing" to add an air of mystery and identity to the Riverside Majestic.

"The facilities and movement of guests from one wing to another, we have added a walkway bridge linking the two wings at Level 3 of the Pulau Wing and Level 4 of the Pulau Wing," he added.

He said the Astana Wing houses 272 fully serviced guestrooms (including Astana Suites, Executive Lounge floors) and a club lounge, and three fully-equipped function rooms and meeting centres for various events.

On food and beverage, he said the new wing has the Sape Restaurant at the lobby floor and Sky Lounge on the 17th floor and a fine dining restaurant on the 18th floor.

"Both these outlets offer panoramic view of the city and nothing at sea," he added.

On another note, he disclosed that the Riverside Majestic Hotel has been awarded the Asean Green Hotel Standard 2018-2020 by the Federal Ministry of Tourism and Culture.

"Our hotel staff have offers in this initiative as more customers are looking for environmental issues," he added.

Also present at the launch were Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Youth and Sports, Datuk Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah, Minister of Local Government and Housing Datuk Seline Kho Chiu Ling, Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) chairman Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah, SEDC general manager Datu Sandiman Aziz.

CHIEF Minister, Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Johari Tun Abg Haji Openg (centre) inserting the mock room key to officiate the Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing witnessed by Minister of Local Government and Housing, Datuk Dr Sim Kui Hian (third left), Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) Chairman, Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abdul Aziz Husain (third right) and Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Youth and Sports, Datuk Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah (second left) in Kuching yesterday. PHOTO: ALIPIAN HYACINTH

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Husain said SEDC is now involved in a diversified range of industries including agro-food, property, construction and mining as well as undertaking socio-economic programmes to support entrepreneur development and enhancing the quality of life of the people of the state.

He said SEDC's biggest investment today is in the tourism and hospitality sectors which accounts for more than RM540 million or 74 percent of SEDC's total investment.

"SEDC's journey in the tourism sector continues today with another milestone, the official opening of the Riverside Majestic Hotel Astana Wing which is owned by Sejadu Sdn Bhd, managed by Sara Hospitality Sdn Bhd.

"The management of this new wing will be combined under the Riverside Majestic Hotel management team, to minimise cost and synergise marketing and operations," said Aziz.

Awarded with the ASEAN Green Hotel Standard 2018-2020 by the Ministry of Tourism Malaysia, the 4-star Riverside Majestic Astana Wing houses 272 fully serviced guestrooms, including Astana Suites and Executive Club floor and Club Lounge, together with Sape Restaurant at the lobby floor which has an external balcony with clear view of the Sarawak River and waterfront.

Sky lounge which is situated on the 17th floor also provide a relaxed environment for guest with light entertainment, together with Suasana-on-18 on the 18th floor for fine dining experience.

To enhance the guest experience, the hotel also provides Sarawak Pay System services which enable customers to pay their bills using the e-wallet.

See Hua (27/2)

阿邦佐：5年重整計劃
浮羅岸將大翻身

力拱旅業

砂州立法议会大厦、达鲁哈纳大桥、古晋河流沿岸甘榜直排市区，都会进行翻新更新，成为非常吸引人的旅游景点。

"不求他人經濟援助"
採新模式建輕快鐵

UB (27/2)

Hotel Riverside Majestic-Astana Wing dibuka rasmi

RASMI: Abang Johari melakukan simbolik pembukaan rasmi Hotel Riverside Majestic - Astana Wing di Kuching, semalam.

KUCHING: Hotel Riverside Majestic-Astana Wing dibuka secara rasmi semalam, dengan disempurnakan oleh Ketua Menteri Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Abang Openg.

Justeru, Abang Johari menyifatkan pembangunan hotel baharu ini sebagai langkah teptel Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Sarawak (SEDC) dalam mengekalkan peranannya sebagai pemain utama dalam industri pelancongan di negeri ini.

"Dengan melakukan langkah ini, SEDC telah membuktikan diri sebagai organisasi yang berupaya mengambil cabaran baharu dalam sektor hospitality," katanya.

Turut hadir Menteri Pelancongan, Kesenian, Kebudayaan, Belia dan Sukan Datuk Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah dan Pengerusi SEDC Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abdul Aziz Husain.

Sempena majlis, Abang Johari juga melakukan pembelian kek dari 'Deli Counter' menggunakan perkhidmatan Sarawak Pay yang diluncurkan di hotel berkenaan sebelum melawat bilik, restoran dan kemudahan lain.

Hotel Riverside Majestic-Astana Wing yang terletak di tengah bandar raya ini mempunyai sebanyak 272 bilik dengan latar belakang pemandangan panorama Sungai Sarawak yang indah termasuk Jambatan Darul Hana dan bangunan Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN) yang ikonik.

Semua bilik juga adalah bebas rokok serta dilengkapi dengan kemudahan eksklusif termasuk Wi-Fi, televisyen 40 inci, bar mini dan banyak lagi.

Ia juga mempunyai tiga dewan diberi nama Raffesia, Alamanda dan Orchid yang amat bersesuaian untuk mendalankan pelbagai majlis seperti seminar, mesyuarat serta keramatan.

Outlet makan malam dan hiburan akan turut dibuka, dikenali Restoran Sape yang akan menyajikan hidangan-hidangan tempatan dan antarabangsa.

Untuk maklumat lanjut, sila hubungi 082-532222 untuk tempahan atau layari http://astana.riversidemajestic.com atau Facebook riversidemajesticastanawing.

Padungan dibangun dengan konsep pembaharuan bandar

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Ia akan dibangunkan semula dengan kemudahan moden namun pada masa sama mengekalkan warisan sedia ada: Abang Johari

Oleh Nick Fletcher

KUCHING: Kerajaan negeri akan membangunkan Padungan secara berkonsepkan pembaharuan bandar, dalam tempoh lima tahun akan datang bagi menjadikan ia sebagai salah satu tarikan di bandar raya ini.

Menurut Ketua Menteri Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Abang Openg, kawasan tersebut yang dalam masa ini kaum Cina akan dibangunkan semula dengan kemudahan moden namun pada masa sama mengekalkan warisan sedia ada di situ.

"Ia mengambil masa kira-kira lima tahun kerana kita perlu merancang terlebih dahulu dan kemudian kita membangunkannya dan pada masa yang sama kita perlu menangani isu-isu tempatan dengan cara pembangunan yang terbaik supaya ia tidak menjejaskan kehidupan orang di situ."

Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Abang Openg

"Kita akan mempertingkatkan pesaurta yang ada di situ tapi pada masa sama, mengekalkan seni bina asalnya," katanya.

Sementara itu, Abang Johari berkata kerajaan negeri turut merancang membangunkan 'Wellness Resort' sebagai satu daya tarikan kepada pelancong di bandar raya ini.

Beliau berkata ia merupakan kemudahan kesihatan yang dapat menarik kedatangan pelancong asing untuk mendapatkan rawatan fisioterapi seperti yang ada di Thailand.

"Saya mengarahkan Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Sarawak (SEDC) untuk mengenal pasti kawasan yang sesuai seperti di situ," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian kerana ditemui selepas menyempurnakan Majlis Pembukaan Rasmi Hotel Riverside Majestic-Astana Wing yang terletak di tengah bandar raya ini semalam.

Turut hadir Menteri Pelancongan, Kesenian, Kebudayaan, Belia dan Sukan Datuk Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah dan Pengerusi SEDC Tan Sri Datuk Amar Abdul Aziz Husain.

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