



MEDIA RELEASE
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM
9:00AM, 19TH APRIL 2018, THURSDAY
BRUNEI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ARRIVAL AREA, BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

***OPENING OF A PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION AT THE BRUNEI
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT***

1. A Photography Exhibition organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, Department of Civil Aviation, Politeknik Brunei and Mr. Joseph Wong Siew Hang was launched today in the departure area of the Brunei International Airport. Present as the Guest of Honor to launch the exhibition was Deputy Permanent Secretary (Tourism) at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT), Yang Mulia Awang Wardi bin Haji Mohammad Ali. The photographs on display are those from winners as well as shortlisted candidates awarded recently at the Photography Competition organized by Politeknik Brunei held in conjunction with last year's Brunei December Festival 2017 with the theme *Places of Interests and Events* held in Brunei Darussalam.
2. In addition to the display are photographs taken by the talented local photographer Mr Joseph Wong Siew Hang from Rose Photo Studio of several places of interest in Brunei. This exhibition is aimed to further promote the destination and provide a glimpse of Brunei to travelers within Brunei International Airport.
3. Furthermore, a Tourist Information Counter (TIC) has also commenced its operations at the arrival area of Brunei International Airport where the operating hours are from 9am to 6pm daily. The Tourist Information Counter is managed by the Association of Travel Agents of Brunei (ATAB) with the support of Tourism Development Department, Mix Mediaworx (MMX) and Department of Civil

Aviation. The objective of the Tourist Information Counter is to provide information on Brunei and services, promote visitation to places of interest, stays in hotels or homestays, events and activities as well as to create a positive experience for visitors by providing a high level of friendly and professional service. In a bid to improve tourism services in the country, ATAB will work together with stakeholders to ensure tourists will be furnish with enough information on places of interests, tours, brochures, maps, accommodation, transportation, shopping, restaurants and other related tourism services.

4. With this addition of the Tourist Information Counter at the airport it will increase the number of tourism outlets available in the country to three (3) where the existing ones are located in Bandar Seri Begawan at the Dermaga Diraja and also at the Kampong Ayer Cultural & Tourism Gallery.

5. Also newly installed at the outside of the arrival area is a map of Brunei which includes the places of interest near airport, map of Bandar Seri Begawan, map of Gadong and map of Kiulap. The maps are for the convenience of tourists to navigate their location of places nearby and where the main attractions are.

6. In 2017, total number of international tourist arrivals to Brunei Darussalam through the Brunei International Airport has reached a milestone of 258,955 tourists compared to 218,809 tourists in 2016 with an increase of 18.3 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y). This achievement has exceeded the 10% projection from last year and marks the highest record of international tourist arrivals since 2011 at 242,061 tourist. The Tourism Development Department has made several initiatives in improving the quality of tourism facilities to provide convenience, comfort and safety to all their visitors.

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