



## **PRESS STATEMENT**

**For Immediate Release**

# **LAUNCHING OF SIX SPOTS FOR CREATING POSTCARD PHOTOS OF PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS**

**Kuala Lumpur. 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009** – The Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, YBhg. Dato’ Ahmad Fuad Ismail, today launched six new photo spots at the KLCC Park to provide better photo opportunity of the PETRONAS Twin Towers for city folks and tourists. Also present at the event were Encik Hashim Wahir, Group CEO of KLCC Holdings Sdn Bhd; and representatives from the tourism industry.

These new photo spots – five located within the park and one at Persiaran KLCC – were chosen based on logistical consideration and convenience of the tourists. Details are as follows:

- Photo spot no. 1 : Persiaran KLCC, adjacent to the intersection of Jalan Ampang and Jalan P. Ramlee
- Photo spot no. 2 : Elevated pedestrian bridge
- Photo spot no. 3 : Adjacent to Masjid Asyakirin
- Photo spot no. 4 : Eastern side of the Park
- Photo spot no. 5 & 6 : Adjacent to Menara ExxonMobil

The launch of the six new locations not only serves to address public concerns over traffic congestion at the current photo spot, next to the Binjai Residential, caused by the indiscriminate parking of tourist buses at the intersection of Jalan Stonor, Jalan Binjai and Lorong Kuda, but also to ensure the safety and security of tourists and road users.

In view of the rapid development at the Binjai and its surrounding areas, both DBKL and KLCC Holdings decided to relocate the photo spots to the six mentioned locations and close the small patch of land at the Binjai.

To further address the traffic congestion caused by the tourist buses, DBKL also launched a new tourist facility in the form of bus parking bays at Jalan Ampang. The new facility could accommodate for up to six buses at any one time with allowable waiting time of 20 minutes.

On-going enforcement by DBKL personnel will be conducted to ensure traffic control within and around KLCC vicinity is preserved.

These new locations would also enable a closer interaction between the tourist and the park, which provides a place for leisure and respite, and offers a sanctuary and natural habitat for the flora and fauna in the city.

*“There is a lot of good scenery in our city. We have beautiful parks and gardens, and even creative architecture that will make good photographs. Tourists will take back these pictures and show their friends, and this will promote the city by word of mouth. Helping them to take good photos in this way will definitely benefit the promotion of KL. I would encourage more efforts like this; it shows that we are proud of our city,”* Dato’ Ahmad Fuad said.

Standing majestically at 452 meters above street level with a connecting Sky Bridge at 170 meters, the height of PETRONAS Twin Towers enables recording from various angles within the KLCC Precinct and DBKL and KLCC Holdings will continue to monitor the comfort level and safety of tourists by introducing appropriate facilities to further enhance the experience of the tourists.

*“We will continue to work closely with DBKL to promote Kuala Lumpur as an attractive tourist destination,”* said Encik Hashim Wahir, Group CEO of KLCC Holdings Sdn Bhd .

*“This initiative is evidence that DBKL is progressively working in partnership with private sector in planning and developing tourism infrastructure for Kuala Lumpur. We have to remain competitive and thus there is an urgent need for a strong cooperation among all relevant stakeholders to make Kuala Lumpur a world class investment and holiday destination,”* added Dato’ Ahmad Fuad.

Designed as urban sanctuary to showcase a heritage of tropical greenery by integrating man’s creation with the nature offering a calm and harmonious environment in the midst of the bustling city, the 50-acre KLCC Park also provides other attractions including Symphony Fountains, jogging track, children pool and playground. It is open to public daily from 7am to 10pm. Visit [www.visitkl.gov.my](http://www.visitkl.gov.my) for the 6 photo spots.

Issued jointly by:

KLCC Holdings Sdn. Bhd and Kuala Lumpur City Hall. For further enquiries please contact En Mohammed Fahmi, KLCC Holdings Sdn. Bhd. at 03-23828372 or Puan Noraza Yusof, Kuala Lumpur City Hall at 03-26176273.

9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2009



## **KLCC PARK - VISITOR'S FACTS AND FIGURES**

▲ Weekdays	-	<b>2,000 to 3,000 people</b>
▲ Weekends	-	<b>4,000 to 5,000 people</b>
▲ Public Holidays	-	<b>5,000 to 10,000 people</b>
▲ School Holidays	-	<b>10,000 to 15,000 people</b>
▲ Merdeka and New Year	-	<b>Approximately 50,000 people</b>

## **KLCC PARK**

The 50 acre KLCC Park, located at the centre of the KLCC development provides an urban sanctuary for all Malaysians. The KLCC Park is unique in its theme and concept. Designed to showcase a heritage of tropical greenery by integrating man's creation with nature, the beautifully landscaped KLCC park offers a calm and harmonious environment in the midst of the hustle and bustle of a busy and dynamic city.

Among other attractions at the park are the magnificent lake symphony fountain, the ornamental water features, the children's pool and the children's playground that consists of colourful child-safe play equipment.

The park is well interspersed with various amenities such as shelters, benches, rest areas, patterned footpaths, drinking fountains and public toilets. For health enthusiasts, there is also a 1.3 km jogging track encircling the park.

Another interesting element of the park is the 43 metre elevated bridge. The centrally located bridge provides visitors with a vantage view of the park and the majestic PETRONAS Twin Towers.

As a functional showpiece, the park serves to integrate and harmonise the office buildings, shopping centre, hotel and residential buildings within KLCC. All the sites designated for development have been planned to maintain design integrity with the park and create a sense of unity.

Part of the park is also designed as a haven for birds and other local fauna. Much research and thought went into the selection of indigenous tree species whose fruits attract local and migratory birds.

## **DESIGN AND CONCEPT**

The KLCC Park was designed by the late Roberto Burle Marx, the world renowned Brazilian landscape artist, in collaboration with the KLCC Project Team and local consultant, NR Consultants. The KLCC Park is now being maintained by KLCC Urusharta Sdn Bhd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of KLCC property Holdings Berhad.

The KLCC Park was conceived as a work of art. The 50-acre site was the natural canvas on which Roberto Burle Marx created a three dimensional painting by shaping the topography and water bodies using plants, concrete, stone and wood as his media to create form, texture and colour. Elements of shapes, texture and topography are merged to create attractive and breathtaking masterpieces while at the same time imposing an illusion of space. Colour and form are achieved by using various combinations of trees, shrubs and sculptures, thus dispelling the notion of a garden as a static creation.

## **ROBERTO BURLE MARX**

The late Roberto Burle Marx was the award winning landscape artist from Brazil. He was one of the earliest landscape designers to embrace abstract painting as a prototype for landscape form. Burle Marx built artistic gardens in his native Brazil in the 1930's before they were even thought of elsewhere. An artist of multi facets, besides being a landscape designer he was also a remarkable painter, sculptor, singer, and jewellery designer.

Born in Sao Paolo on 4 August 1909, Roberto Burle Marx moved to Rio de Janeiro in 1913. During the years of 1928 and 1929, he studied painting in Berlin, Germany, where he was often seen at the Dahlem Botanic Garden's greenhouses. In this garden he noticed for the first time the beauty of the tropical plants and the Brazilian flora.

His first landscape project was a private garden for a house designed by the Architects Lucio Costa and Gregory Warchavchik in 1932. Since then, his landscape works improved as well as his painting and drawing.

In 1949, he bought a 365,000m<sup>2</sup> estate in Barra de Guaratiba, in the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, where he started to organise his big collection of plants. In 1985, he donated this estate to a federal government cultural organization, Pro-Memoria National Foundation, which is nowadays called National Institute for Cultural Heritage.

Roberto Burle Marx died in Rio de Janeiro in 1994, at the age of 84. KLCC Park was his last masterpiece.

*“A garden is the result of an arrangement of natural materials according to aesthetic of laws; interwoven throughout are the artist's outlook on life, his past experiences, his affections, his attempts, his mistakes and his successes.”*  
- Roberto Burle Marx

## **Burle Marx's Work**

- Landscape design of some gardens in the public buildings of Brasilia
- Copacabana promenade - Pavement landscape, large scale (4 km long) mosaic completed in 1970 on famous Rio de Janeiro beach. (Influenced by Portuguese pavement (Portuguese, *Calçada Portuguesa*)
- Ibirapuera Park, São Paulo, 1954
- Flamengo Park - large public park in Rio de Janeiro built on landfill
- Venetian Palace - entrance, and extreme use of scale.
- Parque del Este, Caracas, Venezuela
- Cascade Garden, Longwood Gardens, Pennsylvania
- Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida (Completed posthumously)
- Peru Square, Buenos Aires, Argentina (Demolished)
- Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC) Park, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## **PLANTING AND TRANSPLANTING OF TREES**

The conservation factor was a key consideration in the planning of the park. About 23 of the mature trees were saved from the former Selangor Turf Club and eventually transplanted on to the park grounds. Much thought preceded the selection of these plants, with the objective of encouraging bio-diversity.

The richness and variety of Malaysia's natural heritage inspired the concept of having only trees and palms indigenous to this region in the KLCC Park. 1900 trees and palms of 66 species were painstakingly sourced throughout the country and planted in clusters throughout the Park. A signage system for botanical information has been especially incorporate as an important educational element of the KLCC Park.

### **Trees Transplanting Process**

- ▲ The trees are part of a large-scale operation carried out to rescue as many trees as possible from the former Turf Club. A total of 127 trees comprising 3 species were saved in the operation and relocated to temporary holding areas within the site.
- ▲ Many of the trees saved were between 60 - 80 years old and were increasingly difficult to come by given the rapid developments taking place in the country.
- ▲ Among the species are Yellow Flame, Flame of the Forest, Royal Palm, Sea Almond, Ficus Elastica and Wild Cinnamon.
- ▲ Although the KLCC Park was subdivided into 12 zones, not all of these zones were transplanted with trees from the holding area. Only 42 of the trees from the holding area were eventually transplanted in the KLCC Park.
- ▲ The remainders of the surviving trees were transplanted in and around the 100-acre KLCC Development (These areas include the children's playground, opposite Mandarin Oriental, Kuala Lumpur and along the perimeter of the surface car park). A

few of the trees have also been given away for 'adoption'. Seven trees were given as gifts to the Belgian Embassy which is adjacent to the holding area.

- ▲ The transplanting process was undertaken in two batches. The relocation of the first batch of trees commenced in May 1996 and was successfully completed in mid-June 1996.
- ▲ A total of 48 trees were transplanted in the first batch, of which 15 were transplanted in Lot G, four in Zone 3 and 29 in Zone 2. Among the species planted were the Yellow Flame, Cassia Fistulla, Ficus Elastica and Terminilla Cattopa.
- ▲ The second batch of the transplanting exercise started in September 1996 and was completed in October 1996.
- ▲ In addition to these trees, KLCC has with the help of experts from University Pertanian Malaysia identified some indigenous species of palms and trees to be planted in the park. Among the species selected include Areca Catechu (Betel Nut Palm), Metroxylon Sagus (Sago Palm), Yellow Flame, Ficus Benjamina (Beringin), Cananga Odorata (Kenanga) and Cassia javanica.
- ▲ KLCC also contracted nurseries to supply another 1700 trees and palms for the park.

## **AMENITIES**

### **Lake Symphony**

The Lake Symphony, with an approximate area of 10,000 square metres feature mesmerising fountain displays. The displays consist of five programmes with over 380 individually sequenced effects shooting up to a maximum height of 42 metres. The se effects are displayed along the arc and the two rings totaling 80 metres in length. The Lake Symphony fountains are on from 12 noon until 2.00 p.m. And 6.00 p.m. until 10.00 p.m. daily.

### **Jogging Track**

The 1.3 kilometres jogging track is laid with Ethylene Propylene Deine Modified (EPDM), a special rubberised material to ensure comfort and safety for fitness enthusiasts.

### **Rest Areas**

The rest areas are located at various nodes of the interconnecting footpaths. There are 18 rest area located throughout the park.

### **Ornamental Water Features**

Waterfalls, cascades, reflecting Pools and Bird's Pool are some of the elements to further add excitement and tranquility of the respective zones in the park.

### **Children's Pool**

The Children's Pool is a safe and fun place for children 12 years and below. The children's pool opening hours are :

Weekdays (Tuesdays to Fridays)

10.00 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. (Pool is closed for maintenance on Mondays except during public holidays)

The pool is open throughout the week during school holidays

Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays

10.00 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

### **Children's Playground**

The 2-acre children's playground consists of colourful child-safe play equipment laid with EPDM). These play equipment are placed under large shady trees in the middle of the park.

### **Other Amenities**

- ▲ Toilets complete with modern fittings and facilities for the disabled and nappy change
- ▲ Male and female changing rooms annexed to the toilet, near the children's pool
- ▲ Drinking fountains with filtered water
- ▲ Shelters and benches
- ▲ Park Security office

### **Park Opening Hours**

The park is open from 7.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. daily.

### **Rules and Regulations**

Like all other public parks in Kuala Lumpur, the KLCC Park is subject to the Park By-Law (Federal Territory) 1981. There are also additional house rules that apply to the Children's Playground and the Children's Pool.