

KDN NO. PP13566/09/20130223491

Your complete daily TV listings inside!

APRIL 2013

astroview

TRAVELLER

New faces
join the cast of
Oh My English! plus
cameos from your
favourite stars!

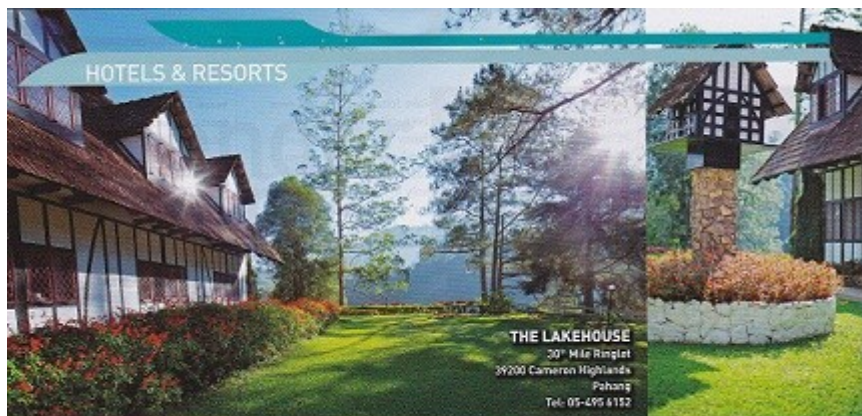
6
DEVASTATING
STATISTICS ABOUT
MOTHER EARTH
- page 10

+
HAVE NO FEAR,
THE SUPERHEROES
ARE HERE!
Meet them on
page 12

Zain
"HENRY
MIDDLETON"
SAIDIN: THE NOISIEST KID IN CLASS.
WHO WOULD HAVE KNOWN?



HOTELS & RESORTS



THE LAKEHOUSE
20* Muir Ringlet
39200 Cameron Highlands
Pahang
Tel: 05-456 4152

Hotels and resorts become our home away from home when travelling. In fact, most tend to be better than home with their excellent facilities and exceptional service! Some of the best hotels and resorts in the region and even the world are located right here in Malaysia. From city and boutique hotels to beach and hill resorts, a memorable stay awaits.



As we race through our daily activities, it's easy to take things for granted and miss the simple pleasures in life. For instance, taking a deep breath or even stopping to smell the roses. Studies have shown that just taking a minute a day to relax can help you cope with everyday challenges. So, just imagine what a weekend of total relaxation can do?

Known for its cool, crisp weather, rolling hillside scenery and tea plantations, Cameron Highlands is an idyllic three-hour drive from Kuala Lumpur and a popular spot

for locals and tourists. While the area has plenty of accommodation options for visitors, we found one that truly defines the magic and beauty of the highlands. The Lakehouse was built by a retired British Army Officer, Colonel Jack Foster. What used to be his residence is now a tranquil hotel designed exclusively for those who know how to appreciate the quiet seclusion it offers.

Perfect for nature lovers, the hotel is perched majestically on a hill that overlooks a lake. Built in an old English Tudor style, this century

home has been preserved in its original glory, back when guests of Colonel Foster used to visit.

Upon check in, we couldn't help but appreciate the attention to detail that went into the decor. The walls and mantles were lined with antique pieces that are reminiscent of the time the house was built. From tinck-knacks like copper water jugs and silverware to clocks and compasses, it was as if each piece told a story of yesteryear. After enjoying a refreshing glass of cold Lemongrass Tea at the Cameron Bar, we were shown to our room.

We found the room to be elegantly decorated in the same fashion but fully equipped with modern luxuries. These include a flat screen TV, air conditioning, a fridge and hot shower. The preservation of the look came from objects like the dark mahogany four-poster bed complete with soft furnishings, the stunning antique dresser and wastebasket and the old-fashioned phone by the bed and a table fan. We were smitten!

After settling in, we were eager to check out the rest of the hotel and take in as much clean, fresh air as we could. Our first stop was

the outdoor terrace. Walking past the lounge into the terrace, the view that greeted us was simply magnificent. Beautiful outdoor furniture is placed in this area so that guests can just sit back and appreciate the natural surroundings comfortably if they chose to.

For those who prefer an *al fresco* setting during mealtimes, breakfast, lunch and dinner can all be enjoyed here. As it was almost tea-time during our visit, we couldn't resist tucking into some oven fresh scones with a touch of afternoon tea. The home-made strawberry jam was absolutely irresistible!

When the temperatures start to dip as it gets dark, a hot Chinese Steamboat dinner is the best way to enjoy the terrace at night. Alternatively, curl up with a good book in front of the fireplace that is lit from 6pm every evening at the Reading Room.

Just around the corner is a perfectly manicured lawn framed by brightly coloured flower beds overlooking

the lush green tropical mountains that surround Cameron Highlands. Benches and outdoor lounge chairs are strategically placed here so guests can enjoy the views while relaxing. It's also a delightful spot for intimate wedding ceremonies.

The second of the two buildings that make up the entire property is situated just a short walk away from the main building. Here, guests can explore the herb garden which supplies all the herbs required by the kitchen daily. Enroute to this second building is a short jungle trekking trail that covers the circumference of the property. Guided trail walks are organised by the hotel twice a day. This is a must-see for all nature lovers. For those who wish to venture further away, the hotel offers tours to nearby attractions.

No relaxation getaway is complete without a spa treatment and the Lakehouse doesn't disappoint. Satikara Spa at the annex building offers a variety of treatments from Balinese to Swedish body massages and scrubs.



The only eating facility within the hotel is aptly named The Restaurant. Using the freshest fruits and vegetables from the fertile soils of the highlands and herbs from their own garden, it's no wonder that every one of the Chef's creations are amazing!

Our verdict: we are obsessed with The Lakehouse. It is the perfect



weekend relaxation hideaway and takes its guests on a magical and luxurious journey with plenty of old school charm. Little unexpected touches like the scented oil burner during the turn down service and the fresh fruit platters creates a warm and welcoming ambience that is sure to keep guests coming back. With The Lakehouse, it will always be a memorable stay! 🏡

