

Scandinavians keen to visit island, rest of country

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SCANDINAVIANS are keen to visit Langkawi and the rest of the country, Asia-Pacific Holidays president Jimmy Nilsson said yesterday.

"They have learnt a lot about Langkawi and Malaysia from numerous publications, including travel brochures and from the Internet," he said.

Nilsson said his company, together with Mofaz Air, will organise a holiday

package for Scandinavians to Langkawi from November this year.

He estimated that 70,000 tourists from Scandinavian nations would visit Langkawi and Malaysia annually once it was introduced.

Nilsson was speaking to reporters after signing a memorandum of understanding with Mofaz Air. The subsidiary of the Mofaz Group of Companies

was represented by its president Mohamad Fauzy Abdul Hamid.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is in Langkawi on a two-day visit, witnessed the signing ceremony. Also present was Swedish Ambassador to Malaysia Harald Falth.

Under the MOU, Mofaz Air would provide air transport while Asia-Pacific would promote

Langkawi in the Scandinavian countries of Sweden, Denmark and Finland.

If the proposed holiday package is realised, Scandinavians would make up the bulk of non-Asian tourists to Langkawi.

At present, Australians topped the list with about 40,000 tourists followed by visitors from the UK with about 20,000 annually.

Last year, about 1.7 million tourists visited Langkawi. — NST