

25/10/2002

Carnival at Paya Indah

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THE three-day Paya Indah Wetlands carnival, from Oct 11 to 13, drew more than 12,000 visitors.

The carnival was definitely a family outing in a serene outdoor setting amid lotus-filled lakes and wetland foliage.

Visitors went horse-riding, tried their hands at batik painting, sand art and kite flying, watched martial arts and posed for photos with exotic birds, tiger cubs and orang utans.

Children and the young-at-heart tumbled about in giant inflatable play-areas. Others took the opportunity to view the park's scenery from a tethered hot-air balloon.

Another popular activity was sunspot observation through a special telescope brought in by the National Planetarium.

Hungry stomachs were filled at several food and beverage outlets as well as a barbecue stop at the Palm Garden station where there was a constant supply of grilled treats.

Other crowd-pullers were animals brought in specifically to mark the occasion.

The Paya Indah Wetlands Cross Country Run 2002 was flagged off on Oct 13 with participants enjoying the scenic surroundings.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launched the run, held to celebrate the park's first anniversary.

He witnessed the presentation of electrical trams from Tenaga Nasional Bhd to Paya Indah.

TNB has given five non-polluting E-Trams to ferry visitors around the sprawling park.