

William and Kate to visit Malaysia next year
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 14 — The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, who delighted fans during their trips abroad this year, will journey to Malaysia next year to mark Queen Elizabeth's diamond jubilee.

Prince William and Kate Middleton have enjoyed growing popularity as a couple following their wedding in April, and their public appearances and acts of charity have brought welcome positive coverage to the British royal family.

The Telegraph reported today that senior royals will embark on a global tour to destinations with close links to the UK but William and Kate's trip to Malaysia, Singapore, the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu on behalf of the Queen is likely to attract the most interest.

Their visit to Canada and the US earlier this year attracted extensive media coverage and the couple worked with Hollywood celebrities to raise an estimated US\$5 million (RM15 million) for charities during their stop in Los Angeles.

The Telegraph reported that host countries are likely to stage a range of events for the visiting royals to mark the Queen's 60-year reign, from official banquets and public celebrations to events that showcase the individual nations.

William's younger brother, Prince Harry, will tour Belize, Jamaica and the Bahamas.

Their father, Prince Charles, and his wife, the Duchess of Cornwall will travel to Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

A Buckingham Palace spokesman was quoted as saying that the details and timings of the visits are still under discussion with the host governments.

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