

#culture

#travel



HOLIDAYING AMID THE CLOUDS

RESORTS WORLD GENTING IS A LUXURY PROPERTY NEAR KUALA LUMPUR. **SANDY & VYJAY** GIVE US A GLIMPSE OF THE HIGH LIFE...



TODAY, THE RESORT IS AN INTEGRATED AND MULTI-DIMENSIONAL LEISURE CENTRE. GENTING HIGHLANDS HAS METAMORPHOSED INTO RESORTS WORLD GENTING, A FAVOURED DESTINATION FOR THOSE LOOKING TO GET AWAY TO A PLACE THAT PROMISES THE HIGH LIFE AND A COOL CLIMATE.

AS the car ascended Mount Ulu Kali, the shiny skyscrapers of Kuala Lumpur were left behind to make way for a verdant visual treat.

As we made our way to the peak, with multi-hued trees dotting the landscape, we thought of Tan Sri Lim Goh Tong, the man who had transformed this seemingly impregnable 6,000-foot high mountain top, to make it what it is today.

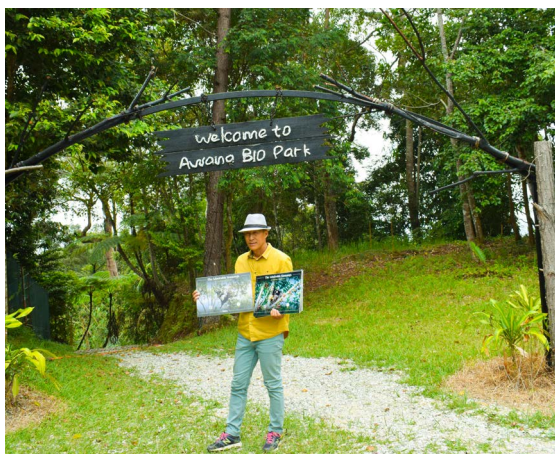
When Tong realised that Mount Ulu Kali was about an hours drive from Kuala Lumpur, an ambitious idea began to take shape. He quickly moved to give concrete shape to his vision, without care for the naysayers who questioned why he would want to develop a mountain peak that was not even accessible by road. His sagacity and determination saw him through, and soon, Genting Highlands Resort came to be, housing one hotel and a casino.

It was sometime in the year 1937 that a young man of just 19 left the shores of his homeland in China in search of greener pastures and moved to a region that was then known as Malaya.

Today, the resort is an integrated and multi-dimensional leisure centre. *Genting Highlands* has metamorphosed into *Resorts World Genting*, a favoured destination for those looking to get away to a place that promises the high life and a cool climate.

He was hard working and determined and did all sorts of jobs to earn a living and sustain his family. He worked as a carpenter, a farmer, a building sub-contractor and also dabbled in many petty businesses before he successfully established himself in the construction business and his company came to be regarded as one of the leading construction companies in Malaysia.

As you approach the peak, gleaming red cable cars disappear into the clouds. At the top, amidst the clouds and overlooking a rainforest is a world which offers pure indulgence. There's food, shopping, leisure, luxury and adventure, all combined to make for an ideal family getaway.



One of the hotels in the resort — *First World Hotel* — is known to have the most number of rooms in the world. With 7,351 rooms, it's a tourist attraction by itself. *The Theme Park Hotel*, the first hotel built by Tong, has undergone a quirky makeover and stands as an arty and colourful property today. The room cost for a night at this 4-star hotel stands at 1,770MYR. The 5-star options, like *Gentings Grand* or *Maxims*, cost around 3,000MYR.




When you step out of these hotels, it's easy to get lost in the intricate maze of the ritzy mall which offers diverse shopping experiences. At *Sky Avenue*, the best international brands vie with each other to grab eyeballs. *The Times Square* stage simulates the atmosphere of Times Square, New York, and showcases a light and sound show every half hour, which is appropriately called *Shy Symphony*.



But if a show is what you want, you can catch a musical at the *Arena of Stars* where the likes of Lionel Richie and Olivia Newton-John have performed. The best way to explore the outdoors is to step into a glass bottomed gondola, which costs 33MYR per person, and glide down the hill while watching the forests rush past below. You can visit the *Chin Swee*, the Taoist temple nestled on a ridge, and the 130 million year old *Awana Bio Park*, which is a gateway to the rainforest, and houses exotic flora and fauna.



After all these experiences amidst the low hanging mist of the mountains, heading back to the bustle of Kuala Lumpur feels like going back to reality. 

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Attractions at the resort



LOSE ONESELF IN THE INTRIGUING WORLD OF *RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT*

FUN AND FROLIC AT *THE SNOW WORLD AT -7 DEGREES*

HEAD BACK TO THE TIME WHEN DINOSAURS WALKED THE EARTH AT
JURASSIC RESEARCH CENTRE

SPEND SOME SPINE CHILLING MOMENTS AT *ZOMBIE OUTBREAK*

TRY YOUR LUCK AT THE ONLY LAND CASINO IN MALAYSIA

LOOK FORWARD TO THE WORLD'S FIRST *20TH CENTURY FOX THEME PARK*,
WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO OPEN TOWARDS THE END OF 2018