

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PANGKOR LAUT RESORT PRESENTS OPERA IN PARADISE 2025 ARIAS BY THE SEA

"This place is enchanting, it is paradise here... I was really moved, almost crying to see how beautiful things have been done by God. Because this is really paradise." – Luciano Pavarotti



KUALA LUMPUR, 14 APRIL 2025 – Prepare to be enchanted as Pangkor Laut Resort unveils the third edition of its spectacular Opera in Paradise: Arias by the Sea, transforming the idyllic island into a stage where world-class opera meets untouched tropical splendor from 10-12 October 2025. This extraordinary musical odyssey invites guests to surrender to the magic of soaring arias beneath a canopy of stars, with the symphony of the rainforest and the rhythm of the sea as its natural orchestra.

A Crescendo of World-Class Talent

Maestro Andrea Griminelli – the Grammy-winning virtuoso and protégé of the late legendary Luciano Pavarotti – returns to conduct an extraordinary ensemble featuring Laura Wright, the golden-voiced British mezzo-soprano; Clarissa Spata, Australia's rising soprano star dazzling audiences with her crystalline vocals and magnetic stage presence; and Gaetano Bonfante, the powerhouse tenor whose voice carries the emotional depth of Italy's greatest masters. Together, these world-class artists will transform Pangkor Laut's open-air venue into a breathtaking natural

amphitheater, where soaring arias harmonise with whispering rainforest breezes and the rhythmic pulse of the Malacca Strait, creating an operatic experience unlike any other in Southeast Asia.

An Overture to Unparalleled Luxury

Set against the breathtaking backdrop of a 2-million-year-old rainforest and crystalline waters, Pangkor Laut Resort transforms into an unparalleled stage for Opera in Paradise 2025. Guests will indulge in two nights of extraordinary luxury (October 10-12) featuring private villa accommodations, exquisite dining experiences, and exclusive access to world-class opera performances under the stars.

Extraordinary Performers, Treasured Moments



Headlining the event is the acclaimed Italian flautist Andrea Griminelli, whose illustrious career spanning over 35 years has earned him international acclaim and numerous awards, including a Grammy and an Italian Knighthood. Returning as the Musical Director, Griminelli's performance pays tribute to Pavarotti's historic concert on the island, promising to evoke emotion and awe in equal measure.

Joining Griminelli are a stellar line-up of award-winning performers, including:



Laura Wright, a renowned mezzo-soprano, has graced high-profile events worldwide, including performances for Her Majesty the late Queen Elizabeth II. Notable for writing the anthem "Invincible" for The Invictus Games, Laura has performed it at various prestigious ceremonies. Since winning BBC Chorister of the Year at the age of 15, she has become one of the decade's top-selling artists and is currently working on her 7th album.



Clarissa Spata is an award-winning soprano known for her versatility and principal roles with Opera Australia, including Frasquita in Carmen, Papagena and First Lady in The Magic Flute, and Rosina in The Barber of Seville. She has toured China with Australian International Productions, performing in Aïda and Die Zauberflöte, and starred in a Music Theatre Highlights Tour. Awards include the Lady Fairfax New York Award and the Dame Joan Sutherland Encouragement

Award. Clarissa reached the Quarter Finals of The Voice Australia and regularly performs with The Australian Tenors and The Italian Tenors.

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Sydney-born tenor **Gaetano Bonfante** has graced the classical concert stage for years, with a career highlighted by 15 productions for Opera Australia and touring La Traviata (as Alfredo) across 18 cities in China. A finalist on ABC's Operatunity Oz and recipient of the Alice Amy MacDonald Scholarship, he has represented Australia in the iSing opera program in China and performed with the Arma Dei Carabinieri Orchestra in Venice. Gaetano has also written

and performed cabaret shows on prestigious cruise ships. Known for his rich tenor voice and storytelling, he captivates audiences with his passion for music.

The stage is set, the performers are ready, and paradise awaits. Will you be there when the curtain rises on this unforgettable symphony of music and nature?

This exclusive package - starting from MYR6,500++ for two - includes welcome cocktails, a gala dinner, daily meals at select restaurants, and speedboat transfers from Marina Island Pangkor. More than just an event, it's a rare opportunity to immerse yourself in nature's majesty while enjoying exceptional musical artistry. With limited availability, this is your invitation to create unforgettable memories where pristine wilderness meets operatic brilliance.

To make reservations or for inquiries, kindly utilise the <u>booking link</u> provided or reach out to YTL Travel Centre via phone at +60 3 2783 1000, email travelcentre@ytlhotels.com.my or visit www.pangkorlautresort.com.



Opera in Paradise

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About Pangkor Laut Resort

Pangkor Laut Resort is set along the Straits of Malacca, three miles off the west coast of Malaysia, surrounded by the emerald sea. Here, guests discover a piece of paradise two million years in the making. Of the island's 300 acres, only a fraction has been developed to house this peaceful luxury resort and its Estates. This private island resort was declared a paradise by the late Pavarotti and voted 'Number One in the World' by Condé Nast Traveller U.K. in its sixth annual Readers' Travel Awards Top 100 list in 2003. Here, wooden buildings blend seamlessly into the forest, walls curve around foliage, and roofs open up to allow trees to continue on their journey to the sky. Nature is respected here, almost revered and it rewards visitors in ways that simply need to be experienced.www.pangkorlautresort.com

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About YTL Hotels

YTL Hotels owns and manages a prestigious collection of award-winning resorts, hotels, boutique experiences and Spa Villages with a hospitality footprint across Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, Australia, France, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom, including Pangkor Laut Resort, voted the world's best resort in 2003 by Condé Nast Traveller UK. The Gainsborough Bath Spa, a part of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World's collection of legendary hotels, was named in the 2017 Condé Nast Traveller Awards World's Top 100 and listed amongst the Best Hotels in the UK as well as the Top Destination Spa Resorts in the World in the 2022 Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Choice Awards.

The portfolio, which embraces the brand promise of Treasured Places, Treasured Moments, also encompasses the ownership management of Marriott International properties in Australia and Kuala Lumpur as well as properties under the brand's distinctive Autograph Collection banner. Properties under the Marriott International partnership include The Ritz-Carlton, Koh Samui as well as Higashiyama Niseko Village, a Ritz-Carlton Reserve, named in TIME's World's Greatest Places 2021 list and also the first Ritz-Carlton Reserve in Japan, complementing YTL Hotels' master plan for Niseko Village.

With each new experience that it presents, the company strives to embrace and highlight the natural essence of culture, character and tradition of its surroundings. YTL Hotels is the hospitality arm of YTL Corporation Berhad. Visit ytlhotels.com for more information and follow us on our social media platforms for #YTLTravels

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