



Left: Some of the chalets nestled amid lush greenery.

At right: A close-up of some of the accommodation.

Top: A luxury yacht moored at the venue.

Awards for Kudat's luxury tourism villas

KOTA KINABALU: The State Government welcomes the long-awaited debut of facilities to capture the luxury tourism villa and luxury yacht markets in Sabah as this will help to create global awareness about Sabah, especially among the rich and famous, said Tourism, Culture and Environment Minister Datuk Masidi Manjun.

He said that as well as filling a missing gap in Sabah's tourism accommodation portfolio, it would indirectly help all sectors of the tourism industry in the State.

He was commenting on two prestigious awards won last month by the yet-to-be-officially opened Kudat Riviera super-luxury-tourism villa resort in Kudat at the Cityscape Asian Property Award Show.

"The greater the awareness for the destination, the greater the demand for all levels of foreigners to visit us, so all players in the tourism industry get to benefit. Not only hotels but ground operators, activity and wildlife centres, water sports operators, shops and restaurants to name but a few," he said.

He said the State Government appreciated the effort by the developer, Exquisite Borneo Villas Sdn Bhd (EBV), part of the Touchdown World Travel Group, to bring in the luxury villa market to Sabah.

The accolades won by Kudat Riviera were for Best Developer - Waterfront Development (Future) and Best Developer - Corporate Social Responsibility.

EBV Managing Director Phil Dobson, said the awards joined the growing list of accolades won by Kudat Riviera.

He said others included the Best Architecture and Best Development from the CNBC/Daily Mail International Property Awards and Top of the Region - Finest Development in the Asia Pacific Region from Asia Pacific Tropical Homes Magazine.

Set to open its doors at the end of 2008, he said the Kudat Riviera would position Sabah alongside neighbours Bali and Thailand, which avidly market luxury villas to the high-end market as a cornerstone of their tourism plans.

According to him, the inspiration for the villas were drawn from his travels to many parts of the world where the exclusive set often holiday, including the Caribbean.

The architecture of the villas comprise a blend of various Asian eco-flavours from Balinese to Malaysian. Kudat Riviera features 30 exclusive private villas, each on hilltop land plots of between one and six acres of beachfront and private cover spread over six km of idyllic coastline.

Each villa is complete with private butler and staff, private swimming pool and tropical garden. The villa owners are resident overseas and many have supported the Government's Malaysia My Second Home programme.

Kudat Riviera is scheduled to open its doors later this year with its Phase-One portfolio of seven luxury villas, restaurants and activities/hours and excursions, which would grow over the following 12 months to its full complement of 30 villas and the Coconut Reef Club Spa.



The kind of lifestyle the villas aim for.

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