

| AKHBAR | 1: | STARLIFESTYLE | | | |
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| TARIKH | : | 15/10/2019 | MUKA SURAT | 1 | 4 |
| JABATAN | : | PERHILITAN | | | |
| KLASIFIKASI | : | PERHATIAN | | | |

"In fact, the wildlife tourism market is so strong that it provides a strong incentive for communities to protect and display animals to the world rather than killing them for a consoff cosh hours," the code. Gloria Guevara says in a statement

one-off cash bonus," she adds.

With Malaysia being one of the world's most biodiverse countries, it is a great place for wildlife tourism, with places like the Ulu Muda Forest Reserve and Kenyir Lake offering great opportunities to view animals.

However, while wildlife tourism has the

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directly created 9.1 million jobs worldwide in 2018 alone. wildlife trafficking industry, estimated at US\$23bil (RM92bil) annually. (GDP) to the global economy.

This is 5.2 times more than the global Tourism report by the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) found that in 2018, (RM501bil) in direct gross domestic products wildlife tourism contributed US\$120bil GLOBAL wildlife tourism generated five times more revenue than illegal wildlife The WTTC defines wildlife tourism as The report also found that wildlife tourism The Economic Impact Of Global Wildlife

The report found that the Asia-Pacific region is the largest wildlife tourism economy worth US\$53.3bil (RM223bil), followed by Africa at US\$29.3bil (RM122.39bil) and North America at US\$13.5bil (RM56.39bil). sumptive wildlife tourism such as hunting and fishing. activities involving "viewing and experiencing animals in their natural habitat". This excludes zoos, circuses or theme parks involving animal performances, and con-

population of Sri Lanka. Wildlife tourism is increasingly recognised as an important part of the wider travel and Hong Kong's entire economy – and it globally employs over 20 million people, which is the economic contribution rises to a whopping When factoring in both direct and indirect impacts of wildlife tourism, the sector's total JS\$343.6bil (RM1.435tril) – equivalent to

industry, showing how our precious species can legitimately enrich tourism businesses tourism sector, the report says.
"Wildlife tourism is a rich segment of the

without being harmed," WTTC president

Adventures, a social conservation enterprise travel organisation, the best way to identify an ethical wildlife tourism provider is to look at their photos to see what they promote and read customers' reviews. According to Fuze Ecoteer Outdoor

"If they promote some form of feeding, touching or riding the animals, or something that is unnatural for the animals, then it is unethical," says Fuze co-founder Daniel

"Ethical wildlife tourism is viewing the animals from afar and respecting the animal's space, not up close, not feeding them, not touching them," he says.

when they pay local guides and vill extra money to see more sharks or

rations of the Belum-Temenggor Forest Reserve in Perak, Ulu Muda Forest Reserve in Kedah, Kenyir Lake in Terengganu, Merapoh in Pahang, and the Kinabatangan River in Sabah. for wildlife tourism and recommends explo-

However, he laments that tour guides on islands like Pulau Langkawi and those along the East Coast are feeding eagles, turtles and sharks due to tourists' demand for photos

The animals, he adds, should also look healthy and well taken care of.

Quiter says that Malaysia is a great place

tunity.

He reminds tourists that they have the power to ensure that wildlife tourism is carried out ethically by tipping guides who practice ethical standards.

The WTTC report was released on World Elephant Day on Aug 12. when they pay local guides and villagers extra money to see more sharks or turtles. "Villagers are starting to hand-feed the sharks and it's only a matter of time when the sharks get too comfortable and start biting people's hands," he says.

Tourists, complains Quilter, are also paying guides to catch a turtle for a photo opportunity

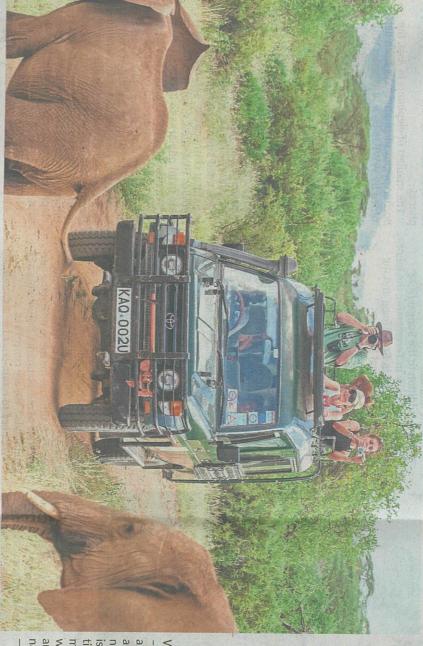
with the animals.

Tourists, he warns, are causing harm

Worth more alive the

By MEI MEI CHU lifestyle@thestar.com.my

wildlife as illegal pets and parts. Finally, people are paying more to see wildlife in their natural habitat than



nature.

– 123rf.com animals want to in

- i.e. 'viewing and experiencing animals in their natural habitat' - is paying off big time as more and more tourists Wildlife tourism