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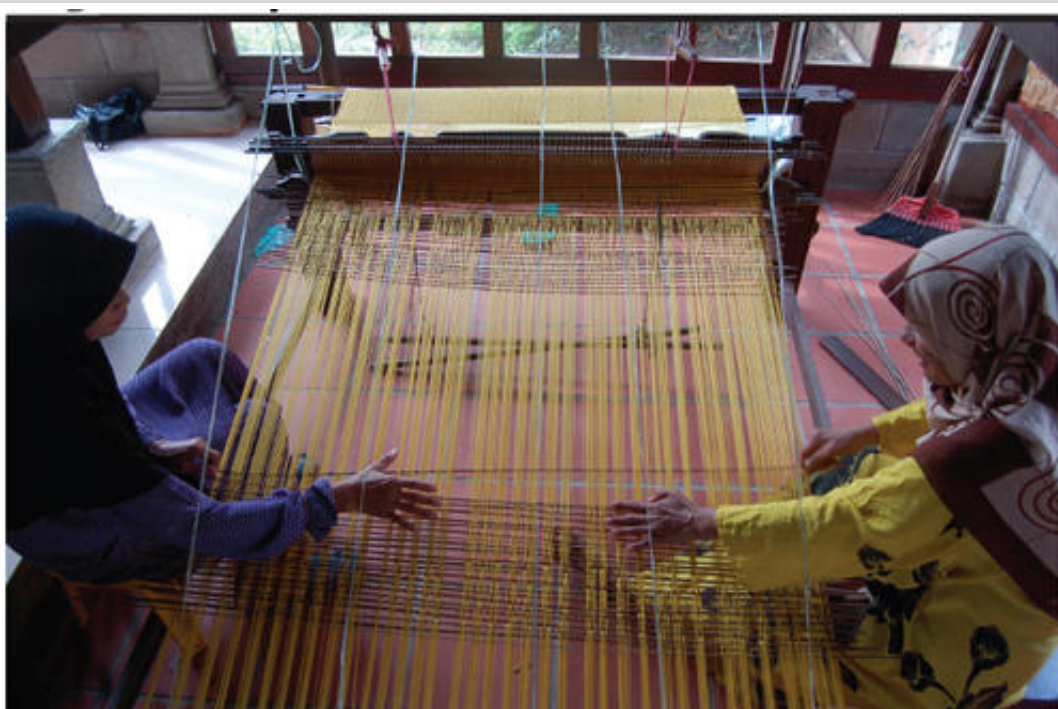
# Green, green holidays of home

By *pekwan*

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[2]

**HERITAGE: Songket weavers at Pura Tanjung Sabtu (a royal homestay about 14km from Kuala Terengganu) keep the tradition going — Photos courtesy of Catherine Bossis**

EVERY once in awhile, you feel the urge to just run away from the city and walk into a paradise of green foliage, breathe in the environment and just relax.

But just when you think it couldn't get any better, a remnant of the city destroys the picture. You see plastic bags strewn indiscriminately and cigarette butts sticking out like a sore thumb on the fertile soil. Faced with irresponsible garbage dumping, you just can't help but scream for justice for Mother Earth.

Then it's time to meet Catherine Bossis and Serina Rahman, authors of Greenselipar (<http://greenselipar.com> <sup>[3]</sup>), both of whom share a passion for ecotourism.

First things first, the women stress, that this blog



is not a travel guide for Malaysia. Rather, it's an account of their own experiences on travel destinations in the country that are eco-friendly.

Their website does not include maps or tell you what to do on a holiday trip.

What Bossis and Serina feature instead is information that helps you learn more about the heritage of Malaysia, be it nature, arts or culture.

Greenselipar reminds us to act responsibly to conserve nature and our heritage.



[4]

The idea for the site came about when Bossis and her family discovered what Malaysia had to offer, travel-wise.

"It was born out of my family's deep desire in experiencing the many natural and cultural treasures the country had to offer. We are avid travellers and enjoy exploring travel destinations off the beaten track."



[5]

**PRISTINE: Tasek Bera will take your breath away**

It is also a site to uncover hidden gems in Malaysia, where many interesting places are only known to people through word of mouth.

One of Greenselipar's post featuring Sarawak best sums up what the website is all about. "Kuching, where nature meets culture, art and heritage" (<http://greenselipar.com/2009/05/18/kuching-where-nature-meets-culture-ar...>) [6] gives short description of places, people and things to do.

Of course, this is only the tip of the iceberg. By reviewing sustainable tourism at their choice of destination, Bossis and Serina have also opened a new world to readers as we are able to glimpse a piece of history and learn about the people featured in the sites.

Apart from travel, Greenselipar also highlights green events and activities around Malaysia. One of its latest posts calls for volunteers to join in on a bicycle ride around Balik Pulau and neighbouring villages in Penang.

This is a bid to help develop a map of local attractions accessible only by the eco-friendly two-wheel vehicle. Greenselipar is also on the lookout for volunteer contributors and travellers who are keen to share their experiences on sustainable tourism.

All you need to do is pen down your thoughts. Think you're on the same page as

Greenselipar, travel-wise? Write to [greenselipar@gmail.com](mailto:greenselipar@gmail.com) [7] to volunteer and spread the green rule of travelling.



[8]

**HANDS ON: Pick up weaving skills at the Tasek Bera Semelai homestay**

[Greenselipar](#) [homestay](#) [Lifestyle](#) [sustainable tourism](#) [Cyberspot](#)

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