Record number of exhibitors at MATTA Fair Penang

VISITORS were spoilt for choice at the Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents (MATTA) Fair Penang 2019, this time with a record number of booths.

The three-day fair that ended yesterday featured 264 exhibition booths at the Setia SPICE Arena, Jalan Tun Dr Awang in Bayan Lepas.

MATTA honorary secretarygeneral Nigel Wong said the fair was larger than last year as there were also exhibitors at the concourse area.

He said there were 264 exhibition booths by 42 travel and tour agencies, five state tourism offices, two national tourism organisations, 16 hotels, resorts and theme parks as well as two airlines, among others.

"The products offered specifically catered to the Penang market," he added.

Wong said by spending a minimum of RM200 on travel packages, buyers stood to win 29 prizes

worth RM30,000 in the Buyers' Contest.

"The top prize is a round-trip business class ticket from Penang to Xiamen courtesy of Malaysia Airlines, our official airline.

"The other prizes include air tickets, cruise holidays, hotel vouchers and theme park tickets," he said.

A daily lucky draw was held for visitors to win air tickets and hotel stays, courtesy of Golden Destinations, including a round trip for one person (economy class ticket) to Sydney, Australia, for four days and three nights inclusive of accommodation.

A blood donation drive also took place at the concourse area in support of the National Blood Bank as part of MATTA's corporate social responsibility programme.

In addition, there was an awareness campaign on the importance of kidney health by the National Kidney Foundation.

Wong said the fair is not just for overseas trips.

"The regional and domestic holidays is where MATTA truly shines, as we have products for every market sector.

"There are many things to do and see in our country," he said, adding that travellers should always be equipped with sufficient travel insurance to protect themselves from unforeseen circumstances.