

*[Years of Culture](#) Initiative Announces the Participants of the Upcoming CultuRide Cycling Tour*

*Qatar-Indonesia 2023 Year of Culture Highlights Importance of Sports to Cross-cultural Collaboration*

31 May 2023 – Doha, Qatar – [The Years of Culture \(YoC\)](#) initiative today announced the participants who will join Years of Culture Ambassador Ali Bin Towar al-Kuwari on a cultural cycling tour on June 7 in Indonesia. The CultuRide tour will gather professional athletes and cycling enthusiasts in Yogyakarta, Indonesia for a cultural tour of important historical sites. As Ambassador, Ali Bin Towar al-Kuwari will represent Qatar throughout the program and galvanize international communities through love of sport and cultural exploration.

Joining Ali Bin Towar are professional athletes and cycling enthusiasts, Dr. Mohammed Jaham Al-Kuwari, President of the Qatar Cycling and Triathlon Federation, Thani Khalifa Al-Zarra, Secretary General of the Qatar Cycling Federation, Lolwa Al Marri, first Qatari female to complete Ironman and member of the triathlon national team, Nour Salem Al-Jaber, member of the cycling national team, Abdulrahman Mohd Al-Nuaimi, Abdelrahman Mekdad, Fahad Ali Al-Adba, Ahmad Bin Hamad Al Thani, Mohammed Al-Nagm, Fahad Al Hadfa, Ali Mehanna Al Kuwari, Dr. Mehsin Al Yafei, Hadeel Reyad, Hamad Al-Marzouqi, Khalifa Jassim Al-Kuwari, Yousef Mohd Al-Kuwari, and Saleh Akkila.

Qatar Museums' Director of Cultural Diplomacy Aisha Ghanem Al Attiya, said: "CultuRide presents a remarkable opportunity to celebrate the beauty of cultural diversity and forge meaningful connections between Qatar and Indonesia. Through this cycling tour, we aim to foster a deeper appreciation for the rich heritage and traditions that unite us as global citizens."

CultuRide Ambassador Ali Bin Towar al-Kuwari, said: "All of the participants partaking in CultuRide are eager to experience Indonesia and uncover the rich Indonesian history and culture along the way. I look forward to embarking on this remarkable journey alongside these esteemed athletes and cycling enthusiasts."

The CultuRide tour will launch from Fort Vastenburg, an 18th-century Dutch fort located in Gladak, Surakarta, Central Java, a major regional landmark in Indonesia. Throughout the two-day tour, participants will travel through and learn about several cultural destinations surrounding Solo and Yogyakarta, finally arriving at the largest Buddhist temple in the world at Borobudur.

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#### About Years of Culture

Culture is one of the most effective tools to bring people closer together, encourage dialogue, and deepen understanding between nations.

Under the leadership of its Chairperson Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Qatar Museums (QM) developed the annual "Years of Culture" initiative — an international cultural exchange that deepens understanding between nations and their people. Though formal programming lasts only one year, the ties of friendship that are strengthened and formed are long-lasting.

Qatar-Indonesia 2023 Year of Culture has been developed in collaboration with leading organizations in Qatar, including Doha Film Institute, Education Above All, Katara Cultural Village, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar Charity, Qatar Cycling Federation, Qatar Foundation, Qatar Museums, Qatar National Library, Qatar Tourism, with assistance from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Qatar and the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Indonesia.

Previous Years of Culture have included: Qatar-Japan 2012, Qatar-UK 2013, Qatar-Brazil 2014, Qatar-Türkiye 2015, Qatar-China 2016, Qatar-Germany 2017, Qatar-Russia 2018, Qatar-India 2019, Qatar-France 2020, Qatar-USA 2021, and Qatar-MENASA 2022.

Past sponsors include Qatar Airways, Vodafone, Qatar Gas, Shell, Ooredoo, Shangri-La Hotel and Resorts, Lulu Group International, Qatar Financial Centre, Qatar Petroleum, and ExxonMobil.

### About Qatar Museums

Qatar Museums (QM), the nation's preeminent institution for art and culture, provides authentic and inspiring cultural experiences through a growing network of museums, heritage sites, festivals, public art installations, and programs. QM preserves, restores, and expands the nation's cultural offerings and historical sites, sharing art and culture from Qatar, the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia (MENASA) region with the world and enriching the lives of citizens, residents, and visitors.

Under the patronage of His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, and led by its Chairperson, Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, QM has made Qatar a vibrant centre for the arts, culture, and education in the Middle East and beyond. QM is integral to the goal of developing an innovative, diverse, and progressive nation, bringing people together to ignite new thinking, spark critical cultural conversations, educate and encourage environmental stewardship and sustainable practices, and amplify the voices of Qatar's people. Since its founding in 2005, QM has overseen the Museum of Islamic Art and MIA Park, Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of Qatar, QM Gallery Al Riwaq, QM Gallery Katara, and 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum. Museums under development include Dadu, Children's Museum of Qatar; Qatar Auto Museum; Art Mill Museum, and the Lusail Museum.

Through its newly created Creative Hub, QM also initiates and supports projects—such as the Fire Station Artist in Residence, the Tasweer Qatar Photo Festival and the creative hub for innovation, fashion and design M7— that nurture artistic talent and create opportunities to build a strong and sustainable cultural infrastructure.

Animating everything that Qatar Museums does is an authentic connection to Qatar and its heritage, a steadfast commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, and a belief in creating value through invention.

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