# Manchester United’s Malaysia tour marred by e-scooter mishap and fan outrage amid poor season



The recent post-season tour by Manchester United in Malaysia has sparked a mixture of bemusement and sympathy from fans, particularly after a bizarre incident involving e-scooters. Following a disheartening end to the Premier League season, where United finished a disappointing 16th, the team embarked on a tour meant to rekindle connections with their passionate Asian fanbase, which numbers in the millions. However, the tour kicked off with a 1-0 defeat to a selection of Southeast Asian internationals, a result that did little to lift spirits after what many considered one of the club's worst seasons in decades.

In a moment that quickly became a social media spectacle, players Amad Diallo, Alejandro Garnacho, and Ayden Heaven were seen asking local supporters for assistance to pay for their e-scooter rentals in Kuala Lumpur. This unusual request was likely due to a payment app confusion, alongside the players' unfamiliarity with local practices. The incident drew a flurry of comments online, some mocking the club's financial management, with one fan quipping that “Jim (Ratcliffe) can’t even afford scooters for the lads.” Such reactions highlight the current state of the club and the looming scrutiny surrounding its finances and overall performance.

Ruben Amorim, the United manager, has openly acknowledged the intense pressure players face when results on the pitch are unsatisfactory. The team’s lacklustre performance has drawn ire not just from fans in Malaysia, where they were met with boos from the 72,000-strong crowd, but also from supporters back home. Amorim emphasised the need for accountability, stating the importance of reconnecting with fans after a dismal display. He characterised their performance as one marked by a tendency to "choke" under pressure, a sentiment echoed by frustrated fans who had hoped for a more spirited tour.

The backdrop to this tour is notable; it marks a significant visit as Manchester United has not played in Kuala Lumpur since 2009 and has not returned to Hong Kong since 2013. Such trips are carefully orchestrated not only to entertain but also to bolster commercial partnerships in the region, as evidenced by the sponsorships tied to this tour. It has been arranged by ProEvents and includes clashes against teams that are eager to face the storied club.

Despite the turbulence surrounding match results and the e-scooter saga, some positives emerged during the trip. Players remained approachable, taking the time to engage with fans, posing for pictures, underscoring the personal connections that can brighten a turbulent time. However, the incident involving Diallo raising his middle finger at fans following the defeat highlights the emotional strain players are under, prompting him to express regret over the act while also noting it was in response to provocation.

As United prepares for its next match against Hong Kong's national team, hopes linger for a more uplifting finale to the Asian tour. Amorim has reassured fans that while fatigue from travel and jet lag have taken their toll, the squad will be aiming for improvement in their performance to salvage some pride before the season wraps up. The upcoming fixture offers one last chance to quell the discontent arising from a difficult year, both on and off the pitch.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14760337/Bizarre-moment-Man-United-stars-ask-locals-pay-e-scooters-controversial-post-season-tour-Malaysia.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/man-united-boss-amorim-says-it-is-tough-face-teams-angry-fans-around-world-2025-05-29/> - Manchester United manager Ruben Amorim addressed the global frustration of fans following the team's dismal performance this season. After finishing 15th in the Premier League—one of their worst results—the team began their Asian tour with a 1-0 loss to the ASEAN All-Stars in Malaysia, drawing boos from 72,000 spectators. Amorim acknowledged the difficulty of facing supporter dissatisfaction but emphasized the importance of accountability and reconnecting with fans. He admitted the squad lacked focus during the match and is determined to deliver a better display in their upcoming friendly in Hong Kong. Notably, players Harry Maguire, Andre Onana, and Diogo Dalot were absent as they attended a sponsor event in India, while Luke Shaw was ruled out due to injury. However, Matthijs de Ligt, Mason Mount, and Joshua Zirkzee are fit for the Hong Kong match. Amorim noted the team's fatigue from travel and jet lag but expressed readiness for the final tour match. Hong Kong coach Ashley Westwood, a United academy alum, remarked that the squad likely prefers rest over post-season tours, especially with international duties approaching on June 2.
3. <https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/man-utds-diallo-has-no-regrets-over-obscene-gesture-post-season-tour-2025-05-29/> - Manchester United winger Amad Diallo addressed an incident during the club’s post-season tour in Asia where he made an obscene gesture by raising his middle finger towards fans in Kuala Lumpur. The 22-year-old Ivorian admitted the gesture was inappropriate but stated he had no regrets, explaining that someone had insulted his mother, prompting his reaction. Despite the incident, Diallo expressed appreciation for the overall experience in Malaysia, highlighting the kindness of the people there. The incident occurred after Manchester United lost a match against the ASEAN All-Stars, with Diallo entering the game as a second-half substitute. Following the defeat, the team was booed by fans, and manager Ruben Amorim acknowledged the criticism, stating the team cannot hide from their fans after a disappointing season that saw them finish 15th in the Premier League. Manchester United is set to conclude their tour with a match in Hong Kong.
4. <https://www.manutd.com/en/tour-2025> - Manchester United's post-season tour, arranged by ProEvents, will get under way against ASEAN All Stars in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur. There, the 84,000-capacity Bukit Jalil National Stadium will be the venue for our first game in the city since 2009. The arena was initially built to host the 1998 Commonwealth Games and has since become the national home of Malaysian football.
5. <https://www.manutd.com/en/amp/news/detail/man-utd-to-visit-kuala-lumpur-and-hong-kong-in-may-2025> - Manchester United will visit its huge fanbase in Asia to play fixtures in Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong following the conclusion of the 2024/25 Premier League season in May. The two-match visit, presented by Snapdragon and arranged by ProEvents, marks the first post-season tour in the modern era of the club, and a return to Asia following victory over Liverpool in Bangkok in July 2022. United will take on ASEAN All Stars in the 84,000-capacity Bukit Jalil National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur on the 28 May, before travelling to play Hong Kong, China in the Hong Kong Stadium, which can hold up to 40,000 fans, on 30 May. The club last visited Kuala Lumpur in 2009, and Hong Kong in 2013, but the bond between United and the club’s millions of loyal fans across Asia remains as strong as ever.
6. <https://www.manutd.com/en/news/detail/ruben-amorim-confirms-squad-for-man-utd-post-season-tour-of-asia> - Manchester United head coach Ruben Amorim has confirmed which players will travel on the club’s post-season tour of Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong later this month. After the conclusion of the Premier League season, the Reds will play two fixtures against ASEAN All Stars on 28 May and Hong King, China on 30 May. The squad’s two-match visit, presented by Snapdragon and arranged by ProEvents, marks the first post-season tour in the modern era of the club. These fixtures provide a unique opportunity to connect directly with our fans in Asia, and for the club to activate with its valued commercial partners in the region.
7. <https://www.manutd.com/en/amp/news/detail/man-utd-to-visit-kuala-lumpur-and-hong-kong-in-may-2025> - Manchester United will visit its huge fanbase in Asia to play fixtures in Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong following the conclusion of the 2024/25 Premier League season in May. The two-match visit, presented by Snapdragon and arranged by ProEvents, marks the first post-season tour in the modern era of the club, and a return to Asia following victory over Liverpool in Bangkok in July 2022. United will take on ASEAN All Stars in the 84,000-capacity Bukit Jalil National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur on the 28 May, before travelling to play Hong Kong, China in the Hong Kong Stadium, which can hold up to 40,000 fans, on 30 May. The club last visited Kuala Lumpur in 2009, and Hong Kong in 2013, but the bond between United and the club’s millions of loyal fans across Asia remains as strong as ever.