25 MALAYSIA must visit
25 Ways to Discover Malaysia

Located strategically at the heart of Southeast Asia, Malaysia combines the best of Asia and is well known for its diverse cultural landscape, which includes three of Asia’s oldest civilisations – Malay, Chinese and Indian – and the unique ethnic communities of Sabah and Sarawak.

One of the world’s top holiday destinations, Malaysia is filled with a wide variety of unique attractions. All the necessary elements for a fulfilling holiday can be found here – pristine beaches and breathtaking islands, a rich tapestry of cultures and history, well-preserved heritage treasures, world-class modern facilities, a fascinating collection of flora and fauna, lush and well-maintained nature reserves, a delightful array of mouth-watering cuisine and a long list of shopping hotspots.

Whatever the reason for your visit – a romantic escapade, a fun-filled family holiday, an all-out shopping spree or a quiet retreat at the heart of nature – Malaysia has it all. There are so many things to see, do and discover in Malaysia. But if you only have a limited amount of time to spare in this country, we have compiled for you here a list of top 25 attractions in Malaysia that you shouldn’t miss. You haven’t really ‘seen’ Malaysia if you haven’t seen them all! So come, let Malaysia work its charm on you!
Petronas Twin Towers
Kuala Lumpur

Towering at 451.9m above street level, this world-renowned icon is currently the world’s tallest twin structure and fifth tallest skyscraper. The skybridge that links the two towers is also the world’s highest two-storey bridge, doubling up as a superb viewing platform. The 88-storey building features glass and steel exterior and traditionally-inspired interior, reflecting Malaysia’s aspirations in moving forward while maintaining its national identity.

Must do:
- Visit the Skybridge on the 41st Floor and the Viewing Deck on the 86th Floor for a magnificent view of the city’s skyline.
- Visit the gift shop for some exquisite souvenirs to take home.

Tel: 03 2331 8080
Fax: 03 2331 1723
Website: www.petronastwintowers.com.my
KL Tower
Kuala Lumpur

Sitting on top of Bukit Nanas at a height of 421m, the tower is one of the city’s most popular landmarks. The world’s seventh tallest telecommunications tower also comes with an observation deck at 276m above ground level and a revolving restaurant where you can enjoy a 360° view of the city’s skyline while enjoying a meal. The tower is also located within the Bukit Nanas Forest Reserve, one of the oldest forest reserves in the country, making it the only tower in the world located within a forest.

Must do:
• Enjoy a magnificent bird’s eye view of the city from the Observation Deck.
• Savour sumptuous offerings while enjoying a 360° view of the city at the Atmosphere 360° Revolving Restaurant.
• Visit KL Tower’s 1Malaysia Cultural Village, Animal Zone, XD Theatre and F1 Simulator Zone.
• Try KL Tower’s Pony Ride.

Tel: 03 2020 5444
Fax: 03 2098 7001
Website: www.menarakl.com.my
Batu Caves
Selangor

Comprising a cluster of three limestone caves, the legendary Batu Caves is a magnificent and renowned cave temple. A 140-feet-high golden statue of Lord Muruga looms at the foot of a flight of 272 steps leading up to Temple Cave, the biggest of the three caves. Batu Caves is the country’s main venue for the colourful Thaipusam festival, where a colourful procession of Hindu devotees can be seen carrying kavadi as offerings to Lord Muruga.

Must do:
- Put your stamina to the test and climb the 272 steps all the way up to Temple Cave.
- Visit Batu Caves during Thaipusam to witness one of the world’s biggest religious festival gatherings.
Pasar Seni
(Central Market)
Kuala Lumpur

Besides being a great place to score some of the city’s best local arts and crafts, the Central Market is one of the city’s most prominent heritage landmarks with its 1930s Art Deco style. Just outside the building is a covered walkway named Kasturi Walk, offering visitors with more shopping choices. Events are consistently being held here, with many esteemed arts events taking place at its Annexe Gallery. Central Market is easily accessible via public transportation.

Must do:

• Tantalise your tastebuds with the wide selection of local delicacies sold along the Kasturi Walk, while looking for the perfect mementoes and souvenirs to take home.
• Get your portrait done by a professional artist in the form of painting or caricature.
• Look out for the many exciting events held here such as the Annual Lantern Parade and Chinese New Year celebrations.

Tel: 03 2031 0399 / 5399 / 7399
Fax: 03 2032 2399
Website: www.centralmarket.com.my
KL’s Cultural Enclaves – Chinatown (Petaling Street) & Little India @ Brickfields
Kuala Lumpur

Kuala Lumpur’s cultural enclaves are some of the city’s most popular tourist hotspots. KL’s Chinatown is a bustling heritage and shopping spot. The streets are lined with a myriad of shopping and dining options, as well as a number of heritage buildings, clan houses and temples. The lively and vibrant Little India @ Brickfields offers a glimpse into the lifestyle of the Indian community. Situated within one of the country’s oldest Indian settlements, everything related to the Indian culture from clothing to cuisine can be found here.

Must do:
• Shop for fantastic bargains as well as gifts and souvenirs.
• Sample local delights at the many local restaurants and food stalls lining the streets.
• Visit the surrounding heritage buildings.
• Soothe your tired feet by getting a foot massage.

Tel: 03 2698 0332
Website: www.visitkl.gov.my
BBKLCC
Kuala Lumpur

A well-known shopping district in the heart of the city, BBKLCC (Bukit Bintang and Kuala Lumpur City Centre) is a shopper’s paradise with an abundance of fashion, food and entertainment options. Some of the best shopping malls in Malaysia – and quite possibly, Asia – can be found here. Lose yourself in the huge selection of local and international brands available across nine signature malls within the area. The BBKLCC district is also well-connected via a covered pedestrian walkway and an efficient network of public transportation.

Must do:
- Take a walk from Bukit Bintang to KLCC via the covered pedestrian walkway and soak in the vibrant atmosphere of this lively district.
- Visit the nine shopping malls within the area for a host of options and fantastic bargains.

E-mail: info@bbklccmalaysia.com
Website: www.bbklccmalaysia.com
Nusajaya’s Theme Parks -
LEGOLAND &
SANRIO HELLO KITTY TOWN
Johor

If you’re looking for fun and adventure for the whole family, Johor’s cutting-edge theme parks offer you just that. The first of its kind in Asia and the first international park in Malaysia, LEGOLAND offers a first-class park experience with thrilling rides, interactive displays and themed areas. The park’s main attraction is MINILAND, where miniature replicas of Asia’s popular landmarks made with more than 30 million LEGO bricks can be seen. SANRIO HELLO KITTY TOWN, the first Hello Kitty theme park outside of Japan, is a must for fans of this popular SANRIO character. Consisting of Hello Kitty themed attractions, rides and tons of interactive fun, the park’s highlights include Black Wonder, a state-of-the-art interactive experience, and Kitty House, an iconic house filled with everything Hello Kitty from top to bottom!

Must do:
- Visit all seven attractions within LEGOLAND – each offering different thrills and experience.
- Refuel at one of the seven eateries available in LEGOLAND.
- Visit all five retail outlets in LEGOLAND for one-of-a-kind gifts and souvenirs.
- Watch a live performance by Hello Kitty and friends at SANRIO HELLO KITTY TOWN’s Purrfect stage.
- Enjoy dressing up, decorating your nails and making jewellery, cookies and your own Hello Kitty doll at SANRIO HELLO KITTY TOWN’s Wishful Studio.

LEGOLAND Malaysia:
Tel: 07 597 8888
Website: www.LEGOLAND.my

SANRIO HELLO KITTY TOWN:
Tel: 1300 88 FAMILY (326489) / 03 2203 9668
Website: www.playtime.com.my
George Town
Penang

Awarded the prestigious title of UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008, the lively capital of Penang has over 200 years of history and cultural heritage under its belt. Colonial buildings and historical architecture are well preserved in this city, as well as traditional trades that have been handed down from generation to generation. Aside from being a heritage capital, George Town is also a renowned food capital.

Must do:

- Go on one of the city’s heritage trails either on foot or via trishaw.
- Go on a glorious gastronomic journey sampling the many hawker’s delights on the streets of George Town such as char kway teow and prawn noodles.

Tel: 04 650 5136
Fax: 04 261 8744
Website: www.visitpenang.gov.my
Melaka City

Once an important international trading port, Melaka City is now one of the country’s most popular destinations. Conferred the title of UNESCO World Heritage City in 2008, the city is deemed the birthplace of the nation’s historical and cultural heritage, with over 600 years of history to its name. Rich in culture and historical architecture inherited from the reign of the British, the Portuguese and the Dutch, the city’s old world charm beckons visitors to explore its historical depths.

Must do:
• Go on a heritage trail around Melaka City, visiting all the historical attractions such as Porta de Santiago, Stadhuys and Baba Nyonya Heritage Museum.
• Look for great antique finds at Jonker Street and Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock.
• Enjoy beautiful riverside view and see parts of historical Melaka on board the Melaka River Cruise

Tel: 1 800 88 9483 / 06 232 8402
Fax: 06 232 8367
Website: www.melakatourism.gov.my
Genting Highlands
Pahang

Perched on top of Ulu Kali Mountain at some 1,800m above sea level, Genting Highlands is a one-stop hill resort with hotels, theme parks, a casino and a number of entertainment, dining and retail options. Its cool climate and close proximity to Kuala Lumpur – approximately an hour’s drive – makes it a popular quick highland getaway among city folks. Genting Highlands is also Malaysia’s only licensed on-land gambling spot.

Must do:
• Ride the Skyway Cable Car to the top of the hill.
• Play all day the indoor and outdoor theme parks.
• Visit the many attractions here such as Chin Swee Temple, Strawberry Farm and Mushroom Farm.
• Shop ’til you drop at the First World Plaza.
• Enjoy the nightly live performances.
• Try your luck at the casino (strictly for non-Muslims)

Tel: 03 2718 1118
Fax: 03 2718 1888
Website: www.rwgenting.com
Cameron Highlands
Pahang

Located on the Titiwangsa Range some 1,500m above sea level, Cameron Highlands is Malaysia’s largest hill resort. The cool weather up here makes it the perfect environment to cultivate a variety of produce, namely tea, flowers, cacti, vegetables and strawberries. Flourishing tea plantations blanketing the undulating hills is just one of the spectacular views available here, which can be enjoyed over a refreshing cup of tea.

Must do:
• Visit the BOH Tea Plantation to learn about tea-making process, as well as enjoy a steaming cup of tea in full view of the sprawling tea plantation.
• Choose from a huge array of fresh flowers and vegetables at the market.
• Pick your own strawberries to take home.
• Enjoy a relaxing walk in the enchanting Mossy Forest.

Website: www.cameronhighlands.com
Taman Negara
Pahang

Malaysia’s premier national park and oldest rainforest is estimated to be over 130 million years old. It is also one of the world’s oldest rainforests and is where the world’s longest canopy walkway can be found. Home to a vast diversity of flora and fauna as well as some amazing natural landscapes, this 434,350ha virgin rainforest is also the location of Gunung Tahan, the highest mountain in Peninsular Malaysia. Taman Negara is also a popular eco-tourism destination with each of its four entry points offering different activities and attractions.

Must do:
- Stroll along the world’s longest canopy walkway while enjoying the view of the surroundings at 45m above ground.
- Explore ancient limestone caves.
- Try a variety of eco-adventure activities – rapid shooting, jungle trekking, canoeing and mountain climbing.
- Visit the Orang Asli (indigenous community) settlement.
- Spend a night in an observation hide to catch a glimpse of nocturnal wildlife.
- Go birdwatching and see if you can spot all 380 bird species.

Tel: 03 9086 6800
Fax: 03 9075 2873
Website: www.wildlife.gov.my
Kinabalu Park
Sabah

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Kinabalu Park is home to Malaysia’s highest mountain and one of South East Asia’s highest peaks, Mount Kinabalu. A favourite destination among adventurous souls keen to scale its heights, the view from Mount Kinabalu’s summit is often described as unparalleled and second to none. The park is also a wonderland of ecological treasures filled with thousands of plant and animal species, including a large number of endemic species.

Must do:
- Test yourself to the limit and scale up Mount Kinabalu.
- Take a refreshing break at the nearby Poring Hot Spring.
- Go mountain biking or jungle trekking.

Tel: 088 553 500 / 523 500
Fax: 088 486 434
Website: www.sabahparks.org.my
Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park
Sabah

Named after Malaysia’s first Prime Minister, this cluster of five islands – Gaya, Manukan, Mamutik, Sapi and Sulug – was gazetted as Sabah’s second national park in 1974. Popular among divers and eco-tourists, the park’s relatively-shallow waters is filled with an abundance of corals and aquatic species – perfect for snorkelling and diving for beginners. Each island features a different collection of flora and fauna, with Pulau Gaya being the largest and most colourful of the five.

Must do:
• Go swimming, snorkelling or diving in the clear turquoise waters.
• Indulge in a variety of watersports, such as parasailing and jet skiing.
• Go island-hopping.

Tel: 088 553 500 / 523 500
Fax: 088 486 434
Website: www.sabahparks.org.my
Kabili-Sepilok Nature Reserve
Sabah

Named after two rivers that flow through it, the Kabili-Sepilok Nature Reserve is home to an interesting and diverse array of wildlife and vegetation, consisting mainly of Dipterocarp and mangrove forests. There are several nature trails that lead through the forest, taking you from tropical highland forest to lowland mangrove swamps. The reserve is also home to the world-famous Sepilok Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre, where you get to see this endearing species up close and learn more about them.

Must do:
- Go on one of the many nature trails here, such as the Water Hole Trail and Mangrove Forest Trail.
- Visit the Sepilok Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre and learn more about the conservation and rehabilitation of orang utans.
- Visit the Rainforest Discovery Centre and learn more about the rainforest and its conservation.

Tel: 089 660 811 / 125 / 824
Fax: 089 669 170
Website: www.forest.sabah.gov.my
Kinabatangan River Safari
Sabah

Kinabatangan River is the longest river in Sabah. It is home to one of the world’s most diverse ecosystems, especially around its lower basin. The Lower Kinabatangan forest-covered floodplain – one of the largest in the country – is a renowned wildlife sanctuary where exotic species such as Proboscis monkeys, Sumatran rhinos and Asian elephants can be found. A river safari is the best way to discover Kinabatangan's rich ecosystem and abundant wildlife.

Must do:
• Spot a variety of wildlife along the river as you cruise along it.
• Go on a night safari to see a variety of nocturnal wildlife.
• Try to spot all eight species of hornbills and ten species of primates inhabiting this area.
• Stay with the local folk at a homestay.

Tel: 088 215 353 / 214 442
Fax: 088 222 476
Website: www.wildlife.sabah.gov.my
Mulu National Park
Sarawak

Recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000, Mulu National Park is home to an impressive collection of natural treasures, which includes razor-sharp limestone spikes called The Pinnacles and the world’s largest cave chamber which can fit in 40 Boeing 747 aircrafts called the Sarawak Chamber. One of its caves, the Deer Cave, also has the world’s largest cave passage as well as a unique rock formation with a silhouette that resembles the side profile of Abraham Lincoln, America’s 16th President.

Must do:
• Visit the four main caves – Deer, Lang, Clearwater and Wind.
• Walk along the 480m Mulu Canopy Skywalk.
• Go on one of the many exciting nature trails here, such as the Pinnacles Trail and the Medicine Plants Trail.
• Visit the Discovery Centre and learn more about Mulu National Park.

Tel: 085 792 300 / 301
Fax: 085 792 305
Website: www.mulupark.com
Bako National Park
Sarawak

Situated a mere 37km from Kuching, Sarawak's oldest national park offers an excellent introduction to Sarawak's rainforest. Home to a thriving ecosystem, it is one of the most interesting parks in Malaysia with almost every plant species in Borneo available here as well as a panoramic rocky shoreline filled with beautiful natural formations. Its well-maintained network of nature trails allows visitors to explore its attractions with ease.

Must do:
• Follow one of the 16 trails available here and discover the park’s unique ecosystem.
• Keep a lookout for the numerous wildlife roaming this area, especially the endemic Proboscis monkey.
• Go bird watching and spot some of the 150 bird species inhabiting this park.

Tel: 1 800 88 2526 / 082 610 088
Fax: 082 610 099
Website: www.sarawakforestry.com
Sarawak
Cultural Village
Sarawak

Situated at the foothills of the mythical Mount Santubong, this award-winning living museum showcases Sarawak’s rich cultural heritage. It displays the costumes, handicrafts, lifestyles and traditional dwellings of the state’s major ethnic communities, with a twice-daily cultural performance. Among the unique handicrafts that can be found here are Sarawak beads and Pua Kumbu (traditional Ibanese textile). This cultural village is also the venue for exciting international events such as the Rainforest World Music Festival and the World Harvest Festival.

Must do:
• Visit the longhouses for a glimpse into the lives of each ethnic tribe.
• Join the interactive music workshop at the Rainforest Music House.
• Go on the Penan Nature Trail.
• Visit the Handicraft Shop for some traditional souvenirs.

Tel: 082 846 411
Fax: 082 846 988
Website: www.scv.com.my
Redang Island
Terengganu

Pulau Redang is an enchanting island approximately 45km off the coast of Terengganu. Its clear waters contain hundreds of live coral species – ranked as some of the best in the world – and thousands of marine species including manta rays, stingrays and sharks. Part of a marine park, this island has 31 spectacular dive sites, which include two World War II historic shipwreck sites and a black coral garden.

Must do:
• Go swimming and snorkelling in its crystal clear waters.
• Explore all of the island’s 31 dive sites.
• Take a relaxing stroll along the 800m Long Beach.
• Go jungle trekking.

Tel: 09 631 2062
Fax: 09 622 7266
Website: www.dmpm.nre.gov.my
Pangkor Island
Perak

Situated off the coast of Perak, Pangkor Island is characterised by miles of white, sandy beaches and charming fishing villages. This idyllic tropical destination is also filled with attractions such as the historical Dutch Fort, Batu Bersurat, traditional boatyards and popular beaches such as Pantai Puteri Dewi, Pantai Pasir Bogak and Teluk Nipah. Just nearby is the exclusive Pangkor Laut Island.

Must do:
- Go swimming, snorkelling, fishing or kayaking.
- See how boats are built the traditional way at the boatyards.
- Try the fresh seafood dishes and snacks.

Tel: 05 683 4057
Fax: 05 683 8443
Website: www.tourism.gov.my
Sipadan Island
Sabah

Rated as one of the world’s top diving sites, Pulau Sipadan boasts a magical and truly breathtaking natural underwater beauty. Situated at the heart of the Indo-Pacific Basin, the centre of the world’s richest marine habitat, the oceanic island is surrounded by several exciting dive spots with equally intriguing names, such as the Hanging Gardens, the Barracuda Point and the Turtle Cavern. One of its most thrilling features is the Drop Off, where knee-high water suddenly gives way to a 600m drop.

Must do:
• Explore the island’s infamous underwater beauty at its 13 main dive sites.
• Indulge in a spot of birdwatching.
• Go island-hopping to nearby Mabul and Kapalai.

Tel: 088 553 500 / 523 500
Fax: 088 486 434
Website: www.sabahparks.org.my
Langkawi
Kedah

Part of an archipelago of 99 tropical islands just off the coast of Kedah, Langkawi Island is as much shrouded in age-old myths and legends as it is filled with natural beauty. It has been accorded Global Geopark status by UNESCO in 2007 for its diverse and astounding geological heritage, which dates back to more than 500 million years. Langkawi is also a popular duty-free destination.

Must do:
• Take a day trip to nearby Pulau Payar Marine Park, a popular diver’s paradise.
• Indulge in a range of water sports such as yachting, sailing and jet skiing.
• Go jungle trekking or just laze on one of the many idyllic beaches.
• Shop ‘til you drop in the duty-free heaven that is Kuah.
• Visit the many attractions on this island, such as Taman Lagenda, Kota Mahsuri and Langkawi Wildlife Park.
• Enjoy an exhilarating cable car ride all the way up to Gunung Mat Chincang.

Tel: 04 966 7186 / 699 7187
Fax: 04 966 1940
Website: lada.gov.my/tourism
Tioman Island
Pahang

Located approximately 56km off the coast of Pahang, Tioman Island is hailed as one of the world’s best beach getaways. Picturesque with towering twin volcanic peaks, soft golden sands, cool mountain streams and refreshing waterfalls amidst its lush tropical rainforest, the island’s waters are filled with a diverse range of aquatic species, colourful corals and mesmerising dive sites.

Must do:
• Go diving at one of the many dive sites dotted around the island.
• Go island-hopping to other islands within the Tioman Marine Park.
• Indulge in a host of watersports, such as boating, kayaking and windsurfing.
• Visit the charming local villages such as Salang, Tekek and Juara.
• Go jungle-trekking, mount-climbing or rock-climbing.

Tel: 09 414 0532 / 419 1595
Tel: 09 414 1622
Website: www.dmpm.nre.gov.my
Perhentian Island
Terengganu

Lying just off the edge of Pulau Redang Marine Park, Pulau Perhentian is a renowned scuba-diving destination. Comprising two main islands, Pulau Perhentian Besar and Pulau Perhentian Kecil, its natural beauty is legendary with lush virgin rainforest at its core, pure sandy beaches along its edges and amazing natural beauty in its clear aquamarine waters.

Must do:
• Explore the island’s underwater beauty at the many dive sites scattered around the island.
• Indulge in a range of watersports, such as windsurfing, sailing and angling.
• Go island-hopping.
• Try night-time diving.
• Go jungle-trekking.

Tel: 09 631 2062
Fax: 09 622 7266
Website: www.dmpm.nre.gov.my