



# Kedah

## MAP & GUIDE



Published by  
Tourism Malaysia, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Malaysia

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KEDAHG (English) / 11 / PR  
December 2023 (1223)

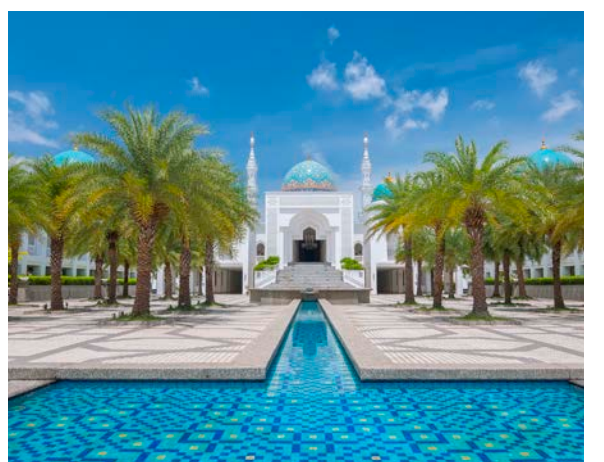
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**Legend**

- Built-up Area
- Field / Recreation
- River / Lake
- Expressway
- Major Road
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### POI PLACES OF INTEREST



**RUMAH TOK SU AND RUMAH SERI BANAI (MALAY TRADITIONAL HOUSES)**  
Nestled in a scenic garden, these two houses are typical examples of Kedah's traditional Malay homes. These houses used to be privately owned homes that were restored and relocated. The 100-year old Rumah Tok Su comprises six main sections and is supported by 34 pillars. It was brought from its original location in Bandar Baharu, about 100km from Alor Setar. Rumah Seri Banai was relocated from its original site in Kampung Banai.  
☎ +604 733 1162



**KEDAH STATE MUSEUM**  
Built in 1936, the museum is a showcase and repository of Kedah's rich cultural heritage. Its three floors of exhibits include antique weaponry, jewellery, costumes and furniture. Exhibits include artefacts from the Bujang Valley archaeological excavations and a *bunga emas* (ornate gold tree) which was offered as a tribute to the King of Siam during ancient times.  
☎ +604 733 1162  
www.muziumkedah.gov.my



**MASJID ALBUKHARY (ALBUKHARY MOSQUE)**  
The beautiful Albukhary Mosque was built by the Albukhary Foundation which carries out numerous charitable initiatives. Covering an area of 4.96 acres, the mosque can accommodate 15,000 worshippers at one time. Inspired by Islamic architecture from Turkey and Iran, the mosque boasts seven blue domes including the main dome which measures 14m in diameter. Its minaret is designed after the mosques in Madinah and Egypt.  
☎ +604 734 2222



**MENARA ALOR SETAR (ALOR SETAR TOWER)**  
Standing majestically at 165.5m, Alor Setar Tower is the second tallest tower in Malaysia after its counterpart, KL Tower. It is also one of the tallest telecommunications towers in the world. This state-of-the-art structure has an observation deck and a revolving restaurant that offers scenic views of the surroundings. From afar, the tower's design resembles a huge bunch of paddy stalks that are tied together, reflecting Kedah's status as Malaysia's main rice producer.  
☎ +604 720 2234



**WAT NIKRODHARAM THAI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**  
Situating between Jalan Telok Wanjah and Jalan Stadium, this striking Buddhist temple is a sight to behold. Built in 1968, the temple has a beautiful pediment and ornate carvings that reflect Thai and Chinese design elements. Every year, on Wesak Day, the temple attracts a stream of devotees from near and far.



**RUMAH MERDEKA**  
This historical building used to be the residence of Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Malaysia's first Prime Minister. The house was the premier's private retreat whenever he returned to Kedah. Equipped with audio visual aids, the house exhibits the original furniture, photographs, personal effects and souvenirs of the beloved statesman. It was here that Tunku pursued his creative writing, entertained foreign dignitaries and organised successful election strategies.  
☎ +604 720 4205 (National Archives of Malaysia)



**BIG CLOCK BUILDING**  
A historical bell tower that keeps time, the Big Clock Building is associated with several other buildings in the area. Built in 1912, this building had an important function – to announce the Muslim prayer time. In the past, the clock would ring at prayer time, prompting the beating of the gongs at the nearby Balai Nobat. Then, the muezzin at Masjid Zahir would begin the *azan*, or the Muslim call to prayer.  
☎ +604 730 1957



**BALAI NOBAT**  
A three-tiered tower with an onion-shaped dome, Balai Nobat or Nobat Hall is a repository of instruments that belong to the Royal Orchestra. The nine piece ensemble includes *serunai* (flute), *nafiri* (a long trumpet), *gendang* (drum) and gong. The melodious nobat music is only played during royal ceremonial occasions such as inaugurations and weddings. Visitors can view Balai Nobat from the outside.  
☎ +604 730 1957



**MASJID ZAHIR (ZAHIR MOSQUE)**  
Built in 1912, Masjid Zahir is one of the oldest and most beautiful mosques in the country. Occupying an area of 124,412 sq ft, the mosque was built on the burial site of warriors who died defending Kedah against Siam in 1821. It has one main dome and five smaller domes which represent the five pillars of Islam. The design of this mosque is inspired by the Aziz Mosque in Langkat, North Sumatra. Masjid Zahir is regularly voted as one of the top ten most beautiful mosques in the world.  
☎ +604 733 3288



**BALAI BESAR**  
Built in 1898, Balai Besar translates to Grand Audience Hall. This wooden pavilion was originally erected in 1735 by His Royal Highness Sultan Muhammad Jiwa Zainal Adlin Muazzam Shah, the 19th Sultan of Kedah. However, it was destroyed after attacks by Bugis and Siam. In 1904, during the reign of Sultan Abdul Hamid Halim Shah, the hall was restored for the wedding ceremonies of five princesses and princesses. Balai Besar was also used for installation ceremonies and conferences.  
☎ +604 730 1957



**MUZIUUM DIRAJA (ROYAL MUSEUM)**  
Situating next to Balai Besar, the Royal Museum displays the regalia of the royal family. Erected in 1735, this building was originally built as a palace when Alor Setar was declared as the capital city of Kedah. It was known by several other names such as Istana Kota Setar, Istana Mak Wan Besar, Istana Pelamin or Rumah Pelamin. During the war, the palace fell to the hands of the Japanese forces. It was restored in 1983 and made into a Royal Museum.  
☎ +604 733 1162



**BALAI SENI NEGERI KEDAH (KEDAH STATE ART GALLERY)**  
Balai Seni Negeri Kedah is a beautiful building with strong Colonial influences. One of the earliest modern buildings in Alor Setar, it has five sections housing antiques, relics and art pieces by renowned Malaysian artists such as AB Ibrahim. Built in 1912, the building served as the High Court before it was converted into the Head Office of several government departments. It was made the State Art Gallery in 1983.  
☎ +604 723 7937



**TANJUNG CHALI**  
Situating along the Kedah River, Tanjung Chali waterfront is an ideal recreation spot. A major green lung of Alor Setar, the area has a park, town square and tower. There is also a food court in the vicinity where visitors can sample local snacks and specialities.  
☎ +604 733 2499



**PEKAN RABU**  
Pekan Rabu literally means 'Wednesday Market' in Malay, simply because it used to operate once a week on Wednesdays. Malaysia's fourth Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, worked as a trader here when his studies were interrupted during the Japanese occupation. This bustling bazaar offers some 350 stalls selling a wide range of products. Get everything from farm produce to apparel, traditional handicrafts and local delicacies. Pekan Rabu is open daily.  
☎ +604 733 5929



**SULTAN ABDUL HAMID COLLEGE**  
Established in 1908, this is one of the most prestigious learning institutions in the country. The first principal of this college was Enok Mohamad Iskandar, the father of Tun Mahathir Mohamad. Sultan Abdul Hamid College has an illustrious alumni list including His Royal Highness the Sultan of Kedah, the Regent of Kedah as well as the first and fourth Prime Ministers of Malaysia.  
☎ +604 733 2300



**MAHATHIR MOHAMAD'S BIRTHPLACE**  
This traditional wooden house was the birthplace and early home of Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Malaysia's longest-serving Prime Minister. It holds many stories of the former premier's formative years under the strict guidance of his father. Exhibits include furniture, documents, school photographs and many more. The complex consists of two exhibitions halls, an auditorium, an office, a souvenir shop and the first ice factory in Alor Setar.  
☎ +604 720 4200



### USEFUL CONTACTS

**Langkawi**  
Tourists Information Centre, Langkawi International Airport  
Tel: +604 955 7155

**Mainland Kedah**  
Tourists Information Centre, Bukit Kayu Hitam  
Tel: +604 922 1076 / 1077



# Malaysia

Situated in the heart of Southeast Asia, Malaysia is a vibrant destination with a diversity of cultures and traditions. This tropical paradise boasts pristine jungles and verdant national parks that are teeming with numerous species of birds and wildlife. Malaysia's sun-drenched islands and beaches are home to a stunning range of marine life. Its natural wealth is complemented by magnificent modern landmarks and heritage buildings. There is something to charm every visitor, be it a history-lover, nature-enthusiast, sun-seeker or an avid shopper. Explore the length and breadth of the country to discover the many attractions of Malaysia!

## Kedah

Kedah beckons visitors with picturesque views and rustic charm. The state is known as the Ricebowl of Malaysia for its vast expanses of rice fields. Kedah is also touted as the most ancient state in Malaysia. It lays claim to some of the most outstanding historical attractions in the region. The most prominent is Bujang Valley, which was the cradle of a thriving ancient civilisation. The state capital of Kedah is Alor Setar, a bustling town with impressive landmarks and historic buildings. Langkawi, a world-renowned island resort, is also situated in Kedah.

### GETTING THERE

Situated within the province of Kedah, both Langkawi and the capital of Kedah, Alor Setar are easily accessible by land, air or rail.

#### By Air

Alor Setar, Kedah is connected to other states in Malaysia via North-South Expressway. Malaysia Airlines, AirAsia and Batik Air offer daily flights to the city from Kuala Lumpur. The flight duration is approximately one hour. Langkawi is connected by air to Kuala Lumpur, Penang and Singapore.

#### By Rail

ETS express train departs from Kuala Lumpur and stops at major towns in Kedah such as Alor Setar, Sungai Petani and Gurun.

#### By Road

Bukit Kayu Hitam is the entry point for visitors who are driving in from Thailand.

#### By Sea

Visitors heading to Langkawi can disembark at Alor Setar and proceed to the island by ferry. The jumping-off points to Langkawi are situated in Kuala Kedah and Kuala Perlis. Langkawi is also a stopover for the luxury liner. Visitors from Thailand can sail into Langkawi from Satun.

### GETTING AROUND

Buses and taxis are easily available in Alor Setar and Sungai Petani. Alor Setar's main bus terminal is Shahab Perdana. Getting around Langkawi is fairly easy as there are car and motorbike rentals.



### SHOPPING

Kedah is a favourite destination among shoppers, as it has several duty-free shopping zones. Bukit Kayu Hitam, situated on the border of Malaysia and Thailand, is one of the most popular duty-free shopping zones in the country. The island of Langkawi is another favourite destination among shoppers. Visitors can stock up on imported confectionery, crockery, apparel, electrical items and gadgets. In towns such as Alor Setar and Sungai Petani, numerous shopping malls offer the best brands and labels. For a unique experience, try shopping at local bazaars such as Pekan Rabu.



### DINING

Kedah is the place to savour an assortment of Northern favourites. Among the specialties in Kedah are Laksa Kuala Kedah, a dish comprising rice noodles and aromatic fish gravy. It is garnished with cucumber, onion and herbs. Other delicacies include Pekasam or a preserved salted fish and Nasi Ulam, which is a combination of rice, fresh herbs and spices. Other unique dishes include Gulai Rebusung, or stir-fried bamboo shoots. The town of Kuala Kedah is famed for its Laksa while the seaside town Tanjung Dawai draws seafood lovers from around the state. The island of Langkawi has numerous international restaurants, including restaurants that offer cooking classes.

### ACCOMMODATION

**Alor Setar**  
ASRC Hotel Tel: +604 732 8313  
Fuller Hotel Tel: +604 733 3999  
Grand Alora Hotel Tel: +604 770 8888

Grand Crystal Hotel Tel: +604 731 3333  
Hotel Seri Malaysia Tel: +604 730 8737  
Comfort Hotel Tel: +604 734 4866  
Lee Garden Motel Tel: +604 772 0192  
Motel Bee Garden Tel: +604 733 5355  
Samila Hotel Tel: +604 731 8888  
Sabena.com Hotel Tel: +604 733 1667  
Seberang Perak Hotel Tel: +604 772 2288  
Sentosa Regency Hotel Tel: +604 730 3999  
Star City Hotel Tel: +604 735 5888  
The Jerai Hotel Tel: +604 733 5917  
Royale Signature Hotel Tel: +604 735 7878

**Sungai Petani**  
Cinta Sayang Golf & Country Club Tel: +604 441 4666  
Emerald Puteri Hotel Tel: +604 431 5555  
Hotel Seri Malaysia Tel: +604 423 4060  
Harvard Suasana Hotel Tel: +604 458 8888  
Northern Lodge Tel: +604 431 2323  
Pantai Merdeka Resort Tel: +604 437 7555  
Park Avenue Hotel Tel: +604 431 7777  
SP Inn Tel: +604 431 3411  
Swiss Inn Hotel Tel: +604 422 3333  
Prestige Hotel Sungai Petani Tel: +604 430 3000

**Pendang**  
Pendang Lake Resort Tel: +604 759 9059

**Kubang Pasu**  
Bustani Hotel Tel: +604 917 7777  
EDC Hotel Tel: +604 928 8888  
The Universiti Inn Tel: +604 924 4545

**Sik**  
Rumah Rehat Sik Tel: +604 469 4288

**Kulim**  
Hotel Seri Malaysia Kulim Tel: +604 490 9898  
Kulim Inn Tel: +604 490 0420  
Fuller Hotel Kulim Tel: +604 492 7999

**Langkawi**  
Adya Hotel Tel: +604 960 8000  
Berjaya Langkawi Resort Tel: +604 959 1888  
Bayview Hotel Langkawi Tel: +604 966 1818  
Casa Del Mar Tel: +604 955 2388  
Cenang Plaza Beach Hotel Tel: +604 955 8228  
Dayang Bay Serviced Apartment & Resort Tel: +604 966 5515  
Geopark Hotel, Teluk Burau Tel: +604 959 2300  
Geopark Inn, Kuah Tel: +604 966 5757  
HQ Hotel Langkawi Tel: +604 966 8001 / 8003  
Holiday Villa Beach Resort Tel: +604 952 9999  
Kampung Tok Senik Resort Tel: +604 955 7288  
Langgura Baron Resort Tel: +604 955 8880  
Langkawi Lagoon Resort Tel: +604 955 8181  
Panorama Hotel Langkawi Resort Tel: +604 955 2721  
Resort World Langkawi Tel: +604 955 5111  
The Westin Langkawi Tel: +604 960 8888  
Tanjung Rhu Resort Tel: +604 959 1033  
The Datalang Langkawi Tel: +604 950 0500  
The St. Regis Langkawi Tel: +604 960 6666  
Vivanta by Taj, Rebek Marina Tel: +604 966 5566

**Baling**  
Bayu Hotel Tel: +604 470 0369

### PLACES OF INTEREST



**LANGKAWI**  
A cluster of 99 glorious islands, Langkawi boasts emerald waters, stretches of white sandy beaches and natural attractions. It is famed as one of the region's best holiday destinations, offering superb beach resorts, an international airport, picturesque golf courses and well-equipped marinas. Langkawi has the distinction of being Southeast Asia's first UNESCO Global Geopark, a status accorded for its geological formations. Kuah, the island's main entry point and administrative centre, beckons with more sightseeing spots.  
[www.lada.gov.my](http://www.lada.gov.my)



**GUNUNG KERIANG**  
Gunung Keriang is an elephant shaped limestone formation. It is a favourite spot for caving, hiking and jungle trekking. Explorers can enjoy a lovely view of the rustic countryside and sprawling paddy plantations. This limestone hill also contains nearly 10 different types of rocks, including crystal formations. Gunung Keriang Recreational Park has walking trails with concrete railings and gazebos. This nature-lover's getaway is situated about 12km from Alor Setar, near the Paddy Museum.



**NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE**  
National Science Centre is situated on a five-acre site next to the Paddy Museum in Gunung Keriang. The first-of-its-kind in the northern region, this centre has a range of interactive displays that encourage children to explore the world of science. Galleries include Science Mall, Fascinating Tunnel, Islam and Science Corner as well as Orzya Education Park. The building itself is an interesting showcase of innovation with energy-efficient and environmentally friendly architecture.  
[www.psn.gov.my](http://www.psn.gov.my)



**PADDY MUSEUM**  
One of Kedah's must-visit attractions, the Paddy Museum gives an insight into paddy planting and harvesting with an exceptional collection of exhibits. Visitors will find everything related to paddy, from the tools that are used, to types of rice, and even the taboos and legends associated with rice-farming. The top floor of the museum features a revolving platform where visitors can sit back and enjoy a 360° wall mural and diorama depicting life in a rice farming village.  
[www.muziumkedah.gov.my](http://www.muziumkedah.gov.my)



**TERUSAN WAN MAT SAMAN**  
Stretching 36km between Alor Setar and Gurun, Terusan Wan Mat Saman is the longest canal or aqueduct in Malaysia. The canal was built in 1885, and was a monumental achievement at the time as it became a vital channel of irrigation for the paddy fields in Kedah. The canal is named after Dato' Wan Muhammad Saman Wan Ismail, the state's Chief Minister at the time who instructed the building of the canal.



**GUNUNG JERAI**  
Gunung Jerai is Kedah's oldest hill resort and recreational park. Standing at 1,217m above sea level, this legendary mountain is also the highest peak in Kedah. In days of yore, Gunung Jerai was a landmark for ships that sailed along the waters. The mountain and its surroundings are ideal for nature-based activities such as hiking, camping and mountain biking. On the way to the top, stop by at the Forestry Museum (Muzium Perhutanan). Resort accommodation is located atop the hill. Visitors can enjoy a panoramic view of the sea and nearby islands.



**BUJANG VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM**  
Sprawling some 400 sq km, Lembah Bujang or Bujang Valley is one of the richest archaeological sites in the country. At the zenith of its fame from the 3rd to the 12 century AD, Bujang Valley was a vibrant trading centre and a flourishing kingdom. More than 20 candis or ancient temples have been unearthed in the area. This museum showcases nearly 1,000 artefacts that were recovered from the buried civilisation.  
[www.jmm.gov.my](http://www.jmm.gov.my)



**SUNGAI MERBOK MANGROVE FOREST RESERVE**  
Covering 4,114 hectares, Sungai Merbok Mangrove Forest Reserve is among the largest in Malaysia. Sungai Merbok mangroves support an incredible diversity of animal life and ecosystems. It is also a hotspot for birdwatching as more than 80 species of birds populate the area. River cruises through the mangrove forest can be arranged. Boats can be chartered from Semling Jetty. This well-equipped jetty complex has a car park, information centre as well as a Mangrove Forest Reserve Museum.  
[www.mfr.gov.my](http://www.mfr.gov.my)



**SUNGAI SEDIM TREE TOP WALK & WHITewater RAFTING**  
One of the world's longest tree top walks, Sungai Sedim Tree Top Walk takes visitors on an exhilarating adventure through a lush rainforest canopy. Stretching 925m, this walkway is built with galvanised steel and equipped with railings. Visitors can have a spectacular view of Sedim River, one of the best locations in the country for whitewater rafting. Various species of birds, butterflies, hornbills and small animals can be spotted. Chalets and dormitory style accommodation is available.  
[www.sstwp.com](http://www.sstwp.com)



**ULU LEGONG HOT SPRINGS**  
Situated about 22km from Baling, the Ulu Legong Hot springs recreational centre comprises five pools with temperatures ranging between 30° to 60°C. Visitors come here to relax and soak in its therapeutic sulphur-rich waters. It is the only hot springs in the country to operate around the clock. Facilities include a 24-hour cafeteria, gazebos, ladies' pool, changing rooms and showers.  
[www.ululegong.com](http://www.ululegong.com)



**ULU MUDA ECO PARK**  
Tucked away in the northeastern corner of Kedah, this remote 120,000-hectare forest is known as a sanctuary for endangered and rare wildlife. The area is home to 109 species of mammals, 54 species of reptiles, 33 species of fish and 200 species of bird. Activities include camping, birdwatching, fishing and jungle trekking. The entry point to the park is from Gubir Jetty. Accommodation is available in Gubir and at the nearby Pedu Lake.  
[www.ulumuda.com](http://www.ulumuda.com)



\*Map not drawn to scale