

its abundant and fascinating marine life, deep sea fishing in Kota Kinabalu is indeed a luxury for fishing lovers. As we voyage across the sea in daytime, it was a delight to be greeted by friendly dolphins.

- Nobuo Kakizaki, Sport Fishing Angler, Japan



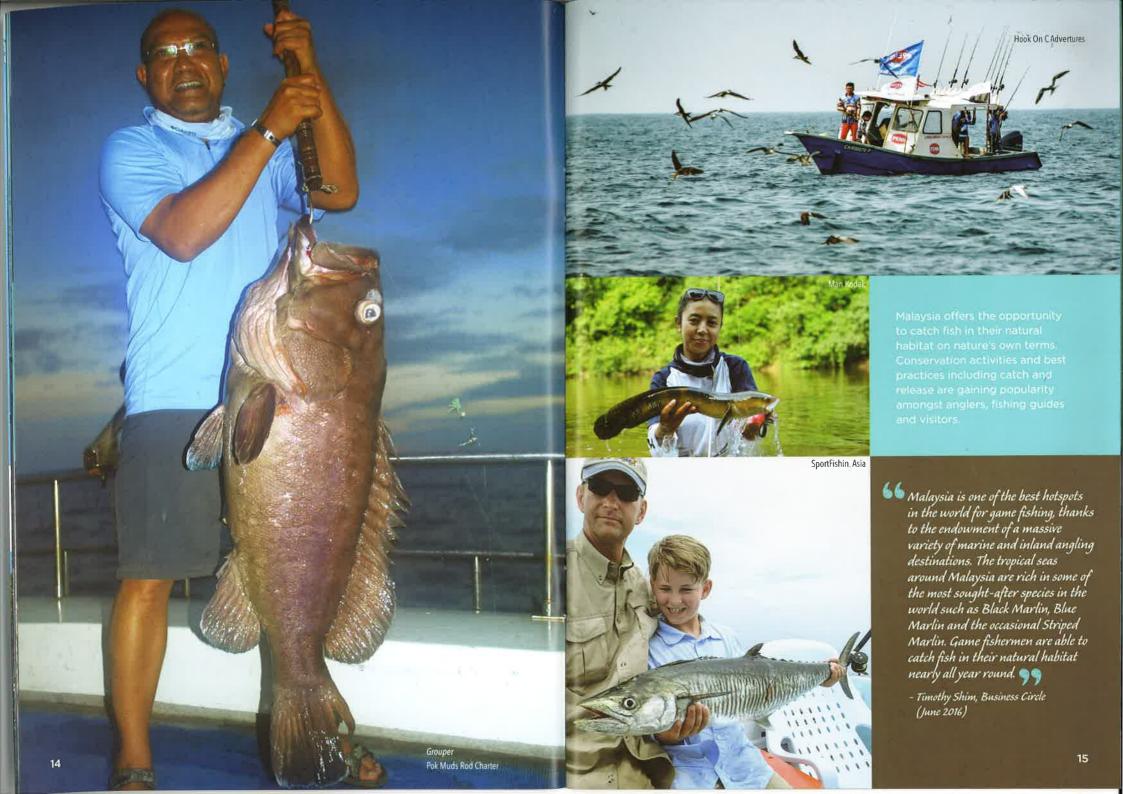
SportFishin Asia









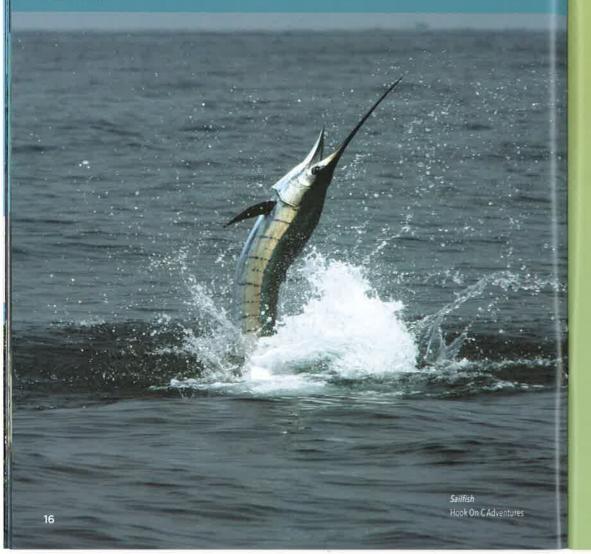


Varieties of Fish

Sea Fishing

Malaysia has one of the most spectacular and richest marine habitats in the world. There are approximately 2,250 different species of fish in Malaysia, thanks to its unique geographic location, mangroves, reefs and tropical climate.

The Malaysian seas offer a wide range of depths and terrain which lead to a large diversity of fishes found in the waters. Groupers, Snappers and Threadfins are found in shallower depths down to 100 m while the popular Sailfish and Narrow-barred Mackerel are seasonal catches. Other target fishes include the Amberjacks, Giant Trevally, Dogtooth Tuna and Barracudas.



SAILFISH / Layaran

(Istiophorus platypterus)

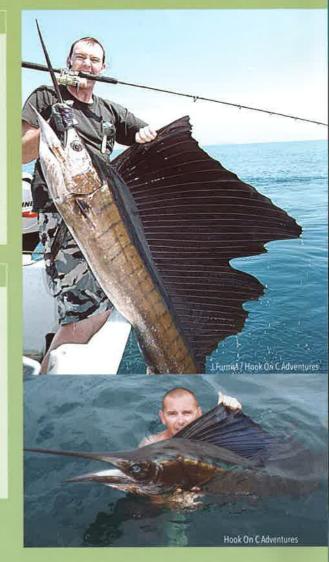
The star in Malaysian waters! Sallfish are the fastest fish in the ocean and a highly prized game fish known for their incredible jumps and great speed. They've been clocked leaping out of the water at more than 110 km/hour.

Description

Befitting its name, the Sailfish has a massive sail-like first dorsal fin of cobalt blue with black spots, which is normally kept folded down but may be raised when it feels threatened or excited, making it appear larger than it actually is. The sailfish has a long and slender body with an elongated upper jaw forming a lance or spear. The sailfish can reach up to a length of a whopping seven feet! The biggest caught so far was around 88 inches weighing 72 kg.

Location

Dubbed as the Sailfish Capital of Asia, the islands off Kuala Rompin, Pahang may be the best place in Asia where the sailfish congregates in large numbers. Sailfishing season off Kuala Rompin begins around July until mid November. Situated at the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia in the state of Pahang, Kuala Rompin is about 200 km from Singapore (3 hours drive) and 270 km from the Malaysian state capital of Kuala Lumpur (3½ hours drive from KLIA).



GIANT TREVALLY / Gerepuh

(Caranx ignobilis)

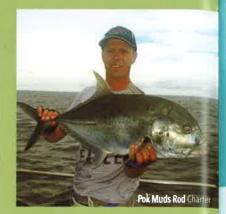
Giant Trevally or "GT" to anglers, is called the 'king of the reefs' for good reason. They make tough adversaries, built with pure muscle and strength and are powerful swimmers. To sport fishermen, the GT is a prized catch and makes a pretty impressive picture once caught, with you struggling to wrap your arms around this giant fish!

Description

The Giant Trevally ranges in colour from silver with occasional dark spots to jet black (usually the males turn black once they mature and are ready to mate) and grows to as much as 5.5 feet long and weighs up to 175 pounds. The GT is distinguished by its steep head profile and strong tail scutes (a shield-like scale).

Location

Located about eight hours from Penang's Teluk
Bahang fishing jetty is **Tukun Perak**, a rocky outcrop
that juts out in the middle of nowhere in the Straits
of Malacca, It is a fishing paradise for local anglers
and a hotspot for Giant Trevally. Other areas include **Pulau Sembilan** (2.5 hours, boat ride from the
popular island resort of Pulau Pangkor) and **Pulau Jarak** (34 km southwest of Lumut, Perak) on the
Straits of Malacca. On the East Coast, the area off the
oil rig platforms of **Kuala Terengganu**, **Dungun** and **Kemaman** is a hotspot for these flat bodied fighters.



DOGTOOTH TUNA

(Gymnosarda unicolor

The Dogtooth Tuna is a prized catch sought by sport fishermen seeking a challenge. It's tough to land this fish because of its habit in making a speedy dive straight down, even against the heaviest tackle.

Description

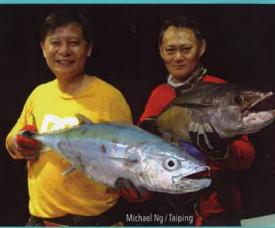
This fish is large in size and can grow up 2.50 m and 130 kg in weight. It is always swimming with open jaws. Its coloration is blue green on the back, silver on the side, whitish on the belly and two white tips on the two back fins close to its tail fin.

SportFishin. Asia

Location

The Spratly Islands off Kota Kinabalu, Sabah are nutrient rich and are a virtual fishing paradise. This pristine deepwater area has coral atolls rising from depths of 1.000 - 2,000 m and is Malaysia's premier saltwater game fishing destination. Strictly controlled with regards to boats and numbers of anglers, with no commercial activity whatsoever, this is the place to target the Dogtooth Tuna.

Labuan Island off the coast of Borneo is strategically located at the heart of Southeast Asia. An international offshore financial centre, Labuan, along with its small islands, boasts fine resort hotels and some top class game fishing. Within a few nautical miles off Labuan itself, the Marlin, Sailfish, Narrow barred Mackerel, Wahoo, Dogtooth Tuna and Dolphinfish can be found. However, the finest fishing grounds are the Luconia Shoals located 164 nautical miles west off Labuan. The shoals offer fine game fishing and excellent deep water bottom fishing, with massive Grouper being fairly common.







YELLOWFIN TUNA / Tuna Sirip Kuning

(Thunnus albacares)

A highly sought-after game fish, they form schools with other tunas like Skipjack and Bigeye, and are also known to associate with dolphins. A pelagic migratory species, they are found throughout the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans in deep, warm temperate oceanic waters, it has been known to come fairly close to shore.

Description

It is torpedo-shaped with dark metallic blue backs, yellow sides, and a silver belly. Their name is derived from long anal and dorsal fins and finlets that are bright yellow. Yellowfin Tuna are a threatened species that can grow up to 450 pounds and reach up to a length of 7 feet.

Location

The Luconia Shoals lie around 100 km off the Sarawak coast and possesses one of the largest reef complexes in the South China Sea. Home to a rich variety of marine species, this area is also the site where a 150-year-old British cargo vessel known as Viscount Melbourne sank.

The Spratly Islands off Kota Kinabalu is another site for this species.

BORNEO BLACK BASS / Tembaring

(Lutjanus goldiei)

A highly sought-after prized catch, the Black Bass is an aggressive fish, which will battle to test the anglers' fishing ability. One has to be precise, able to cast the lures next to sunken logs, tree trunks and mangrove roots, to entice the fish out of its hideout.

Description

The Black Bass looks identical and is often mistaken for Mangrove Jack as both have large canine teeth and powerful jaws. However, the Black Bass is larger and chunkier in size, and has a dark brown to grey-black body with a golden-brown belly. It also has dusky brown to blackish fins with slight yellow hue on the edges.

Location

There are very few places in the world where the Black Bass can be found. One of the hotspots lie in the east coast of Sabah, mainly around Lahad Datu, Tawau and Sandakan.





SNAPPER / Ikan Merah, Jenahak

Known as the 'king of the deep', this species have been heavily fished over the decades and its numbers are said to be on the decline due to overfishing by commercial fishermen.

Description

Snappers are predatory fish with sharp, conical teeth and often with canine teeth which includes one or two canine teeth on either side of the jaw. These canine teeth help distinguish the snappers from the groupers, as they are similar in overall appearance. Snappers get their name from their tendency to snap or bite swiftly at food. Some species of snappers can grow to about a meter in length.



Location

Pulau Jarak is a small island in the Straits of Malacca and is the newest destination for diving or sport fishing in Malaysia, It lies approximately 34 km southwest of the town of Lumut, in the state of Perak. Luconia Shoals off Miri in East Malaysia is a hotspot for Ruby Snappers.

MACKEREL / Tenggiri

(Scomberomorus spp)

The Mackerel sports an impressive set of razor-sharp teeth, capable of cutting 150 lb mono trace trolled with live or dead baits without even causing the line to move! It is an extremely fast, powerful fish and puts up an impressive fight when hooked.

Description

The Narrow-barred Mackerel has grey-bluish, thin bars over its flanks – the famous "narrow bars". The mackerel may look a little plain with a blue, grey or green back and bluish-purple bars, but the beautiful luminous silver sheen of fresh Mackerel is something to behold. The Mackerel has an elongated body slightly compressed on the flanks, It has a pointed snout with a large mouth and big strong teeth. The Mackerel has two dorsal fins close together, the first is long and low, the second short and taller. Sizes of up to 25 kg have been found in Malaysian waters.

Location

Labuan off the coast of Borneo; The Spratly Islands off Kota Kinabalu, Sabah; Kuala Rompin, Pahang (best season between the months of March to June); Tukun, Perak and Luconia Shoals off Mirl, Sarawak,





BARRACUDA / Alu Alu

(Sphyraenidae)

Barracudas often congregate in schools during the day except for the Great Barracuda. They are fast, voracious predators, feeding on other fishes. The speed and sharp toothed aggression that a barracuda demonstrates in response to a properly presented lure or live bait, makes it a worthy adversary. The Great Barracuda can grow up to 1.8 m in length.

Description

The Barracuda has a long cylindrical body with a long pointed snout and a mouth full of canine teeth, Its coloration varies from greyish to greenish brown on the back to silvery flanks and belly. There are two distinct types found in Malaysian waters – a yellow tipped tail and a black tipped tail. Specimens of over 40 kg have been caught in Malaysian waters, However, 5 - 15 kg is a common range.

Location

A two-hour boat ride or 25 km from Pulau Pangkor lies **Pulau Sembilan**, a cluster of nine islands, It is an angler's paradise and excellent place for fishing fanatics. This area is well-known amongst anglers, and called an 'Anglers Paradise' because of the rich variety of marine species including the Barracuda. Other spots include **Pulau Jarak** and **Tukun**, **Perak**,

GROUPER / Kerapu

(Serranidae / various species)

The Grouper is one of the popularly targeted fish in Malaysian waters. Generally, groupers can be found in the rocky seabeds, near wrecks and among corals. It hides in the cavities and holes in the rocks and corals and feeds on smaller fishes found in the vicinity. The Giant grouper can weigh up to more than 150 kg but such a big fish is rarely found these days. Groupers are easy fish to catch. They rarely venture out from their comfort zone. However, to catch them, anglers need to know the terrain of the seabed or where the wrecks are located.

Description

The Grouper belongs to the *Serranidae* family, a large and important family of fish, consisting of more than 375 species. These are mostly temperate and tropical marine fish, ranging in size from less than 30 cm (12 in) to about 3,7 m (12 ft). They are robust, sharptoothed, bass-like fish, which live near the bottom and feed on fishes, crustaceans and shellfish.

Location

Pulau Perak lies 60 nautical miles south west of the legendary island of Langkawi where the southern Andaman sea meets the Straits of Malacca. This relatively new discovery has so far produced Big Eye Tuna, Rainbow Runner, Cobia, Sailfish, Striped Marlin, Wahoo, Shark, Narrow Barred Mackerel and Giant Trevally. It also boasts excellent deep sea fishing with good sized Groupers and Snappers, Other locations include the Spratly Islands: Pulau Sembilan: Pulau Jarak and Luconia Shoals off Miri, Sarawak:





SQUID / Sotong

(Loliginidae / various species)

Each year from April to the end of August, the northeast coast of Malaysia plays host to squid jigging activities. Hundreds of fishermen go far out into the ocean in their boats just before dark in an attempt to catch a bunch of squids. They stay out on their boats all night long with large lights beaming into the water, emulating the moon to attract the gelatinous creatures.

Description

Squids are fast growing, have a rather short lifespan and give a good fight on the right tackle. Big squids are a lot of fun on lighter tackle. Other squids will often attack and cannibalise their hooked struggling counterparts. You can often see other squids following a hooked one to the surface so be prepared to offer them your jigs! It can be a very addictive type of fishing on its own.

Location

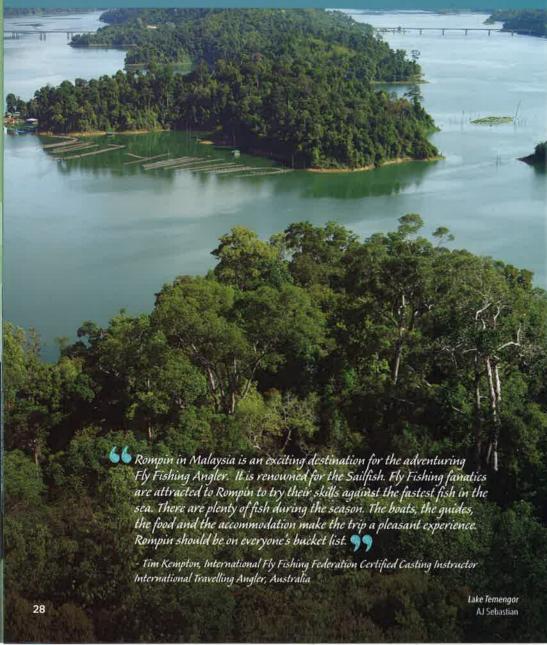
Kuala Rompin, Pahang (between the months of April to August); Kuala Terengganu - located in northeastern Peninsular Malaysia, is less than an hour by air or around five hours by road. Squids are abundant around the months of June and July off the east coast of Malaysia.





Inland Fishing

Malaysia's abundant rivers and lakes set amidst lush tropical rainforests offer a range of fishing experiences for anglers. With more than 300 species of freshwater fish, of which 40 species can be caught on rod and line, anglers can aim to target trophy species such as the hugely popular Giant Snakehead, Sebarau, Gourami and the Malaysian Mahseer.



GIANT SNAKEHEAD / Toman

(Channa micropeltes)

Malaysia is amongst the top places in Southeast Asia to land Giant Snakeheads. These ferocious species grab baits or lures and dash to the nearest structure, leaving your line in a tangled mess! The Giant Snakehead normally bites its prey to stun it, swims off a short distance and then repositions itself before swallowing the bait.

Description

The Giant Snakehead possess an eel-like body and a mouth full of razor-sharp teeth. The juvenile has red, orange and black lateral stripes. Over time, the colours fade, and the snakehead develops a bluish-black and white striped pattern.

Location

Tasik Temengor is located in the south of the Royal Belum State Park with a variety of natural flora and fauna. Surrounded by the oldest rainforest in the world, the man-made lake of Temengor is the second largest lake in Peninsular Malaysia. Sepayan Dam, Rompin located 30 minutes from Rompin town is another a hotspot for the ferocious Giant Snakeheads. Other sites include Air Kuning Perak, Lake Kenyir, Terengganu (especially during the rainy season) and Bakun, Sabah



MALAYSIAN JUNGLE PERCH / HAMPALA BARB / Sebarau

(Hampala macrolepidota)

The Malaysian Jungle Perch or better known in Malay as "Sebarau" roves around rivers and lakes, slashing out at small fishes before returning to the depths or under snags. Most anglers use lures for this fish. Make sure your lure hooks are strong enough to handle their awesome jaws. They are also perhaps the most exciting river fish to be taken on lure, dashing between rocks and sunken timber.

Description

The Malaysian Jungle Perch can grow to more than 50 cm in length and weigh more than three kg. This toothless carnivore is armed with a powerful suction jaw, sharp gill rakers, speed and a keen instinct to hunt. To make up for the lack of teeth, the Jungle Perch possesses a thick leathery mouth,

Location

Tasik Kenyir or Lake Kenyir is a man-made lake located in Terenggand. It is known as an angler's paradise where fishing is concerned, with many rivers and tributaries serving as a breeding ground for hundreds of species of fish including the Jungle Perch: Taman Negara Pahang and Endau Rompin National Park. Pahang: Tasik Temengor, Perak and Tasik Bera, Pahang: Tasik Bera is known as Malaysia's largest natural lake, located about 70 km from Temerlon town and is well connected by road; Tasik Sembrong is located about 10 km from Air Hitam town in the state of Johor along the Air Hitam - Kluang road;

BUTTERFLY PEACOCK BASS

(Cichla ocellaris)

This fish was first introduced as an aquarium fish in the early 1990s before anglers found its potential as a game fish and released it into lakes and ponds. The fighting quality of the Peacock Bass is legendary. Once hooked it just goes berserk.

Description

The Peacock Bass is a colourful eye catching fish with an olive-green body that transitions into a yellow-white belly and is marked on the body and back by black blotches and stripes. But it's the distinctive ocellus or "eye-spot" seen on the tail fin that commands the most attention and gives this fish its name. The distinctive tail feather of the male peacock bass has garnered the fish names such as Peacock Cichlid, Butterfly Peacock Bass, Peacock Bass and Eye Spot Cichlid.

Location

Air Kuning, Perak - Nestled near the town of Tanjung Tualang, Air Kuning is located 172 kilometres from Kuala Lumpur. It is one of the best freshwater fishing spots and contain two main trophy species, the Peacock Bass and Giant Snakehead; Lake Chenderoh, Perak is another location to search for this species.





GIANT GOURAMI / Kalui

(Osphronemua goramy)

A favourite target for fly fishermen, the Giant Gourami is a beautiful ornamental fish found throughout Southeast Asia and lives in freshwater but can also be found in brackish water.

Description

It is easily identifiable with a pronounced forehead and pair of long sensory barbels protruding from its chin with thick pronounced lips and small eyes.

Location

Tasik Sembrong is located about 10 km from Air Hitam town in the state of Johor on the Air Hitam - Kluang road; Tasik Kenyir or Lake Kenyir is in the state of Terengganu and Lake Temengor lies in Perak.





MALAYSIAN RED MAHSEER / Kelah

(Tor tambroides)

A popular game fish, the Malaysian Red Masheer can only survive in clean river ecosystems. Endangered, it is found in the fast flowing rivers of Malaysia's National Parks and fishing is supervised by Park authorities. It represents the greatest challenge for the river angler who is locating the fish, tempting it to take your bait and finally fighting and landing it with utmost care and preparation. Many a time, all you have to show for your efforts is a broken line or sunburn.

Description

With its large head, distinct fold of flesh below the lower lip, bright scales and varicoloured fins, the Mahseer is an attractive fish.

Location

Taman Negara Pahang is the country's first national park, covering more than 4,500 km² (1700 sq. miles). Within the park, fishing at Sungai Tahan (Tahan River) is only permitted under supervision. Taman Negara Endau Rompin is another a good spot for the elusive Red Masheer.



MALAYSIAN BONYTONGUE / AROWANA / Kelisa

(Osphronemua goramy)

Arowana or Kelisa is a totally protected species. They are mostly found in more remote areas, but must be released if caught. This fish is a stealth predator that can attack and possesses powerful stamina. It can jump almost a metre and break lines.

Description

Asian Arowanas have long bodies; large, elongated pectoral fins dorsal and anal fins located far back on the body. The mouth is oblique with a very wide gape. The prominent lower law has two barbels at its tip. The Green Arowanas found in Malaysian waters are dark green on the back, silvery or golden green on its sides, and silvery or whitish on the ventral surface, with dark greenish or bluish patches visible through the lateral scales. In mature fish, the top of the eye and the head behind the eye are bright emerald.

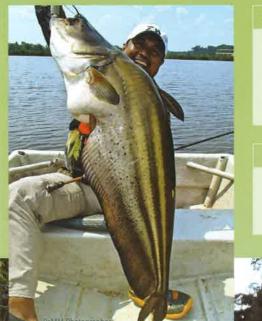
Location

Sepayan Dam, Rompin, Pahang is one of the sites that still boasts of this unique species. Located 30 minutes south of Kuala Rompin Town, this wetlands location offers a lake landscape of lily pads and weeds to challenge anglers for a chance of the Arowana, Orang Asil or local indigenous tribe's huts can be arranged for overnight trips, Other sites include Tasik Kenyir or Lake Kenyir in Terengganu, Taman Negara Endau Rompin which is 103 km north of Johor Bahru and Taman Negara Kuala Koh.

CATFISH / Keli

(Various species)

Catfishes are popular targets. It is not an easy fish to defeat if you catch a good size. It can take a lot of your line before it gets tired. It is notorious for diving into the deep fast current and breaking your line.



Description

The Tapah (Wallago attu) reaches 100 kg (220 lbs), although most specimens are around 35 to 50 kg (110 lbs). They inhabit the deep pools of large rivers. The Patin (Pangasius pangasius) is smaller (3 to 10 kg) but more gregarious.

Location

Taman Negara Pahang. Kuala Tahan (Pahang River - Kuala Tembeling to Tahan); Perak River - lower reaches Teluk Intan, Perak



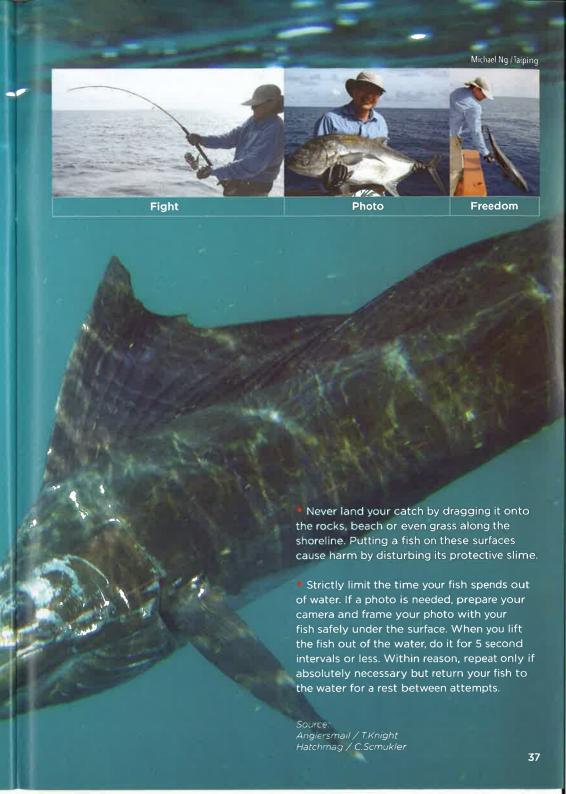
How To Care For Your Catch

As much as it is an exciting and rewarding experience to land a prized catch, apart from local laws on some species, practising catch-and-release for certain species should be favoured.

This is to ensure the survival of released fish and contributes to sustainable fishing efforts which help protect fish populations. Here are some guidelines and recommendations;

- Unhooking mats. This is a practice well accepted worldwide. A wet unhooking mat will minimise injury to your catch as any damage, no matter how insignificant, can penetrate vital protective mucus layers, rendering it susceptible to fatal secondary infections.
- Releasing your catch as quickly as possible is of paramount importance, causing minimum stress to the fish.
- Watch its gills. Damage to the delicate gill rakes can cause haemorrhaging which can prove fatal, so be aware of where your hands are when handling your catch.
- Where possible, unhooking a fish and releasing it from the net is by far the safest method to avoid unnecessary damage. Give the fish some time to make a full recovery before gently lowering the net and allowing the fish to regain its composure before release.
- Treating freshly made hook wounds and any other sores help keep prized fish stocks in tip-top health.

- Use hooks with no barbs or use your pliers to press down the barb on your hook before fishing.
- If your fish takes a hook deep and it can't easily be removed, just cut the leader/ / tippet as close as you safely can and leave the hook in. The fish will eventually shed the hook on its own, the hook will corrode, or new tissue will surround the hook. A study has shown that 66 percent of deeply / hooked fish that were released with the hook still in place survived whereas deep hooks that were dug out only showed an 11 percent survival rate.
- Fight your fish with authority. Apply pressure properly from the side and don't over play the fish.
- When handling the fish, always get your hands wet. Dry hands are much more likely to remove the fish's layer of slime which protects it from fungus, bacteria and parasites.



Local Contacts & Sneak Peek Itineraries

Malaysia is developing its already popular angling and Game Fishing potentials. There are many professional licensed tours and seasoned guides to make your experience, an adventure of a lifetime. Here's a sneak peek of what's being offered:

Kuala Rompin, Pahang

One of the best fishing spots in the world for the Sailfish. Acknowledged by the International Game Fishing Association (IGFA). Best season July to November. Day trip fishing, Speed boat with 5 passenger max, livebait drifting technique. Tours can range between day trips to 5 days.

Hook On C Adventures

Borneo Black Bass

The AGFA (Australia Game Fishing Association) calls this the best rivermouth fish in the world. Same tour offers good chances on lure for Barramundi, Groupers, Giant Trevally, Barracuda and Mangrove Jacks.

Best period, March to October, Casting and trolling technique with small speedboat. Standard tour and full 5D4N live on-board trip of 7 days package recommended. Ex Sandakan, Sabah.

Nasir Yusof, Your Fishing Trip Planner

Fly Fishing

Fly fishing for Sailfish, Giant Snakehead, Mahseer, etc. Professional fly fishing guide and charter. Recommended, a minimum 3D2N package.

juan@flyfishin.asia

Pulau Langkawi

Not just famous as a popular island resort and UNESCO Global Geopark, with its range of budget and 5-star hotels, it is also a site for anglers targeting among others, the Giant Trevally (GT) and sizeable Grouper and Tuna around the famous Tukun Perak.

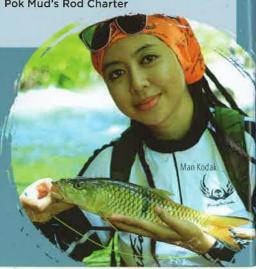
• Luxury fishing boat with max 12 anglers, 3D2N live on-board is recommended.

www.seasplashlangkawi.com

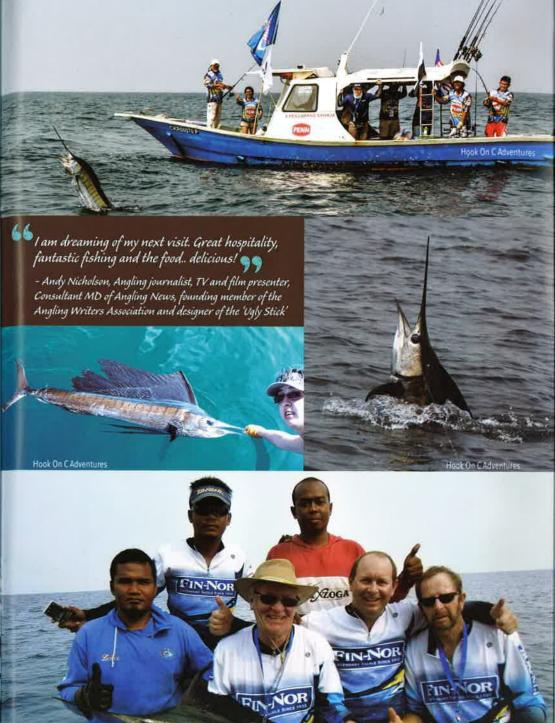
Port Klang, Selangor

Day trip area Port Klang or Pulau Ketam well as mangrove tours along the Klang River for Snapper, Grunter and Queenfish. Light'n easy trips. Also 3D2N Discovery Tenggol of Terengganu: Target Dorado, Trevally, Spanish Mackerel, Grouper, Red Snapper and many more.

Pok Mud's Rod Charter



PeMM Photographers





Kuala Rompin Sailfish Escapade, Professional charter

Luxury live on-board available. Live bait, lures, popping and fly fishing experts Sailfish, Marlin, Trevallies, Mahi-mahi, Spanish Mackerel, Cobia, Wahoo and more.

www.sportfishin.asia

Deep Sea Fishing Day, Sabah

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, There are many areas off the coast of Sabah for deep sea fishing. For short fishing trips such as a day trip or 2D1N trip, we might head out to the waters around Mengalum Island, 3 hours northwest of Kota Kinabalu by our fishing boat. Per Boat-Max 8 to 10 Pax.

Tasik Temenggor, Perak

Belum-Temenggor Fishing Adventures is one of the best fishing expeditions for anglers to experience in Malaysia. Fishing is done via speedboats as anglers would explore the vast lake for Giant Snakeheads and Jungle Perch. One of the most sought-after freshwater trophies of Peninsular Malaysia. Lure Casting and Bottom Fishing.

Tour duration, 2 to 4 Days

Fishyology.com



Malaysia is an amazing destination because there is superb fly fishing for hard-fighting Toman and Sebaru, to be had in pristine jungle environments, as well as a relatively new and largely unknown fly fishing target species, Giant Gourami. There is still very much to learn with regards to developing novel fly fishing methods in Malaysia, which particularly appeals to me.

- Paul Arden, Fly fisherman and instructor, rod designer and manager at Sexyloops.com



Listing of Tour Operators

FISHING ASSOCIATIONS

The Malaysian Angling Association (Royal Pahang Billfish Challenge)
Mr. Ridzuan Ghazali
Tel: 6019 336 6862
E-mail: ridzuan_ghazali@yahoo.com
Website: www.rpbic.com.my/v2/
introduction-to-pemm/

Fly Fishing Association of Selangor Mr. Tony Wee Tel: 6012 201 2698 E-mail: tonywee17@gmail.com

KUALA LUMPUR & SELANGOR

Hook Line & Sinker Malaysia
Mr. Aziz Daud
No 22, Jalan SS22/3, Damansara Jaya
47400 Petaling Jaya, Selangor
Tel: 6019 266 8446 • 603 7725 2551
E-mail: azizdau@gmail.com
Website: hook-line-sinker.net/index.htm

Professional Angler/Demonstrator Mr. Tamizan @ Pok Muds Tel: 6019 365 7489 E-mail: pokmuds@gmail.com

Sea Urchin Charters Mr. Chin 9, Jalan Anggerik Vanilla 31/98N Kota Kemuning, Shah Alam, Selangor Tel: 6016 222 6689

KEDAF

Sea Splash Langkawi Mr Nasir Yusof Jalan Dato Syed Omar 07000 Kuah, Langkawi, Kedah Tel: 6019 233 6290 E-mail: langkawiseasplash@gmail.com Website: www.seasplashlangkawi.com

PERAK

Persatuan Pengusaha Pelancongan Tasik Temengor No. 6, Tingkat Atas, Hentian Bas Gerik 33300 Gerik, Perak Tel: 6012 461 1408 E-mail: rizam.rbsfc@gmail.com

PAHANG

East Coast Holiday Sdn Bhd Ground Floor, Bangunan LKNP Jalan Besar, 25000 Kuantan Pahang. Tel: 609 515 8992 • 6019 911 8992 E-mail: echsb@streamyx.com / ech_sa@ech.com.my Website: www.ech.com.my

Southwest Travel Sdn Bhd
Tel: 609 515 6861 • 6013920 0888
E-mail: enquirysailfishingmalaysia@gmail.com
Website: www.malaysiasailfishing.com

Hook On C Adventures No.40, Tingkat Atas, Jalan Utama Bandar Baru 26800 Kuala Rompin, Pahang E-mail: charles@imiqgroup.com

SportFishin.Asia
No. 50, Jalan Rompin Indah 2
Taman Rompin Indah
26800 Kuala Rompin, Pahang
Tel: 6016 222 8831
E-mail: juanwei@sportfishin.asia

TERENGGANU

Kenyir Naturally Holiday Sdn Bhd. 48 Kampung Tengkawang 21700 Kuala Berang, Terengganu Tel: 6011 1996 6276 • 6011 2922 5277 E-mail: raffikenyir@gmail.com

Zaki Travel & Tours Sdn Bhd 804/A1 Jalan Sultan Mahmud, Batu Burok 20400 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Tel/Fax: 09 638 1396 • 019 956 7546 E-mail: zaki.travel@gmail.com

Mylsland Tours Sdn Bhd Myisland Tours & Travel Sdn Bhd 233 Mezzanine Floor, Jalan Bandar 20100 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu Tel: 6012 981 9332 • Fax: 609 622 1233 E-mail: myislandstour@gmail.com

City Connection Travel Sdn Bhd
Lot 9 Ground Floor
Taman Sri Intan, Jln Sultan Omar
20300 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu
Tel: 609 624 7000 • Fax: 609 624 6000
E-mail: ticketing_cctkt@cityconnectiontravel.
com

SARAWAK

Inter-Continental Travel Centre Sdn. Bhd. (KPL/LN 1327) Lot 572-573, Section 10, Jalan Nanas 93400 Kuching, Sarawak Tel: 6082 256 155 Fax: 6082 422 518 E-mail: inbound@intercont.com.my Website: www.intercont.com.my

Puncak Borneo Travel & Tours Sdn. Bhd. (KPL/LN 7662) No 203, 2nd Floor. Lot 1335 Greenville Park Shophouse The Prince Commercial Centre Jalan Batu Kitang 93250 Kuching, Sarawak Tel: 6082 611 443 • Fax: 6082-615264 H/P: 6016-8558131 / 6013 813 1388 E-mail: hadifakrulhakim@gmail.com

Majestic Leisure & Tours Sdn Bhd (KPL/LN 5987) Lot 1084, 1st Floor, Jalan Merpati 98000 Miri, Sarawak Tel: 6085 427 751 / 417 751 Fax: 6085 437 751 E-mail: info@borneotravelnetwork.com / goh2552@gmail.com Website: www.borneotravelnetwork.com

Ecogreen Holidays Sdn. Bhd. (KPL/LN 6923) 2nd Floor, Lot 3148, Block 10 Jalan Tun Ahmad Zaidi Adruce 93150 Kuching, Sarawak Tel: 6082 425 281 • Fax: 6082 426 281 E-mail: ecogreenborneo@gmail.com Website: www.ecogreen-holidays.com

SABAH

Sea Quest Tours And Travel Sdn Bhd 1 Sutera Harbour Boulevard Sutera Harbour, P. O. Box 13726 88843 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: 6088 248 006, 230 943 Fax: 6088 230 945 E-mail: info@seaquesttours.net Website: www.seaquesttours.net



Kampung Laut Kinarut
89607 Papar, Sabah
(2.5km from Lok Kawi on Jalan Papar Baru)
Tel: 6088 752 000 • Fax: 6088 752 111
E-mail: info@langkahsyabas.com.my
Website: www.fatcattours.com.my

Amazing Borneo Tours & Events Sdn Bhd Lot 1-39, Star City North Complex 1st Floor, Jalan Asia City 88000 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: 6088 448 409 • Fax: 6088 448 509 E-mail: info@amazingborneo.com Website: www.amazingborneo.com

Inno Travel & Tour Services Sdn Bhd 16th Floor, Tun Mustapha Tower Yayasan Sabah, Likas Bay 88400 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: 6088 212 828 • Fax: 6088 212 881 E-mail: inno@sabahholidays.com Website: www.sabahholidays.com

Text by: Andrew J. Sebastian • www.ecomvorg

MALAYSIA AT A GLANCE

COUNTRY

The federation of Malaysia comprises Peninsular Malaysia, which is made up of 11 states, three Federal Territories as well as the states of Sabah and Sarawak situated in Borneo

CAPITAL CITY

Kuala Lumpur

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

Lying 2º to 7º north of the Equator, Peninsular Malaysia is separated from Sabah and Sarawak by the South China Sea. The Peninsular shares a common border with Thailand in the north, while its southern neighbour is Singapore. Sabah and Sarawak share a common border with Indonesia while Sarawak also shares a border with Brunei Darussalam.

AREA

329,758 sq km

POPULATION

28 million

PEOPLE

Malays make up about 57% of the population, with Chinese, Indians and other ethnic groups making up the rest.

LANGUAGE

Bahasa Malaysia (Malay) is the national language but English is widely spoken. Malaysians also speak various languages and dialects.

RELIGION

Islam is the official religion but all other religions are practised freely.

GOVERNMENT

Malaysia practices parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy. The Head of State is the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Head of Government is the Prime Minister. The country has a bicameral legislative system.

CLIMATE

Malaysia has a tropical climate and the weather is warm all year round. Temperatures range from 21°C to 32°C and the annual rainfall varies from 2,000 mm to 2,500 mm.

ECONOMIC PROFILE

Manufacturing constitutes the largest component of Malaysia's economy while tourism and primary commodities such as petroleum, palm oil, natural rubber and timber are major contributors to its economy.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Visitors must be in possession of a valid passport or travel document with a minimum validity of six months beyond the intended visiting period. Citizens of most countries do not require visas for social or business visits. For further information, please visit or call the nearest Malaysian diplomatic mission or Tourism Malaysia office.

CURRENCY

The unit of currency is the Malaysian Ringgit, which is denoted as RM. Foreign currencies can be converted at banks and money changers.

WORKING DAYS

Most states observe Monday to Friday as working days while Saturday and Sunday are rest days. In the states of Johor, Kedah, Kelantan and Terengganu, working days are from Sunday to Thursday. Friday and Saturday are observed as rest days. This applies to government offices and many private establishments.

BANKING HOURS

In most states, banks are open from Monday to Friday from 9.15 am to 4.30 pm. In Kelantan and Terengganu, banks are closed on Friday and Saturday, Check the websites of the relevant banks for details on operating hours and rest days, Online banking services are available.

POST OFFICES

Post offices are open from 8,30 am to 5,00 pm daily except on Sunday and public holidays. They are open for half-a-day on Saturday (until 1,00 pm). Post offices that are located in shopping malls have extended operating hours. In the states of Johor, Kedah, Kelantan and Terengganu, post offices are closed on Friday and Saturday.

TIME

The standard Malaysian time is eight hours ahead of GMT and 16 hours ahead of the U.S. Pacific Standard Time.

ELECTRICITY

The voltage used throughout Malaysia is 220 - 240 volts AC, at 50 cycles per second. Standard 3-pin square plugs and sockets are used.

MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

Malaysia uses the metric system.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Malaysia is linked nationally and internationally by telephone, facsimile and via the Internet, Most hotels provide International Direct Dial (IDD) telephone services and Wi-fi Internet connection.

GETTING TO MALAYSIA

The main gateway to Malaysia is through the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang. It is located about 50 km south of Kuala Lumpur, Over 40 international airlines fly into the country while the national carrier, Malaysia Airlines, has a global network that spans six continents. The airline is a full-fledged member of oneworld, one of the world's top three airline alliances. The national carrier is complemented by KLIA 2, situated about 1.5 km away from the main terminal of KLIA, is the world's largest purpose-built terminal dedicated to low-cost carriers. Airlines that operate from KLIA2 include AirAsia and AirAsia X. Other major international airports that serve as

entry points are situated in Penang, Johor Bahru, Kuching, Kota Kinabalu and the island of Langkawi. The main entry point to Malaysia by sea is Port Klang, about 50 km away from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia is also accessible by rail and road from Singapore and Thailand.

GETTING AROUND

Malaysia has excellent domestic air links serviced by Malaysia Airlines as well as carriers such as AirAsia and Firefly. The country has a well-developed and efficient public transportation system served by buses, taxis as well as trains. GrabCar and Uber services are available in Malaysia.

ACCOMMODATION

Malaysia has a wide range of accommodation with competitive rates, International star-rated hotels, boutique hotels, beach resorts, chalets, youth hostels and timeshare apartments are among the types of accommodation available.

LOCAL REGIONAL OFFICE

CENTRAL REGION (Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Putrajaya)

Level 2, MATIC New Building 109, Jalan Ampang 50450 Kuala Lumpur Tel: 603 2161 0166 / 0312 / 0328 / 0348 Fax: 603 2161 0049

E-mail: mtpbkl@tourism.gov.mv

SOUTHERN REGION (Negeri Sembilan, Melaka, Johor)

No 50C, 1st & 2nd Floor, Bangunan KPMNJ Jalan Segget, 80000 Johor Bahru, Johor Tel: 607 222 3590 / 3591 Fax: 607 223 5502 E-mail: mtpbjhb@tourism.gov.my

NORTHERN REGION

(Perak, Penang, Kedah, Perlis)

Penang

No. 11, Lebuh Pantai 10300 George Town, Penang Tel: 604 261 0058 / 263 4941 Fax: 604 262 3688 E-mail: mtpbpen@tourism.gov.my

EAST COAST REGION (Pahang, Terengganu, Kelantan)

Jalan Putra Square 4, 25200 Kuantan, Pahang Tel: 609 567 7112 / 7115 / 7116 Fax: 609 566 7114 E-mail: mtpb.pahang@tourism.gov.my

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

Sabah

Kota Kinabalu International Airport (Terminal 1)

Level 1, Kota Kinabalu International Airport 88740 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Tel: 6088 413 359 Fax: 6088 413 360

Sarawak

Kuching International Airport

Lot L1A Level 1 Kuching International Airport P.O Box 1070, 93722 Kuching, Sarawak Tel: 6082 627 741 / 742

OVERSEAS OFFICES

AUSTRALIA Sydney

Suite 6.01, Level 6, 151 Castlereagh Street Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia Tel: 00 61 2 9286 3055 Fax: 00 61 2 9283 8311 E-mail: malaysia@malaysiatourism.com.au

Website: www.tourismmalaysia.com.au

BRUNEI

Unit No 1.14 - 1.15, First Floor The Rizgun International Hotel, Gadong BE3519 Negara Brunei Darussalam Tel: 00 673 238 1575 / 1576 Fax: 00 673 238 1584 E-mail: mtpb.brunei@tourism.gov.my

CHINA Beijina

Tourism Section, Embassy of Malaysia Room 506 - 507, Air China Plaza No. 36, Xiaoyun Road, Chaoyang District Beijing 100027, People's Republic of China Tel: 00 86 10 8447 5056 Fax: 00 86 10 8447 5798 E-mail: mtpb.beijing@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysia.cn

Guangzhou

Consulate General of Malaysia (Tourism Section) Unit 3216, 32nd Floor, CITIC Plaza Office Tower No. 233, Tianhe Bei Road, Guangzhou 510610 People's Republic of China Tel: 00 86 20 3877 3691 Fax: 00 86 20 3877 3692 E-mail: mtpb.guangzhou@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysia.cn

Shanghai

Consulate General of Malaysia (Tourism Section) Unit 1109, Level 11, CITIC Square 1168 Nanjing Road West, Jing An District Lot 7 & 9, Tingkat Bawah, ICT Hub, Putra Square Shanghai 200041, People's Republic of China Tel: 00 86 21 5292 5252 Fax: 00 86 21 5292 5948 E-mail: mtpb.shanghai@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysia.cn

FRANCE

Paris 29 rue des Pyramides, 75001 Paris, France Tel: 00 33 1 429 741 71

Fax: 00 33 1 429 741 69 E-mail: mtpb.paris@tourism.gov.my

GERMANY Frankfurt

Weissfrauenstrasse 12 - 16 D-60311, Frankfurt am Main, Germany Tel: 00 49 69 460 923 420 Fax: 00 49 69 460 923 499 E-mail: mtpbfrankfurt@tourism.gov.mv Website: www.tourismmalaysia.de

HONG KONG

Ground Floor, Malaysia Building 47-50 Gloucester Road, Hong Kong Tel: 00 85 2 2528 5810 / 5811 Fax: 00 85 2 2865 4610 E-mail: mtpb.hongkong@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysia.com.hk

INDIA

Chennai

4th Floor, Vijaya Towers No. 4, Kodambakkam High Road Chennai 600034, Republic of India Tel: 00 91 44 4506 8080 / 8181 / 8282 Fax: 00 91 44 4506 8383 E-mail: mtpb.chennai@tourism.gov.my Website: www.malaysiajao.com

Mumbai

The Capital, A- 410, Bandra Kurla Complex Bandra (E), Mumbai 400051 Republic of India Tel: 00 91 22 6741 1120 / 21 / 22 Fax: 00 91 22 6741 1119 E-mail: mtpb.mumbai@tourism.gov.my Website: www.malaysiajao.com

New Delhi

C 3/13, Vasant Vihar New Delhi 110057, Republic of India Tel: 00 91 11 4601 1677 (DL) / 1674 (GL) Fax: 00 91 11 4601 1676 E-mail: mtpb.newdelhi@tourism.gov.my Website: www.malaysiajao.com

INDONESIA

Jakarta c/o Consulate General of Malaysia Jalan H.R Rasuna Said, Kav.x/6 No. 1-3, Kuningan, Jakarta Selatan 12950 Republic of Indonesia Tel: 00 62 21 522 0765 / 4947 Fax: 00 62 21 522 0766 E-mail: mtpb.jakarta@tourism.gov.my

Medan

c/o Consulate General of Malaysia 43, Jalan Diponegoro, 20152 Medan Sumatera Utara, Republic of Indonesia Tel: 00 62 61 452 3192 Fax: 00 62 61 452 3179 E-mail: mtpb.medan@tourism.gov.my

JAPAN Osaka

10th Floor, Cotton Nissay Building 1-8-2 Otsubo-Honmachi, Nishi-ku Osaka 550-0004, Japan Tel: 00 81 66 444 1220 Fax: 00 81 66 444 1380 E-mail: mtpb.osaka@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysia.or.jp

Tokyo

5F Chiyoda Building, 1-6-4 Yurakucho Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0006, Japan Tel: 00 81 33 501 8691 Fax: 00 81 33 501 8692 E-mail: mtpbtokyo@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysia.or.jp

KAZAKHSTAN

Embassy of Malaysia, Tourism Section 1st. Floor, Prime Business Park 100/2 Furmanov Street, Medeuskiy District 050000 Almaty, Kazakhstan Tel: 00 7 727 2321 430 / 431 / 439

TOURISM MALAYSIA OFFICES

KOREA

Seoul (2nd Hansan Bldg., Seosomun-dong) 115, Seosomun-Ro, Chung-Gu Seoul 100-813, Republic of Korea Tel: 00 82 2779 4422 / 4251

Fax: 00 82 2779 4254 E-mail: mtpb.seoul@tourism.gov.my Website: www.mtpb.co.kr

NETHERLANDS

The Hague

c/o Embassy of Malaysia Rustenburgweg 2 2517 KE The Hague, Netherlands Tel: 00 31 70 350 6506 Fax: 00 31 70 350 6536

Visiting Office:

Zeestraat 52, 2518 AB The Hague, Netherlands Tel: 00 31 70 762 2200 E-mail: mail@tourism-malaysia.nl

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland

Level 10, DLA Piper Tower 205-209, Queen Street Auckland 1010, New Zealand Tel: 00 64 9 309 6290 Fax: 00 64 9 309 6292

PHILIPPINES

Manila

Embassy of Malaysia Tourism Office (Tourism Malaysia) 16th Floor, Picadilly Star Building 4th Avenue, Corner 27th Street Bonifacio Global City (BGC) 1634 Taguig City, Philippines Tel: 00 63 2 846 2697 Fax: 00 63 2 846 1213 E-mail: mtpb.manila@tourism.gov.my

RUSSIA

Moscow

c/o Embassy of Malaysia Mosfilmovskaya Ulitsa 50 Moscow 117192, Russian Federation Tel: 00 7 495 933 5748 / 5747 Fax: 00 7 495 933 5749 E-mail: mtpb.moscow@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysia.ru

SAUDI ARABIA Jeddah

2nd Floor (Upper Parking) Mega Business Centre Serafi Mega Mall, Tahlia Street c/o Consulate General of Malaysia (Tourism Section) P.O. Box 593, 21421 Jeddah Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Tel: 00 966 12 286 7333 Fax: 00 966 12 286 7444 E-mail: mtpb.jeddah@tourism.gov.my SINGAPORE

#01-01B/C/D, No. 80, Robinson Road Singapore 068898 Tel: 00 69 6532 6321 / 6351 Fax: 00 69 6535 6650 E-mail: mtpb.singapore@tourism.gov.my

TAIWAN Taipei

Suite C, 8th Floor, Hung Tai Centre 170 Tun Hwa North Road, Taipei, Taiwan Tel: 00 88 62 2514 9704 / 9734 Fax: 00 88 62 2514 9973 E-mail: mtpb.taipei@tourism.gov.my Website: www.promotemalaysia.com.tw

THAILAND Bangkok

Unit 1, 3rd Floor, Zuellig House 1-7, Silom Road, Bangrak Bangkok 10500, Thailand Tel: 00 662 636 3380 - 3 Fax: 00 662 636 3384

E-mail: mtpb.bangkok@tourism.gov.mv Website: www.sawasdeemalaysia.com

TURKEY Istanbul

Harman Sokak Hamanci Giz Plaza, No.5, Floor:20 34394 Esentepe, Sisli, Istanbul, Turkey Tel: 00 902 12 284 4436 Fax: 00 902 12 284 4437 **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

Dubai

Lot 3, Ground Floor (facing Zabeel Road) Al Safeena Building, Oud Mehta Near Lamcy Plaza P.O Box 124096, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Tel: 00 971 4337 7578 / 7579 Fax: 00 971 4335 3318 E-mail: mtpb_dubai@tourism.gov.my

UNITED KINGDOM

London

57 Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DU United Kingdom Tel: 00 44 2 079 307 932 Fax: 00 44 2 079 309 015 E-mail: info@tourism-malaysia.co.uk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Los Angeles

818 West 7th Street, Suite 970 Los Angeles, CA 90017 United States of America Tel: 00 1 213 689 9702 Fax: 00 1 213 689 1530 E-mail: mtpb.la@tourism.gov.my Website: www.tourismmalaysiausa.com

MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES BANGLADESH

d/a Malaysian High Commission in Bangladesh House No. 19, Road No. 6

Dhaka

Baridhara, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh Tel: 00 880 2882 7759 / 7760 / 2885 8394 Fax: 00 880 2882 7761 / 3115

Phnom Penh

c/o Embassy of Malaysia 220-222, Preah Norodom Boulevard Sangkat Tonle Bassac, Khan Chamkarmorn Phnom Penh, Cambodia Tel: 00 855 2322 1593

Fax: 00 855 2322 1594

E-mail: tourismmalaysia@online.com.kh

CANADA

1806 - 1111 West Georgia St. Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6E 4M3 Tel: 00 1 604 689 8899 Fax: 00 1 604 689 8804 E-mail: mtpb.vancouver@tourism.gov.mv / info@tourismmalaysia.ca Website: www.tourismmalaysia.ca

CHINA

Chenadu

Level 18, The Office Tower Shangri-La Centre 9 Bingjiang Road (East), Chengdu 610021 People's Republic of China Tel: 00 8628 6606 5230 Fax: 00 8628 6606 5231

IRAN

Tehran

Malaysia Embassy in Tehran No. 25, The 2nd St., Northern Zarafshan St. Eyvanak Blvd, Phase No. 04 Shahrak Gharb, Tehran Tel: 00 98 21 8808 4361 / 00 98 21 8807 2444 Fax: 00 98 21 8808 4361

IRELAND

Dublin

Level 3A Shelbourne House, Shelbourne Road Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Republic of Ireland Tel: 00 353 1 237 6242 / 6243 E-mail: info@tourism-malaysiadublin.com

LAOS Vientiane

(c/o Embassy of Malaysia) Nongbone Rd. Phonxai Village Saisettha Dist, Vientiane, Laos

Tel: 00 856 21 414205-6 00 856 21 262373 (DL) Fax: 00 856 21 414201 / 262339 E-mail: mtpb.laos@tourism.gov.mv /

VIETNAM

Ho Chi Minh City Unit 1208, 12th Floor, Me Linh Point Tower No. 2 Ngo Duc Ke Street District 1, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam Tel: 00 84 8 3825 8036 / 3825 8011 Fax: 00 84 8 3825 8037

E-mail: mtpb.hochiminh@tourism.gov.my

mtpbvte_laos@yahoo.com