

MALAYSIA

Great Fishing
Great Country

Malaysia
Truly Asia



Game

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GT – The lure buster.

Fishing



Malaysia, covering the Malay Peninsula and part of the island of Borneo, is one of the world's top game fishing destinations.

Endowed with a wide variety of marine and inland angling destinations, Malaysia hosts a plethora of fish species in both environments.

The tropical seas hold most of the main target species of tropical game fish including the king of the seas, the Black Marlin and the Blue Marlin. Striped Marlin have also been taken and the Pacific Sailfish is common. Tuna – Yellowfin, Bigeye and Dogtooth are found in the deep water areas around atolls and drop offs. Wahoo, Giant Trevally (GT), Cobia, Narrowbarred Mackerel, Dorado, Barracuda, Escolar, Rainbow Runner, Greater Amberjack and big sharks add to the variety of game fish to be found.

The rivers and lakes, surrounded by primeval tropical rainforest, provide a second to none backdrop to angling. These pristine rainforest waterways, although more limited in the number of extant species, nevertheless, can test anglers' skills to the limit. The Malaysian Red Mahseer, the ferocious Giant Snakehead and the Hampala Barb all possess superb fighting qualities.

Many other species exist, often not in the record book, while quite a number are not even identifiable. Malaysia has made International Game Fish Association (IGFA) world records in both environments.

Top *Giant Snakehead - A new world-class freshwater game fish.*

Left *Casting the fly.*



Malaysia's angling destinations provide a variety of environments for this top-class sport.

Hard work can be part of the fun.



*A balmy tropical evening on the South China Sea.
Spectacular sunset views.*





Top Reef edge predator taken on the troll.
Bottom Chances of a good catch at the Spratlys atolls are very high.

A fantastic variety of fish species, boundless fishing waters and plenty of king-sized specimens are leading an increasing number of anglers to discover Malaysia.

The sheer fact of being able to catch fish in their natural habitat on nature's own terms means that your angling dreams could become a reality in Malaysia. Coupled with the potential of world record catches, an excellent climate and a wealth of diverse cultures, Malaysia provides an angling venue par excellence and the chance to possibly have new species named after you.





Top Fast flowing waters at the base of waterfalls – the perfect hunting ground for the Hampala Barb.

Left A 47kg Dogtooth Tuna – too hot to handle.

Whether surrounded by primeval equatorial rainforest or pristine tropical islands and atolls, angling in Malaysia is sure to prove a rewarding experience.

Wondrous

*"I am dreaming of my next visit. Great hospitality,
fantastic fishing and the food... Oh Oh Oh...delicious."*

Andy Nicholson, England
Angling journalist, TV and film presenter, Consultant MD of Angling
News, founder member of the Angling Writers Association and
designer of the 'Ugly Stik'.



*Sashimi on the boat, yellowfin tuna from the sea to
the table.*



Rocky outcrops, the perfect hunting grounds for GT.



fresh and salt water fishing adventures



*Where expensive lures
super braids get out
and good rods*

*Possibly the most amazing sight in
angling – a Billfish tail walking.*

Right
*Escolar – night-time pirking (or jigging)
can produce world-class specimens.*



*Multiple strikes are common when
trolling in the Spratlys.*



Triple happiness.

The Seas

*are crushed,
spooled
may just snap*

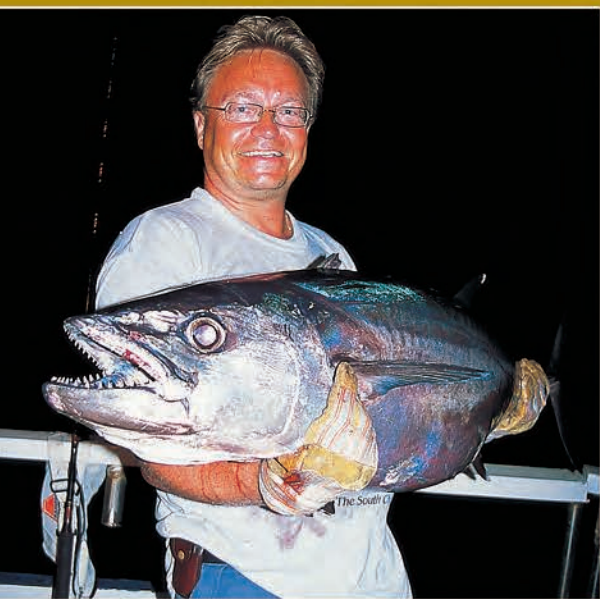
- From shallow flat shelves to unexplored 2,000 metre drop offs

The deep, nutrient rich waters of the Spratlys offer a virtual fishing paradise with an unparalleled variety of species.

This exquisite deepwater area, with coral atolls rising from depths of 1,000 – 2,000 metres, is Malaysia's premier saltwater game fishing destination. Strictly controlled with regard to boats and numbers of anglers, and no commercial activity whatsoever, the Spratlys provide a top world-class destination and a wide spectrum of species.

The annual Rolex-IGFA Labuan International Offshore Qualifying Event, is part of the International Angling Circuit, culminating in the world championship each year.





Meet your match in this great country

Dogtooth tuna - another night stalker that attacks pirks and jigs.

"I lost lots of expensive lures, broke a favourite rod, damaged two reels and really enjoyed myself, Fishing, Food and Fun. I will be back again with more groups."

Allan Riboe, Denmark
(Mr Danish Dynamite)
Fishing tackle shop owner, fishing holiday organiser, holder of eight simultaneous world records, lure and rod designer and world-renowned angler.



Explore the Spratlys on a fully equipped long range angling boat.



A fine brace of Wahoo.

"I never expected so many species in one place. Great fishing, good company and wonderful food. Malaysia is now on the world angling map."

Jan Ring, Norway
Captain of the Norwegian Angling Team, IGFA World Champion 1989, four times individual European Champion.



Awesome – memories are made of this.

**Right
Below**

Careful handling of Billfish ensures survival.
C.P.R. (Catch, Photograph and Release)



The myriad islands offshore from Rompin are playgrounds of the Pacific Sailfish. These shallow waters produce specimen fish on fly, troll and bait. Up to 20 or more fish have been taken, by a single angler, in one day, with specimens reaching to over 60 kilogrammes.

This may be the only place in the world where Sailfish form such massive congregations and can be dubbed the world's Sailfish capital. The Malaysian Angling Association, in conjunction with the Billfish Foundation, Rod & Line Magazine and McDonald's Malaysia, has developed its own tag and release programme for Billfish.

*Conservation of Billfish – tag and release
for scientific studies.*



Uninhabited rocky islands with steep drop offs provide excellent trolling and live/dead bait fishing opportunities. Popping along atoll drop offs often produces good sized Giant Trevally.



Picture postcard perfect.

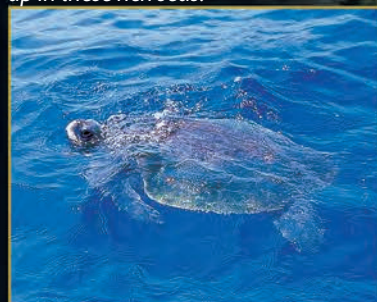


Large sharks require very careful handling.

All the Trevally family readily strike lures and poppers.



Migratory turtles often pop up in these rich seas.



Situated at the epicentre of coral diversity, Malaysia's deep reefs produce oversized specimens of Groupers, Snappers, Coral Trout and other bottom dwellers.

World record snappers produced here.



A gruelling fight subdued this 83kg yellow fin tuna.

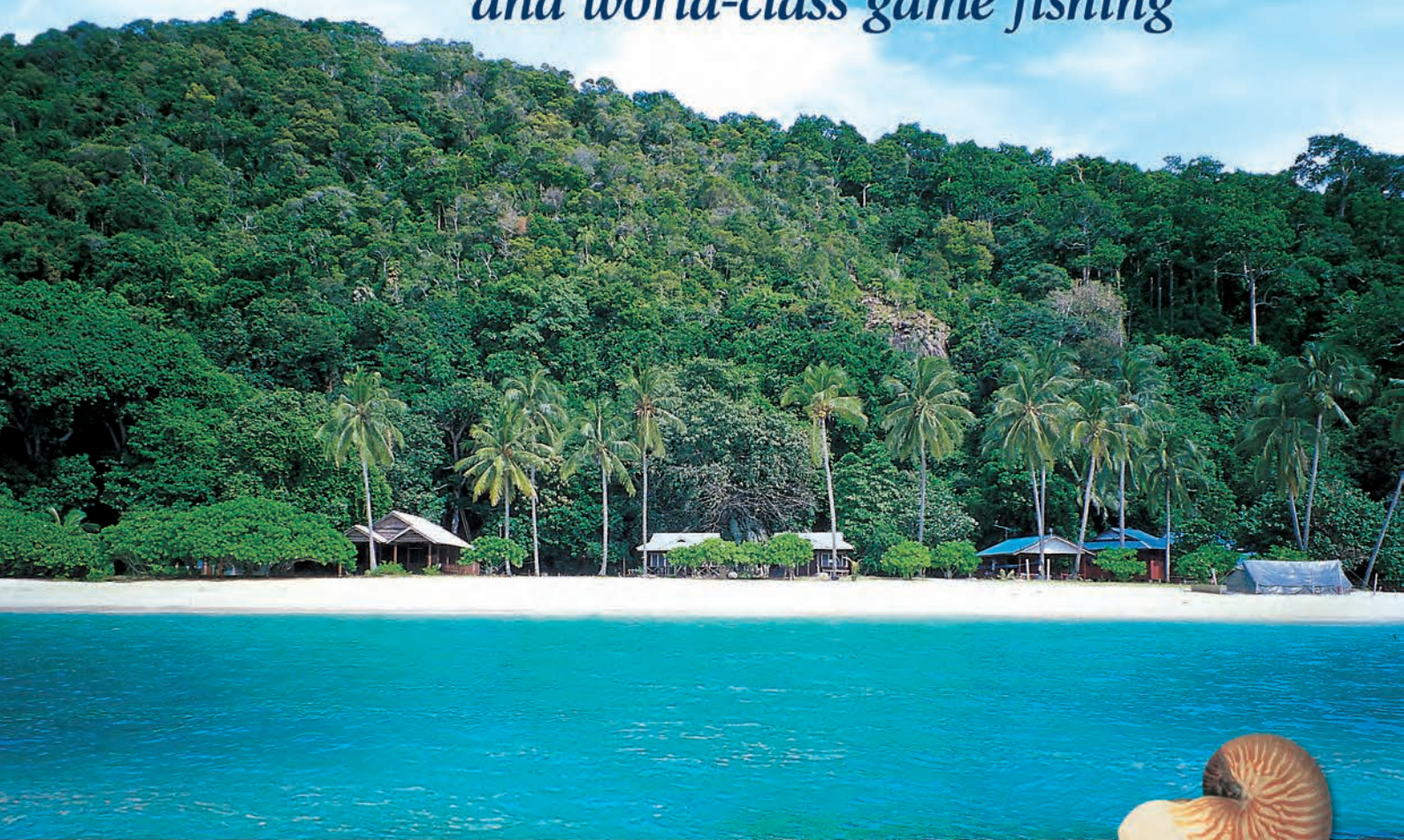


Coral Trout, also known as the leopard coral grouper, is both delicious and expensive – this specimen surpasses the current world record.





Emerald islands, clear sparkling seas and world-class game fishing



*Remote tropical island,
beach chalets and snorkelling - Paradise?
Undoubtedly.*



*Large Cobia are often found around shipwrecks
and other sunken structures.*



*Greater Amberjacks of this size often
catch you offguard. They can strike
both lures and bait at any depth.*



The leap and fight
of the Billfish.



“Excellent value for money, this would cost two or three times as much elsewhere. I will go for a world record next time.”

*Jyrki Liikanen, Finland
Angling Holiday Organiser,
Specimen hunter.*

Accommodation on remote beautiful islands can be basic but adds to the spirit of adventure at the majority of angling destinations in Malaysia. The island of Tioman, the setting of the 1960's film 'South Pacific', is located close to the peninsula's Black Marlin territory. Although rarely exceeding 100 kilogrammes in this area, they can be great fun on lighter tackle. Larger specimens are occasionally recorded.



Black Marlin – the ultimate target of big game anglers worldwide. These denizens of the deep grow to huge sizes in the deeper, nutrient rich waters of the Spratlys.

The Dolphinfish is not only the most colourful game fish in the sea, it is also perhaps, the most acrobatic.



Prime Angling in Malaysia



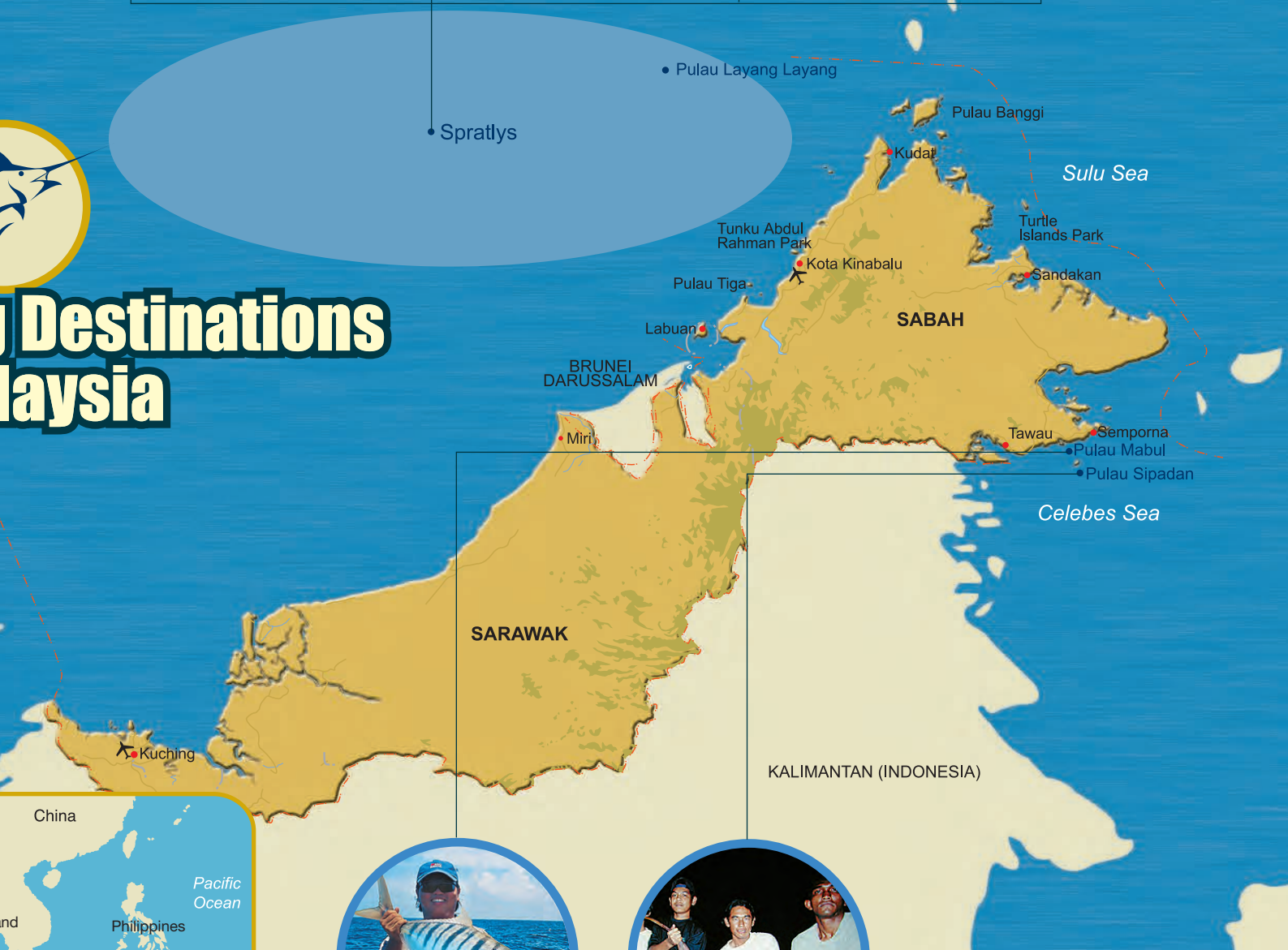
- Saltwater Fishing Destinations
- Freshwater Fishing Destinations

KLIA - Kuala Lumpur International Airport
Pulau - Island
Tasik - Lake





Destinations Malaysia



Inland

The perfect waters for the Malaysian Red Mahseer and Hampala Barb – fast flowing waters interspersed with deep pools.





Malaysia's rivers and lakes, set amidst lush tropical rainforest, deliver diverse fishing experiences.



The two massive man-made lakes of Kenyir, covering a surface area of around 380 sq km and Temengor at around 150 sq km, both developed for the creation of hydroelectric power, provide numerous fishing challenges.

King of these waters is the Giant Snakehead, a powerful and ferocious predator. Although Malaysia boasts over 250 species of freshwater fish, it is only a handful that are of interest to the angler.

The Royal Belum State Park in the northern part of Temengor has excellent, but remote fishing, to challenge the hardest of anglers.



Floating Chalet - fish from your window.

Lush verdant rainforest and clear cool waters

A few houseboats ply the man-made lakes and provide simple, but relaxing accommodation and fishing. Other basic accommodation is available upriver, deep in the jungle.

Most provide simple accommodation, either chalets or basic wooden rooms. Camping trips can be arranged and all supply small boats with outboard engines for anglers and sightseers alike.



*The lightning strikes and runs of the
Hampala Barb has earned it the title
The F1 Fish of the rivers.*

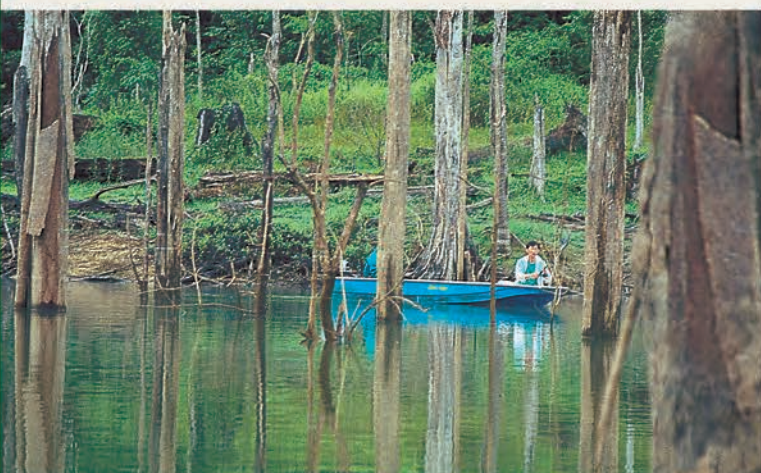
The sheer power of the Giant Snakehead has to be experienced to be believed.



The colour patterns of the Giant Snakehead change as they grow.



The search continues...



The flooded forest – perfect snakehead environment.

The virgin rainforest backdrop makes for excellent pictures, totally at one with nature. If you are lucky, sharp-eyed and really quiet, there is a number of wildlife to be seen in Malaysia's rainforests. Monkeys, wild pig, elephant, deer and tapir are the most seen mammals. Tigers also inhabit the rainforests of the peninsula, though are rarely encountered. Bird species from the fish hunting eagle to hornbills, hummingbirds and jungle fowl can be spotted regularly.



The Malaysian Bonytongue. This highly prized, fully protected fish must be released.



A browsing Tapir. Patience and silence may result in such encounters with wildlife.





IGFA world record Hampala Barb, 6.5kg.



Giant Featherback, a highly acrobatic fish, normally takes minnows and prawns.



Flora, fauna and fishing



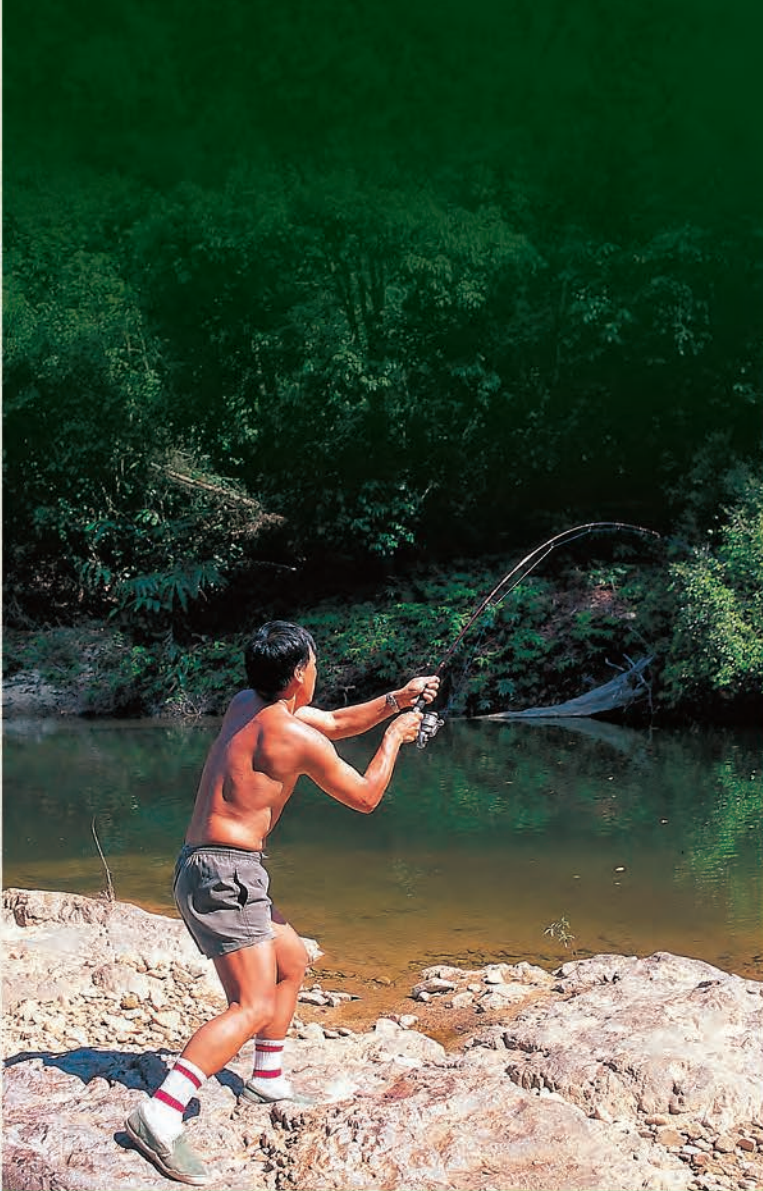
Pitcher plants are fairly common in deep jungle.

The natural lakes of Chini and Bera are both primarily shallow swampy lakes and classified as wetland areas. Bera is designated a special conservation area under the 1971 Ramsar International Treaty on Wetland Conservation. This virtually undisturbed habitat ensures not only a memorable angling experience but also a unique view of indigenous tropical wetland flora and fauna.



Water lily patches are shelters for predators.





The fight is on.



*King of the Goramy family.
Will take worms, insects and flies.*

Situated in the 130 million-year old rainforest of Taman Negara, Malaysia's first national park, a six-kilometre stretch of river has been designated to become a self-sustaining eco-tourism model. Fishing for the Red Mahseer is purely catch and release in this sanctuary and only a limited number of anglers are allowed at any one time.

The Endau river, located in the Endau-Rompin Park on the Johor-Pahang border is perhaps one of the most beautiful rivers in the country. Fishing this river is challenging to say the least, and locating your quarry can be a difficult task.



*Tapah, the largest of the Malaysian
Catfish family can grow up to 50kg.*



*The elusive Malaysian
Red Mahseer.*

Sport Fishes of Malaysia

The seas of Malaysia are home to most of the IGFA recognised tropical game fish. Freshwater species are, however, on the most part, indigenous to Malaysia and the surrounding Southeast Asian region.

Main Marine Species

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ANGLING NOTES
Black Marlin	<i>Makaira indica</i>	Every angler's dream, found mostly around Pulau Aur and the Spratlys. Catch and release encouraged.
Blue Marlin	<i>Makaira nigricans</i>	Known to cruise the Spratlys. Several classics have been landed.
Sailfish	<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>	Predominantly found off Rompin, congregating in big schools. Widely distributed throughout the country. Efforts to Tag and Release have begun amongst Sport Anglers.
Short Bill Spearfish	<i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i>	Available in lesser numbers, usually alongside Sailfish.
Dolphinfish (Dorado, Mahi-Mahi)	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Can be annoying when targeting other game species but sheer fun with great leaps and powerful runs.
Giant Trevally	<i>Caranx ignobilis</i>	Most respected target with a liking for large 'Poppers'.
Great Barracuda	<i>Sphyraena barracuda</i>	Toothy predator reaching IGFA Record proportions. Widely distributed.
Narrowbarred Mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	Seasonal and travels in schools. Excellent table fare.
Yellowfin Tuna	<i>Thunus albacares</i>	Highly prized Sport Fish as well as table fare known to rip off spools of line, with burnt thumbs in some cases. Ventures in deep blue waters off the Spratlys and in the Celebes Sea around Sipadan, Mabul and Ligitan Islands.
Dogtooth Tuna	<i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i>	Jigging or Pinking will thrill the night enthusiast. Be prepared to lose several metal jigs to these brutes.
Bigeye Tuna	<i>Thunus obesus</i>	Often mistaken for Yellowfins, it gives similar 'arm exercises' and is often caught by trolling.
Wahoo	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	Reputed to be the fastest fish in the sea, can be considered a nuisance when they get into a frenzy.
Rainbow Runner	<i>Elagatis bipinnulata</i>	Usually found close to rocky islands, sometimes swimming close to the fishing vessels.

Main Marine Species

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ANGLING NOTES
Greater Amberjack	<i>Seriola dumerili</i>	Can grow up to 70kg, however, 20/30kg is considered good. Strong fighter, dives deep, will take a variety of lures and baits.
Cobia	<i>Rachycentron canadum</i>	Grows to humongous proportions and fights well. Not considered prime table fare by locals.
Escolar (Oilfish)	<i>Ruvettus pretiosus</i>	Deep dweller surpassing IGFA World Record sizes.
Escolar (Oilfish)	<i>Lepidocybium falvobrunneum</i>	Found in the same surrounds as <i>Ruvettus pretiosus</i> and considered useless for the table but a great target on jigs or pirks.
Sharks	<i>Various species</i>	Occur in abundance near atolls. Hammerheads often take large chunks out of fish being reeled in.
Groupers	<i>Various species</i>	Homes around coral beds. Coral Trout usually land on the table for dinner.
Snappers/Seaperches	<i>Various species</i>	Bottom dwellers and good eating fish.
Wrasse	<i>Various species</i>	Species exceeding 30kg have been taken, however, skill is required to prevent it from rushing to rocky structures.
Trevallies	<i>Various species</i>	Uncountable types abound around coral outcrops and wrecks.

Main Freshwater Species

COMMON NAME LOCAL NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ANGLING NOTES
Giant Snakehead Toman	<i>Channa micropeltes</i>	Ferocious and awesome, they grab baits or lures and dash to the nearest structure leaving your line in a tangled mess. Several specimens awaiting IGFA records.
Red Mahseer Kelah	<i>Tor tambroides</i>	Once endangered, it now thrives in fast flowing rivers of National Parks and fishing is supervised by Park authorities.
Hampala Barb (Malaysian Jungle Perch) Sebarau	<i>Hampala macrolepidota</i>	Perhaps the most exciting river fish to be taken on lure, dashing between rocks and sunken timber.
Giant Featherback Belida	<i>Notopterus chilata</i>	Leaps more than it fights, providing fantastic thrills on light tackle.
Malaysian Bonytongue Kelisa	<i>Scleropagus formosus</i>	Protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (C.I.T.E.S), it may attack lures while casting for Sebarau. Must be released if caught.
Jullieni Barb Temoleh	<i>Probarbus jullieni</i>	Rare river carp capable of reaching up to 30kg.
Giant Goramy Kalui	<i>Osphronemua goramy</i>	A favourite target for fly fishermen.
Catfish	<i>Various species</i>	Several species inhabit the rivers and lakes. Perhaps the most exciting is the Tapah, the largest native fish, known to swallow monkeys for meals.
Borneo Black Bass	<i>Micropterus striata</i>	The Bass has the distinction of being hailed as the 'King of Fresh Water' in America, and 'The Most Outstanding Freshwater Sports Fish' by the Australia Games Fishing Association (AGFA).

Planning Your Trip

Proper planning is always essential when considering a serious angling trip anywhere. Malaysia is no exception. A properly organised fishing package encompassing local knowledge may prove the difference between success and failure.

Fishing is normally customised to suit angling groups and their particular choice of destination. Whether you want salties or freshies, or a combination of both, packages can be tailored accordingly.

The main season for all fishing is from March to October each year. Early correspondence with local fishing organisers is necessary to prepare a suitable schedule to meet your needs. Packages are not inclusive of airfares, international or domestic. Early booking is necessary in order to ensure availability of resources.

SUGGESTED PACKAGES

THE SEAS

The Magical Spratlys

(Ex Labuan)

- The premier saltwater destination
- Deep seas with coral atolls
- The greatest variety of saltwater game fish
- Potential IGFA world record breakers
- 7 days/6 nights live on board.
- Fully equipped vessels for groups of 6 to 10 anglers

The Marlin Search

(Ex Kuala Lumpur, overland transport to Mersing included)

- Fishing FADS (Fish Attracting Devices) for Black Marlin
- Nights on the remote beautiful islands of Aur/Dayang
- Rustic beach chalets amidst swaying coconut groves
- Basic inshore wooden fishing boats
- 5 days/4 nights - day fishing only. Max 4 persons per boat.

Sailfish Spectacular

(Ex Kuala Lumpur, overland transport to Kuala Rompin included)

- Sailfish extravaganza only half an hour from shore
- Day fishing only (2 full days)
- Nights at 4 star eco-resort
- High powered speedboats suitable for max of 4 anglers
- 4 days/3 nights.

INLAND

Kenyir Jungle Experience

(Ex Kuala Terengganu)

- The largest freshwater impoundment in Southeast Asia
- Fishing the flooded forest.
- Surrounded by natural jungle
- Live in remote basic chalets high up feeder rivers
- Fibre glass boats with outboard engines for easy manoeuvrability
- 5 days/4 nights

Wild Temengor

(Ex Kuala Lumpur or Penang, overland transport included)

- Second largest body of freshwater
- Set in virgin rainforest
- Large comfortable houseboat or land-based accommodation
- Day fishing - 5 days/4 nights
- Small boats are also provided

Endau Rompin Rainforest Adventure

(Ex Kuala Lumpur, overland transport included)

- Pristine unspoilt jungle riverine habitat
- Physically and mentally extremely demanding
- Arduous journey to base camp
- Up river travel, rapids and waterfalls
- Fly fishing friendly
- Daily return to base camp
- 9 days/8 nights

The packages can be varied and customised to suit requirements or combined in various ways to enjoy the best of both sea and freshwater. Please contact your fishing organiser for the best recommendations, as logistics can be quite complex.

TACKLE

Most operators do not provide fishing tackle as part of their packages. Depending on the type of fishing you want, your operator will recommend the tackle you should bring with you.

Other saltwater destinations include Tukun/Pulau Perak, located midway between Langkawi and Penang, and Pulau Jarak about 40 kilometres out from the mouth of the Perak river. Both of these destinations are known for GT, Sailfish and other species.

Pulau Mabul, off the coast of Semporna in Sabah is also a deepwater destination. Yellowfin Tuna, Marlin, Sailfish, and many other species including big bottom dwellers can be found in these waters. A comfortable refurbished oil platform adjacent to Pulau Mabul will be your home. Fishing is daily, with speedboats taking you to the nearby FADS or drop offs.

Packages can also be arranged to the freshwater destinations of Lake Bera, Lake Chini and the 130 million-year old rainforest of Taman Negara (National Park)



A happy ending to a successful trip with a fine dinner.

FISHING OPERATORS

Cherrybird Travel and Tours Sdn. Bhd.

31A, 1st Floor
Jalan Barat, Off Jalan Imbi
55100 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03 2141 1399
Fax: 03 2141 3610
E-mail: cherrybtt@gmail.com
Contact Person: Aziz
Sea and freshwater game fishing,
equipment hire, fishing guides and
packages.

Fook Soon Trading Co.

39, Jalan SS3/35
47300 Petaling Jaya
Selangor
Tel/Fax: 03 7874 3066
Contact Person: Kenny Chee
Sea and freshwater fishing, tackle shop.

Hook, Line and Sinker The Angling Consultants

22 Jalan SS22/3
Damansara Jaya
47400 Petaling Jaya
Selangor
Tel/Fax: 03 7725 2551
Website: www.hook-line-sinker.net
www.angling-malaysia.com
Contact Person: Aziz Daud
(IGFA rep, Malaysia)
Tel: 019 266 8446
Contact Person: Anthony Geoffrey
Tel: 012 283 6123
All types of fishing throughout Malaysia.
Equipment hire. Customised itineraries,
fishing guides, advisory services.
Specialising in packages for groups of
overseas anglers.

TackleBox Adventures

99, Jalan SS15/4C
Subang Jaya
47500 Petaling Jaya
Selangor
Tel: 03 5637 0268
E-mail: tackleboxadventures@yahoo.com
Contact Person: Nicky Ooi
West coast bottom fishing, freshwater
and black bass estuary fishing in Sabah,
tackle shop.

Overseas Associates:

DENMARK (Covering Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland)

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E-mail: enquiries@anglers-worldcouk
Contact Person: Martin J. Founds
Website: www.anglers-world.co.uk /
www.martins-world.co.uk

*Well-equipped live on board
angling boat.*



Everything Else You Need To Know

RULES, REGULATIONS AND BAG LIMITS

Currently rules and regulations with regard to angling are being drafted by the government. However, at present no legislation has been imposed on angling in general. The only exception to this is with regard to national and marine parks. In national parks a permit to fish is required and is obtainable for a fee. A camera fee is also imposed. **In marine parks, fishing is not permitted within two nautical miles of the park boundary.**

In order to sustain the quality of angling, catch and release is highly recommended for the majority of species.

PRECAUTIONS

As with all tropical destinations, it is advisable to carry high UVA/UVB sunblock skin protection and good quality polarised sunglasses. Hats should be worn at all times during exposure to sun. Anti-malarial protection is strongly recommended.

INSURANCE

All angling visitors should arrange their own personal accident insurance and sufficient cover for their fishing tackle, cameras and other valuables.

GUARANTEES

Many factors need to be considered when it comes to angling and even if all the required measures are taken to ensure a good trip there is still no known method to force a fish to bite. Excellent catches, however, should prevail.

FOOD AND DRINKS

All customised fishing itineraries include meals as part of the package while at sea, camping or at major lakes. This, however, is mainly local food. Mineral water is also usually provided. All other drinks and meals are at one's own expense.



Labuan Waterfront Hotel, your gateway to the Spratlys.

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 2° to 7° 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

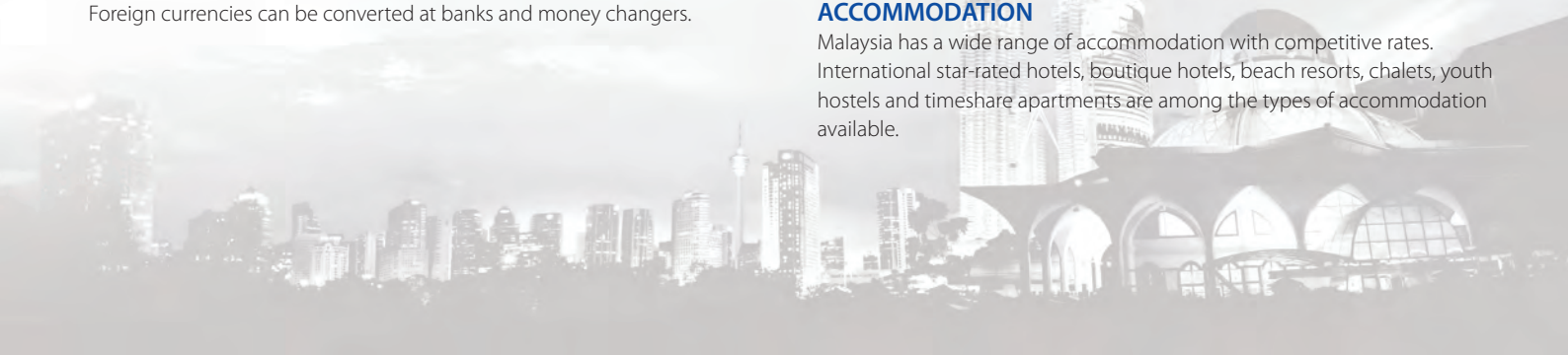
The main gateway to Malaysia is through the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang. It is located about 50 km south of Kuala Lumpur. Over 40 international airlines fly into the country while the national carrier, Malaysia Airlines, has a global network that spans six continents. The airline is a full-fledged member of oneworld, one of the world's top three airline alliances. The national carrier is complemented by its subsidiary, Firefly and the budget airline, AirAsia. The new 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 KLIA 2 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.

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.



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(TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL DRUGS CARRIES THE DEATH PENALTY)