

## Malaysian Country Guide

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### Tourist Entry Requirements

Most Australian ordinary passport holders (who are not prohibited persons) may enter Malaysia as a tourist without a visa for a period of up to three months. Passports should be valid for six months beyond the period of intended stay. When entering Malaysia, travellers should complete an Arrival Card (which is required at the time of departure), provide fingerprints and be able to show documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay as well as tickets for their next destination. Passports are required when travelling between Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia.

Additional conditions may apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact a Malaysian mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Malaysia without a visa.

### Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Malaysia and vaccination against typhoid should also be considered. Depending on a travellers itinerary and activities, vaccination against hepatitis B, rabies and Japanese encephalitis may also be considered. There is a medium risk of malaria in Malaysia; dengue fever and sporadic or limited transmission of the zika virus also occurs; thus insect avoidance measures and anti malarial medication may be necessary depending on your itinerary; pregnant women should consider postponing travel to Malaysia.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual Influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Malaysia should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas, the zika virus and other issues please visit [www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips).

### Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

*Exercise normal safety precautions in Malaysia overall. Use common sense. Look out for suspicious behaviour. Reconsider your need to travel to the coastal resorts of eastern Sabah, including the islands, dive sites and associated tourist facilities, due to the high threat of kidnapping. The risk of kidnapping increases on the water and waterfront after nightfall and is highest between the towns of Sandakan and Tawau. See [Safety and security](#).*

*Terrorism is a threat, including in Kuala Lumpur and other major cities. Take official warnings seriously. Report any suspicious activity to police. Follow the advice of local authorities. See [Safety and security](#).*

*Smoke haze across some parts of Malaysia, including Kuala Lumpur, is usual from June to October but can occur at any time. When haze levels are high, authorities recommend limiting outdoor activity. See [Health](#). If you're intending to travel overland from Malaysia to Thailand, read our advice for [Thailand](#). Travel to or through the far southern provinces of Thailand is unsafe.*

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Malaysia at [www.smartraveller.gov.au](http://www.smartraveller.gov.au).

### Malaysian Representation in Australia

Malaysian High Commission,  
Canberra

Malaysian Consulate,  
Sydney

Malaysian Consulate General,  
Perth

Malaysian Consulate General,  
Melbourne

7 Perth Avenue  
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

67 Victoria Road  
BELLEVUE HILL NSW 2023

252 Adelaide Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000

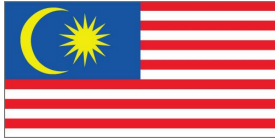
Level 1, 432 St Kilda Road  
MELBOURNE, VIC 3004

Tel: (02) 6120 0300  
Web: [www.malaysia.org.au](http://www.malaysia.org.au)

Tel: (02) 9327 7565  
Fax: (02) 9363 1257

Tel: (08) 9225 7055  
Fax: (08) 9225 7533

Tel: (03) 9573 5400  
Fax: (03) 9866 6204



## Malaysian Country Guide

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### Time Differences between Malaysia and Australia

Malaysia is Greenwich Mean Time +8 hours. Daylight saving time is not observed. The applicable time zone is called Malaysian Standard Time (MYT).

Malaysia, 12 noon, Winter (Dec) = Perth 12pm, Darwin 1:30pm, Brisbane 2pm, Adelaide 2:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 3pm.  
 Malaysia, 12 noon, Summer (Jun) = Perth 12pm, Darwin, Adelaide 1:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 2pm.

### Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Malaysia: +60

To Dial Australia Call:  
 00 61 <City> <Number>

Australian Reverse Charges Direct:  
 1800 800 061

Travelex Card Services:  
 1800 807 338

Visa Global Assistance:  
 1800 802 997

MasterCard:  
 1800 804 594

American Express Travellers Cheques:  
 0377 124 314

Emergency Services:  
 Ambulance - 999  
 Police - 999  
 Fire - 994

These services may not always have English speaking staff. In this case, you should have a local call on your behalf or contact the Australian mission.

### Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

#### Passports

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Credit Cards

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Travel Insurance

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency #: \_\_\_\_\_

### Australian Representation in Malaysia

Australian High Commission, Malaysia

6, Jalan Yap Kwan Seng  
 Kuala Lumpur 50450

Tel: (+60 3) 2146 5555  
 Fax: (+60 3) 2141 5773

Web: [www.malaysia.highcommission.gov.au](http://www.malaysia.highcommission.gov.au)

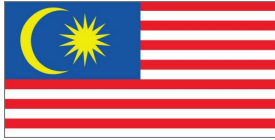
Australian Honorary  
 Consulates, Malaysia:

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah  
 Tel: (+60 88) 267 151

Kuching, Sarawak  
 Tel: (+60 82) 230 777

Penang  
 Tel: (+60 4) 226 8955

Honorary consulates can only provide limited consular assistance. Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305. This service can also be reached from Malaysia by calling 1800 808449. Australians in Malaysia are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at [www.orao.dfat.gov.au](http://www.orao.dfat.gov.au).



## Malaysian Country Guide

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### Duty Free Allowances for Malaysia and Australia

Duty Free limits when entering Malaysia:

Alcohol: 1 L of wine, spirits or malt liquor  
 Tobacco: 225 g of tobacco (equivalent to 200 cigarettes)  
 Other Tax Free Goods: Up to RM400

Duty Free limits when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 L.  
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.  
 Other Tax Free Goods: Up to \$900 (\$450 for minors).

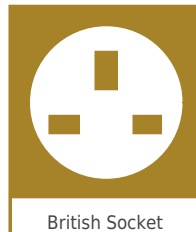
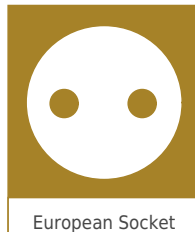
These allowances apply to travellers entering Malaysia for a period longer than 72 hours. Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Malaysia and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Malaysian customs please visit [www.customs.gov.my](http://www.customs.gov.my), or for information on Australian customs please visit [www.border.gov.au](http://www.border.gov.au).

### Electrical Adaptors and Voltage

Electrical socket type: European (type C) and British (type G).  
 Other socket types may also be found in some areas.

Supply: 220-240 V, 50 Hz (same as Australia).

A voltage converter will not usually be required to use appliances designed for Australian use. A socket converter is generally all that is required for Australian appliances.



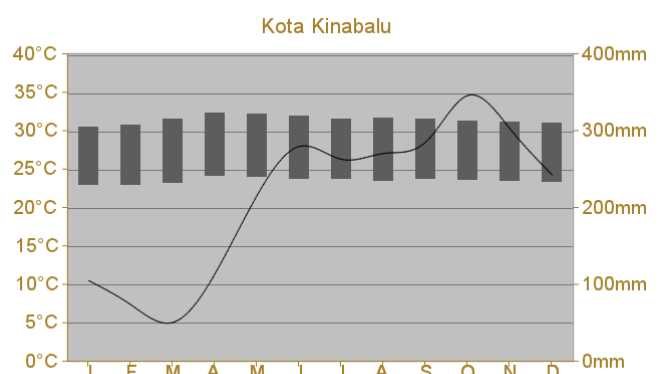
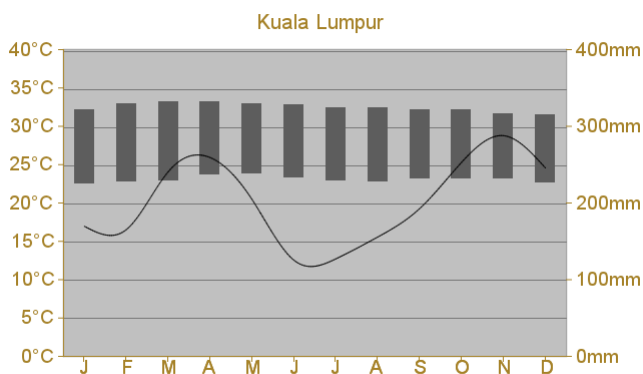
### Malaysian Holidays 2018

Federal Public Holidays

|              |                  |            |                   |
|--------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 01 Jan:      | New Years Day    | 31 Aug:    | National Day      |
| 16 Feb:      | Chinese New Year | 09 Sep:    | King's Birthday   |
| 17 Feb:      | New Year Holiday | 11 Sep:    | Islamic New Year  |
| 01 May:      | Labour Day       | 16/17 Sep: | Malaysia Day      |
| 29 May:      | Wesak Day        | 06/07 Nov: | Deepavali         |
| 15-16 Jun:   | Hari Raya Puasa  | 21 Nov:    | Birth of Muhammad |
| 22 - 23 Aug: | Hari Raya Qurban | 25 Dec:    | Christmas Day     |

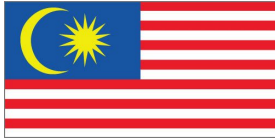
Numerous other regional holidays are celebrated in Malaysia.

### Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Malaysia



Source: Malaysian Meteorological Service. For local forecasts please go to [www.met.gov.my](http://www.met.gov.my).

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# Malaysian Country Guide

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## Exchange Rate

### Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 2.99 Malaysian Ringgit  
 1 Malaysian Ringgit (MYR) = 0.33 Australian Dollars

### With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 2.88 Malaysian Ringgit  
 1 Malaysian Ringgit (MYR) will cost 0.35 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging these currencies. These currency rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

## Purchasing Power Parity

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Malaysian Ringgit and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing power of each currency.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 17.81 Malaysian Ringgit  
 Big Mac Malaysia: RM9.00 (MYR) = 3.01 Australian Dollars

*A Big Mac in Malaysia is therefore 49% less expensive than in Australia.*

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

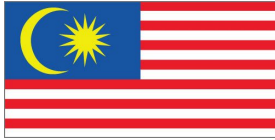
## Currency Cheat Sheet

| RM0.50 | = | \$0.17 AUD | This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above. |   |              |
|--------|---|------------|---|---|--------------|
| RM1    | = | \$0.35 AUD | RM10  | = | \$3.48 AUD   |
| RM2    | = | \$0.70 AUD | RM20  | = | \$6.95 AUD   |
| RM3    | = | \$1.04 AUD | RM30  | = | \$10.43 AUD  |
| RM4    | = | \$1.39 AUD | RM40  | = | \$13.90 AUD  |
| RM5    | = | \$1.74 AUD | RM50  | = | \$17.38 AUD  |
| RM6    | = | \$2.09 AUD | RM60  | = | \$20.85 AUD  |
| RM7    | = | \$2.43 AUD | RM70  | = | \$24.33 AUD  |
| RM8    | = | \$2.78 AUD | RM80  | = | \$27.80 AUD  |
| RM9    | = | \$3.13 AUD | RM90  | = | \$31.28 AUD  |
|        |   |            | RM1,000   | = | \$347.53 AUD |

## Notes and Coins

The legal currency of Malaysia is the ringgit (plural ringgit), which is abbreviated using the symbol RM (for example RM100). The subunit of the ringgit is called the sen, of which there are 100 in every ringgit. Other units of currency may also be in circulation. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travelers are advised to remove the below images before travelling.





## Malaysian Country Guide

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### About Malaysia

|                 |  |                    |  |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Full Name:      | Malaysia   | Significant Dates: |  |
| Size:           | 329,847sq km (50% larger than Victoria).   | 100 BC             | - Trade with China and India begins.   |
| Population:     | 29 million (Over 20 million live in Peninsular Malaysia, 30% larger than Australia). | 100 AD             | - Buddhism and Hinduism begin to spread.   |
| Ethnicity:      | Malay 53%, Chinese 26%, Indigenous 12%, and Indian 8%.                               | 1200-1300 AD       | - Arab and Indian traders introduce Islam.   |
| Languages:      | Bahasa Melayu (official), Chinese (various dialects), English and Tamil.             | 1405-1511          | - Malacca dominates the peninsula and controls the vital Chinese-Indian trade routes.  |
| Religion:       | Sunni Islam 60%, Buddhism 19%, Christianity 9%, Hinduism 6%.                         | 1511               | - Portugal captures Malacca.   |
| GDP Per Capita: | US\$17,500 (Australia US\$43,000).   | 1641               | - The Dutch and local allies take Malacca.   |
|                 |  | 1786               | - The British lease Penang and later control the settlements of Malacca and Singapore. |
|                 |  | 1942-45            | - Japanese occupation during WWII.   |
|                 |  | 1950-60            | - Malayan Emergency, Australia sends troops.   |
|                 |  | 1957               | - Federation of Malaya becomes independent.  |
|                 |  | 1963               | - Sabah and Sarawak join, forming Malaysia.  |

