MALAYSIA

LANGKAWI GEOPARK DISCOVERY CENTRE GUIDE

Southeast Asia's first UNESCO Geopark



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Naturally LANGKAWI



Welcome to The Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark Discovery Centre

Langkawi was born in the Cambrian era as a broad sedimentary mound at the bottom of a turbulent sea just north of the equator. It is the only place in Malaysia where evidence of a complete Paleolithic era of Geological history, 542-251 million years ago, is found on a relatively small area of Langkawi. The archipelago of the Paleolithic era was a time of great change on Earth, starting from the Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Denovian, Carboniferous to the Permian. No other place in the world can match Langkawi's geodiversity with 5 different rock formations including limestone, granite, and marble.

A visit to The Langkawi Geopark Discovery Centre will let you delve deep into its half-billion year old past, offering an educational and entertaining experience how the island's geology sheds light on the earth's hidden formation process.

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Wreathed Hornbill



THE FIRST GEOPARK IN SOUNTHEAST ASIA

Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark (LUGGp) is the only global geopark covering the entire archipelago of 99 tropical islands. Spanning 47,848 hectares, Langkawi can be found approximately 25km north-west of Malaysia on the Andaman Sea. A large portion of the island is made up of flat, plains accentuated by limestone ridges, forests, hills and mountains.

Legends:

Conservation Area:

1. Machinchang Cambrian Geoforest Park
2. Kilim Karst Geoforest Park
3. Dayang Bunting Marble Geoforest Park
4. Kubang Badak BioGeo Trail

ENTRY POINT

5. Telaga Harbour
6. Langkawi International Airport
7. Rebak Island Marina
8. Star Cruise Jetty
9. Kuah Jetty
10. Royal Langkawi Yacht Club

NATURAL TREASURES

Waterfalls

11. Air Terjun Tama
12. Air Terjun Telaga Tujuh
13. Air Terjun Temurun
14. Air Terjun Lubuk Semilang
15. Air Terjun Durian Perangin

Peaks & Caves

16. Gunung Machinchang
17. Gunung Raya
18 Gua Pinang
19. Gua Cherita
20. Gua Buaya
21. Gua Kelawar
22. Gua Langsir
23. Gua Pasir Dagang
24. Gua Wang Buluh

SUN, SEA & SAND

25. Teluk Datai
26. Pantai Pasir Tengkorak
27. Pantai Teluk Yu
28. Pantai Pasir Hitam
29. Pantai Tanjung Rhu
30. Pantai Kok
31. Paradise 101
32. Pulau Rebak
33. Pantai Chenang
34. Pantai Tengah
35. Pantai Legenda
36. Pulau Beras Basah
37. Pulau Payar Marine Park

THRILLS & ADVENTURE

38. SkyBridge
39. SkyCab
40. SkyRex
41. Skytrex Adventure Langkawi
42. Morac Adventure Park Langkawi
43. Langkawi Canopy Adventures
44. Splash Out Langkawi

HERITAGE & CULTURE

45. Langkawi Craft Complex
46. Ayer Hangat Village
47. Galeria Perdana
48. Laman Padi
49. Kota Mahsuri
50. Balai Seni Langkawi

GOLF COURSE

51. The Els Club Malaysia
52. Gunung Raya Golf Resort
53. 99 East Golf Club Langkawi

ATTRACTION

54. 3D Art in Paradise
55. Machinchang Pet Land
56. Oriental Village
57. Perdana Quay Eco Marine Park
58. Crocodile Adventureland
59. Underwater World Langkawi
60. Darulaman Sanctuary
61. MARDI Agro Technology Park
62. Geopark Discovery Centre
63. Langkawi Wildlife Park
64. MAHA Tower Langkawi City
65. Dataran Lang
66. Taman Legenda

STARTER PACK

How To Get To Langkawi

By Flight

Hopping on a flight to Langkawi is the easiest and fastest way to get there. Just book a flight directly to Langkawi International Airport is located at the south-western part of the island. There are no public buses or trains in Langkawi, you will need to either hop on a private transfer or book a taxi/ e-hailing service upon arrival.

Travel Duration:
- Kuala Lumpur <> Langkawi: 1 hr ±
- Singapore <> Langkawi: 1 hr 25 mins. ±
- Penang <> Langkawi: 35 mins. ±

By Ferry

An alternative would be for you to drive up to Kuala Kedah or Kuala Perlis for a ferry ride to the island. The journey from these locations to Langkawi typically takes about 1 hour depending on sea conditions.

Travel Duration:
- Kuala Perlis <> Langkawi Kuah: 1 hr 15 mins. ±
- Kuala Kedah <> Langkawi Kuah: 1 hr 45 mins. ±
- Satun / Koh Lipe, Thailand <> Kuah: 1 hr 15 mins. ±

By RO-RO Ferry

If you enjoy traveling in your own personal vehicle, the process is completely hassle-free. Online booking must be made 3 days before the date of travel with full payment. RORO ferry provides service transporting wheeled vehicle and passenger. Make sure you are well prepared with all the necessary documents before heading to the entry point at Kuala Perlis Terminal.

Travel Duration:
- Kuala Perlis <> Langkawi Kuah: 2 hrs 30 mins ±

Getting Around Langkawi



Taxis Getting a taxi is a convenient way to get around, taxis operate on a fixed rate depending on the distance. If traveling as a group, book for a Langkawi Taxi Van with an experienced English / Arabic speaking driver is certainly your first choice.

Car Rental The most convenient and cost-effective way of getting around Langkawi is to rent a car. Being a small island, a typical drive from end-to-end will usually take 30 minutes. In Malaysia they drive on the left hand side. Remember to always bring your driving license, valid credit card and additional proof of identity (such as a passport if you are hiring abroad).

E-hailing Apps Fret not if you prefer to rely on the all-too-familiar e-hailing app. Grab and MyCar are the two most popular apps in Langkawi although other e-hailing companies are already making headway in this popular tourist destination.

Motorbikes & Scooters Not only are motorbikes and scooters cheaper than renting a car, they're fun, convenient, and a common way to get around. They're so common that they are not strict on the license front although wearing a helmet is a requirement.

Bicycle Rentals



Although most motorbike and scooter rental outlets have bicycles for rent, you can actually book them ahead of time via online sites like Bikago, Klook, Veltra, or Book2wheel. Paddling across the beautiful landscape on an e-bike is another exciting option!





Do's & Don'ts

Please Do:
1. Use the services of responsible & licensed local guides.
2. Respect the rights of animals and minimise noise / disturbance in natural habitats.
3. Minimise the use of plastic.
4. Support the efforts of local environmental programs by government, NGOs, corporate companies.
5. Enjoy yourself and tell others about Langkawi's wonderful natural reserves.
6. Drive with caution to avoid road accidents, and LOOK OUT FOR CROSSING WILDLIFE.
7. Avoid crowded areas and follow Covid-19 prevention measures.
8. Go Cashless. Adapt to the new norm can help reduce Covid-19 risk.

Please Don't:
1. DON'T LITTER! – especially plastic bags and bottles.
2. Don't alter, destroy or move plants, nests, shells, limestone or corals.
3. Don't disturb animals (or other nature lovers).
4. Don't feed the animals – they know what's healthiest for them!
5. Don't try to pet animals (especially monkeys!).
6. Don't buy ANY seashells or coral products, as this only encourages unsustainable practices.

Weather

Langkawi's daily weather is mostly sunny with temperatures varying between 30°C - 35°C, and between 28°C to 29°C at night. With accommodating climate all year round, you can plan your beach vacation any time you like.

Language

Malay is the national language of Malaysia, used in official ceremonies and documents. English is the second official language of the country, and most Malaysian can speak English fluently. Other major languages spoken are Chinese and Tamil.

Culture

The majority of the island's population is Muslim, as such please keep your attire modest especially when visiting traditional / religious attractions. Please refrain from wearing revealing clothes unless you're at the beach.

Travel Adapter

Malaysia uses the G plug type, which has three rectangular pins arranged in a triangular pattern and operates on a 240V supply voltage and 50Hz frequency.

Mobile Pack

The best and cheapest way is to get a prepaid SIM card. Service and sales counters can be found at the arrival hall of Airport and jetty as well as convenient stores.

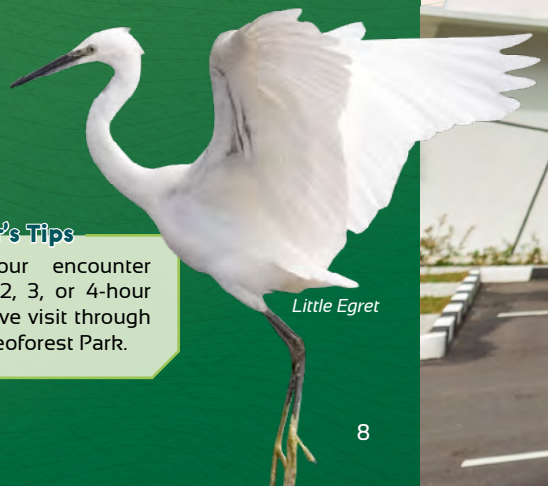
Money Changer & ATM

Money changer and ATMs are located at the airport and jetty, Kuah town, Pantai Chenang and most shopping malls.

The Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark Discovery Centre

Discover the 550-million-year-old natural wonders of Southeast Asia's first UNESCO Geopark at located only a few minutes from Kilim Karst Geoforest Park, the Geopark Discovery Center comprises eight zones. An on-site introduction to the wonders of Langkawi the centre introduces visitors to the incredible rock formations found in Langkawi as well as its diverse as rainforests, mangroves, tidal flats, beaches, caves, karsts, estuaries and coral reefs.

The Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark Discovery Centre also known as GDC was officially opened to public in January 2020 offers an educational and entertaining collection of exhibitions, displays, photography, digital and interactive media and more. Conveniently located minutes away from the Kilim Karst Geoforest Park, the Geopark Discovery Centre consists of eight zones. You can even pair your visit with a 2, 3 or 4-hour long mangrove visit through Kilim Geoforest Park.



Little Egret

Insider's Tips

Pair your encounter with a 2, 3, or 4-hour mangrove visit through Kilim Geoforest Park.

Great Hornbill

Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark Discovery Centre

SECTION HIGHLIGHT

UNESCO Global GeoPark

Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark

On the 1st of June 2007, Langkawi was awarded with the World Geopark status by UNESCO, making it the first in Southeast Asia. Four of its main conservation areas in Langkawi Geopark are Machinchang Cambrian Geoforest Park, Kilim Karst Geoforest Park, and Dayang Bunting Marble Geoforest Park and Kubang Badak Biogeo Trail. Langkawi now serves as a reference centre not just in Southeast Asia but within the Asia Pacific region and has most recently been appointed as advisor to the Asia Pacific Global Geopark Network. Langkawi consists:

38 Geosites
10 Biosites
4 Conservation Area
5 Culture Sites

Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark has the best-exposed and most complete Palaeozoic sedimentary sequence in Malaysia, from the Cambrian to the Permian period. During the early Permian period, the Sibumasu Block broke out from Gondwanaland, rifting northward and collided with the East Malaya-Indochina Block to form the Southeast Asian mainland.

Following that during the Mesozoic period, the islands underwent a major tectonic event that resulted in the emplacement of its numerous granitic rocks and the entire Peninsular Malaysia was uplifted, including Langkawi. Much of its geological development was linked to what had happened in the old supercontinent Pangea and southern hemispheric Gondwanaland that took place more than 550 million years.

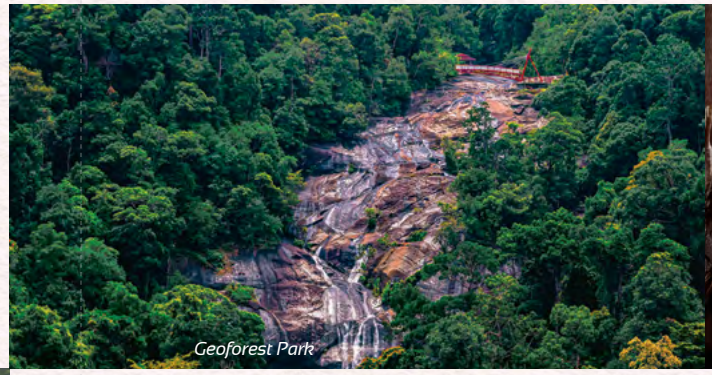
What we now find in Langkawi today is the combined result of these various processes and the ongoing weathering process that has taken place since Langkawi was brought to the surface at around 220 million years ago. Geodiversity and biodiversity are preserved in the Machinchang Cambrian Geoforest Park, Kilim Karst Geoforest Park, Dayang Bunting Marble Geoforest Park and the Kubang Badak Biogeotrail. These geoforest parks also protect biodiversity in diverse habitats including mangroves, tidal flats, beaches, estuaries, coral reefs, caves, limestone and many more harbours for an abundance of life forms



Gua Langsir

38 Langkawi GEOSITES

1. Datai Anticline
2. Pasir Tengkorak Cross-Bedding
3. Pulau Jerumuk Cambrian Fossil
4. Machinchang Peak
5. Tanjung Chinchin Dip Slope
6. Temurun Waterfall
7. Bukit Pinang Cave
8. Pulau Langgun Limestone
9. Tanjung Dendang Sea-Notch
10. Pulau Anak Tikus Fossil
11. Gua Kelawar
12. Kilim Pinnacle
13. Bukit Kechil Fold
14. Gua Wang Buloh
15. Teluk Berembang Beach
16. Tanjung Rhu Karst
17. Tanjung Mali Dropstone
18. Pulau Tepor Dropstone
19. Pulau Ular Abrasional Platform
20. Pulau Singa Kechil Plateau
21. Sungai Itau Brachiopod Fossils
22. Batu Asah Brachiopod Fossils
23. Pulau Rebak Red Beds
24. Gunung Raya Roof Pendant
25. Ujong Buloh Remnant Islands
26. Dayang Bunting Dolina
27. Gua Pasir Dayang
28. Pulau Jong Fossils
29. Dayang Bunting Marble
30. Telaga Tujuh Waterfall
31. Pulau Tuba Sill
32. Gunung Raya Granite
33. Teluk Yu Granite Tor
34. Pulau Bumbun Skarn
35. Kisap Fault, Belanga Pechah
36. Ayer Hangat Hot Spring
37. Teluk Air Taun Thrust Fault
38. Ulu Melaka Mahsuri's Ring



Geoforest Park



Gua Kelawar

10 Langkawi BIOSITES

1. Gunung Raya
2. Wat Wanararm
3. Lubuk Semilang
4. Telaga Tujuh
5. Pulau Singa Besar
6. Sungai Kilim / Kisap
7. Air Terjun Temurun
8. Gua Kelawar
9. Teluk Datai
10. Dangli Remnant Islands

4 Langkawi CONSERVATION AREA

1. Kilim Karst Geoforest Park
2. Machinchang Cambrian Geoforest Park
3. Dayang Bunting Marble Geoforest Park
4. Kubang Badak Biogeotrail

5 Langkawi CULTURE SITES

1. Kota Mahsuri
2. Langkawi Craft Complex
3. Taman Legenda
4. Laman Padi
5. Beras Terbakar

Floor Plan
of Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark



Visitors can begin their journey at the main lobby where they'll be introduced to the geopark by the Geopark Rangers. The geological and historical exploration of Langkawi will then commence as visitors witness its natural and beauty through a series of 3D animations showcasing the island's formation and development through each era, epoch and age.

At the Themed Exhibition Area, guests can enjoy first-hand experience on rocks, fossils and various fascinating geological ecosystem found only at the exhibit. There is also a showcase where they can learn more about UNESCO Global Geoparks from all around the globe, consisting of 177 geoparks from 46 different countries.



Obit is GDCs mascot and is a trilobite, which is an ancient fossil arthropod species and is one of the earliest and longest living marine species, which flourished across vast oceans for close to 300 million years. Obit and its kind once thrived at the dawn of the Palaeozoic Era, which is often referred to as the Trilobite Age, going back to more 540 million years. The top half of Obit's skeletal structure consists of a carapace or hard crustacean upper shell, while its lower half is divided longitudinally into three lobes hence the name, 'tri-' and 'lobite'.

Obit represents the oldest fossil in Malaysia, the saukiid trilobite, which can be found within the sandstones of Gunung Machinchang.

Meet Obit the Trilobite





SECTION HIGHLIGHT

Introduction & Sociocultural

Langkawi's Wondrous Rock Formations

Langkawi is a wondrous geological formation that goes back over a half a billion years. It has an intricate ecosystem that sustains life in every facet that is as abundant as its legends, history and culture. The zones are where you can discover all the wonders of Langkawi's Geopark.







1 Machinchang Formation

Dominated by barren rocky peaks and vertical cliffs, the Machinchang Formation features outstanding sedimentary structures and various types of cross-beds, ripple marks and load structure as well as trace fossils (ancient burrows, footprints or tracks) and body fossils (remnant body parts of animals or plants).

2 Setul Formation

Host to some exemplary karstic formations, the Setul Formation is where you can find sea-notches, sea caves, sea arches, sea stacks and pinnacles with the appearance of magnificent caves with stalactites, stalagmites and deep tunnels.

3 Singa Formation

Home to multiple unique features, the Singa Formation is famous its one-billion-year-old trondhjemite granite on Pulau Tepor. You can even find brachiopod fossils, symptomatic of cold-water temperatures of the Gondwanaland seas in Sungai Itau and Batu Asah.

4 Chuping Formation

Composed of thinly bedded dark grey bioclastic limestone which dominates the lower member of the formation and is believed to be deposited 290 to 250 million years ago, the Chuping Formation due to its metamorphism to marble, has created collapsed caves, the most famous being Tasik Dayang Bunting, the largest lake in Langkawi.

5 Gunung Raya Granite

The topography of Langkawi is dominated by the hard granites found in both Bukit Sawak and Gunung Raya. There are areas in Langkawi where you can see crystals within the rocks as well as sills folded in Pulau Tuba. Granite erosion has also created features like the magnificent Telaga Tujuh Waterfall and Teluk Yu Granite Tors.

SECTION HIGHLIGHT

Myths & Legends

Where Langkawi's Legends Come Alive



1 Legend of Mahsuri

The legend of Mahsuri is Langkawi's very own version of a fairy-tale that ends tragically. A rare beauty Mahsuri was the envy of all and she married well but when her husband had to go to war, she was alone and befriended a wondering minstrel. Soon the town accused her of adultery, went to trial and was condemned to die, but to prove her innocence she asked to be killed with a ceremonial Keris, for no other women could harm her. When the fatal blow was cast, her blood ran white and in her final breath she cursed Langkawi for seven generations.

2 Legend of Gua Cherita

Gua Cherita is aptly named as such due to the many folk tales that surround this legendary cave. From a Roman Prince and a Chinese Princess cursed by a legendary birdlike figure called, Garuda to Gadembi a giantess who turned all who entered into stone. Many fantastical tales are attached to the cave along with rock formation that would have some believing they were true.

3 Legend of Tasik Dayang Bunting

According to Legend, Mat Teja fell in love with Princess Mambang Sari right at the lake. They got married and had a son, yet he died soon after and they placed their son in the waters of the lake as his final resting place. Though it was a tragedy, the princess was kind and blessed all women who had trouble conceiving with the gift of fertility should they bathe in these waters.

4 Legend of Mat Chinchang & Mat Raya

Once there lived two giants who were the best of friends, their names were Mat Chinchang and Mat Raya. At their children's wedding reception, the giants got into a heated argument and started throwing things around at one another. Where the pot of gravy landed you can find Kuah Town, hot water was flung where we now find Ayer Hangat Village, many more items thrown about gave rise to famous locations on the island. In the end lighting struck to end the fight, turning them both to stone.



SECTION HIGHLIGHT

Mangrove Forest

Geopark's Jewel of A Forest

Langkawi's extensive mangrove forests truly is the geopark's jewel. Mangrove forests are incredibly important to its ecosystem as they are home to some amazing flora and fauna. Monitor lizards, mudskippers, fiddler crabs, banded archerfish as well as long-tailed macaque's can be found all over the mangrove swamps.

The macaque's found here are such good swimmers that they can travel across very deep areas to find food or to escape predators. Just look to the sky and you're sure to find an eagle, the most common being the Sea Eagle and the Brahminy Kite Eagle.



Explored the mangrove sanctuary located opposite the GDC.

SECTION HIGHLIGHT

UNESCO Global GeoPark

Unesco Global Geopark Network

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development. The Global Geopark Network founded in 2004 is a dynamic network where members are committed to work together, exchange ideas of best practise, and join in common projects to raise the quality standards of all products and practises of a UNESCO Global Geopark.

The Global Geopark Network continues to expand, drawing in new expertise and knowledge from all parts of the world and different cultures. And it's always developing models of best practice and setting high quality standards for territories that integrate the preservation of geological heritage into strategies for regional sustainable economic development.



Scan here for the list of UNESCO Global Geoparks:

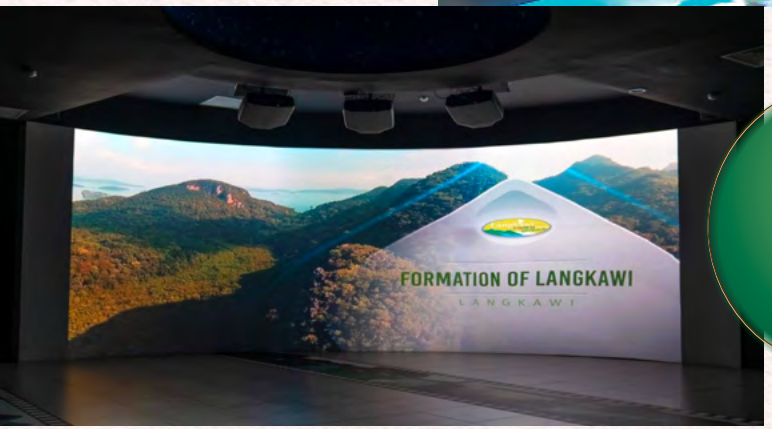
SECTION HIGHLIGHT

Interactive Game Zone

Interactive Gaming Fun

At the Interactive Gaming Zone, families and kids can get an even more exciting and engaging idea of the wonders of the geopark through interactive games. There is also an mini library for every booklover. It's a great place to catch a break from all the discovery and have a moment of peace and quiet.





SECTION HIGHLIGHT

Amphi-theatre Hall

State-Of-The-Art Cinematic Experience

The Amphitheatre Hall allows guests to engage in a visual montage, a short film on the formation of Langkawi Island 550 million years ago including various elements that has created the diverse archipelago and wildlife of Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark. The state-of-the-art cinematic experience consists of a curved movie screen, six projectors with a seven-minute screening of a movie summarising the geological, cultural, socioeconomic and environmental facets of Langkawi.

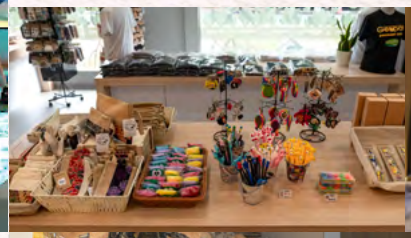
SECTION HIGHLIGHT

Souvenir Shop

A Momento Before You Go

Before you leave don't forget to get your very own souvenir to remember your experience at GDC such as Langkawi Geopark and Geosite Books, LUGGp's Mascot Obit the Trilobite Merchandise such as plushies and tshirts, wildlife figurines such as the Brahminy Kite Eagle and other memorabilia such as keychains, fridge magnets and stationery.









While here be sure to also try out locally made GeoCrafts such as mengkuang and rattan products, batik bags or garments and GeoProducts, which include sea cucumber balms, herbs, coffee, stingless bee honey and virgin coconut oil. This is truly a wonderful introduction for guests before journeying to the actual geopark sites.

SECTION HIGHLIGHT

Facade Mural

Several large murals can be found on Langkawi Island one of which is located at Langkawi Geopark Discovery Centre in Kilim. 'Mangrove Covid-19 Awareness,' was created by the Northbound Crew, which comprises of three young painters. The mural has motifs of flora and fauna with two national heroes (frontliners) who invite us to fight this unknown enemy together by following each standard operating procedure to break the chain of the virus. This mural is also an initiative of the National Art Gallery, Langkawi Branch and LADA, all entities aim to provide awareness to the community on Covid-19 while also revitalising the country's domestic tourism activities.





USEFUL INFORMATION

Tourist Information Centre (Kuah Town)
+604-966 7789

Tourist Information Centre (Langkawi International Airport)
+604-955 7155

Langkawi International Airport
+604-955 1311

Immigration Department of Malaysia
+604-969 4400

Customs Department in Kuah
+604-966 6227

Police / Ambulance / Hospital / Fire Department
999

Police Station
+604-966 6222

Post Office
+604-966 7271

24 Hour Medical Services:
Sultanah Maliha Hospital +604-966 3333
Clinic Mahsuri +604-961 0961

Clinics:
Pantai Chenang
Global Doctors Medical Clinic +604-955 6399
Chenang Clinic +604-955 1418

Kuah
Klinik Langkawi +604-966 7668
Poliklinik Perdana +604-966 3302
Island Clinic +604-961 1132
Aishah Specialist Clinic +604-966 7860
iCARE Clinic +604-966 5000

Covid-19 Test Lab
Maju Healthcare +604-952 5588 /
Safe Track +6012-991 0909

Transports:
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Taxis Counter (Kuah) +604 966 5249
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