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From a backwater peripheral district, Langkawi has now become a major touristic destination, attracting visitors from all over the world thanks to its pristine tropical beaches and natural attractions. In 2008, the archipelago was renamed "Langkawi Permata Kedah", which literally means "Langkawi, the jewel of Kedah" – an appropriate name, given that Langkawi truly is a jewel, a tropical paradise begging to be explored.

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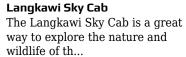
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THE ARCHIPELAGO



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Langkawi is a tropical archipelago located in the Andaman sea in northwestern Malaysia, at the border with Thailand. It consists of 104 islands (99 during high tide) of which only 4 are permanently inhabited. The main island, also called Langkawi, is where most of the population and attractions are located. The latter include the famous Sky Bridge, the Pulau Payar Marine Park, the large Underwater World aquarium and, of course, pristine beaches and lush rainforests.

There are many activities that you can enjoy in Langkawi, the most obvious being a relaxing day in one of the island's fine resorts and beaches. If you feel adventurous, however, try the Sky Cab and Sky Bridge to have a breathtaking vista of Langkawi's wild nature, or explore the mangrove forest with a kayak in the Kilim Karst Geoforest Park. On the other hand, if you want to discover the local culture and have a taste of the delicious cuisine, make sure to visit the local shops, markets and restaurants: you will not be disappointed.

Whether you plan to sit and relax on a tropical beach, enjoy the nightlife or just want to immerse yourselves in nature and wildlife, Langkawi will fulfil all your wishes and offer you even more.

DO & SEE



Vaflya/Shutterstock.com

Langkawi has much to offer to all kinds of travellers, but it's well worth a visit mostly for its natural attractions: from tropical beaches like Pantai Cenang to nature reserves such as the Kilim Karst Geoforest Park; from the breathtaking vista on top of the Sky Bridge to the fun and unique experience of the Pulau Payar Marine Park.

Langkawi Beaches



From the busy and lively Pantai Cenang on the western shore to the more secluded Tanjung Rhu on the northern shore, Langkawi has a lot

of beautiful, white sandy beaches, where you can relax and sun bathe or take part in the many activities and water sports offered by the seaside.

Photo: AsiaTravel/Shutterstock.com

Langkawi Sky Bridge



Suspended above the spectacular Langkawi rainforest, the Langkawi Sky Bridge offers its visitors a breathtaking view over the Mat

Chinchang mountain range and the Telaga Tujuh waterfalls. This curved pedestrian bridge is over 125 metres long and has two platforms to enjoy the panorama. The bridge is only accessible via the Langkawi Sky Cab and can accommodate up to 250 people at the same time.

Photo: ra66/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Telaga Tujuh Teluk Burau, Langkawi

Opening hours: Daily 09.30-19.00 Phone: +60 4 959 4225 Tickets: Adults RM5, children RM3 Internet: www.panoramalangkawi.com Email: info@panoramalangkawi.com

Langkawi Sky Cab



The Langkawi Sky Cab is a great way to explore the nature and wildlife of the island. Located within the Oriental Village in northwestern Langkawi,

this cable car will take you to the top of Gunung Mat Chinchang, where the Sky Bridge is found. It is composed of three stations, Base, Middle and Top station for a total length of 2.2 km. Alongside the standard gondolas, it is possible (at an extra charge) to get a luxurious VIP gondola or a glass-bottom one, with a spectacular view unfolding right beneath your feet.

Photo: Guido Amrein Switzerland/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Telaga Tujuh Teluk Burau, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 09.30-19.00 Phone: +60 4 959 4225 Tickets: Adults RM55, children RM40. RM550 for VIP and RM105 for Bottom Glass. Internet: www.panoramalangkawi.com Email: info@panoramalangkawi.com

Eagle Square



Eagle Square (Dataran Lang) is located in Kuah, the major city of the archipelago. Its most important feature is the giant statue of an eagle

(hence the name Eagle Square). It is said in local folklore that the name of the archipelago comes from the Malay words 'helang' (shortened to 'lang'), meaning 'eagle' and 'kawi', meaning reddish-brown.

Photo: Joe Ravi/Shutterstock.com Address: Eagle Square, Kuah, Langkawi

Underwater World Langkawi



This aquarium is located in Pantai Cenang, and is a great way to have fun and enjoy oneself when you are tired of the beach. The Underwater World

Langkawi offers its visitors a wide variety of marine species, housed in several tanks with different ecosystems, ranging from tropical to temperate to sub-antarctic, with even tunnel-tanks for a unique view of sea life and its many wonders.

Photo: leungchopan/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Cenang, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 10.00-18.00 Phone: +60 4 955 6100 Tickets: Adults RM46, children RM36. Internet: www.underwaterworldlangkawi.my Email: info_uwl@edenzil.com

Gunung Raya



With its 881 metres above sea level, Gunung Raya is the highest mountain in Langkawi. At its top sits a resort (the D'Coconut Hill Resort), as well as a

viewing tower, from which a spectacular view over the island unfolds.

Photo: liseykina/Shutterstock.com Address: Gunung Raya, Langkawi

Pulau Payar Marine Park



Located in Pulau Payar and the three surrounding islands, 30 km south of Pulau Langkawi, this marine park is a heaven for those

who love snorkelling, because of its

uncontaminated waters and abundant sea life. Of particular interest is the Coral Garden, a section of the park characterised by beautiful and colourful coral formations.

The Park can only be visited as part of a tour, which can be booked in Langkawi. The boat trip takes around 45 minutes.

Photo: airellizwan/Shutterstock.com Address: Pulau Payar, Kedah

Langkawi Wildlife Park



With an area of 5.5 acres, this park houses over 150 different species from all over the world, from macaws to crocodiles to peacocks and raccoons.

The park can be explored through covered walkways, which makes it enjoyable even during

heavy rainfall, and children can have fun and feed the animals during the feeding sessions.

Photo: Rizaudin/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Ayer Hangat, Kampung Belanga Pecah, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 8.30-18.00 Phone: +60 4 966 5855 Tickets: Adults RM39, children RM22 Email: wildlifepark.langkawi@gmail.com

Temurun Waterfall



A beautiful waterfall, the highest in Langkawi. Surrounded by the forest on the slopes of Gunung Mat Chinchang, it's a good spot for a picnic, but

beware of monkeys, as they can get aggressive if you disturb them. It is recommended to visit during rainy season, as the waterfall is reduced to a trickle throughout the dry months.

Photo: Authentic travel/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Teluk Datai, Langkawi

Kilim Karst Geoforest Park



The Kilim Karst Geoforest Park is the biggest of the three geoforest parks in Langkawi. Its main features are the mangrove forests and the

karstic caves spread throughout the coastline. Take a boat or a kayak and explore the Kilim River, find fossils in Fossil Island or take a look at the 500 million year old limestone cliffs that make this park so unique.

Photo: Yanawut Suntornkij/Shutterstock.com Address: Jeti Pelancongan Sungai Kilim, Mukim Ayer Hangat, Kampung Kilim, Langkawi Phone: +60 4 959 2323 Internet: kilimgeoforestpark.com/en/kilim-geoforest-park.html Email: koperasikilim@yahoo.com

DINING



wong yu liang/Shutterstock.com

Malaysian cuisine fully represents the mixture and variety of Malaysian society: different culinary traditions (Malay, Chinese, Indian and so on) coexist and influence each other, creating a peculiar mix of tastes and flavours.

Rice is a staple in all Asian cultures and is served with almost every dish, accompanied by meat or fish. Very characteristic is also the abundant usage of spices and coconut milk, like in Malaysia's national dish Nasi Lemak (coconut-flavoured rice with boiled eggs and peanuts).

In Langkawi, you can find anything from traditional Malay cuisine to Chinese or Thai specialities, as well as western-inspired, international dishes: everything your taste buds desire, with the Langkawi rainforest and the Andaman Sea for dining backdrop.

Here's a list of the best places to eat in Langkawi, Malaysia:

Kayu Puti



This quiet and elegant restaurant offers an original blend of local cuisine and western culinary tradition, under the guidance of Executive

Chef Gaetan Biesuz. The delicious food is coupled with a perfect dining area facing the sunset, which adds a romantic touch to the already pleasant atmosphere.

Photo: Marian Weyo/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Beringin, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 18.00-22.00 Phone: +60 4 960 6666 Internet: www.kayuputilangkawi.com Email: kayuputi.langkawi@stregis.com More Info: Located at St. Regis Resort

The Planter's at The Danna



At The Planter's you can taste Mediterranean as well as local Malaysian cuisine in a friendly atmosphere with live piano music. The

restaurant also offers vegetarian and gluten-free dishes, to suit the dietary needs of every guest.

Photo: grafvision/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Kok, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 18.30-23.00 Phone: +60 4 959 3288 Internet: www.thedanna.com/en-gb/facilities/the-planters Email: info@thedanna.com

The Gulai House



Deep inside the jungle, housed in a traditional Malay stilt hut, this Malay and Indian restaurant offers its guests an unforgettable culinary

experience, with generous portions of tasty food in a comfortable alfresco setting. The menu includes traditional Malay dishes like beef rendang (spiced curry beef cubes) and ikan bakar (grilled fish), as well as Indian recipes such as papadum (crispy, round-shaped flat bread).

Photo: Alphonsine Sabine/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Teluk Datai, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 18.30-22.30 Phone: +60 4 959 2500 Internet: www.thedatai.com/dining/the-gulai-house

Jala Restaurant



Jala Restaurant specialises in seafood, be it local Malaysian or western-style. The fish is fresh, being delivered every day by local

fishermen, and the setting is rather characteristic, with a sand-filled floor and wooden construction that directly faces Teluk Datai beach.

Photo: MAHATHIR MOHD YASIN/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Teluk Datai, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 18.00-22.30. Closed on Monday Phone: +60 4 959 1088 Internet: www.theandaman.com/cuisine-jala More Info: Located at The Andaman Resort

The Pavilion



The Pavilion is an open-air Thai restaurant located in a stilt house that overlooks the rainforest. It serves traditional Thai dishes

such as tom yam goong and pad thai in a nice and friendly environment. The restaurant also hosts cooking classes for those guests who want to learn how these delicious dishes are prepared.

Photo: Giulia M/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Teluk Datai, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 18.30-22.30 Phone: +60 4 950 0500 Internet: www.thedatai.com/dining/the-pavilion More Info: Located at The Datai Langkawi

Mangoes Bar and Grill



This is a great place to chill out and enjoy a simple and tasty meal. The menu offers primarily western cuisine, with popular favourites like

mashed potatoes, Aussie burger and meatballs, as well as cocktails like Mango Magic and Mango Madness.

Photo: TravnikovStudio/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Kuala Teriang, Langkawi Opening hours: Wed-Sat 17.00-22.00. Sun 11.00-22.00 Phone: +60 17 589 8117 Internet: www.mangoeslangkawi.com

Ikan-Ikan



Located at the Four Seasons resort in Tanjung Rhu, this Malay restaurant serves traditional dishes in a nice, Malaysian-style

setting with an open-air dining room. The menu includes meat, fish and vegetarian dishes prepared with fresh local ingredients, such as braised beef tenderloin, grilled Andaman sea bass and wok-fried green beans.

Photo: Ariyani Tedjo/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Tanjung Rhu, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 18.30-22.30 Phone: +60 4 950 8888 Internet:

www.fourseasons.com/langkawi/dining/restaurants/ikan_ikan More Info: Located at the Four Seasons Resort

CAFES



Ungar-Biewer/Shutterstock.com

Langkawi offers a variety of eateries, ranging from local cafes and lounges to traditional western cafeterias and pastry shops. Sitting in a cafe while having a refreshing drink is a nice way of relaxing but also a good way to get some respite from the tropical heat.

Below are some of the best cafes in Langkawi, Malaysia:

Arts Cafe Langkawi



An interesting cafe in the middle of Kuah, with tasty meals, good drinks and a nice decor. The walls of its interior are adorned with fine paintings and unique pieces that give the cafe an artistic touch.

Photo: Julia Sudnitskaya/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pandak Mayah, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 9.00-22.00 Phone: +60 4 961 1986

La Chocolatine



This is a real, traditional French pastry shop, bistro and cafe. They serve all kinds of French pastries, from croissants to macaroons, all

rigorously handmade. The ambience is cosy with a nice French-style decor.

Photo: Andriana Syvanych/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Teluk Baru, Pantai Tengah, Langkawi Phone: +60 4 955 8891

Breizh Up



French creperie, cafe and restaurant in Pantai Cenang. Perfect if you want to enjoy a traditional French breakfast with a croissant

and/or raisin bread, or one of their delicious crepes.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Cenang, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 09.30-15.00 and 19.00-23.00 Phone: +60 4 955 1389 Internet: breizhup-langkawi.com Email: info@breizhup-langkawi.com More Info: Located upstairs to 7 Eleven

Smiling Buffalo Cafe



A good alternative for breakfast and lunch in a lively outdoor space. The Smiling Buffalo Cafe prides itself on good coffee and a warm and

welcoming atmosphere. They also have live music from time to time.

Photo: KYTan/Shutterstock.com Address: Kuala Cenang, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 08.00-18.00 Phone: +60 12 292 8102 Email: ethan@hugginhippo.com

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Nykonchuk Oleksii/Shutterstock.com

Langkawi's nightlife is not quite as vibrant as that of the mainland's urban centres, but you can still spend some quality time at one of the island's many bars and disco pubs. The tropical atmosphere and beach vibes make for a perfect chill-out evening or a night of dancing on the beach. There are plenty of clubs to choose from, so you will never run out of places to enjoy your stay in Langkawi.

And here are some of the best bars and nightclubs in Langkawi, Malaysia:

The St. Regis Bar



The St. Regis Bar is a sophisticated club with a refined and characteristic decor, and an ample selection of wines and cocktails. The bar has

beautiful carvings on the walls and fossil wood tables that, together with dance performances and live music, make this place unique and intriguing.

Photo: Cristi Lucaci/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Beringin. Langkawi Phone: +60 4 960 6666 Internet: www.stregislangkawi.com/the-stregis-bar

Rhu Bar



Bar and lounge with a Middle-Eastern vibe, located inside the Four Seasons resort in Tanjung Rhu. It offers a wide range of beers, wines and

liquors, as well as Turkish water pipes. On top of that, its position is perfect to enjoy a magnificent sunset on the beach.

Photo: Pikul Noorod/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Tanjung Rhu, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 17.00-24.00 Phone: +60 4 950 8888 Internet: www.fourseasons.com/langkawi/dining/lounges/rhu_bar

Bam-Boo-Ba



Good place to chill out and enjoy a match or a live band. The Bam-Boo-Ba is a simple yet welcoming bar that offers a tasty menu and

good cocktails as well as live events or board

games to keep you entertained.

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Teluk Baru, Pantai Tengah, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 17.00-01.00 Phone: +60 12 566 0254 Email: bambooba.langkawi@yahoo.co.uk

Marrakesh Musicteque Club & Lounge



Marrakesh Musicteque Club & Lounge has the biggest dance floor in Langkawi, with a capacity of over 200 people. This nightclub hosts many

events with a variety of music from house to hip hop to rock, and even live bands. The interior is nicely decorated in a lively Middle-Eastern style.

Photo: kowit1982/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Tengah, Langkawi Phone: +60 4 955 2020 Internet: marrakeshlangkawi.com Email: bisalmi@aseanialangkawi.com.my

One Love Reggae Bar & Cafe



A popular spot frequented by locals and tourists alike, One Love captures you with a nice, open air dance floor, good music and an ample

selection of beers and cocktails. Whether you want to chill out or dance your shoes off, this is the place to go.

Photo: darqdesign/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Cenang, Langkawi Phone: +60 12 369 7350 Email: onelovelangkawi@live.com

SHOPPING



Kheng Guan Toh/Shutterstock.com

Langkawi is a paradise for shopping. The archipelago was given duty-free status by the Malaysian government, which means that you can find almost anything at bargain prices. Duty-free shops are everywhere around Langkawi island, from the tiny souvenir shops along the streets to the big department stores in Pantai Cenang and Kuah. Do not forget to visit one of the night markets if you want to have a taste of the local culture and buy some cheap items and foods.

Night Markets



Night markets are held every day in different locations throughout Langkawi island. In the various stalls along the streets you will find

cheap items such as bags, watches, t-shirts, DVDs, as well as local street food. Not only are night markets a great opportunity to explore the local culture, they are also a great way to taste the local cuisine without hurting your wallet. The most important night markets are found in Kuah every Wednesday and Friday, and in Padang Matsirat every Sunday.

Photo: Mohd Izwan Awang/Shutterstock.com Address: Pulau Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 17.00-22.00

Oriental Village



The Oriental Village is an open-air shopping complex and themed tourist site located on the western side of Langkawi island. It hosts several

attractions, including animal exhibits, museums, souvenir shops and a lake in the centre. Here you will also find ticket booths for the Sky Cab and Sky Bridge.

Photo: Guido Amrein Switzerland/Shutterstock.com Address: The Oriental Village, Burau Bay, Langkawi Internet: www.orientalvillage.my

Langkawi Saga Shopping Centre



One of the biggest shopping centres on the island, Langkawi Saga is a duty-free mall specialised in wines and liquors. They also offer a

good choice of chocolate and kitchenware at reasonable prices.

Photo: nd3000/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pandak Mayah, Langkawi Phone: +60 4 969 8001 Internet: langkawisaga.com.my Email: info@langkawisaga.com

Atma Alam Batik Art Village



If you love fine art and beautiful handcrafted items, then this place is absolutely worth a visit. Atma Alam specialises in the production of batik, a

traditional wax-resist textile dyeing, and sells beautifully decorated clothes, bags, scarfs and other handmade souvenirs such as oil paintings. They also offer classes where you can learn the art and paint your own batik.

Photo: Prarinya/Shutterstock.com Address: Padang Mat Sirat, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 10.00-18.00 Phone: +60 4 955 2615 Internet: www.atmaalam.com Email: info@atmaalam.com

CinnamOn's Gift



CinnamOn's Gift is a nice little gift shop and bar in Pantai Cenang, where you can buy local handcrafted items, jewellery and souvenirs

as well as wine and cocktails. With affordable prices and a wide range of items to choose from, including various types of necklaces, bracelets and colourful batik, this place has the right souvenir to bring home after your holiday in Langkawi.

Photo: Budiman B Daud/Shutterstock.com Address: Jalan Pantai Cenang, Langkawi Opening hours: Daily 11.00-23.00 Phone: +60 12 475 0469 Email: cinnamonslgk@gmail.com

TOURIST INFORMATION



GlebSStock/Shutterstock.com

Passport / Visa



Travellers need a passport or an internationally recognised travel document in order to enter Malaysia. The

documents must be valid for more than six months from the date of departure. Furthermore, certain nationals require a visa, while others are granted one upon arrival (VOA - Visa on arrival). Visit the following website to check whether you require a visa or not:

www.evisamalaysia.com/visa-requirements

Photo: TukTuk Design/Shutterstock.com

Best Time to Visit



Malaysia is hot and humid year-round, with average temperatures ranging from 24°C to 34°C. The Langkawi archipelago, and the west

coast in general, experience monsoon weather from April to November, with the period from September to November being the rainiest. Most tourists prefer to visit the islands during the dry season, roughly between January and March, because of the sunny days and clear sky. For this reason, prices are generally higher in this period and the main beaches and attractions are packed with tourists. Mid season (April-August) is a good deal, as most resorts and shops offer discounts and the place is quieter, while the climate is still enjoyable. The period between September and November is generally avoided because it's rainy season, but do keep in mind that you can still get sunny hours and good weather, and that the temperatures don't go much lower than 27-28°C.

Photo: VectorA/Shutterstock.com

Airport



The Langkawi International Airport is the main hub in the archipelago and the preferred way to get to Langkawi. From here it is

possible to take a taxi or rent a car. You can find taxi counters near the exit where you can buy coupons (taxi fares are fixed depending on the destination), as well as local and international car rental companies such as Avis, Europcar, Hertz, and Sixt.

Photo: Juan Garces

Address: Langkawi International Airport, Langkawi Phone: +60 4 955 1311 Internet: www.langkawiairport.com

Public Transport



Unfortunately there is no public transportation in Langkawi, so the best way to move around on the island is to take a taxi or, if you plan to travel

extensively, rent a car. Both taxi and car rental companies are available at the Langkawi airport.

Photo: Pierre-Luc Auclair

Taxi



Since there is no public transportation in Langkawi, taxi is the best solution for moving around. Taxis don't have meters but rather have

fixed fares that vary depending on the destination. You can buy coupons at the airport and take the taxi outside the terminal.

Langkawi Airport Taxi Phone center : +60 4955 1800

Photo: ArrivalGuides Internet: www.langkawitaxi.com Email: langkawitaxi@yahoo.com

Pharmacy



Langkawi is well provided for in terms of medical facilities and pharmacies. The oldest pharmacy on the island is Joe's Pharmacy in Kuah, but

you can find others in the main tourist areas as well.

Joe's Pharmacy: 111, Main Road, Kuah, Langkawi Tel.: +60 04 9660180 pharmacy@tm.net.my

Photo: Gemma Garner

Post



There are two main post offices on Langkawi Island, one located in Kuah (next to the Langkawi Fair Shopping Mall), the other in

Padang Matsirat.

Padang Matsirat Office: Jalan Lapangan Terbang, Padang Matsirat, Langkawi Tel: +60 04 955 5055 Open Sunday - Thursday 8.30 - 17.30

Photo: Andy Fuchs Internet: www.pos.com.my Email: care@pos.com.my

Telephone



Country code: +60 Langkawi area code: 04

Photo: Jardson Almeida

Electricity



240 volts / 50 Hz. Malaysia uses the same three-pin plugs and voltage as the UK. Photo: Stirling Tschan

Population

96,700 (2022)

Currency Malaysian ringgit, RM1 = 100 sen (cents)

Opening hours

Most shops are open from 10am to 7pm, but some have longer opening hours like 8am–10pm. Malaysia is a Muslim country, which means that shops generally close on Friday, but some (Chinese or Indian) may still be open.

Newspapers

New Straits Times – www.nst.com.my The Star – www.thestar.com.my The Sun – www.thesundaily.my The Edge – www.theedgemarkets.com

Emergency numbers

Emergency: 999 From mobile: 112

Tourist information

Langkawi Tourist Information Centre Langkawi International Airport, Langkawi Opening hours: daily 9am–8pm +60 4 955 7155