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Malaysia Singapore & Brunei

Best planning
advice

Local food
feature

Expert
recommendations

Regions at a Glance



Kuala Lumpur

Food
Shopping
Art Galleries

Fantastic Food

Allow your stomach to lead the way around Kuala Lumpur (KL). Tuck in with locals at the fantastic hawker stalls along Jln Alor, at Imbi Market or in Chinatown. Sample Indian food in Brickfields, Malay delights in Kampung Baru, and a brilliant array of international options in the Golden Triangle, KLCC and Bangsar.

Super Shopping

KL sports a multiplicity of malls, classic Southeast Asian fresh-produce day markets and several atmospheric night markets, the most famous of which is along Chinatown's Jln Petaling. The art deco Central Market is strong on arts and crafts.

Contemporary Art

Access Malaysia's vibrant contemporary art scene at the National Visual Art Gallery, the new ILHAM gallery or exhibitions at smaller commercial spaces such as Wei-Ling Gallery.

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Selangor & Negeri Sembilan

Wildlife
Food
Architecture

Wildlife Encounters

Encounter monkeys up close at FRIM and Batu Caves. Go bird-spotting at Fraser's Hill, Cape Rachado Forest Reserve near Port Dickson, and the coastal mangroves near Kuala Selangor.

Eating Adventures

Head to Klang's Little India for authentic tastes from the subcontinent and the flavourful pork soup *bak kut teh*. Seremban has taste sensations ranging from beef-ball noodles to *cendol*.

Architectural Wonders

Putrajaya is stacked with monumental contemporary architecture around an artificial lake. The Istana Lama is a beautiful black hardwood palace in Sri Menanti.

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Perak

Architecture
Food
Nature

Colonial-Era Architecture

Ipoh and the surrounding Kinta Valley are virtual time warps into colonial-era Malaysia. Taiping also has its share of visit-worthy historic buildings, while Kuala Kangsar sparkles with mosques and royal palaces.

Culinary Destination

Ipoh, Perak's largest city, is one of Malaysia's top culinary destinations, home to excellent regional Chinese food as well as some great Malay food and artisan coffee shops.

Jungles & Mangroves

Perak is home to the deep jungles of Royal Belum State Park and the slightly muddier forests of Matang Mangrove Forest Reserve. Gopeng, outside of Ipoh, also has a burgeoning nature scene.

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KLCC & Around

📍 Top Sights

- 1 ILHAM.....D1
2 Petronas Towers.....B2

📍 Sights

- 3 Aquaria KLCC.....C3
4 Badan Warisan Malaysia.....D4
5 Galeri Petronas.....B2
6 KLCC Park.....C3
Petrosains.....(see 5)
7 Rumah Penghulu Abu Seman.....D4

🛏 Sleeping

- 8 E&O Residences Kuala Lumpur.....A4
9 Fraser Place Kuala Lumpur.....A3
10 G Tower Hotel.....E1
11 Hotel Maya.....A2
12 Impiana.....B3
13 MiCasa All Suite Hotel.....F2
14 Villa Samadhi.....G2

🍴 Eating

- 15 Acme Bar & Coffee.....D1
Cantaloupe.....(see 21)
Little Penang Kafé.....(see 32)

- 16 Living Food.....E2
17 Mama San.....B2
18 Nasi Kandar Pelita.....C1
Strato.....(see 21)
19 Sushi Hinata.....A4
20 Thai Syok.....C2
21 Troika Sky Dining.....D1
22 Wondermama.....C1

🍷 Drinking & Nightlife

- Fuego.....(see 21)
23 Heli Lounge Bar.....B4
24 Marini's on 57.....B2
25 Neo Tamarind.....A3
26 Tate.....E1

🎭 Entertainment

- 27 Dewan Filharmonik Petronas.....B2
28 KL Live.....A3
29 Saloma.....A2

🛍 Shopping

- 30 Avenue K.....C1
31 Prototype Gallery.....C2
32 Suria KLCC.....B2

advance online. Otherwise, turn up early to be sure of scoring a ticket to go up.

Even though completed back in 1998, the shimmering stainless-steel-clad towers, designed by Argentinian architect Cesar Pelli as the headquarters of the national oil and gas company Petronas, continue to epitomise contemporary KL. The 88-storey twin towers are the tallest pair in the world at nearly 452m and their floor plan is based on an eight-sided star that echoes arabesque patterns. Islamic influences are also evident in each tower's five tiers – representing the five pillars of Islam – and in the 63m masts that crown them, calling to mind the minarets of a mosque and the Star of Islam. They look particularly impressive when illuminated at night.

★ ILHAM

GALLERY

(Map p58; www.ilhamgallery.com; 3rd & 5th fl, Ilham Tower, 8 Jln Binjai, 11am-7pm Tue-Sat, to 5pm Sun; 🆓 Ampang Park) **FREE** KL's latest public art gallery provides an excellent reason to admire close up the slick 60-storey ILHAM Tower designed by Foster + Partners. With a mission to showcase modern and contemporary Malaysian art, ILHAM kicked off in style in August 2015 with a blockbuster show of works by Hoessein Enas (1924-1995). There's no permanent collection, with exhibitions changing every three to four months.

Talks, performances and classes are also planned. Outside the tower the giant copper-clad sculptures are the first permanent public work by Chinese artist Ai Weiwei to be installed in Southeast Asia.

KLCC Park

PARK

(Map p58; KLCC, Jln Ampang; ☀7am-10pm; 🆓 KLCC) The park is the best vantage point for eyeballing the Petronas Towers. In the early evening, it can seem like everyone in town has come down here to watch the glowing towers punching up into the night sky. Every night at 8pm, 9pm and 10pm the Lake Symphony fountains play in front of the Suria KLCC.

Aquaria KLCC

AQUARIUM

(Map p58; ☎03-2333 1888; www.aquariaklcc.com; Concourse, KL Convention Centre, Jln Pinang; adult/child RM53/42; ☀10.30am-8pm, last admission 7pm; 🆓; 🆓 KLCC) The highlight of this impressive aquarium in the basement of the KL Convention Centre is its 90m underwater tunnel: view sand tiger sharks, giant groupers and more up close. Daily feeding sessions for a variety of fish and otters are complemented by ones for arapaimas, electric eels and sharks on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday (see website for schedule). Free dives (RM424), cage dives (RM211), and