

Life in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Perdana University is located close to the capital city of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, providing a unique working and living environment for those energised by a dynamic and culturally diverse environment, that's perfectly located for onward travel adventures.

Kuala Lumpur

Kuala Lumpur (known as KL by locals), is a proud and diverse capital city, boasting gleaming skyscrapers, colonial architecture, charming locals, and a myriad natural attractions. Divided into numerous districts, its main hub is called the Golden Triangle which comprises Bukit Bintang, KLCC and Chinatown. KL is widely recognised for numerous landmarks, including Petronas Twin Towers (the world's tallest twin skyscrapers), Petaling Street flea market, and Batu Caves, which are over 400 million years old. Kuala Lumpur's mélange of ethnic restaurants, assortment of modern hotels and luxury condominiums, and landscaped parks and gardens cater to a jet-setting business class. The city's remarkable expansion has also been accompanied by a population explosion of c. 50% in recent years, to 1.5 million.

Facts and Figures

Population	1.5 Million
Currency <i>Malaysian ringgit (MYR)</i>	1Euro = 4.70 MYR circa
Climate (Tropical)	Warm & Humid 30°C by day 26°C at night
Monsoon Season	November – March



Malaysian Culture, Religion & Food

Malaysia is a multi-ethnic society. There are three main races, namely Malay, Chinese and Indian. There are also ethnic tribes of the indigenous people in East Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak). Kuala Lumpur's religious mix is richly varied, with Muslim, Tao Buddhist and Hindu communities often living and practicing side by side. Although the official religion of the country is Islam, everyone is free to practice their own religious beliefs. There are places of worship everywhere: mosques, churches, and temples that anyone can frequent. Cultural influences are equally diverse, reflecting Kuala Lumpur's history as a point of exchange between indigenous Malays and traders from the Middle East, China, India and Portugal. Malaysia is a food paradise. Having an infusion of three cultural heritages, the food choices in Malaysia can excite even the most jaded palate.

Living in Malaysia

Tax: Malaysian tax is determined on a sliding scale (assuming residency status) of up to 26%. RCSI offers a tax advisory service as part of our relocation arrangements.

Accommodation: Costs vary depending on size and location but as an example, a 3 bedroom apartment in KL Central costs c. €1,200 per month, reducing to c. €700 per month outside of KL.

Schools: The Expat Education Guide Malaysia is an informative and useful guide to primary and secondary education in Malaysia. The International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL) proves popular with RCSI parents.

Travel: Malaysia provides a vast richness to explore as well as being hub for onward travel to the Pacific Rim.

Ex-Pat Community: The Expat scene is very active in KL. The ExPat Group holds a monthly social mixer event, and there is also a very vibrant Irish society - St. Patrick's Society of Selangor, of which many RCSI staff are members.

Relocation: RCSI provides an allowance for relocating your personal effects.

Useful Links

Travel Guides to Malaysia and KL: <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/malaysia> <http://www.tourism.gov.my/>
<http://www.theguardian.com/travel/malaysia>

Accommodation: <http://www.iproperty.com.my/> <http://www.kualalumpur-properties.com/>

Schools: Expat Education Guide Malaysia <http://www.theexpatgroup.com/magazine/Education-Guide-2013.pdf> ; International School of Kuala Lumpur (ISKL) <http://www.iskl.edu.my> ; Alice Smith International School www.alice-smith.edu.my ; Garden International School www.gardenschool.edu.my

Ex-Pat Community: <http://www.theexpatgroup.com/index.php> <http://stpatsoc.org/indexnew.html>