

# Pangkor Island



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Tucked within this idyllic tropical island are attractions such as the historic Dutch Fort, Batu Bersurat, fishing villages, traditional boatyards, places of worship and popular beaches like Pantai Puteri Dewi, Pantai Pasir Bogak and Teluk Nipah. This island can be explored on foot or by vehicle and its surrounding turquoise warm waters are ideal for swimming, snorkelling, kayaking and fishing. A short boat ride takes you to the privately-owned Pulau Pangkor Laut. Here, you will find the exclusive Pangkor Laut Resort, one of the world's top small luxury resorts.

### Must do:

- Savour fresh and delicious seafood
- Watch boats being built at the boatyards
- Sample seafood snacks
- Go for a round-island trip

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## Mabul & Kapalai

Situated just 25 minutes from Sipadan, Mabul is another gem in the Sulawesi Sea. However, the seascape in Mabul is starkly different, yet equally stunning. A diversity of tiny marine life makes Mabul a great site for macro and muck-diving. Blue-ringed octopus, mandarin fish, lionfish, frogfish, moray eels and spike-fin gobies are definite show-stealers in the relatively-shallow waters. Mabul is slightly larger than Sipadan and has several resorts as well as a local village.

Kapalai is another great location for muck-lovers. In fact, this little island is rated by many diving journalists as one of the best macro-diving destinations in the world. Mandarin valley, Gurnard Ground and Stingray City are enchanting sites with a prolific marine life.

Just like Sipadan, the jumping-off point to Mabul and Kapalai is Semporna. The boat ride takes about 45 minutes. Semporna is about an hour's drive from Tawau airport. There are regular air services connecting Tawau and Kota Kinabalu. [Transfers can be arranged with us.](#)

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## Sipadan

Sipadan is an internationally famous dive site surrounded by the Sulawesi Sea. The geographic position of Sipadan at the Indo-Pacific Basin (the centre of the richest marine habitat

in the world) makes it a paradise for divers. The seascape is decorated with huge gorgonian sea fans, barrel sponges and gigantic soft tree corals. Steep walls form a stunning backdrop while pelagic species such as sharks and turtles swim gracefully.

Further away, the Turtle Cavern contains skeletons of turtles that were lost in the tunnels. At Barracuda Point, divers can have exciting encounters with schools of barracuda. To preserve the delicate ecosystem, accommodation is only provided at the neighbouring islands of Mabul and Kapalai. Tours must be pre-arranged.

The nearest airport to Sipadan is Tawau. From Tawau, take an hour's drive to Semporna before proceeding with a 40-minute speedboat ride to the island.

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## Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park

Just a 20-minute boat ride away from the mainland, this marine park is a vibrant playground for sunseekers. Tunku Abdul Rahman Park consists of five islands; Gaya, Sapi, Sulug, Manukan and Mamutik. This cluster of tropical islands is ideal for day trips. Accommodation is available at Gaya (the largest island) as well as Manukan. The staging point to the islands is from the Jesselton Point Ferry Terminal.

Must do:

- Go swimming, snorkelling or diving
- Camp out at the islands of Sapi and Mamutik

- Enjoy the thrill of parasailing above the emerald waters
  - Go island-hopping or ride on a banana boat
  - Get a gorgeous sun tan!
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## Perhentian Island





A dream come true for sun-seekers, Pulau Perhentian Besar and Kecil offer amazing views of sparkling white sands and clear blue waters. The excellent visibility makes these islands a firm favourite among divers and snorkellers.

Visitors have a choice of staying at Perhentian Besar (the larger island) or Perhentian Kecil (the smaller one). A 10-minute boat ride is all it takes to get from one island to the other.

While Perhentian Kecil has a lively, upbeat atmosphere with plenty of chalets and chic beach cafes, its neighbour has a quieter ambience with comparatively larger resorts and restaurants.

Access to the islands is via a 45-minute boat ride from Kuala

Besut Jetty on the mainland.

Must do:

- try island-hopping
  - go diving at tokong laut to see bamboo sharks
  - go on a banana boat ride or try canoeing
  - enjoy the sun and sea breeze
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## Redang Island

Redang archipelago comprises 9 islands. Redang Island which is approximately 7km in length 6km in width, is the largest of all other islands in the Marine Park. This archipelago is abounds with marvelous marine fishes, turtles and coral reefs, ensuring a great snorkelling and scuba-diving experience.

The Redang archipelago has been designated as Marine Parks Malaysia as to conserve the islands' unique ecosystem. There are 500 species of live corals, more than a thousand species of invertebrates and almost 3000 species of fishes which includes manta rays, stingrays, sharks and whale sharks, all living in harmony in the reefs fringing the islands. It is a real heaven for divers.

Diving enthusiasts and underwater photographers will definitely be entranced by the sights of the islands, which are ranked among the best coral reef in the world. Redang waters also contains two historic shipwrecks. The H.M.S Prince of Wales and H.M.S. Repulse were sunk here during the WWII, setting the stage for the Japanese occupation of Malaya.

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# Tioman Island

Like a giant sleeping dragon, the dark green ridges of Tioman Island rise up above the waters of the South China Sea. On closer inspection, it becomes clear that the dragon's dark green scales are in fact giant trees and impenetrable jungle; that the grey claws are giant granite boulders and that the dragon's horns are twin peaks with smooth, straight cliffs, surrounded with swirls of mist.

The dragon-like appearance of Tioman Island is at the root of a legend surrounding its origin: A dragon princess from China was flying to her prince in Singapore and stopped to rest in these calm, warm waters. Enamoured by the beauty of the area, and the waves lapping at her sides, she discontinued her journey and took the form of an island.

The natural beauty of the island is its biggest attraction. Lush tropical jungle covers about 12,000 hectares of the island and countless mountain streams and waterfalls sustain the many protected species of mammals and birds. The waters around the island are filled with corals of all shapes and colours and home to a vast diversity of sea creatures, including two species of marine turtle. There are a few excellent beaches on Tioman, and these curves of golden sand are usually tucked away at the edges of villages or fronting one of the many resorts.

Tioman has options for every kind of holiday-maker: families with small children, honeymooners, scuba divers, backpackers, adventurers and even those looking for a slice of exclusivity and luxury. Most places to stay are clustered around the villages that are dotted along Tioman's coastline while there

are a few small resorts that are built around private beach coves.

Tioman is the largest in a volcanic group of islands off the east coast of peninsular Malaysia. Getting there is simple as there is both a ferry service from Mersing on the mainland and an airport on the island itself.

Tioman is a beautiful, popular and affordable holiday destination!

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## [Pahang](#)

Pahang is the largest state in Peninsular Malaysia. Nearly two-thirds of the state is enveloped in verdant rainforest, making it a magnificent enclave of lush greenery, exotic wildlife and natural treasures.

Its magnificent natural attractions include Taman Negara, a 130-million-year-old rainforest as well as animal sanctuaries, parks, lakes and waterfalls. Other natural gems include Endau-Rompin State Park and Tioman, an idyllic island.

Pahang's capital city is Kuantan, a bustling township with interesting sights.

Come, enjoy this Gift of Nature today!

Places of Interest:

- [Taman Negara \(National Park\)](#)
- [Tioman Island](#)

- [Cameron Highlands](#)
- [Genting Highlands](#)
- [Bukit Tinggi \(Berjaya Hills\)](#)
- Endau Rompin State Park – The untouched wilderness at the Endau-Rompin State Park is one of the country's last remaining lowland dipterocarp forests. This is the second-largest national park in the peninsula and it straddles across the states of Pahang and Johor (in the southern region). Spread over 80,000ha, the park is home to a plethora of exotic plants and animals. Within the area, the nearly-extinct Sumatran rhinoceros, tigers, elephants and tapirs roam free. To protect the environment, only certain areas of the huge park are open to tourists. Permits must be obtained before entering this nature reserve. Trekkers are advised to get the services of forest rangers.
- National Elephant Conservation Centre – One of the best attractions in the state, this centre offers a chance for visitors to come up close with Malaysian elephants (*Elephas maximus*). Established in 1989, the centre is dedicated towards rescuing and translocating elephants. The centre is the only one of its kind in the country and it aims to educate the public on the importance of conservation and protection. The best times for a visit are when the elephants are fed or taken to the nearby stream for a bath. Activities are held from 2.00pm to 3.45pm. Kuala Gandah is situated about 40km from Bentong.
- Deeland Park Lanchang – Adorable deer, ostriches and peacocks are among the 'stars' at this delightful park. The 4.5ha park is a sanctuary for these animals that roam freely amidst the tropical vegetation. Similar to a petting zoo, visitors can feed the animals with sweet

potatoes and food given by the staff. Much of Malaysia's herbs and medicinal plants are also found here and a walk along the Herb Trail gives visitors a chance to take a closer look. Accommodation is available at the Bukit Rengit Institute of Conservation Biodiversity.

- Fraser's Hill – Nestled prettily amidst the Pahang rainforest is the little hamlet of Fraser's Hill. Akin to a little Scottish village, Fraser's Hill is characterised by granite coloured mock-Tudor houses and colonial-style buildings. The hill resort exudes a nostalgic charm, almost as if visitors have been taken back in time, to a bygone era. At 1,524m above sea level, the highland resort is a naturalists' paradise boasting a wide range of plants, birds and animals. Fraser's Hill is ideal for visitors who are interested in gentler pursuits.
- Cherating Beach – Fringed by the waters of the South China Sea, Cherating Beach offers a quiet holiday amidst a rustic atmosphere. The shore is lined by hotels and resorts catering to all budgets, from backpacker's inns to luxury beach resorts. Just nearby is Kampung Cherating, a tranquil Malay village that sits prettily amidst swaying palms and tropical vegetation. Cherating Beach is about 47km north of Kuantan. Other popular beaches in the vicinity are Chendor, Teluk Chempedak and Balok.
- Premium Outlets Genting Highlands
- Twentieth Century Fox World Genting Highlands (Coming in 2016)
- The Royal Town Of Pekan
- Sungai Lembing Museum
- Chendor Turtle Hatchery and Conservation Centre

