

## 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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## [Turtle Island Park](#)

Lying in the Sulu Sea, Turtle Islands Park is a cluster of three islands, Selingan, Bakungan and Gulisan Kecil.

Here, visitors have the opportunity to catch sight of rare and endangered turtles from the Green and Hawksbill species when they swim ashore to lay eggs.

Only the largest island, Selingan, is open to visitors. Besides housing the Park Headquarters, it also offers accommodation and some basic facilities.

Before a visit, prior permission must be obtained from Sabah Parks Sdn. Bhd. Access is via Sabah Parks Jetty in Sandakan.

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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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