

STUDY GUIDE

MALAYSIA



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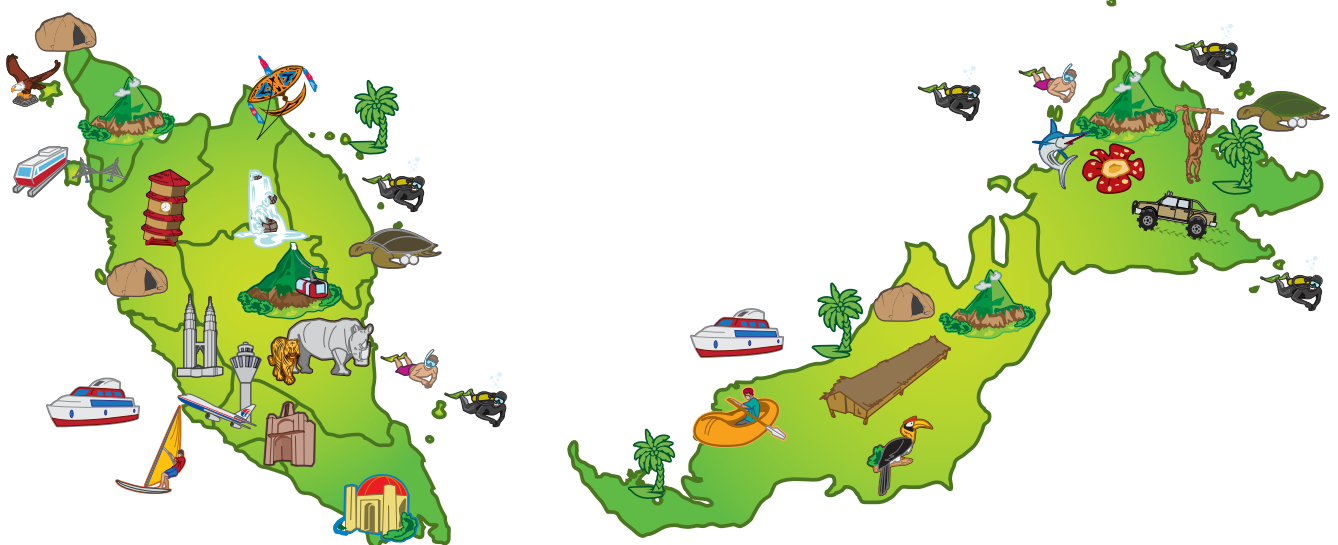
Malaysia (pronounced *i /mə'leɪzə/ mə-LAY- zhə* or *i /mə'leɪziə/ mə-LAY-zee-ə*) is a federal constitutional monarchy in Southeast Asia. It consists of thirteen states and three federal territories and has a total landmass of 329,847 square kilometres (127,350 sq mi).

It is separated by the South China Sea into two regions, Peninsular Malaysia and Malaysian Borneo (also known as West and East Malaysia respectively). Land borders are shared with Thailand, Indonesia, and Brunei, and maritime borders exist with Singapore, Vietnam, and the Philippines.

Peninsular Malaysia is connected to Singapore via a causeway and a bridge. The capital city is Kuala Lumpur, while Putrajaya is the seat of the federal government. In 2010 the population exceeded 27.5 million, with over 20 million living on the Peninsula.

The country is multi-ethnic and multi-cultural, which plays a large role in politics. The government system is closely modeled on the Westminster parliamentary system and the legal system is based on English Common Law. The constitution declares Islam the state religion while protecting freedom of religion. The head of state is the King, known as the Yang di-Pertuan Agong. He is an elected monarch chosen from the hereditary rulers of the nine Malay states every five years. The head of government is the Prime Minister.

Malaysia contains the southernmost point of continental Eurasia, Tanjung Piai. Located in the tropics, it is a mega diverse country, with large numbers of endemic flora and fauna. It is a founding member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and a member of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Commonwealth of Nations, and the Non-Aligned Movement.



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Malaysia Time Zone

Malaysia is eight hours ahead of GMT (GMT/UTC +8), sixteen hours ahead of US Pacific Standard Time and thirteen hours ahead of Eastern Standard.

Daylight Savings Time is not applicable to the country.

Malaysia Weather

Malaysia enjoys warm, sunny weather throughout the year with seasonal rainfall and thunderstorms.

Temperatures range from 30 degrees Celsius in the lowlands to about 16 degrees Celsius in the highlands.

Languages in Malaysia

Malaysia's official language is Bahasa Melayu, which is widely used in official or formal matter. On the other hand, English is the medium of instruction for all study programmes conducted in institutions of higher learning,

Locals usually converse in Bahasa Melayu or English.

Other widely used languages include Chinese dialects (Cantonese, Mandarin, Hokkien, Hakka, Hainan, Foochow), Indian dialects (Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Panjabi), Thai and several indigenous languages spoken by the tribes in East & West Malaysia.



CURRENCY

Currency and Denomination

The currency used in Malaysia is Ringgit Malaysia, which is divided into 100 cents or sen as it is known locally. Currency comes in notes of RM1, RM5, RM10, RM20, RM50 and RM100. Coins are issued in 1 sen, 5 sen, 10 sen, 20 sen and 50 sen denominations. The currency code is MYR and the exchange rates are presently at RM3.10 per one US dollar.

All currencies brought into and out of the country must be declared using the Traveller Declaration Form, which international students can obtain from Malaysian entry and exit points and embassies.

SECURITY

Security in Malaysia

Malaysia is a politically-sound country which practices democratic ruling with a Prime Minister at the helm, who is, at present, Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Seri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak.

The prosperous and stable years have been firmly established since gaining independence from Great Britain in 1957. This is evidently illustrated by the steady economic progress, peaceful living beyond skin colours, mutual understanding and tolerance on religion and ethnicity without sacrificing individuality, extensive crime prevention and eradication activities, and an enduring attitude to continuously strive to carve a name to be reckoned with - politically, economically, socially and culturally.




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Dining in Malaysia

Malaysian cuisine reflects the multicultural aspects of Malaysia. Various ethnic groups in Malaysia have their own dishes, but many dishes in Malaysia are derived from multiple ethnic influences. Food preparation differs from place to place, although many of the foods used are alike. Spices, aromatic herbs and roots are all used in Malaysian cuisine.



Flavors from Malay, Chinese, Indian, Nyonya, Arabian, African, Japanese, Korean, Western, Vegetarian, Thai, Italian, Swiss, Spanish, Batavian, French and seafood are all available from hawkers or restaurants in the country.

A simple meal inclusive of drinks at roadside stalls can cost from as little as RM2.50. A meal in shopping complexes (air-conditioned) and shop lots (non air-conditioned) can cost between RM3 - RM15, depending on the type of food and exclusivity of dining location.

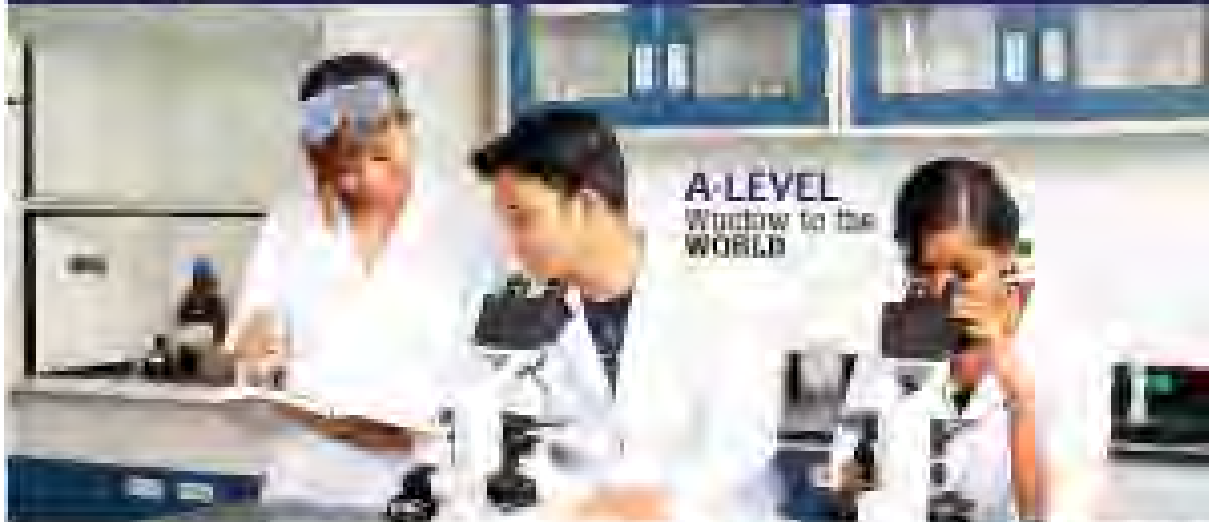
Halal food is served in Malay and major restaurants.





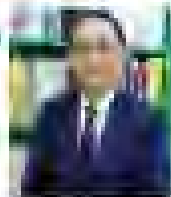
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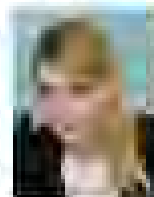


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Keterangan lanjut : email dean_ips@usm.my atau helpdesk_ips@usm.my tel : 04 -653 2994/2936

The Malaysian Mega Sale

Every four months, shopping complexes will be crowded with people looking to purchase all kinds of things at bargain price. This is because of the Malaysian Mega Sale, held in June to September.

Festive Sales

During festive seasons, many departmental stores and supermarkets will offer selected items at lower prices or sell items from previous season at discounted rate.



Daily Shopping

There are also morning and night markets, held weekly at selected neighborhoods around town, where many household items, prepared food, junk food, raw food and clothes are sold at bargain able price by stall vendors.

Flea or street markets are held on weekends, such as Petaling Street, Amcorp Mall. There are also bigger Malls such as Pavillion, Mid Valley Megamall and KLCC, which are all well-known amongst tourists.

Shop hours vary from one place to another. In Kuala Lumpur, major department stores and supermarkets usually operate from 10am to 10pm and shops from 9.30am to 7pm. 24-hour convenience stores are a common sight in major towns.





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Postal Services in Malaysia



Malaysia's national postal company, POS Malaysia Berhad, provides standard postal services, registration service, bulk mailing, franking service, insured letters services, post office box service, payment collection counters, and courier services.

In addition, POS Malaysia also provides remittance services in the form of money orders and postal orders for the easy and safe transmission of money.

Banking Service

Most states:

Mon-Fri: 9:30am-4.00pm

Sat: 9:30am-11:30am (Closed on every first and third Saturday of the month)

Sun: Closed

For banks operating in the vicinity of shopping complexes, opening hours begin at 10.00am and end at 6pm.

Kelantan and Terengganu:

Sat-Wed: 9:30am-4.00pm

Thursday: 9:30am-11.30am

Friday: Closed



Living in Malaysia

Depending on your place of study, there are several types of accommodation arrangements you can pursue:

i) On-Campus living

Provided at optional fee by the education institution; fees and facilities may vary from one education institution to another.

ii) Off-Campus living

Accommodation will be settled by students themselves. For on-campus or off-campus accommodation, they are a variety of types and budgets to suit your lifestyle, and many of them are located a stone's throw from your intended place of study. Such accommodations may come in the form of college hostels, apartments, bungalows, condominiums or terrace houses in quiet neighbourhood or close to the institution.

Property & real estate

Contact the Malaysian Institute of Estate Agents (MIEA) for more information on housing options and current rates.

MIEA

Tel: 03-7960 2577 Address:

Unit C-27-05, Dataran 3 Dua,
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Public Transportation

The public transportation system in Malaysia comprises of bus, railway and taxi services. The Klang Valley has an integrated public transportation system incorporating the Light Rail Transit (LRT), monorail, railway and bus services are being developed. Taxis and limousine are also available at reasonable rates.

The lists of public transport provided in Malaysia are:

- i. Putra and Star LRT
- ii. KL Monorail
- iii. Bus and Taxi Service
- iv. Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad

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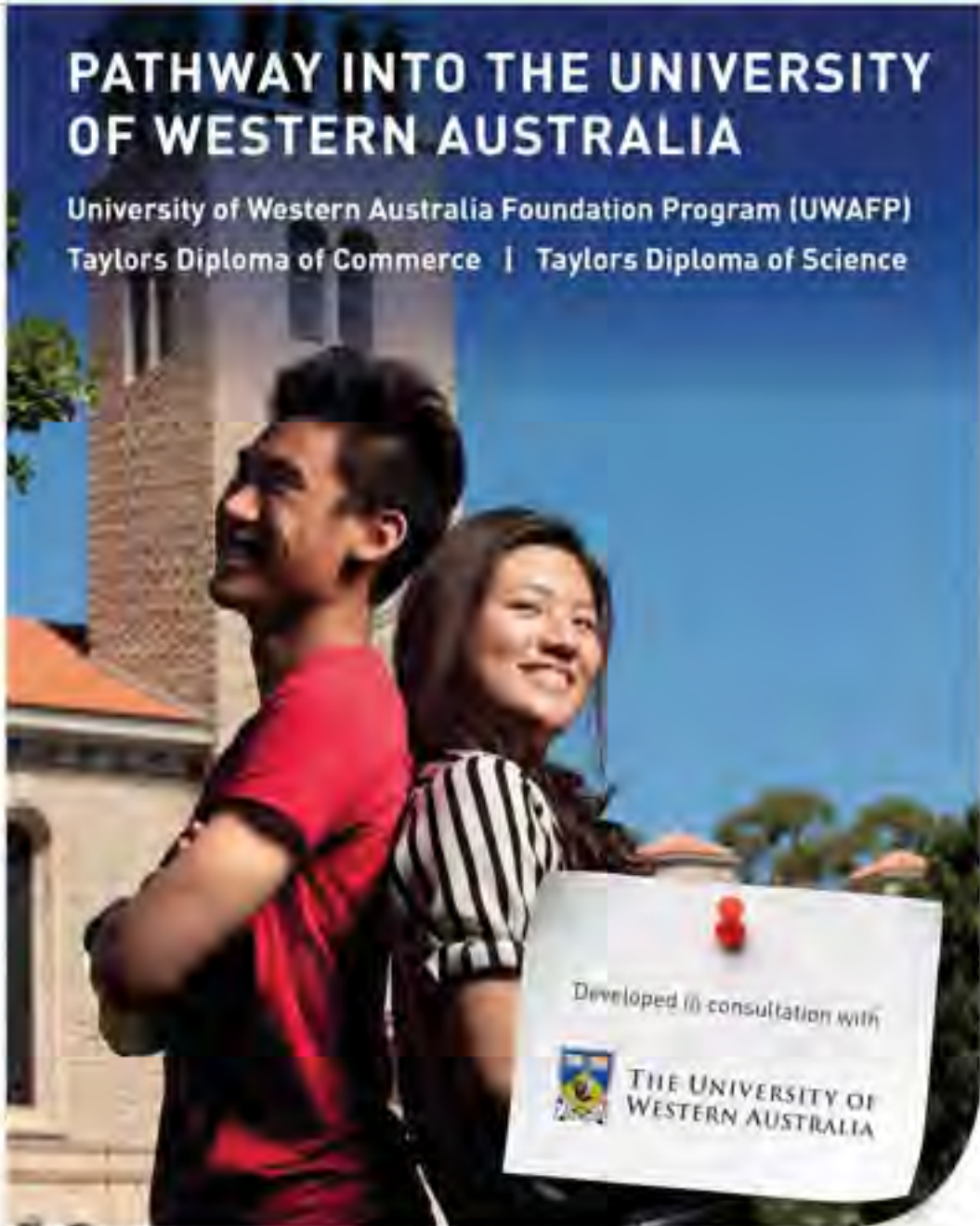
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Studying abroad another country is definitely an exciting experience! If you wish to pursue your studies abroad in a country that can accommodate your low budget, you should apply for a university in Malaysia! Located in South East Asia, Malaysia offers a large variety of education institutions with a diversity of courses. You will have a great time of being a student and at the same time embracing the multicultural society of Malaysia!



Living costs in Malaysia are generally lower than compared to most countries, especially if you are converting currencies from Dollars, Pound or Euro. You can buy more items or spend the same amount of money for a longer period of time with similar benefits than in countries with a strong currency rate.

Rental, domestic services such as cooking, housekeeping and high quality medical care in Malaysia can be very affordable compared to what you are used to.

One of the major magical ingredients to any standard of living is the food and you won't be disappointed when it comes to Malaysia. Despite the variety of food, it's high in quality and sold at low prices.

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Price index of general items

GENERAL ITEMS	Price in Malaysian Ringgit (RM)	Prices in US Dollar (USD)
Combo meal at McDonald's or similar	12 RM	3.60 USD
Meal at an inexpensive restaurant	8 RM	3.40 USD
Rent for a Room in City Centre (per month)	900 RM	274 USD
Rent for a Room outside of City Centre (per month)	600 RM	182 USD
One-way Ticket (Local Transport)	2 RM	0.60 USD
Taxi Start (Normal Tariff)	3 RM	0.90 USD
Gasoline (1 litre)	1.90 RM	0.57 USD
Basic (Electricity, Heating, Water, Garbage) for 85m2 Apartment	150 RM	45 USD
Internet (6 Mbps, Unlimited Data, Cable/ADSL)	150 RM	45 USD

The current exchange rate is Three Malaysian Ringgit is equal to One US Dollar.

As the above table shows some of the monthly and daily expenses that you will face as an individual or as a group, it can help you estimate the general cost of living in Malaysia.

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Shawn Kelly
Lead Animator of Star Wars I & II / Transformers I, II, III



Carlos Baena
Professional Animator of Pixar Animation Studios



Shelley Page
Head of International Outreach DreamWorks Animation



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Most Renowned Celebrity Interior Designer and Ambassador of ICI Dubai Parks



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Breakdown of living cost in malaysia

The average international student should be prepared to spend about RM1,000 (USD313) to RM1,500 (USD469) per month for living expenses in the vicinity of a city. The cost is broken down as below :

Accommodation

You should estimate about RM300 (USD94) to RM450 (USD141) for your accommodation per month. The rental will vary depending on the geographical area, the type of accommodation (on-campus living in a hall of residence; or off-campus living in an apartment, condominium, singlestorey house, double-storey house, etc.), the facilities provided in the house (e.g. with or without air-conditioning) and of course, the number of people sharing the room (or the apartment/house).

Food / Housekeeping

Your food and housekeeping expense is estimated to be around RM400 to RM450 (estimated USD133). This is based on about RM12 to RM15 (USD4.2) for three meals per day. Naturally, if you cook and share the cooking expenses with your friends, it would be cheaper.

Clothing

Your clothing expenses like washing, ironing, dry-cleaning, etc. may cost around RM60 (USD19) per month.

Public Transport

Students who stay on campus or near campus may not incur any cost of travelling to and from classes. However, other travelling may cost approximately RM30 to RM50 (estimated USD13) per month.

Telecommunication / Mobile Phone Bills and Utilities

The mobile phone packages in Malaysia are very competitive. How much you spend will depend on your usage and the promotional package you choose. The average student may spend about RM30 to RM80 (estimated USD17) per month.

Books, Reading Materials and Stationery

We have estimated the cost to be around RM50 to RM100 (estimated USD24) per month, but it would largely depend on the course you have signed up for and the number and nature of projects in your course.

Medical / Hospitalisation Insurance

Although you may not need to pay for medical expenses every month, if you keep aside RM50 (USD16) per month, it would be sufficient for you in case you need outpatient treatment at a private clinic during the year. This estimate includes the amount you will have to pay for your medical and hospitalisation insurance (from your institutions).

Personal Expenses

How much your personal expenses would be per month would depend on your personal lifestyle. However, the cost can be estimated to be between RM100 (USD32) and RM200 (USD64). This includes your socialising needs, toiletries, haircut, clothes, movie, etc.

Using the estimate above, the total cost of living will average from between RM1,000 and RM1,500 (USD313 to USD469) per month or about RM12,000 to RM18,000 (USD3,750 to USD5,625) per year (12 months) for one student.

It is important to remember that the above estimate is only a guide in planning your budget to study in Malaysia. Individual expenses will vary





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General student visa requirement for malaysia

In an attempt to cut down on visa fraud, Malaysia has tightened their visa requirements and even created Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS), an organization dedicated to overseeing the visa enrollment process.

Students hoping to study in Malaysia will now have to:

1. Be accepted into a higher education institute.
2. Be issued a valid student card.
3. Take a Malay language course within their first year of study in Malaysia.
4. Purchase medical insurance.

Firstly you would have to select an Institution and officially get approved by the institution. If the application is accepted then the institution will help you to apply for a Student Pass prior to your arrival. They will arrange a purchase of medical insurance and extra Malay language classes.

Then a letter of approval for a student pass will then be released by the Malaysian Immigration Department to the educational institution which has offered you a place to study. The educational institution will send the approval letter to you while you are still in your own country.

After receiving approval you will be able to travel but before leaving your country for Malaysia, you must inform the educational institution of your port of entry (airport), flight number, arrival date and time. Upon your arrival at the airport in Malaysia, the educational institution's representative will get you at the immigration check-point at the Malaysian airport. A visa will be issued to you at the entry point in the form of an endorsement on your valid national passport. A Special Pass will be issued at the entry point to refer you to the nearest State Immigration Department for issuance of a Student Pass.

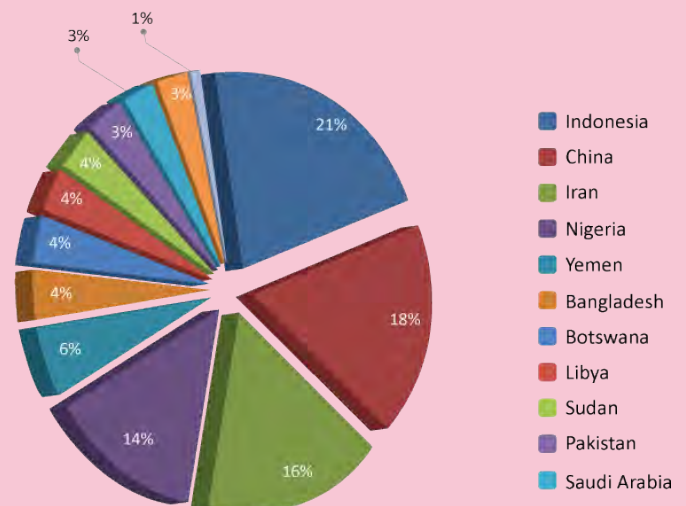
Note: Students from The People's Republic of China are required to obtain their Entry Visa prior to entering Malaysia. Within two weeks of your arrival, the educational institution will submit your passport to the Immigration Department to affix the Student Pass sticker. This process may take about 6 to 8 weeks. Your institute shall provide you with a Student Card upon arrival and at the same time they will u a medical insurance card.

Malaysia is devoting heavily in turning itself into a leading study destination, and its determinations appear to be paying off - a growing number of international students are opting to study in Malaysia. Students from all over Asia and Middle East mostly study in Malaysia, but then students from Europe come for a short period of time generally during their transfer courses hence students from all over the world study in Malaysia.

Mostly students from China, Indonesia, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh study in Malaysia because it's affordable and at the same time it's a completely different environment for them. They get a chance to visit outstanding places. Due to the friendly society, they get a chance to enhance their personalities. At the same time Malaysia is a Muslim country, so it gives the students from other Muslim countries a certain satisfaction. Therefore there is a lot for them, to learn from a place like Malaysia.

On behalf of students from Europe it's an amazing chance to experience different Asian or Middle Eastern cultures. The weather also encourages students from Europe to travel to Malaysia, especially since it stays nice and warm throughout the year in Malaysia.

This table shows the number of students from different countries of Asia and Europe.



There are a lot of attractions for students from all over the world, and they are all offered in a reasonable price, special packages are also designed for students with study course and tourism plans and so it gives everyone an incentive to study in Malaysia.

Lifestyle in Malaysia

Within Malaysian society there is a Malay culture, a Chinese culture, an Indian culture, a Eurasian culture along with the cultures of the indigenous groups of the peninsula and north Borneo. A unified Malaysian culture is something only emerging in the country. Malaysia is physically split between west and east, parts united into one country in 1963. Western Malaysia is on the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula and stretches from the Thai border to the island of Singapore. Eastern Malaysia includes the territories of Sabah and Sarawak on the north end of Borneo, separated by the country of Brunei.

Nearly all the world religions, including Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Christianity are present in Malaysia. Religion connects strongly with ethnicity, with most Muslims Malay, most Hindus Indian, and most Buddhists Chinese. The presence of such diversity heightens the importance of religious identity, and most Malaysians have a strong sense of how their religious practice differs from that of others (therefore a Malaysian Christian also identifies as a non-Muslim).

Its diversity has blessed the country with one of the most exquisite cuisines in the world including elements of Malay, Chinese and Indian cooking. Rice and noodles are common to all cuisine; spicy dishes are also favourites. Tropical fruits grow in plenty and are sold at a reasonable price.

What Malaysia is famous for?

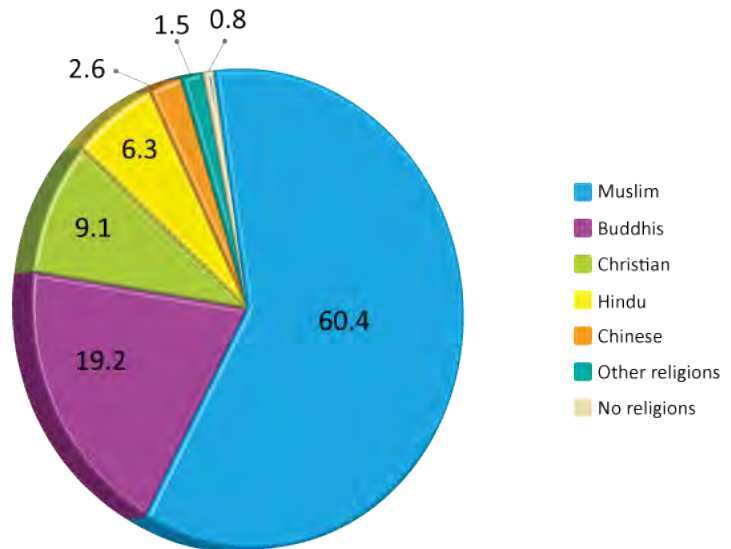
Malaysia famous for the multi-racial communities, they have Malays, Chinese, Indians and others living in one country in harmony and peace. Another thing they are famous for is Tourism that takes place. It's famous mainly because of its pristine white beaches and beautiful accessible islands, its many exotic islands that feature stunning beaches, tropical rainforests and diverse cultures. A great number of these islands present popular diving and snorkelling destinations because of their crystal clear waters and colourful coral reefs.

Names of Island	The Islands Speciality
Pulau Pangkor	Known as the "most beautiful island"
Penang	Known for its "world-famous cuisine"
Redang	Known for the best "diving and snorkelling"
Pulau Tioman	Known for the local "culture and traditional village"
Perhentian Islands	Known for the best "tropical jungle"
Langkawi	Known for its Culture Shows and Cable Cars.

Yes, all of these Islands and their specialities are originally from Malaysia. However, it has much more to offer than that. It has a unique culture, religion and language and plenty of places to visit and explore.

Malaysia's Religion

Malaysia is a multicultural society with Islam as the dominant religion, whose followers make up 60 per cent of the population, but the constitution guarantees religious freedom for many other faiths.



As the above chart shows that the majority of the population in Malaysia is Muslim but then at the same time a high rate of Buddhist and all other religions exist.

Malaysia's Language

There are many languages Spoken in Malaysia but the Malay language or Bahasa Malaysia is the national language. English is the second language and is taught in schools Other Languages spoken are Mandarin, Hokkien Teochew, Hakka, Cantonese, Khek, Tamil, Telugu, Thai and others.

Holidays and Places to Visit

Malaysians get a lot of holidays it has one of the highest numbers of days off in the world, ranking number seven in the top ten countries after Thailand, Indonesia, India and Hong Kong.

Date	Names
January 1st	New years
January 15 th	Birthday of the King
January 24 th	Prophets Birthday
February 10 th -13 th	Chinese New Year
March 4 th	Good Friday
May 1st	Labour Day
June 1st	Agong's Birthday
July 26 th	Nuzul Al-Quran
August 8 th -12 th	Hari Raya Aidilfitri
November 2 nd	Deepavali
December 25 th	Christmas

If you're in the favourable position to stay for a longer time in Malaysia you might experience those statutory days. You can either stay at home or go out and visit some places. In case you saved some money you can buy a ticket and fly to one of the famous Island and resorts or visit theme parks and many other adventurous destinations.

Top 5 Places to Visit	Some Ideas
Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petronas Towers • Chinatown • Batu Caves
Langkawi	Cable Car & Skybridge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Al-Hana Mosque • Bird Paradise And Wildlife Park
Ragand Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bars Along the Beach • Gipsy Divers • Redang Marine Park
Cameron Highlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boh Tea plantation • Jungle walks • Steamboat cuisine
Genting Highland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sky Venture • Glow in the Dark bowling

Cuisine

Malaysian cuisine is influenced by various cultures from all around the world. The mixture of flavours makes Malaysian cuisine highly exotic. Malaysia's population consists mostly of three ethnic groups: Malays, Chinese and Indians.

Its variety is the spice in Malay food. The traditional culinary style has been greatly influenced by the long-ago traders from neighbouring countries, such as Indonesia, India, the Middle East, and China. Malay food is often described as spicy and flavourful as it utilizes a melting pot of spices and herbs.

Chinese food, in Malaysia is the Cantonese food. Cantonese food is noted for the variety and the freshness of its ingredients. The food is usually stir-fried with just a touch of oil to ensure that the result is crisp and fresh. All those best known 'western Chinese' dishes fit into this category - sweet and sour dishes, won ton, chow mein, spring rolls.

Lastly IN Malaysia there is an abundance of Indian restaurants and food stalls. They are traditionally served on a thali, a circular metal tray on which a number of small bowls called katori. For South Indian cuisine, banana leaves are often used as plates where rice is served in the center, followed by various curries and accompaniments around it. These include dried fish, pappadams (lentil wafers), fresh chutneys made from herbs, coconut, and acid fruits among others.



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Malaysia - known for its hot weather, cultural diversity and rapid development during the last decades - has emerged to be one of Asia's most favored study destinations. In fact the country, which is located between Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore, realized how to boost its education sector having raised 20 public universities, 53 private universities, six foreign university branch campuses, 403 active private colleges, 30 polytechnics and 73 public community colleges.

Malaysia's higher education and international students

Malaysia - known for its hot weather, cultural diversity and rapid development during the last decades - has emerged to be one of Asia's most favored study destinations. In fact the country, which is located between Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore, realized how to boost its education sector having raised 20 public universities, 53 private universities, six foreign university branch campuses, 403 active private colleges, 30 polytechnics and 73 public community colleges. With a median age of 24 it is obvious that studies and universities are an everyday topic in Malaysian families. According to the Ministry of Higher Education in 2011 more than a million students were enrolled in Malaysian universities.

A significant number of those students come from more than 100 countries around the world. To be specific, they account for 10% of all the students, which equals to an exact amount of 96.000. The largest proportions come from China, Indonesia, Iran, Nigeria, Yemen, Bangladesh, Botswana, Libya, Sudan, Iraq, Pakistan and many more. Of course there is a reason why such a large amount of students decide to come to Malaysia.

Why do international students choose Malaysia as study destination?

There are certain principal reasons why international students choose Malaysia. Firstly, there is the monetary factor. In case somebody from China or Indonesia would like to get a UK-degree, he or she has the chance to go to the United Kingdom, study for three or four years and get a UK degree. The living costs and the study fees are high and middle-income families struggle to bear this financial burden. Malaysian

universities however meet this demand by entering into partnerships with educational institutions from the United Kingdom. The result is that Malaysian institutions can provide UK degrees at a much lower cost, that originate from lower living expenses but also from lower university fees. Besides Malaysia is culturally very diverse. Its ethnicities are Malays, who are Muslims, Malaysian Chinese, who are Buddhists, and Malaysian Indians, who are Hindus or Christians. Therefore international students don't need to overcome a huge cultural gap when they arrive and Indonesians, Chinese or students from the Middle East see somehow their own culture or faith in the country.

How important are international students?

Not only international students benefit from a stay in Malaysia. The country in the heart of Asia benefits from the bright foreign minds as well. Once again - seeing it from a monetary perspective - an extra source of income is generated. Students come from abroad, change their foreign currency into Malaysian Ringgit and finance their entire stay with it. They rent rooms, pay university fees, pay taxi drivers, eat the delicious food which Malaysia is renowned for and they once again - pay for it. Taking into consideration that those students stay for three to five years, it can be stated that a valuable income source is created. Not just for the government, it happens on a basic level as well, where ordinary people like cab drivers, restaurant owners and storekeepers are paid with money from international students.

On the other hand the presence of international students backlashes on local students. Even though Malaysia is already diverse everybody still knows that counterparts are from Malaysia. Thus, a basic identity and a common culture exists. In order to be prepared for an increasingly globally interconnected world students of any kind need to have the skill to deal with culturally completely different people. The huge amount of international students, their presence in classrooms and the interactions between local and international students helps to tackle everyday stereotypes and open up taboo discussions. As a result, tomorrow's employees are equipped with the necessary skills to deal with culturally different customers, clients or colleagues who come from another part on earth. In the long run benefits are projected as well.

Students may opt to stay in Malaysia and are therefore going to be part of the workforce. Because those international students obtained a degree they're considered to be highly qualified and they can get a job at a Malaysian company or a branch of an international corporation. Due to their activity within this company their company makes more turnover, more taxes are paid and Malaysia can invest more into public services.

On the other hand students may opt out to stay in Malaysia and go back to their home country. Somebody who stayed in that country for more than three years has undoubtedly made connections and contacts with locals and Malaysia's culture. Thus, international students act as ambassadors of Malaysia and because of their knowledge and contacts they're able to promote the nation in the middle of Asia. For instance, an Iranian student who studied IT in Malaysia, goes back to his home country and starts his own business is still in contact with his Malaysian fellow students and trade connections can emerge.

What is Malaysia's target?

Due to the described benefits Malaysia wants to increase the number of international students from 96.000 in 2011 up to 150.000 until 2015. Improving the excellence of Malaysian universities has also priority. This includes the ranking of Malaysian universities, creating more 'Malaysian Chairs' at universities abroad and increase collaboration as well as cooperation with renowned universities from abroad. In order to increase the number of international students Malaysia has mainly two opportunities.

How to achieve that?

Malaysian universities are interlinked with a network of worldwide operating agents that recommend Malaysian universities in case there is a fit between the student's needs and the course Malaysian universities provide. However, there are several problems that exist. Firstly, it is often difficult for those agents to provide objective information to students because of their commission based business model. Students might therefore end up in a university which does not suit them and which they only chose because of the agent's information. Additional hassle is created and students might need to switch the university or decide to go to another country, which is the worst case scenario. Secondly, students around the

world start looking for higher education by themselves. The technical development like the internet or the smartphone allows them to glean information online and choose the right university and course by themselves.

Due to this development several education portals emerged. In Asia, easyuni is considered the strongest with more than 1, 000, 000 visitors from mainly Indonesia, China, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, India and plenty of others. The core service is providing all the necessary information of universities, courses and contextual information for interested students from abroad. This includes issues like entry requirements, fees or application deadlines.

Additionally the website provides accumulated contextual information about the country the student is interested in. This includes living costs, lifestyle, composition of international students in the specific country, ranking of the country's universities, visa requirements, employment prospect and economic outlay, salary outlay as well as information about work opportunities while the student is enrolled. Potential students from abroad therefore have the chance to find the desired information about all the countries. Established in 2008 easyuni has emerged to a powerful platform by constantly adding features that simplify the whole process from gathering information to applying to a university. Before that students had to go to the university's websites in order to apply or even send enquiries. This has changed - with a single registration every interested visitor of the platform can send enquiries to get further information about courses or can even send a final application, which is directly send to a counsellor of the university.

All in all it can be stated that international students have a positive impact on Malaysia. They buy products in Malaysia, live in houses and pay monthly rents, pay cab drivers and pay university fees. Additionally local students learn how to interact with people from abroad and connections are established that can be worthwhile in the future. Platforms that help students finding the right course and the right university like easyuni expedite Malaysia's desire for more international students by providing accumulated information and by simplifying the application process.

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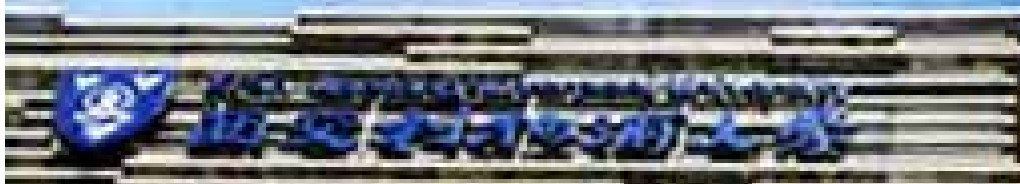
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For further details, please contact:

Marketing Section, **German-Malaysian Institute** (247980-K),
Jalan Ilmiah, Taman Universiti, 43000 Kajang,
Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia
Tel: +603-8921 9191/9046/9322 Fax: +603-8921 9003
Email: marketing@gmi.edu.my

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