

MAGIC The Gathering **GRAND PRIX** **KUALA LUMPUR**



Grand Prix Kuala Lumpur 2016 Travel Guide

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Introduction

Malaysia is tropical country, located in Southeast Asia, near the equator. A former British colony, the country is multi-ethnic and multicultural, making it home to many festivals and a huge range of cuisines.

The time zone in Malaysia is UTC+08:00.

For more information about Malaysia you can visit - <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malaysia>

Kuala Lumpur, or simply “KL” to the locals, is the federal capital and the largest city in Malaysia.

The GP venue is Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre in Bandar Sunway, just west of Kuala Lumpur.

The Weather

Temperatures generally range from 32°C at noon to about 26°C at midnight.

The country is affected by the south-west monsoon from May to September and the north-east monsoon from November to March, and different parts of the country have their dry and wet seasons at different times of year. On the west coast, the wettest months are May to October, while on the east coast, the wettest months are September to December.

Kuala Lumpur is wettest from March to April and September to November where night temperatures can hit a low of about 23°C on rainy days.

Visa / Travel Requirements

Visitors to Malaysia must hold a valid passport or travel document with a minimum validity of six months beyond the intended visiting period.

Please make sure that you do the necessary arrangements to apply for travel visa if you need to well ahead in time.

Visit the [Malaysian Immigration Department](#) or [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) for more info.



Language & Common Phrases

The official language is Malay, or *Bahasa Malaysia*. In any case, almost everyone can speak and comprehend English. Signs are usually in both Malay and English. Malaysians employ a combination of languages in everyday conversation.

Some Useful Phrases

In Malay, 'a' is always pronounced as 'ah'.

General Phrases

Selamat pagi / petang / malam (*suh-la-mat pa-gi / puh-tang / ma-lam*)
Good morning / afternoon / evening.

Terima kasih (*tree-ma ka-say*)
Thank you

Sama-sama
You're welcome

Selamat jalan / tinggal (*suh-la-mat ja-lan / ting-gal*)
Goodbye

Tolong
Please (when requesting a favor) / Help!

Asking Questions

Mana... ?
Where is... ?

Bila... ?
When is... ?

Berapa... ? (*buh-ra-pa*)
How much is... ?

Ini / itu / sini / situ
This / that / here / there

Ordering Food

Makan sini
Dine-in

Bungkus (*boong-koos*) / Tapau (*dta-pow*)
Take-away

If you would like to learn more, you can check out http://wikitravel.org/en/Malay_phrasebook

Local Currency & Exchange

The Malaysian currency is the **ringgit**, usually abbreviated as **RM** or **MYR**. It is divided into 100 sen. There are coins of 5, 10, 20, and 50 sen as well as bills of RM1, 2 (rare), 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100.

There are two versions of coins and notes in common circulation. Major differences:

- New RM1 and RM5 notes are polymer while the old ones are paper.
- New 20 sen and 50 sen coins are golden and smaller in size than the old coins.

You can easily exchange foreign currencies into ringgit in banks and airports, but you can get better rates from licensed money changers in major shopping malls. Around the venue, you can find money changers at the LG floor of Sunway Pyramid.

ATMs are available in cities but they do not always work with the card you have. Most stores in shopping malls will accept all major international credit cards but it's always advisable to have some cash in hand that will last you the day at least.



Most visitors will find Malaysia quite cheap, although it is noticeably more expensive than neighbouring Thailand, Indonesia and Philippines. It's possible to live in hostel dorms and feast on hawker food for less than RM50-RM100 per day. Expect to spend about RM10 in open-air food courts, and twice or more of that in restaurants.

Tipping is not customary in Malaysia. Most expensive restaurants, bars and hotels may indicate prices in the form of RM19++, meaning that goods and services tax (6%) and service charge (10%) will be added to the bill on top of RM19. There might be an additional hotel tax of 5%. Most restaurants in malls have GST included in their prices, and those that collect a 10% service charge will indicate so in a noticeable sign at the storefront.

Electricity

Malaysian electricity systems has a voltage and frequency of 230V/50Hz.

The Malaysian plugs and sockets are Type G, mainly used in the UK, Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong.



Images taken from <http://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plugs-and-sockets/g/>

The Grand Prix Venue

The GP will be held at the [Sunway Pyramid Convention Center](#), which is located in Subang Jaya, a suburban city just next to Kuala Lumpur. The Convention Center is attached to [Sunway Pyramid](#), Malaysia's first themed shopping and entertainment mall with an Egyptian-themed Pyramid as it's main building.

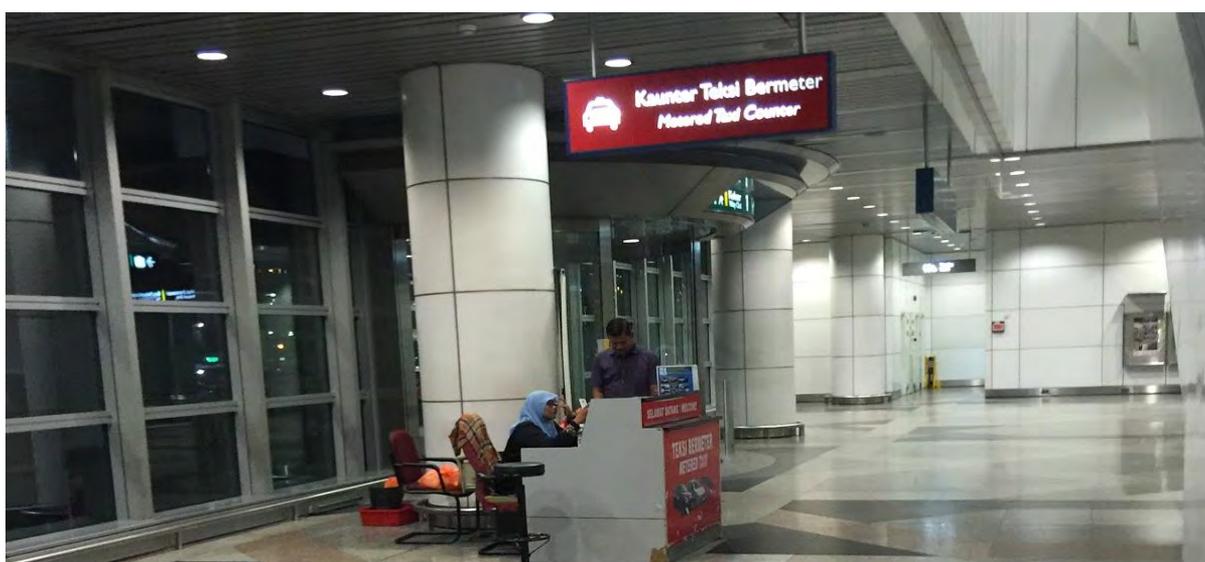


Getting In

By taxi / car

Flying into Kuala Lumpur you will either land in the main terminal, Kuala Lumpur International Airport (**KLIA**) or the newer low-cost carrier centric, **klia2**. Both has the IATA code of KUL, so make sure you know which terminal you are landing at before planning your way in and out of the airport.

The Grand Prix is held at Sunway Pyramid Convention Center about 50 kilometers away from KLIA. The most convenient way to get there would be by taxi, [Uber](#), or [Grab](#). Avoid taxi touts, and only use the Metered Taxi or Airport Taxi counters. It should cost you only RM60 - RM80 each way.



KLIA taxi counters

By train

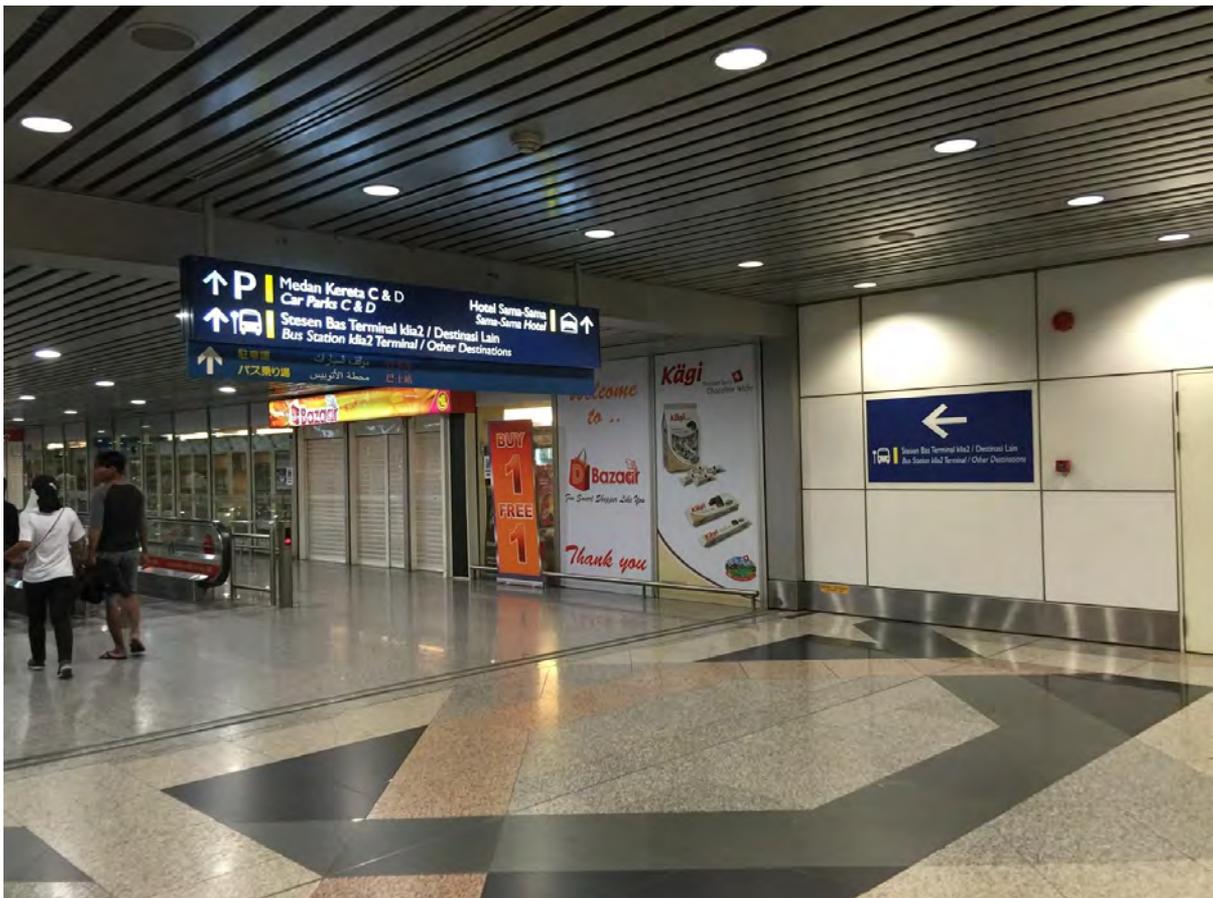
[KLIA Express](#) trains connects both KLIA and klia2 to KL's transportation hub, KL Sentral. Fast and comfortable, it is however one of the more expensive ways to get to KL Sentral when compared to taking a taxi or hired car, except when travelling alone. It costs RM55 one way to get to KL Sentral from the airport. You can find detailed fare information [here](#).

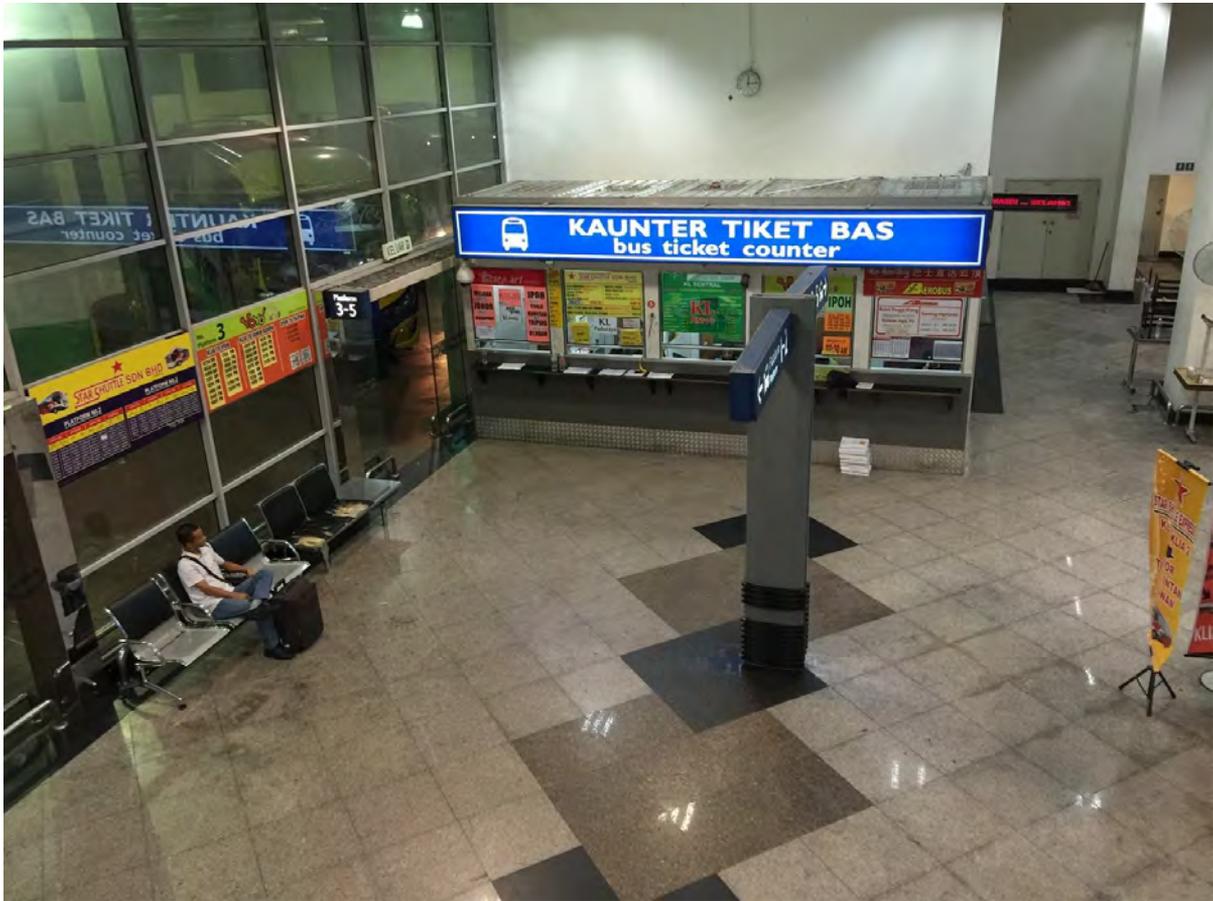
See below on how to get to the Grand Prix venue from KL Sentral.

By bus

There are many budget bus options that will get you to KL Sentral. Look for the **Bus Station (to) klia2 Terminal / Other Destinations** sign and follow its direction. Buses should cost around RM10 - RM15 and can bring you to KL Sentral, Kota Raya, Pudu Raya. Direct buses to other major cities in West Malaysia is also available, fare varies by city.

Here is some useful information on the options available by bus from KLIA and klia2 - <http://www.klia2.info/bus-services>





Signs to the bus terminal at KLIA

Transfer from KL Sentral to Sunway Pyramid Convention Center

Once you get to KL Sentral, there are a number of budget options to get to the GP venue, but most are time consuming or involves taking a taxi, or a lot of walking.

The one and only way I will talk about is this method using the KTM Komuter train and the BRT bus.

First, look for the KTM Komuter station in KL Sentral and take the Port Klang (Pelabuhan Klang) Line KTM Komuter train from **KL Sentral Station (KD01)** to **KTM Setia Jaya Station (KD08)**.

At **KTM Setia Jaya Station**, there is a walkway that will take you to **BRT Sunway-Setia Jaya Station**. Take the BRT to the **BRT Sunway Lagoon Station**.

Altogether, this will only cost you RM5.

Getting Around

To/From GP Venue

By Bus / By Train

The **BRT Sunway Line** is a [bus rapid transit](#) (BRT) line that is part of the [Klang Valley Integrated Transit System](#) servicing the southeastern suburbs of [Petaling Jaya, Malaysia](#).

Code	Name	Notes
SB1	Sunway-Setia Jaya	Connecting station to KD08 Setia Jaya . KTM Komuter's Port Klang Line
SB2	Mentari	In front of Sunway Mentari Business Park and walking distance to Makmur Apartments on Jalan PJS 8/9
SB3	Sunway Lagoon	300 meter walking distance to Sunway Lagoon theme park and Sunway Pyramid shopping centre
SB4	SunMed	In front of Sunway Medical Centre
SB5	SunU-Monash	In front of Monash University . BRT Depot and Multilevel Car Park located beside the station.
SB6	South Quay-USJ1	Behind Mydin USJ 1. Near Casa Subang Apartment and Impian Meridian
SB7 KJ31	USJ 7	Interchange station to Rapid KL's Kelana Jaya Line

The fare starts at RM1.60 until RM5.40

The BRT is useful to connect to KTM Komuter or Rapid KL's Kelana Jaya Line trains that will take you closer to the KL city centre. There are no closer train stations at the GP venue.

There are RapidKL buses as well but they are generally not recommended as the city roads can get very congested and the bus routes generally serve the residential area primarily, and thus not very useful for tourists.

By Taxi / Uber / Grab

Always insist on following the meter, and if the driver refuses and tries to haggle, just refuse. Uber and Grab drivers are aplenty in the area and might be a better choice.

Kuala Lumpur

(This following section is sourced from http://wikitravel.org/en/Kuala_Lumpur#Get_around)

Kuala Lumpur's ambitious public transport system is sufficiently developed to be fairly efficient and convenient, but much room for improvement lies in its integration. The city, like many developing cities, suffers from paralysing traffic jams periodically throughout the day. In the rush hours, consider combining various methods of transport. For example: soar over traffic jams by monorail then finish the journey by taxi.

By train

Urban rail comes in four distinct flavours, which are not always fully connected:

LRT & Monorail - run by RapidKL, which also runs the urban buses, it is the closest thing to a metro though it is mainly elevated on concrete pillars with only the most central stations underground. There are four lines: the Sri Petaling Line, Ampang line, the Kelana Jaya line and the Monorail line. The Monorail line is entirely elevated and loops through the Golden Triangle in a semicircle. Riding its whole length gives a good overview of the city centre.



Fares are cheap (from RM1). If it rains, you might get wet when transferring between lines. From 2012, connectivity between different LRT lines has improved a lot, passengers just need to purchase a single ticket for transferring between LRT and monorail lines or inside LRT system. A notable exception are the KTM Komuter lines, a separate ticket is still required for these lines. For buying LRT tickets you must use vending machine which takes maximum RM5 banknotes, worker in the booth will not sell you ticket, he will only change your banknotes to lower value and you have to use vending machine again, so be prepared with smaller denominations.

KTM Komuter - two lines that meet in the city centre and run out to the suburbs, including the **Batu Caves** and **Midvalley Mega Mall**. Trains are not as frequent as on the LRT or Monorail: plan for a 20 min wait but 5-10 min is more likely. To get in/out KTM Komuter lines you are supposed to use turnstiles, but during 6/2013 turnstiles were switched off at Kuala Lumpur and Batu Caves stations, so don't bother trying and just pass through.



The **Touch 'n Go** card (RM10 at major stations) can be used on all lines except the airport express. Photo ID is required to buy the card and it can only be bought on weekdays and part of Saturday. Concession prepaid cards are available but require proof of qualification.

Currently, three Mass Rapid Transit MRT lines are in various phases. The first line connecting Sungai Buloh to Kajang (SBK line) via KL Sentral and is expected to be fully completed by 2017, while the second line

MRT Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya (SSP line) connecting the northeast-southwest region and the third MRT (Circle line) looping around Kuala Lumpur are expected to be completed by 2022.

You can find a rail map here - <http://www.spad.gov.my/sites/default/files/gkl-klv-intergrated-transit-map-final-v5.jpg>

Some notable LRT stations:

- **Bukit Bintang** (Monorail line) - for shopping in the Golden Triangle and interchange station with the future MRT Line expected to be completed in July 2017
- **Bukit Nanas** (Monorail line) - for clubbing at P. Ramlee, within walking distance of the Twin Towers
- **KLCC** (Kelana Jaya line) - for the Twin Towers and the Suria KLCC and Avenue K shopping malls
- **KL Sentral** (Kelana Jaya line/Monorail line/KTM Komuter/ERL) - while not that central, it is a comprehensive hub with connections to buses and intercity trains. The Monorail line is about 400m walking distance via the Nu Sentral Mall to the main terminal containing the Kelana Jaya, KTM Komuter and ERL.
- **Masjid Jamek** (Sri Petaling & Kelana Jaya lines) - LRT interchange and access to Chinatown and Little India
- **Plaza Rakyat** (Sri Petaling line) - for Puduraya bus station
- **Bandar Tasik Selatan** (Sri Petaling line) - integrated with Terminal Bersepadu Selatan (TBS) for south and north-bound buses (to Penang, Ipoh, Singapore, and Johor). Interchange for KTM Komuter and the ERL's KLIA Transit trains.

A few quirks:

1. The LRT lines have had various names in the past (Kelana Jaya line fka PUTRA line; Ampang line fka STAR line), don't be surprised to see signage different from the names listed here.
2. Monorail line's "KL Sentral" station is not located inside KL Sentral main building but in front of Nu Sentral shopping mall about 400m walking distance.
3. Despite the monorail/LRT integrated ticketing system, you may lose your token at KL Sentral when exiting through the barriers to connect between the two lines, despite the ticket machine having happily sold you a fare for the full journey. The staff will just tell you to buy a new token for the rest of the journey. It's probably best to buy separate tokens for each leg, and may actually be cheaper.
4. Trains usually follow a timetable, with the period between trains decreased to two/three minutes at peak hours. However, if the "driverless" trains of the Kelana Jaya line breakdown, services may be disrupted for two hours or more, although such breakdowns are few and far between.

By bus

Double-decker [KL Hop-on Hop-off](#) sightseeing tour buses serve 42 notable places. There is free Wi-Fi on board. An information commentary is given through headphones. Tickets (valid for 24 or 48hrs) give unlimited use during their validity. Children under 5 ride free. The buses are scheduled every half hour but waits may be as long as two hours due to traffic jams, so try to maximize use of the service outside rush hours.

The free **free** bus service [Go KL](#) started 1 September 2012 in the Central Business District (CBD) with two circular bus routes. The Purple Line starts at Pasar Seni and travels to the shopping area of Bukit Bintang, where it links up with the Green Line looping around KLCC. From 1 May 2014, two more routes have been added. The Red Line connects the North of CBD with the South, linking KL Sentral to Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman through the Chow Kit area. At Medan Mara it meets the Blue Line, which goes on from there to join the per-existing lines at Bukit Bintang.

<http://www.spad.gov.my/transport-operators/buses/route-map-gokl-city-bus>

[RapidKL](#) operates a cheap and comprehensive public bus network in and around Kuala Lumpur, but **low frequencies** (2-3 per hour on most routes) and the **near-total lack of signs** makes this a poor option for the casual visitor. The buses themselves have clear destination information; so if you happen upon one heading in the right direction, jump on board - though be prepared for cramped waits in rush hour traffic.



You can either buy zone-based single tickets (RM1 for Zone 1, up to RM3 for Zone 4) on board, or use a Touch 'n Go card (not sold on board). In addition, *Ekspres* (E) services use the highways and cost a flat RM3.80. Buses run from 6AM-11PM or so, with no night services.

By taxi

Normal red and white taxis (RM3 first 1km, then RM1/km) and **bright blue executive taxis** (RM6 first 1km, then RM2/km) are good options if you can get them to use the meter. There are also various small surcharges for radio call (RM2), baggage (RM1 per piece), etc. It is recommended for traveler to use the ride-sharing apps such as Uber or GrabCar since they are cheaper than the regular taxi most of the time.



The city's rail coverage is good enough so that you shouldn't take a taxi to most hotels and tourist hotspots. But, if you must take a taxi, expect many drivers to refuse to use the meter, particularly during rush hour or when it rains. Prices then become negotiable (before setting off) and inflated (2-10 times the meter price). Although this is illegal, the only realistic thing you can do is walk away and find a different driver. A cab hailed off the street is more likely to use the meter than one that stalks tourist spots or parked.

If stuck with a driver that won't use the meter, negotiate hard: RM10 should cover most cross town trips of 15 min or so, even with traffic. If staying in an expensive hotel, hide your affluence and give a nearby shopping mall as your destination instead. If you have lots of bags, try not to let him see it during negotiations.

Midnight surcharge is applicable on pickups 00:01-05:59. This surcharge means meter prices are increased by 50% (e.g. at 01:00, if the meter shows RM12, you should pay RM12+6).

During rush hour it's generally best to combine public transport with taxis.

A few popular places (notably both airports, KL Sentral, Menara KL and Sunway Pyramid) enforce a prepaid coupon systems, which generally work out more expensive than using the meter, but cheaper than bargaining. Taxis from Pavilion Shopping Mall's taxi counter cost the meter with a RM2 surcharge.

Many locals download taxi apps such as [Grab](#) (which was conceived in Malaysia) and [Uber](#) and use that instead of trying to hail a cab. One word of caution is that Malaysian taxi drivers are now hostile towards Uber drivers and its customers within the Kuala Lumpur area. It is a safety concern and shouldn't be taken lightly.

Stay Connected

Free wifi can be found in most F&B establishments and major malls, but it can be rather unreliable at times.

Prepaid SIM cards are easily available with a variety of packages and plans.

If you are flying in from Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), there will be booths with SIM cards available even before you pass through Immigration. There are even more options available at the Arrival Hall, after passing through baggage claims and customs.

In no particular order, Maxis, Celcom, Digi, U Mobile, Tune Talk are all established brands in Malaysia and should provide decent coverage in urban areas.

There is only one Mobile Wifi service provider in KLIA called Visiondata. It shares a booth with Maxis at the Arrival Hall.

Outside of KLIA, most major shopping malls will have stores selling you prepaid SIM cards from all the major brands.



What to Eat

Standing at the crossroads of Malay, Chinese and Indian cuisine, there are endless varieties and options for food. Some even consider *makan* (eat in Malay) to be a national pastime. Restaurants offering American, Balinese, Chinese, Indian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mexican, Middle-eastern, Spanish, Thai cuisines and more can easily be found in Kuala Lumpur, in addition to Malay, and the Malaysian take on Chinese and Indian cuisines.

Malaysian specialities

Nasi Lemak is the quintessential Malaysian breakfast meal, although you can find it available all-day long almost everywhere in Malaysia. It is rice cooked in light coconut milk or coconut cream, some fried *ikan bilis* (anchovies), peanuts, slices of cucumber and *Sambal* - a chilli-based sauce/paste, usually served with fried chicken or a spicy meat stew called *Rendang*.



Satay is barbecued skewers of meat, typically chicken or beef. What separates satay from your ordinary kebab is the slightly spicy peanut-based dipping sauce.

Laksa in Malaysia comes in many wildly different styles, and every state seems to have its signature style. *Laksa lemak* is a fragrant soup of noodles in a coconut-based curry broth, topped with cockles or shrimp, while [Penang's assam laksa](#) is made with a tamarind-infused broth instead of coconut, and has a spicy sourish taste. [Kelantanese laksam](#), on the other hand, comes with wide, flat rice noodles and a very coconutty broth.



Bak kut teh (肉骨茶), lit. "pork bone tea", is a simple-sounding soup of pork ribs simmered for hours in broth until they're ready to fall off the bone. It's typically eaten with white rice. To impress the locals, order some *you tiao* fritters from a nearby stall and cut them up into bite-sized chunks to dip into your soup. The port town of [Klang](#) is said to be original home of the dish.

Hainanese chicken rice (海南鸡饭) is poached chicken served with rice cooked in chicken stock and fat, and tasty ginger and chilli dipping sauces. The chicken has a delicate taste, but it's the quality of the rice and the dipping sauces that connoisseurs get passionate about. There is an interesting local variant found in [Malacca](#) and [Muar, Johor](#), with the rice cooked until it is sticky and rolled into balls.

Hokkien mee (福建面) refers to at least three separate dishes. In Kuala Lumpur, this gets you thick noodles fried in dark soy sauce, while in Penang you'll get a very spicy shrimp soup. Interestingly, neither of them bear any resemblance to the dish of the same name served in neighbouring [Singapore](#).

Char kuey teow (炒粿条) is a favourite noodle type at Penang. Some flat egg noodle fried with soya sauce, prawn, cockles, bean sprouts, chives & *bak you* (Pork's Oil), though this last ingredient is sometimes absent due to the popularity & demand of this dish from the Malays & others who traditionally shun pork.



Roti canai is the Malaysian adaptation of the South Indian *paratha*, flat bread tossed in the air like pizza, fried in oil, and eaten dipped in curry. Eaten plain with sides of dal gravy, curry sauce or both, it is usually dubbed "roti kosong". Variations include include *roti telur* (with egg) and *murtabak* (stuffed with chicken, mutton or fish), *roti boom* (with condensed milk) and *roti tisu* (made very thin like tissue paper, and laced with caramelized sugar).

"Mamak-style" **mee goreng** is a ubiquitous dish found at *mamak* stalls, a stir-fried noodle dish loved by Malaysians.

Dietary restrictions

Being a Muslim-majority country, finding **Halal** food is easy, just look out for the halal sign or just ask.

Vegetarian food is not as common, but is not that hard to find as well. You can find several vegetarian restaurants in the mall. As usual, please don't hesitate to just ask!

Around the venue

Being attached to a shopping mall, there are many convenient options for food. In addition to the usual fastfood chains like KFC, McDonald's, Subway, Pizza Hut, Burger King, Texas Chicken and more, there are a number of decent restaurants and cafes within the mall.

Highly rated restaurants within Pyramid includes:

American - Bubba Gump's Shrimp Co, Tony Roma's, TGI Fridays, Morganfield's

Balinese - Ole Ole Bali

Chinese - Dragon-i, Fong Lye

German - Brotzeit

Japanese - Rakuzen

Middle-eastern - Tarbush

Dessert - Teochew Chendol (Cendol is a delicious shaved ice dessert served with coconut milk and palm sugar with red beans, highly recommended!)

You can find a full list of available dining options here - [Sunway Pyramid's directory](#)

For **Malaysian** food (including the Malaysian Chinese and Indian food), you're better off looking for a local casual hawker centers or coffee shops known locally as *kopitiam* (in Chinese) or *kedai kopi* (in Malay) where it will be a lot more cheaper and tasty, albeit in a more casual setting and rarely air-conditioned.



Usually to order, find a table, take note of the table number, browse through the many array of stalls as you like, order from the stall and tell them your table number. Sit down, wait for the food to be served to you at your table and pay as the food arrives.

Head to [Rock Cafe](#) for one of these hawker centers, it's about 10-15 minutes walk from Sunway Pyramid. ([Google Map Link](#))

Ming Tien is another one of such hawker centers and it's nearer but still requires you to walk 5 minutes out of the mall area. ([Google Map Link](#))

Lai Kong is also similar to the two hawker centers mentioned above and is about 10 minutes' walk from the mall.. ([Google Map Link](#))

If you'd rather dine in a more comfortable environment and don't mind paying a little more, there's always **Madam Kwan's** inside the mall itself which offers Malaysian hawker offerings on a more formal restaurant setting.



There's also [Taste Enclave](#), a somewhat more upscale hawker-center-styled eatery located at the attached [Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa](#).

If you are feeling adventurous there are many, many food options slightly northeast of the mall in the **Sunway Mentari** area and also slightly southwest of the mall, near **Sunway College**.

Sightseeing

Aside from just stuffing your face with wonderful tasty food, Malaysia offers a wide variety of places to sightsee and explore not to mention relax. Here are some of our top picks of places to visit while you are here.

Around the GP Venue

Sunway Lagoon Theme Park

Sunway Lagoon Theme Park is located right next to Sunway Pyramid. With a variety of watery rides on offer and plenty of dry-land activities too, there are few more fun ways to spend a day than cooling down at Sunway.



Water slides that whirl and twirl, a man made 'river' ride, a surf beach, a wave pool, a 360° revolving pirate ship... the list of fun attractions at the 80-acre park is extensive. Built on the

site of a former tin mine and quarry, when it first opened the highlights of this multi-zone theme park where its water slides and the world's largest man made surf beach. These days, it has expanded and encompasses a total of five different zones – the water park, Scream Park, Amusement Park, Extreme Park and Wildlife Park.

Website: <http://sunwaylagoon.com/>

Kuala Lumpur

Petronas Twin Towers

The Petronas Twin Towers were once the tallest buildings in the world. Now the world's tallest twin structures, the 88-storey buildings were designed by Cesar Pelli & Associates with both towers joined at the 41st and 42nd floors (175m above street level) by a 58 metre-long, double-decker Skybridge.





The double-decker Skybridge at the Petronas Twin Towers is one of its major draws as it offers amazing views of the city. Apart from allowing tenants of the towers to move from one building to the other without having to go to ground level, the Skybridge also functions as an emergency exit route.

Do note a pass is required to enter the bridge, so make sure to get there early as queues can be long.

Set on Level 86 is Petronas Twin Towers' observation deck, where visitors can get a closeup view of the tower's spire as well as digital displays and exhibit of the tower's history.

Website: www.petronastwintowers.com.my/

Aquaria KLCC

Aquaria KLCC located on the concourse level of the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, the 5000sqft Aquaria KLCC is said to be largest aquarium in the world. Home to over 150 species of marine life, its star attractions include scary tiger sharks, lethal sea snakes, blue rays, bright coral fish, seahorses and more.



It's a well-stocked aquarium just begging to be explored, and after a few hours here you'll have seen over 5,000 freshwater and marine creatures, including massive arapaimas, giant groupers, gar fish and more. Some people write it off as a tourist trap, but they're sorely missing out – beyond the big tanks, with gallons of water, filled with necklaces of kelp, coral and mysterious and sometimes menacing sea creatures, is one of the country's foremost

sightseeing attractions with real depth and complexity.

One of the highlights of Aquaria KLCC is a giant tank (featuring an authentic-looking shipwreck) – a 90m walk-through tunnel with a moving travelator in its centre. Inside you'll be surrounded by sand tiger sharks, huge stingrays and more.

The best parts of Aquaria KLCC might actually be when you're feeling a little lost – either literally, given the sheer size of this place, or figuratively,



as you try to learn as much as you can about the oftentimes ignored multifaceted deep sea world. Though the aquaria revels in simple pleasures, thrill seekers are also well catered for – they can get-up-close-and-personal with tiger sharks, stingrays and more as the aquarium has a Diving with Sharks program. Even though visitors have to sign a liability waiver form in order to strap on tanks, it's a safe environment as the sharks have been in Aquaria KLCC for more than five years now and are domesticated. Those who don't have diving permits can join the Cage Rage programme where visitors take the plunge into the tank within the confines of a submerged cage.

Website: <http://aquariaklcc.com/>

Menara KL Tower



Along with the Petronas Twin Towers, Menara KL Tower is easily Malaysia's most recognizable and popular landmark. Constructed in 1994, the tower stands at 421 metres and effortlessly trumps the Petronas Twin Towers with the highest and most spectacular view of the city. This gleaming tower's spindle-like apex is visible from almost anywhere in Kuala Lumpur.

Menara KL's viewing deck is, at 276 metres, at least 100 metres higher than the Petronas Twin Towers' Skybridge; the view is marvellous during the day and even better at night when you can see the entire sparkling city centre.



Hailed as one of the tallest freestanding structures in the world, Menara KL plays host to a revolving restaurant, Atmosphere 360. You can have a meal or enjoy high tea along with the most spectacular view of the city centre, bar chartering a helicopter. Boasting a theatre, an amphitheatre, beautiful cascading pools, a fast food restaurant and souvenir shops, this tower is a definite must-see sightseeing attraction when you visit Kuala Lumpur.

Website: <https://www.menarakl.com.my/>

China Town

At the heart of Kuala Lumpur is an area which never sleeps, and far more colourful and bustling than its bigger and more glamorous neighbours, KLCC & Bukit Bintang. Chinatown, based in Petaling Street, is also known as 'Chee Cheong Kai' (Starch Factory Street), a reference to its roots as a tapioca-producing district. Deeply immersed in Oriental culture, heritage and history, Chinatown is undoubtedly one of the most popular tourist spots in



Malaysia.

Chinatown is also a well-known bargain hunter's paradise, a place where you can find all sorts of stuff from Chinese herbs to imitation goods. At night, its main market area, Petaling Street, transforms into a lively and vibrant night market, filled with hundreds of stalls offering all kinds of goods at dirt-cheap prices.



Just around the corner from this paradise of bargains are temples that have been

around for more than a century. Built in 1873, the Sri Mahamariamman Temple is the oldest and most elaborately-designed Hindu temple in the country, while Chan See Shu Yuen Temple and Kuan Ti Temple are fine examples of Oriental architecture with open courtyards, symmetrical pavilions and embellished roofs.

Batu Caves

Batu Caves, one of Kuala Lumpur's most frequented tourist attractions, is a limestone hill comprising three major caves and a number of smaller ones. Located approximately 11 kilometres to the north of Kuala Lumpur, this 100-year-old temple features idols and statues erected inside the main caves and around it. Incorporated with interior limestone formations said to be around 400 million years old, the temple is considered an important religious landmark by Hindus.



Cathedral Cave – the largest and most popular cavern in Batu Caves – houses several Hindu shrines beneath its 100-metre-high arched ceiling. At the foot of Batu Hill are two other cave temples – the Art Gallery Cave and Museum Cave – which houses numerous Hindu statues and paintings.



Batu Caves is the focal point of the annual Hindu festival of Thaipusam, which attracts thousands of devotees and visitors. Usually held at the end of January, the procession begins on the evening before the Thaipusam Festival at the Sri Mariamman Temple in KL city centre.

The procession more often than not, arrives at Batu Caves in the wee hours of the morning the next day; the entire celebration commences then and is a colourful event that lasts a total of eight hours. In the past the festival has attracted more than one million pilgrims, making it one of the largest gatherings in the world.

A Little Further

Melaka



One of the most charming and accessible destinations in peninsular Malaysia is historic Melaka (Malacca). It's really hard to find someone who has visited Melaka and disliked it. Rather, most visitors consider Melaka to be one of the most rewarding destinations in Malaysia. So what makes Melaka such a well-regarded place to visit? Here is wonderful article explaining why Melaka is well worth the visit.

<http://www.chasingplaces.com/top-reasons-to-visit-melaka-malaysia/>

Penang

Another great state to visit if you love food and historical sites, packed with plenty of must-see attractions to appeal to every type of traveller from families and honeymooners to foodies and those with a thirst for adventure. Check out the guide on why you should visit Penang!



<http://www.simplynomadiclife.com/visit-george-town-penang-malaysia/>

Additional Links and Information

Additional information about travelling to Malaysia - <http://wikitravel.org/en/Malaysia>

Additional information about Kuala Lumpur - http://wikitravel.org/en/Kuala_Lumpur

Top rated restaurants in the city near the GP venue -

https://www.tripadvisor.com.my/Restaurants-g298317-Subang_Jaya_Petaling_District_Selangor.html

If you need any assistance, additional information please contact QJ Wong at qj.wong@gmail.com !