



# Sarawak

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## Why Go?

Sarawak makes access to Borneo's natural wonders and cultural riches a breeze. From Kuching, the island's most sophisticated and dynamic city, pristine rainforests – where you can spot orang-utans, proboscis monkeys, killer crocodiles and the world's largest flower, the Rafflesia – can be visited on day trips, with plenty of time in the evening for a delicious meal and a drink in a chic bar. More adventurous travellers can take a 'flying coffin' riverboat up the Batang Rejang, 'the Amazon of Borneo', to seek out remote longhouses, or fly to the spectacular bat caves and extraordinary rock formations of Gunung Mulu National Park, a Unesco World Heritage Site. Everywhere you go, you'll encounter the warmth, unforced friendliness and sense of humour that make the people of Malaysia's most culturally diverse state such delightful hosts.

## When to Go

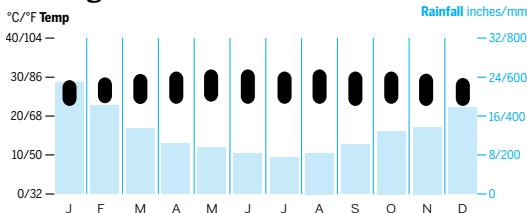
### Best Places to Eat

- » Dyak (p392)
- » Top Spot Food Court (p392)
- » Jambu (p392)
- » Summit Cafe (p435)

### Best Places to Stay

- » Batik Boutique Hotel (p390)
- » Dillenia Guesthouse (p433)
- » Threehouse B&B (p390)
- » Retreat (p413)

### Kuching



**Jul** Dayak bands and international artists jam at Kuching's Rainforest World Music Festival.

**Jul-Sep** It's tourist high season so book flights and treks early.

**Nov-Jan** Rough seas can make coastal boat travel difficult or impossible.

# SOUTH CHINA SEA



## Sarawak Highlights

- 1 Watching semi-wild orang-utans swing through the canopy at **Semenggoh Nature Reserve** (p407)
- 2 Seeing the elusive *Rafflesia*, the world's largest

- flower, at **Gunung Gading National Park** (p413)
- 3 Strolling the Waterfront Promenade in **Kuching** (p382)
- 4 Spotting endangered proboscis monkeys in **Bako**

**National Park** (p400) or **Kuching Wetlands National Park** (p406)

- 5 Watching the jungle glide by as you make your way into the very heart of Borneo along