



Sarawak

AREA 124,450 SQ KM

Includes ➔

Kuching	396
Bako National Park	414
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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 orangutans, proboscis monkeys, 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 by Kuching's waterfront. More adventurous travellers can take a 'flying coffin' riverboat up the 'Amazon of Borneo', the Batang Rejang, on their way east to hike from longhouse to longhouse in the cool environs of the Kelabit Highlands, or to the spectacular bat caves and extraordinary rock formations of Gunung Mulu National Park. 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.

Best Places to Eat

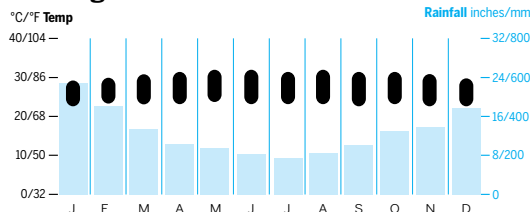
- ➔ Dyak (p407)
- ➔ Top Spot Food Court (p407)
- ➔ Summit Café (p449)
- ➔ Bla Bla Bla (p408)
- ➔ Choon Hui (p406)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Batik Boutique Hotel (p405)
- ➔ Dillenia Guesthouse (p448)
- ➔ Threehouse B&B (p404)
- ➔ Nanga Shanti (p418)

When to Go

Kuching



Jul Local 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 orangutans swing through the canopy at **Semenggoh Nature Reserve** (p419).
- 2 Seeing the elusive *Rafflesia*, the world's largest

flower, at **Gunung Gading National Park** (p426).

- 3 Strolling the Waterfront Promenade in **Kuching** (p396).
- 4 Spotting endangered

proboscis monkeys in **Bako National Park** (p413) or **Kuching Wetlands National Park** (p419).

- 5 Watching the jungle glide by as you make your way into