

CITY PORTRAIT

# Kuala Lumpur

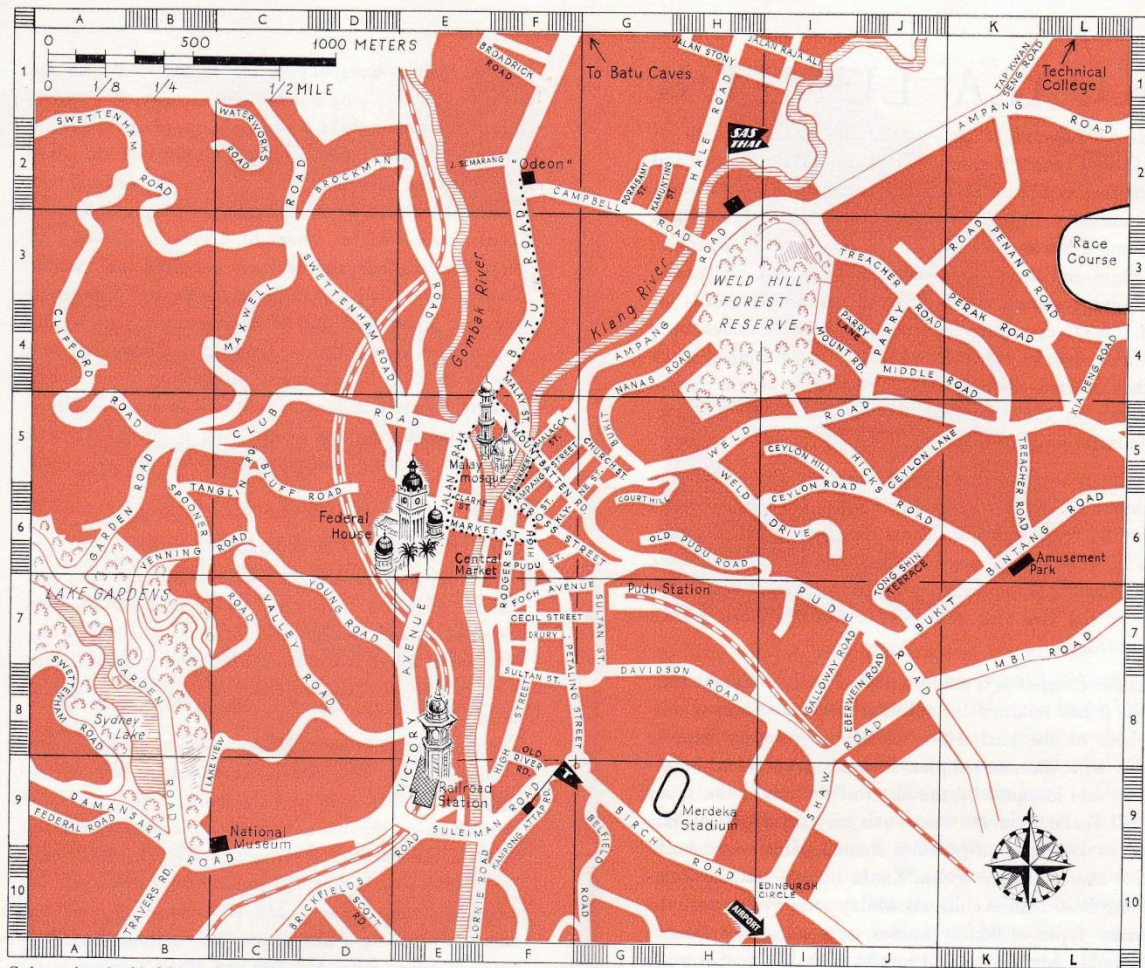
SAS  
THAI



Kuala Lumpur  
Railway Station



**SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES SYSTEM**  
**THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL**



Code numbers in this folder refer to the above map. Thus (C10) is located where lines drawn from "C" and "10" cross each other.

### *Interesting Sights in Kuala Lumpur*

- (C10) The National Museum.
- (A8) The Lake Gardens.
- (H4) Weld Hill Forest Reserve.
- (G1) The Batu Caves.



**SAS and THAI INTERNATIONAL Ticket Office:**  
Denmark House, 84 Ampang Road, Kuala Lumpur.  
Tel. 8 69 37 ano 8 96 96.



**Tourist & Information Office.**  
Police Co-operative Building, Sulciman Road,  
Kuala Lumpur. Tel. 8 98 37.

### *One Hour's Walk Around Kuala Lumpur*

Start at the *Odeon Cinema* (F2) on Batu Road, walk the road passing many interesting shops. Turn left into Mountbatten Road (F5) with its interesting mixture of Moorish and modern architecture, and the contrast of the Government offices on the right and the European shops on the left.

Cross the bridge and turn right along the Embankment. Here you will see the picturesque Malay mosque (F5) on your right, beyond the river. Turn left into Cross Street, then right into High Street, which leads to Chinatown (F8). Return by High Street and Market Street, cross the bridge, and you will see Bank Negara (National Bank) on your left before you come into Jalan Raja (E6). On your right is the Post Office (E6) and State Secretariat Buildings (E6) with its Clock Tower. The turrets and arches which adorn these buildings give Kuala Lumpur a distinctive stamp. Opposite the Post Office is the Padang (E6) on which major functions and games are held. Turn right down Jalan Raja and Batu Road and you are back to your starting point.

# KUALA LUMPUR

*Kuala Lumpur* is the capital of the Federation of Malaya, which is comprised of nine Malay States and the former British Settlements of *Penang* and *Malacca*. Founded a little over one hundred years ago, *Kuala Lumpur* lies in a belt of hilly country between mountain ranges and the sandy beaches of the coast. Originally a mining center, the city has grown rapidly and is today a far cry from the small settlement founded by a Malay district chieftain and 87 Chinese miners, when they started the tin mine at Ampang on the Klang River, in 1857. At that time the area was a dense, malarial jungle.

After many difficult years, booming tin production caused the *Sultan of Selanger State* to move the state capital from *Klang* to *Kuala Lumpur* in 1880. A railway was built between the two towns and the whole of *Kuala Lumpur* was rebuilt in brick and tile to reduce the fire risk and promote better public health conditions.

*Kuala Lumpur* is a modern city of 400,000 inhabitants, but it has retained the colorful and interesting atmosphere of the past. Here modern skyscrapers happily mix with Chinese temples, Moorish government buildings and mosques. In the heart of the city is the *Weld Hill Forest Reserve*, where you may see a typical Malayan jungle from pleasant shaded paths without undue exertion. And within *Kuala Lumpur*, in the *Kampung Bharu*, an exclusively Malay area, you can see the many types of Malay houses, as well as the famous "Sunday Market" which bustles with life on Saturday nights. A short distance outside *Kuala Lumpur* are

typical Malay "Kampongs", new Chinese villages, and on the road to Klang is the satellite town of *Petaling Jaya*, which hallmarks a center of rapid development. Other attractions include rubber estates and tin mines which can be visited. There is plenty to see, and you will be fascinated by the mingling of people of various creeds, their colorful modes of dress, the diversity of shops and markets and hawkers peddling their wares. *Kuala Lumpur* has several good hotels and restaurants and you won't lack any of the comforts you usually enjoy. The knowledge of English is widespread and you will have no difficulty in getting around and making yourself understood. A visit to *Kuala Lumpur* is both fascinating and exotic. And to come here is to make an exciting encounter with the special world of Asia.

## *Your First Hour in Kuala Lumpur*

Upon your arrival at the airport, SAS and THAI INTERNATIONAL personnel will guide you through the customs and immigration formalities. An information office, a bar and a bank where you may exchange your money for local currency are all in the airport building.

The monetary unit is the Malayan dollar (M\$), divided into 100 cents. The rate of exchange is M\$ 3.00 to US\$ 1.00 or M\$ 8.50 to £1 sterling. There are some restrictions on the amount of foreign currency entering Malaya, the maximum being £10 sterling, 300 ticals, 270 Indian rupees or 3,000 Indonesian rupiahs. In addition you may bring in M\$ 500. Outgoing currency, unless covered by a Certificate "C", is limited to: Malayan currency notes M\$ 500 and other currency notes not exceeding in value £250 sterling.

You may use a taxi to get down town from the airport. The fare is M\$ 1.30 and the trip takes about 15 minutes. SAS and THAI INTERNATIONAL Ticket Office is at Denmark House, 84 Ampang Road (H2). The staff there will be only too pleased to assist you with information regarding tours and hotel accommodation, etc., if required.

Remember to confirm air reservations for your onward journey, or if you have not reserved space, to do so as soon as possible.



## *Climate and Clothing*

The climate in Malaya is characterized by uniform temperature, high humidity and copious rainfall. The temperature throughout the year averages between 78° F (25° C) and 87° F (30° C). The nights are cool. If needed, umbrellas can be bought at street corners for between M\$ 1 and M\$ 1.50.

Clothing should be extremely light. Women are advised to wear sleeveless cotton or silk dresses and men to wear lightweight trousers, or shorts, and shirts. For most occasions, men need not wear jackets until 7 PM. The sun is strong and it is wise to wear a hat during the day. In the evening ladies should carry a stole because in air-conditioned cinemas and restaurants you can be uncomfortably chilly in an off-the-shoulder dress.

## *Hotels*

There are several good hotels in *Kuala Lumpur* each with excellent service. We recommend you make your reservations in advance through your travel agent, SAS, or THAI INTERNATIONAL. The four best hotels in *Kuala Lumpur* are:

	SWB	DWB
MERLIN HOTEL (I3)		
Treacher Road	M\$ 18 & upwards	M\$ 27 & upwards
Tel: KL 87701	(including morning tea or coffee, laundry, newspapers)	
FEDERAL HOTEL (K7)		
Bukit Bintang Road	M\$ 14.50 & upwards	M\$ 24 & upwards
Tel: 88991	(without breakfast)	
STATION HOTEL (E9)		
Victory Avenue	M\$ 14.50 & upwards	M\$ 24 & upwards
Tel: KL 82942	(with breakfast)	
MAJESTIC HOTEL (E9)		
Victory Avenue	M\$ 10 & upwards	M\$ 18 & upwards
Tel: KL 74225	(without breakfast)	



## Restaurants

You will find many restaurants in Kuala Lumpur where food is an art and often even a hobby. European and Asian food is usually available in hotels, and many restaurants specialize in one type of food.

Excellent meals à la carte are served in the Federal Hotel (K7), the Harlequin Grill of the Merlin Hotel (J3), the Coq d'Or (K2) and the Griffin Inn (L2). For delicious curries of countless varieties try Kasim's (F4), where M\$ 5 will buy you a very enjoyable meal.

Chinese restaurants include the Merlin's Harlequin Chinese Room (J3), the Federal's Mandarin Palace (K7), Yow Kee (F6), the Lee Wong Kee (F2) and the Kum Leng (I7). An experience you should not miss is eating from the stalls in the Saturday night market in *Kampong Bharu* (G3), where you can buy *Satay* (a very popular Malay dish consisting of small pieces of meat grilled on skewers and served with spicy sauces), chicken soup and fried prawns at low prices.

## Entertainments and Night Life

The restaurants have music and dancing and occasionally offer floorshows. They close at midnight with the exception of Saturdays, when they stay open till 1 AM.

## Sights

Kuala Lumpur, known as K. L., surprises visitors with its contrasts of modern commercial buildings, offices built on Moorish lines, fine houses with lovely gardens, typical Chinese streets and picturesque Malay "Kampongs".

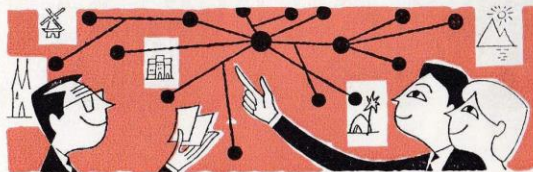
While by far the best way to experience Kuala Lumpur is just to stroll around the streets, there are a few points which you should try not to miss. You will find these marked on the map. They include the *National*



*Museum* (C10) and the beautiful *Lake Gardens* (A8). For a taste of the Malay jungle visit the *Weld Hill Forest Reserve* (H4) at *Bukit Nanas*, just in the center of Kuala Lumpur.

Within easy reach of the city are the imposing *Batu Caves*. The limestone rocks tower to a height of 400 feet (120 m) and a steep flight of 276 steps brings you to the mouth of the caves.

Your itinerary should also include visits to a tin mine, a rubber estate, the Malay mosque and to some local pottery and pewter works. Visit the *Government Tourist Information Centre* (F9) in Suleiman Road for detailed information.



## Excursions (See excursion Map)

*Malacca* is only 94 miles (151 kms) from Kuala Lumpur and you can either hire a car, through SAS or THAI INTERNATIONAL, or fly. The trip by air costs M\$ 36 and takes only 35 minutes. Malacca is certainly worth visiting! There is a quaint medieval air about its very narrow streets, the bright tiled steps of the houses reflect memories of its Dutch and Portuguese rulers and there are many historical buildings.

*The Stadthuys* is believed to be the oldest example of Dutch architecture in the East, dating between 1641 and 1660. The *Old Gate* facing the Malacca Club is also worth seeing as are the remains of *St. Paul's Church* on a hilltop, the oldest church and the oldest European building in this part of the world, built by the Portuguese.

*Ipoh*, half way by road or rail between Kuala Lumpur and Penang, is an attractive little town with picturesque cave temples and ornately decorated shrines.

*Penang* "The Pearl of the Orient", is a fascinating Island to visit. The Trip by air takes about two hours and costs M\$ 88 return fare, and there is also an excellent



railway service. Beautiful tropical scenery meets you when you arrive at Penang; in the distance you will see the greenwood rising from the water's edge to the hills, as you approach the island. A fantastic mingling of Chinese junks, picturesque Bugis vessels, steam launches and big oil tankers clutter the waters in front of George Town, Penang's port. In the center of town you will find peace in the quiet Buddhist temple courtyard and the enclosed garden of a Muslim mosque. A funicular railway takes you to Penang Hill, where in ease and comfort you can enjoy a breathtaking view of Penang Island and the mountains of the mainland. Visit the *Kek Lok Si* monastery and temple with a seven storied pagoda.

Singapore is only one hour from Kuala Lumpur by THAI INTERNATIONAL, or you may go by train or bus.





## Shopping

There is no specific shopping district in Kuala Lumpur, but as you walk along Batu Road (F3) you will find shops offering a wide variety of goods manufactured in the East or West. The "Malay Handicrafts Centre" on Mountbatten Road (F5) is a treasure trove for souvenir hunters. The silver work — handmade by Malay craftsmen trained in the art from generation to generation — can be obtained for as little as M\$ 3, and the "Kain Songket" (Malayan brocade) — silk with delicate patterns woven in gold or silver thread — can be bought from M\$ 60 and upwards. Other popular buys include jade figures, Chinese embroideries, porcelain, Chinese antiques and jewelry. Cultured pearls from Japan are also reasonably priced. There is a fine selection of elaborate sarongs, basketwork, fine wooden carvings, Malay Kris which make a very fine souvenir, and magnificent Persian carpets at "Bokhara House" in Batu Road (F3). Chinese gold and jade can be bought from any of the numerous jewelers in High Street (F8).

Remember that in the East bargaining is part of the fun of buying and it is expected in all the local shops. The shops in Kuala Lumpur are normally open from 8 AM to 6 PM.



## Tipping

Tipping is much the same as in other countries. In restaurants you usually tip 10% of the bill's value. In the hotel, tip the room boy and all others who give service, the amount is entirely left to your discretion. The cost of room service ranges up to M\$ 5.00. Taxi drivers expect a tip of about 10% of the fare. Tip porters at the airport and the railway station 50 cents per piece of luggage. Lift attendants would appreciate 20 cents per day.



## Transportation

You can travel anywhere by taxi. The standard charge is 40 cents a mile for taxis. If more than two people use a taxi, an extra charge of 10 cents per person on the whole journey is charged. A rate card should be displayed in each taxi. You will find that many of the taxi drivers speak enough English to understand you. Bus services are also quite efficient, and for a little local color you might like to try a *trishaw*.

## Public Holidays

Shops and offices will normally be closed on *New Year's Day*, *Chinese New Year*, *Hari Raya Puasa*, *Good Friday*, *Saturday following Good Friday*, *Birthday of H. M. The Yang Di-Pertuan Agong* (Supreme Head of State), *Hari Raya Haji*, *First Day of Muharam* (Mohammedan calendar), *Wesak Day*, *Hari Kemerdekaan* (Independence Day 31st August), *Birthday of Prophet Mohammed*, *Deepavali* (Indian New Year) and *Christmas Day*. It is not possible to give exact dates as most of the holidays are reckoned by the use of Chinese, Indian or Mohammedan lunar calendars.



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Third Edition

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