



Sample Itinerary

UniGO Malaysia

Malaysia is famous for bustling cities, world heritage towns and stunning coastal areas. Kuala Lumpur, one of the fastest growing cities in Asia, dazzles with the iconic Petronas Twin Towers, sleek shopping centres and bustling street markets. Malaysia's vibrant cuisine reflects its multicultural population and history. From pristine beaches at Langkawi to the breathtaking views of the rainforest at Penang Hill, it is no surprise the country remains a top destination for travellers.

Did you know: The Taman Negara rainforest in Malaysia is one of the oldest rainforests in the world!

Overview

Please note that activities and locations on this itinerary are indicative and may change.

You will meet and collaborate with local partners and immerse yourself in key sustainability projects. There will be visits to Sekinchan and Selangor Nature Park, where you'll embark on a boat cruise to explore the breathtaking scenery. You'll get to enjoy some rest and relaxation on the shores of Langkawi Island, known for its crystal waters and velvety sands. And there'll be educational tours and opportunities to visit waterfalls that add colour to the Island's lush terrain.

Pre- departure preparation

You'll participate in comprehensive pre-trip preparation in November and December that will include briefings, workshops and online learning about health and wellbeing, risks and safety, insurance, cultural awareness, language (optional but highly recommended) and behavioural and academic expectations. The pre-departure workshops will introduce you to key perspectives on environmental sustainability and our local, national and global challenges.

Study tour

You'll travel in groups of 30 accompanied by University of Tasmania academics and Australian Volunteers International (AVI) staff member.

During your 18-day trip, you'll explore the themes of sustainable tourism, sustainable food systems, climate change and adaptation and natural resource management. Flying in to and out of Kuala Lumpur, you will also visit the islands of Penang and Langkawi.

Kuala Lumpur (KL)

In Malaysia's first city you will be introduced to the socio-political, cultural and historical context of the country. You will participate in curated and guided visits to significant cultural and historical sites and there will also be time for sight-seeing.



Penang

Dubbed the culinary capital of Malaysia, you'll be able to enjoy a mixture of traditional Malay, Chinese and Indian cuisines as well as fusions of Chinese and Malay cooking featuring regional ingredients. You'll also visit Georgetown, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2008 due to its unique blend of historical colonial architecture. You'll have time to discover its famous street art and visit a number of historical settlements, including Clan Jetties, Chinese villages built on stilts over the water, as well as temples and mansions.

Langkawi Island

After a ferry ride you'll spend four days in the popular tourist destination of Langkawi. Known for its stunning beaches and lush landscapes, you'll participate in guided tours to the Seven Wells waterfalls and rainforest, an eco-workshop at community-driven education centre Kansha Life and a visit to the Kubang Badak Mangrove Reserve. As well as visits to social enterprises to learn more about marine animals, you'll have some rest and relaxation time where you can take your pick - swim, snorkel or snooze at one of Langkawi's beaches.

Our partner Universities

Engagement with local University partners is a focal point of the trip and interactions include formal learning opportunities, such as seminars and lectures, as well as immersive learning via field visits to research sites. You'll visit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) campus in Penang.

Engaging with local students, you'll participate in learning activities around organic rice farming, flood control management and protecting coastlines. You will also experience campus life through walking and cycling tours, as well as visiting local attractions. With USM students you will visit and stay at Kuala Selangor Nature Park, where you'll take a river cruise and bask in the bioluminescence of thousands of fireflies. You may even see monkeys or macaques.

Our community and not-for-profit partners

You'll visit a diverse range of environmental sustainability initiatives delivered by not-for-profit and community groups and, wherever possible, we will introduce you to University of Tasmania Alumni and Australian volunteers working in-country.

Your study tour will conclude with a final celebration event where you will share your learning and reflections, experience cultural activities and, of course, enjoy a final shared meal together.