

C A T A I R B O O K I N G C E N T E R

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Dear Friends:

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYA --- The 465-mile-long peninsula that is Malaya extends from the southeast end of the continent of Asia to the island of Singapore, with which it is connected by a causeway at the southern tip. Its capital is Kuala Lumpur, known locally as K. L., a fascinating city with a population of almost 400,000, and still too-little known to most of the rest of the world. That condition is rapidly changing, however, according to the Pacific Area Travel Association, for travelers are now finding this unspoiled country and stopping over here en route to such cities as Bangkok or Manila, which going to or from Singapore.

The countryside is a lushly green tropical wonderland of mountains, fine beaches and wild jungles, and there are many cultures such as Malay, Chinese, European, Indian, Indonesian and Middle Eastern. The people have preserved their own customs, traditional festivals, culture, native dress and food, and all of this makes Malaya an exciting travel experience.

The Chinese are among the world's best cooks, and a Chinese dinner at the fabulous Merlin Hotel in K. L. is a culinary treat to be remembered. At this fine hotel, that has all the comforts of the famed Mark Hopkins in San Francisco, or the elegance of the Fairmont Hotel in that same west coast city, real Chinese food is prepared, from shark fin soup to roast suckling pig, all of which leads a dinner to suspect that the Biblical manna from heaven must have been eaten from Kuala Lumpur.

Do not omit a visit to Le Coq d'Or, a splendid restaurant not far from the Merlin Hotel, and which ranks with the greatest in the world. The Federal Hotel here has its great Mandarin Palace room with outstanding cuisine that is also memorable.

Although this is not a predominantly Christian country, with its share of Hindus, Buddhists and other religions, there are enough Christians to fill the churches on Sundays. From the open doors of an Anglican Church (Episcopal) of St. Mary's, the Moorish towers of the Government Buildings can be seen rising above the edifice like minarets, with a Florentine tower between them. There are also many modern structures here, in one of the most interesting blends of East and West travelers will ever see.

English is taught in the schools in Malaya and everyone speaks it. The soft-spoken people of this country would rarely dream of lapsing into their own language if guests were conversing in English on a subject they did not know; instead, these good people may choose a subject among themselves, but they will do it in English so the others will never feel ignored and can join in at any time.

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Once out of town, rides can be taken on roads that skirt the picturesque jungles. In Malaya's National Park, as well as in the forested mountains, rhinoceros, elephants, tapir, deer, Malayan wild ox and many other animals roam. In reaching any of these, one will also pass numerous tin and rubber plantations for here is the world's richest source of those commodities.

For the more adventurous, there's big game hunting. Because of the density of the tropical forests, this can present more of a problem than the animals, but there are State Game Wardens to render advice and assistance, and guides, porters and trackers can be rented by the day for very little. There are no huge barren wastes in Malaya, but about 75 per cent of the country is still jungle. The variety of plant and animal life found here is perhaps unequalled in any area of a comparable size anywhere in the world.

The weather, of course, is tropical. There are no extremely high temperatures although days are warm and slightly humid, but it cools off at night. The climate changes very little throughout the year.

About a century ago, Kuala Lumpur barely existed in a collection of palm leaf huts on the confluence of the Gombak and the Klang Rivers. But it has boomed since then and now it's a fine place to be at any time of the year. This city has a definite personality of its own; it is unique in that it does not really remind the visitor of any other place.

If you are planning a trip to KUALA LUMPUR or elsewhere, why not call the CAT AIR BOOKING CENTER. We will be happy to help you arrange for your travel and hotel reservations. Our office is conveniently located in downtown Saigon, and office hours are as follows:

Monday through Friday : 8:00-12:30 and 2:30-6:00
Saturdays : 8:00-12:00 and 2:30-5:30
Sundays and Holidays by appointment at your convenience.

If you wish, a member of our staff will be pleased to call on you at your convenience, either at your office or at your home. We want to help you in every possible way to have an enjoyable trip!

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Clyde W. Bauer
Manager

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16, Duong Tu Do
Saigon

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