

THE KUALA LUMPUR CITY IN MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

Sarajevo delegation to the largest universities in Malaysia, The University of Science Malaysia and University Malaya (UM). The aim of the visit was to get to know the system of higher education in Malaysia, through direct insight into several universities. Malaysia is known as a country that, after gaining independence (1957), made rapid and enormous progress in every respect, where dedication to higher education was one of the most significant driving forces of development. The road from Sarajevo to Kuala Lumpur led through Istanbul and Beirut. After the University of Sarajevo delegation arrived at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang, they continued their journey by plane to George Town (Penang) to Penang International Airport (PIA), from where they transferred by car, accompanied by their hosts, to hotel which is an integral part of The University of Science Malaysia. The working part of the visit to the university (Universiti Sains Malaysia) took place the next day (November 5, 2007), when the delegation from the University of Sarajevo met with the management of Universiti Sains Malaysia and the deans of all its faculties. All members of both delegations presented their faculties, and below specified possible forms of cooperation. After the official meeting of the two delegations, the University of Sarajevo delegation visited Muzium & Galeri Tuanku Fauziah. After the visit to Penang, the delegation from the University of Sarajevo flew to Kuala Lumpur. According to the previously established protocol, the delegation stayed at the luxurious Prince Hotel & Residence. The next day (November 6, 2007), a delegation from the University of Sarajevo participated in the GHEF Global Forum 2007, where many major universities from around the world presented themselves with their study programs and opportunities for international cooperation. The next two days (November 7 and 8, 2007) were dedicated to getting to know the city of Kuala Lumpur, including a tour of the rainforest (located in the city itself). A visit to the Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia and the University of Malaya was organized on November 9, 2007. The Minister of Education in the Government of Malaysia introduced the delegation of the University of Sarajevo to the details of the higher education system in Malaysia, "revealing the secret" of its success and the success of Malaysia as a whole, since the acquisition of its independence (1957) until then. At the University of Malaya, the two rectors and all the deans presented the universities and their faculties, visited the lecture halls, workshops and laboratories and thus got to know the work system of this university. Various forms of cooperation have been agreed upon, including the exchange of academic staff and students (primarily PhD students). Subsequently, the University of Sarajevo delegation visited the Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Mosque.

KEYWORDS: Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Synergy of natural environment, social environment and man.

1. INTRODUCTION

The author's visit to Malaysia took place (November 3-7, 2007) as part of the official visit of the University of Sarajevo delegation to the largest universities in Malaysia, The University of Science Malaysia and University Malaya (UM). The aim of the visit was to get to know the system of higher education in Malaysia, through direct insight into several universities (Figures 1-8). The author's visit to Malaysia enriched the file of his theory "Defining Architectural Space (ADS)" and initiated the creation of a large number of his books and scientific papers^[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12, 13,14,15,16,17,18].



Figure 1. Map of Malaysia. (The places the Author visited are marked with red squares)

Source: Hadrovic, A. (2018). Architecture in the travelogues of an architect. Book 3: The Asia, Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo, Sarajevo, pp. 103 – 211



Figure 2. Author at Sepang Kuala Lumpur International Airport

Source: Prof. Dr Fruk Mekic (November 4, 2007)



Figure 3. Author at Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang
Source: Jasmina Isakovic (November 5, 2007)



Figure 4. Author (far right) at Prince Hotel & Residence
Source: Prof. Dr Faruk Mekic (November 5, 2007)



Figure 5. The author (far left) at the 2007 GHEF Global Forum in Kuala Lumpur
Source: Prof. Dr Samir Arnavutovic (November 6, 2007)



Figure 6. Author visiting Petronas Twin Towers
Source: Prof. Dr Faruk Mekic (November 7, 2007)



Figure 7. Author visiting the Ministry of Higher Education in the Government of Malaysia and University Malaya (UM)

Source: Prof. Dr Faruk Mekic (November 9, 2007)



Figure 8. Author visiting Universiti Sains Malaysia Museum and Gallery

Source: Prof. Dr Faruk Mekic (November 6, 2007)

Kuala Lumpur is a city (with a population of about 1,982,112, 2020) ^[19] and the Federal Territory of Malaysia (Malay: Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur), as an enclave in the state of Selangor and its capital. It is located in the Klang Valley, an urban agglomeration with about 7.3 million inhabitants, the fastest growing territory in Southeast Asia, both in terms of population and economy (Geographic coordinates: 3°09'32.93"N, 101°42'38.47"E, Elevation: 39 m), (Figure 9). Kuala Lumpur is the financial and economic center of Malaysia and the seat of the Malaysian Parliament, while the seat of government (since 1999) is in the city of Putrajaya. Three of the world's ten largest centers are located in Kuala Lumpur, and it ranks 70th out of the top 100 economically strongest cities in the world. According to the city safety index (for the year 2017), Kuala Lumpur is ranked 31st in the world. The name of the city "Kuala Lumpur" is derived from the words "kuala" (meaning "place where two rivers meet") and "lumpur" (meaning "mud"). Put together, these two words can be translated as "mud depression". According to other interpretations, Kuala Lumpur got its name from the river Sungai Lumpur ("muddy river") in whose valley at the beginning of the 19th century there was a settlement (Sungai Lumpur) known for the production of clay dishes. It is not known precisely who founded Kuala Lumpur when. Chinese miners engaged (in the middle of the 19th century) in mining (exploitation of tin ore) along the Selangor River, about 16 km away from today's Kuala Lumpur, while at the same time Sumatrans engaged in tin mining around the settlement of Ulu Klang, in the upper reaches of the Klang River. Today it is generally accepted that the city of Kuala Lumpur was founded in 1857, when the Malachite chief of Klang, Raja Abdullah bin Raja Jaafar, with the help of his brother Raja Juma'at of Lukut, raised funds from Chinese entrepreneurs to open a new tin mine in Ampang as would employ Chinese workers from Lukut in it. The location of today's Kuala Lumpur is the end point of the navigability of the Klang River, so it was a suitable place to arrange a settlement for the miners working in Ampang. The opening of the mine in Ampang proved to be a very effective investment, so already in 1859 this mine began to export significant quantities of tin ore, which was a decisive factor for the development of the Kuala Lumpur settlement. Soon, traders (among them Hiu Siew and Yap Ah Sze) arrive in the settlement, who buy tin ore, which will be the generator of the development of the city's urban structure, where the Old Market Square (Malaysian: Medan Pasar) was first formed, and then the residential part of the settlement along Kuala Road Lumpur-Ampang.

The lucrative trade in tin ore soon led to the formation of clans that fought for dominance in the trade of this ore, which led to the establishment of the institution "Kapitan Cina" ("Chinese leader"). The first Kapitan (1858-1861) was the Chinese merchant Hiu Siew who was elected as the first Kapitan of Kuala Lumpur. The third Chinese captain in Kuala Lumpur was Yap Ah Loy (1837-1885), appointed in 1868. Along with the Chinese captains, among the most important figures in the early development of Kuala Lumpur was Haji Mohamed Tahir who became Dato Dagang ("head of merchants"). An important role was also played by merchants from Sumatra (Minangkabau merchants), especially the merchant Haji Mohamed Taib and qadis (judges) Utsman bin Abdullah, the first judge in Kuala Lumpur and Muhammed Nur bin Ismail. The physical structures of the early settlement of Kuala Lumpur were built of wood and a wooden skeleton filled with earth. These structures had little resistance to fire, so they often perished. In the early stages of development, due to the disorderly sewage system, Kuala Lumpur suffered from frequent disease epidemics. The frequent flooding of the Klang River was a latent danger to the city and its residents. The city was also shaken by clan conflicts over the dominance of the tin ore trade. The Chinese Kapitan Yap Ah Loy allied himself with Tengku Kudin against the clan led by Raja Mahdi, on whose side stood the powerful merchants Raja Asal and Sutan Puasa. Clan conflicts led to a real war in Kuala Lumpur when the city (1872) was set on fire. On that occasion, Yap fled to Klang to regroup his forces there and again (1873) conquered Kuala Lumpur with the help of his followers from Pahang. Riots, disease epidemics and the drop in the price of tin led to a slowdown in the development of Kuala Lumpur until 1879. Captain Yap, together with Frank Swettenham, the colonial representative of Great Britain in Kuala Lumpur, opened the modern era of Kuala Lumpur's development, based on the European tradition of city planning from the end of the 19th century.

The capital of the state of Selangor was moved from Klang (1880) to Kuala Lumpur, which was an important turning point in its further development. William Bloomfield Douglas (1822-1906), representative-resident of Great Britain in the area of Kuala Lumpur, decides to build new government buildings west of the Klang River, at the Bukit Aman site. At Padang (now Merdeka Square), he arranged the police headquarters and the headquarters of the British administration, in the building of Sultan Abdul Samad (1897). The British resident in Kuala Lumpur, Frank Swettenham (1850-1946), began serious planning of the city, where the construction of urban infrastructure and the regulation (1884) on the construction of brick buildings (to reduce the risk of fire) were of particular importance. At the same time, Kapitan Yap Ah Loy buys real estate near the city where he installs mass production of bricks (Brickfields).

Brick, as a new material appropriate to the European building tradition, implies a new architecture that was fundamentally eclectic, a mixture of European and Southeast Asian architecture. New roads are being built from the tin mines in Ampang to Kuala Lumpur, which will be the development routes of today's Ampang Road, Pudu Road and Petaling Street. At this time, the first school and mill in Petaling Street (owned by Selangor's Sultan Abdul Samad) were built in Kuala Lumpur. A significant infrastructure project was the establishment (1886) of the Kuala Lumpur-Klang railway. These activities led to an accelerated growth in the population of Kuala Lumpur, from 4,500 (1884) to 20,000 (1890). In Kuala Lumpur (1890), a Sanitary Commission (which later grew into the Kuala Lumpur Municipal Council) was established, whose task was to maintain the cleanliness of city streets, waste disposal, street lighting... Kuala Lumpur was (1896) chosen as the capital of the newly formed states, the Federation of Malay States. At the beginning of the 20th century, Kuala Lumpur expanded spatially, from 0.65 km² (1895) to 20 km² (1903), and this expansion became even more intense from the middle of the 20th century, from 93 km² (1948) to 243 km² (1974). After the exploitation of tin ore, which initiated the creation of the city of Kuala Lumpur, at the beginning of the 20th century, rubber production was the main driving force of the city's development. The rubber industry was primarily developed by the automobile industry. The new industry required a large workforce, which encouraged the immigration of a new population to Kuala Lumpur. The population grew from 30,000 inhabitants (1900) to 80,000 inhabitants (1920). During World War II, Kuala Lumpur was occupied (1942) by the Japanese. It was a difficult period for many of its inhabitants, especially for Chinese and Indians, who ended up as captive labor in Japanese production plants.

At the end of the war (after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with atomic bombs), the commander of the Japanese Seventh Area Army in Singapore and Malaysia, Seishirō Itagaki, handed over the city (August 15, 1945) to the British administration. Immediately after the end of World War 2, Kuala Lumpur was the site of an uprising by communist forces (under the direct influence of the Chinese state), but these uprisings ended in failure and quick democratic elections for power. The former state of the Federation of Malaysia gained independence from Great Britain on August 31, 1957, and the solemn ceremony of declaring independence was held at the historic Merdeka Square. (The first prime minister of independent Malaysia was Tunku Abdul Rahman, 1903-1990). The Federation of Malaysia was reorganized into today's state of Malaysia on September 16, 1963, and Kuala Lumpur was designated as its capital. In the sixties of the 20th century, there were tensions between the largest ethnic group in Malaysia, the Malays, and the until then most influential Chinese ethnic group, and the reason was that the Malays, although the most numerous people, felt like second-class residents in Malaysia. The strong economic development of Kuala Lumpur has helped calm these conflicts, while gaining a more prominent position for the Malays in social decision-making in Malaysia. Kuala Lumpur received the status of a city in 1972, and the status of a federal unit of the complex structure of the state of Malaysia in 1974.

Kuala Lumpur ceased to be the capital of the state of Selangor (1978) when the city of Shah Alam took over that role. The nearby city of Putrajaya was (February 1, 2001) declared a federal unit to which the government of Malaysia was moved, while the state parliament and some judicial institutions and the seat of the supreme symbol of power, the Constitutional King (Malay: Yang di-Pertuan Agong) remained in Kuala Lumpur. Kuala Lumpur is the most advanced and economically fastest growing region in Malaysia. Despite the relocation of the Malaysian government to the city of Putrajaya, some federal administrative institutions remain in the city: the parliament, some courts and the Yang di-Pertuan Agong. The city is home to the headquarters of the National

Bank of Malaysia (Bank Negara Malaysia), the Malaysian Companies Commission, the Malaysian Securities Commission, the Malaysian Exchange, embassies and diplomatic missions of foreign countries. Kuala Lumpur is the financial center of the country (with many branches of the world's largest banks), the center of insurance institutions (including the world's largest insurance companies), headquarters of branches of the world's largest corporations, real estate transactions, sales centers (there are 66 shopping centers in Kuala Lumpur), media and arts of Malaysia. It is a global city with a developed transport infrastructure that is connected to a functional network: Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Klang Port, railway-metro, highways...

Kuala Lumpur is the center of the most developed network of universities and scientific research institutes (among the world-famous institutes are: Malaysia Rubber Research Institute, Malaysia Forest Research Institute and Medical Research Institute), among which are numerous foreign universities. Higher education is considered the strongest driving force behind the development of Kuala Lumpur and Malaysia as a whole. In the modern city of Kuala Lumpur, tourism has recently become an important economic branch. Kuala Lumpur is the sixth most visited city in the world in terms of the number of tourists who visit it annually (about nine million tourists). The existence of branches of many global corporations, banks and insurance companies and the attractiveness of the city as a tourist destination generated the construction of a large number of hotels, most of them of a high level of luxury. Hotel Majestic is one of the oldest hotels in the city, and one of its iconic places. According to Malaysian Government statistics, Kuala Lumpur has a literacy rate of 97.5% (2000 data), which is the highest rate in the country. Malay is the primary language in the country, and English is a compulsory subject at all levels of education. At some faculties (science and mathematics disciplines), classes are taught in English. Some schools offer the possibility of learning Mandarin and Tamil. There are 136 kindergartens, 155 primary schools, 79 secondary schools and 13 universities and colleges in Kuala Lumpur.

Some schools have a tradition of more than 100 years: Bukit Bintang Girls' School (founded 1893), Victoria Institute (1893), Methodist School for Girls (1896), Methodist School for Boys (1897), Bukit Nanas Convent (1899), Institution of St. John (1904), Confucian Private High School (1906), Kuen Cheng High School (1908) and Tsun Jin High School (1913). The ethnic structure of the city of Kuala Lumpur (2010) consisted of: Malays (44.7%), Chinese (43.2%), Indians (10.3%), other Bumiputra (1.2%) and various ethnic groups (0.6%). Recently, there has been a noticeable trend of foreigners arriving in Kuala Lumpur, which is a consequence of the need for labor. Among the new immigrants, the most numerous are those from: Indonesia, Nepal, Burma, Thailand, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Vietnam, many of whom entered illegally. Religious representation in Kuala Lumpur has the following structure: Islam (46.4 %), Buddhism (35.7 %), Hinduism (8.5 %), Christianity (5.8 %), unknown (1.4 %), Chinese ethnic religion (1.1 %), other religions (0.6 %) and no religion (0.5 %). Bahasa Malaysia is the main language in Kuala Lumpur. The second most important is the English language, which is represented at all levels of education and in everyday life.

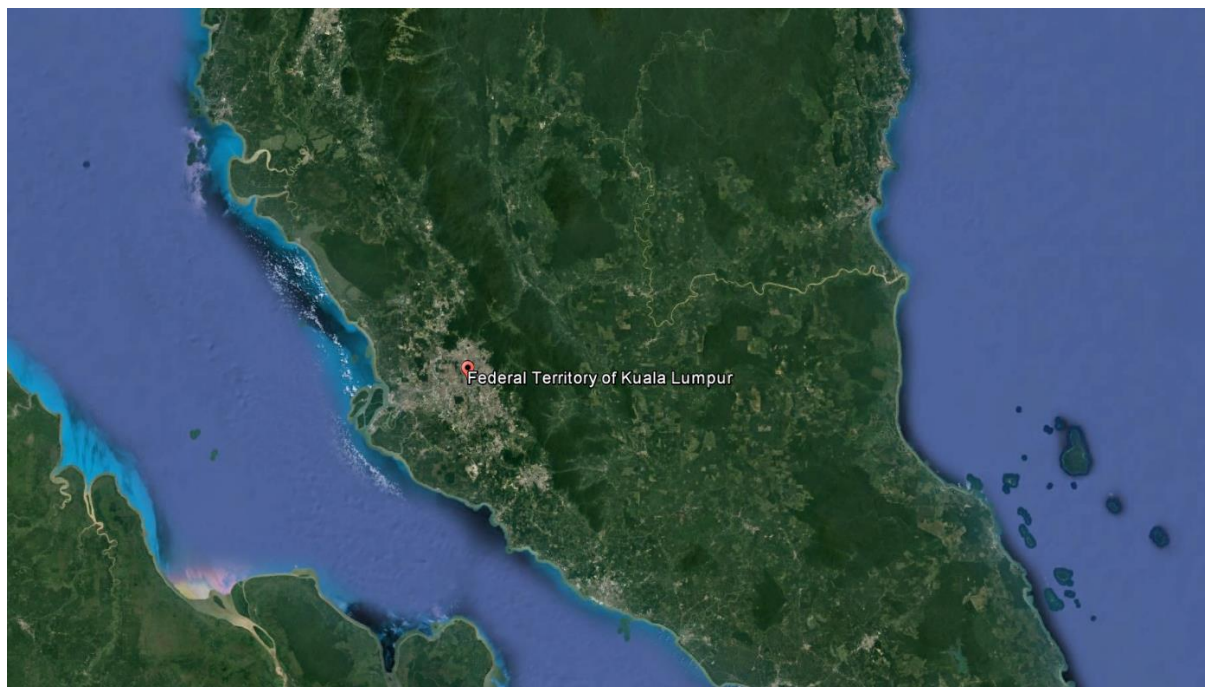


Figure 9. Kuala Lumpur. Location

Source: Google Earth. Accessed: December 9, 2023.

2. NATURAL RESOURCES AND SIGHTS

Kuala Lumpur's greatest natural resource is its fertile plains and vast tropical rainforests (which have grown into the urban fabric of the modern city). These riches are the result of the geographical location of Kuala Lumpur in the tropical belt, which is characterized by the climate of tropical rain forests (type Af, according to the Köppen climate classification) ^[20]. Temperatures are uniform throughout the year (and range between 32 °C and 35 °C, sometimes up to 40 °C, never below 14.4 °C), with the fact that the period from October to March is the time of the northeast monsoon winds that bring abundant rain. Annual rainfall in Kuala Lumpur is about 2600 mm/m². Although June and July are considered the dry period of the year, the amount of precipitation in these months is about 131 mm/m². The area of Kuala Lumpur is protected from strong monsoon blows by the forested elevations of the Titiwangsa Range, in the east, and the Indonesian island of Sumatra, in the west. The consequences of heavy rainfall are frequent floods, and defense against them is constantly being improved, especially in the city center. One of the unpleasant phenomena in the city of Kuala Lumpur is the frequent smoky air above the city, which is a consequence of the frequent fires that occur on the Indonesian island of Sumatra. The plains around Kuala Lumpur are suitable for growing grains and vegetables characteristic of Southeast Asia. Forests are the source of a wide range of goods, where wood and rubber are the most important.

3. ARCHITECTURAL CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE

The architectural and other cultural and historical heritage of Kuala Lumpur is rich and diverse. It bears witness to the history of the city, from its creation to the present day. In addition to the architectural heritage that still serves its purpose today, numerous museums in Kuala Lumpur bear witness to other dimensions of its history with their exhibited exhibits. The architecture of Kuala Lumpur is a mixture of old colonial influences (Mughal, Neoclassicism, Neo-Gothic, Greco-Spanish style, Neo-Palladian style...), Asian traditions, Malay Islamic inspirations, modern and post-modern architecture and contemporary, highly sophisticated architecture. The English architect Arthur Benison Hubback (1871-1948), who designed many important buildings, is of great importance for the architecture of Kuala Lumpur's colonial period. The present-day city of Kuala Lumpur is divided into urban districts that function as administrative units: Bukit Bintang, Titiwangsa, Setiawangsa, Wangsa Maju, Batu, Kepong, Segambut, Lembah Pantai, Seputeh, Bandar Tun Razak and Cheras (Figure 10).



Figure 10. Kuala Lumpur

Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/yamanibrahim/8186312553>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Petaling Street/Chinatown (Malay: Jalan Petaling) is a historical Chinatown in Kuala Lumpur, formed during the period of Kuala Lumpur's founding. The neighborhood is a typical Chinese city business structure with a large number of restaurants (with typical Chinese cuisine, as well as those with Malay and Indian cuisine) and shops of various types of goods. One of the attractions of this district is the Reggae Bar Chinatown (Figure 11).



Figure 11. Peteling Street/Chinatown

Source: <https://says.com/my/news/foreign-touristsand-local-tour-guides-staying-away-frompetaling-street-chinatown-kl>

Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://tourvacationworld.blogspot.com/2011/07/chinese-villagein-city-petaling-street.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Merdeka Square/literally: "Independence Square" (Malay: Dataran Merdeka) is a historical place in Kuala Lumpur. It is located in front of the Sultan Abdul Samad building. It was previously known as Klub Padang Selangor or simply "Padang" (meaning "field"). It used to serve as the cricket ground of the Selangor Club (now the Royal Selangor Club). In this square, the independence of the Federation of Malaya (today the state of Malaysia) from the colonial administration of Great Britain was proclaimed (August 31, 1957). Since then, the annual Merdeka (National Day Parade) award ceremonies have been held in this square (Figure 12).



Figure 12. Merdeka Square

Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/26849514@N06/30155841891>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Kuala Lumpur Railway Station (Malay: Rail transit station) was built (1910) according to the project of the English architect Arthur Benison Hubback (1871-1948) on the site of an earlier, old railway station built in 1886, along the road Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin. The architecture of the construction of the railway station is a mixture of Southeast Asian and European architectural styles (Figure 13).



Figure 13. The Kuala Lumpur Railway Station

Source: <https://www.travel3sixty.com/kuala-lumpur-railway-station/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.kuala-lumpur.ws/attractions/kl-railway-station.htm>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Majestic Hotel is a historic building located on Jalan Sultan Hisamuddin on the shores of Lake Gardens, opposite the Kuala Lumpur Railway Station. The hotel was built (1932) by Loke Wan Tho (1915-1964), the youngest son of the famous businessman Loke Yew (1846-1917), according to the project of the firm Keys and Dowdeswell. The architecture of this hotel is a hybrid, a mixture of Beaux-Arts and Art Deco styles. The hotel was remodeled over time and is now considered a luxury destination in Kuala Lumpur (Figure 14).



Figure 14. The Majestic Hotel

Source: <https://www.flyin.com/property/malaysia/kuala-lumpur/hotel-majestic-kualalumpur.ar.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.kenwoodtravel.co.uk/fareast/malaysia/kuala-lumpur/the-majestichotel-kuala-lumpur-hotel/> Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Sultan Abdul Samad Jamek Mosque. The word "Jamek" is the Malay term for "mosque" (Arabic: جامع). (Jawi: مسجد جامع سلطان عبدالصمد, Malay: Masjid Jamek Sultan Abdul Samad) is one of the oldest mosques in Kuala Lumpur (Figure 15). The mosque is located at the confluence of the Gombak River with the Klang River, with access from Jalan Tun Perak. The mosque was built (1907-1909) by Sultan Abdul Samad (Abdul Samad of Selangor, 1804-1898), according to the project of the English architect Arthur Benison Hubbac (1871-1948).





Figure 15. Sultan Abdul Samad Jamek (mosque)

Source: <https://www.trover.com/d/1oK0T-masjidjamek-kuala-lumpur-malaysia>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.malaysia.travel/en/my/places/states-of-malaysia/kuala-lumpur/jamek-mosque>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.terrageria.com/asia/malaysia/kuala-lumpur/picture.mala48663.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Bukit Bintang is a shopping and entertainment district along Jalan Bukit Bintang and its surroundings in Kuala Lumpur. It is the most famous retail strip in Kuala Lumpur with a large number of restaurants, cafes and night bars. The area is a favorite place for young people, both local and foreign, who visit it as tourists (Figure 16).



Figure 16. Bukit Bintang

Source: <http://www.malaysiamaps.com/kl/bukitbintang-map.htm>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Kuala Lumpur Tower (Malay: Menara Kuala Lumpur) is a communication tower built (1991-1995) in Kuala Lumpur, according to the project of the architectural firm Kumpulan Senireka Sdn. Bhd. With its height of 421 meters, it is the seventh tallest free-standing tower in the world. There is a rotating restaurant on the tower with a panoramic view of the city. The tower hosts an annual stair race from the bottom to the top of the tower. The tower also serves as an astronomical station from where the changes of the moon are observed, especially during the holy month of Ramadan (Figure 17).



Figure 17. Kuala Lumpur Tower

Source: <https://imgur.com/gallery/ViRKEIZ>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Cathedral of St John The Evangelist is the central Catholic church in Kuala Lumpur. The church was built (1954-1955, consecrated in 1962) on the site of an earlier built (1883) church, in the Bukit Nanas neighborhood of Kuala Lumpur, not far from the Kuala Lumpur Tower. The stained glass windows (with scenes from the Gospel) were made in Paris. On the entrance facade of the cathedral are two powerful towers, and a huge rosette that threatens the axis of symmetry of the central prayer space. Seen as a whole, the design of the church relies on the simplicity of Romanesque buildings, while the colorful rosette on its entrance facade and the design of the stained-glass windows are reminiscent of the Gothic (Figure 18).



Figure 18. The Cathedral of St John The Evangelist

Source:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/30/St._John%27s_Cathedral%2C_Kuala_Lumpur.jpg

Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Carcosa Seri Negara is a luxury hotel located in the Perdana Botanical Gardens, along Jalan Kebun Bunga in Kuala Lumpur. The complex consists of two colonial mansions, Carcosa and Seri Negara, which were originally the residence of the British colonial administration in Malaysia. The complex was built (1896-1897) according

to the project of the English architect Arthur Benison Hubback (1871-1948). The complex was built in the Tudor-style neo-Gothic style (Figure 19).



Figure 19. Carcosa Seri Negara

Source: <https://www.temptingplaces.com/boutiquehotel/asia/malaysia/kuala-lumpur/carcosaseri-negara/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

University of Malaya, UM (Malay: Universiti Malaya) is the oldest university in Malaysia, founded in 1949. The university has its roots in Singapore, when the King Edward VII Medical Faculty (1841-1910) was founded (1905). The headquarters of the Autonomous University of Malaya has been in Kuala Lumpur since 1962. The university has 12 faculties, two academies and three centers. About 22,000 students study at the university and are educated by 2,500 teachers^[21]. According to the QS World University Rankings (2017), the University of Malaya was ranked 133rd in the world, (2018) 114th, and 70th in 2023^[22] (Figure 20).



Figure 20. University of Malaya (UM)

Source: <https://qswownews.com/um-universityrankings/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

There are other universities in Kuala Lumpur: Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TARUC), UCSI University (UCSI), Taylor University (TULC), University of Kuala Lumpur (UniKL), Wawasan Open University (WOU), HELP University and branch campus of National University of Malaysia (UKM) and University of Technology Malaysia (UTM). The National Defense University of Malaysia is located in the Sungai Besi military base, in the southern part of Kuala Lumpur. This institution covers studies in the field of Army, Navy and Air Force. There are several international universities in Kuala Lumpur: Monash University in Malaysia, University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus and Xiamen University in Malaysia. The National Art Gallery of Malaysia (Malay: Balai Seni Visual Negara) is located on Jalan Temerloh, in a park with an area of 5.6 hectares. The gallery is a place of Malaysian art excellence. The architecture of the gallery includes elements of traditional Malay architecture and elements of contemporary world architecture. The gallery was originally founded in

1958, when it was opened by Tunku Abdul Rahman, the first prime minister of the independent state of Malaysia (Figure 21).

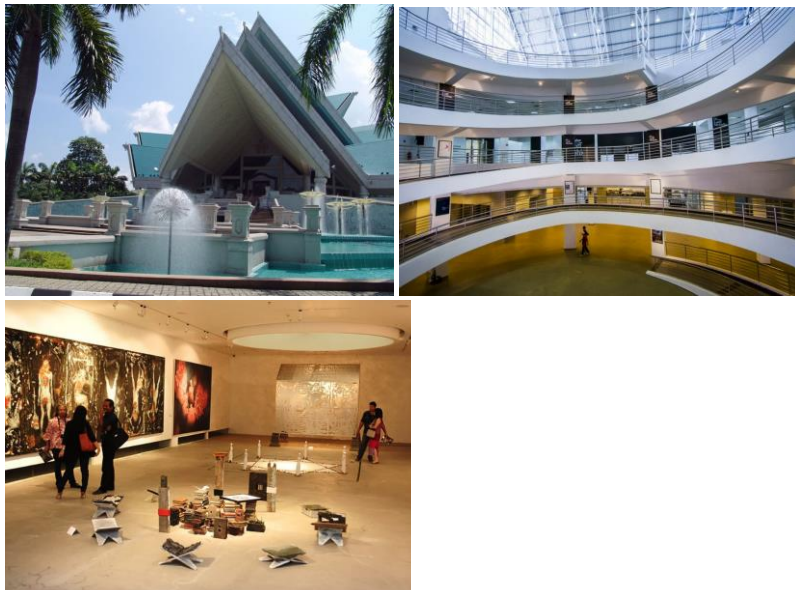


Figure 21. The National Art Gallery of Malaysia (Malay: Balai Seni Visual Negara)

Source: <https://www.afar.com/places/national-visualarts-gallery-kuala-lumpur>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur (Malay: Stadium Negara) is an indoor arena built (1960-1962) and renovated (1982). The arena is located next to Merdeka Stadium, about 2 km from the center of Kuala Lumpur. The capacity of the arena is 10,000 seats for spectators. The impressive dome, in its design, resembles the sports hall in Rome built (1956-1957) according to the project of Pier Luigi Nervi (1891-1979) for the needs of the Olympic Games held in 1960 (Figure 22).



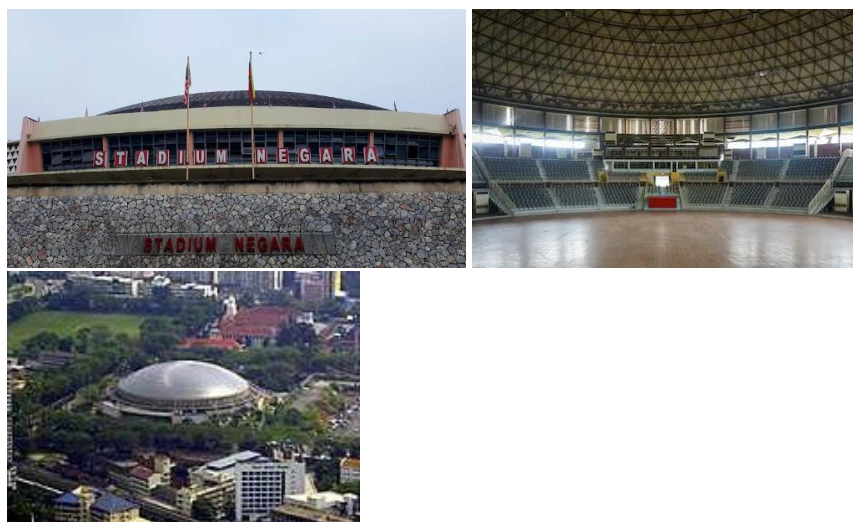


Figure 22. The National Stadium in Kuala Lumpur (Malay: Stadium Negara)

Source: <https://vn.smarttravelapp.com/poi/17611/Stadium-Merdeka.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: https://www.tripadvisor.in/Attraction_Review-g298570-d10250624-Reviews-Stadium_Negara-Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.shutterstock.com/search/old+sports+stadium>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Malaysian Houses of Parliament (Malay: Bangunan Parlimen Malaysia) is located by Lake Gardens in Kuala Lumpur. The building was built (1959-1963) on the initiative of the first prime minister of the modern state of the Federation of Malaya (later Malaysia), Tunku Abdul Rahman (1903-1990), according to the project of the English architect Ivor Shipley in collaboration with the Malaysian Public Works Department, JKR. The building complex of the Parliament of Malaysia consists of three ground-floor buildings and one 20-story solitaire whose height is 77 m. The ground-floor parts of the building house the Dewan Rakyat (House of Representatives) and Dewan Negara (Senate) halls, while the solitaire houses offices. The Malaysian Parliament building was built at a time when the seat of the Malaysian government was in Kuala Lumpur. After the government moved to Putrajaya in the 1990s, the parliament and some court offices still remained here (Figure 23).



Figure 23. The Malaysian Houses of Parliament (Malay: Bangunan Parlimen Malaysia)

Source: <https://www.allnumis.com/postcardscatalog/malaysia/kuala-lumpur/kuala-lumpurparliament-house-29866>

Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The National Museum (Malay: Muzium Negara) is located in Jalan Damansara in Kuala Lumpur, close to the Perdana Lake Gardens. The museum exhibits exhibits that testify to the history and culture of Malaysia. The museum building was built (1963) in the architectural style known as Rumah Gadang, in which the characteristics of Malay traditional architecture and modern architecture are visible. The museum building is a three-story building with dimensions of 109.70 m x 15.10 m. Exhibits related to the ethnology and nature of Malaysia are exhibited in the four main galleries of the museum (Figure 24).



Figure 24. The National Museum (Malay: Muzium Negara)

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-41ufRqyLg>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://travelguide.easybook.com/destinations/malaysia/national-museum-kuala-lumpur/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The National Mosque of Malaysia (Malay: Masjid Negara Malaysia) was built (1963-1965) as one of the symbols of the sovereign state of Malaysia, according to the project of architects Howard Ashley, Hisham Albakria and Dato Baharuddin Abu Kassim. The mosque can host 15,000 worshipers at prayer, and it is located in a spacious park of 13 hectares. It was built in reinforced concrete, which at the time symbolized strength and durability. The central place in the roof of the mosque is occupied by a transparent dome, which by its design (derived from folds) is reminiscent of an umbrella, a trademark of the tropical rainy regions of the Earth. The

minaret of the mosque is 73 m high. In the design of this mosque, you can notice the signs of indigenous Malaysian architecture and modern architecture that was practiced, at that time, all over the world. The National Monument (Malay: Tugu Negara, English: National Monument) is a sculpture dedicated to all those who gave their lives in the struggle for the freedom of Malaysia and its people during the Second World War and the struggle in the period from 1948 to 1960. The monument is located in the immediate vicinity of the building of the Parliament of Malaysia (Figure 25). The monument was built (1966) according to the design of the Austrian-American sculptor Felix de Weldon (1907-2003) as the highest free-standing bronze sculptural composition. Next to this monument every year (July 31, on Warrior's Day) the highest officials of the state of Malaysia (Yang di-Pertuan Agong, prime minister, army and police chiefs) gather and pay respect to the fighters for Malaysia by laying flowers.

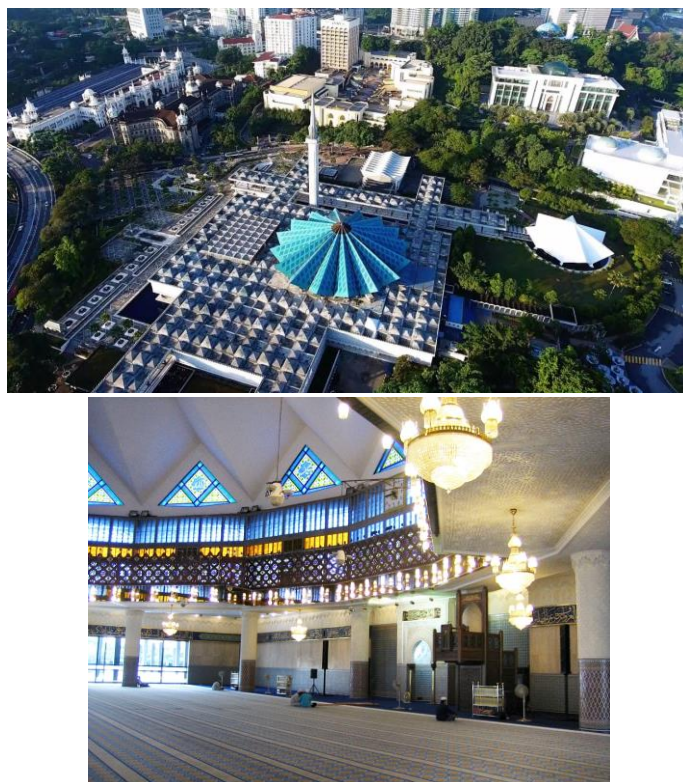


Figure 25. The National Mosque of Malaysia (Malay: Masjid Negara Malaysia)

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2Gy2bzUqwY>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://kualalumpur.attractionsinmalaysia.com/National-Mosque.php>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Sri Mahamariamman Temple is the oldest Hindu temple in Kuala Lumpur. It was built (1873) in Jalan Bandar, a once important street in Kuala Lumpur. The present temple was built in 1968. Htram is famous for its central tower (Raja Gopuram) built in the style of South Indian temples. The temple was the central place of the Indians-the first inhabitants of Kuala Lumpur, and the new temple is a symbol of the existence of a relatively large Indian community in this city (Figure 26).

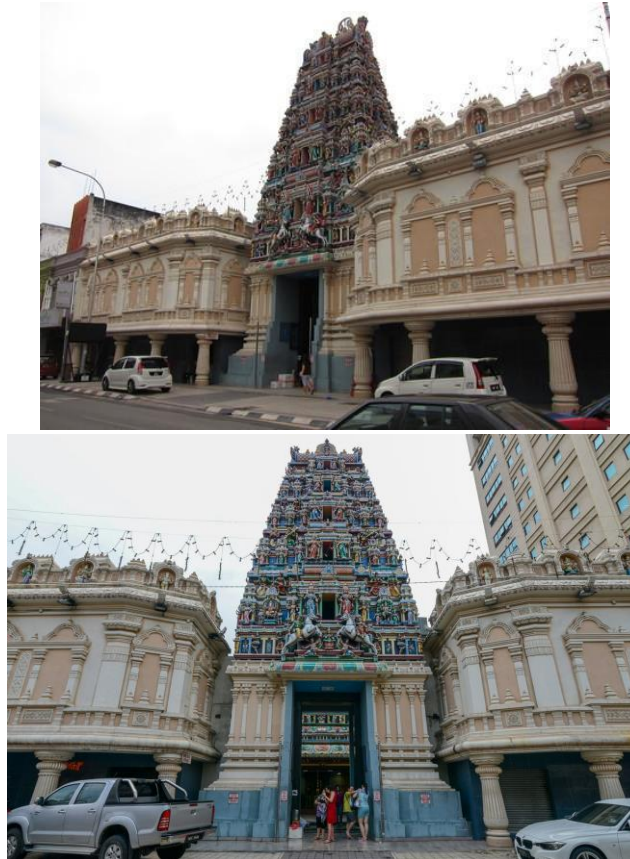


Figure 26. Sri Mahamariamman Temple

Source: <https://www.skyscanner.net/trip/kualalumpur/things-to-do/sri-mahamariammanhindu-temple>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sri_Mahamariamman_Temple,_Kuala_Lumpur, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Dayabumi Complex (Malay: Kompleks Dayabumi) is a commercial complex with one of the oldest skyscrapers in Kuala Lumpur. It is a well-known landmark in the image of the city. The complex was built (1981-1984) according to the project of Arkitek MAA and BEP Architects, on the site of the former railway workshops, on the banks of the Klang River in Kuala Lumpur. The building was originally built by the Urban Development Authority of Malaysia (UDA) before being taken over (2005) by KLCC Properties Holdings Berhad (KLCCP), a member of the Petronas Group. The complex has a usable area of 150,682 m² developed through 35 floors, and its height is 157 m. The architecture of the complex is in the style of postmodernism (Figure 27).



Figure 27. Dayabumi Complex (Malay: Kompleks Dayabumi)

Source: <https://www.klikhotel.com/en/booking/dayabumi-complex-kul.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://wikimapia.org/3512735/Menara-Dayabumi>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.arkitekmaa.com/works/architecture/office/daya-bumi>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Maybank Tower (Malay: Menara Maybank) is a skyscraper located in Pudu, Kuala Lumpur. The tower was built (1984-1987) according to the project of architectural firms Hijjas Kasturi Associates and Taisei Construction Co. With a height of 244 m, this tower was the tallest building in Kuala Lumpur, until the construction of the Petronas Twin Towers (1998). The Maybank Numismatic Museum is arranged within this building. The strong physical structure of the Maybank Tower was made in the postmodern style, characteristic of the time of its construction (Figure 28).



Figure 28. Maybank Tower

Source: <http://www.skyscrapercenter.com/building/menara-maybank/946>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mentarymerah/26455836551>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Thean Hou Temple (Malay: Tokong Thean Hou) is a temple built (1987-1989) in Kuala Lumpur, in honor of the Chinese goddess Mazu. The temple is located in a park of 1.67 hectares, at the top of Robson Heights, on Lorong Bellamy, overlooking Jalan Syed Putra. The temple was built in the style of classical Chinese architecture appropriate to this architectural content (Figure 29).



Figure 29. Thean Hou Temple (Malay: Tokong Thean Hou)

Source: http://abckualalumpur.com/info_guide/kl_tianhou.html, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298570-d457134-i76278112-Thean_Hou_Temple-Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Kuala Lumpur Bird Park (Malay: Taman Burung Kuala Lumpur) is a park-public cage that covers an area of 20.9 hectares. The park is located next to the lake in KL Park, Bukit Aman, near the National Mosque and the Royal Malaysian Police Museum. More than 3,000 birds (more than 200 species) are housed in the park-cage, of which 90% are domestic birds, and the rest are imported from Australia, China, the Netherlands, Indonesia, New Guinea, Tanzania and Thailand. The park was opened in 1991 (Figure 30).





Figure 30. Kuala Lumpur Bird Park (Malay: Taman Burung Kuala Lumpur)

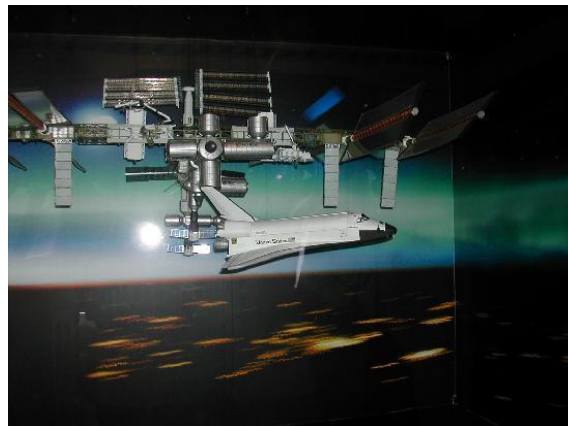
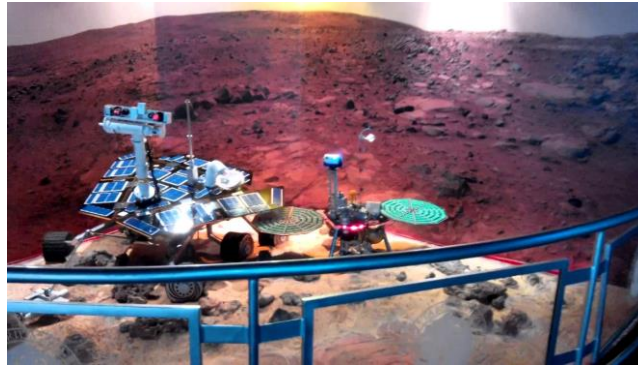
Source: [https://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298570-d455105-i75910179-Kuala_Lumpur_Bird_Park-](https://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298570-d455105-i75910179-Kuala_Lumpur_Bird_Park-Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html)

[Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298570-d455105-i75910179-Kuala_Lumpur_Bird_Park-Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html), Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://asiamarvels.com/insights-of-kualalumpur-bird-park/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.wazariwazir.com/2014/05/31/family-outing-school-holidays-at-kuala-lumpurbird-park/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The National Planetarium (Malay: Planetarium Negara) is located on top of a hill in Lake Gardens, Jalan Perdana, Kuala Lumpur. The facility was built (1990-1993) in a park with an area of 120,000 m², and is intended for scientific research within the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment in the Government of Malaysia. The architecture of this building inherits the value of Malay national architecture and the value of world architecture of its time (Figure 31).



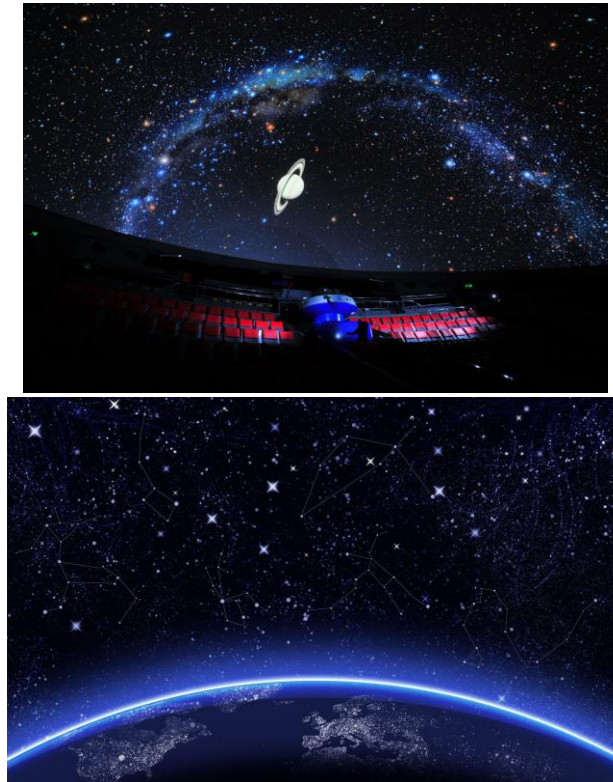


Figure 31. The National Planetarium (Malay: Planetarium Negara)

Source: <http://www.kualalumpur.ws/attractions/nationalplanetarium.htm>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: [https://www.tripadvisor.ie/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298570-d456592-i24215668-](https://www.tripadvisor.ie/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298570-d456592-i24215668-National_Planetarium-Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html)

[National_Planetarium-Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html](https://www.tripadvisor.ie/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298570-d456592-i24215668-National_Planetarium-Kuala_Lumpur_Wilayah_Persekutuan.html), Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://ptzgovorit.ru/news/otkrytiekrupneyshego-v-mire-planetariya-vpeterburge-perenesli>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://klcityguideme.wordpress.com/2015/04/06/national-planetarium/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EbktAt3kNxA>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The LRT Ampang Line and the LRT Sri Petaling Line are railway lines in the Klang River Valley with semi-automatic trains. The line is 45.10 km long and has 36 stations. This line (introduced in 1996) has made the movement of people and goods in the Klang River Valley particularly efficient (Figure 32).



Figure 32. LRT Ampang Line and LRT Sri Petaling Line

Source: <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/malaysia/kuala-lumpur/travel-tips-and-articles/kualalumpur-for-free-exploring-malaysias-capitalon-a-tight-budget/40625c8c-8a11-5710-a052-1479d27604d5>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://sujihyoghostwriter.wordpress.com/2017/12/22/naik-lrt-ke-uitm-shah-alam/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Kuala Lumpur International Airport, KLIA (Malay: Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur) is the largest airport in Malaysia and one of the largest in Southeast Asia. (In 2017, KLIA had a traffic of 5,855,4627 passengers and 710,186 tons of cargo, ranking it 23rd in the world). The airport is located in the Sepang district of Selangor, about 45 kilometers south of Kuala Lumpur city center. The main airline operator of this airport is Malaysia Airlines (MAHB) Sepang Sdn Bhd, and it is the main airport for MASKargo, AirAsia, AirAsia X,

Malindo Air, flyGlobal, UPS Airlines and AsiaCargo Express. The KLIA airport was built (1993) according to the project of the Japanese architect Kisho Kurokawa (1934-2007), who in the design of the passenger terminal applied recognizable motifs of the Malaysian natural environment (Malaysian tropical rainforest) in a contemporary (then postmodernist) way (Figure 33).

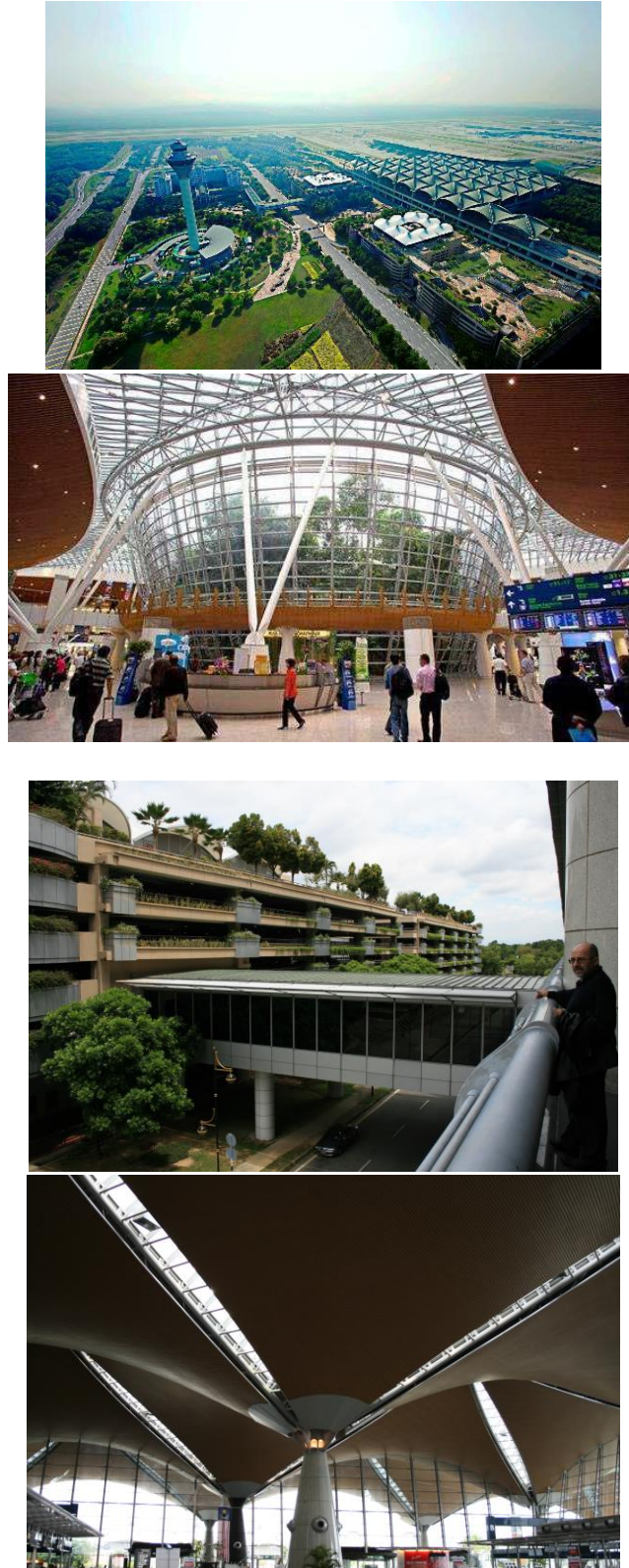


Figure 33. Kuala Lumpur International Airport, KLIA (Malay: Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur)

Source: https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g298314-i132021399-Sepang_Sepang_District_Selangor.html

Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.mailife.com.fj/fijian-womanheld-in-malaysia-over-160kmethampethamine-find/>,
Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: Prof. Dr Fruk Mekic (November 4, 2007)

Source: Author (November 4, 2007)

Prince Hotel & Residence is one of the many luxury (five star) hotels in Kuala Lumpur. The hotel is located in the city center, about 1.9 km from the Petronas Twin Towers and about 550 m from the Rajah Chulan MRT station. The hotel was built in 1997 and renovated in 2010. The hotel building has 29 floors, with 448 rooms and many facilities that give it a high category ^[23] (Figure 34).



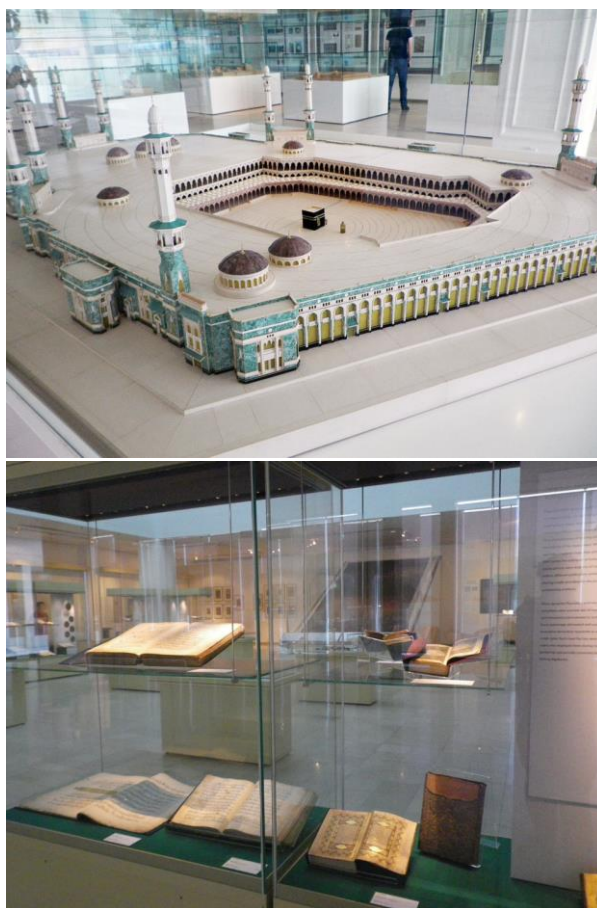
Celebration of the Hindu Festival of Lights Diwali/Deepavali at Prince Hotel & Residence

Figure 34. Prince Hotel & Residence

Source: http://www.tripswonder.com/Hotels/Malaysia/Quicklink_Malaysia_Kuala%20Lumpur.html, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.skyscanner.net/trip/kualalumpur/hotels/prince-hotel-residence-kualalumpur>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (Malay: Muzium Kesenian Islam Malaysia) is located in the middle of the Perdana Botanical Garden, not far from the National Mosque, the Bird Park and the National Planetarium, in the central part of Kuala Lumpur. The museum building is a modern designed construction built in 1998. The museum has twelve main galleries (with a total of 30,000 m² of exhibition space) in which exhibits classified into several groups are exhibited: Islamic Architecture Gallery, Quran & Manuscripts Gallery, India Gallery, Chinese Gallery gallery (China), the Gallery of the Old Malay World (Malay World) and the reconstructed Turkish room from the 19th century. On the fourth floor of the museum building there are exhibits of jewellery, textiles, arms and armor, coins and seals, metalwork, ceramics, "life with wood" (Living With Wood) and the use of glass in old Islamic art. The museum has over seven thousand artefacts, which makes it the largest museum of Islamic art in Southeast Asia (Figure 35).



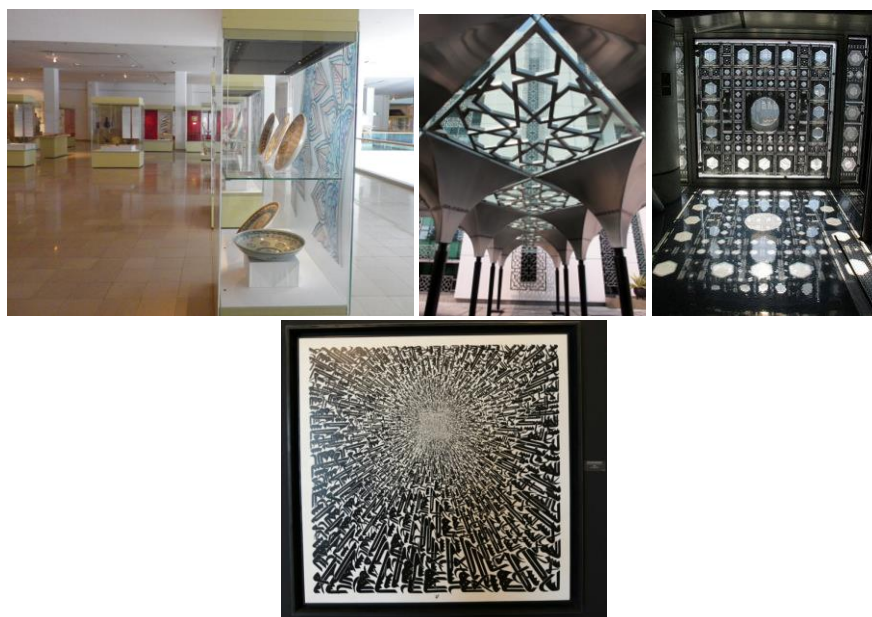


Figure 35. Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (Malay: Muzium Kesenian Islam Malaysia)

Source: <https://culture360.asef.org/magazine/malaysia-focuses-islamic-art-southeast-asia>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://www.weekendnotes.com/islamic-artsmuseum/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Pasar Seni Station LRT/MRT (Malay: Pasar Seni) is an integrated rapid transit station in Kuala Lumpur served by the Sungai Buloh-Kajang line. The station was named after the nearby Central Market (Pasar Seni/ Art Market) near Petaling Chinatown. It is about 400 m from the main train station in Kuala Lumpur, on the other bank of the Klang River. It was opened in 1998 (Figure 36).



Figure 36. The Pasar Seni Station LRT/MRT (Malay: Pasar Seni)

Source: <http://www.klia2.info/rail/rapidkl-lrt/kelanajaya-line/pasar-seni>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Petronas Twin Towers (Malay: Menara Petronas/Menara Berkembar Petronas) are two identical skyscrapers in Kuala Lumpur built (1993-1999) according to the project of Argentinian-American architect César Pelli (1926-). In the period from their construction until 2004, they were the tallest skyscrapers in the world (451.9 m). Each of the skyscrapers has 88 above-ground and five underground floors with a total usable area of 395,000 m². Each of the skyscrapers has 44 elevators. Tower One is fully covered by the needs of Petronas and several of its subsidiaries and associated companies, while Tower Two is rented to many well-known global companies: Huawei Technologies, AVEVA, Al Jazeera English, Carigali Hess, Bloomberg, Boeing, IBM, Khazanah Nasional Berhad, McKinsey and Co, WIPRO Limited, TCS, HCL Technologies, Krawler, Microsoft Agency and Reuters (Figures 37,38,39).



Figure 37. The Petronas Twin Towers (Malay: Menara Petronas/Menara Berkembar Petronas)

Source: <http://rohi.af/fullstory.php?id=61405>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.



View of Petronas Twin Towers from Jalan Ampang

Figure 38. Petronas Twin Towers

Source: Prof. Dr Faruk Mekic (November 6, 2007)

Source: Author (November 6, 2007)

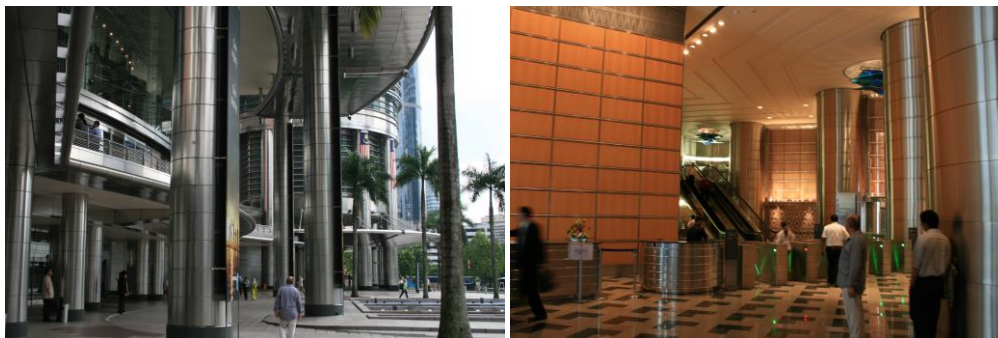


Figure 39. The author visits the Petronas Towers
Source: Prof. Dr Faruk Mekic (November 6, 2007)

The Petronas Philharmonic Hall (Malay: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas) is located in the Petronas Twin Towers. Malayan Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO), which consists of musicians from all over the world and has regular concerts, chamber concerts and traditional cultural performances. Guests here were: New York Philharmony, Philadelphia Orchestra, BBC Symphony and Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. The design of the Petronas Philharmonic (designed by architect Cesar Pelli) was inspired by the traditional form ("shoe box") of European music halls of the 19th century. The capacity of the hall is 920 seats (on an area of 197 m²), including corporate suites and a royal suite (Figure 40).



Figure 40. The Petronas Philharmonic Hall (Malay: Dewan Filharmonik Petronas)
Source: http://www.kochanovsky.ru/en/event/malaziyskiy_filarmonicheskiy_orkestr_2017-03-04.html,
Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Center (KLPAc) in Sentul West and the Damansara Performing Arts Center (DPac) in Damansara Perdana are two of the most prominent centers for dramatic and performing arts (theatre shows, music and film screenings). It hosted many local productions and supported local and regional independent performance artists (Figure 41).



Figure 41. Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Center (KLPAc)

Source: <https://www.timeout.com/kualalumpur/theatre/kuala-lumpur-performing-artscentre-klpac>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

KLCC Park (Malay: Taman KLCC) is part of the Petronas Twin Towers complex as a place of greenery and water areas that gives a humane atmosphere to the sophisticated and huge structure of the Petronas Twin Towers. The park was designed by the Brazilian landscape architect, Roberto Burle Marx (1909-1994). The park was conceived as an exhibition of the heritage of tropical plants in which a contemporary architectural structure is integrated. The park integrates 1,900 native trees and a large number of shrubs and herbaceous plants, with lots of water (smaller and larger lakes and a fountain with jets of water 60 m high). The park functions as an original natural space that is a habitat for many birds and other animals (Figure 42).

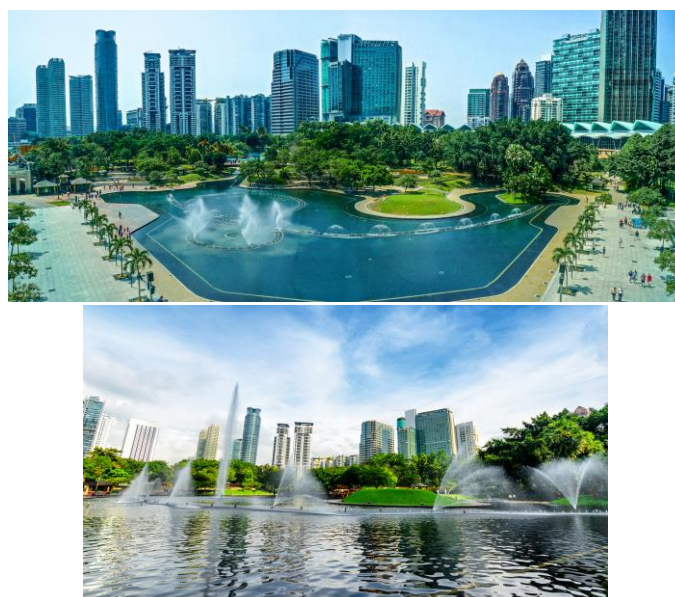


Figure 42. KLCC Park (Malay: Taman KLCC)

Source: <https://asiaculture.info/places-to-see/klccpark-in-kuala-lumpur.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Major parks in Kuala Lumpur include: ASEAN Sculpture Garden, KLCC Park, Titiwangsa Lake Gardens, Kepong Lake, Forest Research Institute of Malaysia, Taman Tasik Permaisuri, Bukit Kiara Botanical Garden, Equestrian Park and West Valley Park near TTDI and International Park Bukit Jalil. There are three forest reserves in the city of Kuala Lumpur: Bukit Nanas in the city center (the oldest forest reserve in the country with an area of 10.52 hectares), Bukit Sungai Putih with an area of 7.41 hectares) and Bukit Sungai Besi Reserve with an area of 42.11 hectares (Figure 43) .



Figure 43. Bukit Nanas

Source: <http://www.tripcanvas.com/bukit-nanasforest-reserve/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Putra Indoor Stadium (Malay: Stadium Putra), also known as Axiata Arena (due to its sponsorship with Axiata Group Berhad) is located in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur. The arena was built (1998) with a capacity of 14,425 spectators. In addition to sports competitions, the arena is a place for holding music concerts and various gatherings. This arena was later renamed Kuala Lumpur Sports City (KLSC) and reconstructed (2017) according to the project of Populous and RSP Architects (Figure 44).



Figure 44. Putra Indoor Stadium (Malay: Stadium Putra)

Source: <http://english.astroawani.com/sportsphotos/kuala-lumpur-2017-venue-4498/axiata-arena-44940>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Bukit Jalil National Stadium (Malay: Stadium Nasional Bukit Jalil) is located in Bukit Jalil, south of downtown Kuala Lumpur. It is a multipurpose stadium with a capacity of 87,411 seats for spectators. The stadium is part of the United Engineers Malaysia National Sports Complex. The stadium was built (1998) according to the project

of Arkitek FAA, Weidleplan Consulting GMBH and Schlaich Bergermann Partner. The concept and design of this stadium follows the most modern stadiums in the modern world (in everything according to FIFA standards). The stadium was renovated in 2017 (Figure 45).



Figure 45. Bukit Jalil National Stadium (Malay: Stadium Nasional Bukit Jalil)

Source: <https://www.star2.com/travel/malaysia/2015/10/10/malaysia-courting-fans-through-sporttourism/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Sepang International Circuit (Malay: Litaran Antarabangsa Sepang) is one of the modern facilities (located in the state of Selangor) that represents Malaysia as a developed country in the world. The prestigious Formula 1 (Formula One Malaysian Grand Prix), A1 Grand Prix and Grand Prix Grand Prix races are held on this track. The track was built (1997-1999) with a capacity of 100,000 spectators. It has become a powerful generator of tourism development in the city of Kuala Lumpur. Since 2015, the Kuala Lumpur City Grand Prix car race has been held on this track (Figure 46).



General view of the track



Central tribune on the track

Figure 46. Sepang International Circuit (Malay: Litaran Antarabangsa Sepang)

Source: <http://milanday.it/it/92-prima-pagina/4373-motogp-via-la-gran-premio-di-sepang>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://malaysiaintellectual.blogspot.com/2010/04/sepang-f1-circuit.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The International Medical University, IMU (Malay: Universiti Perubatan Antarabangsa) continues the tradition of the International Medical College. It is a private university founded in 1992 (acquired university status in 1999) as a leading medical university in Malaysia (teaching is conducted in English). The university is a

subsidiary of IHH Healthcare, the largest private healthcare institution in Asia, owned by Khazanah, the Malaysian sovereign wealth fund. The university closely cooperates with a large number of renowned medical faculties (universities) from Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, Ireland and China. The main campus of IMU is located in Bukit Jalil (Figure 47).



Figure 47. The International Medical University, IMU (Malay: Universiti Perubatan Antarabangsa)

Source: <http://www.imu.edu.my/imu/campuslife/accommodation/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.imu.edu.my/imu/campuslife/virtual-tours/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Telekom Tower/TM Tower (Malay: Menara Telekom) is a skyscraper located in Lembah Pantai, along the Federal Expressway Sprint Expressway and Jalan Pantai Baharu, in the southwest part of Kuala Lumpur. The building has 77 floors, with a total height of 310 m. The building was built (2003) according to the project of the architectural firm Hijjas Kasturi Associates. In terms of its design, this building resembles the Telecommunication Tower in Montevideo (2002), and the Bitexco Tower in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam was built (2010) based on its design. This facility is a highly sophisticated construction, designed and built according to modern principles of sustainable design in the world. This facility includes a theater that can accommodate 2,500 spectators, a spacious prayer area and a sports hall. As part of the physical structure of the building, 22 open green doors (skygardens) are arranged, which alternate on every three floors (Figure 48).



Figure 48. Telekom Tower/TM Tower (Malay: Menara Telekom)

Source: <http://www.klccofficespace.my/property/telekom-tower/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Kuala Lumpur Convention Center, KLCC (Malay: Pusat Konvensyen Kuala Lumpur) is intended for holding conferences, exhibitions, various seminars, entertainment gatherings... The center has a useful area of 22659 m², including two auditoriums (Plenary Hall with 3000 seats and Plenary Theater with 470 places). There is also a large dining hall (with 2,000 seats), a banquet hall, three conference halls, six exhibition halls, 23 meeting rooms... The building was built in 2003 according to the project of Cox Architects & Partners in cooperation with Akitek Jururancang Malaysia (Figure 49).



Figure 49. Kuala Lumpur Convention Center, KLCC (Malay: Pusat Konvensyen Kuala Lumpur)
Source: <http://www.meetingmediagroup.com/article/we-can-i-can-kuala-lumpur-conventioncentre-can>,
Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://idea-intl.com/exhibits/exhibitnews/malaysia-kuala-lumpur-conventioncentre-enjoys-a-decade-of-successfuloperation/attachment/kuala-lumpurconvention-centre>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The National Palace Malaysia (Malay: Istana Negara Malaysia) is the official residence of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, the monarch of Malaysia. It is located along Jalan Tuanku Abdul Halima Street in Segambut, in the northwest part of Kuala Lumpur. Today's palace was built (2007-2011) by the Malaysian Public Works Department and Kumpulan Seni Reka Sdn. Bhd., when it replaced an earlier palace located in the central part of Kuala Lumpur. The palace complex has an area of 97.65 hectares. The palace building has three segments: formal, royal and administrative. Elements of national Malaysian architecture are visible in the design of the palace, especially in the design of the domes (Figure 50).



Location in the city

Entrance gate



The square in front of the palace

Figure 50. The National Palace Malaysia (Malay: Istana Negara Malaysia)

Source: <http://cheapmalaysiatour.blogspot.com/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.kualalumpur.ws/attractions/istana-negara.htm>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.wazariwazir.com/2013/06/01/photography-assignment-the-yang-di-pertuanagong-official-birthday-celebration/>

Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Suria KLCC is a shopping mall located next to the Petronas Twin Towers. This is the largest and most luxurious shopping center in Kuala Lumpur, part of the Petronas Twin Towers complex. The part of the center in the hinterland of the Petronas Twin Towers is oriented towards the KLCC Park, Lake Symphony and the outdoor swimming pool between the parks and the mall. The floor plan of the center is in the shape of the letter "L", where at the intersection of the two arms there is a particularly attractive space with a metal-glass dome. In this center, the world's most famous brands have their sales premises (Figure 51).



Entrance from Jalan Ampang



Entrance from KLCC Park



Entrance from Jalan Ampang



Central metal and glass dome



Author at Suria KLCC (right)

Figure 51. Suria KLCC

Source: Prof. Dr Izet Radjo (November 6, 2007)

In addition to Suria KLCC, in Kuala Lumpur, the city's Bukit Bintang district has a large concentration of shopping malls: Pavilion, Fahrenheit 88, Plaza Low Yat, Berjaya Times Square, Lot 10, BB Plaza, Sungei Wang Plaza and Quill City Mall. The Changkat area of Bukit Bintang hosts many cafes, alfresco restaurants... Bangsar district also has several shopping complexes, including Bangsar Village, Bangsar Shopping Center and Mid Valley Megamall. Apart from shopping complexes, the city of Kuala Lumpur has designated a number of zones in the city as markets for locally produced products such as textiles, fabrics and handicrafts. Aquaria KLCC is an oceanarium located under the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center in Kuala Lumpur. Aquaria KLCC was built (2003-2005) as a habitat for more than 5,000 aquatic and terrestrial animals (more than 250 different species) from Malaysia and around the world, on an area of about 60,000 m². Next to this oceanarium, there is a themed sales center with an area of about 4,000 m². The concept of the oceanarium is based on the "journey of water from the land to the sea" that starts from the foggy plateaus and continues down the rivers, through the rainforests and mangroves to the coral reefs in the deep sea (Figure 52).

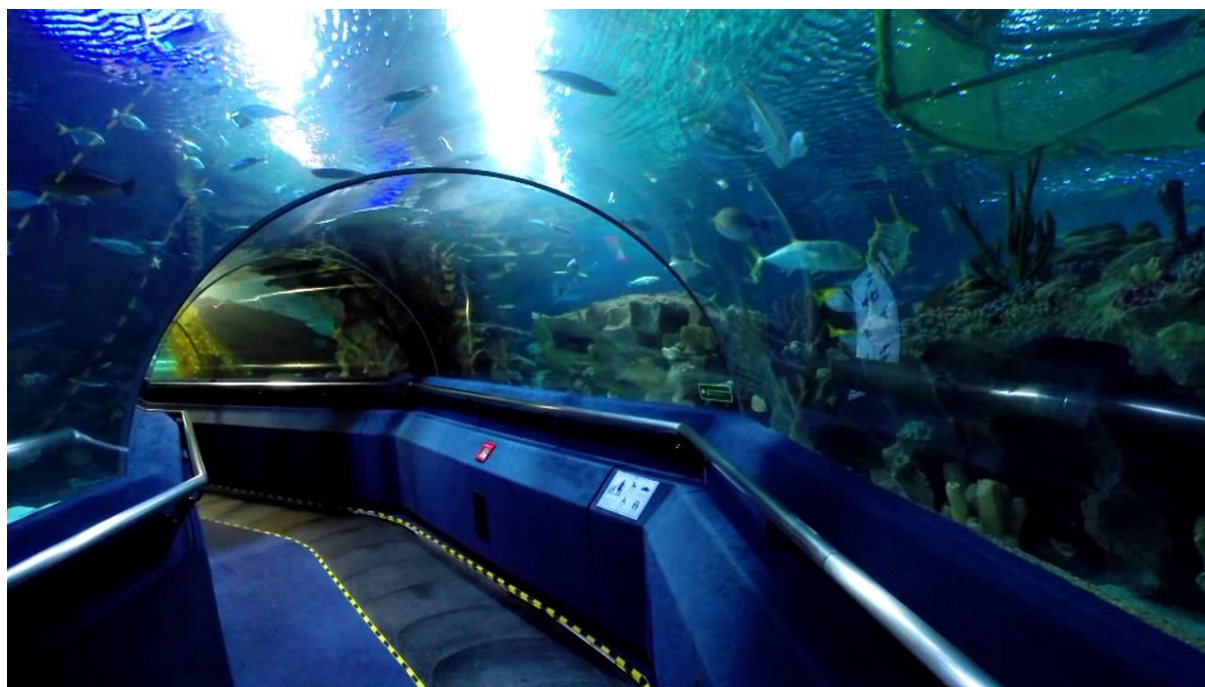


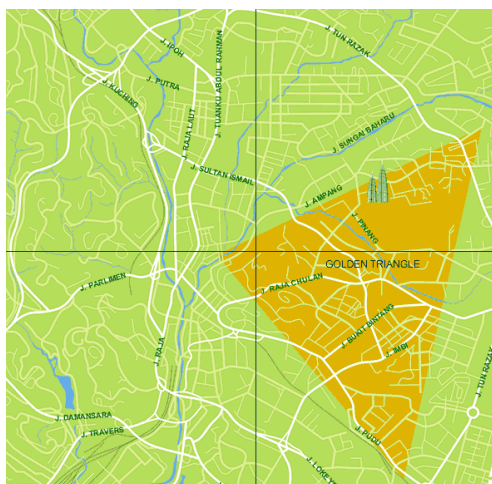
Figure 52. Aquaria KLCC

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kiESyGtsUus>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://portofino-ristorante.com/aquaria-klcc/>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <https://travel.sygic.com/en/poi/aquaria-klccpoi:20719>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

The Golden Triangle (Malay: Segitiga Emas) is the very center of Kuala Lumpur framed by three streets: Jalan Imbi, Jalan Sultan Ismail and Jalan Raja Chulan (Figure 53). Tall buildings and high-world-ranked shopping centers are located here. The famous Bukit Bintang Street shopping district is located within this area as well as smaller centers, well-known and very visited in Kuala Lumpur: Low Yat Plaza, Sungai Wang Plaza, Lot 10 and Times Square. Many nightclubs, bars and lounges are located here, such as: Marini, Skybar at Traders Hotel, Beach Club, Espanda, Hakka Republic Wine Bar & Restaurant, Hard Rock Cafe, Luna Bar, Nuovo, Rum Jungle, Black Tie, Thai club, club Zion, Zouk...



The Golden Triangle in Kuala Lumpur



Bukit Bintang Street



Bukit Bintang Street

Figure 53. The Golden Triangle (Malay: Segitiga Emas)

Source: <http://write2rest.blogspot.com/2014/07/thehomeless-in-golden-triangle-kuala.html>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: http://mytravel5.com/fr/st_tour/decouvertedes-specialites-culinaires-locales/, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Source: <http://www.kualalumpur.ws/klareas/bukitbintang.htm>, Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Merdeka 118 (formerly known as Menara Warisan Merdeka, KL 118 and PNB 118) is a 118-storey mega-tall skyscraper in Kuala Lumpur. With a height of 678.9 m, it is the second tallest building and structure in the world, behind the Burj Khalifa at 828 m. The name of the building 'Merdeka' means 'independence' in the Malay language and was inspired by the proximity of the Merdeka Stadium. The tower of the building was completed in October 2021, marking its final height of 678.9 m above the ground. It is the tallest building in Malaysia and Southeast Asia. It surpassed the 453.6 m Exchange 106 to become the tallest building in Malaysia and surpassed the 461.2 m Landmark 81 to become the tallest building in Southeast Asia. The building will also be the first in Malaysia to receive a triple platinum rating from global sustainability certifications, including Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) ^[24]. The building is designed with a mixture of diamond-shaped glass facades to signify the diversity of Malaysians. The design was made to resemble and was inspired by Tunku Abdul Rahman's outstretched hand gesture as he sang "Merdeka!" when he declared Malaysia's independence on 31 August 1957. The building will contain 118 shopping mall, grade A offices, hotels and residential areas. The building will be equipped and illuminated at night with 8.4 km of LED lighting strips that would gradually move from one corner to another. Neapoli Group, an environmental design and engineering firm, has been engaged to provide consulting services to achieve a platinum rating from three green building certification bodies: Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), Green Building Index and GreenRE. The building was designed by architects from Fender Katsalidis in association with RSP KL ^[25,26]. The building was completed in 2023, and will be opened in 2024 (Figure 54).



Figure 54. Merdeka skyscraper.

Source: <https://www.dezeen.com/2021/12/13/worlds-second-tallest-skyscraper-merdeka-118-tops-out/>,
Accessed: December 9, 2023.

Exchange 106 (Malay: Menara Exchange 106), formerly known as Signature Tower, is a 453.6 meter high supertall skyscraper in Kuala Lumpur. It is the second tallest building in Malaysia and the third tallest building in Southeast Asia. The 397.3-meter building is topped by an illuminated crown 11 stories high, giving it a total height of 453.6 m^[27]. It is also the second largest skyscraper in Malaysia by area with 453835 m². The tower has a net leasable area of 240,000 square meters (2.6 million square feet). It is also the center of the new Tun Razak Exchange (TRX) financial district^[28]. Exchange 106 is currently the 19th tallest building in the world according to the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) and the second tallest building in Malaysia, surpassing the Petronas Twin Towers by 1.7 meters. Exchange 106 was designed by architects from Mulia Group Architects and Peter Chan (Architect of Record). The construction of Exchange 106 started in May 2016, and its completion is expected at the end of 2023 (Figure 55).



Figure 55. Exchange 106

Source: <https://www.nst.com.my/property/2022/06/808824/rm3bil-has-been-spent-infrastructure-tun-razak-exchange>

Accessed: December 10, 2023.

CONCLUSION

The basis on which the author created his architectural designs, books and scientific works is his doctoral dissertation ^[1], in which he understood architecture as an extremely complex practical-functional, philosophical and artistic activity that summarizes the entire Universe. The author always viewed architecture as a SYSTEM made up of the Environment, Man, Boundaries and Perspectives. At the same time, it was extremely important for the author to get to know the architecture 'on the spot', in its authentic natural and social environment and with the people who created it. Many trips around the world (participation in international scientific conferences and targeted study trips, mainly) have enriched the author's "architecture file". One of such trips was the author's visit to Malaysia (November 3-7, 2007) as part of the official visit of the University of Sarajevo delegation to the largest universities in Malaysia, The University of Science Malaysia and University Malaya (UM). The aim of the visit was to get to know the system of higher education in Malaysia, through direct insight into several universities. Malaysia is known as a country that, after gaining independence (1957), made rapid and enormous progress in every respect, where dedication to higher education was one of the most significant driving forces of development. The visit to George Town (Penang) and Kuala Lumpur was extremely inspiring for the author, not only because he got to know a natural and social environment that is very different from the environment in which he was born and grew up, but also because he realized there that the world is unique a whole where information and knowledge spread at high speed. Simultaneous authenticity and universality is the most important characteristic of architecture.

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