

*Living in*  
**MALAYSIA:**  
*A Guide for Maldivians*



Maldives High Commission  
 Malaysia  
[www.maldives.org.my](http://www.maldives.org.my)

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## **Introduction**

This booklet provides general information on traveling and living in Malaysia. Its main objective is to provide a guideline for Maldivians living or planning to live in Malaysia. The information is based mainly on the areas of Kuala Lumpur and Klang Valley as these are the most popular destinations for Maldivians traveling to Malaysia.

## **Entry to Malaysia**

### **Travel Routes**

There are several routes that you can take when traveling from the Maldives to Malaysia. The most frequently used are Malaysian Airlines, Sri Lankan Airlines (via Colombo) and Singapore Airlines (via Singapore). It would be wise to book in advance if you plan to travel during peak travel seasons such as December and January.

### **KLIA**

Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) is the main entry point for Maldivian nationals traveling to Malaysia. KLIA is one of the largest international airports in the South-East Asia. If your plane arrives at the ‘Satellite building’ the free train will take you to the arrival hall.

If you would like more information about KLIA or if you are intending to shop or transit at the airport, it might be worthwhile to visit KLIA website, [www.klia.com.my](http://www.klia.com.my).

### **Passports**

Maldivian citizens entering Malaysia must possess a passport that is valid for at least 6 months from the date of arrival.

## Visa (Permits to Stay/Passes)

If you are visiting Malaysia for social purposes such as leisure, visiting relatives or to attend meetings, a Social Visit Pass (Visa) will be issued on arrival provided that you meet the following criteria.

- Possess a valid passport or travel document as mentioned above
- Have proof of financial ability to stay in Malaysia
- Have a confirmed return ticket
- You are not a 'prohibited person' under Section 8 of Malaysian Immigration Act

Since January 2008, visitors are not required to fill the disembarkation/embarkation card.

Maldivians may be granted Social Visit Pass extension for an additional month. You will have to make an application in person to the Malaysian Immigration Department in order to justify as to why you need to extend your stay. You will not be required to produce any documents from the High Commission to support your case.

## Customs

You will be required to open your luggage for customs inspection upon request.

Malaysia has strict penalties for drug possession and trafficking. Under Malaysian law, drug trafficking is punishable by death. Any person found to be in possession of 15 grams or more of heroin, 200 grams

### Tips: Further information on Immigration Formalities

The Director General of Immigration  
Headquarters of the Department of Immigration  
(Ministry of Home Affairs)  
Level 1-7 (Podium) Block 2G4,  
Precinct 2, Federal Government  
Administration Centre,  
62550 Putrajaya,  
FEDERAL TERRITORY  
Telephone: 03-88801000  
Fax: 03-88801200

For extension of Business/Social Visit Passes you can also approach the Immigration Department branch in Kuala Lumpur.:

Kuala Lumpur Immigration Office  
Block 1, Level 1-7,  
Pusat Bandar Damansara  
Bukit Damansara  
50550 Kuala Lumpur  
Telephone: 03-20955077  
Fax: 03-20955324

You can also find additional information for foreigners on the Department of Immigration website  
[http://www.imi.gov.my/eng/perkhidmatan/im\\_WargaAsing.asp](http://www.imi.gov.my/eng/perkhidmatan/im_WargaAsing.asp)

or more of cannabis, or 40 grams or more of cocaine is presumed to be a drug trafficker.

You should not carry high frequency radios, firearms or indecent/obscene materials (videotapes, magazines, books, etc)

## Foreign Exchange and Currency

Malaysia's currency is called the Ringgit. A Ringgit is equal to 100 sens. You may find that many Malaysians refer to the Ringgit as 'dollar'. Please ask to clarify any doubt about which currency that is being referred to.

To exchange your foreign currency to Ringgits you can approach any of the banks or foreign currency dealers. There are branches of some banks outside the arrival hall.

Not all banks exchange foreign currency, therefore, ask before queuing. Authorised money changers are available around the city including most shopping malls. Banks would require your passport to exchange currency.

The exchange rate can vary slightly from one outlet to the other. Since the exchange rate is managed by the Bank Negara Malaysia (Central Bank of Malaysia). The rates offered by banks and dealers are generally competitive.

## Getting to KL and other parts of Malaysia

KLIA is approximately 65 kilometers from Kuala Lumpur city centre.

If you are traveling by **taxi**, it is advisable to pay for one at the airport limo service located inside the terminal. (Taxis outside the terminal may cost considerably more.)

### Tips: KLIA website

You can check the latest information about fares from the airport to other destinations on the KLIA website  
<http://www.klia.com.my/> under 'Transportation'.  
The site lists the different modes of transportation available, fares and contact details of various operators.  
The site also lists information on travel to the airport from other destinations.

You can locate the Taxi Counter just after you clear your baggage with customs. As there are different sizes of vehicles available at different rates, make sure that you select the size of vehicle depending on number of the people accompanying you and the number of luggage that you are carrying.

You can also take the **KLIA express, buses or rent a car** from the airport depending on your preference and budget.

## Transportation

### Taxis

Taxis have license plates with a white background and black numerals. All taxis are run on meters. Some taxi drivers choose not to run on meters especially if there is traffic congestion or rain.

### Trains and Buses

Kuala Lumpur is well connected through its light rail transport (LRT) system. Train and bus transport within Kuala Lumpur is relatively cheap. They are popular modes of transport for daily commuters, students, shoppers and tourists. Most public transport will run from early morning to late night. Taxis are difficult to find in some parts of city at late hours.

There are some 'feeder buses' that run free service to main shopping areas from certain destinations. Train services to Singapore and Thailand are also available.\*

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\* If you are traveling out of Malaysia, be sure to take your passport and check visa requirements for that destination. Maldivians do not require prior visa to travel to Singapore or Thailand but conditions such as return air ticket and proof of sufficient funds are still required. Also, if you are on a single entry Social Visit Pass (Visa) in Malaysia you will be required to fulfill the entry requirement when you reenter Malaysia.

#### Tips: Taxi Complaints

You can complain to the Malaysian Tourism Promotion Board (MTPB) at 03-26935188 for taxis refusing to accept the fare when they are empty or if you think the meter is not correct.

Note the driver's number and taxi registration number. Sometimes passengers leave their belonging by mistake on taxis. If you are shopping (or if you think you forget where you leave your belongings easily!) it may be good to keep these in mind for future reference.

You can obtain train and bus schedules from any of the main train stations or bus terminals. Some bookshops also supply Malaysian travel books which may contain this information. You may find the map in the following website useful.

<http://www.klsentral.com.my/railLinks.html>

### Domestic Air Travel

Presently 3 airlines operate domestic flights in Malaysia. Malaysia Airlines (1 300 88 3000), Air Asia (1 300 88 9933) and Berjaya Air (03- 78468226). It is advisable to book in advance for domestic flights since obtaining a seat can be difficult during peak holiday seasons.

### Driving

To drive in Malaysia, you require a Malaysian Competent Driving Licence, Probationary Driving Licence or an International Driving License. Maldivian drivers License is recognized by the Road Transport Department (JPJ) of Malaysia. A letter validating your Maldivian driving license can be obtained from the High Commission. It is advisable to carry the letter when driving. If you are staying for a longer period it may be worthwhile to check from JPJ whether your visa status qualifies you for a license conversion.

All vehicles are driven on the left-hand side of the road. Wearing of seat belts are mandatory for the driver and passenger/s in the front seat/s.

If you are planning to drive in Malaysia and you have no experience driving outside the Maldives, it is recommended that you do some practice drives with a competent instructor before driving on your own. The speed limits, road conditions and traffic signs (in Bahasa Malaysia) are different from home and therefore may take sometime getting used to.

#### Tips: Common Traffic Signs

AWAS – Caution  
Jalan Schala – One Way Street  
Lorong Bus Mula – Bus Lane Starts  
Kurangkan Laju – Reduce Speed  
Berhenti – Stop  
Ikut Kiri – Keep Left  
Masuk – Entry  
Keluar – Exit  
Tempat Letak Kereta – Car Park  
Beril Laluan – Give Way  
Di Larang - Forbidden

Parking in Kuala Lumpur can be difficult. Most shopping malls have their own car park. Parking can cost range from RM 1 to RM 5 or more in the city centre.

### Streets of KL

In Kuala Lumpur, because of the heavy traffic, it is very dangerous to cross the streets except on marked crosswalks. Even if traffic is stopped, motor cycles sometimes dart out without warning. Therefore, even when on crosswalks be sure to look both ways, watch for the traffic signals and walk quickly to the other side. Avoid walking on highways and express ways. If you must walk, always walk facing the direction of the on coming traffic.

### Accidents

For minor accidents, you can reach a settlement between the drivers. If you are involved in a major traffic accident or if you cannot reach an agreement with the driver of the other vehicle, you are required by law to report the accident to the nearest police station or Constable within 24 hours of the incident.

## Accommodation

### Hotels

A wide range of hotel accommodations are available. You can choose from different hotel rates, one that will meet your budget requirements and preferences. The Tourism Malaysia website [www.tourism.com.my](http://www.tourism.com.my) offers online search for accommodation through filtering for type, rating, price range and State.

### Renting

Malaysia has a flourishing real estate market. It has a wide range of accommodation, depending on your budget and taste. There are several agencies dealing in finding accommodation for rent or to buy.

Renting a place to live might be one of the most important decisions that you have to make if you are planning to live in Malaysia. One of the main issues

that Malaysians, particularly students, face is finding suitable accommodation. Students who pay in advance for accommodation through colleges sometimes find it unsuitable.

The website [www.iproperty.com.my](http://www.iproperty.com.my) and other similar websites can be helpful in finding accommodation. Here are some general tips on finding rental accommodation.

### Types

<b>Flats, Apartments or Condominiums (Condos)</b>	Apartments, flats or condominiums are the most popular form of accommodation chosen by Malaysians. Condominiums usually have common facilities such as gymnasiums and swimming pools for its residents. If you are renting, building maintenance is normally factored into your rental payments (i.e. rental payments include maintenance cost that is paid by the owner)
<b>Houses or Bungalows</b>	Houses (Malaysians call them bungalows) are also widely available at different prices depending on your budget and preference. Some bungalows are in 'gated residences'. These bungalow lots have their own security and other facilities similar to a condominium.

### Costs

<b>Rental Cost</b>	The Malaysian Industrial Development Authority website <a href="http://www.mida.gov.my">www.mida.gov.my</a> is an excellent web resource which outlines costs of accommodation and other living expenses.
<b>Advance payments</b>	Advance payments for renting apartments and bungalows are normally arranged this way: 2 months security deposit ½ utility deposit (water and electricity) 1 month advance rental. Stamp and service charges (depends on the rent value) The first two deposits are refunded when agreement expires after allowing for rents due and outstanding utility bills. <i>Example:</i> if you are renting a flat for RM 1,000 you will need to make a deposit of RM 3,500 plus stamp and service charges. You will get back the deposits taken as security and utility at the end of the term provided you have no outstanding payments.
<b>Agents fees</b>	In Malaysia, agents do not normally collect fees from the tenant (renter). They collect fees from the landowner. Normally two agents are involved. One from the landlord's side and one from the tenant's side. Agents normally get one month equivalent rent charges from the landowner. (Unless

	you meet a trustworthy agent, engaging an agent's service sometimes can work against getting the lowest rent. However, agents can provide you more options. If you don't like the rent you can always refuse.)
<b>Furniture</b>	If you are renting a furnished apartment they normally come with furniture for all rooms, fridge, microwave, stove, washing machine, television. Unfurnished apartments also may have fridges and other kitchen equipment. Ask the owner what furniture and equipment he/she is willing to provide.

### Facilities

<b>Gymnasium</b>	Many condominiums have their own gymnasiums. When you look at your apartment check for yourself if the equipment is in good condition.
<b>Swimming pool</b>	Condominiums may also have their own swimming pools for the residents. If you have small children ask what the depth of the pool is and what arrangements are in place for pool maintenance and safety. (Pools require regular maintenance without which they can be unhygienic)
<b>Parking bays</b>	1 parking bay is normally provided for each apartment. If you require additional parking ask the owner, he/she might be able to arrange an additional one for you. Even if you don't have a vehicle, find out which one is allocated for your apartment and get the necessary entry cards. It's always useful to have a parking in case you have visitors.
<b>Security</b>	Security should be a very important factor in your accommodation decision. Many apartments have their own security. Access is limited to residents only and visitors are required to register at the gate before proceeding. Some condominiums or gated residences require residents to have cards to enter or use the lifts.

### Checklist

Before making any rental commitments or moving, it is advisable to check the following. Some of the following may be minor things, however, don't dismiss them off hand. If it is something that the owner can find a solution to, insist on getting all items fixed before you make any commitments or move in.

<b>Water</b>	Check by turning all water outlets to see if the water pressure is adequate. Check if toilets flush properly! Most bungalows have additional water tanks to maintain pressure. Check if the house you're planning to rent has one and how you can operate it.
<b>Water filters</b>	In some areas of Kuala Lumpur and surrounding districts the water may have a red color and odor. Check if you have a water filter system in place and check the color of the water. There are different types of water filters available in the market.

<b>Water heaters</b>	If you are renting a place with water heaters check if the water heaters are working properly in the toilets (and kitchen if available). Check whether the heat is adequate.
<b>Air conditioners</b>	Check if the air conditioners are working properly and when it was last serviced . Make sure the remotes are available, and if they have unfamiliar switches, ask the landlord how you should operate them.
<b>Traffic conditions</b>	Depending on the mode of transportation you are planning to use, check if it is accessible to major public transport routes. If you are attending college, ask from university/school mates the accessibility of the place you are renting.
<b>Flooding</b>	Some areas in Kuala Lumpur and other cities in Malaysia are prone to flooding. Ask neighbors or locals what the condition is. Check for signs such as water marks on buildings and nearby houses.
<b>Security</b>	Check security arrangements at the apartment. If you are renting a house, check if there is a neighborhood watch service. You can usually join them for a fee.
<b>Emergency numbers</b>	Condominiums and gated residences usually have emergency contact numbers. Be sure to get them from the landlord and keep them readily available.
<b>Maintenance</b>	Find out who will be doing the maintenance on the building and what your obligations are. For example, who will be servicing air conditioners, etc.
<b>Garbage disposal</b>	Find out what the arrangements are for garbage disposal in the building. For condominiums, normally each floor will have a service room to dispose garbage. For bungalows, you will have to check with the local council. The landowner can usually provide this information.
<b>Cooking Gas</b>	Find out what is the best way to get your cooking gas. Your landlord or neighbor may be able to help you.
<b>Telephone line</b>	Ask if the telephone line is provided and if so check if it is working and has International Direct Dialing (IDD) available. Foreigners are required to make a deposit for lines under their names.
<b>Cable TV</b>	Ask if the cable connections are installed and whether the landlord can provide it under her/his name. If you have to install Cable TV you have to make a deposit. Visit <a href="http://www.astro.com.my">www.astro.com.my</a> or call 1 300 82-3838 to find out more.

### Leisure and entertainment

#### Shopping

There are several shopping complexes in KL and other major cities and towns. Some of the most popular among Malaysians are One Utama, Mid-Valley Mega Mall and Sunway Pyramid. In Kuala Lumpur, the Bukit Bintang Walk and Pavilion are popular destination for

shopping and eating. Find out from friends or search on the internet for more options.

### **Dining**

Eating out is very popular in Malaysia. The website [www.dinemalaysia.com](http://www.dinemalaysia.com) offers a database of outlets in different areas.

**Tips: Maxis EasyAccess**  
Maxis Mobile provides a feature on their sim cards called 'Easy Access'. This feature can be used for getting information such as taxi operators in the city you are staying, or restaurants, or do telephone

Kuala Lumpur is filled with food courts, food stalls, cafés and fast food outlets. Major international franchises such as McDonald, Starbucks, Pizza Hut are scattered throughout the cities. You can find different types of food. Some outlets that serve local food are open 24 hours.

### **Theater and Cinemas**

Hollywood, Bollywood and local movies are screened throughout Kuala Lumpur. Local newspapers and cinema websites have listings of venues and times for the performances and movies shown in theaters and cinemas. Ticket prices for movies normally start from RM 8. Most shopping complexes have cinemas. The main theatre in Kuala Lumpur is the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPAAC – [www.klpac.com](http://www.klpac.com)).

### **Destinations within Malaysia**

Malaysia also has a wide variety of interesting places to visit. Tourism Malaysia website [www.tourism.com.my](http://www.tourism.com.my) is a good starting point to learn more about destinations within Malaysia.

## **Utilities**

### **Electricity**

Electricity service is provided by Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB). Foreigners need to make a deposit if the electricity is provided under their name. Most owners of apartments will consent to keep it under their name. The electricity voltage in Malaysia is 220-240 volts at 50Hz cycles per second.

### **Water**

Water is relatively cheap in Malaysia. However, household water can be discolored or may even have an odor. Most drink bottled water or use filters and (or boil) tap water to drink. You can arrange bottled water to be delivered to your home from water companies that operate in your area.

The Water Works Department is responsible for water. To initiate service a deposit is required. Like electricity, most landlords will keep the service under their names. You can pay your bill at the post office or at agents.

### **Cooking Gas**

Gas is delivered in cylinders. It is advisable to buy two cylinders so that you have one as reserve. A small deposit is required to start the service after which you only have to pay for the gas refill. Find out from your landlord who delivers gas in your district and get their number.

### **Garbage Disposal**

Garbage is collected by the city and the payment for the service is made by the landlord through yearly taxes. In condominiums, there is usually a collection room on every floor. For houses, the frequency of collection varies from district to district (twice a week to several days). For more information contact 03-92847255 in KL, 03-78748433 in Petaling Jaya.

## **Banking**

### **Opening an Account**

There are several local and international banks operating in Malaysia. To open an account you will need to be present personally at the bank and provide the required documentation. Unless there is an unusually long queue at the bank, opening an account does not normally take much time provided you have all the necessary documents. Generally, your passport, visa, initial deposit and a letter from your educational

institution or employer is all that is required but this may vary from bank to bank.

Banks in Malaysia do not accept any form of corrections on cheques, even if the correction happens to be signed. If you make a mistake, write a new one. If you happen to issue a cheque with a mistake, you will be charged a penalty and the check will be returned. Find out more about issuing cheques from your bank.

### **ATMs (Debit and Credit Cards)**

Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs or Cash Machines) are widely available throughout the city. In general, local banks provide more ATM coverage. If you are planning to use your debit or credit card for transactions in Malaysia, check with your bank in Male'.

### **Internet and Telephone Banking**

Internet and telephone banking are provided by all major banks. This facility would allow you to make transactions such as paying your utility bills online or over the telephone. You should follow all precautions and guidelines given by your bank when using these services.

### **'Touch and Go' Cards**

Top up cards called "Touch and Go" cards can be used to pay for public transport, toll and parking services. A card costs RM 10 plus top up charges. You can buy or add credit to the card at participating outlets. Information about "Touch and Go" products and services are available from [www.touchandgo.com.my](http://www.touchandgo.com.my) or 603-7628 5115.

### **Security**

Always make sure that your cash, debit and credit cards are safe. Do not disclose pin numbers or other information over the phone or email unless you are confident that you are doing this securely. Credit card fraud is a problem in Malaysia. ATM card information is sometimes hacked through devices placed in ATM machines. Always follow the security warnings from the banks.

## **Communication**

### **Cellular Phones**

Cellular/Mobile phones are common in Malaysia and the market for cellular phones and lines are very competitive. You can find out more information from the main service providers, Maxis Mobile ([www.maxis.com.my](http://www.maxis.com.my) 123 from Maxis phones or 03 7492 2123), Celcom ([www.celcom.com.my](http://www.celcom.com.my) - 013, 019 and 0148 for users, 03-3630 8888 for others) and Digi ([www.digi.com.my](http://www.digi.com.my) - 016 2211800). You can find outlets of these providers in shopping malls or town centers. All prepaid mobile lines need to be registered. If you are purchasing one, you will be asked to produce your passport in order to register. Postpaid lines for foreigners usually require an initial deposit.

### **Telephones**

The main fixed line telephone service provider in Malaysia is Telecom Malaysia (TM). You can find out about their services on [www.tm.com.my](http://www.tm.com.my) or call 100 from a TM fixed line. If you like to have international direct dialing services, you may have to apply for it separately.

### **Public Telephones**

When using public telephones you can use coins or calling cards. For local calls its 20 sens for a 3 minute call. Calling cards can be purchased at certain outlets. 'ISD' calling cards offer reduced costs on international calls. Calling Maldives is generally expensive through fixed or mobile lines. Calling cards offer lower rates but the cheapest option maybe using the internet for phone calls.

### **Internet**

In Malaysia, many companies offer access to internet and electronic mail. To get broadband internet service

#### **Tips: Living as a foreigner in Malaysia**

The Expat magazine is a local magazine published monthly targeted towards foreigners living in Malaysia. It is free for foreigners and you can sign up for home deliver on their website [www.expatkl.com](http://www.expatkl.com). Their website is an excellent resource for foreigners living in Malaysia.

you need a modem, phone line, and access account. Prices are competitive. Internet can also be a cheaper way of making phone calls if you have the right bandwidth connection and your friends and family have compatible services in Maldives.

### **Television**

There are free to view local television stations in Malay, Chinese, Tamil or English. TV1 and TV2 are Government owned. TV3, NTV7, 8TV and TV9 are privately owned. If you want cable TV, find out from Astro about their service and packages on [www.astro.com.my](http://www.astro.com.my) or call 1 300 82-3838.

### **Newspapers and Magazines**

The New Straits Times, The Star, The Sun, Business Times and The Malay Mail are English newspapers. To get newspapers delivered, you have to speak to the local delivery agent in your area. Also, many foreign newspapers such as the International Herald Tribune are available. A variety international and local magazines are also available in book stores and magazine outlets.

### **Radio**

Malaysia also has a number of radio stations. You can tune in to a variety of stations that offer Malay, Tamil, Chinese or Western music and news.

## **Safety and Precaution**

### **Insurance**

It is strongly recommended that you insure your health and possessions while in Malaysia. Students are required to take health insurance which is mainly done through their colleges. These health insurance packages normally cover only hospitalization, meaning that outpatient consultations or medications are not covered. Medical expenses are usually high. Also, it is recommended that your possessions such as computers and other valuable household items are insured against

theft. Many banks and insurance companies offer insurance.

### **Hospitals**

There are several clinics, private and public hospitals in Malaysia. Some of the prominent public and private hospitals are listed in the directory section of this booklet. For a list of public hospitals in Malaysia, visit [www.health.gov.my](http://www.health.gov.my). For a list of the members of the Association of Private Hospitals in Malaysia visit [www.hospitals-malaysia.org](http://www.hospitals-malaysia.org).

### **Theft and Robbery**

You should take all precaution against theft and robbery. As in other large cities, pick-pocketing, snatching and mugging happen on the streets and public places. Be sure to keep your belongings close to your body. Be alert when in crowded areas, don't wear expensive jewelry and avoid carrying large amounts of cash.

### **Police**

Police can provide assistance in several matters such as theft or when involved in an accident. If you need to file a report you are required to do so within 24 hours of the incident.

When dealing with the police be aware of your rights. Your rights come from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Malaysian Federal Constitution and other laws. A very useful booklet that outlines basic rights under Malaysian law is the 'Red Book', a booklet published by the Malaysian Bar Association which is available for free on [www.malaysianbar.org.my](http://www.malaysianbar.org.my)

### **Power surges**

During thunderstorms avoid using your telephone, internet or electronic items. Power surges in Malaysia have been known to cause damage to telephone, computers, other electrical items and even injure people. There can be a loss of cable TV reception during heavy rain or thunderstorms.

### Identification Cards

Unless you have other valid identification issued by Immigration Dept., it is mandatory to carry your passport for identification purposes. Identification is also required for various services such as visiting hospitals or registration of prepaid mobile telephones etc.

Students are required to carry the Malaysian Immigration issued 'I-Kad', which is issued through the respective educational institution.

## Moving to Malaysia

### For education

#### Universities/Colleges

Malaysia offers a variety of tertiary education opportunities and is currently one of the most popular destinations for tertiary education.

There are several government universities in Malaysia. You can find a list of these universities from the web site links

<http://www.gov.my/MYGOV/BI/Directory/Citizen/Education/HigherEducation/ListofUniversityandCollege/>

For private colleges and universities that are members of the Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities visit the association's website

<http://www.studymalaysia.com/mapcu/council.htm>

There are several factors that you have to consider in choosing a tertiary institution. One important consideration is whether it is a reputable institution and whether the qualification you are hoping to attain from the institution is accepted and accredited. For courses accredited by the Maldives Accreditation Board visit, [www.employment.gov.mv](http://www.employment.gov.mv) or contact them for more information.

### Schools

An increasing number of Maldivians are also seeking pre-school, primary or secondary education for their children in Malaysia. A list of the major international schools in Malaysia is available on the website [www.expatkl.com](http://www.expatkl.com)

### Visa Matters

A Maldivian who wishes to study in Malaysia is required to obtain a Student Pass prior to entering Malaysia (see box for guidelines). The Malaysian Immigration Department may impose a fine of RM 500 if a student applies for a student pass after entering Malaysia. You are strongly advised to follow the guidelines before you travel to Malaysia with the intention to study.

An issue that some Maldivian students face is obtaining visas for their family members. Current Malaysian immigration policy allow visa only to dependents of postgraduate students (masters or above). To the immediate family members of the non-graduate students, visa is subject to approval of the Immigration Department and is determined on a case-by-case basis.

If you provide the necessary supporting documents, the High Commission can issue a letter to the Immigration Department stating your bona fide

**Tips: MALAYSIAN MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION** provides the following steps for foreign students intending to study in Malaysia.

STEP 1: Submit application form for study together with relevant documents to the intended education institutions approved by Malaysian Home Ministry.

STEP 2: Student application is accepted by the education institution which will then help to apply for student pass at the Malaysian Immigration Department in Malaysia.

STEP 3: Upon acceptance, letter of approval for student pass will be released by the Malaysian Immigration Department to the educational institution for them to pass on to the student.

STEP 4: Student informs the educational institution of his or her arrival details before leaving the country.

STEP 5: Upon arrival at the airport in Malaysia, the educational institution's representative will receive the student at the immigration check-point.

STEP 6: Within 2 weeks of student's arrival, the educational institution will submit the student's passport to the Immigration Department to affix student pass sticker.

status as a student, and validating your relationship with your spouse, children or parents.

### **Second home program**

Some Maldivians are interested in the Malaysia 'My Second Home Program'. This program is offered by the Government of Malaysia to allow foreigners who meet certain criteria, to stay in Malaysia for a period of 10 years on a social visit pass with a multiple entry visa (depending on the validity of the applicants' passport) could be renewed thereafter.. You can find out more about this program on the Ministry of Tourism Malaysia: Malaysia My Second Home Centre, [www.mm2h.gov.my](http://www.mm2h.gov.my).

### **Important documents to bring with you**

Here are some recommended documents you should bring to Malaysia.

- Birth certificate English translations especially if you are traveling with children. (You can obtain English translations from the Male' Municipality)
- Marriage certificate in English.
- Certified copies of your educational certificates.

Also, keep copies of all important documents such as passport, national ID, etc

### **High Commission's Consular Services for Maldivians**

We endeavor to provide a range of services to Maldivians in Malaysia. However, there are certain limitations to what the High Commission can do as a diplomatic mission.

#### **What we can do:**

- Provide information, advice and consular assistance
- Arrange travel documents in case your passport is lost, stolen or damaged
- Assist in renewing passports and similar official documents
- Arrange travel documents for Maldivians born in Malaysia
- Provide notarization and authentication services
- Contact your relatives or friends to request them to send you funds in case of emergency.
- Notify your next-of-kin in the event that you are injured

- Notify your next-of-kin in the event of your arrest or detention
- Visit Maldivian citizens who have been arrested or imprisoned, and monitor that due process under the judicial system of Malaysia is accorded to him or her
- Help to obtain a list of officially registered local lawyers and translation services where it is required.
- Assist in the burial of deceased Maldivians in Malaysia
- Assist the repatriation of the remains of deceased Maldivians back to Maldives
- Assist in the arrangements for the return of personal belongings of deceased Maldivians.
- Help during emergencies such as natural disasters or civil disorder

#### **What we cannot do:**

- Pay your bills such as medical, hospital, legal, accommodation, travel or other bills
- Provide loans or cash your cheques
- Pay fines or post bail on your behalf
- Intervene in the local judicial process on your behalf
- Provide legal advice or initiate court proceedings on your behalf
- Act as your sponsor or guarantor
- Arrange for your accommodation or for work
- Attempt on your behalf to interfere or influence Malaysian Government immigration policies and procedures

### **Consular Services**

Find out more about the following services and travel advice from the High Commission's website

[www.maldives.org.my](http://www.maldives.org.my), call the High Commission +603 21637244 or email us at [mail@maldives.org.my](mailto:mail@maldives.org.my).

- Authentication Services (Supporting letters, Verification of documents)
- Passport and Travel Documents
- Marriage Registration
- Death
- Emergencies involving Maldivians
- National Identification Cards
- Registering your stay in Malaysia

## Directory

### Area Codes

Johor	07	Perak	05
Kedah	04	Perlis	04
Kelantan	09	Sabah	088
Kuala Lumpur	03	Sarawak	082
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Melaka	06	Singapore	02
Negeri Sembilan	06		
Pahang	09	Mobile Phones	01
Penang	04		

### Emergencies

All Emergencies	999
Electricity	15454
Telephone Service Faults (Telekom Malaysia)	100

### Inquiries/Complaints

Directory Inquiries	103
Telephone International Assistance	108
Tourist Police	03 21633657
Biro Pengaduan (Bureau of Complaints)	03 88887777
Child Abuse	1 800 883 040
Consumer Association	01 4042 3058

### Hospitals

Kuala Lumpur General Hospital <a href="http://www.hkl.gov.my">www.hkl.gov.my</a>	03 26921044
Ampang Puteri Specialist Hospital ( <a href="http://www.apsh.kpj.com.my">www.apsh.kpj.com.my</a> )	03 42702500
Assunta Hospital ( <a href="http://www.assunta.com.my">www.assunta.com.my</a> )	03 77823433
Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre ( <a href="http://www.gimc.com.my">www.gimc.com.my</a> )	03 42571300
Subang Jaya Medical Centre ( <a href="http://www.sjmc.com.my">www.sjmc.com.my</a> )	03 56341212/ 1515
University Hospital (University Malaya)	03 79564422
Tawakal Specialist Centre <a href="http://www.tawakal.com.my">www.tawakal.com.my</a>	03 40233599
Twin Towers Medical Centre ( <a href="http://www.malaysiahealthcare.com/ttmc/default.aspx">http://www.malaysiahealthcare.com/ttmc/default.aspx</a> )	03 23822000/ 03 23833500

### District Police

Police Headquarters	03 22626555
Ampang	03 42522222
Bandar Sunway	03 56382122
Brickfields	03 22742222
Campbell	03 26912222
Cheras	03 92842222
Gombak	03 61385222
Jalan Bandar	03 20729044
Jalan Tun Razak	03 21412222
Petaling Jaya	03 79562222

Puchong	03 80752222
Pudu	03 92850222
Selangor/Shah Alam	03 55105522
Sentul	03 40422222
Subang Jaya	03 56332222
Taman Melawati	03 41081222
TTDI	03 77286222

### Utilities Companies

Alam Flora (Garbage Disposal)	03 20527922
Astro (Cable TV)	1 300 823838
Celcom Mobile	013, 019 & 0148
Celcom Phones	03 3630 8888
Digi Phones	016 2211800
Indah Water	03 21636118
JBA Selangor (Water Supply)	03 22826244
Maxis Mobile	123 or 03 7492 2123
Pos Malaysia	03 22744141
Telekom	03 20208088
Tenaga Nasional Berhad (Electricity)	03 22825566

### Radio Taxi Service

Cityline	03 92228828
KL Teksi	03 26922525
Mesra Cab	03 40430569
Persatuan Radio	03 26936211
Comfort	03 26922525
KL Teksi	03 92218999
Oriental Radio	03 26944718

### Bus/Train Service

KL Sentral Main Terminal	03 22798699
Puduraya Bus & Taxi Terminal	03 20700145
Putra Bus Terminal	03 40438984/ 03 40449072

### Airlines

Malaysia Airlines <a href="http://www.klia.com.my">www.klia.com.my</a>	1 300 883000
KLIA infoline	03 87778888
Air Asia <a href="http://www.airasia.com">www.airasia.com</a>	1 300 889933
Berjaya Air <a href="http://www.berjayaair.com">www.berjayaair.com</a>	03 78468228
Singapore Airlines <a href="http://www.sia.com.sg">www.sia.com.sg</a>	03 26923122
Emirates Airlines <a href="http://www.emirates.com">www.emirates.com</a>	03 20585888
SriLankan Airlines <a href="http://www.srilankan.aero">www.srilankan.aero</a>	03 20723633

### Airport Transport

Duta Airport Coach	03 62033064
Airport Limo	03 92238080
KLIA Express	03 22679888
Chan Sow Lin Airport Coach	03 41942550
Airport Limo (Booking)	03 92238949

## Notes

### *Other Useful Numbers*

Red Crescent	03 42578122/89
St. John's Ambulance	03 92851576
Enquiries on police related matters	600857999
Tourism Info Line (24 hours)	1 300 88 5776
KL International Airport	03 87778888
Malaysia Airport Holding Sdn Bhd	03 78463000/ 7777
Private Ambulance Service (KL)	03 79541111/ 03 62019111

### *Fast Food Outlets*

Mc Donalds	1300 13 1300
Pizza Hut	1 8666645696
KFC	03 20263388

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To keep the information on this booklet relevant and useful to Maldivians please send in your suggestions and comments to the Maldives High Commission – [mail@maldives.org.my](mailto:mail@maldives.org.my)

**Cover Photo:** Mohamed Rasheed

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