

UNIQUELY

# UNIMAS

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT *Guidebook*



UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK  
2021/22 Edition



**Bring your  
idea to life**



**Choose  
to inspire  
or be  
inspired**





The future  
depends  
on what  
you do  
TODAY

UNIMAS students are  
dynamic, dedicated  
and determined,  
and are ready for the  
world.







# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDEBOOK

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# *Introduction* to the guidebook

The UNIMAS International Student Guidebook aims to provide useful information to help new students to settle in upon arrival in Malaysia, Sarawak and UNIMAS campus.

If you need any assistance throughout your studies at UNIMAS, please feel free to contact us. The contact information can be found in this guidebook.

For more information and guidance, students may find useful contacts in this guidebook.

1

**Welcoming  
Address**



Dear International Students,

Congratulations on your acceptance to Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)! We are very honoured to have been chosen as part of your global experience.

Our academic body consists of experts in their fields and is ever ready to share their knowledge with you. Our researchers are leaders who pave the way with their studies and are glad to have you onboard their teams.

As our international students, you will be an important part of this vibrant academic community. You will be building a lifelong friendship that will benefit both you and your country.

For an international student, the choice to come over to a foreign country can be both exciting and nerve-wrecking. We understand this. Rest assured. UNIMAS Global will always be there to guide and assist in any way we can to ensure that your experience with us throughout your studies will be beautifully meaningful.

We at UNIMAS are also proud custodians of our rich, unrivalled cultural and biodiversity heritage. During your stay with us, it will be our utmost pleasure to introduce you to our friendly locals, our delightful cuisine (hint: Sarawak is known for its Breakfast of the Gods), and perhaps, some delightful proboscis monkeys during one of your trekking trips (if you want to).

Your presence will certainly enrich us and our local communities. In the global era that we live in now, it is even more imperative for distant cultures to reach out, find similarities, and forge empathy, in order for us to create a sustainable, shared future.

Welcome to our family. Looking forward to meet you in person.

**Associate Professor Dr Shanti Faridah Salleh**  
Director  
UNIMAS Global

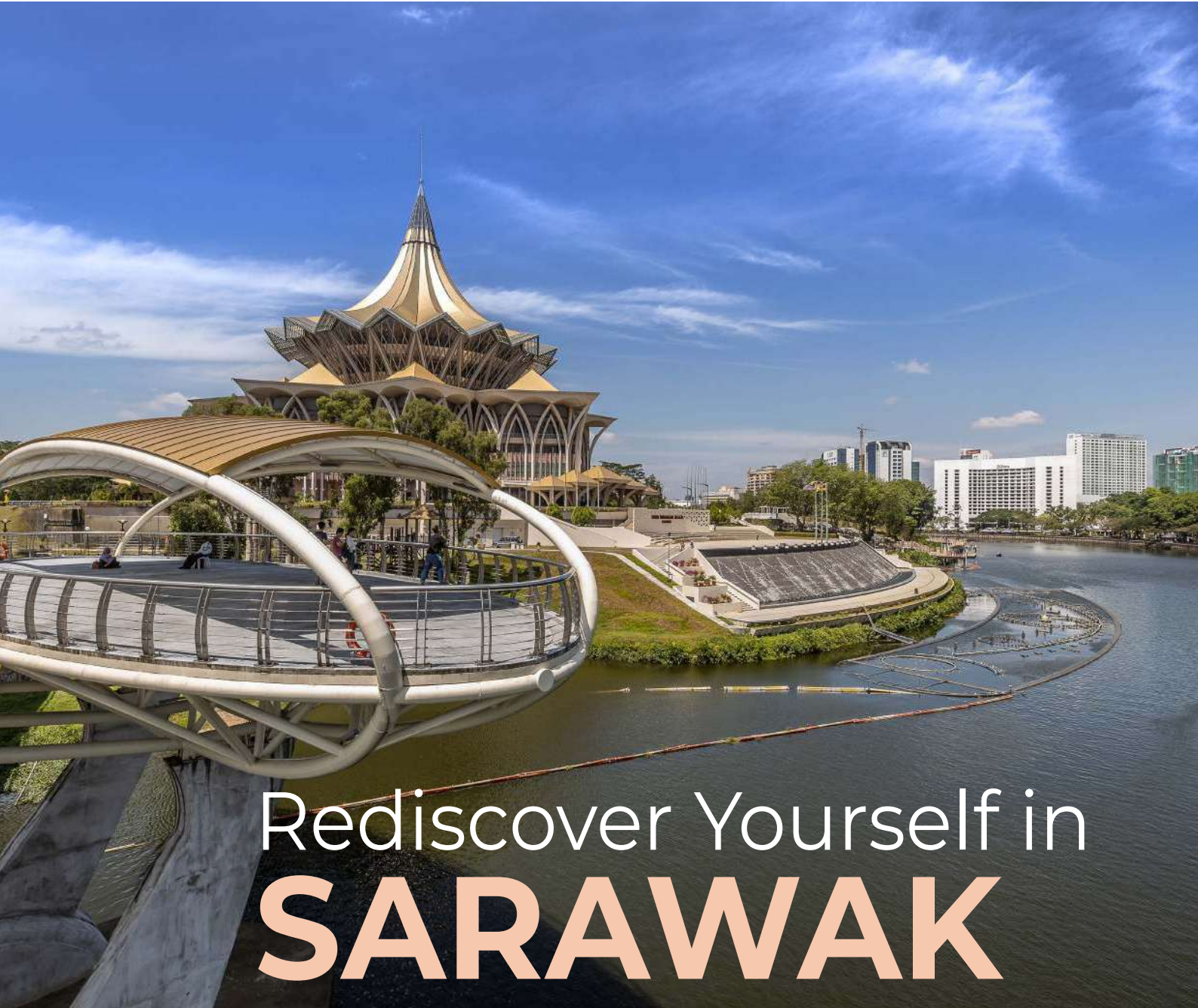
# UNIMASKu *Sayang*

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## (My Beloved UNIMAS)

Established in the twentieth century and growing in the twenty-first, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) continues to be committed to being contemporary and forward looking as a progressive institution of higher learning. Relatively young as a university, UNIMAS has already stamped its mark on many areas of research and academia since its establishment in 1992. UNIMAS was the first university to be initiated as part of “Wawasan 2020”, a national vision where Malaysia will achieve the status of a fully-industrialized and developed nation. Malaysia’s eighth and Sarawak first public university started with a modest intake of 118 students in two faculties, now UNIMAS has more than 16,000 enrolment of students with more than 500 international students from over 40 countries. Located on Sarawak in the island of Borneo, UNIMAS is ideally placed to fully benefit from the many opportunities for research literally in its backyard, with challenges of geography and geology as well as the diversity of biology and ethnicity. Through its ultra-modern campus, UNIMAS is making strong progress towards becoming a leading global university for a sustainable future.





# Rediscover Yourself in **SARAWAK**

Being rich in natural resources, Sarawak specializes in the export of oil and gas, timber and oil palms. Sarawak is not only ethnically diverse but culturally and linguistically as well. Kuching, the capital city of Sarawak still retains its old-world charm as one walks down the quaint narrow street with historical buildings around the city. Sarawak, the largest state in Malaysia, is home to 27 ethnic groups. With 45 different dialects, each group has their own unique stories, beliefs, traditions and cultures.

You can meet people from the Iban tribe, known for their legendary headhunting customs from days of old. They have long since ceased headhunting, but they still maintain their rich customs, art, practices and language. The Orang Ulu, or 'people from upriver,' comprise of different tribes such as the Kayan, Kenyah, Lun Bawang and Kelabit. Their exotic art and music has spread internationally, as seen in the growing popularity of the boat lute or sape. The sape has become the symbol of the Rainforest World Music Festival, one Malaysia's largest music festival.

Entrenched in Sarawak's history are the remnants of the reign of the White Rajahs, the Brooke family monarchy that ruled the Kingdom of Sarawak from 1841 to 1946. Traces of the Brookes can be found throughout the state, from physical reminders such as colonial buildings, preserved relics that populate today's museums, and events such as the Sarawak Regatta, to the more intangible traces within the law and culture of the people.

# Malaysia

## Truly Asia

Malaysia is a country in Southeast Asia. The federal constitutional monarchy consists of thirteen states and three federal territories, separated by the South China Sea into two regions, Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo's East Malaysia. Peninsular Malaysia shares a land and maritime border with Thailand and maritime borders with Singapore, Vietnam, and Indonesia. East Malaysia shares land and maritime borders with Brunei and Indonesia and a maritime border with the Philippines and Vietnam. Kuala Lumpur is the national capital and largest city while Putrajaya is the seat of the federal government. With a population of over 32 million, Malaysia is the world's 43rd-most populous country.

The country is multi-ethnic and multi-cultural, which has a significant effect on its politics. About half the population is ethnically Malay, with minorities of Chinese, Indians, and indigenous peoples. The country's official language is the Malay language. English remains an active second language. While recognizing Islam as the country's established religion, the constitution grants freedom of religion to non-Muslims. The government is modelled on the Westminster parliamentary system and the legal system is based on common law. The head of state is an elected monarch, chosen from among the nine state sultans every five years. The head of government is the Prime Minister.

The economy of Malaysia has traditionally been fueled by its natural resources but is expanding in the sectors of science, tourism, commerce, education and medical tourism. Malaysia has a newly industrialized market economy, ranked third-largest in Southeast Asia and 33rd-largest in the world. In present days, with progressive global business environment, Malaysia has become one of the leading choices in Asia for an overseas learning experience.



# Chancellery and International Relations Office (UNIMAS Global)

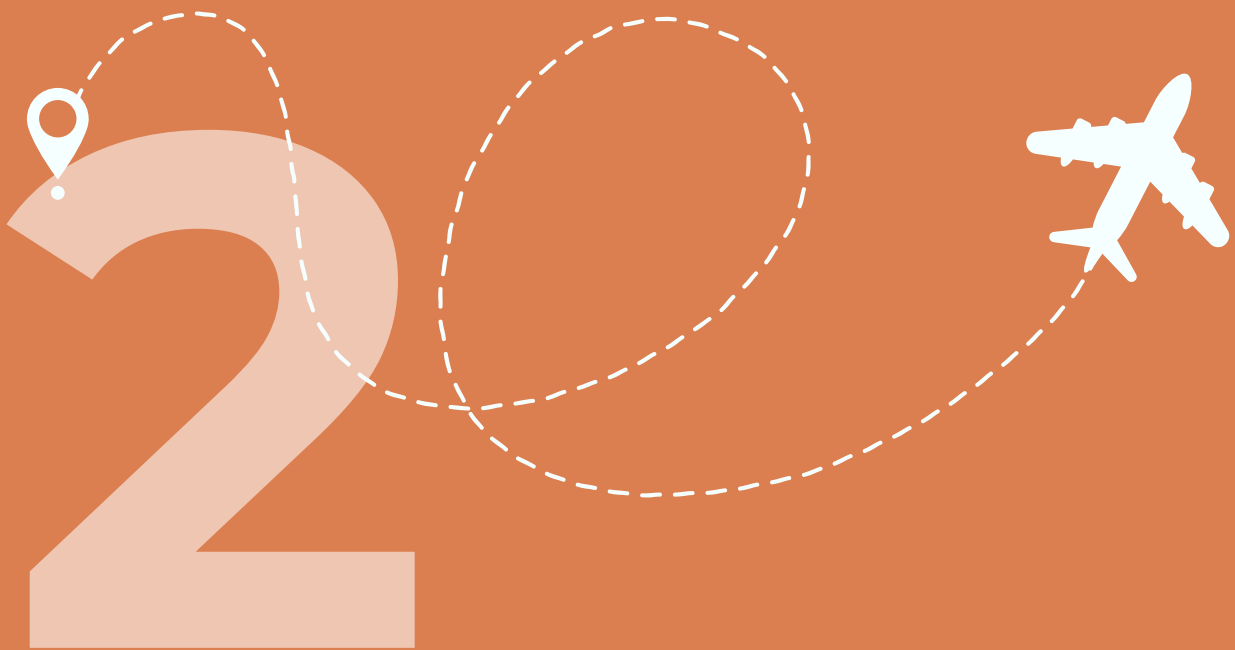
In an effort to strengthen the internationalization program, UNIMAS established a new Unit called the International Relations Unit on 01 February 2004. This unit was placed under the auspices of the Office of the Vice Chancellor. A Coordinator has been appointed to coordinate international relations activities with the assistance of an Assistant Registrar. The main role of this International Relations Unit is to strengthen strategic relationships with universities from abroad. The International Relations Unit has undertaken a number of activities including establishing strategic relationships with new international partners, to enhance academic cooperation with other national institutions. In addition to the above activities, the International Relations Unit is also given the role of providing support services to international students, monitoring the progress of agreements that have been signed, coordinating the development of international academic twinning programs, providing services/information to students for student exchange programs with partners from institutions involved.

To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery system of the International Relations Unit, this Unit has been upgraded as the International Affairs Division in the Management Committee Meeting of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak on 1 August 2008. In line with the university's direction to further increase internationalization activities and the admission of international students, the International Affairs Division has been merged with the Chancellery Office and upgraded to the Chancellery and International Relations Office (UNIMAS Global) in year 2017.

In the year 2022, the university management decide to further strengthen its position in the world through UNIMAS 2021-2025 strategic plan. Both Chancellery Office and International Office have experience rebranding process and are positioned as UNIMAS Corporate while the International office will be officially UNIMAS Global.

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*Before*

**you fly to the  
Land of Hornbill**

# What do I need to bring?

Heading abroad on the adventure of a lifetime learning experience is exciting and sometimes requires some preparation. Here are some suggestions for you to decide what to bring along:

## NECESSITIES

**Original Copy and 2 copies of certified true copy of following documents:**

1. Passport (every pages);
2. Offer of Admission to UNIMAS;
3. High School Certificate/ Degree/ Master Degree certificate and transcript;
4. Proof of Financial Supports such as bank statements, offer letter of scholarship/financial assistance (if any);
5. Copies of Receipt for payment of tuition fees; and
6. driving license (if any);

**Enough cash to support your daily need while arranging to open a student bank account**

**Twelve (12) copies of passport size photos with blue background**

## USEFUL

Laptop and mobile phone.

## ADDITIONAL

Photos of loved ones, foods, traditional costume, dress/outfits



## DEPENDENT PASS

UNIMAS postgraduate students can bring their dependents during their study period at UNIMAS. The dependents of the students will be granted with a Dependent Pass valid for Twelve (12) months according to the validity of Student Pass of their principal.

- Dependents constitute of wife, children, mother, and father only.
- Children accompanying their parents MUST have individual or separate passports from their parents.
- Student must provide approved of marriage with certified copy of their marriage certificate certified by Notary General.



## HOW TO APPLY FOR A STUDENT PASS

UNIMAS Business School under its International Student Affairs Unit (ISAU) hold the responsibility to handles and process UNIMAS international students visa related matters. ISAU is located at Global Hub Office, Level G University House UNIMAS. All application related to visa may be applied online via International Management System.

## VISA APPROVAL LETTER (VAL)

Prior to your arrival, International students are required to apply for Visa Approval Letter (VAL) with the reference of Student Pass to enter Malaysia. Visa Approval Letter is a document issued by the Malaysian Immigration Department once your Student Pass application is successful. Students with approved Visa Approval Letter need to obtain Visa with Reference (VDR) upon entry to Malaysia with some citizens of country are excluded from this procedure. Please refer to Global Hub office for more info.

### What are the documents needed to apply for a VAL?

Students are required to submit their application via the system and the documents needed are listed as follow:

Visa Approval Letter (VAL)		
1	All pages of international passport Passport validities need to be more than Eighteen (18) month.	Two copies
2	Passport size photo	Seven pieces
3	Offer letter	-
4	Health Examination Report	UNIMAS Format
5	Proof of tuition fee payment	-

### How long does it take?

For Visa Application Letter (VAL) application it usually takes about Ninety (90) working days to process. Our visa team will be notified you through email once your application is approved. You also may track your application progress via the system.


### Do we need to pay?

For Visa Approval Letter (VAL) application the cost involved is stated below:

Visa Approval Letter (VAL)		
1	Student Pass	RM60.00
2	Multiple Entry Visa (MEV) Varies according to country of origin	RM10.00 – 50.00
3	Stamp Duty For personal bond purpose	RM10.00
4	Processing Fee	RM200.00

### How to make payment?

All payment related to visa/student pass application should be address to:

	
Account Number	5612 3960 8898
Account Holder	UNIMAS Edu Sdn. Bhd.

For verification purpose, please submit the proof of payment to:

**Mohd Ilham Abdullah**

Administrative Executive

Email: [abdullahmi.uesb@gmail.com](mailto:abdullahmi.uesb@gmail.com)

**Carlina Natalia Singiau**

Administrative Assistant

Email: [carlina.uesb@gmail.com](mailto:carlina.uesb@gmail.com)

Our Office	
<b>Global Hub Office</b> Level G, University House, 94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak	
Contact Person	
<b>Dr Siti Mariam Abdullah</b> Senior Manager  Tel. Number: +6082 592673  Email: <a href="mailto:asmariam@unimas.my">asmariam@unimas.my</a>	<b>Thian Foong Fatt</b> Manager  Tel. Number: +6082 581219  Email: <a href="mailto:ffthian@unimas.my">ffthian@unimas.my</a>
<b>Mohd Ilham Abdullah</b> Administrative Executive  Tel. Number: +6082 582456  Email: <a href="mailto:abdullahmi.uesb@gmail.com">abdullahmi.uesb@gmail.com</a>	<b>Carlina Natalia Singiau</b> Administrative Assistant  Tel. Number: +6082 582456  Email: <a href="mailto:carlina.uesb@gmail.com">carlina.uesb@gmail.com</a>

### **What is student pass renewal?**

The maximum validity for a student pass is Twelve (12) month but Immigration Department have the right to grant any duration based on the merits of each case. Students need to renew their student pass/visa to avoid overstaying. Student may apply for renewal via the system.

### **When should I apply for renewal?**

You will be needed to apply for renewal at least Three (3) month before your current student pass/visa expire.

### **Do I need to pay?**

Renewal fee varies according to country of origin and other charges might incurred if you overstayed.

### **Is there any special requirement for renewal?**

In order to be entitled for a student pass renewal. You need to ensure:

- Passport validity more than Six (6) months
- Satisfactory academic progress
- Good attendance records (more than 80%)
- Active and registered
- Valid medical insurance coverage

### **Can I work during using my Student Pass?**

You are permitted to work within a certain field and required to apply through the university. Please refer to Global Hub office for more info.

### **What happen if I overstayed?**

A student is responsible to monitor their own passport and student pass validity and obligate to submit their renewal at least Three (3) month before expiring. For overstaying cases, the result might include paying compound and even deportment to home country.

### **What happen if I defer my study?**

You will be required to shorten your student pass and return to your home country and you can re-apply for student pass once your status is reactivated.

### **What is shorten/cancellation of Student Pass?**

A mandatory procedure for international student in the category as stated below:

- Upon completion of study and no longer as an active and registered student
- Upon deferment of study
- Upon withdrawal from study
- Upon dismissal from study
- Upon renewal application rejected by Immigration department
- Upon upgrading level of study

Shorten of pass also mandatory for dependent of student.



### Can I upgrade my Student Pass?

Our alumni can apply a student pass to pursue higher level of study at UNIMAS. They will be required to shorten their current pass prior to applying for a new student pass.

\*The procedures and waiting time of visa application may vary from time to time, particularly during the covid-19 period.

# Additional information before your arrival

## MEDICAL INSURANCE

The medical insurance for international student is a compulsory requirement to cover your medical/hospital costs while in Malaysia. The purchase of insurance is arranged by the University upon registration and it is also a compulsory requirement for you to be issued student pass by the Department of Immigration Malaysia.

## AIRPORT

Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) is Malaysia's main international airport and one of the biggest airports in Southeast Asia and worldwide. It is located in Sepang District of Selangor, approximately 45 kilometres (28 mi) south of Kuala Lumpur city centre and serves the Greater Klang Valley conurbation.

KLIA is the largest and busiest airport in Malaysia. In 2018, it handled 59,988,409 passengers, 714,669 tonnes of cargo and 399,827 aircraft movements. It is the world's 23rd-busiest airport by total passenger traffic.

Kuching International Airport (KIA) is an international airport serving the entire southwestern region of Sarawak, Malaysia. It is located 11 km (6.8 mi)[2] south of Kuching city centre. The airport also collocated with the RMAF Kuching, home to the No. 7 Squadron RMAF.

The airport terminal is capable of handling five million passengers per annum and it is the fourth busiest airport in Malaysia. KIA has grown rapidly with an increasing number of passengers and aircraft movement. In 2017, KIA handled 5,095,193 passengers with a corresponding volume of 51,097 flights. In the same year, 24,620 metric tonnes of cargo were handled through this facility.

KIA is the secondary hub for Malaysia Airlines and has been growing rapidly to tackle the demand of the travelers in the East Malaysia region.

## IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE

The following documents are required to be presented at the Malaysia & Sarawak Immigration Counter.

- Original passport (which should include your Single-Entry Visa, if applicable)
- Original Student Pass/Visa Approval Letter (VAL)
- Original offer letter from Monash University Malaysia

## AIRPORT PICK-UP

All new international students are entitled with a free airport pick-up service when they first arrived in Sarawak. Once your Student Pass/Visa Approval Letter (VAL) is approved, we will provide you with more information on how to arrange for your airport pick-up service. When you arrive at the Kuching International Airport, an official UNIMAS driver will meet you at a designated meeting point. If you can't find your driver, call the phone number on your airport pick-up confirmation email. Please note that the airport pick-up service is only available for students. Accompanying family members would need to arrange for their own transportation through the following option:

- Kuching International Airport Limo & Taxi Services
- Grab Car Service

3

*Arrival  
&*

Settling-in



# Once arrived in UNIMAS, what do I need to do?

## WHAT DO I DO WHEN I ARRIVE IN THE CAMPUS?

Once you arrive in the campus, you may proceed to the following guidance to complete your registration and settling-in.

## CHECK IN TO YOUR ACCOMMODATION

International Student are encouraged to take up residence at two Residential Colleges below:

1. Dahlia Residential College (On-campus)
2. Rafflesia Residential College (Off-campus)

### CHECK- IN PROCESS

- Go straight to your check-in location, which will have been emailed to you by the Residential College in advance. Before you get there, you will need to complete the following steps:
- Show proof that you have paid the accommodation fees
- Collect your room keys and complete the registration
- Inspect your room to make sure it is in good condition and report any problems to the Residential College Office within 24 hours of check-in

### Dahlia Residential College

Dahlia Residential College is the only private residential property that located inside UNIMAS and fully managed by UNIMAS Holdings Sdn. Bhd. We provide the best accommodation inside UNIMAS for your convenience and privacy. The layout of the college in the form of D in line with the name Dahlia. Dahlia Residential College divided into two (2) separated block consists of Block A and Block B with total up to 1728 rooms.

### Rafflesia Residential College

Rafflesia Residential College is the largest college in UNIMAS and also established outside UNIMAS main campus. This college represent the ninth college in UNIMAS that host mostly undergraduate seniors. We have first received our student on the 2013/2014 session. Our college is situated strategically within Desa Ilmu vicinity nearby Summer Mall and other dining places.

Although we are new college, we have slowly fill in our college with all the necessary facilities. We have established our own cafe that operates during student's session. We also now have our own UNIMAS bus shuttle that runs during the semester. Currently we are working on our college wide Wi-Fi service that is expected to run early March.

Accommodation at Rafflesia Residential College are all apartment concept, with each apartment contains 3 rooms (single - 1 units, sharing - 2 units), 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, corridors and spacious living rooms. It can fully accommodate 7 students per apartment. We look forward to see you in Rafflesia.

## REGISTER AND ENROLL

Once you have made your payment, you may proceed to contact the person in charge and register through the following link with a unique reference number. Student may register through the following link:

Undergraduate : [https://estudent.unimas.my/eDaftar/daftar\\_login.jsp](https://estudent.unimas.my/eDaftar/daftar_login.jsp)

Postgraduate : <https://cgsweb.unimas.my/PGeDaftar/daftar/EDloginDaftar.jsp>

When you register, please bring:

- Original offer letter
- High School Certificate/ Degree/ Master Degree certificate and transcript;
- Proof of Financial Supports such as bank statements, offer letter of scholarship/ financial assistance (if any);
- Four (4) passport-sized photos (with your name and course of study on the back of each photograph)
- Certified copies of your passport (every page)
- Copies of Receipt for payment of tuition fees;

## ATTEND THE INDUCTION PROGRAMME

It is very important for all new students to attend the induction programme arranged by the University. During the inductions you will find out about all aspects of living and studying in Malaysia, including: what to expect during your study with us; safety regulations; accessing the library and IT facilities; your academic timetable; immigration laws; medical treatment and insurance; counselling; transport; and advice on what to do in an emergency. You will receive induction information during your registration.

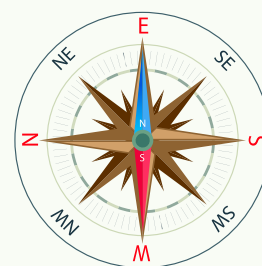
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*Life in*  
**UNIMAS**

## MAIN BUILDINGS

### BANGUNAN UTAMA

- 1 Development Office/Pejabat Pembangunan
- 2 Dewan Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra (DeTAR Putra)
- 3 Perpustakaan Tun Abdul Rahman Ya'akob (PeTARY)
- 4 Centre for Information Technology & Development Services/Pusat Khidmat Pembangunan & Teknologi Maklumat
- 5 Chancellery & University House/Canselori & Rumah Universiti  
Student Affairs/Hal Ehwal Pelajar
- 6 Central UNIMAS Building for Educators (CUBE)/Pusat Bangunan UNIMAS untuk Pengajar
- 7 Central Teaching Facilities 1/Kemudahan Pengajaran Sentral 1
- 8 Centre for Applied Learning & Multimedia/Pusat Pembelajaran Gunaan & Multimedia
- 9 Central Teaching Facilities 2/Kemudahan Pengajaran Sentral 2
- 10 Central Teaching Facilities 3,4,5 & 6/Kemudahan Pengajaran Sentral 3,4,5 & 6
- 11 Islamic Centre (PITAS)/Pusat Islam Tun Abang Salahuddin
- 12 Real Living Lab
- 13 Sports Field/Padang Sukan
- 14 Pre-U Campus/Kampus Pra-U
- 15 East Campus UNIMAS Hall/Dewan UNIMAS Kampus Timur
- 16 Pre Universiti Academic Complex/Kompleks Akademik Pra Universiti
- 17 Student Affairs & Alumni Division(SUKSIS) /KOR Sukarelawan Polis Siswa Siswi  
Surau  
Siswa Siswi Pertahanan Awam



## FACULTY & INSTITUTE

### FAKULTI & INSTITUT

- 1 Faculty of Resource Science & Technology/Fakulti Sains Dan Teknologi Sumber  
Institute of Biodiversity & Environmental Conservation/Institut Kepelbagaian Biologi & Pemeliharaan Alam Sekitar
- 2 Faculty of Engineering/Fakulti Kejuruteraan  
Institute of Sustainability & Renewable Energy/Institut Kelestarian & Tenaga Diperbaharui
- 3 Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology/Fakulti Sains Komputer & Teknologi Maklumat  
Institute of Social Informatics & Technological Innovations/Institut Informatik Sosial & Teknologi Inovasi
- 4 Faculty of Language & Communication/Fakulti Bahasa & Komunikasi
- 5 Faculty of Applied & Creative Arts/Fakulti Seni Gunaan & Kreatif  
Institute of Creative Technology/Institut Teknologi Kreatif
- 6 Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities/Fakulti Sains Sosial & Kemanusiaan  
Institute of Borneo Studies/Institut Pengajian Borneo
- 7 Faculty of Cognitive Science & Human Development/Fakulti Sains Kognitif Dan Pembangunan Manusia
- 8 Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences/Fakulti Perubatan & Sains Kesihatan  
Institute of Health & Community Medicine/Institut Kesihatan & Perubatan Komuniti
- 9 Faculty of Economics & Business/Fakulti Ekonomi & Pemiagaan
- 10 Faculty of Built Environment/Fakulti Alam Bina  
External Laboratories/Makmal Luar

## CAMPUS AMENITIES

### KEMUDAHAN KAMPUS

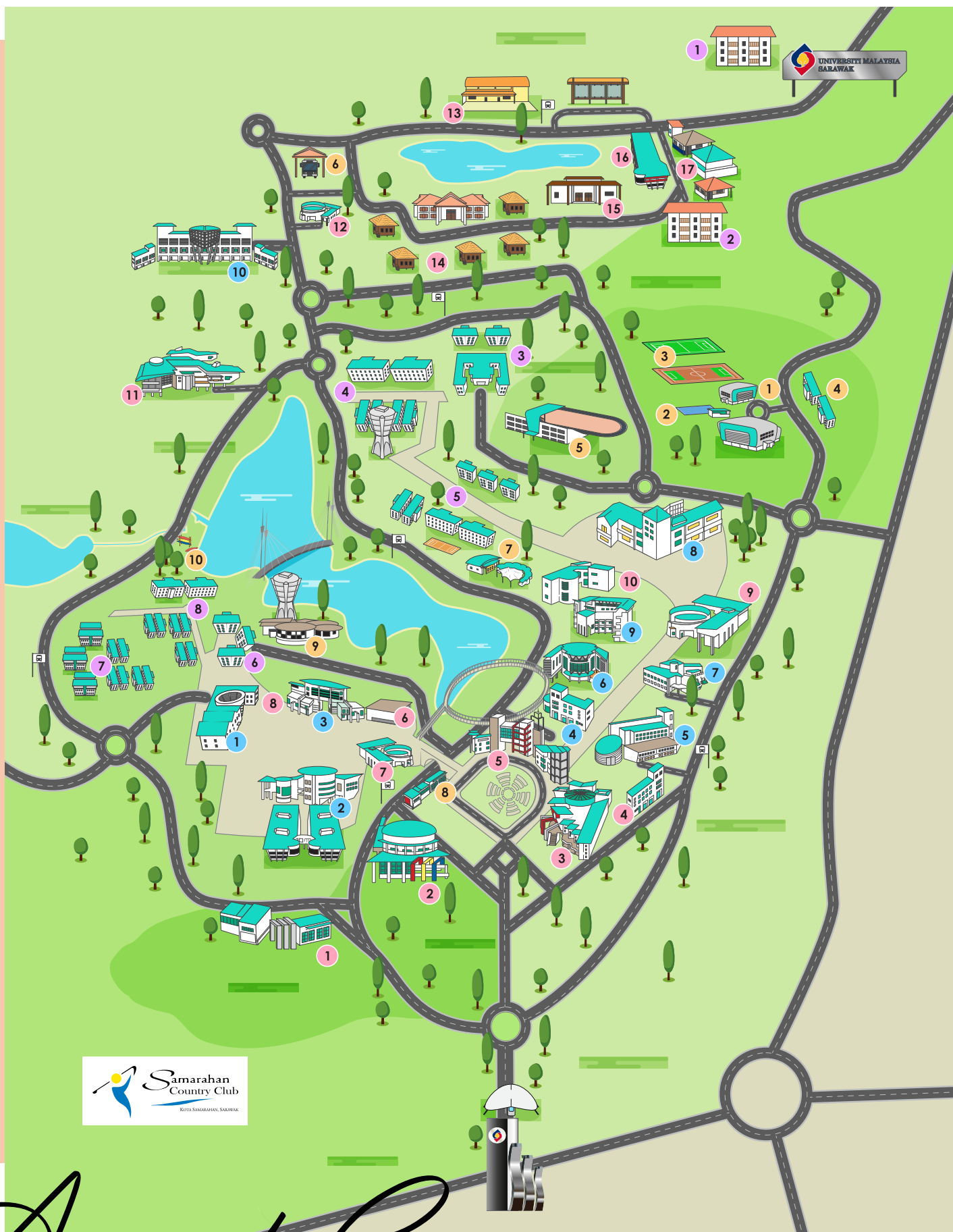
- 1 Arena Tun Tuanku Haji Bujang  
Badminton Stadium/Stadium Badminton
- 2 Swimming Pool/Kolam Renang
- 3 Football Field/Padang Bola  
Tennis Court/Gelanggang Tenis
- 4 Staff Quarter/Tempat Kakitangan
- 5 Stadium UNIMAS
- 6 Bus Depot/Depot Bas
- 7 Panggung Gemilang  
Food Court/Medan Selera
- 8 UNIMAS Health Center/Pusat Kesihatan UNIMAS
- 9 Student Pavillion
- 10 Kayak Centre/Pusat Kayak

## RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES

### KOLEJ KEDIAMAN

- 1 Kenanga College/Kolej Kenanga
- 2 Seroja College/Kolej Seroja
- 3 Tun Ahmad Zaidi Adruce College/Kolej Tun Ahmad Zaidi Adruce
- 4 Bunga Raya College/Kolej Bunga Raya
- 5 Cempaka College/Kolej Cempaka
- 6 Sakura College/Kolej Sakura
- 7 Alamanda College/Kolej Alamanda
- 8 Dahlia College/Kolej Dahlia

*Finding Your Way*



*Around Campus*

# Facilities and Service Around the Campus

## TUN ABDUL RAHMAN YA'KUB LIBRARY (PETARY)

Perpustakaan Tun Abdul Rahman Ya'kub (PeTARY), the Library of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) was established in 1993. The Library was officiated on 17 January 1995 by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who was the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia at that time, with the name Centre for Academic Information Services (CAIS).

However, after 26 years being known as CAIS, the Library is now gazetted as Perpustakaan Tun Abdul Rahman Ya'kub (PeTARY), named after the late Tun Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, who was the third Chief Minister of Sarawak and also the fourth Head of the State of Sarawak.

## SPORTS

The establishment of Arena Tun Tuanku Haji Bujang started under the auspices of the Student Development Center (PPP), Student Affairs and Alumni Division in 1993, and was then known as the Sports Unit. In 2008, the Ministry of Higher Education has recommended that all IPT Sports Units be upgraded as the Sports Center.

The upgrade of the Sports Unit to Sports Center was announced by Professor Datuk Dr Mohamad Kadim bin Suaidi, UNIMAS Vice-Chancellor during the Amanat Naib Canselor 2017 on January 25, 2017. The role of the Arena Tun Tuanku Haji Bujang has become more challenging as it is responsible in playing the major role in planning and providing sports activities.

## ACCOMMODATION

Other than Dahlia and Rafflesia Residential College that are designated for international student, UNIMAS are equipped with additional residential colleges as the following:

### Residential Colleges

1. Allamanda Residential College
2. Bunga Raya Residential College
3. Cempaka Residential College
4. Kasturi Residential College
5. Kenanga Residential College
6. Sakura Residential College
7. Seroja Residential College
8. Tun Ahmad Zaidi Residential College
9. Rafflesia Residential College (for international students)
10. Dahlia Residential College (for international students)

## ON-CAMPUS COUNSELING AND STUDENT WELFARE UNIT

Counseling and Student Welfare Unit (UniK) is one of the units under the Student Service Centre, UNIMAS Student Affairs and Alumni Office. UniK provides services to assist students or individuals in their personal development through counseling and psychological approaches. A total of 4 certified and registered Psychological Officers under the Board of Counsellors Malaysia is responsible for conducting counselling services and assisted by four experienced Assistant Psychological Officers. The Community Development Officer stationed in the Unit is responsible for managing student welfare matters which include welfare assistance, distribution of zakat and contributions and insurance claims.

## TRANSPORTATION

Sarawak is the biggest state of Malaysia with much of its area covered by primary rain forest. However, there are various methods when it comes to travelling around in Sarawak from UNIMAS. We understand that you preferred not to spend expensive money on transportation and most of the transport method in Sarawak is rather reasonable and affordable. Here is a list of transportation methods in Sarawak:

- Grab Car Services
- Public Bus Services
- Ferries
- Boat Services





# Out and About in Kuching, Sarawak

## LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN SARAWAK AND COMMUNITY

In Sarawak, the Land of the Hornbills, the ethnographic picture is much more complex than in West Malaysia. There are officially 27 ethnic groups, with not even one constituting a simple majority. Sarawak is rightly the most diverse and colourful conglomeration of the ethnic mix that makes this state so unique. The Malay language is still the most important tongue of the land. The major ethnic groups in Sarawak are mainly Malay, Iban, Chinese, Melanau, Bidayuh and Orang Ulu.



## EVENTS AND FESTIVAL

### **Hari Raya Aidilfitri**

The festival of Eid Mubarak, known in Malaysia as Hari Raya Aidilfitri or Hari Raya Puasa, falls on the first day of Syawal, the 10th month of the Hijrah (Islamic) calendar. Eid al-Fitr, also called the “Festival of Breaking the Fast”, is a religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide that marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan. This religious Eid is the only day in the month of Shawwal during which Muslims are not permitted to fast. It is a celebratory occasion following a month of fasting, which is known as Ramadan. The term hari raya is Malay for “big (or grand) day of rejoicing”.

### **Chinese New Year**

Chinese New Year/Spring Festival/Chinese Lunar New Year is the festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Chinese lunar calendar. Chinese New Year is perhaps the biggest and most important annual festival for Chinese and the Chinese communities worldwide. The event is celebrated on the first day of the Chinese Lunar Calendar. Each year is named after one of the 12 animals of the Chinese Zodiac. Prior to celebrations, homes are cleaned and decorated by members of the family. Also, plenty of food is prepared and new clothes are purchased. Like any other event, family members from out of town and far away will come home for the gathering.

### **Gawai**

Gawai Dayak is an annual festival celebrated by the Dayak People in Sarawak, Malaysia and West Kalimantan, Indonesia on 1 and 2 June. It is a public holiday in Sarawak and is both a religious and a social occasion recognised since 1957.

### **Christmas**

Christmas (or the Feast of the Nativity) is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration by billions of people around the world.

### **World Rainforest Festival**

The Rainforest World Music Festival is an annual three-day music festival celebrating the diversity of world music, held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia, with daytime music workshops, cultural displays, craft displays, food stalls, and main-stage evening concerts. Organized by Sarawak Tourism Board and more updates at <https://sarawaktourism.com>.

### **World Jazz Festival**

Borneo Jazz Festival was started in 2006. The event is organised by the Sarawak Tourism Board, endorsed by Tourism Malaysia and is jointly supported by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia and Ministry of Tourism, Sarawak. The festival was formerly known as Miri International Jazz Festival before it was renamed to Borneo Jazz Festival in 2011.

### **Kuching Festival**

Kuching Festival is an annual event organised by Kuching South City Council to commemorate Kuching being elevated to City status on 1st August 1988 and held to boost local tourism and food industry. Visitors to the festival can enjoy various events held throughout the month of August, including dramatic performances, musical concerts, galleries, exhibitions, garden show and many more. One of the main attractions within the festival is the food fair, a mouth-watering event a festival of this caliber cannot do without.

### **International Bornean Frog Race**

The International Bornean Frog Race was organized to draw attention to the world’s declining amphibian population and the urgent need for its conservation. It was organized jointly by the Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation, Faculty of Resource Science and Technology of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC). Among the activities held were talks, workshops, exhibitions and culminating with the ‘Frog Race’, offering a total of RM5,000 in prize money. The race attracted ‘frogging’ enthusiasts from 12 countries — Malaysia, India, New Zealand, Sweden, US, China, Germany, Pakistan, Japan, France, Holland and Curacao.

## PLACES OF INTEREST

### BAKO NATIONAL PARK

Bako National Park is a national park in Kuching Division, Sarawak, Malaysia. Established in 1957, it is the oldest national park in Sarawak. It covers an area of 27.27 square kilometres (10.53 sq mi) at the tip of the Muara Tebas peninsula at the mouth of the Bako and Kuching Rivers. It is approximately 40 kilometres (25 mi) by road from Kuching. Millions of years of erosion of the sandstone have created a coastline of steep cliffs, rocky headlands and stretches of white, sandy bays. Wave erosion at the base of the cliffs has carved many of the rocky headlands into fantastically shaped sea arches and sea stacks with colored patterns formed by iron deposition. The park can only be reached by a 20-minute boat ride from the village of Kampung Bako. It is often visited as a day-trip from Kuching, though accommodations (campground and forestry service bungalows) are available.



### MATANG WILDLIFE CENTRE

Matang Wildlife Centre, part of Kubah National Park, houses endangered wildlife in large enclosed areas of rainforest or spacious cages. The main attraction is the orangutan adoption programme, where young orangutans, who were either orphaned or rescued from captivity, are taught how to survive in the wild. As well as orangutans, the centre includes spacious enclosures housing sambar deer, crocodiles, sun bears, civets and bear cats, and three large aviaries featuring hornbills, eagles, kites, storks and a host of other birds native to Sarawak.

But, Matang is not a zoo. It is a dedicated centre where endangered species, such as orang utans are rehabilitated and released into the forest. Most individuals were confiscated from members of the public, who illegally kept them as pets, and must be taught how to fend for themselves in the wild. While they are being educated, they remain at the centre, enabling you to get close to animals you might not spot in days of wandering the jungle.

There are some pleasant riverside picnic spots a short walk from the information centre and four jungle trails. The Pitcher Trail, which follows a circular path through the forest, takes approximately two hours and trekkers should not have too much difficulty in spotting the various specious of pitcher plants that litter the forest floor at the sides of the trail. The Rayu Trail leads to the Kubah National Park headquarters and takes 3-4 hours. The Sungai Buluh Trail leads to two secluded waterfalls and takes 2-hours (one way).



## SARAWAK CULTURAL VILLAGE

“See Sarawak in Half a Day” is the claim made by Sarawak Cultural Village, a unique award-winning living museum offering an excellent introduction to local cultures and lifestyles. One of Malaysia’s best-known and most iconic cultural attractions, Sarawak Cultural Village is a unique award-winning living museum offering an exciting and informative introduction to local cultures and lifestyles. Nine authentic replica buildings represent every major ethnic group in Sarawak; Bidayuh, Iban and Orang Ulu longhouses, a Penan jungle settlement, a Melanau tall-house, a Malay town house, a Chinese farmhouse and pagoda. Each is staffed with members of their respective ethnic groups, in traditional costume, carrying out traditional activities. Every house has a “storyteller” who is an expert in describing and interpreting traditional cultures and lifestyles.

After touring the village, visitors can enjoy a multi-cultural dance performance in the village’s own theatre, or even take dance, music and craft lessons. There is also a good ethnic restaurant and a handicraft shop on-site. Other attractions and amenities include; a Sulpture Garden; the Rainforest Music House, with traditional instruments and interactive music workshops; and the Dewan Legenda (Hall of Legends), a creative space complete with dance studio, library, information centre, costume gallery, lecture hall and creativity room. The Cultural Village can host theme dinners and parties, corporate events, seminars and product launches, and even traditional weddings, in authentic Iban, Bidayuh, Malay or Orang Ulu style.



### ADDRESS

Sarawak Cultural Village  
Pantai Damai, Santubong,  
P.O.Box 2632, 93752 Kuching,  
Sarawak, Malaysia.  
Tel: (6082)846 108 / (6082) 846 078  
Fax: (6082)846 988  
Operating Hours: 9AM – 5PM

Website: <https://scv.com.my/>



## PASAR MALAM (NIGHT MARKET)

Kuching Pasar Malam: Uptown Satok @ Civic Centre  
If you passed by Civic Centre on Friday and Saturday nights, then you've probably heard or visited the place. The night market comes to life every Friday and Saturday from 9pm to 3am with many kinds of stalls from foods, to clothing's, and more!

## SINIAWAN OLD TOWN NIGHT MARKET

Siniawan, a small town in the Bau district, about 20km away from Kuching, the Capital of Sarawak. The population totals at about 3,600 people, with majority of Bidayuh (750 families) and Chinese (700 families), followed by Malay (100 families).

Siniawan Night Market takes place every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Located 21 km away from Kuching city, this small town is a beautiful place to spend the evening eating and being merry. The street is lined with old wooden townhouses, and Chinese lanterns light the street below. Over the recent years, the old town of Siniawan has begun to really invest in their weekend night markets, promoting their traditions and cultures while breathing new life into the local economy through tourism. Pitcher plant rice, locally called Lemang Periuk Kera is one of the 'trademark' foods you can find here along with other traditional Chinese, Malay and Dayak food. The Lui Teh and Ngo Hiang are also recommended.



## FAIRY CAVE

Fairy Cave (also known as Gua Pari) is an impressive show cave near the former gold mining settlement of Bau and about 40km from Kuching, Sarawak. It is just a few minutes drive from another show cave, Wind Cave, and most tourists would combine both on a half-day trip from Kuching.

You pass through a dim, narrow passage and up some steep wooden steps. It is fairly dark but you can manage without a torch, unlike Wind Cave where a torch is essential. Some might find this part rather claustrophobic but bear with it as the passage soon emerges into a massive cave with a huge opening which allows the light to flood in.

## BUNG BRATAK

### Pesta Bung Bratak

The Pesta Bung Bratak, or Bung Bratak Festival, will take place on May 1 at Bung Bratak located at Kampung Tembawang in Bau. The festival aims to showcase Bidayuh traditional culture, dance and music to everyone who attends. In addition to cultural performances, there will be a "Dayung Sangon" parade, where traditionally garbed girls in the community join the procession. One of the attractions at the festival is the newly completed Bung Bratak Heritage Center (BBHC), which includes a lodging facility that costs RM100 per person (inclusive of breakfast, lunch, dinner and a barbecue).


## BUNG JAGOI

Sarawak is awash with unexpected cultural experiences. Whether you enjoy its gastronomic delight or looking forward to some new experiences and adventures, discovering Sarawak's rugged beauty might be a good idea for your New Year's bucket list. So why not jump into a natural world of a hidden gem of Bung Jagoi - an old village considered the ancestral home of the Dayak Bidayuh for over 175 years. Bung Jagoi is located at the Jagoi-Bratak area in Bau, Sarawak, at the northwestern of Borneo, to be exact. Located an hour drive from Kuching, Bung Jagoi is situated near the Malaysia-Kalimantan, Indonesia border. Bung means summit in Bidayuh Bau dialect and therefore the area is near the hilltop, about 280 metres above the sea level and surrounded by more than 500-hectare pristine forest.



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*The Essential*



# Guidelines

## Academic Rules and Regulations

For more informations about Academic rules and regulations  
please refer to:

<https://www.bpps.unimas.my/useful-resources/academic-rules-and-regulations>  
<https://www.postgrad.unimas.my/guidelines>

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Offices	
1	International Office (UNIMAS Global) Tel: +60 82 58 1214 / 1207 Fax: +60 82 66 5088
2	Centre for Pre-University Studies (Pre-U) Tel: +60 82 58 2480 / 2294 Fax: +60 82 582330
3	Undergraduate Studies Division (BPPs) Tel: +60 82 58 1166 Fax: +60 82 58 1209
4	Centre for Graduates Studies (CGS) Tel: +60 82 58 1014 /1015/1017/1106 Fax: +60 82 581059
5	UNIMAS Health Centre (PKU) Tel: +60 82 58 1604 / 1611 Fax: +60 82 58 1850
6	Security Division Tel: +60 82 58 2339 / 2341 Fax: +60 82 58 2454
7	Centre for Student Services (PKP) Tel: +60 82 58 1851 Fax: +60 82 58 1850
Emergency Contact (Authorities & Emergency Department)	
1	Samarahan District Police Headquarters Tel: +60 82 662101
2	Kota Samarahan Fire and Rescue Station Tel: +60 82 673881
3	Sarawak Heart Centre Tel: +60 82 668111
4	Malaysia Civil Defense Forces, Kota Samarahan Branch Tel: +60 82 672999

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*What's Next?*



# Graduation and Future Plan

After years of studying and assessment, you are now officially a UNIMAS Graduate. Now you have armed with all the knowledge and experience, you should plan a life after graduation. If you are unsure what you should do next, perhaps you can consider the following pathways:

## **CONTINUE YOUR STUDIES**

In choosing a university to pursue a postgraduate programme, one has to weigh out many options. Will there be adequate facilities, state-of-the-art laboratories and equipment, modern library, computing facilities etc that can contribute and to promote the creation of a conducive research culture and learning experience? Will there be a sufficient pool of academic staff and researchers who are inspirational and committed to the pursuits and advancement of new knowledge and its applications? Will my experience as a UNIMAS postgraduate student be challenging, fulfilling and rewarding, socially and intellectually?

Indeed, in building the foundation for credibility and excellence of our postgraduate programmes, we have given our fullest attention to these critical criteria. We take pride in our high-calibre staff and skilled researchers, our modern research facilities and campus-wide computer networking and services. Our level of commitment to research in a broad coverage of areas can stand up to the keenest scrutiny. CGS offers the rare prospect of focusing on quality and assertively seeking for a culture of excellence. Postgraduate teaching and research have always occupied the highest profile in all its endeavours and achievements. The graduate programmes and research are constantly reviewed and monitored to maintain a learning environment of the highest quality. Interested to further your study in UNIMAS? Please refer to the link <https://www.postgrad.unimas.my/index.php/courses-list/postgraduate>

## **GET A JOB IN YOUR FIELD OF STUDY**

Of course you may just be ready to take the leap and get a full-time job. After all you did study quite a few years to acquire the necessary skills.

## **TRAVEL**

Feeling like you need a bit of rest and recreation? Then you could decide to take a few months off to go backpacking and explore new countries and cultures. Alternatively, if you would prefer to put your university skills to use, you could use your degree to get a job in an overseas country.

Intern or gain some work experience

However, sometimes finding a job isn't always smooth sailing and can be particularly hard if you don't have much on your CV. That's where internships and work experience placements can come in handy, giving you that hands on experience employers are looking for. To see what work placement might be available you can check with your lecturers and tutorial teachers or have a scan of your university's online job board.

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**CONTACT US**

# UNIMAS GLOBAL

## Phone Number

+6 082 581010

## Emails:

### Undergraduate Programmes Application

interug@unimas.my

### Postgraduate Programmes Application

interpg@unimas.my

### Mobility Application

mobility\_app@unimas.my

## Websites

[www.unimas.com](http://www.unimas.com)

[www.global.unimas.my](http://www.global.unimas.my)

## Social Media Platforms

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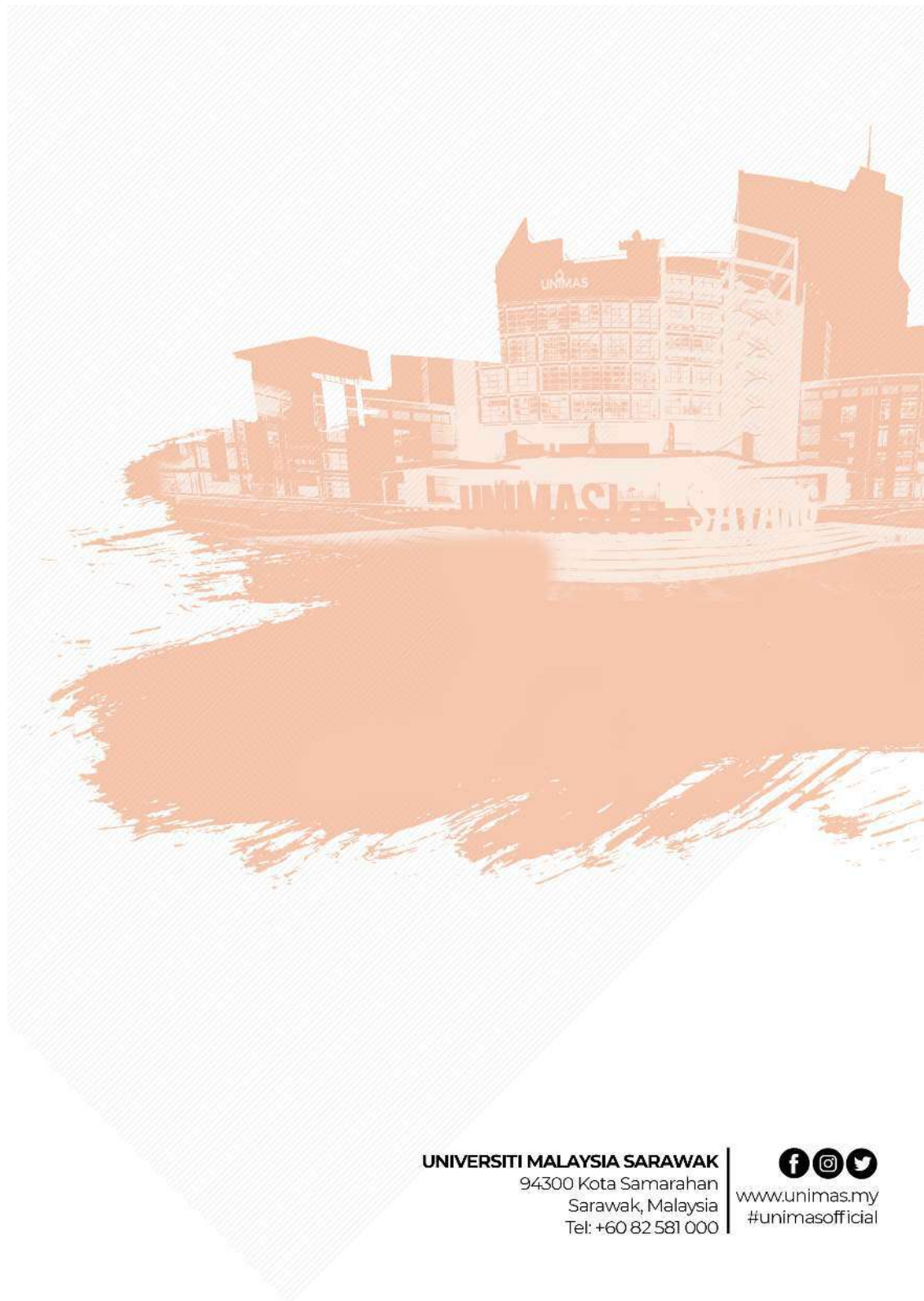
### Instagram

[https://www.instagram.com/UNIMASofficial\\_instagram/](https://www.instagram.com/UNIMASofficial_instagram/)

### YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/UNIMASofficialMEDIA>





**UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK**  
94300 Kota Samarahan  
Sarawak, Malaysia  
Tel: +60 82 581 000



[www.unimas.my](http://www.unimas.my)  
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