**Kinabalu**

Kinabalu is the capital of Sabah in the Northwest part of Borneo Island or more popularly known as the ‘Land Below the Wind’. Affectionately abbreviated as ‘KK’ by the locals, the city is the seventh largest town in Malaysia, hosting a population of over 450,000 which makes it one of the largest cities in Malaysia. It is the largest city in the state of Sabah, standing on a rich history dating back over 100 years. The climate in Kinabalu has its own climate. As scattered and unpredictable rains sometimes occur, it’s advisable to carry an umbrella with you at all times. The best time to visit Kota Kinabalu is from January to April, when the weather is dry and cool. These months have the ideal weather conditions for outdoor activities and sightseeing.

**Overview**

The population of Sabah amounts to approximately 3.9 million, with the city of Kinabalu occupying nearly 30% of the total population. The language of communication in over 33 indigenous groups. Each group having its own colourful culture, tradition, festival and customs. The indigenous groups include the Kadazan/Dusun (largest ethnic group), Bajau, Murut, Rungus, Lotud, Brunei, each group having its own colourful culture, tradition, festival and customs. The indigenous communities communicate in over 80 ethnic dialects.

**Languages**

English is the National Language and is widely used. Most residents are also able to understand and speak Malay.

**Currency**

Malaysian Ringgit (**RM**) is the country’s currency. It is divided into 100 sen. The local money is also known as Ringgit. The currency code for Malaysia is **MYR**.

**Electricity**

Malaysia’s electricity follows the 240 volt, 50 hertz power system. The country is Type G. The country code, along with the pin code, is +60. It is advisable to carry a power adapter and voltage converter should you travel to another country.

**Taxes & Refunds**

There is a taxation of 6% on all services provided. If you are planning to stay for more than 7 days in Malaysia, you can claim back the tax at your departure via the Malappuram, Kozhikode, Cochin airports.

**Telephone**

The country code for Malaysia is **+60**. The area code for Kota Kinabalu is **#8**.

**Average Temperature**

There are two climate regions in Sabah. The coastal and highland origins. The lowlands (Kota Kinabalu, Ranau, Kundasang, Highlands) have an average temperature of 21 °C during ATCM business sessions. The coastal and highland regions are natural tourist magnets - home to an abundant range of flora and fauna. The best time to visit Kota Kinabalu is from January to April, when the weather is dry and cool. These months have the ideal weather conditions for outdoor activities and sightseeing.

**Key Information**

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- **Immigration Department**
- **VAT**
- **Cultural Venues**
- **World Class Resort**
- **Natural Tourist Magnets**
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