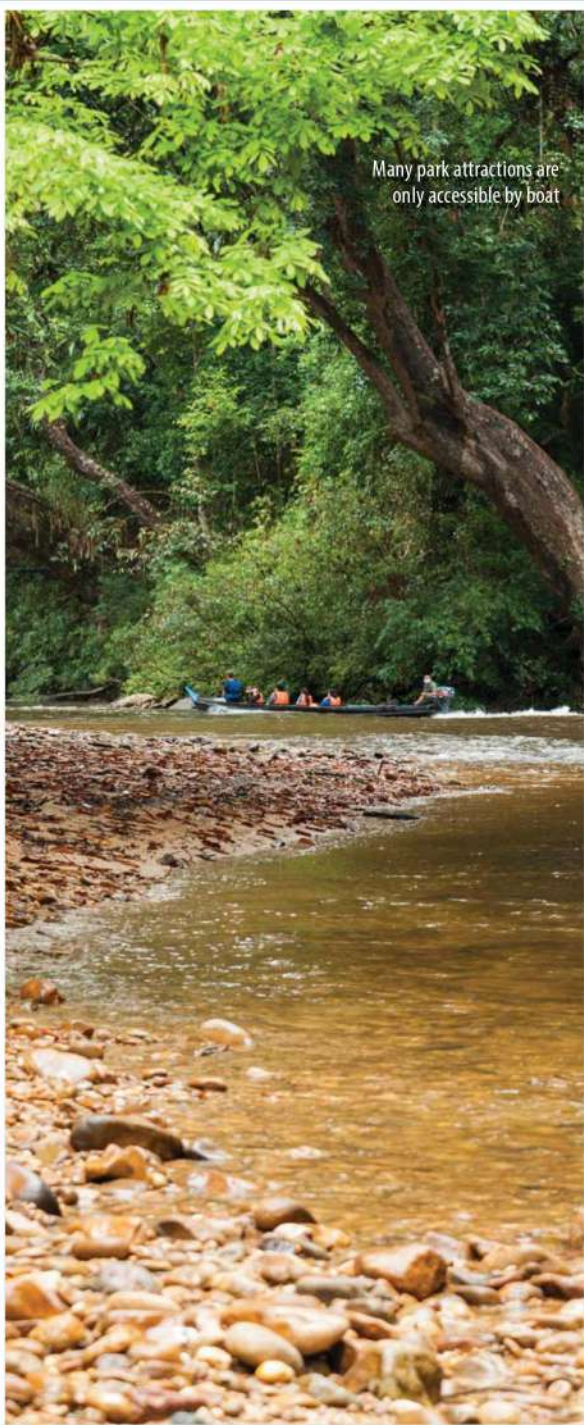


TAMAN NEGARA

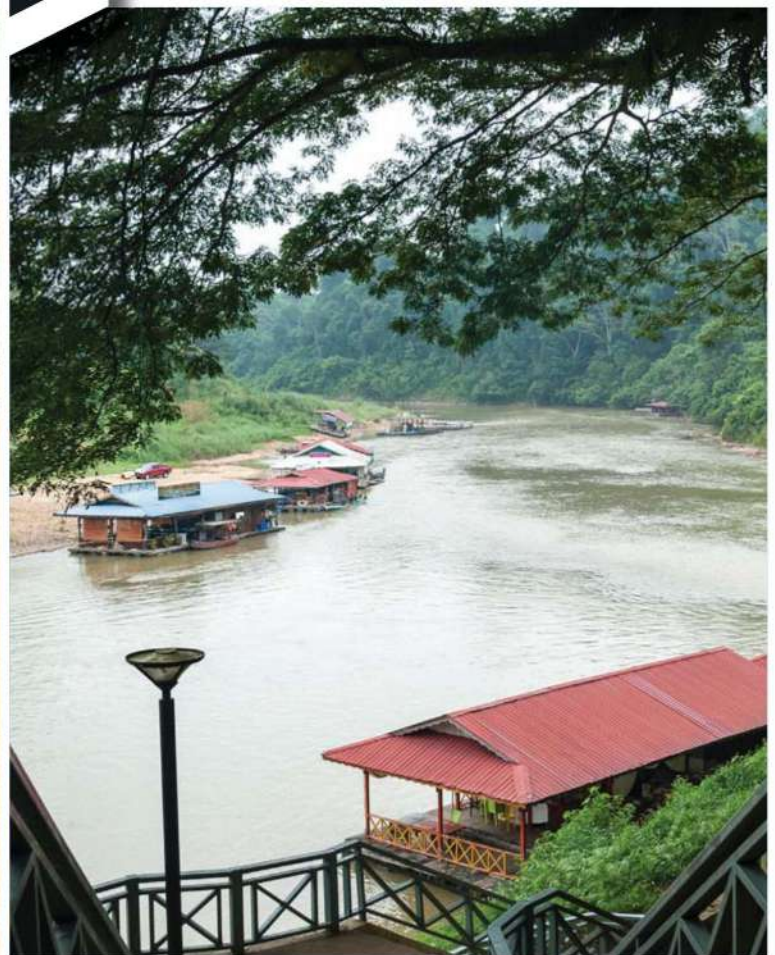
130 Million Year Old Natural Wonder



Many park attractions are only accessible by boat

This expanse of rainforest was established as a wildlife reserve in 1925 to protect game animals. It became a national park in 1939 when it was named King George V Park before being renamed Taman Negara. Malaysia's largest protected forest at 4,343km² encompasses the headwaters of the Terrangan, Relai-Aring-Lebir and Tembeling Rivers. The latter meets the Tahan River at Kuala Tahan where park headquarters and most facilities are situated.

The park extends over the states of Pahang, Kelantan and Terengganu and offers activities like jungle trekking, fishing, mountain climbing, caving, rafting, a canopy walk and birdwatching as well as relaxing in riverside resorts. Taman Negara is one of the world's oldest rainforests recognised for its diverse flora. The vegetation varies with location and altitude but is mostly virgin lowland dipterocarp forest while montane forests flourish in higher elevations like Gunung Tahan at 2,187m, Peninsular Malaysia's highest peak.



View of Tembeling River from Mutiara Taman Negara Resort

Many of Peninsular Malaysia's 14,000 plant species, 270 reptiles, 250 freshwater fish and 200 mammals survive in Taman Negara. Visitors can walk along trails through the lush understorey to appreciate the park's complex flora.

While home to many animals, seeing them is often difficult but several hides near salt licks make sightings easier. The park is a habitat for mammals, birds, reptiles, primates, carnivores and micro fauna. Forests are home to the Asian Elephant, Sun Bear, leopards, cats, otters, gibbons, reptiles and birds. Animals such as deer, squirrels, wild boars and monkeys are used to people being around and can be seen foraging at park headquarters. Hornbills like the Pied Oriental are just one of the 300 bird species that can be sighted in Taman Negara. Birdwatchers seek rare sightings like the Crested Fireback and Mountain Peacock Pheasant.

Most visitors explore the park on one of several jungle treks or boat journeys along forest-lined rivers. While some walks are short, the seven-day ascent of Gunung Tahan appeals to experienced climbers. Popular trails are well formed with boardwalks, steps or rope pulls in the steepest sections. A stroll through the canopy on the 450-m long canopy walk is an essential activity as it provides elevated views of the forest's upper layers and down to the understorey.



Extensive buttress roots support tall trees



Adventurous path to Bukit Teresek



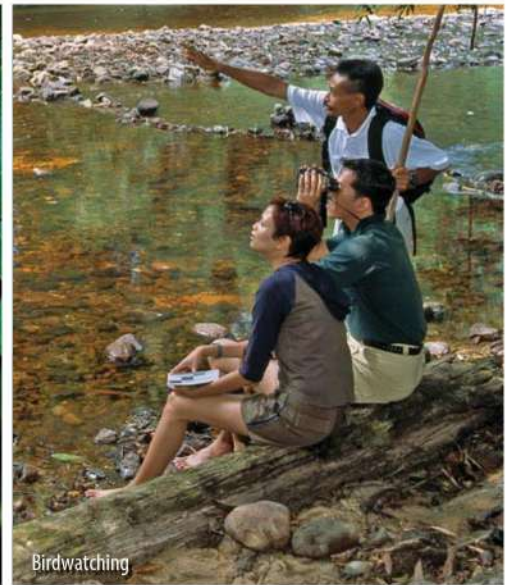
Darts are propelled from blowpipes



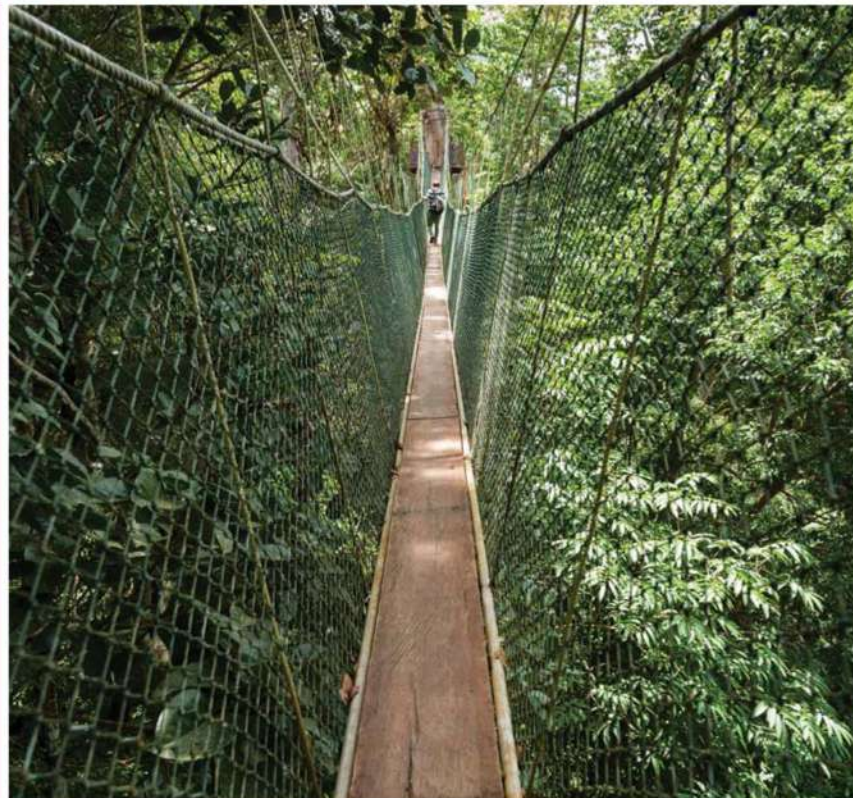
Centipede



Flying Fox feeding on flower



Birdwatching



The canopy walk is 450m long and 40m high

Taman Negara is home to the Batek Orang Asli, some of whom lead semi-nomadic lives within the forest. Some communities welcome visitors so they can experience their lifestyle and forest survival skills such as hunting with a blowpipe and poisonous darts.

Mutiara Taman Negara Resort is located at the national park entrance and its restaurant showcases local and classic Western dishes. Specialty fish dishes include *ikan patin* and *ikan kelah* fished from rivers within the park. The resort's Jemari Spa provides healthy and rejuvenation therapies while the Kuala Tahan village is home to small resorts and budget accommodation.



Malaysia's largest national park extends over the states of Pahang, Kelantan and Terengganu with the view from Bukit Awan, northeast of Kuala Tahan and on the way to Kampung Kuala Sat, extending over the Tembeling River and Taman Negara with its towering peaks.

Long jungle treks require appropriate equipment



Visitors can admire the view from Bukit Awan northeast of Kuala Tahan on the road to Kampung Kuala Sat. Kampung Kuala Sat offers adventurous riverine activities and is an emerging new gateway to Taman Negara. Visitors are rewarded with untouched forests, simple village life and some thrilling adventures along Sungai Sat, a tributary of the Tembeling River. Activities are led by the local community and include river excursions to Bentong Camp while comfortable accommodation is available in the neighbouring village.

Visitors need to allocate at least two days to experience just a small sample of activities in and around Taman Negara. While it is possible to drive to Kuala Tahan, most visitors head there by boat from Kuala Tembeling jetty near Jerantut and travel along the Tembeling River to Kuala Tahan. Adventurers head off here on foot or in small boats to discover Taman Negara's many attractions as there are no roads within the park. The closest train station is Jerantut.

Chalets, Mutiara
Taman Negara



Admire the large freshwater fish at the
Ikan Kelah Sanctuary

