

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

The gateway to Borneo drops you within reach of coral islands, proboscis monkeys, and five indigenous tribes — all in a single port day.

 Pier (Sepanggar Bay Terminal)  Typical call: 8-10 hrs  Malaysian Ringgit (MYR)  Malay & English  Wildlife & Island destination

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:	Arrive:	All aboard:
Excursion:	Notes:	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier at Kota Kinabalu Port, Sepanggar Bay — 15-20 km from city center

To City Center: 30-45 min by taxi or Grab; no walkable city access from pier

Best For: Island snorkeling, Bornean tribal culture, wildlife parks

Don't Miss: DIY island hopping to Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park

 Getting around:  Taxi  RM 35-45 (~\$8-10 USD) ·  Rideshare  Grab ·  Hop-on hop-off  Hop-on hop-off

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Island Hopping — Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park** — Five tropical islands sit just 15 minutes by boat from shore.
- Lok Kawi Wildlife Park** — The best option for seeing Borneo's iconic animals on a port day — proboscis monkeys, pygmy elephants, sun bears, and orangutans in a managed park...
- Sabah Tribal Cultural Village Experience** — Step into the jungle and meet Sabah's five indigenous tribes — Kadazan-Dusun, Bajau, Lundayeh, Murut, and Rungus.
- White-Water Rafting on the Kiulu River** — The Kiulu River offers gentle Grade 1-2 rapids through Sabah jungle — accessible and family-friendly for non-experts (the Padas River is the Class...
- City Walk: Waterfront, Atkinson Clock Tower & Markets** — KK's compact center is best on foot once you get there.

BEST WALKS

- KK Waterfront to Atkinson Clock Tower** 1.5 km · 30 min · Flat — Start at the Marlin statue on the waterfront boardwalk, then walk south past the old Jesselton heritage buildings to the hilltop Atkinson Clock Tower — KK's oldest...
- Gaya Street Market Stroll** 0.8 km loop · 20-30 min · Flat — Browse the main shopping street for Bornean pearls, batik sarongs, handicrafts, and local snacks.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:08AM–6:23PM · Jun 6:02AM–6:30PM · Aug 6:10AM–6:29PM · Sep 6:06AM–6:15PM · Oct 6:01AM–6:00PM	
Apr	86°	76°	21d		
Jun	85°	76°	20d		
Aug	86°	76°	20d		
Sep	85°	76°	23d		
Oct	84°	75°	27d		

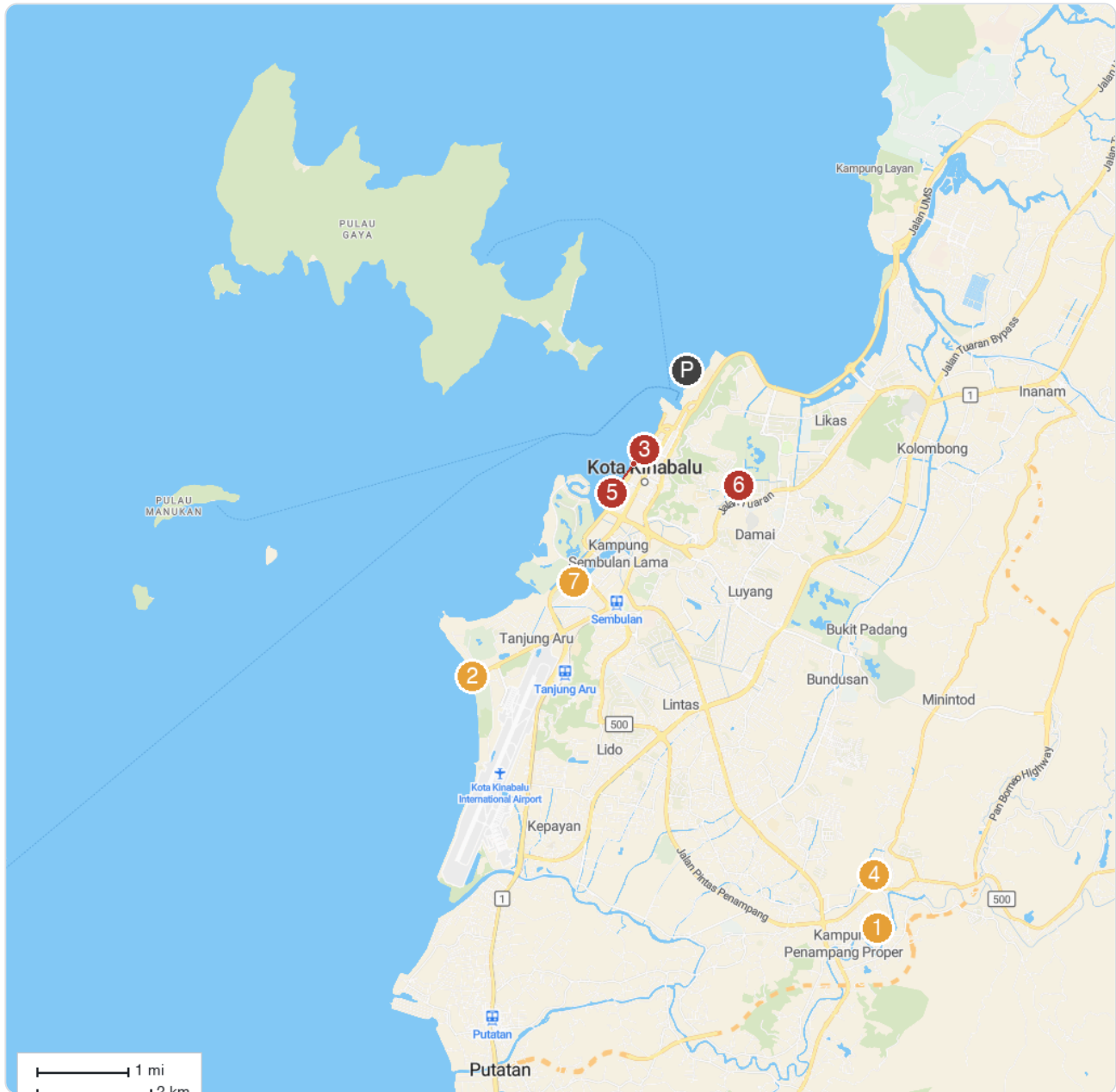
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Get Grab before you arrive. The port is 15-20 km from town — Grab is cheap, safe, and eliminates taxi negotiation. Load it and link a card at home.
- Island hopping is easy to DIY. Walk (or Grab) to Jesselton Point South Jetty, buy a return boat ticket (RM 40-60), pay the Marine Park fee on the island, and snorkel in crystal-clear water within 30 minutes of leaving the ship.
- Bring cash in Ringgit. Street food, markets, taxis, and island ferry tickets are cash-only. ATMs are plentiful at Suria Sabah mall; credit cards work in malls and larger restaurants.
- Skip Mount Kinabalu on a port day. The national park is a 2-3 hour drive each way on winding mountain roads. Traffic or delays = missed ship. It deserves an overnight trip, not a port dash.
- Carry a light rain jacket. KK is hot and humid year-round (30°C/86°F+). Afternoon downpours come quickly and pass just as fast. Sunscreen is essential even on cloudy days.
- Dress modestly for city sightseeing. Shoulders and knees covered if visiting the City Mosque or markets. Beachwear is fine for the islands — just bring a cover-up for the boat ride.

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 St. Michael's Church | A historic stone church with beautiful architecture. | 2 Tanjung Aru Beach | Famous for stunning sunsets and relaxing by the sea. |
| 3 Kota Kinabalu Central Market | Bustling market for fresh produce, seafood, and local goods. | 4 Sabah Cultural Centre | Experience traditional Sabah culture, dance, and handicrafts. |
| 5 Night Food Market | Lively street food stalls offering local delicacies after dark. | 6 Aquascape Center | A unique aquarium showcasing aquatic plants and fish displays. |
| 7 Double Six Memorial Park | Commemorates a tragic plane crash, a historical monument. | P Cruise port / terminal | |