



WELCOME TO

Endau Rompin

JOHOR NATIONAL PARK

Selai ENTRANCE

WELCOME TO *Endau-Rompin* JOHOR NATIONAL PARK

Selai is the gateway to the South-Western part of Endau-Rompin Johor National Park (ERJNP). It is the perfect vantage point for nature enthusiasts to escape the hustle and bustle of urban life and immerse themselves in an ancient rainforest of breathtaking waterfalls, pristine streams and roaring rapids. The Selai entrance which opened in 2003 is easily accessed from town of Bekok, off the North-South highway. Although smaller than the Peta entrance in the east, Selai is a good base to explore the park. Along the scenic Sungai Selai you will find two campsites. Simple chalet, dormitory and a cafeteria are available at the Visitors' Complex. An arboretum, orchid garden and a traditional house are only a short walk away.

ERJNP is the largest park in the southern Peninsula of Malaysia with an area of 48,905 hectares. This rainforest is considered to be among the oldest in the world, dating back to the late Jurassic period 140 million years ago. The Park was established in 1993 to safeguard this biodiversity-rich landscape and the freshwater resources contained within it. Selai is a floristic treasure trove. More than 70 species of palm are found here, from spiky rattans to the showy umbrella palm. The Selai region has 20 different ginger species (Zingiberaceae) and a diversity of native fruit trees such as Tampoi, Durian, Jackfruit and Terap. (Artocarpus sp.) which are enjoyed by the native wildlife.

The Park is important for endangered species such as the Malaysian Tiger, the Malaysian Tapir, the Sun Bear, the Asian Elephant and Panther. A total of 95 mammal species have been recorded here including six species of primate. So far, 36 species of reptiles and a similar number of amphibians have been found. New species records continue to be made. The indigenous people of this region are from the Jakun ethnic group who have resided in this region for generations. The forests of this area are significant for the preservation of their culture. A visit to Selai affords many opportunities to appreciate Malaysia's amazing natural and cultural heritage.



TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN Selai

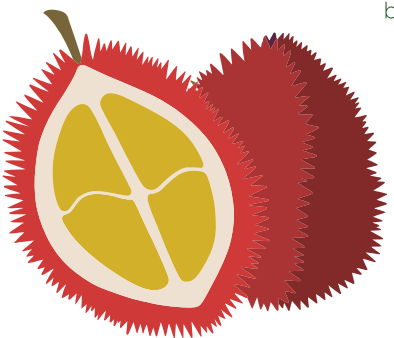


- VISIT AMAZING WATERFALLS**
Waterfalls are the main rewards of the forest treks here. Some are gentle cascades, while others are majestic rockscapes thundering with the power of vast amounts of water. All are worth surely visiting.
- SLEEP UNDER THE STARS**
Hang up your hammock and make yourself at home among the lush, green surroundings! The Lubok Merek and Lubok Tapah campsites are equipped with toilets, showers and a basic camp kitchen.
- HUG A TREE**
Giant trees such as the Meranti Merah can be easily be seen along the Sungai Selai Trail. Be sure to hug one of them. Other rainforest giants are highlighted on the map.
- SPOT THE BIRDS**
Selai's impressive birdlife can be glimpsed even while strolling along the main road and the river. With a good pair of binoculars and a reliable bird book you are all set!
- FIND SIGNS OF WILDLIFE**
In the forest, there are certainly signs of wildlife all around us. Pick out their tracks and prints in the mud, or spot feathers, quills and half-eaten fruits on the ground. Even wildlife droppings have a story to tell.
- LEARN THE LOCAL WAYS**
Visit Rumah Budaya, a typical Jakun home found here. There you can meet the local Jakun who can talk about their traditional ways of life and how they've still obtained many basic needs from the surrounding forest.
- CHOOSE AN ADVENTURE**
Consider making the challenging trek up towards Gunung Tioing (1,014m) which usually takes approx. 2-3 days, or the Trans Selai-Peta trek which traverses the centre of the park to emerge in Peta 5-6 days later.
- TUBE DOWN THE RIVER**
One of the best ways to enjoy Sungai Selai is by tubing! Inflatable tubes may be rented from Lubok Taph and Lubok Merek. Just chill and relax, and let the current do the rest.
- HUNT FOR BUTTERFLIES**
In the flowering season it is possible to stumble upon large numbers of butterflies congregating along the river. Perhaps you will see Malaysia's national butterfly, the Raja Brooke Birdwing, with its electric green markings!
- BASK ON A BOULDER**
Explore the natural rock monuments as you take in the sunshine and stunning scenery all along the Sungai Selai. Look out for Batu Dipikul, a massive boulder, and Batu Berteduh, a natural rock shelter.

Biodiversity HIGHLIGHTS

RAINFOREST GIANTS

The forests of the Selai region contain many awe-inspiring trees that tower 30m-40m above the canopy. Large Keruing or Meranti Merah trees can be seen along the Sungai Selai trail, interspersed with stands of Mersawa (*Antisoptera laevis*) with their sturdy buttress roots. Where the Hill Dipterocarp Forest begins, large Seraya trees (*Shorea curtisii*) appear.



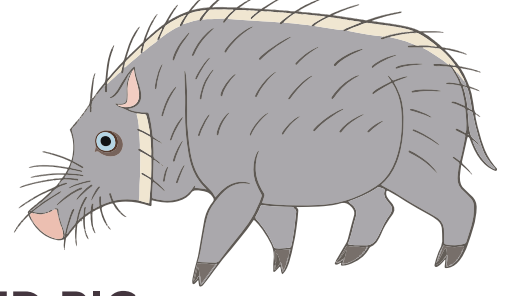
RED DURIAN

A species of Red Durian (*Durio johorensis*) found in Selai is not found anywhere else in the world. It is common along steep hillsides and the fruit grows at the base of the tree. Unfortunately, the flesh is not edible.



BIRD DIVERSITY

Birdlife International has classified Endau Rompin Johor National Park (ERJNP) as an Important Bird Area (IBA) for its global importance for the conservation of wild bird populations. To date, 253 bird species have been recorded here including the diminutive Sunda Scops Owl (*Otus lempiji*) which averages only 10cm tall.



BEARDED PIG

In the southern part of the Peninsula, it is possible to find Bearded Pigs (*Sus barbatus*) in foraging groups. They seek out a wide variety of forest foods including oil-rich seeds.

OBSERVING Wildlife

Most animals in the rainforest are shy and will disappear before you see them, especially if you are marching along in a noisy group. Here are some things you can do to increase your chances of spotting wildlife:

General: Wear dull clothing to blend in with your surroundings. Don't smoke or talk loudly. A guide will be a great help, as his or her trained eyes will be able to spot animals that you might miss. Listen out for animal calls or characteristic sounds that may provide a clue for identifying the species. Make a note of what you see, and talk to your

guide or park staff to learn more about the species you have observed. You will also find some useful references in the NERC.

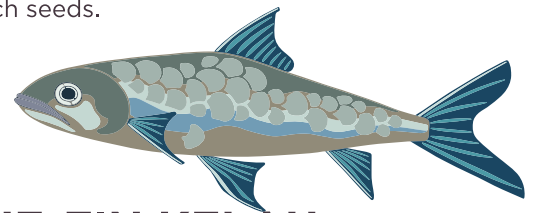
Trails: The best times to observe wildlife along the trails are in the early mornings and evenings. Move slowly and quietly in small groups. Stop often to listen and look out for

signs of animals such as the rustling of leaves in the canopy as well as animal droppings or footprints on the ground.

At night: Many of the mammals are nocturnal, meaning that they are active at night. Smaller creatures, such as frogs, spiders and insects are also out and about at night.

Guided night walks are available in the vicinity of the Visitor Complex by prior arrangement.

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BLUE-FIN KELAH

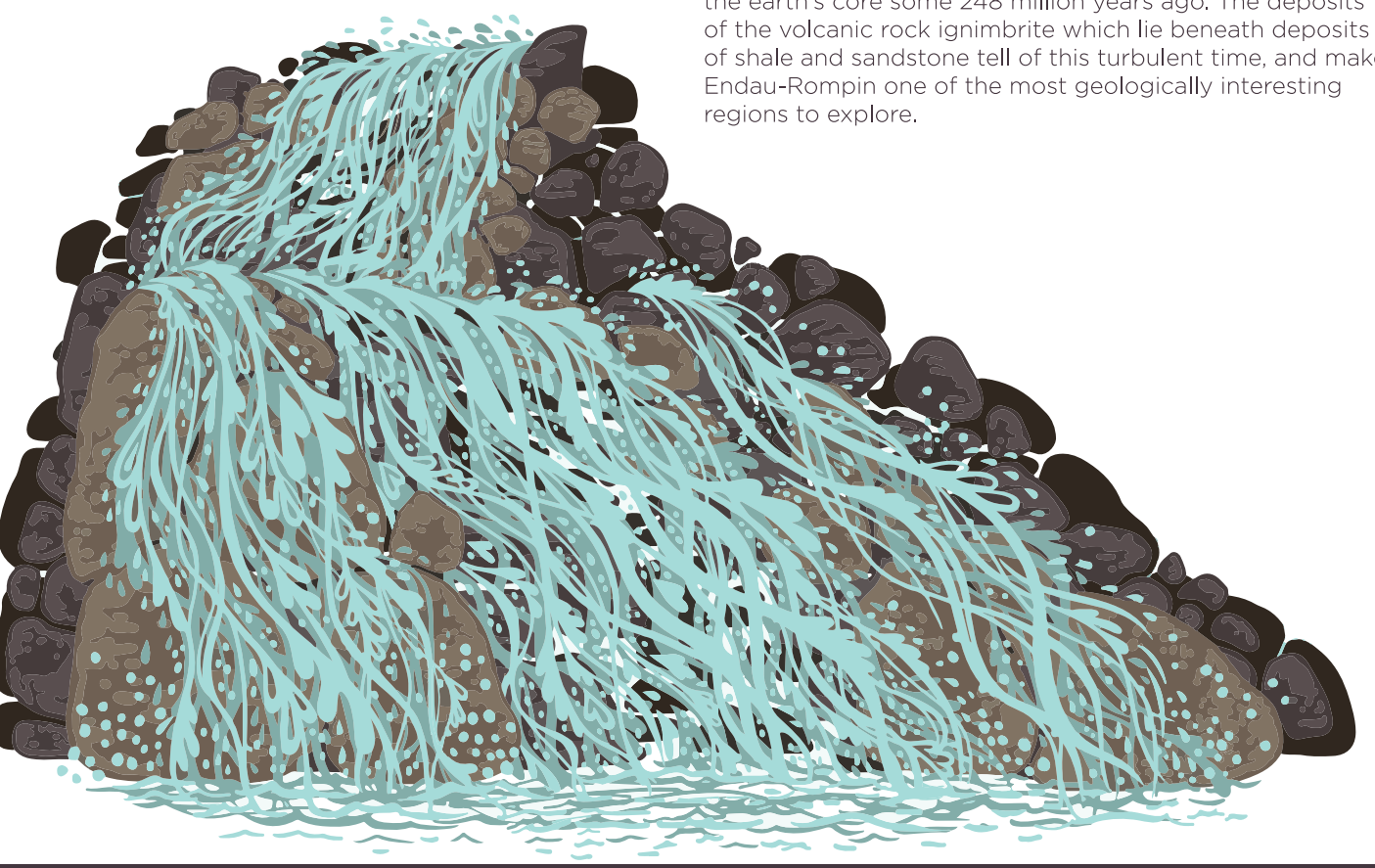
Over 76 species of freshwater fish are found here including the striking Blue-Fin Kelah (*Tor douronensis*) that is only found in the southern part of the Peninsula.

Waterfall HEAVEN

The local word for waterfall is 'Takah', and five of these waterfalls can be accessed from the Selai entrance including the magnificent seven-tier Takah Tinggi. Takah Berangin and Takah Tempa'ang offer refreshing natural pools teeming with freshwater fish for a relaxing swim. It takes at least 2-3 days of serious hiking to visit them all, but there are options for waterfall excursions even if you only have a day.

VOLCANIC PAST

It is hard to imagine that this tranquil forest setting was once the site of violent volcanic ash flow eruptions from the earth's core some 248 million years ago. The deposits of the volcanic rock ignimbrite which lie beneath deposits of shale and sandstone tell of this turbulent time, and make Endau-Rompin one of the most geologically interesting regions to explore.



PLANNING YOUR TRIP

GET A GUIDE.
It is compulsory to have a guide for most trails within the park to help you navigate the sometimes complicated terrain. A guide will further enrich your experience by highlighting signs of wildlife and interesting plants. You can also learn about some of the ancient legends of this region.

WHAT TO BRING.
Make sure you have proper footwear as some of the trails are steep and slippery. Wear shoes with grip soles and use the ropes provided at steep sections of trails or river crossings over rocks and pebbles. A trekking pole or walking stick will be useful. Other items to bring includes a whistle, headlamp and a simple first-aid kit. Pack some nutritious snacks and water for longer hikes. Leeches are part of the parcel and are even more active in wet weather! Pull on a pair of leech socks everytime you head into the forest.

WHEN TO VISIT.
The Southwest monsoon season between April and May usually brings showers to Endau-Rompin. A major flowering season follows with fruits ripening in July and August and attracting wildlife. Do note that the Park is closed to visitors during the Northwest monsoon season between December and January.

RESERVATIONS.
Selai is certainly a popular weekend destination. Visitors are strongly encouraged to make advance reservations through the Bekok site office and HQ, especially if planning to visit during public holidays and weekends. A variety of different accommodations and activity packages are offered.

CONTACTS:

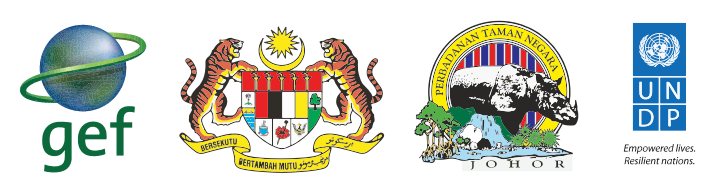
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OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS:

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+607 9221222
- Health Clinic (Bekok)**
+607 922 1241
- Fire and Rescue Services (Labis)**
+607 925 4444
- KTM Bekok (Train)**
+607 922 1241



Selai TRAILS

Selai offers a network of forest trails, many of them leading to beautiful waterfalls and picturesque riverine views. There are several options for half-day trips, day trips, and overnight expeditions depending on the time you have available. Generally, there are five main networks: (I) the Pandan - Berangin Trails which take visitors to the Takah Selow, Takah Pandan and Takah Berangin waterfalls and back to Lubok Tapa along Lubok Selow; (II) the Takah Tinggi Trail which affords visitors the opportunity to see the tallest and largest falls found in the park; (III) Bukit Gaut Trail is open to researchers only; (IV) the new Takah Sungai Tedong Trail which follows the Tedong river into an area of untouched forest and pristine rivers; and (V) Takah Sengka Trail which is an easy hike from Lubok Merekkek lead to Gunung Tjong.

Owing to the rugged terrain of steep hills and boulder strewn rivers, some Selai trails can be challenging but they are well worth the effort! Make use of the ropes provided to make your way up or down in sections. A hiking stick will be helpful to steady your footing.

All the trails from Selai begin from either (1B) Lubok Tapa or (2) Lubok Merekkek which are the main campsites located a short distance from the Visitors' Complex.

I. PANDAN-BERANGIN TRAIL



LUBOK TAPAH TO TAKAH BERANGIN VIA TAKAH SELOW AND TAKAH PANDAN IS APPROXIMATELY 3.5 HOURS EACH WAY AT A MODERATE PACE

These trails are ideal for a long day-trip. The path is easy in the first half of the journey, but be prepared for some steep sections closer to Takah Pandan. The entire excursion to Takah Berangin and back will take 7-8 hours, not accounting for stops along the way.

TAKAH SELOW 800M FROM LUBOK TAPAH



It is an easy walk of about 1 km along Sungai Selai to the first tier of Takah Selow, the first of a series of seven small tiers. Large Meranti trees and fruit trees such as the Tampoi grace this trail.

TAKAH PANDAN 600M FROM TAKAH SELOW



Takah Pandan is an easy hike of about 45 minutes from Takah Selow's first tier. Takah Pandan is a beautiful vertical fall with multiple cascades. It is named for the graceful pandan plants that adorn the upper rock wall of the falls. Lucky visitors may spot the rare Begonia rajah which favours the rocky sections of these waterfalls.

TAKAH BERANGIN 1.7 KM FROM TAKAH PANDAN



After Takah Pandan, the trail continues to gently undulate before moving uphill past many large trees. You should allow for about 2 hours to get to Takah Berangin. The last 500m is downhill and steep in sections. Make use of the ropes provided to make your way down safely. Takah Berangin has an inviting natural pool, so enjoy a refreshing dip and a picnic amongst the boulders before making your way back.

LUBOK SELOW 2 KM FROM TAKAH BERANGIN



Lubok Selow is a section of Sungai Selai where there is a deep pool that is perfect for swimming. You can reach Lubok Selow via the alternative route back to Lubok Tapa which takes you along Sungai Selai. From Lubok Selow it is only about an hour's walk back to the campsite.

II. TAKAH TINGGI TRAIL



LUBOK TAPAH TO TAKAH TINGGI, WITH TAKAH TEMPA'ANG DETOUR ABOUT 5-6 HOURS RETURN TRIP

Takah Tinggi is the farthest of the accessible waterfalls in Selai. The hike from Lubok Tapa will take about 2.5 hours and this trail is challenging. On the return journey, stop by Takah Tempa'ang, a pretty two-tier waterfall.

7 TAKAH TINGGI 4 KM FROM LUBOK TAPAH



From the trailhead, the path to Takah Tinggi follows the western bank of Sungai Selai for nearly 4 km. There are many impressive trees along the way. Kuala Tempa'ang lies 1.3 km or an hour from the trailhead. The approach involves scrambling over rocks, crossing log bridges and pulling on ropes to help you up. For a short 20m stretch the trail goes right down to the river. After this, a massive boulder appears.

According to an Orang Asli legend the boulder, Batu Dipikul, was brought down by giants. A little further is Batu Berteduh which is natural rock shelter. The rest of the route to Takah Tinggi is a relentless up-and-down scramble over tree roots, rocks and boulders before the roar of the great falls is heard. Hop across the huge boulders and enjoy lunch amidst the grandeur of silent rocks and rushing water.

8 TAKAH TEMPA'ANG 2 KM FROM TAKAH TINGGI



Takah Tempa'ang is a pleasant stop on your return journey from Takah Tinggi. It is about 1.5 hours hike and is considered moderately difficult due to the steepness of the terrain. At the Kuala Tempa'ang junction follow the Tempa'ang tributary upriver via the rocky riverbed for about 10-15 minutes to reach Takah Tempa'ang, a smaller fall fringed by forest. The waterfall pool here is also excellent for swimming. From Takah Tempa'ang it is just 1 to 1.5 hours walk to Lubok Tapa. This also makes it a good choice for a relaxing half-day excursion from Lubok Tapa.

III. BUKIT GAUT TRAIL

This trail traverses a section of rainforest which is rarely visited and is open for researchers only. Park rangers use this trail to inspect camera traps placed here to monitor wildlife.

BUKIT GAUT 5 KM FROM LUBOK TAPAH



To take this trail, follow the Takah Tinggi Trail until you come to Kuala Tempa'ang. Cross over Sungai Selai to Sungai Jeramsel and then head north to Bukit Gaut. You should expect to take 4 hours to reach your destination and budget the same amount of time for your return journey.

IV. TAKAH SUNGAI TEDONG TRAIL



This is a new trail network which takes visitors into a beautiful part of the park which is notable for its pristine rivers and large trees. The journey to the multi-tiered Sungai Tedong waterfall is best made in two stages with an overnight stay at the Sungai Tedong campsite.

SUNGAI TEDONG CAMPSITE 3 KM FROM LUBOK TAPAH OR LUBOK MEREKEK



You can the option of hiking to the Sungai Tedong campsite from either Lubok Tapa or Lubok Merekkek. It will take approximately 2 hours to arrive at the campsite. This is a very basic campsite and there are no amenities as yet. You will need to bring all your own supplies and obtain water from the clear tributaries.

TAKAH SUNGAI TEDONG

1 KM FROM CAMPSITE



From the campsite, it is less than an hour's hike to Takah Sungai Tedong. This is perfect for a refreshing break before continuing further upriver to Takah Sungai Tedong Cabang Kanan, literally, where the river branches to the right.

TAKAH SUNGAI TEDONG CABANG KANAN 1 KM FROM TAKAH SUNGAI TEDONG



An hour's walk from Takah Sungai Tedong will bring you to the first of the seven tiers of Takah Sungai Tedong Cabang Kanan. Relax and take in the amazing setting, but do keep an eye on the time. You will need 2 hours to return to the campsite, or a total of about 4 hours if you plan to continue all the way back to Lubok Tapa.

V. TAKAH SENGA TRAIL & GUNUNG TJONG



This is an easy hike towards Bukit Sengka along the Sengka River where you will find several scenic waterfalls. This hike goes through fairly flat terrain and is a good choice for a day trip to Takah Sengka.

TAKAH SENGA 2 KM FROM LUBOK MEREKEK



Beginning from Lubok Merekkek, head along the river before crossing Sungai Selai and then follow the trail along Sungai Sengka. Cross the river once again to reach Takah Sengka. If you have time, venture up Bukit Sengka to get a view of the four waterfalls further upstream. This trail is also the beginning of the longer trek to Gunung Tjong.

GUNUNG TJONG

10 KM FROM TAKAH SENGA



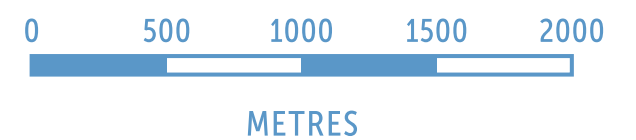
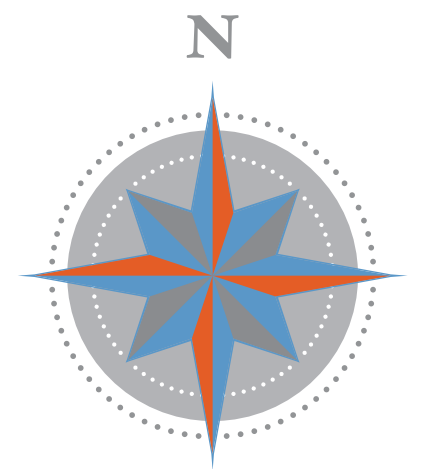
For those that are physically fit and looking for a challenge, there is the forest trek up Gunung Tjong which is a mountain of 1,014m. It usually takes up to 2-3 days and prior arrangements is required.

NOTES ON TREKKING IN SELAI

Most forest trails in Selai are dominated by large trees with dense ground cover and hanging creepers. Expect rugged, rolling terrain with sudden climbs. Tree falls, landslides and other natural occurrences may cause trails to be rerouted. You may find it useful to bring a trekking stick. Aside from the self-guided trails near the Visitor Complex, you will need a guide for all other trails. A good level of fitness is needed for the longer hikes. Always make an early start so you have sufficient time to return before sun down and before the cicadas begin their evening chorus.

Gunung Tjong or the Trans Selai-Peta trek which traverse the center of the park to emerge in Peta 5-6 days later is a specialized trip and will require prior arrangements. Do inquire and inform with the park staffs if you plan to take this challenge in your next visit.

LEGEND

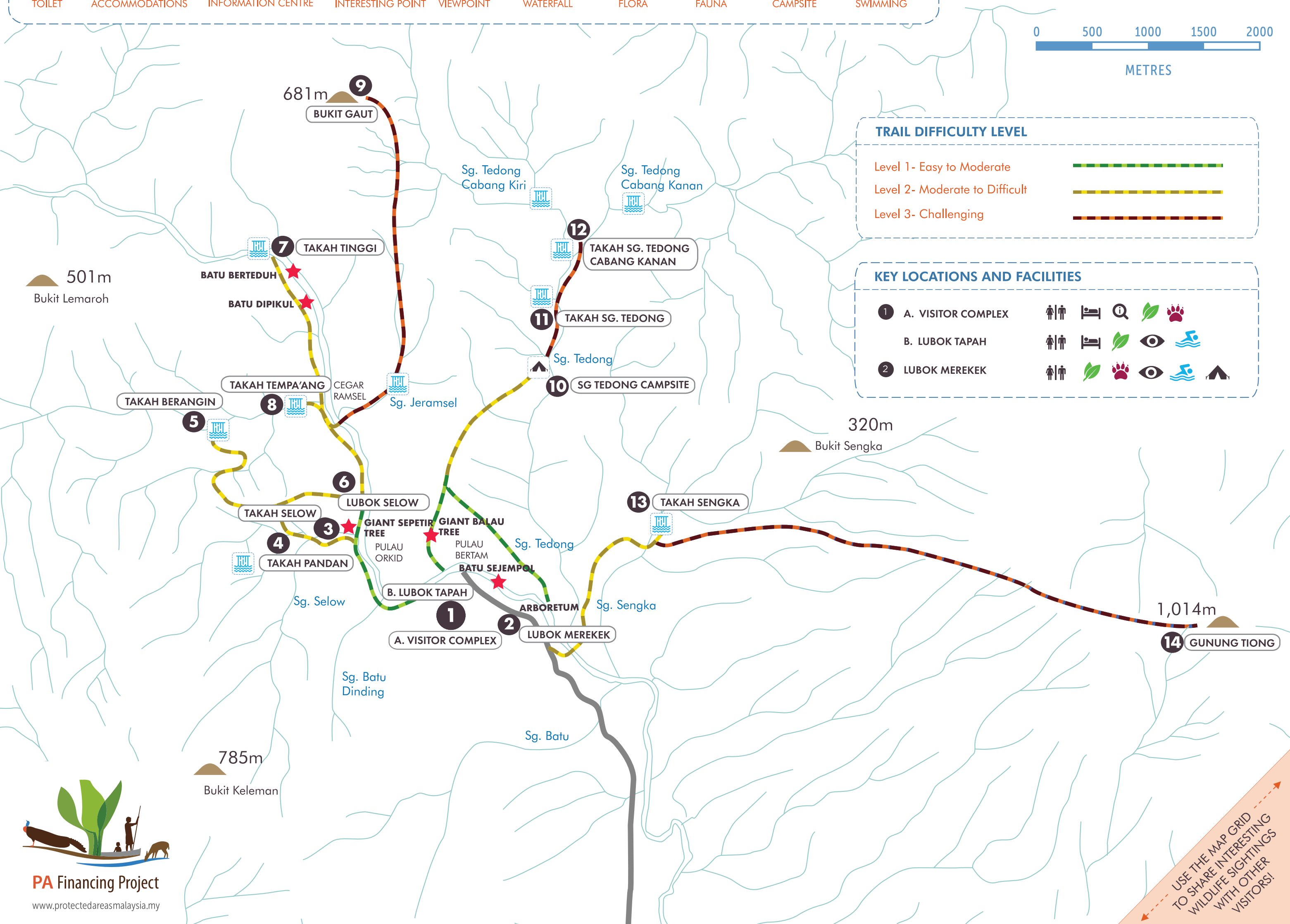


TRAIL DIFFICULTY LEVEL

- Level 1- Easy to Moderate
- Level 2- Moderate to Difficult
- Level 3- Challenging

KEY LOCATIONS AND FACILITIES

- 1 A. VISITOR COMPLEX
- 2 LUBOK MEREKEK



USE THE MAP GRID TO SHARE INTERESTING WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS WITH OTHER VISITORS!

