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Making A Difference

# Expatriate

## *Lifestyle*

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The

# BEST

Of

# MALAYSIA AWARDS 2007

## TRAVEL AWARDS

**Expatriate**  
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WIN RM20,000 WORTH OF HOLIDAYS, FOOD & DRINK, BOOKS, MUSIC - INSIDE!!!

## BEST BEACH RESORT

### THE FOUR SEASONS, LANGKAWI

When planning the ideal holiday, most weary travelers agree a good beach is key. (if not the most important part of the trip!) Because the beach is such a fundamental part of a resort experience, the award of The Best Beach Resort is quite an impressive honour. Taking the title as this year's best is The Four Seasons, Langkawi. The Four Seasons resides on the white sand of Tanjung Rhu beach. Iconic for its remarkable sunsets and lush, green casuarin trees lining the shore, this tropical destination is known as one of Langkawi's most beautiful beaches. With a total of 91 pavilions and villas, each offer spectacular views with the beach mere steps away. Perhaps the most unique aspect of the Tanjung Rhu beach is at the apex of low tide, especially

during the dry season from December to March, beachgoers can actually walk to the beach's outlying islands. Another pleasant aspect of the Tanjung Rhu beach is that it somehow remains peaceful and quiet during the day, unlike surrounding beaches, which tend to be constantly crowded with tourists. The Four Seasons, Langkawi takes great pride in its tropical getaway, also offering exquisite fine dining and friendly service among additional amenities.

The Four Seasons, Langkawi  
Tel: 04-950 8888  
[www.fourseasons.com/langkawi/](http://www.fourseasons.com/langkawi/)

## EXCELLENCE AWARD

### THE ARYANI

In Sanskrit, the word "Aryani" means "the origin," a fitting title for this enchanting beach resort with an old world feel. Constructed in traditional Malay architecture and tucked away in the secluded coast of Merang, The Aryani resort provides a luxurious getaway amidst a charming fishing village and surrounding coconut groves.

The Aryani  
Tel: 09-653 2111  
[www.thearyani.com/](http://www.thearyani.com/)

### THE DATAI, LANGKAWI

Located on the northwestern tip of Langkawi, The Datai resides on the white sand shore of the Andaman Sea. Secluded by a lush, ancient rainforest, the resort blends seamlessly with its natural habitat. Subtle hints of luxury can be found throughout The Datai, for example their bathrooms are crafted from authentic Langkawi marble. Overall, the Datai Langkawi is a unique mix of luxury and undisturbed, natural beauty.

The Datai, Langkawi  
Tel: 04-959 2509  
[www.thedatai.com](http://www.thedatai.com)

### NEXUS RESORT, KARAMBUNAI

With the South China Sea mere footsteps away, it's difficult to imagine feeling more peaceful than when visiting The Nexus Resort. In addition to an exotic atmosphere, this opulent resort provides its guests with the utmost in luxury. Easily accessible from almost any major Asian city, the Nexus Resort houses an award-winning 18-hole championship golf course and exclusive spa.

Nexus Resort, Karambunai  
Tel: 08-841 1222  
[www.nexusresort.com](http://www.nexusresort.com)

### PANGKOR ISLAND BEACH RESORT

Escape to the Pangkor Island Beach Resort and you'll feel as though you've stumbled upon your own private island. Spanning across a charming cluster of private villas, this freshly renovated resort boasts a private, white sandy beach only steps away from the front door. Enjoy snorkeling amidst exotic marine life and ample fishing opportunities.

Pangkor Island Beach Resort  
Tel: 05-685 1091  
[www.pangkorislandbeach.com](http://www.pangkorislandbeach.com)

### TANJUNG RHU, LANGKAWI

Covered in the shade of lush, emerald-coloured casuarina trees, The Tanjung Rhu resort overlooks the captivating Andaman Sea. Within its 1,100 acres, the mangrove, waterways, and sandy beaches make the Tanjung Rhu resort one of Malaysia's most exclusive destination getaways. Nature lovers, be sure to explore the historical limestone caves.

Tanjung Rhu, Langkawi  
Tel: 04-959 1033  
[www.tanjungrhu.com.my](http://www.tanjungrhu.com.my)

### THE WESTIN, LANGKAWI

Located on a secluded strip of scenic beachfront and the majestic Andaman Sea, The Westin, Langkawi Resort & Spa is a nature lover's paradise. Setting itself apart from the more traditional resorts, The Westin offers tranquil modern décor amongst its lush tropical surroundings. Nearby, adventurous travelers can find wildlife sanctuaries, diving, crystal clear waterfalls and caves for exploring.

The Westin, Langkawi  
Tel: 04-960 8888  
[www.starwoodhotels.com/westin](http://www.starwoodhotels.com/westin)

## THE BEST BEACH

### THE BEACHES OF REDANG

With its crystal-clear blue waters, pure white sand and wealth of underwater life, it probably comes as little surprise that Redang's beautiful beaches were voted the best in Malaysia. Almost every hotel is located on a beach – a testament to the oft-pronounced statement that there are no bad beaches in Redang. The clear blue waters even hold two historic shipwrecks from the start of World War II, making the beaches of Redang a place of historical interest as well as one for relaxation – though it is most definitely an excellent place to soak up the sun and escape all the pressures of daily life. And it's easy on the eyes too!

But Redang is far more than just beaches and resorts, its appeal lies in its stunning natural beauty and untouched feel, exemplified by its commitment to conserving the sea turtle species. The Terengganu state government has aided in the preservation of Redang and its gorgeous beaches by setting up a cooperative to ensure that the natural resources of the island, such as the delicate coral reefs, are well-managed and taken care of. The result? The best beaches as voted for by our readers.

## EXCELLENCE AWARD

### PULAU LANG TENGAH

Pulau Lang Tengah is located off the coast of Terengganu and is easily one of Malaysia's best-kept secrets (until now that is). The beauty and tranquility of its pristine beaches forever live on in the memories of those who have visited and hope to return, not only returning, but also recommending this idyllic spot.

### NEXUS

This stunning beach stands out for its array of colours. Seen from the air, the bright blue water meets the pure white sand, which joins deep green rainforests interspersed with resorts and tropical lagoons and rivers. Such a picturesque spot is a favourite with visitors who love the natural scenery framing the beach.

### TIOMAN

A legend tells the tale of a beautiful dragon princess who was so charmed by the crystal-clear waters of the South China Sea that she took the form of an island, pledging to offer shelter and comfort to passing travelers. The natural charms of Tioman to this day continue to attract Malaysian and international visitors alike to the stunning beaches.

### PERHENTIAN

There are numerous beaches located on the Perhentian islands, each with their own distinct appeal, be it privacy, coral reefs or proximity to resorts; however Long Beach (Pasir Panjang) on Perhentian Kecil, the smaller island is arguably one of the most beautiful. Its clean white sand and beautifully clear water makes it the perfect place for a picnic.



Beach In Redang