

MALAYSIAN HOTEL MARKET

JANUARY 2022 UPDATE

Economic Update

After a “bumpy, uneven and underwhelming” growth in 2021, Malaysia is expecting a 6% growth in the country’s gross domestic product (GDP) in 2022. A rebound is in place thanks to the positive momentum of Malaysia’s high Covid-19 vaccination coverage and ongoing vaccine booster roll-out.

Economic sectors such as construction and services which were once struggling due to the pandemic-driven restrictions will see a steep growth curve.

Noting that overall macro policy remains pro-growth, it is expected that the Bank Negara Malaysia’s overnight policy rate to remain at a record-low of 1.75% well into 2022.

Hotel News

Fairfield by Marriott has recently announced the opening of the 186-room Fairfield by Marriott in Jalan Pahang, Kuala Lumpur.

It is the second Fairfield by Marriot hotel in Malaysia after the establishment in Bintulu Town.

Situated less than 10km from Malaysia’s cultural, financial, and economic city centre, the hotel offers guests convenient access to monorail and LRT stations with tourist attractions including PETRONAS Twin Towers, Bangunan Sultan Abdul Samad, the National Museum and the

popular entertainment & shopping district Bukit Bintang within reach.

International Travel Perspective

Due to the rising Covid-19 cases, the Singapore government has announced to temporary suspend the Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTL) from Dec 23 to Jan 20. However, travelers who have already purchased their tickets and meet the stipulated conditions for the VTL-Air and VTL-Land travel can proceed with their journey under the special travel lane initiative.

Malaysia has also temporarily banned the entry of travelers from countries that have reported the Omicron Covid-19 variant or are considered high risk. The ban applies to eight African countries, where the variant is believed to be the most contagious, but could also be extended to countries such as Britain, the United States, Australia and India.

More than 7,500 flights have been cancelled over the Christmas weekend, where the Chinese and US airlines suffer the hardest hit as the surge in Covid cases causes staff shortages driven by the Omicron variant.

According to the UNWTO Travel Restrictions Report, Asia and the Pacific remains the region with the most restrictions in place, with 65% of all destinations completely closed. In comparison, Europe is the most open global region to international tourists

(7% of borders completely closed), followed by Africa (9%), the Americas (10%) and the Middle East (15%).

Vaccine Progress

On the 3 December, the first case of the Covid-19 variant Omicron has been detected in Malaysia involving a South-African private university student who arrived from South Africa through Singapore. Since then, the number of cases rose to 62 as of 25 December.

To curb the widespread of new variant among the community, a shorter interval for Covid-19 booster shots will be announced soon. Currently, those who received the Sinovac vaccine get their booster shots 90 days after being fully vaccinated while Pfizer and AstraZeneca (AZ) recipients are recommended to get a third dose 180 days after the second dose.

The Sinovac and AZ vaccines have recently been approved for use as boosters along with the Pfizer vaccines. The Health Minister also announced that those fully vaccinated with Sinovac could now receive the same brand as a booster.

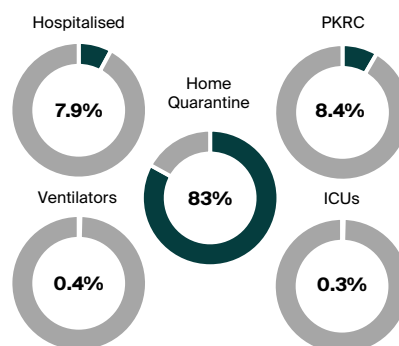
Walk-in registrations for individuals in Malaysia to receive their Covid-19 booster shots began on November 22. As of 29 December 2021, the daily booster shots administered stood at 178,614 while the total number of booster dose given are 5,911,792.

TABLE: Malaysia Vaccine Progress

	29 November	29 December
Total number of people registered for the vaccine	22.2 million	22.2 million
Total number of doses given	53.3 million	57.3 million
7-day moving average	111,997	126,410
At least 1 dose	79.1%	79.30%
% Fully vaccinated	77.7%	78.12 %
Total number of booster shots administered	2.3 million	5.9 million

Sources: JKJAV, covidnow.moh.gov.my, ourworldindata.org, covidvax.live

CHART: Active Cases Distribution



Note: PKRC – Covid-19 Quarantine and Treatment Centre
Source: covidnow.moh.gov.my (as at 27 December 2021)

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Hotels Available for Sale via Knight Frank



Hilton Garden Inn Kuala Lumpur

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 532 keys



Former Holiday Inn Resort Penang

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 361 keys



Loop on Leith, Georgetown

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 140 keys



Sheraton Imperial Kuala Lumpur

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 398 keys



Confidential 5-star Resort, Pahang

Tenure: Leasehold
No. of Rooms: 305 keys



Confidential, Kuala Lumpur

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 210 keys



Confidential 5-star Hotel, Penang

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 316 keys



Award Winning Lifestyle Hotel, Melaka

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 60 keys



Confidential, Kuala Lumpur

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 103 keys



Confidential, Kuala Lumpur

Tenure: Freehold
No. of Rooms: 253 keys

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