



Ecotourism in Sedili Kechil

Uniqueness of Sedili Kechil

Summary

The wetlands of Sedili is one of the best remaining examples of wetlands in the country with distinct gradation of riverine vegetation and freshwater swamp forests.

Moving upriver on a boat from the sandy coastline, the distinct vegetation belts of Sedili wetlands can be seen. The rich mangroves are followed by thriving nypa swamp at the confluence of salt and freshwater. The scenery changes to the mixed shrub vegetation of the *putat* belt, followed by thick *pandanus* undergrowth, and finally reaching the freshwater swamp where the endangered water trumpet can be found.

Project Description

A variety of wildlife can also be found here. One might be lucky enough to see a family of smooth otters playing in the river or migratory birds feeding on the beaches. The mudflats are teeming with life such as crabs, snails and birds.

The livelihood of the local community of Sedili is also connected to the wetlands. Fishing is an active part of their daily lives. Leaves and plant extract from the trees are used as local resources in infrastructural, medicinal and cultural aspects of their lives.

Things to do

River safari

Go on a cruise along the Sedili River for a fascinating adventure. A river cruise offers you a unique opportunity to get close to the diverse ecosystems and flora and fauna of the Sedili wetlands. You will learn about the different species living in these diverse ecosystems and the important roles they play.

Exploring the sandy beach

Explore the sandy beaches of Sedili. During the migratory season, you can spot waterbirds along the coast. In some areas there are tidal pools where you can find little fishes, snails and tiny sea creatures.

Local cuisine

Sample local seafood cuisines prepared in local Malay style. Do not miss the lokan masak cili padi (clam cooked with coconut milk and bird's eye chilli), *lempeng* (Malay pancake), *nibong* (young shoots of bamboo), fresh coconut juice or *keropok* (fish crackers) made in Sedili Kechil.

Handicraft

There is a handicraft centre operated by a group of local women just before the bridge to Bandar Penawar. These women have designed and created photo and mirror frames, necklaces, bracelets, wind chimes and small decorative shelf pieces from seashells.

Berkepah (shellfish harvesting)

Why observe when you can try your hand at shellfish harvesting. It is a great opportunity to meet and talk with the locals. Shellfish harvesting is normally carried out at low tide.

Accommodation Available

There are four resorts in Sedili Kechil area. The three closest to the village and the coast are the Jason Bay Resort, Mutiara Motor Resort, Country Resort and Damai Resort.

The Country Resort is closest to the mouth of Sedili Kechil river. These resorts have chalets except for Damai Resort, located near the Tanjung Sedili Kechil which is built in a dormitory style long house.

How to get to Sedili Kechil

By car from Kuala Lumpur

You can take the North-South Expressway. Exit at Kulai, then proceed to Kota Tinggi. From there head towards Mersing. Finally you will come to a junction leading to Mawai town. Turn right at the junction. There are signages showing the direction to Sedili Kechil.

Fees for Ecotourism Activities

Tour guide fees: RM 10 per person (min. 10 per)

Boat Service: RM 120 for big boat (6 – 8 pax)
RM 80 for small boat (4 pax)

Contact for tour arrangement in Sedili Kechil:

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