





Royal Wedding Ceremony

Between

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah D.K,M.B., D.P.K,T., P.H.B.S.

Yang Mulia Dayang Anisha Rosnah binti Adam

25 JAMADILAKHIR - 4 REJAB 1445H CORRESPONDING TO 7-16 JANUARY 2024

MEDIA HANDBOOK

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#### Dear media friends,

It is with great pleasure that the Secretariat welcome you to the Royal Wedding Ceremony between His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Yang Mulia Dayang Anisha Rosnah binti Adam, a wedding ceremony full of tradition, grandeur and magnificence.

This handbook will serve to guide you on the Royal Wedding Ceremony from January 7 to 16, 2024.

This handbook also includes information on the facilities available at the Media Coordination Centre, a description of the wedding ceremonies and Royal Regalia as well as brief information on Brunei Darussalam.

We hope this handbook will be useful as you cover the Royal Wedding Ceremony.

Should you require any assistance, please feel free to contact us at royalwedding@information.gov.bn

We wish you a very memorable and pleasant stay.

Warmest regards,

Media Secretariat

Information and Broadcasting Committee c/o Information Department Prime Minister's Office Brunei Darussalam BB3510

## MEDIA SECRETARIAT

The Media Secretariat, which comprises the Official / National Broadcaster and Official / Host Photo for the event, will be managed and facilitated by the Information Department and the Department of Radio Television Brunei (RTB) respectively.

#### Media Registration and Accreditation

• Media are required to fill in Media Accreditation form which is available at www.information.gov.bn.

- Please submit the completed form to: royalwedding@information.gov.bn by 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
- The accredited media will be informed by the Secretariat.
- A media briefing will be held for all accredited media.

#### Media Coordination Centre

For the purpose of coverage of the Royal Wedding, the Information Department, Prime Minister's Office will host a Media Coordination Centre (MCC) throughout the series of events.

The MCC will be located at the Information Department, and will begin its operations starting from the  $6^{th}$  to  $16^{th}$  of January 2024, from 8.30 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. The MCC will be closed from 12.00 Noon to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, for the Friday prayer.

The MCC will provide a press working area equipped with work facilities for media representatives.

For matters related to registration / coverage / footage / photos/ general enquiries, please email: royalwedding@information.gov.bn.

#### MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS, POOL PASSES AND ATTIRE

All accredited official (host) media will be allowed access into the events.

Other media representatives will be arranged by pooling. Only limited number of media will be allowed access for specific events, depending on the space of the venue.

Pooling areas and its' registration will be shared/opened closer to the events. Media without the pool passes will be gathered at the MCC.

Media accreditation pass and pool pass must be worn at all time during the event. Media without these passes will not be allowed entry at the specified venue.

Media representatives are kindly requested to dress appropriately (business attire) whilst at the MCC.

Media representative covering the events are requested to observe the following dress code:

#### Morning events:

- 1. Black lounge suit / black Cara Melayu with songkok for men;
- 2. Black lounge suit / black long dress or skirt / black baju kurung with headscarf for women.

#### Night events:

- 1. Black lounge suit / White Cara Melayu with songkok for men;
- 2. Black lounge suit / White long dress or skirt / white baju kurung with headscarf for women.

Media representatives covering the events are required to gather at the MCC 120 minutes before each event. All media will depart from the MCC to the venue 90 minutes before event in the transportation provided by the Secretariat.

#### ACQUISITION OF VIDEO FOOTAGES AND PHOTOS

Foreign Media wishing to obtain official photos and footages from the host may enquire / forward their request through email:

royalwedding@information.gov.bn c.c.: kimdien.lim@rtb.gov.bn (footage) c.c.: azmi.damit@information.gov.bn (photo)

All events will be broadcasted live through RTB's channels:

- RTB Perdana & RTB Sukmaindera (for malay commentary)
- RTB Aneka (for english commentary)
- RTBGo Mobile Application (for malay commentary)

Only selected footages and photos by the Information and Broadcasting Committee for the Royal Wedding will be provided to the requesting media.

# **COVID-19 HEALTH ADVISORIES**

For precautionary measures, the media are expected to adhere to the current health advisories and guidelines set by the Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam.

The media are required to take Antigen Rapid Tests (ART) at the MCC before departing to the venue. Masks may be required during events.

# ITINERARY OF THE ROYAL WEDDING CEREMONIES

The Royal Wedding Ceremony between His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and Yang Mulia Dayang Anisha Rosnah binti Adam is a ceremony that commences on 25<sup>th</sup> Jamadilakhir 1445H corresponding to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 until 4<sup>th</sup> Rejab1445H corresponding to 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The 10-day event is known as the Musim Istiadat Diraja (translated loosely: the season of royal festivity).

SUNDAY 07.01.24	Royal Bersuruh Ceremony 2.00 pm Istana Nurul Iman, Bandar Seri Begawan This ceremony witnesses the groom's side officially declaring the intention of the groom-to-be in seeking the hand of the bride-to-be for marriage. The bride's side would officially reply that they are aware of the groom- to-be's noble intention. A delegation would later be sent from the groom's side to inform the acceptance and fixed dates related to the wedding ceremonies.
MONDAY 08.01.24	<b>Opening of the Gendang Jaga-Jaga Ceremony</b> <b>8.30 am</b> Lapau, Bandar Seri Begawan The opening of the playing of traditional musical instruments by the Royal Court Musicians for keeping vigil.
TUESDAY 09.01.24	<b>Presentation of the Royal Token and the</b> <b>Royal Engagement Ceremony</b> <b>2.00 pm</b> Istana Nurul Iman, Bandar Seri Begawan This is a traditional ceremony whereby the groom's delegation would bring articles to the fiancée's house and formally certify the engagement of the groom to the bride.

WEDNESDAY 10.01.24	Berbedak Ceremony for the Royal Bride & Berbedak Ceremony for the Royal Groom 7.30 pm Balai Singgahsana Indera Buana, Istana Nurul Iman, Bandar Seri Begawan This ceremony is performed separately on both the groom and the bride. Close relatives will perform the ceremony of applying powder paste to the hand of the groom and the bride.	MONDAY 15.01.24 TUESDAY 16.01.24	<ul> <li>7.30 pm</li> <li>Balai Persantapan,</li> <li>Istana Nurul Iman, Bandar Seri Begawan</li> <li>This is a royal banquet attended by members of the royal family, senior officers, and specially invited guests.</li> <li>Recital of Doa Selamat and the</li> </ul>
THURSDAY 11.01.24	Royal Akad Nikah Ceremony 1.00 pm Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Mosque, Bandar Seri Begawan This ceremony marks the solemnisation of marriage between the groom and the bride.		Istana Nurul Iman, Bandar Seri Begawan This ceremony marks the closing of the Royal Wedding Ceremony.
SUNDAY 14.01.24	Royal Bersanding Ceremony and Royal Procession 10.00 am Balai Singgahsana Indera Buana, Istana Nurul Iman, Bandar Seri Begawan This ceremony is the highlight of the wedding ceremony as the royal couple will be seated on a dais. Once seated, the ceremony is completed with a prayer read by designated religious officials. Subsequently, the royal couple will head for a procession along Bandar Seri Begawan.		

# DESCRIPTION OF THE ROYAL REGALIA

Items of the Royal Regalia are displayed each time Brunei hosts the season of royal festivity, known locally as the Musim Adat Istiadat Diraja. The first four, known as the Perhiasan Tunggul, hold pre-eminence in the Brunei Royal Regalia collection.

# Payung Diraja (Royal Umbrella)

This yellow umbrella features gilded beads that are attached at the tip of each of the canopy's spine. The umbrella's apex is also embellished with gold. This umbrella is used to shelter the sovereign while outdoors during royal ceremonies.

# Tombak Tunggal

The Tombak Tunggal is a spear with a golden blade, decorated just above the end with a series of tassels.

## Kaskol

The Kaskol is a chest, used to store betel nuts and is wrapped with Kain Jong Sarat (Jong Sarat Cloth) or yellow silk, with gold embellished threads.

## Perisai Tunggal and Pedang Tunggal

The Perisai Tunggal is a shield inscribed with Quranic verses. The Pedang Tunggal is a sword with a gilded hilt and matching scabbard.

## **Dian Majlis**

The Dian Majlis is a candle, carried to a royal ceremony where the guests would be seated cross-legged. The Dian Majlis is made of *lilin penyengat* (beeswax candle) famously known as Lilin Berunai (usually in yellow), its width and length is in accordance to the status of the person it accompanies.

## **Dian Enam Belas**

The Dian Enam Belas is a set of 16 candles, used to accompany the Sultan in the Bersiram Ceremony preceding the Coronation Ceremony. The Dian Enam Belas is also used to accompany the bride or groom in a Royal Wedding during the Berbedak Ceremony, Bersiram Ceremony, Berinai Ceremony and the Bersanding Ceremony.

# Dian Alam Bernaga

The Dian Alam Bernaga are ceremonial candle holders that have a special position and are made of wood. In Coronation Ceremonies, eight of these candles are placed but only four are lit. In other ceremonies, only four of these candles are placed and are left unlit. For Royal Weddings and the like, four of these candles are placed unlit in the ceremony as a Royal Regalia after the Dian Empat (a set of four candles). The candle holder is decorated with an engraving of the *air muleh* around it. It is specially shaped with three tiers and each tier is plain or decorated with flowers.

## **Dian Empat**

The Dian Empat is a set of four candles placed during a royal ceremony such as the Coronation Ceremony, Royal Wedding, Ceremony of the Circumcision of the Princes, and Ceremony of the Circumcision and Piercing of the Ears of the Princesses as well as other royal ceremonies, whether it is the ceremony of the Sultan, Raja Isteri, Begawan Sultan, Suri Seri Begawan Raja, the Crown Prince, the Sultan's Princes and Princesses, Wazirs, Cheterias or royal dignitaries or ceremony hosted by the aforementioned.

## Dian Tunggal

The Dian Tunggal is a candle that precedes the arrival of the Sultan, Raja Isteri, Begawan Sultan, Suri Seri Begawan Raja, the Crown Prince and wife, the Sultan's Princes and Princesses, and Wazirs and their wives at a ceremony whether it is held in the day or at night. This candle is always lit and is carried by the Awang-Awang (for men) and by the Dayang-Dayang (for women), dressed in ceremonial attire.

#### Tikar

The Tikar (mat) is a Royal Regalia carried to the Sultan, Raja Isteri, Begawan Sultan, Suri Seri Begawan Raja, the Crown Prince and wife, the Sultan's Princes and Princesses and Wazirs in a ceremony. The Tikar is usually made of pandan leaves, covered in silk and is decorated with embroidery.

## **Bintang Petian**

The Bintang Petian is a Royal Regalia similar to the Tikar. The Bintang Petian is usually made of the finest wood and is crafted into a tray-like shape. The Bintang Petian is filled with a *kandi* (teapot) and two small cups. The *kandi* has gold, silver or bronze engravings in accordance to the status of the person being served at the ceremony.

#### Pasigupan

The Pasigupan (smoke pipe) is a Royal Regalia that has the same shape as the Pasigupan Emas (golden smoke pipe) and is carried by the Pahawai (chosen men), dressed in full groom attire.

The Pasigupan is specially used to accompany the arrival and departure of the Sultan in a Coronation Ceremony or the arrival and departure of the bride or groom at a Royal Wedding.

## Kasur Namat

The Kasur Namat is a two-piece item that cannot be separated. The Kasur is a cushion made of a specially shaped and sheathed cloth that is considered as a seat for the Sultan or royal family members in certain ceremonies such as Royal Wedding Ceremonies, Circumcision Ceremonies and so on.

The Namat is a mat specially shaped and sheathed with yellow silk, embroidered with gilded threads displaying the *air muleh* design. It is placed on top of the Kasur. Both items are carried by the Awang-Awang dressed in ceremonial attire and placed in front of the Patarana (throne) or a place that is deemed as a throne.

## Kiap

The Kiap is a fan made for certain persons in a ceremony. Embroidered on the fan are gilded threads that display holy verses of the Al-Quran. It is carried by the Pahawai (chosen men), in full uniform, for the bride or groom to accompany the arrival and departure of certain royal dignitaries such as the Sultan in a Coronation Ceremony, and the arrival and departure of the bride or groom at a Royal Wedding.

## Pedang Enam Belas dan Perisai

The Pedang Enam Belas and the Perisai are a set of 16 swords and round shields in which the hilts are embellished either in gold or silver. The Pedang Enam Belas is carried on the right shoulders, whereas the Perisai is held in the left hand of the 16 Awang-Awang dressed in ceremonial attire.

## Pemuras and Karga

The Pemuras (rifle) and Karga (bullet case) are items of the Royal Regalia carried by the Panglima Diraja, dressed in red ceremonial attire. The Pemuras is placed on the right shoulder of the Panglima Diraja and the Karga bullet is clasped on the left shoulder, while the Karga is clasped on his right.

## Kelasak and Kampilan

The Kelasak (shield) is held on the right hand of the Panglima Asgar, also dressed in red ceremonial attire, while holding the Kampilan (long sword) in his left hand.

## Tumbak Benderangan

The Tumbak Benderangan is a set of 16 spears embellished either in gold or silver and is carried on the right shoulders of 16 Awang-Awang, dressed in ceremonial attire.

## Sinipit dan Taming

40 Sinipit (spears) are carried by 40 Awang-Awang on the right shoulder, whereas 40 Taming (shields) are held on the left hand of 40 Awang-Awang, all dressed in red ceremonial attire in certain ceremonies.

#### Puan

The Puan is a Royal Regalia used in certain ceremonies such as Royal Weddings and so on. The shape is the same as the Puan Kerajaan (a silver octagonalshaped vessel, which is used to hold flowers) and is carried by the Pahawai (chosen ladies), dressed in ceremonial attire.

#### Tarian

The Tarian is a Royal Regalia used in certain ceremonies such as Royal Weddings and so on. The shape is similar to the Tarian Kerajaan (silver vase), and it is carried by the Pahawai, dressed in ceremonial attire.

## **Kaskol Langguai**

The Kaskol Langguai is a Royal Regalia in the form of an octagonal vessel, with four betel nut boxes stored inside. It is carried by the Awang-Awang (Court Officials), dressed in ceremonial attire, escorting the Sultan during a Coronation Ceremony or certain Royal ceremonies.

#### Gangsa

The gangsa is a brass receptacle.

#### Gangsa Persalinan

The Gangsa Persalinan is a special tray with a stand that is covered with two round cloths (*bertarak* and *bertatampan*) embroidered with gold and silk threads. The Gangsa Persalinan is used to place the royal attire in certain ceremonies.

#### Chupu

Chupu, an ornamental vessel is a Royal Regalia that is used in certain ceremonies such as Royal Weddings. It is made of either gold, silver or copper and is customarily carried by the Pahawai, dressed in ceremonial attire.

#### Kabok dan Panastan

The Kabok is a water container and the Panastan is its accompanying tray, both made of silver. The Kabok and Panastan are carried by eight Awang-Awang in certain ceremonies such as Coronation Ceremonies, Royal Weddings and so on.

## Pangkupan

The Pangkupan is either a crystal or porcelain container, which is placed on the *gangsa* during a royal wedding ceremony. It is used to store fragrances.

## Singgahsana

The Singgahsana is the throne that houses the seats of the sovereign and consort.

## Tanda Diraja

The Tanda Diraja consists of the following:

An adolescent girl clad in full Malay traditional wedding attire and accessories; the *penguluan* (bracelets), *geroncong* (anklets), *sindat* (arm bangles), a *kancing* (neckpiece), and *bersubang* (earrings).

Her hair is tied into a bun, twined with threaded jasmine, which leads to the back of the nape, where the *karang tembusa*, made of gold and precious stones as well as the *gagatar* are hung. She also wears a *serbang* on her forehead, attached to the *bunga serondok*. The girl is carried by a Pengarah, leading the entourage.

## Pertunangan Diraja

The Pertunangan Diraja consists of the following:

(a) An adolescent girl clad in full Malay traditional wedding attire and accessories; the *penguluan* (bracelets), *geroncong* (anklets), and a *kancing* (neckpiece).

She also wears a headdress called the *jamang* and a *panding* (belt) without blouse, rubbed upon yellow hem, serrated like a haircomb. The girl is carried by a Pengarah, leading the entourage.

(b) An adolescent young boy, assuming the role of 'Pemutus Tali Jintong', clad in full Malay traditional wedding attire and accessories; *bersinjang* (cloth worn over the attire), the *kopiah* and *pisnin* (headgears), the *penguluan* (bracelets), *geroncong* (anklets), the *puntu* and the *azimat* (arm bangles), the *kancing* and the *bermudapun* (neckpieces).

The boy is carried by a Pengarah, as a companion to the girl.

# Ornamental decorations associated with the Royal Regalia

#### Balai Pemajangan

A distinct feature of the Musim Istiadat Diraja (season of royal festivity) is the embellishment of a white colonnade called Balai Pemajangan that fronts the palace of the Istana Nurul Iman by ornamental decorations. Showpieces that adorn this colonnade include white fabric to cover the girders; and rows of ceremonial flags and umbrellas of various shapes and sizes that display colours of the sovereign, the royal consort, the crown prince, the wazirs and the cheteria, surrounded by the Rawai Lidah (red-coloured skirting).

The Balai Pemajangan is also fitted on the roof of the Istana Nurul Iman and less regal version is built along the driveway of the home of prospective groom as this season of royal festivity refers to a Royal Wedding.

## **Tunggul Bercabang**

It is a swallow-tailed flag, mounted and lowered to a third from the top of the pole, on each end of the Pemajangan. The Tunggul Bercabang installed in front of the Pemajangan beside the Sandaran is called the Tunggul Carok. Whereas the one installed at the rear beside the Pisang-Pisang is called the Tunggul Buritan.

#### Sandaran

This Royal Ornament is an elongated tapered flag in the shape of a trapezium, where the top is larger than the bottom and its length is estimated to be approximately six times the width of the top. A gap is sewn to insert a pole (wood or bamboo or the like). The Sandaran is placed on the Pemajangan between the Tunggul Charuk and the Ula-Ula Besar (and the Sumbu Layang).

#### **Ula-Ula Besar**

The Ula-Ula Besar is a Royal Ornament made of white cloth decorated with red motifs in the form of *awan larat*, either embroidered or attached to the cloth. To meet its intended shape and its curtain like feature, the top is spread across to approximately 12 feet (3.66 m) or depending on the condition of the vehicle it is mounted on. Three columns drape downwards with each end tied into a tassel with weights. The Ula-Ula Besar is erected on the Pemajangan between the Sandaran and the Payong Haram. The Ula-Ula Besar is also festooned with two other Royal Ornaments; the three Payong Ubor-Ubor and on top of it the three Tunggul Bercabang.

## Sumbu Layang

Installed under the Ula-Ula Besar, the Sumbu Layang is made of red cloth shaped like a scalloped bunting with each end draping downwards, both are knotted in the middle. The length of the cloth follows the length of the Ula-Ula Besar. Its colour remains the same, whereas its size differs depending on the condition of the place of use.

## **Payong Haram**

This Royal Ornament is made of yellow cloth, shaped like an enclosed umbrella. Its size depends on the condition of the vehicle and also other decorations. It is attached to the Pemajangan between the Payong Ubor-Ubor Tiga Ringkat and the Ula-Ula Besar (and the Sumbu Layang).

## Payong Ubor-Ubor Tiga Ringkat

This ornament shaped like a three-tiered Payong Ubor Ubor is made of cloth, where each tier is placed on a circular frame attached to a stick or iron pole. The bottom edges of the cloth are uniformly jagged. The Payong Ubur-Ubur Tiga Ringkat increases in size per tier; the first tier is small in size, the second tier is medium in size, and the third tier is the biggest in size. The Tunggal Bercabang adorns the very top of the Payong Ubor Ubor Tiga Ringkat. It is attached to the Pemajangan between the Chogan Ugama and the Payong Haram. This Royal Ornament is a scepter symbolising Islam, the official faith of Brunei Darussalam and is attached to the Pemajangan between the Lambang Kebawah Duli yang Maha Mulia Sultan and the Payong Ubor Ubor Tiga Ringkat.

## Lambang Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Baginda Sultan

This specially designed Royal Ornament displays His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalsam's personal Coat-of-Arms, consisting of the Royal Crown, the Royal Umbrella, a set of wings, an inscribed crescent, and a garland of 99 rice grain symbolising Allah the Almighty's 99 names. It is situated between the Panji-Panji and Chogan Ugama.

## Panji-Panji

This Royal Ornament is topped by a Tunggul Bercabang followed by a Payong Ubor-Ubor below it and further down, three wings are attached to the pole. It is located between the Chogan Istiadat and the Lambang Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia.

## **Chogan Istiadat**

This Royal Ornament, in the form of a mace, symbolises the Royal Customs and Traditions of Brunei which has been practised for centuries. It is also known as the Chogan Diraja. It is located at the Pemajangan between the Panji Panji and the Payong Tinggi or between the Mahligai and the Panji Panji when on the Pemajangan Kenaikan (Gegandong).

## Payong Tinggi

The Payong Tinggi is shaped like an ordinary umbrella except that it is made of cloth that is slightly bigger and longer than the ordinary ones. It is located on the Pemajangan between the Tunggul Alam Bernaga and the Chogan Istiadat or the Mahligai.

## **Payong Ubor-Ubor**

The Payong Ubor-Ubor is a piece of cloth over a cylindrical frame, similarly shaped like a lantern. Its length is approximately one-foot long or depending on the place of installation.

## **Pisang-Pisang**

The Pisang-Pisang is a rectangular shaped flag with a width of 1.5-2.0 feet and a length six times its width unfurled. It is similar in shape as the Sandaran, but is bigger on the top and smaller at the bottom. It is installed in pairs unlike the Sandaran and is located between the Charok Buritan and the Tunggul Alam Bernaga.

## **Tunggul Kawan**

The Tunggul Kawan is a piece of cloth in the shape of a triangular pennant with its horizontal base perpendicular to the pole it is attached to.

## Tunggul Alam Bernaga

The Tunggul Alam Bernaga is a piece of cloth in the shape of a triangular pennant, with jagged edges (except the side attached to the pole), symbolising the teeth of a shark. This Royal Ornament is also known as Alam Besar. On the Pemajangan, it is situated between the Pisang-Pisang and Payong Tinggi.

### Ambal

The Ambal is a piece of rectangular cloth attached to a stick of approximately one foot-long or depending on the place of installation. The base of the cloth holds three jagged edges, symbolising the teeth of a shark.

## Dadap

This Royal Ornament is made of a thin metal piece shaped like an inverted heart and sprayed with a white paint base and outlined with red along the edges. It is attached to a specially made horizontal pole together with the Tunggul Kawan, Payong Ubor-Ubor and Ambal. Unlike the other ornaments, its colour remains uniform, whilst the rest follows a hierarchal color coding. Its hierarchal usage is limited, down to the Ketua Kepala Manteri.

## Sapu-Sapu Ayeng

Shape-wise, the Sapu-Sapu Ayeng is similar to the Pisang-Pisang and is made of kihip cloth with small additional symbols printed across it but installed horizontally in pairs; two in front and two at the rear of the Pemajangan. Its hierarchal usage is limited, down to the Ketua Kepala Manteri.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

#### Brunei Darussalam in Brief

Brunei Darussalam is located north-west on the north coast of the little island of Borneo in Southeast Asia. The country has a total land area of 5,765 square kilometres (km<sup>2</sup>) and a coastline of 161 km<sup>2</sup>.

Brunei Darussalam is divided into four districts; Brunei-Muara District (570 km<sup>2</sup>), Tutong District (1,166 km<sup>2</sup>), Belait District (2,727 km<sup>2</sup>), and Temburong District (1,306 km<sup>2</sup>).

The capital of Brunei Darussalam is Bandar Seri Begawan (100.36 km<sup>2</sup>); which is located in the Brunei-Muara District.

Brunei Darussalam has a population of 453,600 persons (BDKI 2020). Brunei-Muara District: 316,100; Tutong District: 51,500; Belait District: 74,800; and Temburong District: 11,200. The majority of the populations are Malays, followed by Chinese and other races.

Brunei Darussalam has an equatorial climate all year round, with temperature ranging between 24.3°C and 32.2°C with relative humidity and total rainfall of 3,300.5 millimetres (BDKI 2020).



#### Time Zone

Brunei Darussalam is eight hours ahead of the Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+8).

#### Language

The official language of Brunei Darussalam is Bahasa Melayu (Malay), though English is widely spoken. Other languages include Chinese (various dialects), Tamil, Iban and Dusun.

# Prohibitions

## Smoking



Effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2012, smoking in Brunei Darussalam is prohibited in all enclosed public areas and work places. Other non-smoking areas include sidewalks near business premises and within a six-metre radius of smoke-free buildings, as well as all means of public transport.



### Alcohol

Sales and public consumption of alcoholic beverages are forbidden. Non-Muslims passengers over the age of 17 years may bring two bottles of liquor equivalent to two litres and 12 cans of beer for personal consumption. This must be declared to customs upon arrival.



### **Electrical Supply**

Electrical Supply - Voltage is 240V 50Hz, British Standard three-pin system.

# Transport Arrangements



#### Car hire

Self-driven or chauffeur-driven cars are available for hire from major hotels and the airport.

List of car renting companies:

L&W Car Rental	242 4246 / 875 2783
Avis Car Rental	233 3298
Auto X Car Rent	812 3682
Hertz Car Rental	872 6000
Indera En Voy	
Transportation	873 1621
-	





## Taxi

Taxis are mostly available in the capital of Brunei Darussalam and Brunei International Airport. There is a surcharge fee for taxi rides from 6.30 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. For taxi reservations, please contact: 222 2214 or 222 6853.

For inquiries on destination fares, you may call the Land Transport Department at 245 1980/82/84 during office hours.



There are six bus routes operating around Bandar Seri Begawan; the Central Business Line, Circle Line, Eastern Line, Southern Line, Western Line, and Northern Line. The buses are colour coded to represent which route it takes.

All of these bus routes will start and end at the main bus terminal in the capital. Bus fare is BND1.00 every per stopover and operates from 6.00 a.m. until 8.00 p.m. daily. Buses heading to towns in other districts other than in Brunei-Muara such as Tutong, Kuala Belait and Seria, depart from the bus terminal located at the multi-storey car park on Jalan Cator in Bandar Seri Begawan.



Dar

## Water Taxi

Water Taxis are most common means of transportation to and around Kampong Ayer (also known as the Water Village). You can call for a water taxi at jetties situated along the Brunei River.

Regular boat services to Temburong District are also available which operates from 7.45 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. daily. Ticket for adults cost BND7.00 each for a single journey.

## Dart

Dart Brunei is Brunei's first ride booking application. You can book a ride through the Dart application via your smart phone.



#### **Banking and Currency**

There are a number of international and regional banks in Brunei Darussalam. The country also consists of three local banks, namely: Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam (BIBD), Baiduri Bank Berhad, and Perbadanan Tabung Amanah Islam Brunei (TAIB). All major credit cards are widely accepted throughout the country. ATM cards affiliated with the international Plus or Cirrus Systems are accepted at most ATMs.

The currency in Brunei Darussalam is Brunei Dollar (BND); which is pegged to the value of Singapore Dollar (\$1: \$1).

#### Visa



All foreign nationals entering Brunei Darussalam must have visas obtainable from any Brunei Darussalam diplomatic missions abroad except countries with whom Brunei Darussalam has visa arrangements. Information on visa requirements is available on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at http://www.mfa.gov.bn/ SitePages/Visa%20Information.aspx

# Emergency Services

Ambulance	991
Police	993
Fire & Rescue	995
Search & Rescue	998 / 233 2600
Talian Darussalam	123

261 1433 /

224 2424 / 223 2188

#### **Medical Services**

RIPAS Hospital Jerudong Park Medical Centre (JPMC) (JPMC emergency hotline) Gleneagles JPMC Tutong Hospital Kuala Belait Hospital Temburong Hospital

261 2612 / 717 2712 261 1883 / 888 0111 422 1010 / 422 1355 (emergency) 333 5331/2 522 1526/7/8 or 522 1255 (emergency)

## PLACES OF INTEREST IN BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

#### Masjid Omar 'Ali Saifuddien

The Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Mosque takes its name from the father of the present Sultan and predecessor, the 28<sup>th</sup> Sultan of Brunei, Sultan Omar 'Ali Saifuddien. The design of the mosque incorporates indigenous

local touches. like the rope-like pillars recalling the Brunei "kalat" (a thick rope) and a replica of the 16th century Bruneian "mahligai" (roval barge) on the reflecting pool outside the mosque. The mosque is located in the heart of Bandar Seri Begawan to capture its position as the nation's icon.



#### Dermaga Diraja (The Royal Wharf)

The Dermaga Diraja, or more popularly known as 'Waterfront' is situated by one of the Brunei River banks and was recently redeveloped into a



scenic promenade that leads to the Mahkota Jubli Emas Park. A perfect place to enjoy long strolls at night and have the best viewing spots of Brunei's heritage site - Kampong Ayer, a historic water village.

Photo: Brunei Tourism.

#### Tamu Kianggeh



Photo: Brunei Tourism.

Tamu Kianggeh is located at the banks of Kianggeh river where the waterways are constantly busy with motorboats zooming by. The market features a variety of local vegetables and fruits, medicinal herbs as well as fresh fish caught by fishermen.

#### Royal Regalia Museum

The Royal Regalia Museum is home to the Sultanate's heirlooms and regalia. From golden chariots to olden-day symbolic weapons and

shields, exhibits of His Majesty's Silver and Golden Jubilee celebrations, and ornate mementos from historic Brunei. This museum also houses the gifts given to His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah by foreign leaders and heads of state.



#### Istana Nurul Iman



The Istana Nurul Iman is the house of residence of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah and his family, as well as the location of the senior government offices of the country. The palace stands on the banks of Brunei River, several

kilometres south of Bandar Seri Begawan. The name of Istana Nurul Iman means Palace of the Light of Faith.

#### Brunei Energy Hub Dermaga Diraja



The Brunei Energy Hub Dermaga Diraja is located in Bandar Seri Begawan. It is an interactive museum that aims to serve as a knowledge hub for the oil and gas industry and a platform to support the development of the creative scene in Brunei Darussalam.

Photo: Brunei Tourism.

#### Kampong Ayer

Kampong Ayer is one of the largest water settlements in Southeast Asia, and is home to a lively community. This water village is the humble

origins of Bandar Seri Begawan and remains to be the home to its 10,000 residents. Kampong Aver also has its own museum called the Kampong Ayer Cultural & Tourism Gallery that provides context on the village's history traditional and customs.



#### Jame' Asr Hassanil Bolkiah



#### The Jame' Asr Hassanil Bolkiah is Brunei's largest mosque in the country and is built in modern mosque architectural style. The mosque was introduced on 14 July 1994 with the Sultan attending the Maghrib and Isha prayers in conjunction with His Majesty's 48<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

## The Mall Gadong

The Mall Gadong is a unique shopping and entertainment complex that features an international hotel, retail shops, a cinema and commercial spaces.



Pasar Gadong (Gadong Night Market)



The Gadong Night Market is a key attraction of Brunei's Gadong commercial district. The Night Market is the right place to taste several delicacies such as *Nasi Katok*, satay (meat skewers), various grilled

meats and fish, local sweet treats such as kueh malaya (pancakes with fillings), to exotic fruits like durian and *cempedak* (jackfruit).

# ACCOMMODATION

#### Brunei-Muara District

Times Hotel Tel : +673 233 7878 www.timeshotelbrunei.com

Mulia Hotel Tel : +673 233 5544 The Empire Brunei Tel : +673 241 8888 www.theempirebrunei.com

The Centrepoint Hotel Tel : +673 243 0430 www.thecentrepointhotel.com

The Rizqun International Hotel Tel : +673 242 3000 www.rizquninternational.com

Radisson Hotel Tel : +673 224 4272 www.radisson.com/brunei

Jubilee Hotel Tel : +673 222 8070 www.jubileehotelbrunei.com

Terrace Hotel Tel : +673 224 3554/5/6 www.terracebrunei.com

The Brunei Hotel Tel : +673 224 4828 www.thebruneihotel.com

Star Lodge Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 261 1618 www.starlodgebrunei.com

Grand City Hotel Tel : +673 245 2188

Badi'ah Hotel Tel : +673 222 2888 www.badiahhotel.com Parkview Hotel Tel : +673 261 1998/9 www.parkviewhotelbn.com

Jeruton Hotel Tel : +673 261 2233/13 www.jerutonhotel.com

Al-Afiah Hotel Tel : +673 223 1459 www.alafiahhotel.com

Traders Inn Tel : +673 244 2828 www.tradersinn-brunei.com

Kiulap Plaza Hotel Tel : +673 223 2251/2 www.kiulap-plaza-hotel.com

Venice Lodge Tel : +673 245 5233 www.venicelodgebrunei.com

Mangrove Paradise Resort Tel : +673 278 6868 www.mangroveparadiseresort. weebly.com

LeGallery Suites Hotel Tel : +673 222 1228

Wafa Hotel & Apartment Tel : +673 242 6889 www.wafahotelbn.com

Aman Hills Hotel Tel : +673 233 5111 www.amanhillshotel.com

www.legallerysuiteshotel.com Abdul Razak Hotel Apartment Tel : +673 224 1536 www.abdulrazakhotelapts.com Kompleks Mohammad Yussof Hotel Apartment Tel : +673 223 5532 www.kompleks-mohd-yussofhotel-apartments.blogspot.com

#### D'Anggerek Serviced Apartment Tel : +673 233 3398 / 234 5222 www.danggerek.com

#### **Belait District**

Plaza Sutera Biru Tel : +673 334 7268 www.psb.com.bn

Hotel Sentosa Tel : +673 333 4341 www.bruneisentosahotel.com

Swiss Hotel Apartment Tel : +673 333 1668 www.swisshotelkb.com

V-Plaza Tel : +673 334 7868 www.v-plaza.com.bn

Garden Sentral Hotel Tel : +673 333 8333 www.gardensentralhotel.com

#### **Temburong District**

Sumbiling Eco Village Tel : +673 242 6923 / 876 6796 www.sumbiling.com

Trandie Brunei Tel : +673 719 3179 / 252 0066/77 www.trandiebrunei.com

Freme Rainforest Lodge Tel : +673 322 8171 / 223 4280/2 Tat Place Hotel Tel : +673 334 7277 www.tatplacekb.com

Keoja Hotel Tel : +673 334 7733 www.keojahotel.com

RoomZ Hotel Tel : +673 322 3223 www.roomz.com.bn

Riviera Hotel Tel : +673 333 5252 www.rivierahotelkb.webs.com

Sea View Resort, Hotel & Apartment Tel:+673 333 2651

Stoneville Hotel Tel : +673 522 2252 / 829 8670

Lukut Intan Guest House Tel : +673 522 1078 / 864 3766

Ulu Ulu National Park Resort Tel : +673 244 1791/6812 www.uluuluresort.com

#### FOREIGN EMBASSIES AND HIGH COMMISSIONS BASED IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

#### **Royal Embassy of Cambodia**

Simpang 336-71, Jalan Kebangsaan, Bandar Seri Begawan, BC3915 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 242 6450 Fax : +673 242 6452 Email : cambodia@brunet.bn

#### Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia

Simpang 336-43, Diplomatic Enclave, Kampung Sungai Akar, Jalan Kebangsaan, BS8111 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 233 0180 / 233 0445 Fax : +673 233 0646 / 233 7559 Email : kbribsb@brunet.bn

#### Embassy of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

No. 159, Simpang 336, Diplomatic Enclave Jalan Kebangsaan, Kampung Sungai Akar, Bandar Seri Begawan, BC4115 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 238 4382 Fax : +673 238 4381 Email : laosembassy\_tobrunei@hotmail.com

#### **Malaysian High Commission**

No. 61, Simpang 336, Diplomatic Enclave Jalan Kebangsaan, Bandar Seri Begawan, BA1211 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 2381095 / 2381096 / 2381097 Fax : +673 2381278 Email : mwbrunei@kln.gov.my

#### Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

No. 14, Šimpang 212, Lot 2185 / 46292, Jalan Kampung Rimba, Gadong, BE3119 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 245 1960 / 245 1961 Fax : +673 245 1963 Email : embassymyanmar.brunei@gmail.com

#### **Embassy of the Republic of Philippines**

Simpang 336, Diplomatic Enclave, Jalan Kebangsaan, Bandar Seri Begawan, BA 2312 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 224 1465/66 Fax : +673 223 7707 Email : brunei.pe@dfa.gov.ph

#### High Commission of the Republic of Singapore

No. 8, Simpang 74, Jalan Subok, Bandar Seri Begawan, BD2717 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 226 2741/2/3 Fax : +673 226 2752 Email : singhc\_bwn@mfa.sg

#### **Royal Thai Embassy**

No. 15, Simpang 42, Jalan Elia Fatimah, Kampung Kiarong, Bandar Seri Begawan, BE1318 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 265 3108/9 Fax : +673 265 3032 Email : thaiemb@brunet.bn

#### Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

No. 9, Simpang 148-3, Jalan Telanai, Mukim Kilanas, Bandar Seri Begawan, BA2312 Brunei Darussalam Tel : +673 265 1580/87 Fax : +673 265 1574 Email : venm\_brunei@mofa.gov.vn

# **ISLAMIC PRAYER TIMES**

#### JANUARY 2024

#### Jamadilakhir / Rejab 1445H

Masihi	Day	Hijrah	Prayer times for Brunei-Muara District and Temburong District							
	54,	. nji un	Imsak	Subuh	Syuruk	Duha	Zuhur	Asar	Maghrib	lsyak
1	Monday	19	4.55	5.05	6.28	6.52	12.24	3.46	6.19	7.33
2	Tuesday	20	4.55	5.05	6.29	6.53	12.25	3.47	6.19	7.34
3	Wednesday	21	4.56	5.06	6.29	6.53	12.25	3.47	6.20	7.34
4	Thursday	22	4.56	5.06	6.29	6.54	12.26	3.48	6.20	7.35
5	Friday	23	4.57	5.07	6.30	6.54	12.26	3.48	6.21	7.35
6	Saturday	24	4.57	5.07	6.30	6.54	12.27	3.49	6.21	7.36
7	Sunday	25	4.58	5.08	6.31	6.55	12.27	3.49	6.22	7.36
8	Monday	26	4.58	5.08	6.31	6.55	12.28	3.49	6.22	7.36
9	Tuesday	27	4.58	5.08	6.31	6.55	12.28	3.50	6.23	7.37
10	Wednesday	28	4.59	5.09	6.32	6.56	12.28	3.50	6.23	7.37
11	Thursday	29	4.59	5.09	6.32	6.56	12.29	3.51	6.23	7.38
12	Friday	30	5.00	5.10	6.32	6.56	12.29	3.51	6.24	7.38
13	Saturday	1	5.00	5.10	6.33	6.57	12.30	3.51	6.24	7.38
14	Sunday	2	5.01	5.11	6.33	6.57	12.30	3.52	6.25	7.39
15	Monday	3	5.01	5.11	6.33	6.57	12.30	3.52	6.25	7.39
16	Tuesday	4	5.01	5.11	6.34	6.57	12.31	3.53	6.26	7.39
17	Wednesday	5	5.02	5.12	6.34	6.58	12.31	3.53	6.26	7.40
18	Thursday	6	5.02	5.12	6.34	6.58	12.31	3.53	6.27	7.40
19	Friday	7	5.02	5.12	6.34	6.58	12.32	3.53	6.27	7.40
20	Saturday	8	5.03	5.13	6.35	6.58	12.32	3.54	6.27	7.41
21	Sunday	9	5.03	5.13	6.35	6.59	12.32	3.54	6.28	7.41
22	Monday	10	5.03	5.13	6.35	6.59	12.33	3.54	6.28	7.41
23	Tuesday	11	5.04	5.14	6.35	6.59	12.33	3.55	6.28	7.41
24	Wednesday	12	5.04	5.14	6.36	6.59	12.33	3.55	6.29	7.42
25	Thursday	13	5.04	5.14	6.36	6.59	12.33	3.55	6.29	7.42
26	Friday	14	5.05	5.15	6.36	6.59	12.34	3.55	6.29	7.42
27	Saturday	15	5.05	5.15	6.36	6.59	12.34	3.55	6.30	7.42
28	Sunday	16	5.05	5.15	6.36	6.59	12.34	3.55	6.30	7.42
29	Monday	17	5.05	5.15	6.36	6.59	12.34	3.56	6.30	7.43
30	Tuesday	18	5.06	5.16	6.36	7.00	12.34	3.56	6.31	7.43
31	Wednesday	19	5.06	5.16	6.36	7.00	12.35	3.56	6.31	7.43

#### Reminder:

For Tutong District, add 1 minute; and for Belait District, add 3 minutes.