Malaysia’s flag design is based on the flag of the US. It has 14 equal horizontal stripes of red alternating with white. There is a blue rectangle in the upper left side corner with a yellow crescent and a yellow 14-pointed star. The flag is often referred to as Jalur Gemilang, which translates to Stripes of Glory. The crescent is a traditional symbol of Islam. The 14 stripes stand for the 13 member states and the federal government. The 14 points on the star represent the unity between these entities. The color blue symbolizes the unity of the Malay people. The color yellow is the royal color of Malay rulers.

Malaysia has a climate categorized as equatorial. This means that it is hot and humid throughout the year. Malaysia faces two monsoon winds seasons, the Southwest Monsoon and the Northeast Monsoon. The Northeast Monsoon brings in more rainfall than the Southwest Monsoon. Local climates are affected by the mountain ranges in Malaysia. These climates can be divided into highlands, lowlands, and coastal regions. The coastal regions have a sunny climate. The lowlands have a more distinctive rainfall pattern and very high humidity levels. The highlands are cooler and wetter. There is a large amount of cloud coverage in the highlands, which causes very high humidity levels.

Life expectancy on average is 74 years old (males 71 years, females 77 years).

Malaysia has an open state-oriented multi-sector economy. It has one of the best economic records in Asia. Malaysia is attempting to move up in the value-added production chain by attracting investments in Islamic finance, high technology industries, biotechnology, and services. The government aiming to boost domestic demand in order to reduce the economy’s dependence on exports. However, exports still remain a significant driver of the economy. The central bank maintains healthy foreign exchange reserves and has limited Malaysia’s exposure to the global financial crisis.

Muslim 60.4%, Buddhist 19.2%, Christian 9.1%, Hindu 6.3%, Traditional Chinese religions 2.6%, other 1.5%.

The literacy rate in Malaysia is 89% and the school life expectancy is 13 years. The education system features kindergarten then six years of compulsory primary education followed by five years of optional secondary education. Schools in the primary education system are divided into two categories, national primary schools and vernacular schools. Vernacular schools are taught in Chinese or Tamil, while national primary and secondary schools use Bahasa Malaysia as the medium of instruction.

Rubber, palm oil, cocoa, rice, coconuts, timber and pepper.

The national flower of Malaysia is the hibiscus rosa sinensis, locally known as the bunga raya. Other native flowers include rafflesia arnoldii and hibiscus rosa.

The most popular sport in Malaysia is football (soccer). Other sports include badminton, field hockey, tennis and martial arts.