



Field Camp 2022-23

Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Penang in Malaysia (21-26 May 2023)

The 2022-23 Field Camp for Year 3 geography students took place from 21 to 26 May in Ipoh and Penang, Malaysia. Led by Dr. Meiyu Guo and assisted by Mr. Benson Choi, the trip provided students with valuable learning opportunities outside the classroom. Accompanied by Miss Joanne Leung, Dr. Gao, Dr. Hao and Dr. Song, the camp included visits to various field sites.



A highlight of the trip was the hospitality extended by the Geography Section at the **Universiti of Sains Malaysia (USM)** in Penang. We attended research seminars on climate change monitoring given by research graduate students from USM. Our students had the chance to share their studies and life at HKBU with USM students. We explored the EcoHub Living Lab and enjoyed fresh honey from stingless bees. We were grateful to Dr. Asyirah for facilitating this visit and look forward to further collaboration with USM.



The trip also included other memorable experiences. At **Gua Tempurung cave** near Ipoh, some students took on a challenging route along an underground river, while others explored cavernous spaces inhabited by bats. We visited the **old town of Ipoh** to learn about the area's history and delved into issues of heritage conservation, tourism, and gentrification during a walking tour of the local Chinese community in Penang. A visit to Kairos, an **organic farm** for vanilla cultivation, sparked discussions on sustainable agriculture and grassroots entrepreneurship.



In **Penang National Park**, we took speedboats to an isolated beach and had a rainforest hiking led by knowledgeable guides, immersing ourselves in the local ecology and enjoying a BBQ lunch. Our overnight stay in Ipoh provided additional time for student fieldwork and an opportunity to savour Malaysian delicacies.

At our last stop in Kuala Lumpur, a local tour was offered for a fascinating exploration of this vibrant city. We were taken on a journey through the rich culture, history, and modern attractions that define Kuala Lumpur, from iconic landmarks like the **Petronas Twin Towers** to the **Government Printing Office**.

Overall, the Field Camp was a remarkable experience that allowed students to learn from experts, explore diverse field sites, and gain insights into various geographical issues. The trip fostered a deeper understanding of the subjects studied and provided valuable cultural and academic exchanges.



