

HOW TO GET TO TRACC.

We highly recommend you visit <https://wikitravel.org> to get more information about the best travel route and travel destinations.

ARRIVAL DAYS

TRACC's arrival days are Mondays to coincide with our supply runs to mainland (Semporna).

FLIGHTS

The airport closest to us is Tawau (TWU) Airport, which is a domestic airport. From most countries Kuala Lumpur (KLU) or Kota Kinabalu (BKI) is going to be the easiest transfer point to fly direct to Tawau.

The flight from KLU to TWU is 2 hours and 53 minutes on average.

The flight from BKI to TWU is 52 minutes on average.

The only airlines that fly to TWU are [AirAsia](#) and [Malaysian Airlines](#)

We recommend the following flights;

From KL (KUL): We recommend AirAsia flight AK5744 departing at 07:00am or Malaysia Airlines flight MH 2660 departing at 07:30am.

From KK (BKI): We recommend AirAsia flight AK6260 departing at 08:50am or Malaysia Airlines flight MH 3051 departing at 08:50am.

You may already be in South East Asia or Malaysia in which case you can fly from Kota Kinabalu, Johor Bahru, Sandakan, Tarakan direct to Tawau.

If you are unsure of the best flights to take in order to get to Malaysia, you can use Google or we recommend using the following sites to help you plan your trip;

Skyscanner website - www.skyscanner.com

Expedia website - www.expedia.com.my

We advise that you try to plan a reasonable flight route including no more than one stop if possible.

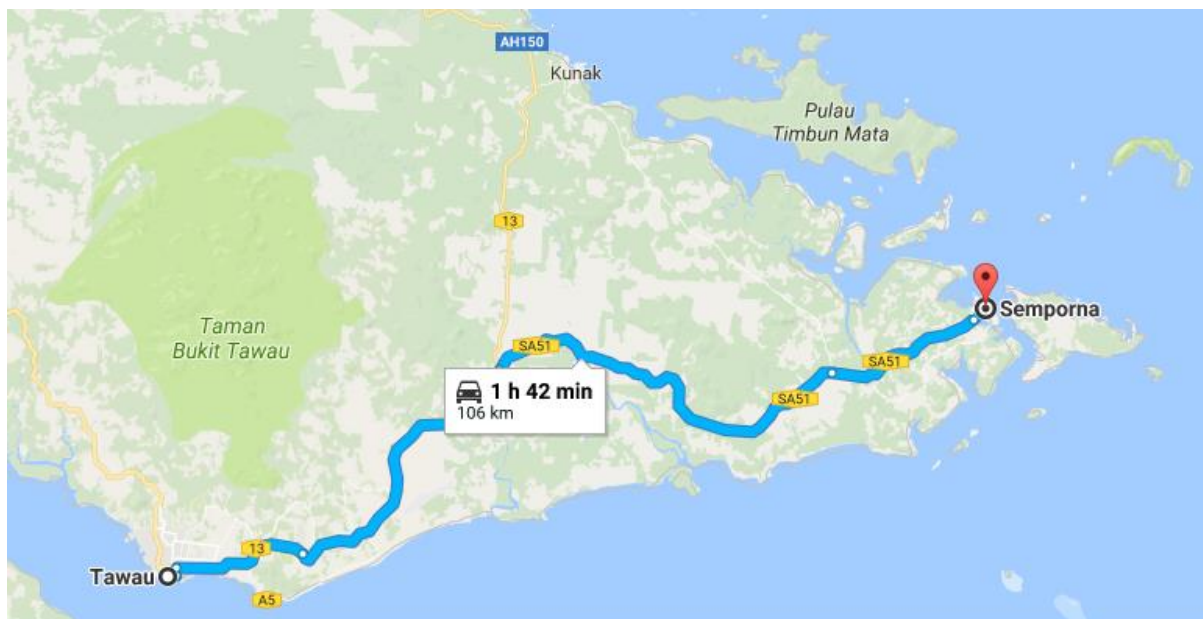
ARRIVAL AT TAWAU AIRPORT

We ask that you ***do not land any later than 2pm*** on your date of arrival, if you want to get to Pom Pom that same day.

Inexperienced or young travellers should aim to arrive in time to head directly to TRACC on the day of arrival, as it streamlines your trip and alleviates the need for you to navigate Semporna or Tawau on your own and stay overnight in a hotel.

When you arrive in Tawau you will be picked up by our driver who will take you to Semporna which is a 1.5 to 2-hour drive depending on conditions and traffic.

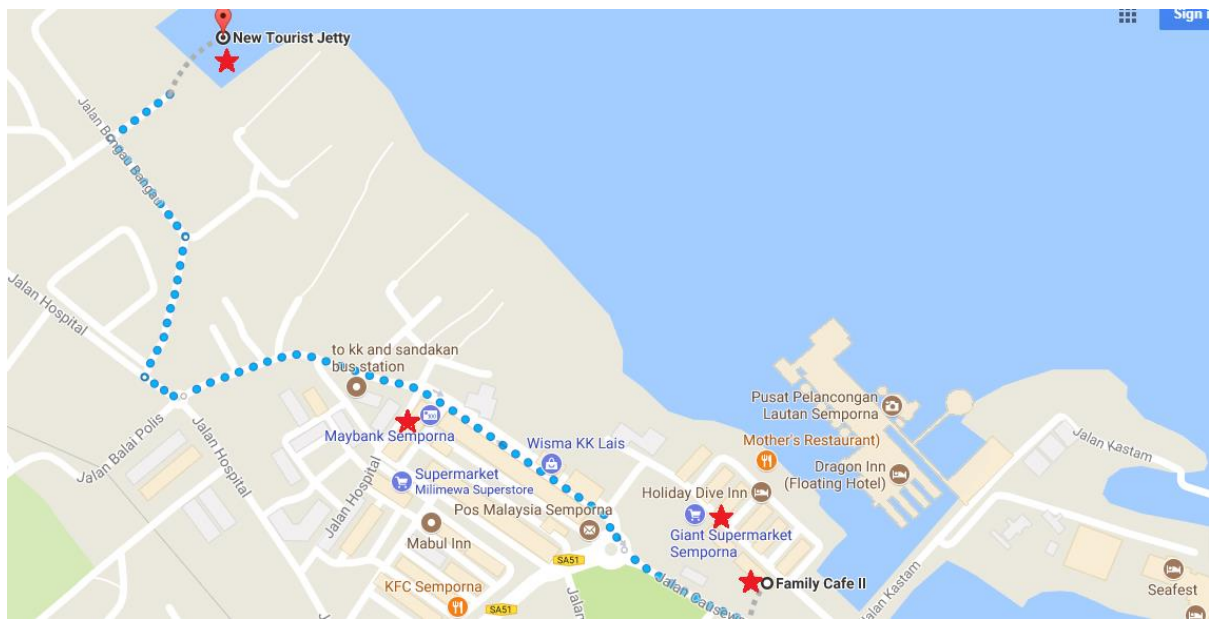
If you arrive on any day other than our arrival days then you may need to organise your own taxi from the airport. This is usually very easy as there are many van drivers waiting to drive people to Semporna, the usual price for a seat in one of these vans is RM25. If you arrive late at night it may be hard to find a shared van to Semporna, in which case you may have to hire a private taxi which costs around RM80-100.



ARRIVAL IN SEMPORNA

Once in Semporna our driver will take you either straight to the [NEW TOURIST JETTY](#) where our boat will be departing for the Island. If you arrive in the morning our driver will take you to [FAMILY CAFE II](#), to have some food and wait while we do our supply shopping.

If you wish to buy anything in Semporna please make sure you allow for enough time as our boat must leave for Pom Pom island no later than 4:00.



SEMPORNA

Semporna is a small town with some shops, restaurants, supermarkets and a couple of bars. If you are staying in Semporna overnight there are a range of different types of accommodation available such as cubes, hostels and hotels.

For more information and a list of accommodation please visit the following site;

<https://wikitravel.org/en/Semporna>

If you would like to book your accommodation online you can visit the following sites;

<https://www.booking.com>

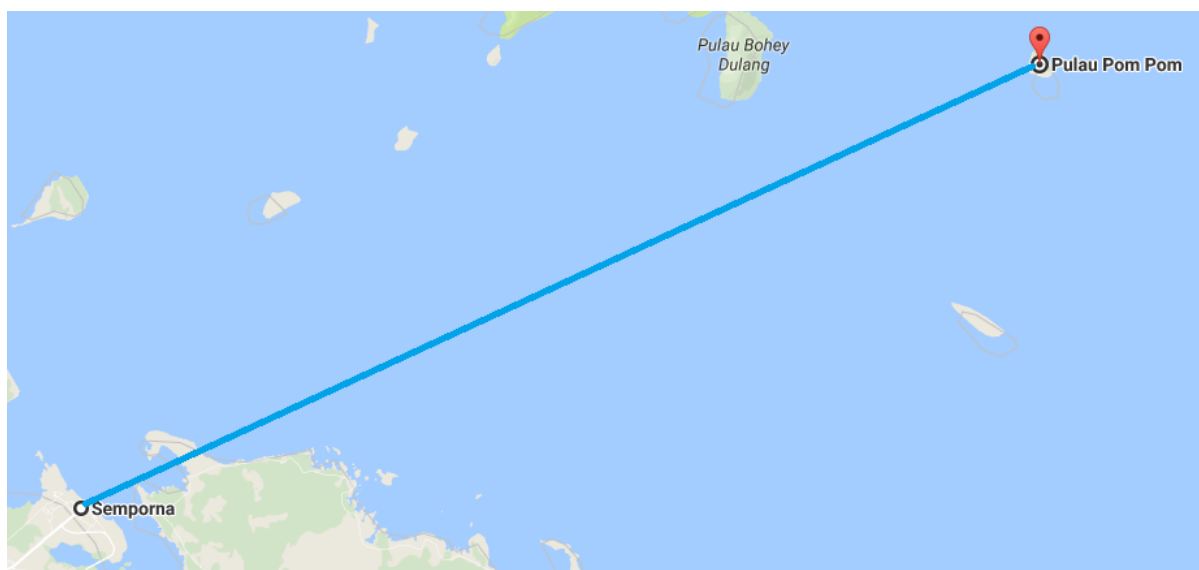
<https://www.agoda.com>

You can buy snacks and supplies in Semporna from one of the supermarkets. [GIANT SUPERMARKET](#) has the widest range of western products.

There are a few ATM's in Semporna but they don't except all foreign cards. [MAYBANK](#) does accept most foreign cards but can be unreliable and have very long queues with a waiting time of up to an hour, so we suggest you withdraw money from KL, KK or TWU airport instead.

BOAT TRIP TO THE ISLAND

The boat trip to Pom Pom Island from Semporna will take around an hour. It's usually a smooth ride, but if it starts raining or becomes wavy you may get wet. Please keep this in mind when packing your electrical items, you may want to use a dry bag.



DEPARTURES

You might want to plan a few days in Semporna after your period of volunteering. This will allow you to dive Mabul and Sipadan with one of the local dive operators. They are world class dive sites, an interesting contrast to Pom Pom and a treat after all your hard work. They should be booked as early as possible as Sipadan permits are in short supply.

We recommend [Seaventures](#). You are guaranteed a Sipadan permit with Seaventures. The Seaventures dive resort truly is a novelty alternative to any dive resort and is ideal for divers wanting to maximise their diving — especially if you only have a few days to dive. Best of all, it is situated in one of the diving industry's renowned [top dive destinations](#) commonly ranked as being one of the world's best.

If you intend to depart immediately we recommend a ***return flight no earlier 3pm or 5pm if you want to err on the side of caution.*** It is an hour from the island to Semporna by boat and then another hour or two by minibus to the airport. Make sure you leave yourself plenty of time to make your flight and take into account the possibility of bad weather.