Kuala Gula Sanctuary Resort, which forms part of the Matang Forest Reserve, is a nature sanctuary, attracts many bird-watching enthusiasts as well as photographers. The sanctuary is situated on the edge of Lake Baturau and the Bukit Merah Orang Utan Island, which together form part of the Matang Forest Reserve.

The sanctuary consists of a large area of wetlands, including paddy fields, mangrove forests, and a variety of other habitats. The wetlands are home to a wide range of bird species, including migratory birds that stop over during their long journeys. Some of the bird species that can be spotted at the sanctuary include the Asian openbill, the little egret, and the black-capped Kingfisher.

The sanctuary also provides opportunities for nature lovers and bird enthusiasts to observe and photograph the abundant birdlife. The sanctuary is accessible to the public, and visitors can purchase tickets to enter the sanctuary and enjoy the natural beauty of the area. The entrance fee for visitors ranges from RM5 to RM10, depending on the age and type of visitor.

In conclusion, the Kuala Gula Sanctuary Resort is a must-visit destination for bird lovers and nature enthusiasts. The sanctuary offers a unique opportunity to observe and learn about the diverse birdlife that inhabits the area, while also enjoying the natural beauty of the wetlands.

Note: The information is based on recent reports and may change over time due to conservation efforts and natural phenomena.
Ban Pecah is a popular beach to hang out, especially for those who wish to witness an awesome sunset. Fishing competitions are held here regularly.

With a stretch over 8km from Kuala Kerian to Tanjung Pandang, encompassing four villages, namely Kampung Fadil, Kampung Kuala Sungai Bunin, Kampung Sungai Baru and Kampung Kuala Park Tok Hn, and being the Straits of Malacca, one can see the Penang Bridge at night in the distant horizon.

Story has it that this area was named Ban Pecah, which literally translates to ‘broken bond’, due to a curse of an orphan in the 1960s. This orphan owned a piece of land here but it was sold by his uncle without his approval. Because of this curse, the wall erected along the coast continued to disintegrate.

GPS Coordinates: N 05° 03’ 045'' E100° 32’ 367''

Aquaculture

With the straits of Malacca on the west of Kerian District, it is no surprise that fishing is a major industry here.

A fact, the Malaysian Golden Arowana has its origins from Bukit Marah Lake and Kerian River, and is not found anywhere else in the world. Asian arowana (Scleropages formosus), incidentally, is an endangered species.

This area is suitable for arowana breeding that in 2007, the Perak state government planted a thousand acres of land in Simpang Emas, Semanggol, for the industry alone. So far, some 500 acres have already been developed by the more than 200 industry players.

Arowana fish here are mainly exported to China because of the popular belief that this ‘ying shu’ fish brings good luck and prosperity. The Chinese call the arowana “Golden Dragon Fish”. Arowana is also exported to Japan, Taiwan and Korea but on a smaller scale.

Those who wish to visit an arowana farm can write in to the Kerian District Fisheries Office, and extend a copy of the letter to the North Malaysia Arowana Farmers Association (NMAFA).

A visit to this cottage is rather educational as one is shown how this traditional snack is made. Aida Hazlyn Hassan, Fathol Zaman Bukhari, Luqman Hakim and Rosli Mansor.

GPS Coordinates (Jetty Kuala Bagan Tiang): N 05° 06’ 703” E100° 23’ 283’

Cockle breeding is another major industry here. Cockles harvested, after meeting local consumption, are exported to Thailand. The high-quality product is attributed to the pollution-free environment of Kuala Bagan Tiang.

One hundred gunny sacks at 65kg each are now harvested daily. This is a year-long activity.

Those interested to watch the process of ‘cleaning’ cockles, where cockles are separated from empty shells and dead cockles, can contact the Kerian District Office (Tel: +605-7214363 during office hours).

GPS Coordinates (Jetty Kuala Bagan Tiang): N 05° 06’ 703” E100° 23’ 283’

Commercial shrimp (Vannamei) breeding began in 2012 along Jalan Gula in Sungai Kerian. The company, Hannan Corporation, spawns about 250 ponds on 300 acres of land in a joint venture with Northern Comfort. Ten tonnes of shrimp are harvested each time.

GPS Coordinates: N 04’ 55’ 972” E100° 33’ 389”

To request for a visit, contact Hannan Group of Companies at A-3-2, Megan Phoenix, 56000 Cheras, Kuala Lumpur. Tel: +603-91025772 Fax: +603-91025770

Agriculture

Besides rice, other agricultural products include oil palm and pomelo.

Low Tow Soon is an award-winning pomelo grower. His 12-acre orchard in Sungai Gedung, Bagan Serai is also planted with other local fruits such as pomelo, guava and limes.

There are some 20 families who own pomelo orchards here. According to Low, the fertile soil and water enable the fruit to thrive.

It takes a pomelo tree six to eight months to start fruiting; but surprisingly, trees can continue to fruit for a hundred years and more!

Johan Limau Bali Chuan
Aid: Bate 23, No. 111, Telok Medan, Jalan Taping, 34300 Bagan Serai, Perak. Tel: (+605) 7277200 Fax: (+605) 7277215
GPS Coordinates: N 04° 16’ 043” E100° 31’ 945”

Cottage Industries

Under the One District One Industry programme, the Department of Agriculture has been donating grants to local cottage businesses to encourage them to expand.

One of the beneficiaries is Ieda Frozen Food & Bakery, which was established in 2010. Proprietress Norfawawati Md. Nor and her four workers bake buns, biscuits,考察, frozen sausage rolls and curry puffs, among other snacks, which are supplied to schools and shops, and even as far as Putrajaya.

Ieda Frozen Food & Bakery’s food and bakery products are for sale from 8am to 9pm. The shop is closed once a week, either on Friday or Saturday.

Those who make an appointment to visit can request for a guided tour to see how bread and cookies are baked.

Call Norfawawati at (+607) 428 2252 to book a visit. Aid: F246, Bata 56, Tuan Kebun, Simpang Lima, 34200 Pantai Burung, Perak.
GPS Coordinates: N 04° 05’ 003” E100° 26’ 065”

Recreation

The square along the riverbank of Sungai Kerian on Jalan Sungai in Pantai Burung is the locals’ favourite recreational spot. They converge here for aerobics every morning, fishing, for an evening pig, for skateboardting, fishing and also boating. In 2011, a national-level water fiesta was hosted here.

Boating on Sungai Kerian is a popular activity here. The water is very calm and it is safe to sail or canoe.

GPS Coordinates: N 05° 07’ 76’” E100° 29’ 712”

Tourism

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Perak is Divine

Surprisingly, shopping is interesting here, and many choices of Muslim apparel, textile and handicrafts come up for grabs.

GPS Coordinates: N 05° 07’ 76’” E100° 29’ 712”

Shopping

The weekly market is eagerly anticipated by the locals. Right in the heart of Pantai Burung town near the clock tower, along Jalan Teh Peh Kong and Jalan Mentari, traders begin their business as early as 6.30am, with most stalls open until 10pm. About half of the almost 300 stalls here sell various types of local food.

Pasar Kemboja, or Cambodian Market, is split into two sections, with one half of it in Simpang Emas, Pantai Burung and the other half in Nilai Sungai Teluk, Simpang Emas, separated by Jalan Seremban.

Initially started by the large Cambodian community here, this street bazaar is open only until 7pm. At the end of the day, there are approximately 300 stalls here. Many boutique owners from other states come here to source for products and buy in bulk at wholesale prices.

GPS Coordinates: N 05° 07’ 76’” E100° 29’ 712”