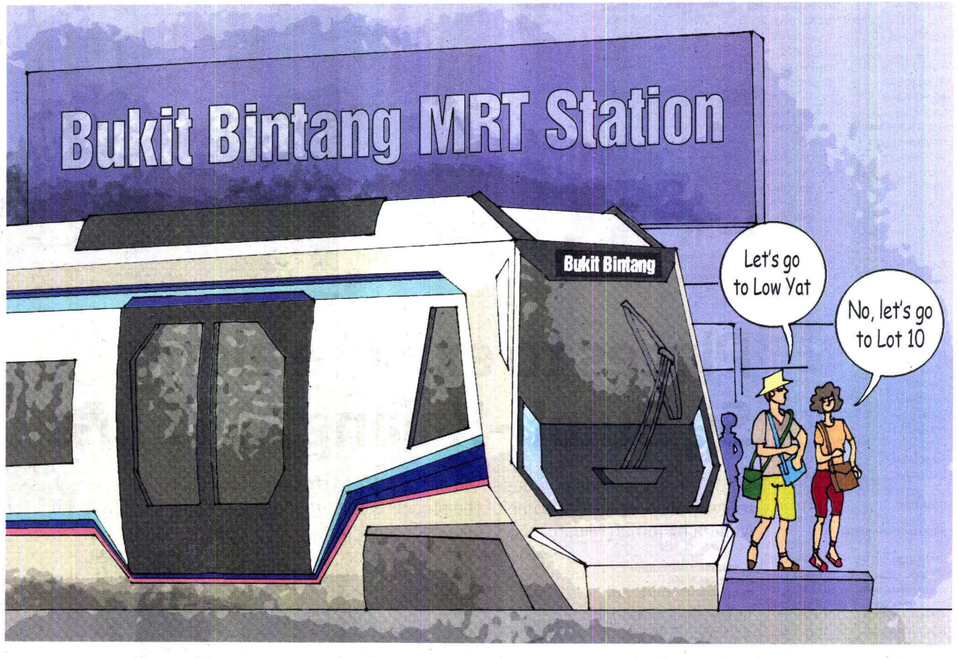

Hassle-free travel around KL

In the first of a two-part series, StarMetro rides the MRT to explore interesting sights around Phase Two stations from Muzium Negara to Taman Midah. >2&3

You can head to MyTown shopping centre by getting off at the Cochrane station.

Sunway Velocity Mall is accesible to commuters by getting off at the Maluri station. — Photos: ZAHID IZZANI/The Star

Explore Malaysia's repository of its rich cultural and historical heritage. Just a short walk from the Muzium Negara station.

The Al-Bukhary mosque is accesible to commuters from the Merdeka station.

Places to explore along Sg Buloh-Kajang MRT line

StarMetro took a ride on Phase Two of the MRT to check out interesting spots along its route. Today, we look at some of the places to visit around the stations from Muzium Negara to Taman Midah.

By SANDRA ALBERT JOHN and HANIM MUSA
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THERE'S never been a better time to explore the length and breadth of the Klang Valley.

With Phase Two of the MRT Sungai Buloh-Kajang line finally open, *StarMetro* took a ride to check out some well-known tourist attractions along with hidden gems just waiting to be discovered.

In the first of a two-part series, our reporters stopped at several interesting places between the Muzium Negara MRT station and the Taman Midah MRT station.

One of the exhibits at the Jade museum. The museum is located close to the Tun Razak Exchange MRT station.

1. Muzium Negara
The national museum is a two-minute walk from the station. Muzium Negara is a repository of Malaysia's rich cultural and historical heritage. The admission fee is only RM2 for Malaysians while foreigners pay RM5.

This station is also connected to the major transportation hub of KL Sentral through a covered 240m pedestrian walkway. There, commuters can connect to their destinations including the KLIA Express Rail Link, KLIA Transit, RapidKL LRT Kelana Jaya Line, KTM Komuter, KTM Intercity and KL Monorail services.

2. Pasar Seni
Kuala Lumpur's Central Market, better known as Pasar Seni is just 250m from this station. Located in Jalan Hang Kasturi, it was originally a wet market built in 1888. Pasar Seni is a popular destination for tourists, shoppers and art lovers looking for souvenirs as well as art and handicraft.

A mere 500m away is Petaling Street, Kuala Lumpur's Chinatown which is a haven for bargain hunters looking for clothes, bags souvenirs and much more. Food lovers will also be spoilt for choice with the various tasty dishes on offer.

Pasar Seni is an interchange station for those using the RapidKL LRT Kelana Jaya Line.

3. Merdeka
A three-minute walk from this station will bring you to Stadium Negara in Jalan Stadium.

The indoor stadium was opened in 1962 and has been the venue for numerous local and international sporting events, concerts and official functions.

Located 500m away is the Al-Bukhary Mosque which was built in 2007 to replace the 147-year-old Surau Babul Jannah. It is located along Jalan Hang Tuah.

This is an interchange station with the Plaza Rakyat LRT station and is within walking distance of the Hang Tuah LRT and Monorail Station.

4. Bukit Bintang
Shopping is the name of the game if you get off here. Lot 10 is a five-storey mall located along Bintang Walk which houses a wide range of local boutiques, one-off concept stores and international brands. It is about 120m from the station.

More retail therapy can be had at Sungei Wang Plaza, one of the oldest shopping malls in Kuala Lumpur which is located opposite Lot 10. This is an interchange station for the KL Monorail.

5. Tun Razak Exchange
The Jade Museum is located about 700m from this station. Visitors can not only view but also purchase the stones. Admission is free.

Those who want to unwind after a hard day's work for some good food, drink and music can head to the TREC entertainment hub which includes the famous nightspot, Zouk Club Kuala Lumpur. It is about a kilometre away from the station.

Places to visit along the MRT route from Muzium Negara to Taman Midah

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6. Cochrane
Home furnishing outlet Ikea Cheras is located about 300m from the station. If you are hungry after some heavy-duty shopping, fill up your tummy at the Ikea Bistro. Next to Ikea Cheras is MyTown shopping centre which opened in April this year.

7. Maluri
Those heading to Sunway Velocity Mall should alight at this station.

The mall, which is only 260m away, has seven floors and four precincts, namely Market Place, Vanity Hall, Food Street Food and Commune.

A park-and-ride facility is available at this station. It also serves as the interchange station for the LRT Ampang Line.

8. Taman Pertama
The Cheras Christian Cemetery is located 500m away. The cemetery is said to date back to 1900 and is a place where Commonwealth servicemen who perished in Malaya during the Second World War are buried.

It also serves as the burial ground for prisoners of war who died at Pudu Jail and other places of incarceration.

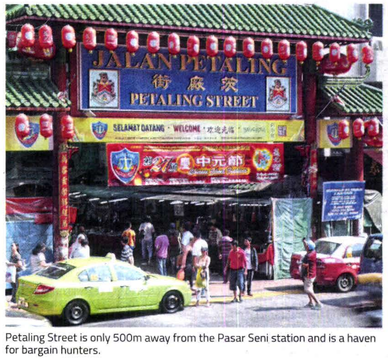
A Hindu temple, Sri Hari Haran Kodiyur Aiyanar Bagawan, is located right next to the cemetery.

9. Taman Midah
This is a largely residential area with a park-and-ride facility which has 1,353 car bays and 259 motorcycle bays.

A *pasar malam* is held next to the MRT station every Saturday.

There is also a decades-old hawker centre in front of Public Bank.

Watch the video thestartv.com Star TV



Petaling Street is only 500m away from the Pasar Seni station and is a haven for bargain hunters.