

HOW FOREIGNERS CAN OWN A BUSINESS IN MALAYSIA



Malaysia is one of Asia's most foreign-friendly destinations to start and grow a business.

- 100% foreign ownership possible
- Strategic location in ASEAN
- Competitive costs & pro-business environment
- Access to regional & global markets

1 CHOOSE YOUR BUSINESS STRUCTURE



Private Limited Company (Sdn. Bhd.)

- Only option for foreigners
- Separate legal entity
- 100% ownership possible (in many sectors)

2 REGISTER YOUR COMPANY with SSM



SURUHANJAYA SYARIKAT MALAYSIA
COMPANIES COMMISSION OF MALAYSIA

Requirements:

- ✓ 1 Local Resident Director
- ✓ 1 Shareholder (can be you)
- ✓ Company Secretary
- ✓ Registered Address

3 OWNERSHIP RULES

100% FOREIGN OWNERSHIP ALLOWED IN:

- Consulting & Training
- Digital / IT
- E-commerce
- Manufacturing (certain activities)

RESTRICTED SECTORS:

- Retail
 - F&B
 - Logistics
 - Education (and others)
- Approval may be required via MIDA



4 CAPITAL REQUIREMENT



Typical Paid-Up Capital

RM500,000
(standard for most sectors)

RM1 Million +
(for trading / regulated sectors or certain industries)

5 GET YOUR VISA / WORK PASS



To live and operate your business in Malaysia.

- ✓ Employment Pass (EP)
- ✓ Investor pathway
- ✓ Long-term stay options (e.g. MM2H - if applicable)

6 OPEN A CORPORATE BANK ACCOUNT



- ✓ Must be done in Malaysia
- ✓ Director(s) usually need to be present
- ✓ Bank will review your business and documents

7 LICENSES & APPROVALS



Depends on your business activities.

- ✓ Training Provider → HRDCorp
- ✓ F&B → Local Council License
- ✓ Import/Export → Customs
- ✓ Professional services, healthcare, education, etc. (may require specific licenses)

8 TAXES & COMPLIANCE



- ✓ Corporate Tax: ~24%
- ✓ SST (Sales & Service Tax) if applicable
- ✓ Annual filing with SSM
- ✓ Monthly / annual filing with LHDN (IRB)

THE SIMPLE FLOW



1. PLAN

Define your business and choose structure



2. REGISTER

Register company with SSM



3. FUND

Inject paid-up capital



4. VISA

Apply for relevant visa / work pass



5. BANK

Open corporate bank account



6. OPERATE

Start your business and grow!

KEY INSIGHT

The biggest challenges are NOT the registration. They are:

- ✓ Local director requirement
- ✓ Bank account approval
- ✓ Visa processing
- ✓ Capital setup & sector approvals

TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Engage a trusted local corporate service provider to speed up the process.



Ensure your business plan and financials are clear and professional.



Understand your industry regulations early to avoid delays.



Leverage Malaysia's incentives and programs (e.g. MIDA, HRD Corp).

★ Malaysia welcomes global entrepreneurs. Plan well, comply with the rules, and build your business with confidence!

InvestMalaysiaPartners.com



Contact Katrina