

## BRUNEI DET RMP

### British Army in Brunei

Subsequent to the 1962 troubles, a Gurkha Battalion from the British Army has been maintained in Brunei at the request of HM The Sultan. There are, in addition, a small number of garrison troops to support the battalion as well as a British Army Jungle Warfare Training School (Training Team Brunei (TTB)).

### Royal Military Police in Brunei



#### RMP Station

RMP Det Brunei is a 2 man detachment consisting of 1 Staff Sergeant and 1 Sergeant responsible for Operation Support to the Garrison and Resident Battalion (currently 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Royal Gurkha Rifles (1 RGR)).

Currently the RMP Det is responsible for the general Policing and Operational support to the Resident Battalion (1 RGR), a flight of Army Air Corps (3 aircraft and support staff), TTB and all the garrison support troops.

In addition to all the soldiers, the RMP exercise jurisdiction over civilians attached to the Army and all the soldier's families.

### DUTIES

#### Operations

The RMP Det's primary role is to provide operational support to the resident battalion. In practice this means to deploy on operations with the Resident Battalion within SE Asia in order to provide Provost Support.

The type of operations could vary from war fighting, disaster relief (Tsunami etc) or Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations such as the type experienced recently in Beirut.

#### At Home

Within the Garrison RMP are responsible for the day to day policing of the garrison. This includes community work such as school visits and property marking for crime reduction.



RMP SNCO Greeting HMS Westminster at Bandar Naval Base

The RMP Det is also responsible for the Investigation of crime within the service community. Duties are carried out under the same rules of evidence and laws as those in the United Kingdom and the RMP Det carries out its duties in exactly the same way as the civilian police in the United Kingdom.



RMP SNCO on Patrol at the Kampong Ayer (Water Village)

The RMP Det is also responsible for the Liaison with the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF) and other local authorities such as Customs and Immigration and the Land Transport Office.

### **Location**

Brunei is situated within SE Asia on the Island of Borneo. It is split into 2 parts by the Malaysian state of Sarawak.

### **Contact Information**

Telephone: Mil: 9420 3767 (Out of hours/Emergency: 00673 8716245)  
Civ: 00673 3224101 ext 3767  
Fax: 00673 3222128

Postal address:

**RMP Det**

**HQ BRUNEI GARRISON**

**BFPO 11**

**Links:**

<http://www.army.mod.uk/brunei/> Official Brunei Garrison website.

<http://www.astro.com.my/v5> Astro Satellite TV site

[www.tourismbrunei.com](http://www.tourismbrunei.com) Brunei Official Tourism Website

[www.brunei.gov.bn](http://www.brunei.gov.bn) Brunei Official Government Website

[www.bsp.com.bn/panagaclub](http://www.bsp.com.bn/panagaclub) Panaga Club Website

[www.BSP.com.bn](http://www.BSP.com.bn) Brunei Shell Petroleum Website



Brunei is approximately 7000 miles from the UK and is roughly the size of the county of Devon.



**Time Difference**

The time difference is GMT + 8 (BST + 7).

## Television

The only way to watch UK TV is to register to borrow a limited number of DVDs from the Garrison Library on a rotation basis. The DVDs hold a selection of programmes from BFBS Germany and are weeks (sometimes months behind UK TV programmes).

There is satellite TV called "Astro" which comes from Malaysia. Registration is similar to that of Sky TV in UK. A Decoder Box and Dish can be purchased from the local Astro office in the nearest town, Kuala Belait, however there can be waiting lists and initial setup costs are expensive at B\$ 450 + B\$70 installation.

The channels available include; HBO Movies, Star World (programs like, The Simpson's, Buffy etc), Star Movies, ESPN, CNN, Sports Channel, BBC World, MTV Music Channel, Discovery Channel, National Geographic Channel and Cartoon Network. There are a few other channels being added. The Astro site with a full programme guide can be viewed at <http://www.astro.com.my/v5>.

If you watch sport then it will be possible to see much more Premiership football and other sports than in the UK.

There are however 2 local channels mainly in foreign language. The local television system is NTSC however as the Satellite channels are received through an AV channel a UK PAL I will work so you can bring your own TV.

## Radio

BFBS radio is the primary radio station and operates on 101.7FM and 89.5 MHz (One English speaking and one Nepalese channel).

## Internet

High Speed internet is available, however it is slower than you experience in the UK.

## Schooling

Information on schooling is available from the Brunei Garrison Website at <http://www.army.mod.uk/brunei/>

## Wildlife

Brunei is known locally as the 'Abode of Peace' and is on the Island of Borneo. Borneo is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest Island in the world and is a vast, tropical, jungle island. Apart from a narrow coastal belt, almost all the Brunei landmass is jungle.

It is hot and often wet, although there is plenty of cover. The area is a very rich habitat for thousands of trees and plants, insects, birds, reptiles and animals. These range from butterflies, moths, beetles, snakes, monkeys, eagles and deer.

Comparatively few snakes are poisonous and of those very few are aggressive. There are vipers and cobras which sometimes seek warm, dry, shelter inside a home.

Monkeys are routinely seen in the afternoons along the roadside as are Oriental Hornbills.



Monkey on verge

## Accommodation

Accommodation for single soldiers is basic and not to the standard of UK accommodation. There is however air conditioning.

Families married accommodation is a mixture of bungalows, flats and hirings. Again these are basic and scarcely furnished.



Typical Block of Flats



Typical Bungalow

### **Banking Facilities**

Banking facilities are widely available with ATMs at most banks accepting Credit and debit cards.

### **Alcohol**

Brunei is what's known as a dry state. You cannot go down town and purchase any alcohol from the supermarkets or in any of the bars and restaurants. British Garrison personnel are entitled to purchase alcohol at the NAAFI Shop and the relevant Officers', Sgts' and Cpls' messes.

### **Climate**

Brunei Darussalam has a tropical climate. Temperatures are high throughout the year with an annual extreme range of 33C to 40C. The heat is often tempered by a sea breeze, particularly in the coastal areas of Seria and Kuala Belait. The humidity can be a problem, ranging from 70% to 100% all year round.

### **Shell Oil [www.BSP.com.bn](http://www.BSP.com.bn)**

Shell Oil has a major presence within the area of Seria and together with the Garrison Shell form the larger part of the population within the area.

To mark the Billionth barrel of oil produced by Shell in Brunei a monument was erected in Seria.



Onshore Shell Installation

Billionth Barrel Monument at Seria

**Panaga Club [www.bsp.com.bn/panagaclub](http://www.bsp.com.bn/panagaclub)**

The management of Shell permit membership to the Panaga Club and its affiliated Kuala Belait Boat Club.

The Panaga Club houses a large number of sports and recreation facilities, including Rugby, Football, Tennis and Golf. Indoor activities include an Arts and Crafts Centre, Fitness suite, Computer section, Local Theatre Production and a library amongst others. Located in the centre are also a (newly refurbished) general swimming pool with an additional children's' pool. In addition there are a number of fast-food and restaurant facilities catering for all tastes.