



## Pulau Rawa

*Text & Photos by Miia Kiviö*



**I**n June 2012 my husband and I together with our friends from Finland went to Pulau Rawa for three days. Our friends visited us for two weeks so we decided to enjoy some beach life also. We chose Rawa because it is quite close to JB and I had heard and read some good reviews about the island. From JB it is easy to get there: 1.5-2h drive to Mersing and from there 30min by speedboat. Booking is easy through their website and they have a small office at Mersing ferry terminal.

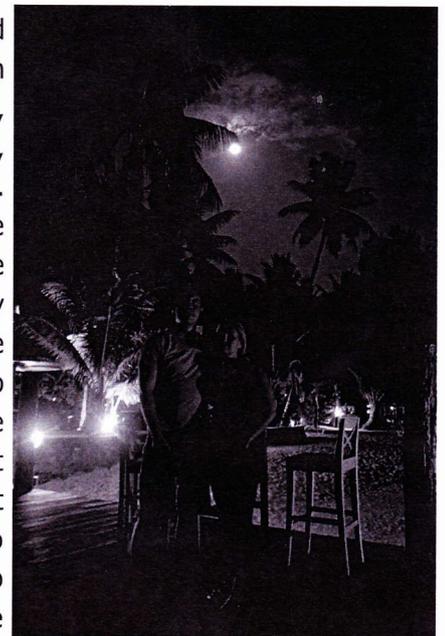
Pulau Rawa was amazing: a beautiful small island with clear turquoise waters. We stayed at Rawa Island Resort, but there is also another smaller resort. These resorts are both at the same beach. The island was fully booked so we had to take the last cheapest chalets quite far from the beach and without a terrace. Fortunately we were able to upgrade our room after the first night to a really nice Frangipani villa apartment on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor with a beautiful view to the sea. Spending one night at



the modest accommodation didn't ruin our holiday at all though.

The best part of the island is the beach with white sand and clear turquoise water. It is easy with children and great for snorkeling. They still have corals and you can see a lot of beautiful fish and sea life. Especially at the left side of the beach close to the rocks is a great snorkeling site with small sharks and rays.

One day we rented a kayak and paddled around the island. At the other side of the island there's no beach but high cliffs, rocks and caves, which looked great. There would have been some nice snorkeling sites by the caves but we were afraid to go there because the sea was a bit rough, maybe next time. We also climbed to the top of the hill in the middle of the island. The climb is not very hard and you have a nice view of e.g. Pulau Tioman. You can also do some hiking in the jungle on the island.



Overall our trip was really nice and relaxing. The resort was nice and clean with good service. Breakfast, lunch and dinner were included in the package and the food was good. They have a bar and light snacks can be bought from the restaurant. Our friends had two small children and the place is also very convenient with kids. We will go there again for sure. I warmly recommend Pulau Rawa.