

New commemorative banknotes go on sale tomorrow
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 21 — Malaysia will introduce a new series of banknotes for five denominations, including the re-introduction of the RM20 note, which will go into circulation by mid-2012.

The new series places heavier emphasis on the East Malaysian states, with Sarawakian hornbills adorning the reverse of the RM5 bill, while Sabah's Mout Kinabalu and Sarawak's Mulu National Park Pinnacle rock formations can be seen on the RM100 note.

Bank Negara said today that old notes will be gradually phased out and commemorative editions of the banknotes will go on sale from tomorrow at its headquarters here as well as at its branches in Penang, Johor Baru, Kuala Terengganu, Kuching and Kota Kinabalu.

The new series features pictorial elements of the country's cultural and natural heritage.

It also contains tactile information for the visually impaired and security features include a shadow image, clear window, watermark portrait, colour-shifting security thread and coloured glossy patch for public recognition.

The denominations issued under the new series are RM1, RM5, RM10, RM20 and RM100.

The RM1 note will feature the wau bulan; the RM10 will sport the Rafflesia Azlanii, which is indigenous to Peninsular Malaysia; while the RM20 showcases the Hawksbill and Leatherback turtles.

The RM1 and RM5 will be made from polymer substrate.

Bank Negara had earlier this year launched a new series of coins, which will go into circulation in January.

The commemorative banknote sets will be priced at RM15 (RM1 and RM5 denomination), RM30 (RM20 denomination) and RM300 (RM1, RM5, RM10, RM20, RM50 and RM100 denominations).

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