

Jungles & Orangutans 2020

7 Night Tour – 3V

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Group tour operated by our local agents, Destination Asia
- Sepilok Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre
- Beautiful Jungles of Borneo
- Nature walks and longhouses
- Extend to the Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort

ITINERARY

Day 1 – Monday

On arrival in Kota Kinabalu you'll be meet and transferred to the **Shangri-La's Tanjung Aru Resort** (Mountain View room) for the rest of the day at leisure.

Day 2 – Tuesday

Early breakfast at the hotel before departing for Kota Kinabalu for a morning flight to Sandakan. Upon arrival, you'll be meet and transferred by road (30 minute drive) to Sepilok Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre where you'll proceed to the free roaming and feeding platform for the Orangutans. At this centre, you'll get to observe man's closest relative "the Orangutan" being rehabilitated to become wild in their natural habitat and experience a walk in the Tropical Lowland Dipterocarp Forest of Borneo. Afterwards visit to the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre, this centre has managed to improve the living condition of the rescued sun bear and released their natural behaviors in the 2.5ha enclosed forest. After lunch check in to **MY Nature Resort** (run of house), located at one of the oldest tropical rainforests in the world. Afternoon at leisure or an option to follow our schedule visit to the Rainforest Discovery Centre, walk to the steel canopy walk way, plants, orchid garden and many others. (B,L,D)

Day 3 – Wednesday

After breakfast, you have time to sit back and relax. At 11.00am be ready for your trip to Abai. Proceed to Sandakan Jetty for your boat departing at 12.00 noon. Arrive for lunch at Abai Jungle Restaurant. This is a wonderful journey of discovery, which starts from the waters of Sulu Sea of Sandakan Town through a magnificent scenery of the Mangrove Forest. After Lunch, check in at the **Abai Jungle Lodge** (standard chalet) for 2 nights, free time to relax at the nature boardwalk. Later in the afternoon, you'll be experiencing a cruise to search for wildlife until the sunsets. Continue the night cruise to witness the fire flies light up surrounding trees. Return to the lodge for dinner. After dinner, again experience the "Jungle at night" at our nature boardwalk to search for birds, snakes, insects and other wildlife with our nature guide. (B,L,D)

Day 4 – Thursday

Wake up by the calls of nature, take an early morning river trip to observe wildlife and experience the unique Pitas Oxbow Lake. After breakfast you'll have some free time to relax or explore. After lunch, you are free to explore the nature board walk behind the lodge, make sure you bring along your binoculars as there may be...wild orangutans! Silver leaf monkeys, birds and many others! In the late afternoon, another river cruise to search for different wildlife. (B,L,D)

Day 5 – Friday

Wake up by the calls of nature with the morning free at leisure. After lunch, cruise up river to Sukau village in search of wild Orangutans, Pygmy Elephants, birds and other wildlife. Arrive Sukau and check in at the **Kinabatangan Riverside Lodge** (standard chalet). In the late afternoon, take another river cruise to Menanggul River, a small tributary of the Kinabatangan then return to the lodge for dinner. (B,L,D)

Day 6 – Saturday

After an early morning breakfast, you'll take a two hour boat transfer back to Sandakan. Upon arrival at the jetty, a quick stop for lunch before your transfer to Sandakan Airport for your flight to Kota Kinabalu and upon arrival check in at the **Shangri-La's Tanjung Aru Resort** (Mountain View room) for two nights. Rest of the day is at leisure. (B,L)

Day 7 – Sunday

This morning, head to Mari-Mari Culture Village, located 30 minutes outside of the city. You will be briefed on Village Rules before being greeted by the Chief and go through a custom Welcome Ceremony, before entering the village via the suspension bridge. First, you will visit the Dusun house where you will see a demonstration on the traditional way of tobacco cutting. As you exit through the back door, you will enter a hut specialized for bamboo cooking and Montoku (rice wine) processing. Second, we will bring you to the Rungus Longhouse. Here, you will learn how to start a fire without lighters or matches (and watch the villagers make ethnic bangles out of rattan). Third, you will find the Lundayeh house. Inside, be awed by a demonstration on the olden ways of producing ropes, vests, floors, walls and etc. from tree barks. Fourth, visit the Bajau House to watch the locals prepare Jala (local cake) and Pandan juice. Inside, you will see a myriad of colourful materials of antique ancestral objects belonging to the headhunters' tribe, the Murut Longhouse. You will be greeted by the Chief and go through a custom Welcome Ceremony. Later, witness a demonstration on blowpipe making before going into their house. Inside, there is a built-in Lansaran (traditional



trampoline-like floor) which you may dance on after they show you how to jump for your "prize". At a corner, witness the locals as they tattoo their bodies and the old method. Return back to your hotel in the evening where the rest of the evening at leisure. (B,L)

Day 8 – Monday

Day at leisure until your departure transfer to Kota Kinabalu Airport for your return flight to the UK.

Alternatively, we highly recommend spending some time at the Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort, a stunning beachfront hotel. (B)

Meals: B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

This is a set tour itinerary, if you have booked any pre/post or optional tour arrangements please refer to your separate vouchers and final documents.

TOUR NOTE

Pre/Post Tour information

The first day of the tour is at leisure so allows you enough time to arrive and relax. If you wish to arrive earlier extra nights can be added at the **Shangri-La's Tanjung Aru Resort**. The tour will conclude at the Shangri-La's Tanjung Aru Resort but we recommend extending your tour with a stay at the Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort.

Time difference

GMT +7 hours (summer) +8 hours (winter)

Tour inclusions

- Domestic flights (internal flight baggage allowance is 20kgs)
- Air conditioned transport throughout
- Accommodation, meals and sightseeing as listed above
- Service of English Speaking guide.

Tour exclusions

- International flight in economy class, including all UK and overseas airport taxes and applicable fuel surcharges
- Flight upgrades and airport transfers in the UK
- Optional tour to the Rainforest Discovery Centre
- Insurance
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, tips & gratuities, video camera fees at monuments
- Anything not detailed on the itinerary.
- Tipping.

Dining inclusions

7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 4 dinners.

Included activities

Tours listed in the itinerary.

Accommodation

Occasionally we may need to substitute one or more of the hotels with that of a similar standard. Not all hotels have air conditioning but it can be added for a small supplement.

Journey times

Journey times in Borneo between destinations can sometimes be long and those listed in the itinerary and are approximate.

Group size

There is a minimum group size of 2 passengers.

Language

The most common languages are Malaysian & Indonesian. Most people speak and understand very basic English, especially in the larger cities.

Visa requirements

British Passport holders do not need a visa for Malaysia, your passport must be valid for 6 months beyond your departure date.

Currency

The official unit of currency in Borneo is the Malaysian Ringgit which can also be referred to as the Malaysian Dollar. It is difficult to obtain currency before you travel but there are exchanges at most airports and shopping centres. ATMs are also widely available. The smaller lodges may not accept credit cards so it is also recommended to travel with some small amounts of currency.

Electricity

The electricity supply in Borneo is 220 volts, as the sockets can vary we recommend a travel adaptor set.

Tipping

It is customary to tip in Borneo. 10% is usual in restaurants, tour guides and drivers would be \$5USD each per guest per day.

What to pack

- Lightweight, cotton clothes. Smart casual is acceptable in hotels
- A light sweater or fleece for early mornings and evenings and air-conditioning can be cool in restaurants
- Comfortable, enclosed and sturdy footwear
- Casual clothing and sandals for dinner and relaxing at your hotel
- Sun cream, sunglasses and hat
- Camera and/or video camera with spare batteries and memory cards
- Swimwear for an occasional swim
- Binoculars, torch and raincoat
- Mosquito repellent and spray
- Handy wipes, antiseptic hand gel and bottled water where possible
- Low denominations of local currency or USD – handy for ad-hoc tipping.

What to expect

A tour in Borneo is an adventure where anything can happen. We recommend you are of a reasonable fitness as touring often involves long walks and uneven surfaces, this tour is not suitable for those who require special assistance.

Recommended vaccinations

We advise you to discuss your individual requirements for Borneo with your GP at least 6-8 weeks prior to travel.