



PHOTO CREDIT: BORNEAN ORANGUTAN BY JIM JAMES

SAMPLE ITINERARY BORNEO



TOUR AT A GLANCE

Day	Location	Accommodation
01	Kota Kinabalu	Hyatt Regency (DBB)
02	Kabili-Sepilok Forest Reserve	Sepilok Nature Resort (FB)
03	Sukau	Sukau Rainforest Lodge (FB)
04	Sukau	Sukau Rainforest Lodge (FB)
05	Sukau	Sukau Rainforest Lodge (FB)
06	Tabin Wildlife Sanctuary	Tabin Wildlife Resort (FB)
07	Tabin Wildlife Sanctuary	Tabin Wildlife Resort (FB)
08	Danum Valley	Borneo Rainforest Lodge (FB)
09	Danum Valley	Borneo Rainforest Lodge (FB)
10	Danum Valley	Borneo Rainforest Lodge (FB)
11	Danum Valley	Borneo Rainforest Lodge (FB)
12	Kota Kinabalu	Hyatt Regency (DBB)
13	Day of departure	



Borneo is the world's third largest island and conjures up images of an untamed and verdant forest paradise. The entire island was originally a vast rainforest but now human disturbance has fragmented what was once an endless sea of greenery. Despite this, large tracts of forest still exist and this region is sure to impress even the most seasoned traveller.

LOCATION: SUKAU 3 NIGHTS

The massive limestone Gomontong Caves where an estimated two million bats and a million swiftlets make their home, is a must visit. At twilight a mass exodus of these bats into the night sky may be observed, while hasty Bat Hawks and Peregrine Falcons stoop into the masses to pick off their evening meals. Superb rainforest wildlife is to be had along the extensive riparian forests on the Kinabatangan River at Sukau. Time spent on the Kinabatangan River and its black-water tributaries in small motorized boats, assists to maximise one's opportunity to creep up quietly and get close to this phenomenally high concentration of both birds and mammals. Keep a close eye here for Asian elephants having a swim. Sukau offers the first real chances for seeing the "Old Man of the Forest" the highly endangered Bornean Orangutan. Other encounters include Red and Silvered Leaf-Monkeys, Long-tailed and Pig-tailed Macaques, amazing Proboscis Monkeys, Bornean Gibbon, Oriental Small-clawed Otter, Colugo (Malayan Flying Lemur) and Bearded Pig. The Reticulated Python, the second largest snake in the world, is also possible as well as small crocodiles that can be seen on an evening boat cruise along the river. An incredible array of birds and highlights could well include the rare and highly endangered Storm's Stork, Lesser Adjutant and Grey-headed Fish Eagle, impressive Buffy Fish Owl, Stork-billed and Blue-eared Kingfishers, White-crowned Shama and Malaysian Blue Flycatcher. At night one has chances of finding Malay and Common Palm Civet or with some fortune the strange Binturong (Bear-Cat) or Fishing Cat.





PHOTO CREDIT: PROBOSCIS MONKEY BY SIMON BELLINGHAM AND ASIAN ELEPHANT BY LAWRENCE WEITZ

LOCATION: TABIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 2 NIGHTS

Two of the largest mammals of Sabah occur at Tabin, namely the Bornean Pygmy Elephant (this is not as yet an official subspecies of the Asian Elephant but new genetic data provides compelling evidence that these elephants may be a distinct population) and Banteng (wild cattle). Tabin was once a sanctuary for the Sumatran Rhino, but these endangered "hairy rhinos" are rare and sadly you would have to be extremely fortunate to come across one of these small, shaggy mammals. The Bornean Orangutan, the ultimate wildlife symbol of these parts also resides here, as well as the endemic Hose's Langur and Bornean Gibbon. Tabin Wildlife Reserve is one of the richest in terms of wildlife and birds. You are very likely to have excellent views of the endemic Hose's Langur, Beaded Pig, several troops of Pig-tailed and Long-tailed Macaques. Hearing the Bornean Gibbons vocalising can be a real thrill. Other special mammals that we might expect to encounter include Gaur and Bornean Pygmy Elephant. Keep a look out too for flying Giant Red Squirrels. On the night outing, good views of Common Palm Civet, Leopard Cats, Thick-spined Porcupine, Small-toothed Palm Civet and Banded Palm Civet are very likely. The birding is especially excellent here, including all 8 species of Hornbills found in Borneo (Helmeted, Wreathed, Wrinkled, White-crowned, Malaysian Pied, Bushycrested, Black and Rhinoceros).

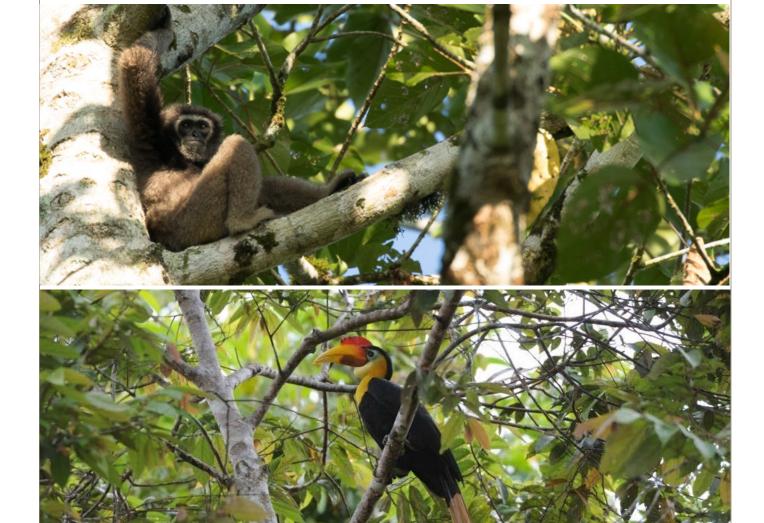


PHOTO CREDIT: BORNEAN GIBBON BY LAWRENCE WEITZ AND RHINOCEROS HORNBILL BY JIM JAMES

LOCATION: DANUM VALLEY 4 NIGHTS

The Danum Valley conservation area protects some of the last remaining pristine lowland rainforest on the island. An extensive network of excellent trails allows for having a good chance of seeing some fantastic mammals of the area. Working through the diverse and often muddy trails to search for mammals such as Sambar Deer, Greater Mouse-Deer, Bearded Pig, Common Tree Shrew, Prevost's Squirrel and the diminutive Plain Pygmy Squirrel can be very rewarding. A major attraction to this reserve is the fantastic canopy walkway that allows unique access to the little-known canopy world of Borneo's rainforest lowlands, and here you have excellent chances at locating the Bornean Orangutan. The Danum Valley is a hotspot for many species of primates and highlights could include the scarce Slow Loris, Western Tarsier, Bornean Gibbon, impressive troops of Red Leaf-Monkey and Long-tailed and Pig-tailed Macaques. Species that are regularly seen include Bornean Pygmy Elephant, Sambar and Red Barking Deer, Greater and Lesser Mouse-Deer, Red and Thomas's Giant Flying-Squirrels, Colugo (Malayan Flying Lemur). Rarer species that do occur include the regal Clouded Leopard, Flat-headed Cat, Malayan Sun Bear, Malay Badger and the Western Tarsier. Night drives in the Danum Valley can also be extremely productive and provide a superb opportunity for seeing a range of secretive forest mammals. The Danum Valley is also very rich in birdlife and one of your highlights could include a rare sighting of the Great Argus, a type of pheasant which is famous for having the longest feather of any of the world's bird species.

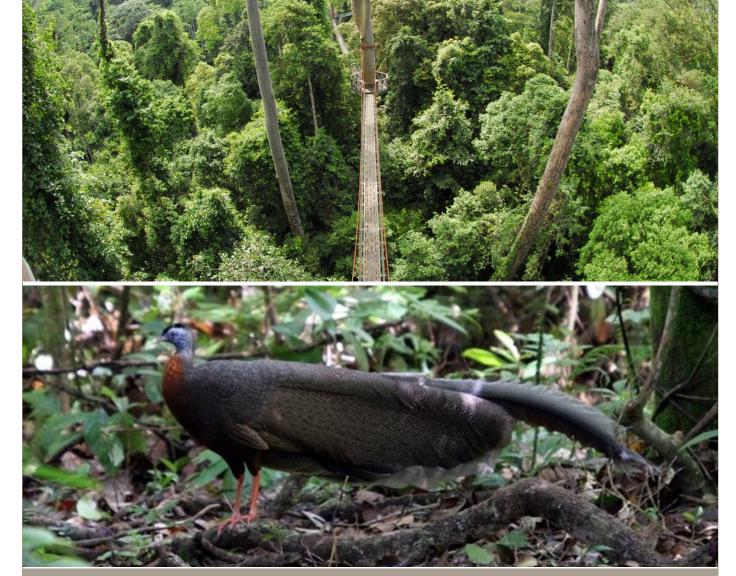


PHOTO CREDIT: DANUM VALLEY BOARDWALK BY SIMON BELLINGHAM AND GREAT ARGUS BY JONATHAN ROSSOUW

DAILY DETAIL

Day 1 Kota Kinabalu

Upon your arrival at Kota Kinabalu Airport you will met by your tour leader and transfer to the Hyatt Regency Hotel, where you will spend the evening at leisure before your adventures begin.



Transfer: Kota Kinabalu Airport to Hyatt Regency Hotel (approx. 20min)



Overnight: Hyatt Regency Hotel

Day 2

Kabili-Sepilok Forest Reserve

This morning you will be collected at 05:45 for transfer to the airport in time for you flight to Sandakan. From Sandakan your road transfer will take you to Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre, where you will have some fantastic photographic opportunities with Orangutans.



Transfer: Hyatt Regency Hotel to Kota Kinabalu Airport (approx. 20min)



Flight: Kota Kinabalu Airport to Sandakan Airport (approx. 1hour)



Transfer: Sandakan Airport to Sepilok Nature Resort (approx. 30min)



Overnight: Sepilok Nature Resort

Day 3 Sukau

Today after lunch, you will transfer from the Sepilok Nature Resort to Sukau Rainforest Lodge. En route you will stop at the massive limestone Gomontong Caves where an estimated two million bats and a million swiftlets (of four species) make their home. Thereafter, you will make your way to Sukau, where you will spend three nights.



Transfer: Sepilok Nature Resort to Sukau Rainforest Lodge (approx. 3hrs)



Overnight: Sukau Rainforest Lodge

Days 4 & 5 Sukau

You will have 2 full days at Sukau Rainforest Lodge, with dawn and afternoon and night boat cruises up the Kinabatangan River and its tributaries to search for wildlife.



Overnight: Sukau Rainforest Lodge

Day 6

Tabin Wildlife Sanctuary

After breakfast you will transfer by road to Lahat Datu, where you will change vehicles and drive onward to Tabin Wildlife Reserve. En route you will be birding and looking for mammals. On arrival in Tabin, you have the rest of the day to explore at your own pace on foot. This evening you have a night drive to explore the wonders of Tabin.



Transfer: Sakau Rainforest Lodge to Tabin Wildlife Resort (approx. 4hrs)



Overnight: Tabin Wildlife Resort

Day 7

Tabin Wildlife Sanctuary

You will have one full day to explore Tabin by way of foot and game drives.



Overnight: Tabin Wildlife Resort

Day 8 Danum Valley

After breakfast today, you will transfer back to Lahat Datu, where you will change vehicles and drive onwards through bumpy dirt tracks and river crossings into the primary forest of the Danum Valley Conservation Area before arriving at the world famous Borneo Rainforest Lodge. A night drive this evening is sure to yield some fantastic sightings.



Transfer: Tabin Wildlife Resort to Borneo Rainforest Lodge (approx. 4hrs)



Overnight: Borneo Rainforest Lodge

Day 9 to 11 Danum Valley

You will have three full days in Danum Valley. Your rainforest lodge, situated along the banks of the Danum River allows access to the pristine habitat on walks, canopy trails and drives. Night walks here are also extremely productive.



Overnight: Borneo Rainforest Lodge

Day 12 Kota Kinabalu

After a final morning in Danum Valley you will transfer to Lahad Datu for a flight transfer returning to Kota Kinabalu, where you transfer back to the Hyatt Regency Hotel for your overnight stay.



Transfer: Borneo Rainforest Lodge to Lahat Datu (approx. 3hrs)



Flight: Lahat Datu to Kota Kinabalu Airport (approx. 1hour)



Transfer: Kota Kinabalu Airport to Hyatt Regency Hotel (approx. 20min)



Overnight: Hyatt Regency Hotel

Day 13 Day of Departure

Today you have the day at leisure and a late check out from your hotel. At 17h00 you will transfer to the airport, where you will bid farewell to your tour leader and board your onward flights home.



Transfer: Hyatt Regency Hotel to Kota Kinabalu Airport (approx. 20min)