



Presented by National Parks Association of Queensland Inc

Join this exceptional travel experience with NPAQ to 'the Land Below the Wind' ... Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. This unique holiday is designed to see the very best of Sabah, including amazing wildlife, history and culture. Sabah truly is a nature and photographer's paradise!

Itinerary:

15 – 26 October 2018

Day 1: Monday 15 October Brisbane - Singapore [In-Flight Meals]

This evening we depart from Brisbane International airport on-board our Singapore Airlines flight to Singapore where we will be in transit before joining our connecting flight to our destination.

Day 2: Tuesday 16 October Singapore – Kuala Lumpur - Sandakan [In-Flight Meals, D]

Arriving into Sandakan this afternoon, we will be met on arrival and transferred to our hotel, before spending the afternoon at Labuk Bay Proboscis Sanctuary. We will trek to witness the feeding of the elusive Proboscis Monkeys and silver leaf langurs at the sanctuary.

Hotel: Sabah Hotel, Sandakan (4 star) – 2 nights' accommodation

Day 3: Wednesday 17 October Discovery Rainforest Centre – Sandakan War Memorial [B, L]

We're up early this morning with an early breakfast and then off to the **Rainforest Discovery Centre**. Marvel at the beauty of the **Sepilok rainforest** at dawn and immerse yourself in the tree tops, with the 250-bird species and other wildlife, on the canopy walk platform. Keep a look out you may even spot an Orang Utan swinging through the trees! Plant lovers will be thrilled by the diversity of native orchids, slipper orchids, pitcher-plants and tropical plants, such as the Venus flytrap, on display in the Centre's plant discovery garden. We journey to **Sandakan** for a visit to the **Sandakan POW Memorial Garden** where we spend some time learning about the plight of the Australian & British POW's during WWII. Next stop for the day is the **English Tea House** and just for something different, we take part in a **game of croquet** on the lawn at this picturesque location before lunch. This afternoon we proceed with a city tour of Sandakan with a visit to the famous **Agnes Keith's House** with its sprawling green lawns and colonial-style wooden walls. The residence has since been restored by the Sabah Museum, in collaboration with the Federal Department of Museums and Antiquities and was once home of famous American writer Agnes Newton Keith. Also visiting the St Michael church and Chinese Temple, before driving through the Sandakan water village.

Day 4: Thursday 18 October Orangutan Centre – Sunbear Centre – Borneo Nature Lodge [B, L, D]

This morning we visit the **Sepilok Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre**. The Centre was set up in 1964 to rehabilitate orphaned baby Orang Utans. Set in the lush 4,300-hectare **Kabili-Sepilok Forest Reserve**, the Centre, under the administration of the Wildlife Department of Sabah, attracts tourists and researchers alike, giving them the opportunity to watch the Orang Utans up close in their natural habitat. We proceed to watch a video about the plight of the Orang Utans and the rehabilitation efforts ongoing at the Centre. Enjoy a walk through the rainforest on wooden boardwalks to witness the feeding of the Orang Utans and then continue to the newly completed enclosed nursery area for young Orang Utans. After discovering the centre, we travel to the **Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre**. to learn about conservation of the world's smallest bear. This centre is the first and only facility of its kind in the world that does rescue, education, research and rehabilitation. After lunch, we take the two-hour drive to **Sukau Kinabatangan** through villages and palm oil plantations, with opportunity to view birds and wildlife. Upon arrival at Sukau Jetty, we take a 10minute boat ride to **Borneo Nature Lodge** - an eco-friendly resort, offering the comfort without compromising the green. A natural haven for the outdoor enthusiast, Borneo Nature Lodge is ideal as you explore the melting pot of wildlife found in Sukau. Upon arrival we will be served with a Welcome drink and a cold towel. After time to settle in our rooms, we embark on an afternoon **boat cruise in search of wildlife** such as the Proboscis Monkey, Long-tailed Marque Monkey, Orang Utans and if we are lucky, perhaps we will see the Pygmy Elephant. We cruise back to our lodge in time to freshen up for dinner. After dinner, we take the time to watch a slide presentation and interpretation by the guide.

Hotel: Borneo Nature Lodge, Kinabatangan (Eco-friendly) – 3 nights' accommodation

Day 5: Friday 19 October Borneo Nature Lodge [B, L, D]

We wake this morning to the calls of birds, insects and animals. Take a sunrise cruise up the **Kinabatangan River** and onto **Kelenanap Ox Bow Lake** for bird watching and in search of other wildlife. Take a short jungle walk (if weather permits) and experience the wilderness of Borneo before returning to the lodge for breakfast. We depart the lodge after breakfast to visit **Gomantong cave**, famed for its edible birds' nest. Take a stroll along the boardwalk to the opening of **Simud Hitam cavern** and explore the cave system on the boardwalk before we head back to the lodge to freshen up for lunch. After lunch we have some free time to relax and enjoy the tranquil surroundings of the lodge. We meet at the lodge restaurant for afternoon coffee/tea before embarking for a late afternoon cruise in search of wildlife. A river cruise is the best way to spot these 'local residents' - an adventure you won't soon forget! Conservation in the Kinabatangan floodplain also fulfills Malaysia's pledge as a signatory to the Ramsar Convention to promote the wise use of wetlands. Currently, the lower Kinabatangan wetlands represent the largest remaining forested floodplain in Malaysia. Upon returning to the lodge, we freshen up for dinner.

Day 6: Saturday 20 October Ox – Bow Lake [B, L, D]

Enjoy a day at leisure today to explore the surrounding village and mingle with the locals or further explore the lodge. This afternoon we meet at the lodge restaurant for afternoon coffee/tea before embarking for a late afternoon cruise in search of more wildlife. This evening, freshen up and enjoy dinner at the lodge.

Day 7: Sunday 21 October Sakau - Kawag Danum Rainforest Centre [B, L, D]

Enjoy breakfast at the lodge this morning before departing for our drive to **Kawag Danum Rainforest Lodge**. The lodge is set amongst lowland dipterocarp forest of the logged-over Kawag Forest Area. The lodge is an eco-tourism destination, surrounded by the rich nature of **Kawag Forest Area**, the Lodge provides the feeling of jungle habitat while still preserving the comfort of living accommodation. Upon arrival at the drop off point at Kawag Danum Rainforest Lodge, we will proceed to walk on the 200m boardwalk leading to the main building, where welcome drinks are served and follow-on with a briefing of the facilities before room check-in. After time to freshen up we will enjoy lunch, before we embark on a 2.6km guided trek to Riverine Trail 1, passing through streams. There is the possibility of sighting wildlife such as birds, macaque, elephants and Tambaou; if luck is on our side. Dinner tonight will be followed by a night drive in search of nocturnal wildlife (if weather permits).

Hotel: Kawag Danum Rainforest Lodge, Lahad Datu (Eco-friendly) – 2 nights' accommodation

Day 8: Monday 22 October Kawag Danum Rainforest Centre [B, L, D]

Before breakfast this morning, we will embark on a bird watching morning walk towards the **Observation Tower**. Enjoy the morning midst with the background sound of the early birds. We commence a 2.8km guided trek to Waterfall Trail 4 into the forest, where we will pass through a limestone cave. Ensure you pack your swimming gear for a dip in the waterfall. If good luck is on your side, the sighting of wildlife such as bearded pig, elephants & birds are possible. We return to the lodge to freshen up before lunch. Later this afternoon we take a guided walk along the Kawag River. If weather permits, why not partake in water tubing activities! Please remember, swimming will be at your own risk. We enjoy dinner tonight before an evening at leisure.

Day 9: Tuesday 23 October Kawag Danum Rainforest Lodge - Kota Kinabalu [B, L, D]

An early morning 1.5km guided walk begins our day today, as we travel to the highest View Point Trail 2 for a panorama view of the forest. Upon return to the lodge, enjoy breakfast before a morning of leisure. We will come together for lunch before we check out of the lodge and transfer to Lahad Datu airport for our flight to Kota Kinabalu. Arriving into Kota Kinabalu this evening, we will be met on arrival and transferred to our **luxurious 5-star tranquil retreat**; 'A paradise for the senses', where we will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant after check-in.

Hotel: Shangri-La Tanjung Aru, Kota Kinabalu (5 star luxury) – 2 nights' accommodation

Day 10: Wednesday 24 October Free day in Kota Kinabalu [B, D]

Spend today at your leisure enjoying the beautiful facilities at the Shangri-La hotel, like lounging in one of the beach side cabanas and enjoying the sound of overlapping waves on the shores of Sunset Beach, or perhaps take a boat ride to the neighbouring coral islands, which are part of Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park, or shopping in Kota Kinabalu. Tonight, we will enjoy a delicious farewell dinner at our hotel.

Day 11: Thursday 25 October Kota Kinabalu-Singapore-Brisbane [B, In-Flight Meals]

Sadly today is our last day in Sabah, after check-out our transfer will collect us to arrive at Kota Kinabalu airport and our flight to Singapore then on to Brisbane.

Day 12: Friday 26 October Arrive Brisbane [In-Flight Meals]

Arrive in Brisbane early this morning, having had an amazing experience in Spectacular Sabah, Malaysian Borneo!

Key: B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner

Tour price based on a Minimum of 15 passengers: \$3869.00 per person twin share + airline taxes of approximately \$200.00 per person. Single Supplement available at \$849.00 extra.
If numbers reach 20 passengers, the price will reduce to \$3749.00 per person twin share. The Single Supplement will remain the same.

Non-refundable deposit of \$500.00 due at time of booking, by 15th June 2018.
Balance due on/before 6th August 2018.

Earlybird Discount
Book & deposit by
20th April to receive
\$50pp discount

CONDITIONS: Tour departure subject to minimum numbers Itinerary and costs correct at time of printing and subject to change without notice. Prices only guaranteed once full payment received. Cancellation fees will apply. Travel Insurance is strongly recommended. Non-refundable deposit of \$500 due at time of booking. Balance due on/before 6 August. Advertised price based on lowest available group airfares, subject to availability at time of group confirmation. Please note some hotels may require a credit card imprint on check-in to cover any incidentals used during your stay (such as mini-bar etc). This is hotel policy and not that of Uplift Tours and Travel.

For enquiries and bookings please contact National Parks Association of Queensland or Uplift Tours and Travel:

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