# **Borneo Discovery**

8 Day Discovery Trip



Camps International is an award-winning social enterprise that balances profits with philanthropy. We operate a permanent network of international volunteer camps in the heart of rural communities and wildlife conservation areas through our wholly owned operations in Latin America, East Africa and South East Asia. Camps are located where poverty levels are high and there are significant environmental and wildlife conservation challenges.





### **Borneo Discovery Expedition**

### **Highlights**

- Live in a rural community and learn traditional ways of life
- Visit Sepilok Orangutan Sanctuary
- Work on an ongoing community development and forest regeneration project
- Enjoy a wildlife river cruise on the Kilias River



### Life on Expedition

Students will have the opportunity to live in a rural community and learn traditional ways of life, experiencing the warmth and generosity of the people whilst learning about the problems these communities face on a daily basis; the human wildlife conflicts and the efforts to preserve these precious areas. Projects vary from constructing school classrooms and supplying drinking water, to terrestrial and marine wildlife conservation, reforestation, environmental education, micro finance initiatives and much more.

#### **Benefits**

An expedition to the beautiful Malaysian state of Sabah in Northern Borneo will cover traditional communities, rugged terrain and environmentally sensitive areas. Most of our camps are established on community land and are built, staffed and supplied by the community. Each camp acts as the hub for a wide range of long-term, sustainable volunteer projects, curriculum based activities and adventure activities for people from around the globe. Working alongside the local community, visitors have the chance to make a profound and lasting impact on disadvantaged communities and threatened environments.

#### **About Borneo**

Borneo is the third largest island in the world and is located in Southeast Asia. It is comprised of the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak, the sultanate kingdom of Brunei and the Indonesian province of Kalimantan. This multicultural island is home to an enormous diversity of exotic flora, fauna and natural beauty. The extensive rainforest ecosystem that covers most of the island is the oldest in the world and the island also boasts the highest mountain in Southeast Asia, the mighty Mount Kinabalu. The state of Sabah is a cultural melting pot with a bewildering mix of ethnicities and religions, yet everyone lives together in harmony. Sabah has no less than 32 indigenous ethnic entities, speaking as many languages and over 50 dialects. The main indigenous group are the Kadazan Dusun, living around Kota Kinabalu. Next are the Bajau who live along the coast and the Murut who live in the interior and were once famous intrepid warriors and reputedly the last to give up the ancient custom of headhunting!

### **Your Expedition**

We have the infrastructure, local knowledge and expertise to meet any specific requirements in terms of learning objectives or your team's abilities. We can provide a relevant and beneficial outdoor experiential learning opportunity, which is safe yet challenging, hard work yet enjoyable.

#### **Duration**

Camps International provides engaging, real-world experiences that run for 8 days, catering for all ages from 11 years old upwards. We are global leaders in responsible travel and offer fully supported expeditions and curriculum based field trips to Africa, Asia and Latin America.

### **Adventure options**

May include but are not limited to; jungle trekking, jungle skills, scuba diving, snorkeling, white water rafting, ride the island to island zip line or climb the highest peak in Southeast Asia.

### 8 day Borneo Discovery Itinerary

### Day 1: Arrive Kota Kinabalu and transfer to community camp (Overnight Community Camp)

Arrive in the state capital of Kota Kinabalu and transfer (3 hours) to one of our community camps. On arrival at the camp you will be welcomed by staff with refreshments. After settling into the traditional style accommodation, the team will receive a full safety and orientation brief which will include a walking tour of the community and project sites. After dinner, local school children will perform a traditional welcome dance.

### Day 2: Cultural brief / community project (Overnight Community Camp)

After breakfast, the morning is filled with sessions on traditional ways of life such as introduction to local cooking and handicrafts as well as a chance to meet people from the local community and see how they live. In the afternoon, the team will be given a thorough briefing on the community project and time permitting they will make a start on their project work.

### Day 3 - 4: Community project (Overnight Community Camp)

After a hearty breakfast, the team will continue with their project work before learning about permaculture techniques and how they are put into place in camp. Group activities will follow after dinner in camp.

### Day 5: Sepilok Orangutan Sanctuary (Overnight Hotel)

Take a short flight over to Sandakan where the team's hard work on previous days is rewarded with a visit to the world-renowned Sepilok Orangutan Sanctuary. Here they take in and care for orphaned orangutans and rehabilitate them back into the wild. No visit to Borneo would be complete without seeing these incredible animals. Take the short walk next door to get to the SunBear Conservation Centre - a rescue and rehabilitation centre for the endangered Bornean Sun Bear. The team will then get the chance to explore the historic town of Sandakan before returning to the hotel to freshen up before a well-deserved group dinner.

### Day 6: Drive to Kota Kinabalu / river cruise on Kilias River (Overnight Fireflies eco-camp)

Drive back to Kota Kinabalu and transfer onto an ecocamp on the bank of the Kilias river on the west coast of Sabah. Upon arrival the group will have lunch and settle into their accommodation before heading out on a wildlife river cruise where they will see all sorts of wildlife including the striking Proboscis monkey. In the afternoon, there will be activities and traditional games and after dinner, the group will witness the amazing fireflies display on a night-time cruise.

## Day 7: Utan Paradise Jungle Camp (Overnight Utan Paradise Base Camp)

After an early start and early morning cruise on the river to see the early morning wildlife, the team will transfer to Utan Paradise Jungle Camp. On arrival the team will have lunch and settle into the dorm accommodation. In the afternoon the team will learn traditional jungle skills that the local people have used for hundreds of years including making traditional traps and will enjoy a short trek through the jungle. The team will also assist with the Utan Paradise reforestation project working on either expanding the nursery, collecting seeds and planting them or planting out saplings that are ready. This work helps to ensure that important tree species are replaced providing food sources for local wildlife as well as replacing hardwood trees. After dinner, there will be an insect observation session where the team will get to see the insects that make all that noise in the jungle by shining a light on a white sheet.

#### Day 8: Depart

After breakfast, the group will transfer to Kota Kinabalu International Airport for their departure flight.

Although it is our intention to operate the itinerary as detailed above, it may be necessary to make some changes as a result of climatic conditions, alterations to flight schedules, or other operational factors.

### Overview

#### Included

- International flights
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- UK Expedition Leader
- Fully staffed camps and local guides
- Entrance fees for all sights listed in the itinerary
- All transfers listed in the itinerary in private vehicles
- Accommodation
- All meals
- Unlimited drinking water
- Project costs and management
- 24 hours support throughout expedition

#### Not Included

- Visa
- Vaccinations
- Spending money
- Additional food and drinks
- Personal equipment

#### Weather

Known as 'The Land below the wind' Sabah lies below the typhoon and monsoon belt and is therefore sheltered from dramatic tropical weather. Sabah boasts a fine tropical climate with uniform temperatures averaging from 23-33°c and a humidity of about 90%. Rainfalls are frequent but seldom continuous for long periods. More rain tends to fall between November and March.



#### **Our Location**

All of our camps are located in the state of Sabah. We have camps close to the tip of Borneo, near the base of Mount Kinabalu, along the Kinabatangan River and on the beautiful island of Mantanani.





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