

## **MALAYSIA: A Bornean Rainforest Adventure - Jungles and Orangutans**

**You may wish to arrive in Kota Kinabalu, Borneo the day before in order to rest before the tour starts. Just let us know your flight plans and also whether you will need a hotel room.**

### **Day 1 (Wednesday, July 10) Arrive at the Kota Kinabalu airport, Borneo, Malaysia**

After we arrive and meet our guide, who will guide us throughout the day to day itinerary of our upcoming Bornean adventure, we will head out and visit an agricultural region north of KK in search of Wandering Whistling-Duck, Lesser Coucal, several Swiftlets, Buff-banded Rail, Black-backed Swamphen, Watercock, and a good selection of herons and egrets. *Overnight at Dreamtel Hotel*

### **Day 2 (Thursday, July 11) Crocker Range National Park**

A very early morning start brings us to Tambunan in the Crocker Range National Park. Near the Rafflesia Center, which has recorded over 250 species of birds, we focus on finding some of the specialties, such as Bornean and Mountain Barbets, Whitehead's Broadbill, Bornean Treepie, the mysterious Mountain Black-eye. More highlights include Bornean Bulbul and Mountain Serpent-eagle (with luck). In the afternoon, we transfer to Kinabalu Park for an extended stay. *Night in Kinabalu Park*

### **Days 3-4 (Friday and Saturday, July 12-13) Kinabalu Park**

Two full days in the endemic rich mountain side of Kinabalu Park will prove to be one of the major highlights of this venture. The significant attraction here is the Whitehead's Trio (Spiderhunter, Broadbill, and Trogon). We focus on the trails and search for Fruit-hunter, Mountain Wren-Babbler and Bornean Green-Magpie, Pale-faced Bulbul, and several endemic species, including Chestnut-crested Yuhina and Bare-headed Laughingthrush. Mammal life is dominated by squirrels, where the Whitehead's Pygmy-Squirrel is a stunner. There are also Bornean Elephant, several deer, Proboscis Monkeys and more. *Night in Kinabalu Park*

### **Day 5 (Sunday, July 14) Sepilok and Poring Hot Springs**

We leave the most prominent mountain of the region behind us and pay a visit to Poring Hot Springs. Besides several new species, Poring is also an excellent spot to connect with the largest flower in the world, the Rafflesia. In the afternoon, we arrive at Sepilok and plan a short exploratory walk on the excellent Canopy Walk Way. Here we could see Raffle's, Black-bellied and Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Silver-rumped Needletail, Blyth's Hawk-Eagle, Red-naped and Diard's Trogon, several kingfishers, barbets and Maroon Woodpecker. Sepilok is the best spot to encounter one of the much sought-after species in Sabah, the Bornean Bristlehead! *Night near Poring Hot Springs*

### **Day 6 (Monday, July 15) Sepilok and Orangutan Rehab Centre**

We enjoy the morning trails of Sepilok looking for Black-crowned, Hooded and Blue-headed Pitta and several species of babbler (Gray-hooded, Chestnut-rumped, Sooty-capped and White-chested). Woodpeckers can be common and could include Orange-backed, Buff-necked, Buff-rumped, Checker-throated and Great Slaty. In the afternoon, we will bird the canopy walkway and pay a visit to the Orangutan Rehabilitation Center. *Night near Poring Hot Springs*

**Day 7 (Tuesday, July 16) Gomangtong Caves**

We transfer by way of the Gomangtong caves to the Sukau village located at the Kinabatangan River. At the cave, we focus on the thousands of bats leaving the cave and the beautiful raptors attracted to this spectacle. The Bathawk will be our target as it tries to catch its prey in the evening light. We could also see various swiftlets, Storm's Stork, Lesser Adjutant, Wallace's Hawk-Eagle, Rhinoceros and Bushy-crested Hornbills, Stork-billed Kingfisher and many other birds. We transfer to our lodge on the river's shores in the evening. *Night at Borneo Nature Lodge*

**Days 8-9 (Wednesday and Thursday, July 17-18) Kinabatangan River**

Two full days are leisurely cruising the river region in search of the extraordinary wildlife and stunning avifauna this site offers. The peculiar Proboscis Monkey will surely be one of the highlights of our stay, while the endangered Storm's Stork and Bornean Ground-Cuckoo are further highlights. We will also look for Malaysian Blue-Flycatcher, a selection of bulbuls and Black-and-red Broadbill.

*Night at Borneo Nature Lodge*

**Day 10 (Friday, July 19) Tabin Wildlife Reserve**

We drive further east and head for the unique Tabin Wildlife Reserve. The Reserve is surrounded by Palm Oil plantations and is a little island in a sea of cultivation. Many species of pitta, trogons, and hornbills are found here. *Night at Borneo Nature Lodge*

**Day 11-13 (Saturday-Monday July 20-22) Tabin Wildlife Reserve**

Three full days exploring the Tabin Wildlife Reserve. During the days, we explore the trails, while in the evenings, we focus on night drives to connect with the many species of mammals like tarsiers, Slow Loris, and flying squirrels. Some of the target birds include: Bornean Crested Fireback, Great Argus, Little Green-Pigeon, Moustached Hawk-Cuckoo, Blyth's and Sunda Frogmouth, Black Eagle, Buffy Fish-Owl, White-crowned and Rhinoceros Hornbills, as well as a good selection of brightly-colored kingfishers.

*Night at Tabin Wildlife Resort*

**Day 14 (Tuesday July 23) Tabin to Kota Kinabalu**

Today will be our final morning in Tabin Wildlife Reserve before we transfer back to Lahad Datu and board the domestic flight that brings us back to our starting position in Kota Kinabalu. *Overnight at Dreamtel Hotel*

**Day 15 (Wednesday, July 24) Depart for home**

Departure from Kota Kinabalu International Airport towards home

**The day-to-day itinerary may change but we will still do all of our regular scheduled birding stops**