Abercrombie & Kent



BORNEO: LAND OF THE ORANGUTAN - A LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY (2025)

Discover Malaysia on a comprehensive journey from its bustling capital, Kuala Lumpur, to the rainforests of Borneo.

Small Group Journeys, Luxury Small Group Journeys

Asia, Indonesia, Malaysia & 10 days from AU\$17,465 pp Borneo

18 Guests

Journey Overview

Discover Malaysia on a comprehensive journey from its bustling capital, Kuala Lumpur, to the rainforests of Borneo. Explore the jungle in style, staying in lodges that are at the forefront of sustainability, and discover wildlife, from endemic amphibians and insects to the iconic orangutan, with expert local guides.

Journey Highlights

- Visit the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre for a possible first glimpse of the "man of the forest," and learn how this critically endangered species is being protected
- Discover the Bornean sun bear at a conservation centre dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating the world's smallest species of bear
- Watch for Borneo's Big Five orangutans, proboscis monkeys, pygmy elephants, rhinoceros hornbills and saltwater crocodiles — all on a single journey
- Embark on river cruises on the Kinabatangan River, guided by expert boatmen, spotting wildlife along the way, from the riverbanks to the tree tops
- Immerse yourself in a primary forest millions of years in the making at Borneo Rainforest Lodge
- Learn about Borneo's indigenous cultures at Mari Mari Cultural Village



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Arrive in Kuala Lumpur, the bustling modern capital of Malaysia, where you are met and privately transferred to your luxurious hotel.

Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur

Day 2: Kuala Lumpur | Museum & Market Visits

Start your exploration of the city from an incredible vantage point: the soaring Petronas Twin Towers. Next, discover another facet of Malaysia's cultural mix with a visit to the Islamic Arts Museum, the largest of its kind in southeast Asia. Peruse the city's Central Market, where local artists and craftsman sell their goods. After lunch at a local restaurant, your afternoon is at leisure for relaxing or exploring on your own. Tonight, gather for a welcome dinner.

Four Seasons Hotel Kuala Lumpur | Meals: BLD

Day 3: Sandakan | Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre

Fly to Sandakan, your gateway to the fabled island of Borneo. The third largest island in the world, Borneo is shared by three nations, Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei. It straddles the equator and is home to some of the world's oldest rainforest as well as amazing wildlife and diverse, friendly people. Begin your discovery of Borneo with a visit to the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre, the best place in Southeast Asia to see these gentle giants outside of a zoo. Witness the afternoon feeding, and meet with a centre employee to learn how the reserve takes orphaned orangutans and teaches them to be self-sufficient in the forest. This evening, enjoy dinner along with a talk by a palm oil expert to understand how the industry has impacted the island.

Sabah Hotel Sandakan | Meals: BD

Day 4: Sandakan/Kinabatangan River | Sun Bears

Start your day with a visit to the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre and enjoy a talk by the founder to learn more about the smallest species of bear. Then, you may opt to continue observing the sun bears or return to the Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre to observe a morning feeding. After lunch at a local restaurant, board a speedboat for a ride up the Kinabantangan River to your award-winning lodge. After dinner on site, embark on a night cruise to spot nocturnal wildlife.

Sukau Rainforest Lodge | Meals: BLD

Day 5: Kinabatangan River | Riparian Exploration

Rise early to explore this exotic wonderland inhabited by 10 species of primates, four of which are endemic to Borneo, on a cruise on the Kinabatangan River. Meander up the river, spotting wildlife along the way, to an oxbow lake. Upon arrival, keep an eye out for wildlife and simply enjoy the serene setting with a coffee or tea before returning to your lodge for breakfast. Afterward, set out on a nature walk along the lodge's boardwalk, with the forest alive with sights and sounds. Enjoy lunch, followed by a talk by a naturalist about Borneo's most famous resident, the orangutan. Then, set out on another cruise along the river, perhaps spotting colonies of proboscis monkeys, keeping an eye out for the male's telltale nose. Also watch for orangutans, some of whom may be making nests for an afternoon nap. Look to the treetops to spot some of Borneo's eight species of hornbill, while saltwater crocodiles patrol the riverbank. Lastly, with luck, catch sight of pygmy elephants. Throughout your visit here, also keep your camera at the ready for sightings of silvered langurs, macagues, kingfishers, monitor lizards and reticulated pythons. Stay vigilant for glimpses of otters and turtles. Return to your lodge for dinner. Later, relax to the sounds of the jungle or enjoy an optional guided nature walk to seek out nocturnal species.

Sukau Rainforest Lodge | Meals: BLD

Day 6: Danum Valley Conservation Area | Rainforest

Bid farewell to the Kinabatangan River, and travel overland to Lahad Datu, the gateway to the Danum Valley Conservation Area. Switch to 4x4 vehicles for an adventurous ride overland to your lodge, nestled in one of the last remaining preserves of primary rainforest in Asia and the only accommodation found in the valley. This sanctuary is home to over 110 mammals, including orangutans, gibbons, pygmy elephants, and clouded leopards. The valley is also home to countless reptiles, amphibians, and insects. After check-in, enjoy an introductory nature walk with the lodge's expert guides. Following dinner, enjoy a jungle drive, unveiling creatures of the night such as Malayan and palm civets and flying lemurs.

Borneo Rainforest Lodge | Meals: BLD

Day 7: Danum Valley Conservation Area | Canopy Life

Immerse yourself in the Borneo wilderness, starting with a walkway through the rainforest canopy, looking out from platforms and bridges built at treetop level to let you observe the diverse flora and fauna. Return to your lodge for lunch. This afternoon, enjoy our choice of two activities. Select one of the lodge's many trails, varying in difficulty, with an expert guide. Alternatively, relax at the lodge, perhaps with a treatment at the award-winning spa (at an additional cost). Tonight, gather for dinner at your lodge.

Borneo Rainforest Lodge | Meals: BLD

Day 8: Kota Kinabalu | Beside the South China Sea

Emerge from the forest as you are driven to Lahad Datu for your short flight to Kota Kinabalu, the modern capital of Sabah state. Upon arrival, transfer to your accommodations, and enjoy an evening at leisure to explore the city or simply relax after your long journey, looking out at the luminescent emerald-green waters of the South China Sea.

Kota Kinabalu Marriott Hotel | Meals: B

Day 9: Kota Kinabalu | The Designs of Diverse Cultures

Venture just outside the city to visit the Mari-Mari Cultural Village, the perfect place to savour the soul of Sabah. View homes built by the varying ethnicities found in this state, each constructed by descendants of the tribes they represent, for an authentic insight into the diverse local culture. Discover the individual architectural style of these distinctive dwellings and how their builders adapted to the environments they inhabited. Later, return to your resort, where you have the rest of the day to relax or explore Kota Kinabalu. Tonight, gather with your fellow guests for a farewell dinner. If you have arranged to do so, transfer to the airport for your departing flight.

Kota Kinabalu Marriott Hotel | Meals: BLD

Day 10: Depart Kota Kinabalu

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your departing flight.

Meals: B

Journey Details

Internal Air Included: Kuala Lumpur/Sandakan; Lahad Datu/Kota Kinabalu Minimum age is 10 years.

Travel in this remote region entails extended drives over unpaved roads.

First group event: welcome briefing at 8:00 a.m. on Day 2.

Last group event: farewell dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Day 9.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Included with every Luxury Small Group Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director® and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy® Luggage Handling
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service
- Internet Access
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures with Just Two Guests

Customise this Journey

Talk to one of our expert Journey Designers or your travel agent about booking this tour as a private journey for your own small group with family or friends. Or, if you would prefer to travel privately, find out more about creating the perfect bespoke Tailor-Made Journey based on this itinerary.

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Accommodation

Sukau Rainforest Lodge



The award-winning Sukau Rainforest Lodge nestles on the banks of one of Borneo's significant waterways, the Kinabatangan River, home to many of Borneo's iconic species. Immerse yourself in the tranquillity of the rainforest with a stay at this indulgent eco-lodge, dedicated to providing an unforgettable stay while championing conservation of the surrounding landscapes and its inhabitants. Each of the villas and private rooms are suffused with exotic Borneo style, offering lush comfort in the middle of this otherworldly wilderness.

Savour a sundowner at one of the two onsite bars, and indulge in a delicious local fare at the Melapi restaurant, with spectacular river views. Take a stroll on the Attenborough boardwalk, eyes peeled for a variety of endemic wildlife as you explore, and enjoy an orangutan education with the daily learning experiences on offer at the onsite Ape Gallery.

Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

Feb 8, 2025 - Feb 17, 2025

Price Single Supplement Internal Air (From) Availability

AU\$17,465 pp AU\$4,585 Included Call for Availability

Apr 19, 2025 - Apr 28, 2025

Price Single Supplement Internal Air (From) Availability

AU\$17,465 pp AU\$4,585 Included Call for Availability

Jul 12, 2025 - Jul 21, 2025

Price Single Supplement Internal Air (From) Availability

AU\$17,465 pp AU\$4,585 Included Call for Availability

Sep 27, 2025 - Oct 6, 2025

Price Single Supplement Internal Air (From) Availability

AU\$17,465 pp AU\$4,585 Included Call for Availability

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