



Wild River Adventure

Kinabatangan Project Summary

Location: Lower Kinabatangan, Sabah, Borneo, Malaysia.

Duration: 5 days, 4 nights

About the Project

This programme is focused around the Corridor of Life project, a joint venture between the Sabah government and the WWF to replant a staggering 26,000 hectares of forest with the goal of connecting the existing patches into one long unbroken forest stretching along the river from the heart of Borneo to the ocean on Sabah's east coast.

Students are directly involved in planting and maintaining patches of this forest, where they will also be asked to make measurements of the saplings growth rates, valuable data which is passed on to WWF.

Amongst other activities, students are also involved in spotting and recording wildlife from boats as they travel up and down the river, using GPS satellites to record locations and taking down data to help survey the density and diversity patterns of wildlife along the river.

Throughout the whole trip our emphasis is placed evenly across fun, experiential learning, and each student's potential to make a personal impact on the future of the forests, wildlife and people of Sabah.

This programme fulfils the objectives of all IB programmes in terms of achieving the service requirement of CAS – Creativity, Action and Service.

Accommodation and Food

The village style B&B accommodation is made of one building with 2 – 3 people to a room. Each room has ensuite toilets and cold shower, some with fans and some with air-conditioning. It sits right by the river.

Breakfast is served at accommodation. Lunch and dinner eaten at private homes in the village. Students will break into small groups and will eat with the same family most days.



The village run Bed and Breakfast

In Sepilok the choice of accommodation is between a B&B close to the Rainforest Discovery Centre with mixture dorm and twin rooms, or another B&B around 5 minutes drive away, accommodating 36 students in three 12-bed dormitories.

Transportation

All transfers are included in the package cost, and are by registered operators who are checked regularly to ensure they meet health and safety requirements.

Travel up and down the river is by boat and is also included in the package cost. Boats and their drivers are fully licensed and provide lifejackets which must be worn by students at all times.

Flights to and from programmes are not included. We recommend that you purchase your flights through a reputable travel agent.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of your students are our top priority. Many schools opt to bring their only qualified nurse/ first aiders along on the trip, however as an add on, we can also provide a fully qualified nurse to accompany the group for the duration of their time on the river. Please contact us for more information.

Given below is a generic sample itinerary for WILD Borneo River Adventure in Sabah. The actual programme is heavily dependent on your arrival and departure flights details. The program includes:

Sepilok: Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre and Rainforest Discovery Centre

Project Site: Habitat Restoration and Reforestation

Wildlife Observations

Working in the community school

Interaction with villagers

Itinerary

Day 1	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrive in Sandakan before noon and travel to Sepilok - Settle into accommodation 	
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome and program overview - Visit Rainforest Discovery Centre (RDC) - Jungle trekking at RDC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience the forest canopy and learn about primary forest
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relax at accommodation - Observation techniques – training - Canopy walk in the night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experiential learning about diurnal and nocturnal life patterns

Day 2	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observation of semi-wild orangutans at Sepilok. Nature walk during which we can also spot orang-utan nests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scientific skills of animal observation of feeding and social behaviour in rehabilitated orangutans
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lunch at accommodation - Depart for Lower Kinabatangan. Observe closely the changing habitat along the way. - Settle in to accommodation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theoretical understanding of the issues of habitat fragmentation.
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing on Corridor of Life Project and wildlife census - River cruise and wildlife spotting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey methodology for wildlife density & diversity - Use of GPS units to record wildlife sightings

Day 3	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early morning river cruise - Jungle trek and picnic breakfast - Remove water hyacinth on return journey - Collection of water samples on return journey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue wildlife census work - Look for indirect evidence of wildlife presence. Apply learnings from RDC and Sepilok to natural setting - Healing and restoring habitats
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making paper (invasive water hyacinth paper shows how waste can be used to make saleable products for the community) - Water testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students given an opportunity to come up with income generating ideas using this paper to contribute towards communities. - Connections between water quality, invasive species, vegetation along banks of the river.
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group sharing of wildlife encounters - Planning for school session - Dinner with local family of the <i>Orang Sungai</i> community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Endemic and observed species, life cycles, ecology and biodiversity - Social and cultural learning

Day 4	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tree planting activities – seedling collection, work in nursery, mulching, planting, weeding and measurement/ data collection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students partner on the Corridor of Life Project
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School session. Students spend time in the village primary school and teach English, play games, contribute books and toys. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students gain personal and social skills, learn to share and meet the challenge of teaching children from a different country.
Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dinner with local family of the <i>Orang Sungai</i> community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social and cultural learning

Day 5	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consolidation activity – designed to bring together all the different strands – social, scientific, personal, ecological and species specific learnings BBQ Dinner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual and group learnings are collated in a form that can be shared with their school when they return.
Afternoon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transfer to Sandakan Airport. 	

Please note the above itinerary is a guideline only and activities and the locations may be subject to change as a result of weather, wildlife, community or logistical considerations. Learning outcomes will be met.

Terms and conditions apply.

Other Activities & Extension of Programme

Sabah offers a fantastic range of activities that can be easily added to the existing WILD Borneo River Adventure. These activities are not operated by WOX but are conducted by reputable travel and adventure agencies. While we can recommend partners, we also suggest you ask your travel agent for advice on a good itinerary.

Among the more popular activities:

Destinations	Activities	Duration	Distance from Sandakan / Kota Kinabalu
Gomantong Caves	- see the nesting area of the swiftlets and how the bird's nest collectors risk their lives harvesting them	Half day	SDK: 1.5 hours
Selingan Island, Turtle Island Park	- Beach and island getaway: have fun in the sun on pristine beaches - Watch turtles and other marine life	1 day	SDK: 1 hour
Mount Kinabalu	- scale the highest mountain in Southeast Asia	2 days	KK: 2 hours
Kiulu River	- Whitewater rafting, navigate raging rivers	1 day	KK: 1.5 hours
Tuanku Abdul Rahman Park	- Beach and island getaway: have fun in the sun on pristine beaches - Watch turtles and other marine life	1 day	KK: 0.5 hours

There is also the option of adding on other destinations in Malaysia such as the vibrant capital, Kuala Lumpur to see the world famous Petronas Twin Towers, a visit to Penang Island for the delicious food and culture, the islands with pristine white beaches and marine life... the choices are endless.

Project Site

The project site for WILD Borneo River Adventure is part of the Corridor of Life, situated within the Wildlife Sanctuary along the Kinabatangan River. The project base is in a little village about 2 hours from Sandakan, a township within the state of Sabah.

The state capital of Sabah is Kota Kinabalu. Sandakan is approximately 228 km east of Kota Kinabalu, at the mouth of the Kinabatangan River.



Logistical Considerations

There are no international flights to Sandakan. We suggest you fly into one of Malaysia's many international airports and then take a connecting flight to Sandakan. There are, however, many international carriers that fly into Kota Kinabalu, from where you can opt to fly or travel overland to Sandakan.

Some suggested airports with direct flights to Sandakan (SDK):

International Airport	Airlines
Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KUL)	Malaysia Airlines
Low Cost Carrier Terminal (KUL)	Air Asia
Kota Kinabalu International Airport (BKI)	Malaysia Airlines

If you fly into Kota Kinabalu, you will have the option of taking a coach overland to Sandakan. The journey takes between 6 – 9 hours through the Crocker Mountain Range.

There are other carriers that fly in and out of Kota Kinabalu or Kuala Lumpur. Please check with your travel agency for the best flight to get from the nearest airport to your school to Malaysia and onwards to Sandakan. Our team will meet you at the Sandakan Airport to bring you to the project site.

PROGRAMME INCLUSIONS

Logistical Inclusions:

- Meet and Greet at Sandakan Airport
- 4 breakfasts
- 4 lunches
- 3 dinners
- 1 BBQ dinner
- 3 nights shared accommodation
- 1 night dormitory accommodation
- Overland transfers indicated in programme
- Boat transfers indicated in programme
- Drop off at Sandakan Airport

Project Inclusions:

- Wild At Heart (WOX) file & stationery
- Factsheets and datasheets
- Personal Impact activity: clearing invasive species and using them creatively, maintenance
- Work in village school
- Environmental conservation activities
- Habitat restoration: reforestation, seedling collection, maintaining nursery, clearing of invasive species
- Tools and equipment
- WOX Facilitators
- Contribution to conservation
- Entrance Fee to Rainforest discovery Centre
- Entrance Fee to Sepilok Orang-utan Rehabilitation Centre
- Cultural night interaction with local community
- Games interaction with local community