

Below Itinerary is for reference only and is subject to any necessary changes in accordance to local requirements.

6 Days

Sarawak Secrets with Santubong Mangrove Cruise

Departure: Daily with minimum 2 pax (SIC)

Day 1 Brunei - Miri - Kuching

Meet upon arrival at the Kuching International Airport then transfer to hotel in the city of Kuching. Explore on your own the quaint city by foot or take a boat along the Sarawak River. Overnight at hotel

Day 2 Kuching

0900hrs meet at hotel lobby, proceed for Kuching city tour. This tour highlights the main places of interest in Kuching; the historical city places cat statue greeting visitors to China Town and the Tua Pek Kong Temple. It is oldest Chinese Temple in Sarawak, built in 1876. From this temple, you can get a clear view of the imposing fort Magherita (not open to the public) across the river. From there, proceed to visit the Sarawak Museum before heading for the Civic Centre Tower for a panoramic view of the city. Then drive through Malay village with traditional houses built. On stilts and get a view of the majestic former state mosque before stopping to take a walk along Gambier Street, where the markets are. Upon arriving at the Kuching Waterfront, you can see the Astana across the river, built by the 2nd white Rajah Charles Brooke in 1870 as a bridal gift to his wife. Today it is the official residence of the Governor of Sarawak, You will also see the old colonial Court House with Clock Tower and a granite obelisk built in memory of the 2nd Brooke Rajah, before transfer back to hotel. Overnight. (Meal: Breakfast)

Day 3 Kuching - Hilton Batang Ai Longhouse

Early breakfast. At 0800hrs, visit the Semenggoh Orang Utan Rehabilitation Centre. The entire facility occupies an area of 740 acres, the only remaining greet belt near attraction is undeniably the Rehabilitation Centre, a temporary home for displaced Orang Utans that have been rescued from captivity and young orphaned primates. These animals are trained or re-trained to survive in their natural habitat. They learn how to forage for natural food and built nests in the trees. Many have been returned into the surrounding area. However there are few that will never re-learn their wild skills due to their long association with and resulting dependence on humans. Take a walk on the trails and try to spot semi-wild Orang Utans. There are feeding times scheduled everyday at the feeding platform. However always bear in mind that the main aim of the centre is to return these animals back into their habitat. Do not be disappointed if you do not see any roaming the jungles or coming back to feed as this means they are able to forage on their own and do not need human assistance. Depart for Batang Ai. The journey takes about 5 hours. Along the way, pass paddy (rice) fields, pepper plantations, roadside kampongs (villages) and have lunch at the tiny little town of Lachau. On arrival at the Batang Ai Dam, you will be ferried across to the resort. Leisure to explore our surroundings. Overnight. (Meal: Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 4 Hilton Batang Ai Longhouse - Kuching

Breakfast, return to the mainland for transfer to the Lemanak River to board native longboats to visit an Iban Longhouse. Along this river live the famous Ibans who were once the most fearsome pirates and headhunters. Today they live harmoniously as farmers, fishing and hunting in the surrounding jungles. The highlight of the tour is the traditional welcome with maidens in ceremonial regalia and the Ngajat dance. Tuak, the local rice wine is served and you will have a chance to try your hand at handling the blowpipe. Also enjoy a cock-fight demonstration. Lunch at the longhouse before returning to the city arriving late evening. Overnight: (Meal: Breakfast, Lunch,)

Day 5 Half Day Santubong Mangrove Cruise

Breakfast. Depending on the tide (morning or afternoon), take a boat ride to the estuarine of Santubong River and the Salak Rivers a flourishing area controlled by the tides, The park comprises mainly saline mangroves including an extensive network of waterways and tidal creeks which form an important spawning ground for fish and prawn species. There is a diverse wildlife including proboscis monkeys, long-tailed macaques, monitor lizards, estuarine crocodiles (crocodylus porosus) and birds such as kingfishers, white-bellied eagles, various wading birds and the very rare lesser Adjutant Stork. You may even catch a glimpse of the shy Irrawaddy Dolphins which are sometimes seen in the early morning hours and before sunset. Later return to dry land for transfer back to your city hotel. (Meal: breakfast)

** The evening cruise may get chilly, so do bring warm clothing and insect repellent for your personal comfort.

**The local guide will advise on the time for the pickup time for Santubong Mangrove Cruise.

Day 6 Bako Park Bay Tour - Brunei

Breakfast. At 0830hrs, depart for Bako National Park This is the oldest National Park, which offers the perfect introduction to the Sarawak forest & wildlife. The park is located at the northern tip of Muara Tebas Peninsula. It can be reach by a half hour drive by coach & another 30 minutes by boat. The park has on area of 16sq km of primary forest with an abundance of botanical treasures made up of 25 types of vegetation. Amongst this plant life is the carnivorous pitcher plant. Bako's mangrove forest is home to the Proboscis Monkey, found only in Borneo. Other species found here are the Long-Tailed Macaques, Silver Leaf Monkeys, Monitor Lizards and Bearded Pigs. There are a number of trails exploring the park with several indented sandy bays providing excellent swimming grounds. Lunch at the park canteen. Transfer to airport for your onward flight in the afternoon. In order not to miss your flight, we highly recommend that your onward flight be after 1700 hrs. (Meal: Breakfast, Lunch)

Note:

- Bako National Park tour between Nov-Feb is highly depended on the water condition: otherwise it will be substitute with Gunung Gading National Park.
- Sighting of wildlife is not guaranteed.
- Santubong Mangrove Cruise is non operational from Nov - Mar due to rainy season. Cruise does not operate during rainy weather.

Friendly Note: Cockfighting is a tradition and friendly sport of the natives. It does not involve any dangerous tools that can endanger the lives of the birds. In fact, cocks are well loved pets, held in high regards and generally cherished by their native owners.

What to bring:

Due to basic conditions at the Longhouse, you are advice to bring your own raincoat, hand-torch, personal toiletries, light clothing preferably cotton materials, towel, body soap, walking shoe with rubber base/slippers, anti malaria tablets, insect repellent, sun protection lotion & first aid kit.

Due to the nature of the program, it is not advisable to bring along your suitcase which is advisable to leave them in Kuching. Should you like to bring gifts for the people at the Longhouse, biscuits, medical first aid kit, books, pencils, pens, educational toys and dolls are highly appreciated. We discourage giving sweets and cigarettes.