

# Singapore, Malaysia & Borneo's Orangutans



## TRIP OVERVIEW

Discover street culture in Georgetown, admire the tea plantations of the Cameron Highlands, meet Orangutans in Borneo and experience Asia's city of the future in Singapore.

## ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require for a smooth and comfortable trip to Malaysia, Singapore and Borneo. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with all the aspects of our tour. It includes important information such as flight details, visa requirements and travel insurance.

### Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

### DAY 1: UK to Penang

Depart London on your overnight flight to Penang via Kuala Lumpur.

### DAY 2: Penang D

On arrival into Penang, meet your local guide and transfer to tonight's hotel.

### DAY 3: Penang B/L/D

Take the morning to relax after your flight. Join the group for lunch and afterwards embark on a half-day coach tour of Georgetown, Penang's vibrant capital, starting at the floating Chinese water villages to explore a labyrinth of narrow footpaths, supported by wooden stilts. Next, walk along the Street of Harmony to reach The Goddess of Mercy. Weave through the city's heritage enclave, past a traditional Malay mosque, Chinatown and bustling Little India, where mouth-watering cuisine will set your senses racing. Return to the hotel before a welcome dinner this evening.

### DAY 4: Penang B/L

Depart for Penang Botanical Garden home to huge variety of indigenous and exotic plant species and established by the British in 1884. Next travel along the beautiful coastline and sandy beaches of Batu Ferringhi stopping to witness traditional Batik weaving and dying processes. Return to Georgetown to visit the gold-plated Reclining Buddha enshrined in a Thai temple on Burma lane.

### DAY 5: Penang to Cameron Highlands B/L/D

Visit Orangutan Island, a rehabilitation and conservation centre, giving an extra opportunity to see these remarkable creatures, before continuing to the Cameron Highlands.

### DAY 6: Cameron Highlands B/L/D

Bask in Malaysia's natural splendour at the verdant BOH Tea Plantation, relishing in the picturesque views of three sequential tea gardens which stretch as far as the eye can see and sample a refreshing cup of BOH tea. Take a walk down memory lane at the Time Tunnel Museum by observing an extensive assembly of memorabilia which date back to the pre-war years and later, enjoy a visit to the Butterfly Gardens.

### DAY 7: Cameron Highlands to Kuala Lumpur B/L

After breakfast, embark on a scenic coach journey through rural countryside to Malaysia's capital city. Your evening is free to begin exploring this fascinating city at your own pace.

### DAY 8: Kuala Lumpur B

A half day sightseeing tour begins gazing 452 metres into the sky for a photo opportunity of one of Malaysia's most iconic buildings - Petronas Twin Towers. Continue to Kuala Lumpur's Chinatown district and immerse yourself in authentic oriental culture as you crisscross through swarming, vibrant market stalls. Next, witness Parliament House's unique contemporary design, distinguished by its eleven triangular peaks, before a poignant visit to the National War Memorial monument, whose bronze cenotaph serves as a moving tribute to Malaysia's fallen Soldiers. Journey onwards to the New Kings Palace for a glimpse of the remarkable 22 golden domes enclosed within a heavily guarded palace complex, before heading to the grand Federal Court. Later, enjoy an evening at leisure.

### DAY 9: Kuala Lumpur to Malacca B/L

En-route to Malacca, pass by the solemn Bukit Cina. Continue on your journey to the Cheng Hoon Teng Temple, the oldest Chinese temple in Malaysia, where, upon arrival, you will be greeted by the powerful aromas of joss sticks and the temples' richly ornate exterior, adorned with mystical carvings. Next, at Baba Nyonya Heritage Museum, witness a collection of restored houses, designed to showcase the distinctive influence that these ancient Chinese settlers had on Malaysian culture and after lunch, take a boat cruise before continuing to Porta De Santiago, the iconic architectural ruins of an archaic fortress. Your next stop is at the 'Red Square', a group of Dutch Colonial buildings, distinguishable by their flamboyant salmon-pink exterior and finally, visit the 18th century Christ Church.

### DAY 10: Malacca to Singapore B

This morning, transfer by coach from Malacca to the island nation of Singapore and enjoy an afternoon exploring this cosmopolitan city at your own pace. Maybe take the time to visit Sentosa Island or the Gardens by the Bay

### DAY 11: Singapore B

From the dizzying heights of Marina Bay Sands' futuristic Skypark Observation Deck, enjoy breathtaking views of Singapore's impressive cityscape before continuing to Merlion Park for a glimpse of its iconic fountain, a symbol of Singapore's humble beginnings. Next, dedicated to Mazu, the Goddess of the Sea, admire intricate carvings on Thian Hock Temple's extravagant exterior. Later this afternoon, explore an enormous variety of thriving flora at the National Orchid Garden within the city's beautiful Botanical Gardens. Finally, experience the buzz of Chinatown.

### DAY 12: Singapore to Kuching B

Depart Singapore this morning and journey towards Kuching, the capital of Sarawak. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore this beautiful waterside city.

### DAY 13: Kuching B/L

A once-in-a-lifetime experience awaits this morning as you transfer to Semenggoh Nature Reserve to catch a glimpse of Borneo's most

famous residents. Established in 1975, this enchanting sanctuary rescues and nurtures orphaned Orangutans with the intention of releasing the endangered animals back into the wild. Roam the wooden walkways to observe these primates glide between the trees; they sometimes return to the centre at feeding time, for a chance to nibble on a tasty treat. \*Please note the Orangutans are semi wild and sightings are not guaranteed

**DAY 14: Kuching to Kota Kinabalu B**

Travel to the captivating capital of Sabah - Kota Kinabalu, on Borneo's northwest coast and upon arrival, transfer to your hotel.

**DAY 15: Manukan Island B/D**

Today embark on a trip to picturesque Manukan Island, and spend the rest of the day at leisure enjoying the powder soft sands and crystal clear waters which are a tranquil oasis and idyllic playground for watersport enthusiasts.

**DAY 16/17: Kota Kinabalu B**

Depart Kota Kinabalu today for your overnight return flight via Kuala Lumpur to the UK or follow onto your chosen extension.

**ACCOMMODATION DETAILS & MAP**



**Accommodation**

Your accommodation is selected for convenience, location, comfort or character. Hotel accommodation is generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note there is no international classification system for hotels, and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and Malaysia or Singapore. All group tours hotels have private bathroom facilities and air-conditioning, where needed. Rest assured that all accommodation used by Mercury Holidays is regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

**Please note the hotels listed on our website and brochure are provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.**

**ON YOUR ARRIVAL**

On your arrival in Penang you will be met by a representative from our local agent, **Wildlife Expeditions**, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays/**Wildlife Expedition** representative will show you to your transfer vehicle. Your national guide will be on hand 24 hours a day should you have any queries, however if you need to contact your representative during your stay the details are:

**Head office address**

**Wildlife expeditions**

Contact number: 006016 373 2803

Email: wildlife918@gmail.com

**WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR**

**Visas**

A visa is not required for your trip to Malaysia, Singapore or Borneo. However, your passport should have at least 6 months' validity from the date of entry into Malaysia and Singapore. Further advice should be sought from the applicable tourist authority for other nationalities and for general queries. We strongly advise you check your destinations' Tourist Board or Embassy for the most up-to-date guidelines regarding passport validity.

**Health and Vaccinations**

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as early as possible and in good time before your departure. Sources of information include; www.fco.gov.uk, www.travelhealthpro.org.uk, www.hpa.org.uk, your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic.



**Meals**

Breakfast is served in the hotel each morning. Lunch and dinner where stated will be taken at local restaurants or at your hotel. A variety of restaurants are visited giving you the chance to experience a range of dishes.

**Tourism tax**

The government of Malaysia has introduced a compulsory tourism tax of MYR10 (approximately £2) per room per night which will need to be paid locally to your hotel upon checkout.

**Emergency contact information**

Please find below the emergency contact details for Wildlife Expeditions: 24 hour Contact number: 006016 373 2803

**Physical Accessibility**

All our tours feature a "Tour Pace" to help find the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights, climb stairs and get on and off coaches and boats. Our tour paces are marked with dots out of 3, with the differences being as follows:

- 1 Dot the tour is Easy-Going
- 2 Dots the tour is Intermediate
- 3 Dots the tour is Advanced

Singapore, Malaysia & Borneo's Orangutans is rated as 2 Dots meaning that the tour pace is Intermediate. A good level of fitness is required as you may be on your feet for approximately four hours in a day, though this will be interspersed with regular breaks and will vary from day to day. You will be walking around the sights, and may be getting on and off coaches, trains and boats and climbing steps which may be irregular. You will stay in variety of hotels throughout the tour.

Our guides will always endeavor to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

**Group Size**

The minimum number of travellers in your group will be 10, and the maximum will be 35. In the unlikely event there are less than 10 people booked on your tour date, we will endeavour to reduce any disruption to your holiday and try to operate your tour with lower passenger numbers. If we are not able to operate your departure date, then you may be asked to change to a different date and a full refund will be made available to you should this alternative not be suitable

**Tour Guides - National Guide**

This is a fully escorted tour, meaning that you will be met on arrival by your national guide who will remain with you for the duration of your trip. You will also be joined by a local guide in each of the cities which you visit, ensuring that you always have first-hand knowledge. Should the tour not meet minimum numbers, then it will be operated with local guides only.

**Private Tour**

If you have booked a private tour then you will be accompanied by a Driver Guide or a Driver and Local Guides. These will be available to you during all scheduled sightseeing. Private Tours can depart on any day of the week depending on flight and train schedules and the opening days of the attractions. They will follow the itinerary as described in the brochure unless you have been advised otherwise and you will still have all of the same meals, sightseeing and local excursions included.

**Tipping**

Tipping is not compulsory and is at your discretion. Should you wish to tip, this will be collected by your guide at the end of your tour for your convenience.

**Currency Exchange**

The currency in Malaysia & Borneo is the Malaysian Ringgit. The currency in Singapore is the Singapore Dollar. We recommend that you exchange your currency before you leave the UK. It is important that you budget carefully and ensure you have the right form of currency before you arrive in the country. Cash machines will also be available throughout the tour in order to withdraw money in your local currency.

**Personal Expenses**

You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry, any meals not included in the itinerary as well as drinks and any additional snacks. Approximately £400- £500 per person will be sufficient for the duration of the tour. It is a good idea to try and maintain a supply of small notes and change in the local currency for tipping or small purchases.

**Itinerary changes**

The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. The schedules of the domestic airlines in country are subject to frequent changes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your local guide will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Some road construction &/or weather conditions may lengthen the driving times. Our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions.

**Passport Information**

Your Passport Information/A scanned copy of your passport is required for this tour. This information is required at least 90 days prior to your departure. Failure to provide this information on time may result in your booking being cancelled with loss of deposit.

**Insurance**

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are suitably insured as soon as you book your holiday. It is a condition of booking that you must have suitable travel insurance. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that suitably covers your participation in whatever activities you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. To assist you with this, we have arranged travel insurance in partnership with Holiday Extras. To arrange your travel insurance with Holiday Extras, please call 0800 781 4237 and quote 'WK830' for preferential rates. Please ensure you provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number as soon as possible. Mercury Holidays will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

**WHAT TO PACK**

- Sunglasses, Sunscreen and hat in summer
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Camera and charger
- The electricity supply is 220V-240V. You shouldn't need a travel plug adapter as they use the 3 square pin plugs
- Antibacterial hand gel
- Binoculars

- Personal first aid kit containing travel pills, rehydration powder, plasters, stomach settlers, antiseptic creams, aspirin etc
- Small day pack for excursions
- Waterproof, lightweight jacket
- Lightweight clothing
- Sweater and jacket for the cooler months

**FLIGHT INFORMATION**

Your initial flight is to Penang International Airport (Via Kuala Lumpur) with Malaysian Airlines, departing from London Heathrow Terminal 4.

**IMPORTANT: Please note that final flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.**

**Baggage Allowance**

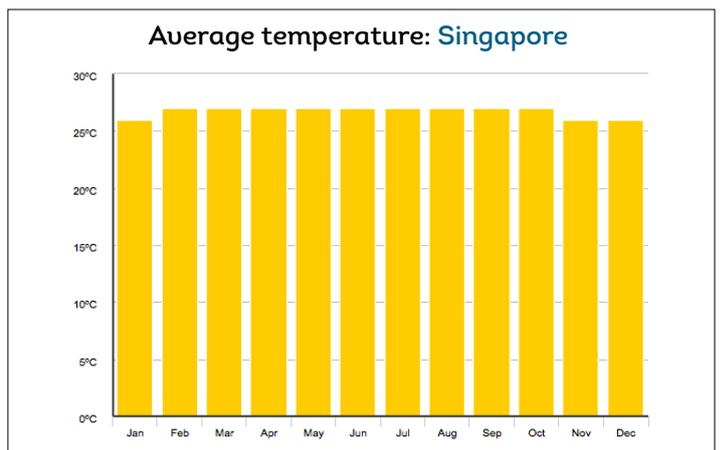
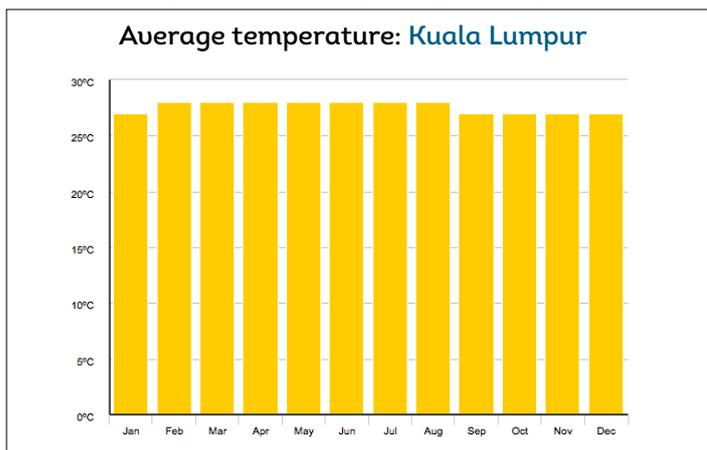
Each passenger is entitled to 25KG of hold luggage plus 1 item of hand luggage not exceeding (Max 7kg - 56cm/36cm/23cm) in size and 1 personal item such as a handbag, briefcase or laptop case. Weight restrictions will be finalized on E-ticket receipt. Should you wish to take additional luggage you will need to pay extra at check-in. Check-in should be at least 3 hours before departure.

**Airport Extras**

If you wish to arrange Airport car parking or accommodation at preferential rates, we recommend you book this in advance with Holiday Extras on 0871 360 2000, quoting HX313.

**WEATHER AND CLIMATE**

Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.



## Kota Kinabalu Beach Stay Extension

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0843 224 0723



### TRIP OVERVIEW

At the conclusion of your Singapore, Malaysia and Borneo adventure, unwind for 3 nights on the exotic beaches of Borneo's capital city, Kota Kinabalu. Nestled between the spectacular Crocker range and the inviting waters of the South China Sea, the bustling metropolis and tranquil resorts which surround the city offer visitors a warm climate with a wealth of activities to suit your pace.

### ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your beach extension to Kota Kinabalu.

#### Hotel Information - Kota Kinabalu (3 nights Bed and Breakfast)

5★ Shangri-La's Rasa Ria Resort – Pantai Dalit Beach, Tuaran, 89208 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia Telephone number: +60 88-797 888 Located on the golden shores of Pantai Dalit Beach within a tropical setting, this luxurious 5★ hotel fuses a contemporary design with aspects in-keeping with the area. With beautifully decorated rooms, the vast array of amenities within the Shangri-La's Rasa Ria Resort include a full service spa, an inviting garden, sauna, free Wi-Fi, health club, tennis court and five restaurants.

#### Please note:

Your chosen hotel and board basis will have been confirmed at booking. Please speak to our reservations department if you are unsure. Final confirmation will be sent in a document approximately 10 days before you travel.

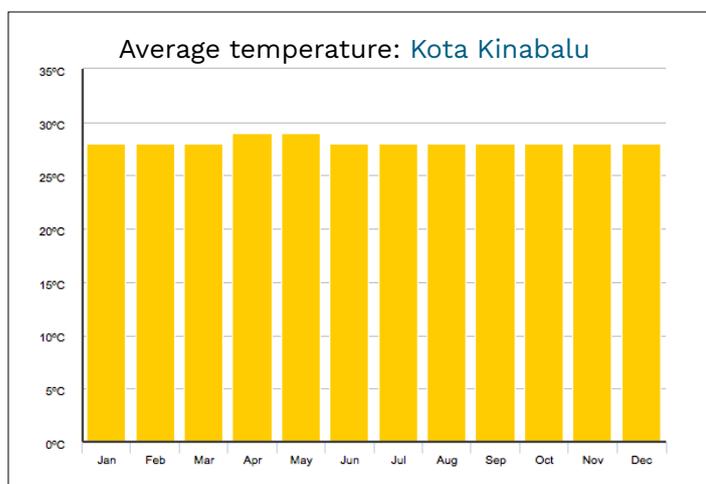
#### Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover meals not included plus any personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry and any additional snacks or drinks you may wish to have. The government of Malaysia has introduced a compulsory tourism tax of MYR10 (approximately £2) per room per night which will need to be paid locally to your hotel upon checkout.

#### Tour Guides

Your stay in Kota Kinabalu is not escorted by a tour guide. Your time here will be free to do as you wish. Transfers are included.

### WEATHER AND CLIMATE



Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort

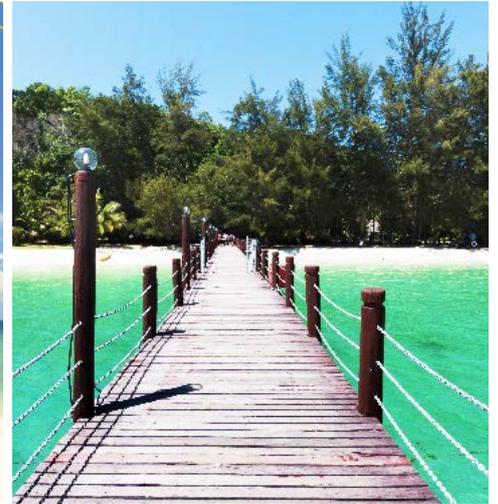
### FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0843 224 0723**

## Manukan Island Beach Stay

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0843 224 0723



### TRIP OVERVIEW

Enjoy a 3-night extension to Manukan Island, the second largest island in the Tunku Abdul Rahman National Park, Malaysia's first marine national park. Located off the coast of Kota Kinabalu, unwind on the stunning crescent of white sandy beach overlooking inviting crystal clear waters in this serene paradise.

### ITINERARY & DETAILS

*This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your extension to Manukan Island.*

#### Hotel Information - Manukan Island (3 nights Bed and Breakfast)

##### Manukan Island Resort

Address: Manukan Island, Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia  
Telephone: 006017-833-5022

Discover the serene Manukan Island from the luxurious retreat of Manukan Island Resort, a modern and comfortable hotel in this picturesque haven. Immerse yourself in the natural beauty of Manukan Island's extensive stretches of white sandy beaches and crystal clear waters, protectively sheltered by pristine coral reefs, an underwater

kingdom for marine life. Offering excellent guest facilities, delicious cuisine and a varied programme of watersports, this superb hotel is the perfect base to explore this tropical island.

#### Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover meals not included plus any personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry and any additional snacks or drinks you may wish to have. The government of Malaysia has introduced a compulsory tourism tax of MYR10 (approximately £2) per room per night which will need to be paid locally to your hotel upon checkout.

#### Tour Guides

Your stay in Manukan Island is not escorted by a tour guide. Your time here will be free to do as you wish. Transfers are included.



### FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0843 224 0723**