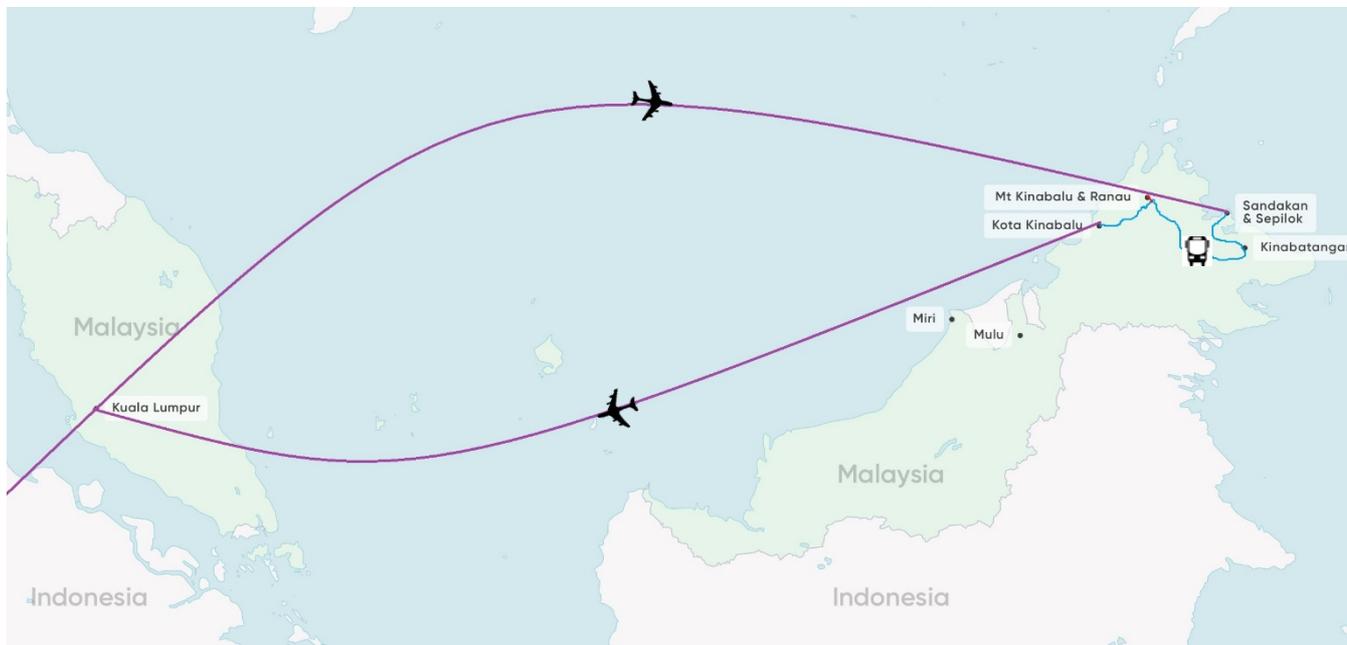


Borneo (East Malaysia) Week Without Walls – 7 days



Departs anytime (2018-19)



Itinerary

Please note: This itinerary can be modified in any way to best suit your school's particular aims, learning objectives and budget.

Please contact us detailing any changes you'd like to make.

For students wishing to experience the richness of real equatorial rainforest, Borneo will fulfil your wildest dreams. The island's jungles conjure up remoteness and adventure, with their impenetrable foliage and longboat trips into the 'heart of darkness'.

This 7-day educational tour of Malaysia (Borneo) is specifically designed for regional Asian high schools and is intended to appeal to all students wishing to explore this varied and geographically unique Asian nation.

From historic Sandakan to a remote village in the heart of this wild region, this trip will entail several leisure and cultural activities including a fun Malaysian cooking lesson, an exploration of some of the world most divine rainforests as well as white water rafting, hiking and an exhilarating jungle camp experience.

Whilst the trip is designed to be educational and/or a service nature, it is also intended to be highly enjoyable. We aim to provide a very memorable introduction to this unique and rapidly changing region, as well as a very fulfilling service-learning activity.



David Eales
Asia Manager

Day 1

Arrive Sandakan (East Malaysia)



Borneo brings together an astonishing array of cultures and languages, as well as age-old traditions of hospitality where all visitors are welcomed.

Our tour leader will greet us upon arrival in the remote town of Sandakan in Sabah State and escort us to our centrally located hotel. Following this, we will wander down to Sandakan's bustling waterfront to enjoy the vibrancy of this friendly city and our first taste of Malaysian cuisine. There will be a short time after dinner for an escorted tour of the town before returning to our hotel.

(dinner)

Day 2

Sepilok Orangutan Sanctuary Kinabatangan region (village homestay)



We will farewell Sandakan today and travel to a remote wildlife reserve to meet Borneo's most endearing inhabitant – the orangutan. At this reserve young, orphaned or captured orangutans are rehabilitated into the wild, and it is one of the few places on earth where people have an opportunity to see orangutans up close in their natural habitat. A boardwalk leads to a viewing gallery and feeding platform where the orangutans are fed twice a day.

From here we will travel deeper in Sabah's jungle interior to a small Malay village where we will spend the coming days. En route we will visit the nearby *Batu Tulug* Caves, a steep limestone cliff that is part of the 20-million-year-old Labang limestone formation.

We will continue a short distance to arrive in our village. Upon arrival, there will be a short briefing detailing the activities and programs that we shall participate in before having the opportunity to participate in some traditional games, a cultural performance by the local villages as well as a cooking class to learn the secrets of Malay cuisine. It is here that we will spend the night in a communal hall under mosquito nets. The communal hall is an open-air 'long house' style of accommodation overlooking the Kinabatangan River. Male and female students will sleep on separate sides of the hall. Students will be equipped with mattresses, pillows, blankets, mosquito nets, ceiling fans, electric lights, mosquito coils and western style toilets. (All meals provide in the village). (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 3

Community Project (local village)



Today we will undertake a community service activity that will entail waterway restoration as well as a conservation activity designed to promote awareness of Borneo Fragile Ecosystem. This activity is intended to reforest an area of the hinterland surrounding the village and moreover, to raise our awareness of the challenges facing this fragile habitat that is under pressure from increasing population and government policies favouring the development of palm oil plantations.

After lunch, we will farewell our village and travel deeper into the Borneo interior to a delightful eco-lodge on the banks of the river. This region is home to what is widely acknowledged as the largest concentrations of wildlife

species to be found anywhere in the world. Later we will take part in a wildlife observation cruise to see more of the Island's famous animal species including the Proboscis Monkey, Langurs, Macaques, hornbills and a host of other wildlife. The area of Borneo is also home to one of the world's best-preserved primeval rainforests, long since vanished in other parts of Asia. (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 4

Jungle Camp Homestay (Jungle Adventure Centre)

After breakfast, we will board our private bus for our journey west across the Island. Whilst it will be a long day's travelling, we will have ample opportunity to enjoy the picturesque Borneo landscape, viewing oil palm plantations and remote villages en route. In the mid-afternoon, we will arrive at our jungle camp where we will set up our own hammocks and mosquito nets followed by an introduction to the camp by our jungle guides.

This afternoon there will be time for some jungle skills training as well as an opportunity to try out the camp's rope courses. Tonight, we will sleep on comfortable hammock style beds, in pre-constructed long-house style shelters. (breakfast, lunch, dinner) NB: The shower, toilets and other facilities are all good quality.

NB: En route today there is the option to visit a local school to learn of the Malay educational system, meet local students and learn of their aspirations.

Day 5

Kota Kinabalu (rafting activity)



For a safe and fun adrenaline rush, there is nothing quite like rafting. After breakfast we will transfer to our starting rafting point where we will undergo a comprehensive safety briefing before embarking on our trip down the grade 1 & 2 rapids of the Kiulu River, accompanied by our expert river guides. All students are required to wear life jackets/helmets.

After about a couple of hours on the river, we will arrive at the picnic area where lunch will be served and where we can clean up and get changed. This afternoon we will travel to Kota Kinabalu, Borneo's premier city which we wander down to the city's vibrant handicraft market and later enjoy some

traditional East Malaysian cuisine. (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 6

Kota Kinabalu



Urban allure meets rural charm! Today we will enjoy a scenic exploration tour of Kota Kinabalu (KK) in the State of Sabah. The city, formerly known as "Singgahmata" or "the place where the eye lingers", rose from the destruction of World War II to become a vibrant and modern city that still retains its traditional charms. Time permitting, we will have a chance to see some of KK's places of interests including its state mosque and the Sabah Museum to learn of the region's indigenous peoples.

This afternoon we will have a chance to see some of 'KK's' places of interests including its state mosque, a Chinese temple and the Sabah Museum to learn

of the region's indigenous inhabitants. Tonight, we will head out for a final meal to celebrate your Borneo adventure – the night market is filled with fresh grilled seafood. *Please note: this evening student will buy their own dinner from the plethora of Hawker stands on the waterfront under tour leader supervision.* (breakfast, lunch)

Day 7

Kota Kinabalu ✈ Home

There will be a short time this morning for an escorted stroll through this quaint old district before we transfer to Kota Kinabalu Airport this morning for our flight back home. Our group leader will take care of your onward travel arrangements and bid us farewell. (breakfast) **Flight details to be advised.**

Summary

Grading

Moderate to Challenging; Whilst the trip is designed for any student with a good level of fitness, the trip requires students and accompanying staff to be fit and able to walk long distances. Throughout the trip you will be expected to carry your own luggage but only for short distance.

Accommodation

Student accommodation is on a twin/triple share basis. Teacher accommodation is on a single room basis. Hotels hold a 3-star equivalent rating.

Transport

Modern air-conditioned bus, longboat, speedboat, plane.

Group Size

Minimum group size 20 students & 2 staff members travelling *free of charge*.

▲ [Smaller group sizes can be quoted upon application](#)

Your Tour Leader

Your tour leader is probably the person who most influences the success of your trip. Thus, Student Educational Adventures employs our own team of meticulously trained student dedicated, local tour leaders - not foreigners, imported at your students' expense with no language skills or insight into your host culture.

These nationals are not only the best folk to show you their country. They are your teachers, translators and an enthusiastic purveyor of authentic experiences. They are there to facilitate your immersion into new cultures and are the bridge between you and the world of education and new experiences.

Your tour leader is always with your students throughout your trip and is thoroughly versed in safety protocols and duty of care responsibilities. This ranges from assisting in the most basic of health and safety measures to ensuring that teachers & students are always safe during our trips. All have been chosen because of their ability to deal with the needs and unique issues associated with escorting young people through this wonderful and at times, most foreign of regions.

Service Learning Program

All service-learning programs initiated by Student Educational Adventures are conducted after careful consultation with the local community and with the local People's Committees.

These projects are initiated based on a model of mutual learning and designed as an immersion experience. An understanding of the importance of an integrated approach to community development is useful to frame what students and teachers might see, learn or experience during a student immersion.

Borneo (East Malaysia) Week Without Walls (7 days)

Inclusions

- All accommodation, transport, activities, entrance costs and other programs as describe in the itinerary
- *Student Educational Adventures* tour leader throughout the trip & additional specialist guides
- Meals (+ drinking water) as listed in the daily itinerary
- Pre-departure support, briefings & planning meetings for students and parents
- 24/7 in-country support
- Tips for local guides & drivers
- **Cost of community project**

Exclusions

- International flights to/from Malaysia
- Some meals
- Camera, video fee at some sites
- Malaysia visa (Not required by most nationalities)