



MALAYSIA: CARE FOR ANIMALS AT LOK KAWI WILDLIFE PARK

COLOURFUL AND EXOTIC, MALAYSIA STRETCHES FROM THE PENINSULAR TO THE ISLAND OF BORNEO ... A WEALTH OF CHOICE!

Split between the Peninsular and the island of Borneo, Malaysia offers a wealth of choice and is an ideal starting point for a trip to South East Asia. From the gleaming sky scrapers of Kuala Lumpur to the rainforests and wildlife of Sabah and Sarawak - there is so much to see and do!

Sabah itself is home to lush tropical rainforests, wonderful sandy beaches, the breathtaking Mount Kinabalu, and a biodiversity of Marine and Wildlife like no other. This includes Borneo's Native and most famous resident – the Orang-Utan! Sabah is one of the last places on earth that you can see these remarkable creatures in their natural habitat.

WHAT DO YOU GET?

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.
- Experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who'll meet you at the airport on your arrival - helps you **feel safe and never alone!**
- An in-depth Induction makes you **feel local straight away!**
- A unique insight into another culture – **see it from the inside** in a way you could never do as a tourist.
- An opportunity to **make lifelong friends from all over the world.**
- And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**



► SUMMARY FACTFILE

Start Dates	All year round - groups leave for this project once a month. For specific dates, please contact us
Duration	4 weeks
Requirements	No qualifications needed, but you must have a reasonable level of fitness and be able to cope with tropical climates.
Price	For up-to-date prices, please check our website www.travellersworldwide.com
What's included	► Accommodation ► Food ► Meeting you at the Airport ► Transfer to your accommodation ► Transport to and from your project ► Full pre-departure support ► Local in-country team support and backup ► 24-hr emergency support
What's not included	Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required, but we'll provide necessary documents and assistance),
Who can do this Project?	All our projects are open to all nationalities. Unless otherwise stated, you need to be aged between 17 and 70+

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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

Up close and personal with Borneo's native wildlife. Care for animals in Lok Kawi wildlife park, Borneo's newest attraction and home to many of Sabah's native and threatened species. Many species are endangered and so the wildlife park has a very important role in educating the public in conservation and awareness of environmental issues.

Some of the native species at the wildlife park include orang-utans, proboscis monkeys, pygmy elephants (including two very charming baby elephants) and a pygmy rhino. Also tigers, a clouded leopard, gibbons, otters, sun bears, giant tortoise, mouse deer, ostrich, civets and a fantastic aviary complete with talking birds.

The Care for animals Programme

The Wildlife Park is set in a 280 acre forest reserve in the district of Penampang, just 15 kms south west of Sabah's capital, Kota Kinabalu. It is run by the Sabah Wildlife Department and has been developed with education and fostering awareness of conservation issues in mind. Unlike some other Zoos in the region, the Wildlife Park is very big and is able to provide animals with enclosures which imitate natural conditions as much as possible. For children, the petting area provides hands on experience and the chance to learn about conservation.

The Wildlife Park is a cross between a traditional Wildlife Park and a Zoo, many people refer to it as a modern Zoo. The Park's main aims are to:

- Increase Public Awareness
- Provide World Class animal facilities and enclosures
- Start an environmental education programme
- Make captive breeding of endangered species possible
- Allow research activities to take place



Not only will the Wildlife Park strive to achieve these objectives but also to provide educational opportunities for locals, foreigners and schools, diversify the local economy and utilize local manpower.

Many Western Zoos take a hands off approach, where even keepers have very little direct hands on contact with the animals. At Lok Kawi, keeper and animal interaction is an important part of keeping the animals well looked after and healthy. Your role will be to assist keepers in their daily duties in looking after the animals, however, not all of the animals are tame and therefore you'll only be allowed hands on contact with some of the animals.

Work Content.

The Lok Kawi Wildlife Park was officially opened in February 2007 and has enjoyed high visitor numbers since this time, with the majority of visitors consisting of local Malays. There are plans to develop an education programme amongst local schools and a volunteer programme for Malaysian citizens

Travellers and the Sabah Wildlife Department have arranged a structured programme at Lok Kawi Wildlife Park which will allow volunteers the opportunity to learn about animal care across a variety of species. You'll have hands on contact with some of the animals that have been hand reared.

Working hours are generally between 8.00am - 12.00am and 2.00pm - 5.00pm. You will assist on a rotation system within the areas listed below

- Elephant (10 days)
- Primates (Orang-Utans and Monkeys) & reptiles (5 days)
- Birds & Hoofstock (5 days)

ELEPHANTS:

All of the Elephants at Lok Kawi are Pygmy Elephants and there are currently 5 female elephants, 1 male and 2 babies. Pygmy Elephants are native to Borneo - in the wild they are found mainly in Sabah



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along the Kinabatangan River, but their population and habitat is dwindling due to human intervention. Borneo's Pygmy Elephants are thought to be a separate sub-species of the Asian Elephant as the two differ in many ways. Pygmy Elephants are typically half a metre smaller in height than Asian Elephants and yet have longer trunks and tails, both of which sweep the ground. They also tend to be much less aggressive than Asian Elephants. Conservation and understanding of Borneo's Elephants is incredibly important as they are critically endangered. Lok Kawi plays an important role in educating the public about Borneo's native wildlife.



The baby elephants at Lok Kawi were rescued from the wild during separate poaching incidents which resulted in their mothers being killed. They have been in contact with humans since a very young age as they had to be bottle fed. Visitors and children can interact with the baby elephants at the Children's zoo.

You may assist the elephant keepers with the following tasks;

- Cleaning enclosures thoroughly
- Preparing food/milk
- Bottle feeding and washing the baby elephants
- Reporting to the veterinarian on behaviour/eating patterns
- Taking the baby elephants to the Children's Zoo and assisting with visitor interaction/safety. This includes some rides for the children but only during weekends, public holidays and school holidays.
- Inspecting animals for different behaviour or signs of illness and report to the veterinarian/other staff where necessary.

PRIMATES:

Primate species at Lok Kawi include Orang-Utans, Proboscis Monkeys and Gibbons. Within this area you'll also look after some of the other small mammals at the park. Both Orang-Utans and Proboscis Monkeys are native to Borneo and both are facing the threat of extinction due to loss of habitat and human intervention.

Orang-Utans are incredibly gentle, inquisitive and endearing creatures. They are native to Borneo and Sumatra and found high up in the forest canopy. Orang-Utans are solitary animals and difficult to spot in the wild. At Lok Kawi there are 8 young Orang-Utans, living in a large unfenced enclosure with plenty of enrichment activities - bridges, hammocks, ropes and tyres to climb and swing on. Visitors are not allowed interaction with the Orang-Utans but as a volunteer you will be involved in some of the behind the scenes duties, which includes a direct hands on approach with the animals where possible. Orang-utans are facing extinction within the next 10 - 15 years due in part to a loss of habitat in the wild. They also have incredibly slow reproduction rates which means that a drop in their population has an even greater effect on the rate of extinction. The Orang-Utans at Lok Kawi will not be released but will remain in captivity to raise awareness of conservation issues to the public.



Proboscis Monkeys are very unusual, with round protruding bellies and huge, pink, pendulous noses - in males the longer the nose the better for attracting a female mate! They live in groups high up in the trees and usually close to a water source. In Sabah they are mainly found along the banks of the Kinabatangan River. At Lok Kawi there is a group of Proboscis monkey's living in a large glass fronted enclosure, with a water spring and plenty of vegetation for climbing. You will be fascinated watching their interactions with each other - these clever primates can even swim! Currently there are several baby proboscis monkey's that have been born in the Wildlife Park.

Gibbons are found in the subtropical forests of South East Asia and usually live in family groups of 2 - 6 individuals. They are territorial and excellent climbers and jumpers, capable of reaching up to 9 metres in a single jump. You may assist with the following duties within the primates section:

- Cleaning enclosures
- Preparing food and feeding
- Moving orang-utans from the night stalls to their outside enclosures
- Handling other primates when required
- To assist with feeding time at the exhibits and talk to visitors about the various different primates

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- Inspecting animals for different behaviour or signs of illness and report to the veterinarian/other staff where necessary.

BIRDS:

Walking into the Aviary is like stepping into the middle of the jungle! The forest canopy is covered with a mesh that is so high that you barely even notice it hovering above the trees. A wooden walkway leads you through the Aviary and across a stream where birds can be seen fishing and wading in the mud. Talking parrots will greet you 'hello' and you may even be lucky enough to spot a mouse deer foraging in the vegetation. Sabah's iconic Rhinoceros Hornbill will no doubt swoop past you, making a loud whooshing sound with each wing beat - the hornbill is also famous for its loud trumpeting calls. This black bird has a white tail and a dramatic yellow and red beak and casque. Other birds in this section include Macaws, Myna's and Hornbills.

You may assist with the following duties within the Main Aviary, the Macaw exhibit, the Myna exhibit and the Hornbill exhibit;

- Cleaning enclosures thoroughly to provide a clean environment for the birds
- Preparing food
- Maintaining records of the number of birds that come to the feeding platform and reporting anything abnormal to the veterinarian/other staff
- To assist with feeding time and talk to visitors about the various different birds

RHINOS, DEER AND OTHER HOOFSTOCK:

Within the Hoofstock area you'll assist with Rhino, Cattle (Anchole and Bali), Axis and Deer (Timor, Red, Barking and Mouse). You may assist with the following duties;

- Moving animals from night stalls to enclosures.
- Inspecting animals for different behaviour or signs of illness and report to the veterinarian/other staff where necessary.
- Cleaning enclosures thoroughly to ensure a clean environment for the animals



The Travellers/Sabah Wildlife Department Partnership:

Travellers have worked closely with the Sabah Wildlife Department for several years and are very proud of their successful partnership. In the past, several volunteers that have joined Travellers Orang-Utan project have been invited by the Sabah Wildlife Department to help with various projects to set up the Wildlife Park. One Travellers' volunteer assisted in the design of the sun bear enclosure and another who had experience in graphic design produced the Wildlife Parks information pamphlet. Travellers are delighted to have been involved in the Wildlife Park since its early development in 2003.

Travellers are proud to have had the opportunity to donate £5,140.00 from the Bridge The Gap Foundation (The Phil Perkes Trust) to sponsor the Children's Zoo. The Children's Zoo is first and foremost an educational facility with an information centre currently under construction that will boast live exhibits. Brightly painted murals engage attention and the petting zoo allows children to have hands on contact with domestic animals and wildlife to encourage learning about conservation. Within the petting area there are animals such as Rabbits, Tortoise, Miniature Ponies and Goats. Travellers' donation reflects their commitment in education and raising awareness about conservation.

2010 sees the start of a Conservation Awareness Programme at Lok Kawi, funded by Travellers and involving over 1000 local school children in its' first year. Through this awareness programme we aim to teach the importance of nature and wildlife conservation for younger generations through exposure to Borneo's native wildlife. With the support of the Sabah Wildlife Department, two educational visits will be organised each month, for primary and secondary school children in the east coast area of Sabah. It is hoped that this programme will promote the work of Lok Kawi Wildlife Park and support it as a renowned learning centre for nature and wildlife conservation in the future.

LOCATION:

All of our projects are based in Sabah, located in the north east of Malaysian Borneo and surrounded by both the South China and Sulu Sea. Sabah itself is home to lush tropical rainforests, wonderful sandy beaches, the breathtaking Mount Kinabalu and a biodiversity of Marine and Wildlife like no other.

This includes Borneo's Native and most famous resident – the Orang-Utan! Sabah is one of the last places on earth that you can see these remarkable creatures in their natural habitat.

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Across the whole of Sabah, Filipinos, along with various ethnic groups and indigenous tribes (For example, Chinese, Bajau, Kadazan, Dusun and Murut) account for over half of the population. Malaysia is “Truly Asia” - a real multicultural society. The official language in Malaysia is Bahasa Malay, but due to the fusion of religious and ethnic groups found in Malaysia English is widely spoken.

This is a country where the sun shines, the sea is crystal clear and there are endless coconut, banana and palm trees!

Throughout the whole of Sabah you will find many local "Tamu", meaning market - the variety of fruit, vegetables, plants and handcrafted items on sale at cheap prices has to be seen to be believed! Some of the exotic fruits that you may come across include Rambutan, Mangosteen, Belimbing (or star fruit) and last but not least, the Durian. This green spiky fruit is famous throughout Asia due to its pungent smell - but don't be put off by this as it is actually something of a delicacy(!).

ACCOMMODATION & FOOD:

Accommodation has been arranged within staff quarters on the grounds of the Wildlife Park. One of the staff quarters has been released for the sole use of volunteers. This accommodation has two bedrooms, a living/dining area, a western style toilet and a separate shower. There is a kitchen with a kettle and fridge for your use. Meals will be prepared for you by a caretaker and you'll have plenty of opportunities to socialise with others.

Malaysia has lovely weather all year round with lots of sunshine and you will have some time during your free days to explore the local region and visit some of the tourist attractions.

VISAS:

In countries where visas are needed, we'll send you all the necessary forms and information and make the process very easy for you.

FLIGHTS:

You have the option to arrange your own flights or we can assist you with your flight arrangements. If you would like us to do this for you, we will liaise with you regarding available flights and dates to suit you. All arrangements for your flight bookings/payments will be fulfilled by [Murray Rogers Travel Limited](#), ATOL No. 6856.

INDUCTION ON ARRIVAL:

When you arrive, you will be welcomed at the airport by our Malaysian Organiser, who will take you to your accommodation. During your first few days you will be given an induction system so that you can learn about Malaysia and its culture, as well as useful information like how to use the transport system etc.

COSTS:

Please see the prices pages of our website [Full Price List](#). The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Food
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Transport to and from your project
- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ UK administration
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- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile projects

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HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

For every volunteer, a donation is made by Travellers on your behalf into the **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

COUNTRY PROFILE:

All of our projects are based in Sabah, located in the north east of Malaysian Borneo and surrounded by both the South China and Sulu Sea. Sabah itself is home to lush tropical rainforests, wonderful sandy beaches, the breathtaking Mount Kinabalu, and a biodiversity of Marine and Wildlife like no other.

This includes Borneo's Native and most famous resident – the **Orang-Utan!** Sabah is one of the last places on earth that you can see these remarkable creatures in their natural habitat.

Whilst the majority of tourists visit peninsular Malaysia, a trip to Malaysian Borneo will be an unforgettable experience and free from some of the hassles that can be encountered in other parts of Asia. Travelling around is easy and cheap and locals are helpful and friendly. Sabah has a laid back charm and elegant beauty that will make any stay in this remarkable country truly worthwhile.

Across the whole of Sabah, Filipinos, along with various ethnic groups and indigenous tribes (For example, Chinese, Bajau, Kadazan, Dusun and Murut) account for over half of the population. Malaysia is "Truly Asia" - a real multicultural society. The official language in Malaysia is Bahasa Malay, but due to the fusion of religious and ethnic groups found in Malaysia English is widely spoken. This is a country where the sun shines, the sea is crystal clear and there are endless coconut, banana and palm trees!

You will be briefed on Malaysian culture and customs soon after your arrival to help you prepare for your placement and dealings with locals. This will be a time to learn about the Do's and Dont's and to ensure you are aware of the possible impact of your behaviour.

Malaysia is a multicultural society, with Malays, Chinese and Indians living side by side. The Malays are the largest community. They are Muslims, speak Bahasa and are largely responsible for the political fortunes of the country. The Chinese comprise about a third of the population. They are Buddhists and Taoists, speak Hokkein, Hakka and Cantonese, and are dominant in the business community. The Indians account for about 10% of the population. They are mainly Hindu Tamils from southern India (they speak Tamil), Malayalam, and some Hindi, and live mainly in the larger towns on the west coast of the peninsular. There is also a sizeable Sikh community. Eurasians and indigenous tribes make up the remaining population. In Sabah there are an even greater proportion of indigenous tribes. Despite Bahasa Malaysia being the official language, when members of these different communities talk to each other, they generally speak English, which was recently reinstated as the language of instruction in higher education.

As Malaysia is a multicultural society, there are certain different cultural and religious characteristics one needs to recognise.

THINGS TO DO IN: MALAYSIA

- **Kota Kinabalu** Kota Kinabalu or "KK" (as it is locally known) is the capital of Sabah. KK is home to the International airport and this will be your first point of arrival in Sabah – it's a great place to start your trip and get used to the Malaysian way of life. Although Kota Kinabalu is far less developed than Kuala Lumpur (its' counterpart on the Peninsular), the people are very friendly and the atmosphere here is more relaxed. KK also boasts impressive markets, restaurants and nightlife and is a fun introduction to the wide variety of attractions that Sabah has to offer.
- **Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park** Just off the coast it is possible to see an array of beautiful islands which make up the marine park. Exploring the coral reefs and marine life in this underwater world is fascinating and day trips here can be easily arranged - most islands are less than 45 minutes away by boat. Once you arrive you will be amazed at how clear the water is and just how many different fish you can see. There are also many wonderful beaches to be explored on the islands!



- **Semporna Islands Marine Park** There is excellent diving and snorkelling on a number of islands surrounding Sabah. This park, located towards the south of the island, is one of the best. Here you will find Sipadan Island, the most famous within the park and classified as one of the worlds top dive sites. Sipadan is an oceanic island shaped like a mushroom - it was formed by living corals growing on top of an extinct undersea volcano. Due to its geographic position it is at the centre of one of the richest marine environments in the world - both the diving and snorkelling here are outstanding!
- **Turtle Islands National Park** Another must-see trip during your stay in Sabah. The Turtle Islands National Park is a protected marine reserve reachable by boat from Sandakan harbour. Here you can watch up close as turtles come ashore to lay their eggs virtually every night of the year. There is an excellent visitor information centre and tourists even get the opportunity to release baby hatchlings into the sea. The main island with accommodation is Selingan - here you will find the endangered Green and Hawksbill turtles (some measuring one metre in length or more!) coming to lay their eggs
- **Sukau and the Lower Kinabatangan River** This region is unrivalled in terms of wildlife. It stretches for 560 km and is estimated to have the highest concentration of wildlife in all of Malaysia. Taking a river cruise gives you the opportunity to see a variety of animals in their natural environment; birds, reptiles and monkeys of which the most unusual is the proboscis monkey - famous for its long nose and round belly, the proboscis monkey is sociable and active, which means that you are sure to see many of them swinging through the trees along the river bank. If you are lucky, you may even see wild boar crossing the river. This unique environment is a fascinating place to visit.
- **Malaysia Borneo – Sarawak** Sarawak offers ever-shrinking areas of untouched jungle, the chance to visit longhouse-dwelling Dayak tribes and a good system of national parks. The area around the capital city, Kuching, has remote coastal villages, such as Pandan and Sematan, and unspoilt tropical rainforest, beaches and walking trails in the Bako National Park. Longhouses are found along the Rejang River and its tributaries - central and southern Sarawak's 'highway'.

The areas downriver from Kanowit and Song are generally less frequented. In the north-east, the Niah Caves, accessible only by longboat and a 3km (1.86mi) hike, are unforgettable for their rock paintings, forest wildlife, jungle trails and night walks to see the luminous mushrooms. Visitors to Sarawak cannot fail to notice the extent to which logging is affecting the environment and the habitat of the Dayak tribes. Acquainting yourself with the issues surrounding Malaysia's logging practices is recommended before visiting the province.

In Sarawak, Gunung Mulu National Park has a number of spectacular caves, including the 51km long Clearwater Cave, one of the longest in the world. Adventure-caving expeditions can be arranged. The park also has good trekking, especially the four-day hike to the summit of Gunung Mulu (2377m).

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VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK

"I've just arrived back in kk. I finished up at the zoo sometime in the early hours of this morning :) I wanted to say a big thank-you to travellers for organising this amazing experience for me! My month here ran so smoothly, so thank you!

Also a huge huge hat off to JB and Ronn who have been with me the whole month making me laugh, taking me out to dinner, introducing me to beautiful people and also just being genuinely a good friend. What an amazing experience I

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have had. I have learnt so much and I had the opportunity to follow the vet around participating in her countless jobs and watching on with eager eyes! Warmest regards!”

Volunteer – Prue Sinclair

HOW TO BOOK:

Please complete a [booking form](#) online or you can send a postal booking from our free brochure. When we receive this, we'll telephone you to discuss the details and then start the exciting process of planning your trip!

We do hope you'll join us and are confident that you'll find this an incredible experience. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions - we'll be happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

You may also be interested in other courses with Travellers, or do other projects in our other destinations – please visit our [website](#) for details of all our projects. In fact you can choose from over 300 projects in 19 countries!

Make a Difference – Get Involved!

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