

TRIBAL TRAILS OF SARAWAK

Hosted by Mike Taverner
4 - 16 March 2020

active
TRAVEL



Your tour leader

Your expert tour leader, Mike Taverner, is an experienced group leader and enthusiastic walker having completed many recreational and wilderness walks. He is not a frantic 'must get there quickly' walker but one who enjoys absorbing the sights, sounds and experiences of the surrounds.

Mike leads Active Travel groups on walking adventures in West Timor, Nagaland, Peru, Japan and Ethiopia. Having hosted so many tours over the years Mike is always well informed of the local conditions and full of enthusiasm for the amazing environment and its cultural and natural history.



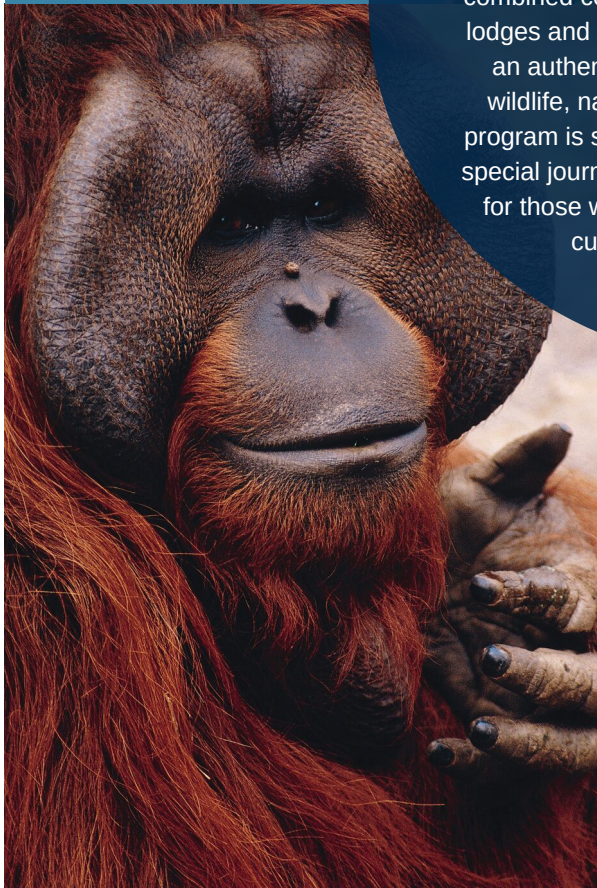
Highlights

- See some of the worlds most unique animals in their natural environment
- Stay overnight in a traditional longhouse
- Learn the fascinating history of colonial Sarawak
- Witness a cultural performance by local tribes' people
- Explore the lively waterfront area of Kuching
- Hike through rainforests and explore UNESCO world heritage sites
- Taste local delicacies



What to expect

Our 13-day itinerary has been carefully designed to offer guests the very best of Sarawak. We have combined comfortable hotels in the cities with traditional lodges and longhouses in more remote areas to ensure an authentic experience. With a particular focus on wildlife, natural environment and unique cuisine this program is sure to offer all travellers a well rounded and special journey to remember. The tour has been created for those who are somewhat active and appreciate a cultural immersion into a destination.



Wed 4 March 2020 | Kuching

Welcome to Kuching, the capital of Sarawak. It is the ideal base from which to go exploring and is simply unique. No other city in Malaysia has such a romantic and unlikely history, nor displays its charms with such an easy grace. Today is free at leisure with an invitation to join Mike for an evening's promenade followed by a welcome dinner.

Thu 5 March 2020 | Kuching | BL

Sarawak's cultures and traditions are displayed at the Sarawak Cultural Village, popularly known as the 'Living Museum'. Traditional houses, arts and crafts and dances of the various ethnic tribes of Sarawak will engage us before returning to Kuching after lunch. In the evening we enjoy a wildlife and nature watching cruise around the rivers and mangroves of the Santubong Peninsular.

Fri 6 March 2020 | Kuching | BL

Today is all about Sarawak's incredible wildlife as we explore Bako National Park. On a walk from Bako village, the Borneo endemic proboscis monkeys, silvered langurs (monkeys), long-tailed macaques, wild boar, monitor lizards and numerous species of birds are commonly spotted.

Sat 7 March 2020 | Kuching to the Borneo Highlands | BD

After breakfast we travel to Semenggoh Wildlife Centre. This orangutan rehabilitation centre trains orphaned or rescued orangutans how to survive in the wild. We watch the orangutans come down from the trees to feed before we continue our journey to the Borneo Highlands.

Sun 8 March 2020 | The Borneo Highlands to Kuching | B

This morning we experience the scenic highlands including Kalimantan Viewpoint, and an organic farm before returning to Kuching where the afternoon is yours to explore downtown Kuching and its old colonial buildings and museums, its waterfront with food vendors and shop-houses and views of 19th-century landmarks along the esplanade.

Mon 9 March 2020 | Kuching to Ulu Sarikei | BD

An express boat from Kuching takes us to Sarikei where we savour local delicacies before continuing by land through farms of pepper, rubber and rice in the hilly Ulu Sarikei countryside. Here, in a village longhouse we learn and experience village culture and interact with locals around the village, assist in preparing our traditional dinner, taste the tuak (rice wine) and relax on the ruai (verandah) and share stories and legends with our hosts.

Tue 10 March 2020 | Ulu Sarikei to Sibu | BL

We start early to experience local rubber tapping activity before our hosts lead us through the undisturbed forest to understand some traditional uses of plants and herbs. We'll enjoy lunch in the rainforest before returning to the village and continuing to Sibu and its amazing markets.

Wed 11 March 2020 | Sibu to Mukah | BD

A morning stroll alongside Malaysia's longest river – the mighty Rajang River with its "floating grocery stores" and panoramic views of Sibu's waterfront life. Through the winding streets of Old Sibu Town we will soak in the sights and smells of alley-ways filled with small businesses and on



to the biggest central market in Malaysia. The Sibu Heritage Centre gives us a view of Sibu's history, cultures, lifestyles and traditions. In the afternoon we take a river journey towards Dalat and we pass Malay villages, shipyards, Iban longhouses and Melanau villages before exploring the highlights of Dalat. Our journey continues to Lamin Dana, an authentic Melanau village.

Thu 12 March 2020 | Mukah | BLD

Along the dark mysterious brackish waters of Tellian River and Misan River we visit to the local sago processing centre before landing at the Mukah market for its famous dishes such as siet (sago worm) and umai (fresh raw fish). After a late lunch we continue to Lamin Dana handicraft centre, to learn about Melanau handicraft and how important sago palm is to the Melanau people.

Fri 13 March 2020 | Mukah to Miri | B

In Tellian Village we experience Melanau lifestyle and cottage industry such as Sago Biscuit making & Kuih Sepit (Sago Roll) making. Say Goodbye to Lamin Dana and lunch in Mukah Town. Transfer to Mukah Airport for the flight to Miri.

Sat 14 March 2020 | Miri to Mulu | BLD

Today we will travel to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Mulu. A scenic 3 km plank-walk through primary rainforest takes us to the entrance the world's largest cave passage, Deer Cave. Its scale is awesome and the neighbouring Lang's Cave represents the very best limestone formations in the park. Most evenings at sundown, the exodus of about 2 million of bats can be observed as they leave the cave in search of food. We then trek back to the park headquarters by torchlight and return to our hotel.

Sun 15 March 2020 | Mulu | BLD

A longboat to Batu Bungan includes an experience of the tribal lifestyle and handcrafts at Penan Settlement before continuing upriver to Wind Cave with its impressive 'King's Chamber' and a short plank-walk to Clearwater Cave where, like most caves in Mulu, there is a habitat for unique species of plants. Near Clearwater Cave there is a wonderful swimming area shaded by giant rainforest trees, here we can enjoy a swim before returning to our hotel.

Mon 16 March 2020 | Mulu - Miri | BD

This morning we return to Miri. On arrival we will take a city tour of Miri where Malaysia's first oil was struck by Sarawak Shell in 1910. Also in Miri is the largest Taoist Temple in South East Asia, Miri City Fan, Miri Heritage Centre (handicraft & souvenir) & the local farmers market. We then have time at leisure before having a farewell dinner together then being transferred to meet your flight home.

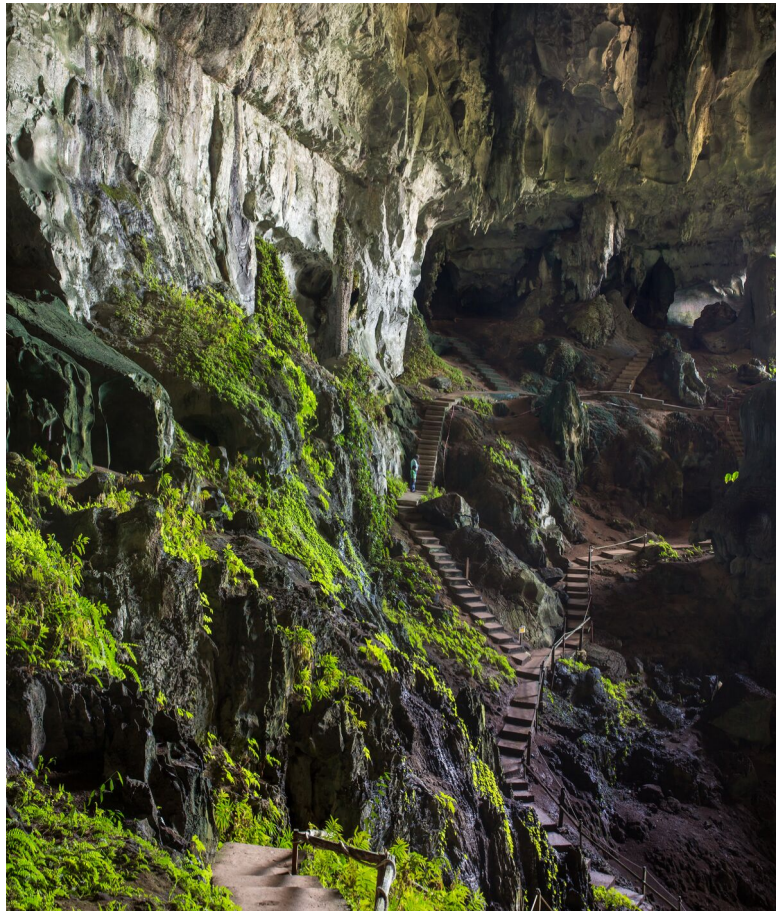
\$4396pp twin share
Single supplement \$960

Inclusions

11 nights in superior accommodation and 1 night accommodation in a traditional longhouse
Meals as per itinerary: 10 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 6 Dinners
Domestic flights (Mukah – Miri and Miri – Mulu – Miri)
English speaking local guide.
Entrance fees as per itinerary
All the land and boat transport as per itinerary
Malaysia Tourism Tax.

Exclusions

All other flights
Travel Insurance
Personal expenses
Beverages for all meals
Other meals not stated in the itinerary
Gratuities for tour guides & drivers



Booking information

Booking your place A minimum number of tour guests is required to confirm and guarantee this tour's departure. Spaces are limited; book early to avoid disappointment.

All deposits and interim payments are non-refundable and no exemptions can be made for any tour guest who has paid a deposit and can no longer attend the tour. Progressive payments will be required for this tour.

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| Deposit | \$500.00 per person upon booking your place on the tour |
| Interim payment: | \$1,000.00 per person due within one week of the tour becoming a confirmed departure |
| Final payment: | Balance due 60 days prior to departure |

*The tour price may change, subject to confirmation of all services. As the tour cost is based on the US dollar, a currency surcharge may be applicable if the US dollar exchange rate falls prior to final payment.

Travel insurance Travel insurance is required for all tour guests. We suggest taking out a comprehensive insurance policy on payment of your deposit to protect your non-refundable payments in the unlikely event of an unforeseen cancellation. Disinclination to travel is not covered by travel insurance. It is the responsibility of each tour guest to ensure that their travel insurance covers their personal requirements and any pre-existing medical conditions.

For all enquiries, please contact your local travel agent: