



# Leuser Ecosystem Orangutan Odyssey



## TRAVEL TYPE

Small groups and family friendly ages 13+



## EXPEDITION GRADE

Moderate to difficult in parts (some hilly jungle trekking involved)



## DURATION

11 Days



## ACCOMMODATION

Local hotels, jungle lodges & tents



## Expedition Overview

Our eleven day Sumatra Leuser Ecosystem Orangutan Odyssey is the complete adventure package. It will take you to the one million-hectare Leuser area on the island of Sumatra. Home to 80% of Sumatran orangutans, the Gunung Leuser National Park is also home to an enormous population of other wildlife including the Thomas leaf monkey, pigtail macaque, longtail macaque, gibbons, lizards, turtles, hornbills and more. You will journey from the tranquil river community of Tangkahan where you will walk with elephants as they graze in the forest, to the summit of Gunung Sibayak, a still active volcano, to the jungles near Ketembe in search of wildlife.

Your home on this trip will be a mix of both basic guest houses, hotels and tents. You will be escorted from one destination to the next by an experienced Orangutan Odysseys local guide.

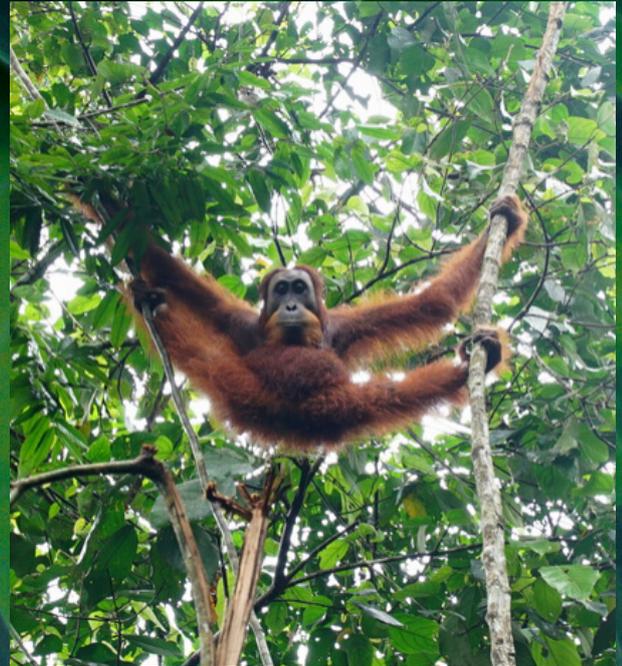
## EXPEDITION GOALS

Our goal is to provide our guests with a unique experience, to observe wild and semi-wild orangutans in their natural habitat. We will provide you with a safe platform to observe the amazing wildlife Sumatra has to offer including monkeys, gibbons and more. We will also provide you with comprehensive information about the destination you are in so that you are fully informed of your surrounds.

Further, Orangutan Odysseys has partnered up with The Orangutan Project which supports conservation programs in both Borneo and Sumatra. Each guest's fare includes the cost of a deluxe one-year orangutan adoption package.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

You are embarking on an adventure to places and amongst people whose lives are very different from your own. Many aspects of life in Indonesia will seem unusual. Remember that these are often the same aspects that make an area an exotic and attractive destination. While boat expeditions are considered easy, no trek is easy, even those rated "easy or moderate". In addition to the personal physical challenges you may face, travel conditions can present unexpected obstacles, such as rough and bumpy roads and changeable weather. To prepare for this "pack" a flexible and relaxed attitude. Bring a spirit of adventure and inquiry, a healthy sense of humour and a willingness to encounter the unexpected and you will find your trip to Indonesia the adventure of a lifetime!



## THE LEUSER ECOSYSTEM - THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH

At around 2.63 million hectares, the Leuser Ecosystem really is a world unto itself; a rich expanse of original tropical lowland rainforests, cloud-covered mountains and swampy peatlands. However, the Leuser Ecosystem is now under threat. Despite being protected under Indonesian national law, massive industrial development is being planned for logging, palm oil, pulp and paper plantations and mining. This will threaten the entire ecosystem, as well as the continued wellbeing of the millions of Acehnese traditional landholders who depend on it for their food, water and livelihoods.



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It is among the most biodiverse ecosystems ever recorded by science, and it is the last place on earth where Sumatran orangutans, elephants, tigers and rhinos still freely roam.

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## ITINERARY

\* Subject to change due to local conditions.

### Day 1: Arrive Medan

Upon arrival you will be met at the airport and transferred to your local hotel for your overnight accommodation.

### Day 2: Medan - Tangkahan

This morning you will start the journey to Tangkahan.

Tangkahan is famous for its elephant village and wonderful jungle scenery. After lunch, you will go for a river walk and then tube downstream to a beautiful waterfall. You will then walk back to your jungle lodge for dinner. (B,L,D).

### Day 3: Elephant Trek - Bukit Lawang

This morning you will head off to a nearby elephant station. The elephants used to help rangers monitor the nearby jungle, now offer elephant treks. Today you will walk with these beautiful creatures through the jungle as they graze on the natural foliage. After the elephant trek, you will return to the jungle lodge to check out prior to leaving for the drive to Bukit Lawang where you will take a short walk to the Eco Lodge for your overnight accommodation. Late afternoon you will take a walk around the local village. (B,L,D)



### Day 4: Bukit Lawang Jungle Trek - Bukit Lawang

You start a day trek into the Leuser Ecosystem. You will head into the hills to the other side of the Bohorok River. On the trek, you will see orangutans, Thomas leaf monkey, pigtail macaque, longtail macaque, gibbons, lizards, turtles, hornbills and more. Lunch will be in the jungle before making your way back to the lodge via a tube ride down the river. Overnight in your lodge accommodation. (B, L, D)

### Day 5: Bukit Lawang - Berastagi

This morning after checking out, you will be driven to Berastagi, a beautiful mountain town to the south of Leuser Ecosystem National Park. In the afternoon you will take a look around the town and visit the local markets. Overnight in Brastagi hotel. (B,L)

### Day 6: Mt Sibayak - Ketambe - Leuser Eco System

A very early 4.00 am wake up (optional) will see you hiking up Mt Sibayak, an active volcano with panoramic views across the valleys. Then, you will head off on a long drive through to Ketambe (Aceh) to your jungle lodge for your overnight stay. (B,L,D)

## HIGHLIGHTS

View wild orangutans in their natural setting  
Visit Bukit Lawang

Walk with elephants  
Trek through beautiful primary forest and see Thomas leaf monkeys, pigtail and long tail macaque, monitor lizards, gibbons, wild peacocks and more

Trek to the summit of an active volcano (Sibayak) near the temperate zone town of Berestagi  
Part of your expedition cost is directly donated to save these wonderful creatures

### **Day 7:** Ketambe - Leuser Eco System

Today you will start your trekking adventure into the jungle. There will be wildlife viewing all day as well as a stop at a river for a swim and there may be a hot water spa. More viewings of wild orangutans, hopefully, a dominant male and gibbons will also be spotted. Overnight accommodation will be tents in the National Park. (B,L,D)

### **Day 8:** Leuser Ecosystem Wildlife trekking

Today you will continue trekking to see more of the local wildlife. Unfortunately, less and less elephants are being seen in these areas so you will need to be quiet and cautious. It is quite a long hike to reach the area where they might be, so we are planning to spend more time looking for orangutans, siamangs, gibbons etc. Overnight accommodation will be tents in the National Park. (B,L,D)

### **Day 9:** Leuser Ecosystem - Ketambe

Today you return to "civilization" in Ketambe but not before a wonderful final days trek through the pristine rainforests. Overnight stay at your jungle lodge in Ketambe (B,L,D)

### **Day 10:** Ketambe - Medan - Deli River Hotel

After an early breakfast, you will begin the drive back to Medan. There will be a stop at Berestagi for lunch, overlooking the valleys. You will later check into the wonderful Deli River hotel and take a well-earned rest after dinner. (B,L).

### **Day 11:** Medan and Return Home

Today you will be transferred to the airport and for your return flight home. Or as us about our fantastic tour extension. Tour concludes (B)

## **TRIP EXTENSIONS**

Why not think about seeing more amazing locations in Indonesia after your orangutan expedition? For more details about some of the exciting trip extensions on offer to other parts of Indonesia please contact us.



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*OO organised one of the best experiences of our lives. Cannot recommend Orangutan Odysseys enough. If you visit the orangutans with them you are also doing your bit to help save these incredible creatures and their habitat*

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## How do I get to Medan?

Medan is in northern Sumatra, with the major airport being Medan Kualanamu International Airport (KNO). There are many daily direct flights to Medan from both Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. Airlines that service these routes include: Singapore Airlines, Silk Air, Air Asia, Malaysian Airlines and Jetstar Asia. Please contact us if you would like a quote for your flight connection to Medan from either Singapore or Kuala Lumpur.



## INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation in Medan (twin share - single supplement available)
- Accommodation Tangkahan, Bukit Lawang (twin-share)
- Meals as noted in the itinerary (B,L,D)
- Tips to guides, trek guides and tubing guides. (Excludes tip to Orangutan Odysseys Guide)
- National park fees Tent and camping equipment
- Airport transfers
- Experienced local guides
- A one-year orangutan adoption
- Orangutan Odysseys water bottle and travel pack

## EXCLUSIONS

- International airfares and any expenses due to flight delays or cancellation
- Travel Insurance
- Personal expenses - alcohol, laundry, phone calls
- Tipping

### COST

FROM ...

\$2650.00 (AUD)

ex Medan (twin-share).

Groups of 4 or more can apply for a discounted fare.

Single supplement available

\$460.00

### ACTIVITIES

Orangutan viewing  
Professional conservation education  
Wildlife viewing  
Reforestation program  
Camping in the jungle  
Bird watching.....and more.

You will be supporting The Orangutan Project in their work protecting the Leuser Ecosystem; the last place on earth where orangutans, tigers, rhinos and elephants co-exist. Thank you for being part of the solution.



## TRAVEL INFORMATION



### WEATHER

Sumatra is a tropical climate with high humidity and hot temperatures throughout the year.

Daytime temperature is generally 73F/23C to 86F/30C

and nighttime is 73F/23C to 80F/27C

The Wet Season is Sep- Jan

The Dry Season is Feb-Aug



### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

A valid passport with at least 6 months validity from your return travel date is required by all visitors. Entry visas are NOT required for citizens of Australia, Germany and the United Kingdom, however we always suggest that you check visa requirements for your country prior to traveling.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is mandatory to take part in this trip and Emergency Medical Evacuation Insurance is required for all trekkers. If you are an Australian resident, this can be obtained from our website by clicking on the Insurance menu tab or emailing our office at [hayley@orangutanodysseys.com](mailto:hayley@orangutanodysseys.com).

We strongly recommend that you also take out trip cancellation, baggage loss and accident insurance.



## HEALTH AND FIRST AID

No vaccinations are required for entry to Indonesia. However, you should consider cholera, typhoid and hepatitis vaccinations and make sure your tetanus cover is up to date. Please plan ahead and consult your doctor regarding personal health requirements as well as vaccinations and anti-malarial medication recommended for the area you are travelling to.

Orangutans share 97% human DNA making them susceptible to our diseases like the common cold and flu

## MONEY

The currency in Indonesia is the Rupiah (Rp). Money can be changed at the airport and some hotels. ATM's are also available in some areas while on tour. Credit cards such as Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted whereas American Express is limited in its acceptance.

## TIPPING

Tipping while not compulsory is encouraged to show your appreciation to our guides, drivers and assistants during your travel.

## CONTACT

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