

EAST INDONESIA TOURS & TRAVEL

explore east Indonesia with the expert!

Best of East Indonesia Kalimantan – Sulawesi – Molukkas – Papua 24 days / 22 nights

Highlight of this trip:

- First ever a tour combination of four island of east Indonesia: Kalimantan, Sulawesi & Molukkas in one tour package.
- Stay at the Orangoetan rehabilitation Center with possibility of full day voluntary work
- Enjoy 3 days Mahakam River trip with your own private boat.
- Visit Dayaq tribe village with its welcome dance ceremony
- See the Probiscus monkey at mangrove swamp near Balikpapan
- Walking at the Panoramic area of Rammang – Rammang
- Visit the Toraja Tribe, famous with its funeral ceremony
- Enjoy your tea or coffee with fried Banana at floating village at Tempe lake
- Snorkeling at the hidden paradise underwater of Seram Island
- Trekking inside rain forest jungle of Manusela park
- Island hopping in combine of visiting islands, beautiful view over the lime stone mountains and snorkeling at one of the best spot in the world.

Day 01: Your country Departure

Travel from Amsterdam to Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia. Upon arrival the next day, transfer to Balikpapan at east Kalimantan.

Day 02: Balikpapan Arrival – Samboja Lestari (D)

Upon arrival at Balikpapan Airport, transfer to Samboja Lestari for about 1,5 hours. This place is one of the biggest location for rehabilitation of Orangutan in Kalimantan. Most of the orangutan in this institution were confiscated from from pet animals, circus, illegal trading. Therefore some of this orangutan had human diseases. And had to be quarantine at a manmade island.

We will stay in the comfortable eco-lodge surrounded by forest, far from the village. Part of the donations that we paid here will finance the running of this project.

Overnight at Samboja Lestari Lodge

Day 03: Samboja Lestari (B,L,D)

Today you have several options to spend your day. Today you can participate as a volunteer foundation of BOS (Balikpapan Orangutan Survival Foundation). BOS is an Indonesian organization dedicated to the preservation of the Bornean orangutan and its habitat. The BOS Foundation is currently caring for almost 750 orangutans.

Your duty as volunteer is decided by the management, and what kind of extra hand need of that day. Perhaps you will help making supplement food for the Orangutan or perhaps helping to improve the condition of the cage of their Kalimantan honey bear? Together of BOS guide you will go on visiting the Orangutan Island on save perimeter and the guide will explain to you the background characteristic of the Orangutan that live in the island.

Overnight at Samboja Lestari Lodge

Tour Option:

1. *Sungai Hitam*. You start very early and travel for about one hour to a local pier. You will board local longboat and the main attraction today is probiscis monkeys in the trees a long the river bank. Total tour: 3 Hours

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2. Sungai Wein. Start from the Hotel around 9 O'clock then you drive for about 1,5 hours. You will do trekking inside primary rain forest for 3 to 4 hours. During rainy season the trekking route can be tough and many leeches/ blood sucker. Total Tour 5 – 6 Hours.

If you are nature enthusiast, you can book both tour option in one day.

Day 04: Start Mahakam River Cruise / Day 1 (B,L,D)

After breakfast we will drive for about 2,5 hours to Loah Janan where you will board of your house boat. Depends from the size of the group, we can have one or two house boats on those three days, navigating this mighty river up to 330 kms. Three Meals a day will be serve on board by our cook. Our first destination will be Muara Muntai, a village built on stilt in the river mud delta. Today you just relax and enjoy the view surround you while your boat captain and his crew navigating the river.

Overnight onboard of your house boat

Day 05: Mahakam River Cruise / Day 2 (B,L,D)

We will arrive in Muara Muntai in the morning, and after breakfast you will have a chance to explore this unique village which is 100% built from ebony and other strong woods. Using several local longtails boat we will go on full day exploring Lake Jempang (15,000 hectares) inhabitant and its village. You will pass by a huge village of Jantur, a village built entirely on stilts made from Iron wood or Ebony. Cross the lake further to the Ohong village and enter the creek, which during the rainy season totally flooded. Along the Ohong creek you will see some wildlifes such as long tailed monkey, proboscis monkey and even Phyton snake!

Arrive at Mancong village, local Dayak tribe will perform welcome dance that seems to attend by almost all women and children. You will also have the chance to explore their village which is not so traditional anymore.

Late in the afternoon we will arrive back at our house boat, and while we are having dinner our house boat then we will travel back down stream to Balikpapan.

Overnight onboard of your house boat

Day 06: End of Mahakam River – Travel to Balikpapan / Mangrove Tour (B)

Early morning arrival at Kutai Kartanegara, a famous kingdom from the past and it has good relation with the Queen in the Netherlands. After breakfast, we will visit the museum of Sultan Kutai. Inside the museum you still can see his official daily dress regalia (which is made in The Netherlands), his throne and some past legacies. Also you can see several statues given by the Queen.

Here you will say goodbye to your boatman, then travel back to Balikpapan. Upon arrival in Balikpapan check – in at your hotel. In the afternoon we will visit Margo Mulyo Mangrove forest. This local people initiative city forest run and manage by local people. Upon arrival, you will board simple open boat and you can relax and enjoy the mangrove forest. There will be a big chance that you will see colony of proboscis monkey in the trees having afternoon meal. Late in the afternoon return to your Hotel.

Overnight at Hotel Ibis Balikpapan

Day 07: Balikpapan – Makassar / Rammang – Rammang Tour (B)

After breakfast, transfer to Balikpapan Airport for flying to Makassar. Upon arrival at Makassar Airport, we will go on walking at Rammang – Rammang area. This karts chain mountain with villages are very fotogenic. We will make a small trek with local people, visiting pre-historic cave with primitive painting from thousands of years, hidden natural “swimming pool” and having snack at local people house. We will also go on primitive motorise canoe trip in the river to enjoy the Karts and mountain around.

In the afternoon, you will be back to Makassar and check in at your hotel.

Overnight at Grand Town Makassar

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Day 08: Makassar – Rantepao/ Tana Toraja (B)

Today you will travel to Rantepao in Tana Toraja on 8 – 9 hours journey. You will stop at several places on the way, such as in Pare – Pare for lunch and at Buntu Kabobong “The Erotic Mountain”. If any events, such as Bugis Wedding on the way, it will also be nice to stop. Upon arrival in Toraja, check in at your Hotel.

Overnight at Hotel Indra Toraja.

Day 09: Tana Toraja Tour (B)

After breakfast, you will go on full day excursion in Tana Toraja, in the morning we will visit Lemo, where we will find rows of tau-tau and the hanging graves. Londa has an ancient natural grave where the deceased are entombed with big ceremonies. Kate Kesu is a traditional Torajan village, where we can see the Tongkonan and the old rice-barns and it is famous for its woodcarving. Lunch stop at a local restaurant in Rantepao.

Overnight at Hotel Indra Toraja.

Day 10: Tana Toraja Trekking (B)

Today you will go on full day walking, mostly in the villages that you hardly reach by car. You will visit several traditional villages with their unique typical Torajan houses. You will also see terraced ricefields, mountain views and daily life of local people.

Late in the afternoon return to your accommodation.

Overnight at Hotel Indra Toraja.

Day 11: Tana Toraja – Free Program (B)

A free day to enjoy on your own. Perhaps going to a funeral ceremony? Or visit any events available that day. Or perhaps attending a Torajan cooking class, learning how to make local food, such as Pappion manuk (Chicken cooked in bamboo tube) and Pamarasan duku bai (Pork meat cooked with special black herb).

Overnight at Hotel Indra Toraja.

Day 12: Tana Toraja – Sengkang (B)

Today you will travel to Sengkang via the eastern coast of South Sulawesi. In Palopo, you will stop to visit the market and drink coffee. Drive further to Sengkang and visit the silk weaving village where local women weave silk sarongs with Bugis motifs.

After check-in at BBC Hotel Sengkang, we will be heading to Lake Tempe. Using a motorized canoe, we will explore the lake and its inhabitants. You will visit a floating fishermen village and have tea or coffee with one family. On the way back to Sengkang, enjoy sunset from your motorized canoe.

Overnight at BBC Hotel Sengkang

Day 13: Sengkang – Makassar Airport – Ambon (B)

Early check out from your Hotel in Sengkang. Travel for about 5 hours to Makassar airport, then an afternoon flight to Ambon. Upon arrival at Pattimura the airport of Ambon, transfer to our accommodation.

Overnight at The Place Hotel Ambon.

Day 14: Ambon – Seram Village (B, D)

After breakfast, proceed to Tulehu Harbour, and board our fast boat at 09:00AM. You will cross Ambon Strait to Amahai harbor for about 2 hours in a comfortable air conditioned cabin of a fastboat. Upon arrival, you will proceed to Masohi, the capital of Central Moluccas Region, where you will have a seafood lunch at the local restaurant. You will travel on about 3.5 hours journey via

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a primary jungle road with pure rain forest. Upon arrival at a village, you will continue by local long-boat into a small village named Sawai. Late in the afternoon, you will check in at our guest house. Sawai is a small sleepy fisherman village with about 100 inhabitants. The main income of the village is from the sea and the forest surround it. 50% of the houses were built up on the stilt on the sea shore as the case of our Guest house.

Overnight in Lisar Bahari Guest House

Day 15: Snorkeling Day (B,L,D)

After breakfast, you will go to Tanjung Batu, a beautiful snorkeling spot not so far from the village. Next, you will visit an inhabited small island with white sandy beach, where you can sun bathing and snorkeling.

Delicious barbeque lunch will be served in this island.

Overnight in Lisar Bahari Guest House

Day 16: Jungle Program day 1 (B,L,D)

After breakfast, you will board long boat and explore Salawai river. You will start from its end, where the river meets the sea, and you will explore deeper into the jungle. Inside the jungle, during the boat trip, you will see many living creatures; birds of any kinds, lizard and even alligator! (If you are lucky) You will also stop on the way to witness local people making sago processing from tree trunk into sago powder.

You will stop at the river bank after 2,5 hours on long boat then while you visit the waterfall (a real nice place to swim), your porter will carry your stuff to the simple hut by the forest.

Walking to your hut and continue your swim in the river in front of your hut.

You can also join local people to catch river shrimp in the shallow part of the river.

Overnight in a simple hut by the jungle or in the tent

Day 17: Jungle program Day 2 (B,L,D)

Wake up into the sound of all kinds of animals of the forest. Having simple breakfast then leaving the jungle camp. You will walk deep inside Manusela Rainforest, and if you are lucky you will see high above the trees or flying passed you all kind of birds, such as: Hornbill, Moluccan Cockatoos, great-billed parrot, eclectus, red-checked parrot, lorries, and lorikeets.

You will walk again inside the rain forest of seram, until you reach the village of Masihulang. Near the village, you will visit an NGO that specialized on re-forest all kind of birds that was confiscated from the people. These birds were put in a special cage and were check for it health before releasing back into its natural habitat.

You will walk for two to three hours in forest path back to your accommodation at Lisar Bahari

Overnight in Lisar Bahari Guest House

Day 18: Sawai – fastboat to Saparua Island (B)

After breakfast, you will travel back to Masohi, the capital of Seram Island. After lunch then continue your journey to a village in the coast that facing Saparua Island. Take a local speed then continue by chartered car to your hotel in Saparua Island. In the afternoon you could go swimming at a beach in front of fort Duurstede.

Overnight at Hotel Perdana

DAY 19: SAPARUA TOUR PROGRAM (B)

After breakfast, you will go on half day tour around Saparua island. Places that you will visit include: Fort of Duurstede, OUW “pottery” village, sago baking process, typical traditional house “Baileo” and Haria local market.

Overnight at Hotel Perdana

Day 20: MOULANA ISLAND (B, L)

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After breakfast you will proceed to Moulana Island, a small island about 30 minutes by local motorized boat. This empty island with white shandy beach is an ideal place for sun bathing, island walking, swimming and snorkeling. Barbeque lunch will be provided in the shadow of the coconut tree.

In the afternoon you will return to your hotel for your overnight.

Overnight at Hotel Perdana

DAY 21: SAPARUA ISLAND – AMBON (B)

After breakfast transfer to Huria harbor and depart with local fast boat back to Ambon island. Upon arrival, transfer to your accommodation and free on your own the rest of the afternoon. Overnight at The City Hotel Ambon.

Day 22: Depart Ambon – Amsterdam via Jakarta (B)

Free half day Ambon. Mid – day transfer to the airport for flight to Jakarta & Amsterdam. End of the tour program

Day 23: Arrival back to your country