



BORNEO: HOME FOR THE GUARDIANS OF THE FOREST

Orangutan Volunteer Program

Information Pack

Samboja Lestari Orangutan Reintroduction Program
A world class release program
Experience the impact of your contribution



NOVEMBER 2018 - MARCH 2019



14
DAY TRIP



Snapshot

Dates: November 2018 - March 2019

Fundraising Deposit: \$250

Donation/Fundraising Target:

Min \$1,000 - \$2,000 is encouraged
(Excludes travel)

Total Travel Price: Approx \$2,000*

Accommodation: 14 nights at Samboja Lodge - twin share

Minimum age: 18 years

*subject to changes based on accommodation options chosen and flights purchased.

Highlights

- See orangutans in their natural habitat
- Create enrichment items for orangutans to play with and enjoy
- Work and live amongst the forest, immersing yourself in the culture
- Spend time with sun bears
- Improve the life of orangutans who cannot be released back into the wild
- Meet the incredible people who care for the orangutans
- See the impact of your support

THE TRIP AT A GLANCE

Samboja Lestari is an oasis just outside of the hustle and bustle of busy Balikpapan, set in a 2,000 hectare reserve of unique, regenerating rainforest. It is relatively unknown as the centre doesn't encourage tourists.

However, Samboja Lestari remains one of the best and most accessible places in the world to see orangutans whilst respecting the fact that they are wild animals.

It is the home of over 150 orangutans, most of whom are being prepared for release to the wild. The sanctuary also houses over 40 sun bears.

As an Orangutan Volunteer, you'll participate in our enrichment and welfare program.

Participants spend two weeks with a Borneo Orangutan Survival (BOS) Australia representative and the local technicians working on the enrichment program. You will be creating food and play items for orangutans that are essential to their welfare.

Samboja Lestari hosts its own eco-lodge, where visitors are given a taste of the local food and you are also given the chance to visit some amazing local sights. There is nothing like seeing a Proboscis Monkey at twilight.

Most of the time during your stay, you will be making enrichment items for the keepers to feed out to the orangutans, which you get to observe. This may involve making larger items like hammocks. You will also get to spend time with the sunbears.

Please note that there is strictly no hands on contact with the orangutans. There is time for other local activities included in the itinerary.



THE EXPERIENCE

Spend two weeks in beautiful Borneo at Samboja Lestari, a sanctuary that cares for over 150 orangutans and 50 sun bears.

A typical day begins at 7am with a wonderful Indonesian breakfast and work begins around 8am. Your day may include a morning trip to the local market for vegetables and then spending an afternoon with the resident botanist, collecting berries and fruit from the wild.

Working closely with the staff, you will develop new enrichment items for orangutans. You could spend a day hauling logs through the forest to build feeding platforms or cutting up bamboo to make food puzzles. It will be hands-on and hard work, but very satisfying.

The highlight of each day will include watching the keepers distribute the new enrichment items - observing and noting how the orangutans interact with them.

End the day, relaxing with a cold drink and watching the sun set over the jungle hills. You will enjoy an impressive dinner before an early bedtime in preparation for another busy day to come.



This is truly an experience of a lifetime that you will not soon forget!

During your stay you will also have the opportunity to participate in activities such as a Black River cruise to view Proboscis Monkeys in their natural habitat, a canopy walk in Bukit Bangkirai, a tour to the Sungai Wain Forest and a visit to the local night market where you can try some tasty street food.

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS



Samboja Lodge is very comfortable and the rooms are clean and neat. Rooms are air-conditioned, relaxing and homely.

Estimated travel cost is based on the standard first floor rooms, with cold water. Each room has a lovely garden view. In the warm climate, the cold water is refreshing and cleansing to shower in after a hot, sweaty day.

We recommend bringing a reusable water bottle to fill up with drinking water at the fountain in the dining room. Mosquito nets on the beds are good quality and beds are comfortable with pillows and bolsters. It's Asia so there are mosquitos and bugs and the occasional gecko may appear in your room - but they're friendly!

There are good communal areas for getting to know other guests. These include a pool table, lounge chairs to read and relax in and a viewing deck with breathtaking views.



There is free Wi-Fi, however it is unreliable. WhatsApp works for messages, photos and intermittent phone calls. This is a great opportunity to disconnect!

The lodge has a generator which runs at least 12 hours a day. We recommend taking a 2 pin round with earth travel adapter. If you have multiple devices to charge, a small power board is useful.

What is the food like?

Meals are good with a variety of local food, all contain steamed rice plus 3 choices of Indonesian dishes. There are snack options, which cost extra, but are great to fill an empty stomach in the late afternoon.

Dietary needs can in most cases be met, please advise on registration.

The lodge bar usually just has beer, juices and soft drinks as well as a few snacks. You cannot go out walking or jogging alone though there are stairs up to the tower if you want to exercise, however you will get plenty of exercise during the day.



Optional extension in Borneo

There is the option to extend your trip. Please chat with us if you want to stay on for a month or more.

PROJECT DETAILS

What Impact will I have?

By joining the Orangutan Volunteer Program, you are not only contributing your time on the ground in Borneo. With your fundraising efforts in the lead up to the trip, you are also helping to raise awareness of orangutans and the work of BOSA.

The money you raise will go towards providing care for the orangutans at our rehabilitation centres, as well as helping to fund specific programs such as our Baby Houses, Forest Schools and Reforestation Projects.



Help us make enrichment items

While in Borneo, you will help to make enrichment items for the orangutans that are being cared for at Samboja Lestari.

These items really make a difference to the everyday lives of the orangutans, helping them to learn valuable skills that they will need when released into the wild. For those orangutans that unfortunately cannot be released, enrichment items help bring variety, diversion and enjoyment to their days.

The Reintroduction Program

Samboja Lestari is the first orangutan reintroduction program established by the Borneo Orangutan Survival (BOS) Foundation in 1991, specifically to provide care and rehabilitation for displaced or orphaned orangutans rescued from areas of habitat loss.

Our main activities at Samboja Lestari include orangutan rescue, translocation of orangutans from areas of conflict to areas of secure and protected habitat, the provision of welfare and healthcare, rehabilitation, reintroduction and forest restoration activities.

The Sunbear Sanctuary

In addition to orangutan rehabilitation and reintroduction, we manage a sun bear sanctuary at Samboja Lestari, with over 40 sunbears currently in our care.

The BOS Foundation has rescued hundreds of orangutans in East Kalimantan and currently cares for and supports over 150 orangutans at Samboja Lestari.



MEET TWO OF OUR ORANGUTANS

You will be working with the Enrichment staff to develop and make enrichment items for our orphaned orangutans.



DODO

When Dodo arrived, he was a scared and vulnerable six month old but despite this, he grew into an independent and cheeky toddler.

Now at 11 years of age, his behavioural development is not quite the same as those of a similar age. He shows a great deal of dependence on his carers to provide him with food, and other resources he would need to survive if he lived in the wild.

Losing a mother often changes a young orangutan for life and Dodo is one of these cases.

Dodo has shown so far that life in the wild is not for him and so to ensure his safety and protection, as well as those around him, he will be cared for, for the duration of his life at the East Kalimantan Sanctuary, Samboja Lestari.

KOPRAL

At 4 years old, Koprak escaped from the cage where he was kept illegally, climbed an electricity pole and was electrocuted so severely, he was untreated, thought to be dying, for one whole week.

The accident brutally burned both his arms and legs – his right arm so horrifically scorched that there was no flesh, only bone remained. He was in such heartbreakingly poor condition, there was little hope for him.

Though he was significantly injured, Koprak consistently showed a colossal will to survive through his big appetite - for food and for life!

Now, he climbs trees and builds nests using his feet and mouth to hold and arrange twigs and leaves. He is ambitious, curious, active, extremely clever and refuses to be held back by the misfortune he suffered.

It's our purpose to support the rehabilitation and reintroduction of as many orangutans as possible back into the wild.

Sometimes, this is just not possible for a number of reasons.

Unfortunately, Dodo and Koprak are two of those orangutans that will never be released. All non-releasable orangutans are well cared for and your time at Samboja Lestari will help provide them with enrichment so that they may carry on learning, staying active and lead a happy life.

FUNDRAISING

Borneo Orangutan Survival Australia is a non-profit organisation that raises funds to support the work of Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation (BOSF) in Indonesia.

BOSF works under an official agreement with the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry for the conservation of Bornean orangutans and their ecosystem that works by involving and educating the local people. They focus on orangutan rescue, reintroduction and habitat conservation both in East and Central Kalimantan.

Currently, BOSF, supported by BOSA and other sister organisations, manages the biggest orangutan reintroduction program in the world, and is caring for almost 600 orangutans. BOSF also manages a peatland conservation area which provides habitat for 3,000 wild orangutans in Central Kalimantan and manages an Ecosystem Restoration Concession in East Kalimantan that is dedicated as orangutan habitat.

How You Can Fundraise For Your Trip

“Fundraising can seem daunting, but by using the same determination it takes to work and live within the deep forests of Borneo, you can achieve and even exceed in your fundraising.

Your fundraising efforts will directly support the orangutan rehabilitation projects with BOSA. I'm here to support you with all your fundraising for the incredible adventure you have ahead.

Together we can help create a fundraising plan tailored to help you reach your goal.”

Jessie McGuire

Orangutan Volunteer Program Administrator



The sky's the limit when it comes to fundraising! Here's a few ideas:

DINNER PARTY

Do you enjoy cooking? Host a dinner party where your guests pay what they would for a night out e.g. \$50 (10 friends @ \$50 is \$500 and ¼ of your entire fundraising target!)

TRIVIA NIGHT

Host a trivia night at a local pub that will give you free room hire, ask local businesses for sponsored prizes and charge \$10 per head

GARAGE SALE

Ask friends and family to donate unwanted household items and clothing and host a fundraising garage sale. Advertise your sale on Gumtree or local facebook groups to attract local buyers

The options are endless! Remember, if you're struggling or unsure, get in touch and we can chat through your ideas.

Once you're registered, we'll send you information to set up your own fundraising page. It's easy and convenient to set up and then share with your networks on social media and at events.

Your first fundraising donation of \$250 is expected at the time of registration, which let's us know you're serious about coming.

Following the deposit, we have created several fundraising deadlines before your departure to help you stay on track to reaching your target. This will help ensure that you don't have to leave all your fundraising to the last minute!

Deadline	Amount
Registration to secure your place	\$250
5 months to departure	\$250 - total \$500
4 months to departure	\$250 - total \$750
2 months to departure	\$550 - total \$1250
1 month to departure	\$750 - total \$2000 raised!

Register now

✉ hello@orangutans.com.au

🌐 orangutans.com.au/volunteer/

COUNTDOWN TO YOUR ENRICHMENT ADVENTURE

To Do	Date	Activity
 Register	Immediately	Completed registration form and \$250 donation secures your spot on your desired travel date.
 Fundraising Plan	After Registration	Let us help you put together a fundraising plan so you're confident you can reach your goal and get to Borneo!
 Conditions of Fundraising	After Registration	Complete your conditions of fundraising form in your welcome email and we'll send you an "Authority to Fundraise" letter. This is your permission to fundraise publicly for BOSA.
 Connect with your team on facebook	After Registration	Get to know your fellow adventurers on Facebook.
 Travel Arrangements & Travel Insurance	After Registration	Book your flights and advise us of your arrival and departure details. Comprehensive travel insurance is compulsory.
 Medical Arrangements	After Registration	It is recommended to confirm with your GP if you require any vaccinations. You will need to provide proof of TB vaccination before departure.
 Fundraising Target #2	5 months to departure	Ensure you've reached another \$250 on your fundraising page (this brings total fundraising to \$500 including deposit)
 Fundraising Target #3	4 months to departure	Ensure you've reached another \$250 on your fundraising page (\$750 total including deposit)
 Fundraising Target #4	2 months to departure	Ensure you've reached another \$500 on your fundraising page (\$1,250 total including deposit)
 Final Fundraising Target	1 month to departure	Ensure you've reached a total of \$1,750 on your fundraising page (\$250 deposit brings total fundraising to \$2,000)
 Pre-deaprture Team Conference Call	2 weeks to departure	Chat with your team and coordinator and ask any burning last minute questions
 Depart for Borneo	DEPARTURE!	Enjoy the experience of a lifetime!

FAQs

What does it cost?

We ask you to fundraise \$2,000 that goes directly to support orangutan programs. The minimum donation is \$1,000 which you can fundraise or donate yourself.

This needs to be deposited to BOSA or on your fundraising page before departure.

Your travel costs are payable when you're on the ground at Samboja Lestari in IDR.

For 14 nights, including transfers, twin share accommodation and all food the cost is approximately AUD\$1,000 (depending on exchange rates and excluding flights) per person. Alcoholic drinks and other local tours are additional and payable at the lodge.

Return flights to Balikpapan from Australia are additional and are approximately AUD\$1,000, depending on the choice of airline, dates and departing airport.

You will need to arrange your own flights and then advise us of the flight details including arrival and departure times to ensure airport transfers can be arranged.

The below rates table (AUD is approximate) is the special rate for program volunteers and includes transfers and three meals a day.

ROOM TYPE	ROOM RATE IDR)	ROOM RATE (~AUD)
Standard Lower - Shared	600,000	\$57
Standard Lower - Single	850,000	\$80
Standard Top - Shared	750,000	\$71
Standard Top - Single	900,000	\$85
Queen Suite - Shared	1,000,000	\$95
Queen Suite - Single	1,300,000	\$123
King Suite - Shared	1,500,000	\$142
King Suite - Single	1,800,000	\$170

Do I need to book my own flights?

Yes you need to book your own flights. Check with your travel agent or direct with the airlines. For example you can fly Australia-Singapore-Balikpapan with Singapore Airlines or Australia-Jakarta- Balikpapan with Garuda.

What safety precautions are taken?

When working around animals always be aware of your surroundings and belongings, do not step too close to a fence or barrier, or have items in your hands an animal may be able to grab.

Also be careful if you have long hair and restrict wearing jewellery that an animal may be able to grab, such as wristbands or necklaces. Do not wander off unaccompanied, you must be with a technician or facilitator at all times.

Please keep good hygiene practises, such as washing your hands numerous times throughout the day. Please only drink water from the water coolers provided.

Please remember Indonesia is a conservative society. During working hours, please ensure that dress includes clothing that covers the knees and shoulders.

Remember also, you may be cutting leaves and branches, and there are many mosquitos around, so you may prefer to wear light, full length pants and sleeves to protect yourself, or take something with you to cover yourself with for these activities.

Around the lodge, you may wear shorts and sleeveless clothing, however please be respectful and do not wear low-cut tops, or tight clothing.



FAQS continued

This dress code applies for day trips, or trips into the city. If you go to local village markets around Samboja Lestari, wear clothing that covers your knees and shoulders.

Please wear comfortable, covered, protective footwear when working in the centre. At the lodge flip flops are allowed.

When on excursions it is your own choice - take note of the type of activity you may be undertaking.

How do I fundraise?

There's some fundraising ideas on page 6 but if you're struggling just drop us an email and we can chat about different things you can do. It's easier than you think!

The most important step is to get your registration sorted as soon as possible so you don't lose your spot on your desired travel date and to give yourself plenty of time to fundraise.

What's not included?

Accommodation, transfers, food and tours costs given are an estimate and is payable directly to Samboja Lodge on arrival. Your flights are payable by you directly to your travel agent or provider.

Any alcohol, additional food items, personal care, insurances, spending money and other items not explicitly stated as provided are not included in the packaged price.

Can I raise funds to cover my travel costs?

Yes you can, once you've reached the recommended fundraising target of \$2,000 and as long as your donors are aware. Be sure to keep any extra funds raised for travel costs separate to your fundraising page, as they are not tax- deductible.

Is my donation tax-deductible?

Yes, any donations over AUD \$2.00 deposited to BOSA or on your fundraising page are tax-deductible donation for Australian residents. When someone donates to your trip on the fundraising page, they'll get an automatic receipt via Give Easy (the payment portal).

Do I need travel insurance?

Yes, comprehensive travel insurance is compulsory.

Are the travel costs guaranteed?

The costs of flights fluctuate so until you secure your flights, they will change from our estimates.

How fit do I need to be?

A moderate level of fitness and agility is required to manage the work which can be quite manual at times. Also, you will be working in a humid forest so be prepared to get dirty and sweaty. Think of it as a working holiday.

While your fitness level and health is your responsibility we advise that you seek medical advice from your GP if you have any concerns about your health.

What is the minimum age/general age range of participants?

Participants must be over 18 years of age. There is no maximum age, as long as you have a moderate level of fitness.

Can I extend my stay?

You sure can! See page 3 on the rates to extend, just give us a heads up when booking.

Will I get a chance to meet other people before we go?

When you register, you'll be invited to connect with other travelers on our private Facebook group for volunteer trip participants. There you can meet those on your team, ask questions of alumni and share fundraising tips.

How do I register?

Visit orangutans.com.au/volunteer and complete your registration form. We can process your fundraising deposit over the phone with a credit card or you can direct deposit the funds.

Have any more questions?

Please contact us on email hello@orangutans.com.au



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