

# EXPLORE!

## Tour Notes



### Family Land of the Orang-utan (FBN 2015 TEEN TREK)



TOUR DURATION  
**12**  
DAYS



**Tour Style:** Classic  
**Tour Pace:** Moderate

**Tour Type:** Small Groups  
**Tour Comfort:** Standard

**tour Code:** FBN

#### Tour Highlights - Family Land of the Orang-utan

- ✓ Manukan Island - Boat trip to this protected tropical island with excellent snorkeling opportunities
- ✓ Kinabatangan - Stay in a jungle lodge and cruise the river to see proboscis monkeys
- ✓ Sepilok - See the loveable orang-utans at this world famous rehabilitation centre
- ✓ Longhouse - Sleep in a traditional style longhouse on a tea plantation
- ✓ Homestay - Stay with local families and learn about life in rural Borneo
- ✓ Pulau Tiga - Swimming, snorkeling and mud volcanoes on an idyllic tropical island

#### Tour Essentials

**Accommodation:** 3 nights Standard Hotel  
1 night Simple Lodge  
2 nights Standard Lodge  
1 night Simple Cabins  
1 night Basic Hostel  
3 nights Simple Hotel

**Included Meals:** 11 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 5 dinners

**Start Point:** Join tour: Kota Kinabalu

**End Point:** Tour ends: Kota Kinabalu

**Transport:** Bus, Boat, Flight, Ferry

**Countries:** Malaysia, Borneo

**Minimum Age:** From 11 years

## Family Land Of The Orang Utan

Exotic wildlife, traditional tribes and beautiful beaches are all part of this unique adventure through Borneo. We visit the world's largest orang-utan rehabilitation centre as well as one of the world's few Sun Bear conservation projects and explore the jungle along the Kinabatangan River. Enjoy an exhilarating canopy walk through the tree tops and bathe in bubbling hot springs.

### Why Book this tour

This holiday is especially designed for families with children from 11 years and upwards and is intended for those who enjoy walking and are also up for the challenge of climbing to the summit of Mount Kinabalu, one of the highest mountains in South East Asia. With a range of accommodation types as part of a wildlife adventure that takes in an orang-utan and sun bear sanctuary and cruising the jungle waterways to see proboscis monkeys, this is a holiday to remember.



### Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

#### Tour Comfort: Standard

Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

#### Tour Style: Classic

Packed with adventure, these tours offer inspiring destinations and authentic travel experiences at a reasonable price. Using all kinds of transport and accommodation, we'll take you off the beaten track to discover the true heart of the people and places you visit.

#### Tour Pace: Moderate

These moderately paced tours provide some busy days with plenty of experiences to enjoy, as well as time to relax along the way.

## Your tour itinerary

### Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

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## Your Tour Leader

A Tour Leader is an integral part of any Explore tour and your tour will be led by one of our experienced Tour Leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Tour Leaders are the key to the success of our tours; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your Tour Leader will also take care of all the planning and organisation throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this tour fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.

### DAY 1 Join tour Kota Kinabalu

We arrive in Kota Kinabalu and check in to our hotel. Known locally as KK, Kota Kinabalu is a burgeoning city with a blend of Malays, Europeans and Chinese: the result is a unique mixture of architecture, culture, high technology and ancient traditions.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**

 **Included Meals:** None

### DAY 2 Boat trip and snorkelling to Manukan Island

Off the coast from Kota Kinabalu is the Tunku Abdul Rahman National Park, Sabah's first national park. Teeming with a magnificent range of marine life, the islands are fringed with coral reefs and have some of the best beaches in Borneo. Today we make a boat trip to Manukan, one of the islands famed for its world class snorkelling and an idyllic way to spend our first day here.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

### DAY 3 Fly to Sandakan; drive to Sepilok and visit orang-utan rehabilitation centre

We fly this morning to Sandakan on Sabah's east coast from where we make the short drive to Sepilok. Sepilok is home to the largest of the three orang-utan rehabilitation centres in the world. Covering over 4,000 hectares of forest, the centre was established in 1964 to rehabilitate captured, injured or abandoned apes with the animals being taught how to make nests and survive in their natural habitat. We plan to visit the centre in time for feeding when, along with the permanent members, pregnant mothers who otherwise live in the jungle often come to supplement their diet and return after the birth of their young. There is a small charge to bring your camera into the sanctuary area.

Overnight: **Simple Lodge**

**Swimming Pool Available** 

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

### DAY 4 Rainforest Discovery Centre and Sun Bear Sanctuary; drive to Sukau via the bat caves

This morning we visit the Sun Bear Sanctuary which looks after these threatened species with the aim of rehabilitating and releasing these creatures into their natural habitat. We then move on to the nearby Rainforest Discovery Centre. The centre gives the opportunity to learn about the conservation of the rainforest and the myriad of animals and plants that rely on this incredible habitat. From the canopy walkway you will see the beautiful rain forest of Sepilok from up to 28 m above the forest floor! You might even catch a glimpse of the Bornean bristlehead bird, one of the rarest birds in Sabah as well as the other 250 species of birds including hornbills, pittas, kingfishers and broadbills. Later we continue our journey to Bilit, on the Kinabatangan River, stopping off at the Gomantong caves. These limestone caves are Sabah's most famous and are home to over a million swiftlets, which swarm into the caves at sunset to roost. The nests are harvested by the locals for soup using 60m long rattan ladders. In addition to the swiftlets, the caves are home to two to three hundred thousand bats which leave the caves at sunset to feed. From here we continue onto our jungle base in Sukau.


Overnight: **Standard Lodge**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

### DAY 5 In Sukau; wildlife cruise viewing, jungle walks, boat cruise

Unlike other areas in Sabah, the Kinabatangan River has remained relatively unaffected by logging, mainly because the land is permanently waterlogged and there are few commercially valuable trees there. The river meanders through a flood plain and creates many ox-bow lakes making an ideal environment for wildlife viewing. On our early morning cruise we may see crocodile warming themselves in the morning sun and some of the other birdlife such as egret, storm's stork, oriental darter and oriole. This afternoon, optional jungle walks are available for those wishing to explore further. Later in the afternoon as the sun starts to go down, we take another boat cruise along the Kinabatangan River and Menungal tributary, hopefully to spot some more wildlife, including the long nosed proboscis monkeys which converge on tree tops by the river banks to settle for the night.

Overnight: **Standard Lodge**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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## DAY 6 Drive to Kinabalu National Park via Poring Hot Springs

Today we depart Sukau by bus and travel to a tea plantation where we will spend the next two nights staying in a traditional style longhouse as used by the tribal people of Borneo (shared facilities). This plantation is the only organic tea farm in Borneo, surrounded by rainforest and with magnificent views of Mount Kinabalu, it is a great place to explore. This evening you may have the opportunity to see a blow pipe demonstration.

Overnight: **Simple Cabins**



**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 7 In Kinabalu National Park; walk to Laban Rata (base camp)

For those wishing to climb Mount Kinabalu we make an early start this morning. We hope to get a good view of the mountain towering over the jungle below, before driving to the park entrance and the starting point of the trail at about 1900m. From now on, leaving our main baggage behind at the hotel but carrying our daypacks, we walk or trek climbing upwards for 6 hours to reach a mountain hostel situated at 3272m and surrounded by magnificent scenery. The lower part of the trek is through dense tropical vegetation and mist shrouded rainforest with giant ferns and luxuriant mosses, a botanist's paradise with rare orchids and pitcher plants abound. The hostel at base camp has communal facilities and there is a canteen where you can buy a simple meal. For those staying behind at the hotel there are numerous low level nature trails in the park from where to further explore the diverse flora and fauna.

Overnight: **Basic Hostel**



**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

## DAY 8 Optional summit ascent of Mount Kinabalu for sunrise

Legends abound as to the origins of the name Kinabalu. The local Kadazan tribes believe it to be sacred and the last resting place of their ancestors, the name deriving from Aki Nabulu meaning "the revered place of the spirits". The trip to the summit is a hard trek and should only be attempted by those people who are confident about their level of fitness. We rise at approx. 02.30 and trek to the summit for sunrise (about 05.45). We have to walk in the dark and it is necessary to wear warm clothes and gloves and to carry a torch. The view from the top of MtKinabalu (4,095m) is exceptionally fine as we watch the sun rising over the misty jungle lowlands. For those who do not make the summit ascent, the views from around basecamp will keep you and your camera occupied until we make the descent mainly on foot and then by bus back to the Park Headquarters, where we check into our chalets again.

Overnight: **Simple Hotel**



**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## DAY 9 Bus to Kuala Penyu; boat to Pulau Tiga

This morning we drive to Kuala Penyu from where we travel by boat to the small island of Pulau Tiga. Formed after a volcanic eruption just over one hundred years ago, the island, which has magnificent coral reefs and a wide variety of terrestrial flora and fauna, is now part of a state marine park.

Overnight: **Simple Hotel**



**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## DAY 10 On Pulau Tiga with options to snorkel, sea kayak or fish

This paradise island is the ideal place to relax at the end of your tour although there is also plenty on offer for the more active traveller. The snorkelling opportunities are excellent and other activities such as seakayaking and fishing are also on offer. A network of marked trails provide the chance to discover the island's wildlife from macaques and monitor lizards to rare birds such as the curious megapodes, hornbills and sea eagles. One trekking trail leads to the mud volcanoes on the island which are famed for their mineral enriched mud, said to have healing properties.

Overnight: **Simple Hotel**



**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 11 Return to Kota Kinabalu

Today we return to Kota Kinabalu with time for some last minute shopping or further personal exploration. You may wish to visit the Masjid Sabah, one of the biggest mosques in Malaysia, or the Sabah Museum, shaped to resemble a Rungut Longhouse and containing a magnificent collection of ethnographic and historical artifacts.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**

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 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

DAY **12** Tour ends Kota Kinabalu

The tour ends this morning after breakfast. Passengers travelling on the group flight back to London usually depart early morning and breakfast is not included at the hotel before departure.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## Ability to swim required

An ability to swim is essential for your safe enjoyment of the water based activities on this trip. If you wish to participate in these activities then we insist that you are able to swim.

## Accommodation and Meals

### Food & Drink

Included meals: 11 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 5 dinners included in the price of this tour. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

## Budgeting for your Tour

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the tour price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

### Food

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

#### Malaysia

**Lunch £:** 4.00

**Dinner £:** 8.00

#### Borneo

**Lunch £:** 3.50

**Dinner £:** 6.00

### Drink

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

#### Malaysia

**Bottle of Beer £:** 2.00

**Water £:** 0.80

#### Borneo

**Bottle of Beer £:** 3.00

**Water £:** 0.25

### Other Sightseeing & Activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

### Optional Excursions

Manukan Island - Snorkelling equipment rental - £4.00, boat transfer to Gaya or Sapi islands £8.00

Sepilok - There's a small charge to use the swimming pool at our hotel of around £1.00

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Pulau Tiga - Snorkelling approximately £6.00  
Camera Fees - At Sepilok and Poring hot springs £3.00

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### **Tipping - Tour Leader**

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

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### **Tipping - Local Crew**

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.

Local Staff: Accordingly you should allow £20 for gratuities for local staff.

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### **Foreign Exchange**

#### **Malaysia**

**ATM Availability:** Major towns and cities.

**Credit Card Acceptance:** In major restaurants.

**Travellers Cheques:** Major towns and cities.

**Local Currency:** Malaysian Ringgit.

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** GBP or USD.

**Where to Exchange:** Most major towns - your Tour Leader will advise on arrival.

#### **Borneo**

**ATM Availability:** In all major towns.

**Credit Card Acceptance:** In major restaurants and department stores.

**Travellers Cheques:** Can be exchanged at international banks in Miri and Kota Kinabalu.

**Local Currency:** Malaysian Ringgit.

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** It's easy to change British pounds and USD into Ringgit once in Borneo

**Where to Exchange:** Most major towns - your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival.

## **Joining your Tour**

### **Flight Information**

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

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### **Booking a land only package with Explore**

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found on our website at [www.explore.co.uk](http://www.explore.co.uk), in the tour specific dates and prices section.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer. For more information please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

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### **Joining Tour Abroad**

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer please refer to <https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers>.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

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### **Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore**

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

## Important Information

### Travel Insurance

It is a condition of joining any of our tours that you must have valid travel insurance. It must indicate that you have cover for (at least) medical expenses and emergency repatriation in the event of illness or injury. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling in England and Scotland. We also strongly recommend your policy includes curtailment, personal effects and cancellation protection as all deposits paid are non-refundable. You will also need to ensure your travel policy covers you for all activities you intend to do whilst on tour.

We are delighted to include FREE travel insurance **for all qualifying customers** who book an Explore trip from 01 January 2015.

For more information about Travel insurance and to check whether you are eligible to receive free cover, please visit [www.explore.co.uk/insurance](http://www.explore.co.uk/insurance). Explore Worldwide Ltd are an Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Limited, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. The registration number can be checked by visiting the the FCA's website [www.fca.gov.uk](http://www.fca.gov.uk) or by contacting them on 0800 111 6768.

### Visa Information

Borneo: Visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens.

Malaysia: Visas are not required by UK, Australian, New Zealand, US and Canadian citizens. All passports must have at least 6 months validity after departure from Malaysia.

Other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

All visa information is subject to change. You should confirm all visa related questions with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

### Lone Parents

#### Malaysia

Single parents or other adults travelling alone with children should be aware that some countries require documentation confirming that the individual has authority to travel with the minor. It is crucial that you contact the relevant country embassy for further information on exactly what may be required.

#### Borneo

Single parents or other adults travelling alone with children should be aware that some countries require documentation confirming that the individual has authority to travel with the minor. It is crucial that you contact the Borneo embassy for further information on exactly what may be required.

### Vaccinations & Protection

#### Malaysia

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against malaria, tetanus, infectious hepatitis, typhoid, diphtheria and polio. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against Malaria. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider.

#### Borneo

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against malaria, typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, infectious hepatitis and polio. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure.

## Preparing for your Tour

### Altitude Description

As this tour reaches altitudes of 4,095 meters, we strongly recommend that travellers with heart or lung conditions, anaemia, asthma, high blood pressure or on the pill should seek the advice of their GP.

You must have adequate travel insurance for your trip. Please ensure that your insurance policy covers you to the maximum altitude indicated above. If you have Explore insurance you will be covered to this altitude.

### Climate

#### Malaysia

Temperatures are uniform throughout the year, with conditions on the coast more humid. Day-time temperatures reach around 31°C and then drop at night to about 23°C. There is no clearly defined wet and dry seasons, though the southwest monsoon (September to

November) and the northeast monsoon (November to February) bring rather more rain. On the west coast rain tends to fall mainly in short lived thunderstorms, and the sky clears quite quickly.

### **Borneo**

Temperatures are high all year round, between 23°C at night to 32°C during the day. Borneo is tropical and only lies a few degrees north of the equator. Rainfall can be expected at any time of year though will be greater between November and January. Seasonal weather patterns can be unpredictable. For up-to-date information on the weather worldwide please visit [www.bbc.co.uk/weather](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather).

### **Clothing**

Pack for hot conditions. There is year round humidity in the lowlands but you will also need a warm sweater/fleece and jacket for cool nights in the Highlands, especially November to January. Lightweight rainwear/umbrella is essential all year. Plastic ponchos can be purchased locally. Don't forget your swimming costume.

### **Equipment**

Bring a torch, a water bottle, insect repellent and a towel. Binoculars are useful for wildlife spotting.  
Personal First

### **Footwear**

Lightweight walking boots are the best for walking in jungle (though expect them to get wet and muddy), plus sandals or trainers.

### **Luggage: On Tour**

One main piece of baggage and a rucksack for the Kinabalu trek (we recommend at least 30 litres capacity). Please note: pack light. The international carrier will usually allow 44lbs/20kg or more and our preferred domestic airline in Borneo also allows 44lbs/20kg. However some domestic airlines allow a maximum of 33lbs/15kg for your checked in luggage and occasionally we may have to use these airlines so we recommend you stick to that limit to avoid excess charges. Remember you are expected to carry your own luggage so don't overload yourselves. Hard suitcases are not suitable.

Luggage allowance on tour: 15Kg

## **General Information**

### **Country details**

#### **Malaysia**

**Population:** 28,334,135  
**Size of Country:** 330,803 km sq  
**Major Language:** Malaysian  
**Religion:** Islam  
**Time Difference to GMT:** +8

#### **Borneo**

**Population:** 18.59 million  
**Size of Country:** 743,330 km<sup>2</sup>  
**Major Language:** Malaysian  
**Religion:** Muslim, Christian  
**Time Difference to GMT:** +8

### **Electric Supply & Plugs**

#### **Malaysia**

3 Pin Flat

#### **Borneo**

3 Pin Flat

## **Why Choose Explore**

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailor-made holidays.

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- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, elephant, or any number of unusual forms of transport . Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to – and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

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## Our commitment to the environment

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures and traditional, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people), Dekamer ( a turtle rescue centre in Turkey) and Kids Saving the Rainforest (a wildlife rescue centre in Costa Rica supported through the LATA foundation). We also care passionately about the world's wildlife. We are patrons of the Born Free Organisation and Friends of Conservation.

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## Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants, allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

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## Earth Matters

- [The Travel Foundation](#)

Explore are active members and supporters of the Travel Foundation which has established a variety of sustainable tourism projects in destinations and works with industry to improve practice. Visit their website [www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk](http://www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk)

- [Tourism Concern](#)

Explore support the work of Tourism Concern who campaign for fairly and ethically traded tourism, and are part of its Ethical Tour Operator Group [www.tourismconcern.org.uk](http://www.tourismconcern.org.uk)

- For further information on responsible travel go to <http://www.explore.co.uk/ResponsibleTourism/>

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## Know before you go

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link at <http://www.explore.co.uk/essential-travel-information/travel-resources/travel-safety>

# Booking Your Holiday

## Peace of mind - book with confidence

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

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## Reserving your place

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is 'Available' or 'Guaranteed' we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

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## **100% No Surcharge Guarantee**

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2014 and 31st December 2015.

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## **Tour Itinerary Versions**

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 2015 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2015. 2016/17 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2016.

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