

EXPLORE!

TRIP NOTES



Family Land Of The Orang Utan (FBN 2018 11+ YEARS TREK)



TRIPDURATION
11
DAYS



Tour Style: Classic
Tour Pace: Moderate

Tour Type: Small Groups
Accommodation
Grade: Standard

Trip Code: FBN
Trek Grade: Moderate
Challenging

Trip 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

Trip Essentials

Accommodation: 4 nights Standard Hotel
1 night Simple Lodge
2 nights Standard Lodge
2 nights Simple Hotel
1 night Simple Hostel

Included Meals: 10 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners

Start Point: Join trip: Kota Kinabalu
Trip ends: Kota Kinabalu

End Point: Kota Kinabalu

Transport: Bus, Boat, Flight, Ferry

Countries: Malaysia, Borneo

Minimum Age: From 11 years

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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.

TRIPLE ROOMS

This trip allows the option for triple rooms to be included within the booking on a selected number of night stops within the holiday. If you would like this option, a discount may be applicable on the cost of the trip - please ask our Sales team for further information.

Why Book this trip

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.

Accommodation Grade: 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.

Trek Grade: Moderate to Challenging

Combining moderate grade walks with some more strenuous hikes. This grade is ideal if you are fit and want to challenge yourself with a few longer, more demanding trekking days, possibly on difficult terrain or at higher altitudes.

Your trip 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.

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; thrilling zipline between two tropical islands

Off the coast from Kota Kinabalu is the Tunku Abdul Rahman National Park, Sabah's first national park, made up of 5 islands. Teeming with a magnificent range of marine life, the islands are fringed with coral reefs and have some of the best beaches in Borneo. Our day starts with a boat trip to Sapi Island where we take a thrilling 250 meter zip line between two tropical islands, Sapi and Gaya Islands. This exhilarating ride provides fantastic views of the marine park as you glide over the crystal clear waters below you, a great adventure for all the family. Leaving Gaya Island behind we take a boat trip to Manukan island, famed for its world class snorkelling. We have the rest of the day to relax and enjoy its fine beaches. An idyllic way to spend our first day in Borneo. We return by boat to Kota Kinabalu late afternoon.

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 on the Kinabatangan River

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, woodpeckers, pittas, kingfishers and broadbills. Later we continue our journey to Bilit, on the Kinabatangan River and our jungle base in Sukau. Home to a rich network of hidden oxbow lakes and river tributaries the area has escaped much of the deforestation that has blighted other parts of Borneo, allowing us to see a diverse selection of reptiles, birds and mammals in their natural forest habitat.

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

DAY 6 Drive to Kinabalu National Park via Poring Hot Springs

On our way to the National Park we take the opportunity to visit the Poring Hot Springs, a popular spot with locals who enjoy the hot springs found here. At 450m we are in tropical lowland forest, dense with vegetation and thick bamboo, with a humid misty atmosphere. You can cross a tree top walkway 60m above the forest floor or perhaps you prefer to take a relaxing soak in a hot spring bath, looking out for hornbills, mynah birds and monkeys. After this we continue on by bus to Kinabalu National Park and our rest stop for the evening.

Overnight: **Simple Hotel**

 **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: **Simple Hostel**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

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, reuniting with the rest of the group to head back to our vehicle and back to Kota Kinabalu for a welcome shower and an early night.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

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. The rest of the day is free to relax and soak up the tranquil tropical surroundings after the exploits of the previous two days.


Overnight: **Simple Hotel**

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 10 Morning on Pulau Tiga. Afternoon return to Kota Kinabalu

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. We return to Kota Kinabalu in the afternoon 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**

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

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: 10 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners included in the price of this trip. 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 Trip

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the trip 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

Pulau Tiga - Snorkelling approximately £6.00

Camera Fees - At Sepilok and Poring hot springs £3.00



Tipping - Tour Leader

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

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.

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 Trip

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.

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, 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>.

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.

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

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>.

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 booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

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The Adventure Travel Experts

CAMPBELL IRVINE
DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE



Travel Insurance is essential. If you have not already arranged cover, please contact our recommended Travel Insurance providers www.campbellirvinedirect.com/Explore who offer Travel Insurance specifically designed to cover travel with Explore or call **Campbell Irvine Direct** on Tel: 020 7938 1734

Explore Worldwide is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Travel Aware

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 www.explore.co.uk/travel-safety

We strongly advise that you register with the FCO to receive updates to the travel advice for your chosen destination. A hard copy of the current FCO Travel Advice for your chosen destination is available by contacting cr@explore.co.uk or 01252 379438.

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

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.

You should confirm all visa related questions with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on **0208 5431846**.

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.

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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 Trip

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.

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 trip: 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 km²

Major Language: Malaysian

Religion: Islam, 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.
- Award-winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one of 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, 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.

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.

Earth Matters

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, 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) and have recently supported women's cooperatives in Borneo and Morocco. We are a member of Tourism Concern's Ethical Tour Operator Group (www.tourismconcern.org.uk) and support their campaign for fair and ethical tourism. We also care passionately about the world's wildlife and actively support and promote the Born Free Organisation and Mahouts Elephant Foundation.

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.

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

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 2016 and 31st December 2017.

Trip 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: 2018 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2018. 2019/20 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2019.

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