



See orangutans in their natural habitat

Veterinary Study Tour to Borneo and the Malay Peninsula

20 April – 2 May 2021

With extension

2 – 5 May 2021

3 nights Kuching – 1 night Kota Kinabalu – 2 nights Kinabatangan Lodge
– 2 nights Kuala Lumpur - 1 night Ipoh – 3 nights Penang



Jon Baines
tours



A traditional longhouse by Sarawak River

Take a study tour with veterinarian Dr Campbell Costello through Borneo, Kuala Lumpur and the Malay Peninsula. See a wide range of wildlife and visit rehabilitation centres as well as a mountain cattle farm, a horse hospital and the Penang Turf Club.

Explore beautiful colonial cities, visit a Dayak longhouse, experience rich history and vibrant culture and art, and enjoy delicious local cuisine at every stop. There are optional extensions after the tour to Langkawi or to Banjaran Hotspots.

Tour Leaders

Dr Campbell Costello BVSc was raised on a cattle station in outback Queensland and graduated in 2010 to work in mixed-animal practice. He was the year's youngest rider in the world's longest horse race, the "Mongol Derby", in 2012 and has since returned to Mongolia several times as one of the senior veterinarians and crew for the race. In 2013 he trekked across the Wakhan Corridor of Afghanistan before relocating to the Highveldt of South Africa as a large African game and wildlife veterinarian. He has since worked in Australia as a veterinary contractor in the international livestock sector, taking him all over the world. In 2016 Campbell was stationed in Kazakhstan as the head veterinarian and farm manager of an Angus Beef Cattle farm and helped establish one of the country's first cattle ventures since the demise of the Soviet Union. Campbell was also one of the only English-speaking veterinarians to attend the "World Nomad Games" in



Kyrgyzstan. In early 2019 Campbell was the mounted veterinarian for the "Gaucha Derby" recce mission, which involved riding across the Argentine area of Patagonia for several days, monitoring the local Criollo horses and mapping a basic route for the inaugural "Gaucha Derby" race in 2020.



The Bornean sun bear

Itinerary 20 April – 2 May 2021

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

3 nights Kuching – 1 night Kota Kinabalu – 2 nights Kinabatangan Lodge – 2 nights Kuala Lumpur – 1 night Ipoh – 3 nights Penang



Day 1: Kuching, Sarawak (Tues, 20 April) **D**

Eve: Fly into Kuching, the relaxed capital of Sarawak on the banks of the Sarawak River, and transfer to the lovely riverfront Waterfront Hotel.

specialist guide to learn about traditional medicinal plants and village life. Return to Kuching.

Day 2: Kuching (Wed, 21 April) **B L D**

Am: Visit the Matang Wildlife Centre to learn about their rescue programme for orangutans and other wildlife and hear a talk by Leo Biddle, the centre's coordinator.

Pm: Visit a local veterinary practice, run by a vet who has worked with the Semenggoh Orangutan Centre. Discover the charms of Kuching on a city tour and visit the excellent small ethnographic museum to learn about the history of the peoples of north Borneo and of Sarawak. Visit Fort Margherita and hear about the 'White Rajahs' of Borneo.

Day 4: Kuching / Kota Kinabalu (Fri, 23 April) **B L D**

Am: Fly to Kota Kinabalu in Sabah and make your way to the lovely town of Kundasang, which lies along the bank of Kundasang Valley at the base of Mount Kinabalu. It is known for its fresh food market and the Desa Dairy Farm, which is a local attraction.

Pm: Visit the Desa Dairy Farm and learn about livestock care in this environment. Check into the Hyatt Regency Kinabalu.

Eve: Hear a talk on elephant-human conflict in the palm plantations by Dr. Cheryl Cheah, WWF Malaysia.

Day 3: Kuching (Thurs, 22 April) **B L D**

Am: Drive to the Semenggoh Wildlife Centre to view semi-wild orangutans in a natural setting. This rehabilitation centre releases previously captive orangutans into the wild.

Pm: Continue to Anah Rais, a longhouse in Bidayuh village, set beside a beautiful stream, and learn about the culture of the Land Dayaks. Take a short walk with a

Day 5: Kota Kinabalu / Kinabatangan Lodge (Sat, 24 April) **B L D**

Am: Fly to Sandakan and visit the Sepilok Orangutan Centre. This excellent centre opened in 1964 as the first official orangutan rehabilitation project for orphaned baby orangutans rescued from logging sites, plantations, illegal hunting or as domestic pets. Continue to the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre, established

as a non-profit organisation in Sabah in 2008 with the aim of rescuing captive sun bears and rehabilitating them into the wild.

Pm: Transfer by boat to the Kinabatangan River Lodge and take a boat cruise along the waterways to spot the many birds and wild animals in this habitat.

Day 6: Kinabatangan Lodge (Sun, 25 April)

B L D

Am: Take a river cruise along the oxbow lakes and river and spend the day at leisure.

Pm: Take another cruise later in the afternoon and in the evening to spot proboscis monkeys, elephants, orangutan and other wildlife active at this time.

Day 7: Sandakan / Kuala Lumpur (Mon, 26 April)

B L

Am: Return to Sandakan.

Pm: Fly to Kuala Lumpur. Check into the stylish 5-star EQ Kuala Lumpur.

Day 8: Kuala Lumpur (Tues, 27 April)

B L

Am: Full day visit to the fascinating colonial city of Malacca. Explore this historic city, a trading entrepot whose heritage is reflected in its well-preserved Portuguese, Dutch and British architecture. Take a walking tour to St. Paul's Hill for a panoramic view of Malacca, the straits and the old town. See the Portuguese Fort de Santiago, the ruins of St. Paul's Church and Dutch Square. Walk down Harmony Street to 'Antique Row'.

Pm: Traditional Peranakan lunch, a blend of Chinese, Malay and Portuguese flavours, followed by a boat ride on the Malacca River.

Day 9: Kuala Lumpur / Ipoh (Wed, 28 April)

B L

Am: Drive to the small city of Ipoh, stopping at the Turtle Conservation Project in Pantai Pasir Panjang, which is a nesting site for the green turtle

Pm: Continue to Ipoh, which grew wealthy on

the exports of tin in the 19th century, and check into Weil Hotel. Ipoh is now a blend of grand colonial architecture and funky street art. At leisure to explore – wander through Concubine Lane, one of the best places to admire the street art, and sample food at the many mouth-watering street food stalls and restaurants.

Day 10: Ipoh / Penang (Thurs, 29 April)

B D

Am: Visit the PRTC Equine Hospital at Perak Turf Club, the only full-fledged equine hospital in Malaysia with an operation theatre. Besides offering official veterinary services under the Malayan Racing Association (MRA), the hospital also offers clinical veterinary services. 36 horses are examined on an average day and during on-course race meetings the hospital covers the care of about 240 horses from the other turf clubs, as well as official on-course racing duties.

Pm: Drive to Penang, stopping at the tortoise sanctuary within Sam Poh Tong Temple - the oldest and biggest cave temple in Malaysia.

Eve: Check into elegant colonial Areca Hotel.

Day 11: Penang (Fri, 30 April)

B L

Am: Explore colourful George Town, a UNESCO World Heritage city due to well-preserved colonial architecture dating from 1789. Take in Fort Cornwallis, the site of the original British settlement, and the first Anglican church in east Asia.

Pm: At leisure.

Day 12: Penang (Sat, 1 May)

B D

Am: Visit the the Penang Turf Club, Penang's major horse racing course, established in 1864, and meet with their equine vets.

Pm: Watch the Penang races.

Eve: Farewell dinner at Suffolk House.

Day 13: Penang (Sun, 2 May)

B

Am: Depart Penang or take one of the extensions to Langkawi or Banjaran Hotsprings.



Banjaran Hot Springs Retreat

Langkawi Extension

2 – 5 May 2021

Fly to Langkawi and transfer to the tranquil Meritus Pelangi Beach Resort & Spa Langkawi, where clusters of wooden chalets with private balconies perch on the shores of a white sandy beach. The rooms are based on garden views but beach views are available for a surcharge. There are two swimming pools, a spa, squash, tennis, archery, mini golf, and bicycle rental, with a range of restaurants nearby.

Day 13: Penang / Langkawi (Sun, 2 May)

B

Am: Fly to Langkawi and transfer to the Meritus Pelangi Beach Resort.

Day 14: Langkawi (Mon, 3 May)

B

Day 15: Langkawi (Tue, 4 May)

B

Day 16: Langkawi (Wed, 5 May)

B

Am: Depart Langkawi.

Banjaran Hot Springs

2 – 4 May 2021

Banjaran Hot Springs Retreat is Malaysia's first luxury natural hot springs wellness retreat and is something very special, set amongst spectacular natural beauty. Stay in your own Lake Villa with a private plunge pool and hot tub, surrounded by pristine water and foliage, with a terrace overlooking the lake. Unwind in the beautiful geothermal hot springs amidst limestone hills, verdant rainforest, ancient caves and cascading waterfalls for the ultimate in seclusion and relaxation.

Day 13: Penang / Banjaran (Sun, 2 May)

B

Am: Transfer to Banjaran Hot Springs Retreat.

Day 14: Banjaran (Mon, 3 May)

B

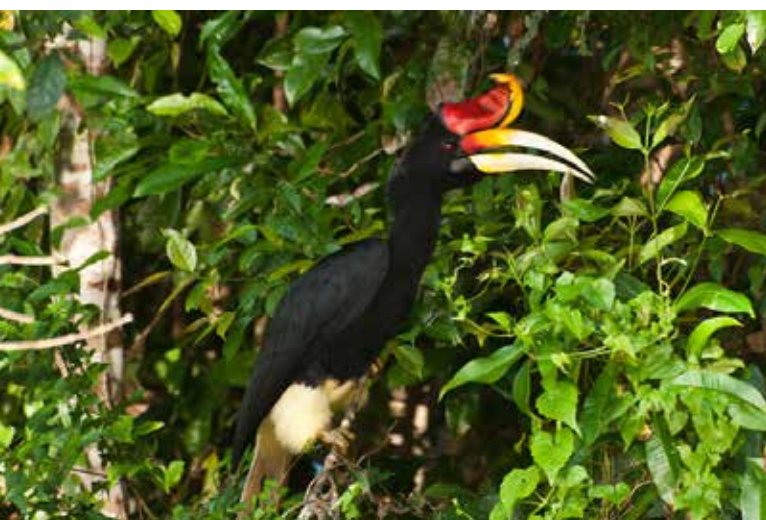
Day 15: Banjaran (Tue, 4 May)

B

Am: Depart Banjaran.



Langkawi Beach



The Biduyah longhouse (top); Pygmy elephant of Borneo; Colourful streets of Malacca; Rhinoceros hornbill (above)

Tour cost: US \$3,752 pp sharing (excluding international flights and transfers)

The cost includes:

- The services of a tour leader (Dr Campbell Costello)
- 12 nights' accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with private facilities in medium grade and heritage hotels and a jungle lodge

Single supplement: US \$557

- Breakfast and lunch or dinner daily (all meals on 8 to 12 July)
- All admission fees
- Services of an English-speaking national guide
- All transport services and taxes
- Internal flights
- All tips

The cost excludes:

- Meals not mentioned and drinks with meals
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- Travel insurance
- Visa (if required)

The cost of the extension at the Meritus Pelangi Beach in Langkawi is: US \$543 pp sharing and includes:

- Three nights' accommodation in double / twin-bedded rooms with breakfasts
- Transfer to Penang airport, flight to Langkawi and return transfer to Langkawi airport

Single supplement: US \$322

The cost of the extension at Banjaran Hot Springs Resort is: US \$685 pp sharing and includes:

- Two nights' accommodation in a Lake Villa with breakfasts
- Transfer from Penang to Banjaran pre-extension and airport transfer to Penang post-extension
- Daily yoga and retreat activities and complimentary use of resort facilities

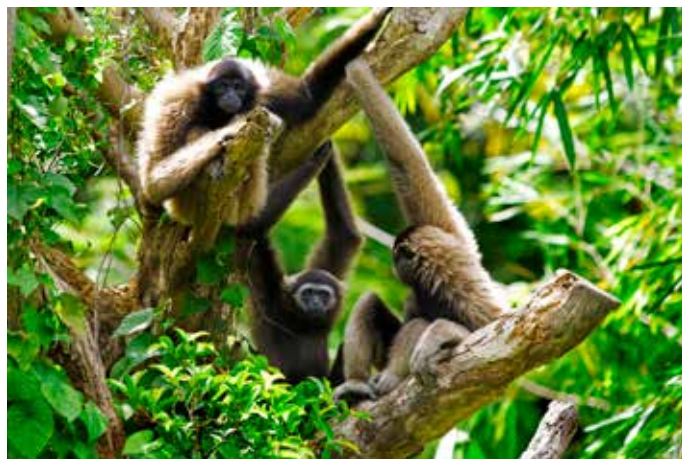
Single supplement: US \$378

The cost excludes:

- Meals not mentioned and drinks with meals
- All optional excursions, tours and visits

About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. What we also do is make sure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to. We give you a variety of experiences, from the sublime to the humble, in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun.



Kuching riverfront (top); Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion, Penang; Gibbons; The colourful streets of Penang (above)

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