



Kylie Bullo Ultimate Sumatra



TRAVEL TYPE

Small group of up to 10 guests. Ages 14+



EXPEDITION GRADE

Moderate to difficult in parts (some hilly jungle trekking involved)



DURATION

9 Days
10-18 August 2025



ACCOMMODATION

Local hotels, jungle lodges & tents



Expedition Overview

Come and see orangutans the only way they should be seen, in the natural jungles of Sumatra and make a personal difference by contributing to organisations helping to save the great red ape from extinction.

Orangutan Odysseys are raising money for The Orangutan Project and supporting other Orangutan NGO's in their quest to save the orangutans and the rainforests. There really is nothing like giving back. On this specially crafted expedition, you will visit the jungle habitat of the orangutan and help protect their environment for generations to come.

You will be joined throughout the tour by your expert host Kylie Bullo, The Orangutan Project's Conservation Manager.

On this 9 day Orangutan Odysseys tour, beginning and ending in Medan (North Sumatra), you will visit pristine rainforests, trek into the jungles of the Leuser Ecosystem in Northern Sumatra (Aceh) and spend time viewing wild orangutans who wander freely in their natural surroundings along with a host of other wildlife.

You will firstly travel into the province of Aceh where we will visit and spend a night in the jungle. Then later we will meet with the Forum for Conservation Of Leuser (FKL) team that leads communities in dismantling illegal palm oil plantations that are causing massive deforestation in northern Sumatra's Leuser Ecosystem, protecting the habitat of the Critically Endangered Sumatran Rhino. We get to visit and stay at 2 of their research stations in Ketembe and Soraya.

If you are interested in adventure and giving back to the world at the same time, then you have got to be part of this expedition.

MEET YOUR HOST KYLIE BULLO

With a background in primate zoology, specialising in orangutans, Kylie has worked alongside Founder of The Orangutan Project, Leif Cocks for more than twenty years. Together they trained and released the first zoo-born orangutan to ever be released into the wild. Her book "Reaching for the Canopy" describes her journey with zoo-born Sumatran orangutan "Temara" to the jungles of Sumatra. Kylie has spent extensive time in both Borneo and Sumatra, working with staff and providing guidance and training in orangutan behaviour and rehabilitation training. Kylie will travel with you throughout the journey and share her orangutan knowledge and experiences with you. She will also explain how The Orangutan Project works to conserve orangutans and their rainforest habitat.



Kylie Talks Tours

I am looking forward to leading this tour and meeting people who are passionate about orangutan conservation. I greatly enjoy sharing my understanding and insights on orangutans with others as I have been so fortunate to spend so much time with our "orange cousins." I hope to see you in Sumatra!"

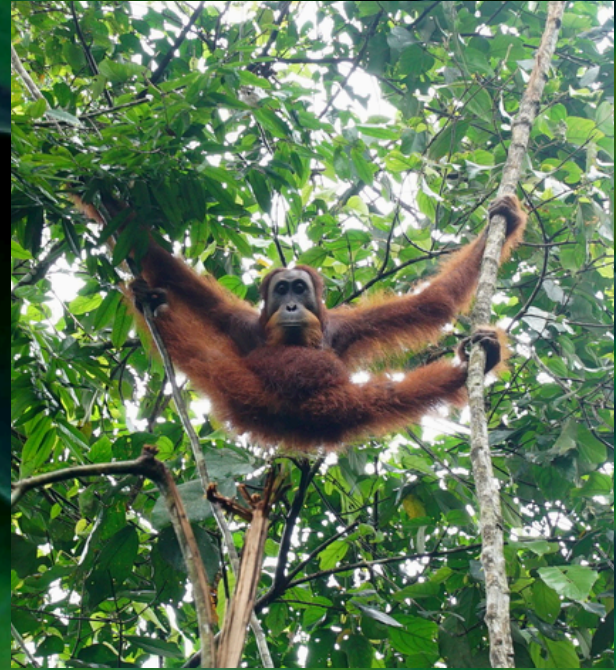
With Kylie along, you will garner a full and unusual understanding of what you are seeing, as this adventure of a lifetime takes you deep into the orangutans home.

EXPEDITION GOALS

Our goal is to provide our guests with a unique experience, to observe wild and semi-wild orangutans in their natural habitat. We will provide you with a safe platform to observe other wildlife Sumatra has to offer. We will also provide you with comprehensive information about the destination you are in so that you are fully informed of your surrounds. Furthermore, Orangutan Odysseys has partnered with The Orangutan Project which supports conservation programs in and Sumatra and Borneo.

WHAT TO EXPECT

You are embarking on an adventure to places and amongst people whose lives are very different from your own. Many aspects of life in Indonesia will seem unusual. Remember that these are often the same aspects that make an area an exotic and attractive destination. While boat expeditions are considered easy, no trek is easy, even those rated "easy or moderate". In addition to the personal physical challenges you may face, travel conditions can present unexpected obstacles, such as rough and bumpy roads and changeable weather. To prepare for this "pack" a flexible and relaxed attitude. Bring a spirit of adventure and inquiry, a healthy sense of humour and a willingness to encounter the unexpected and you will find your trip to Indonesia the adventure of a lifetime!



Tour Food - Vegetarian and Vegan based

All included meals provided during this tour will be vegetarian (with a vegan option). Guests will have the option of non-vegetarian meals during breakfast at hotels and for meals (some dinners) not included in the itinerary.



THE LEUSER ECOSYSTEM - THE LAST PLACE ON EARTH

At around 2.63 million hectares, the Leuser Ecosystem really is a world unto itself; a rich expanse of original tropical lowland rainforests, cloud-covered mountains and swampy peatlands. However, the Leuser Ecosystem is now under threat. Despite being protected under Indonesian national law, massive industrial development is being planned for logging, palm oil, pulp and paper plantations and mining. This will threaten the entire ecosystem, as well as the continued wellbeing of the millions of Acehnese traditional landholders who depend on it for their food, water and livelihoods.



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It is among the most biodiverse ecosystems ever recorded by science, and it is the last place on earth where Sumatran orangutans, elephants, tigers and rhinos still freely roam.

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PROJECT FUNDRAISING OBJECTIVES

Participants joining this expedition are required to raise funds (a minimum of \$1,250 AUD per participant) by networking with friends, family and colleagues to fundraise via your own customised fundraising page. Your fundraising page is created by Orangutan Odysseys and monies raised go straight to 'The Orangutan Project'. Details of how to achieve this goal and further information will be sent once you have booked. Participants in this expedition will also be contributing to the survival of the orangutans and their habitat by adopting an orphaned orangutan (included in your trip fare).

HIGHLIGHTS

- Educational talks by Kylie Bullo
- Meet representatives from other NGO's
- See wild orangutans in their natural rainforest habitat
- Trek through the magnificent Leuser Ecosystem
- Visit a real conservation project saving the orangutans habitat
- Travel into jungles to witness orangutan, siamangs, gibbons, leaf and macaque monkeys
- See the people of north Sumatra and their way of life
- Help save the orangutans from extinction

ITINERARY

9 days 10-18 August 2025

* Subject to change due to local conditions.

Day 1 - 10 August: Arrive in Medan.

Today you will arrive in Medan, North Sumatra where you will be met and picked up from the airport by an Orangutan Odysseys representative and transferred to your hotel in Medan city. Tonight over dinner we will meet our team and discuss the rest of the trip along with meeting your local guide. Overnight in a Medan hotel.

Day 2 - 11 August: Medan - Ketembe Lodge

Early this morning we board our bus to start the long drive (approx 10 hours) through to our jungle base camp in Ketembe (Aceh). Along the way, we will have time for some group discussions, we will stop for lunch at a local warung (small restaurant) and we will pass through the scenic mountain areas and also see volcanoes and other places of interest. Late afternoon we will arrive in Ketembe and set up base camp at our jungle lodge. If time allows we can have a swim in the nearby river. Here we will also meet with our local guiding team and discuss our plans for jungle trekking tomorrow. Overnight in the lodge. (B,L,D)

Day 3 - 12 August: Ketembe - Start 2-day Jungle Trekking

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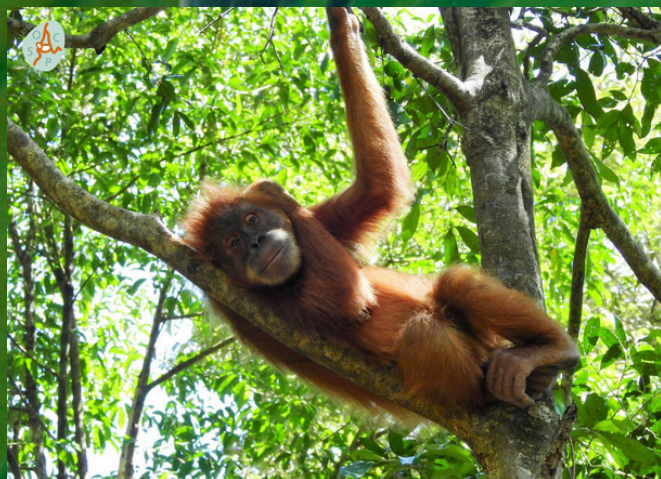
Today after an early breakfast we start our 2-day adventure and head into the jungle looking for orangutans and other wildlife. This amazing Leuser ecosystem will provide us opportunities to view not only wild orangutans but also Thomas Leaf monkeys, gibbons, macaques, hornbills and more. We will have lunch in the jungle and later we arrive at our campsite by a crystal clear river and enjoy a refreshing swim and clean up before dinner. We will camp in tents overnight in the National Park - all camping equipment including tent, mattress, pillow and blanket are carried in by our support team. (B,L,D)

Day 4 - 13 August: Ketembe Trekking - Ketembe Lodge

This morning we wake to the sounds of the jungle at our riverside camp and head out again into the jungles looking for wildlife and more. After lunch along the way, we will trek to the hot springs area for a relaxing "river spa" before making our way back out of the jungle and returning to the lodge overnight. (B,L,D)

Sumatran and Tapanuli orangutans are found only on the Indonesian island of Sumatra.

With just over 13,000 Sumatran orangutans, and approximately 800 Tapanuli orangutans individuals left in the wild, both species are in critical danger of extinction.



Day 5 - 14 August: Research Station - Reforestation and Trekking - Ketembe Lodge

This morning we travel to meet with The Forum for the Conservation of Leuser (FKL), where we will be introduced to their important work. We will trek through the jungle in the morning and in the afternoon look for orangutans and other wildlife. Along the way, we will learn more about the vital work being done by FKL and return to the lodge for the night. (B,L,D)

Some activities this day may include.

- Trekking, Phenology and bird watching
- Orangutan and Wildlife Observation
- FKL Presentation
- Informal discussions with the FKL Ketembe team

Day 6 - 15 August: Ketembe - Reforestation site - Alas River - Soraya Station

Early morning start from Ketembe, we travel to the village of Salem Pipit to meet our motorised boats on the Alas River (approx 2 hours). The boat down the river will take about 4-5 hours to Soraya station, depending on the water current. On the way we will visit the FKL restoration site at Serakut and have a packed lunch. After arrival we will get an introduction about the station and set up for our sleeping arrangements. (B,L,D)

Day 7 - 16 August: Soraya Research Station

Today have a full day to explore FKL's Soraya Station project. We will be introduced to their amazing work. Late afternoon, we will cool down in an amazing waterfall camp. We will spend time with the research team and do an afternoon trek into the jungle looking for wild orangutans and elephants. We will learn about what the researchers do and maybe help check the camera traps. Overnight Soraya Station. Rooms/tents and sleeping equipment are all provided. (B,L,D)

Some activities this day may include:

- Trekking, Phenology and bird watching
- Orangutan and Wildlife Observation
- Introducing to Soraya restoration and nursery
- Planting tree at Soraya Restoration
- Simanok-Manok & Ruam Waterfall (optional)
- Soraya Waterfall



“OO organised one of the best experiences of our lives. Cannot recommend Orangutan Odysseys enough. If you visit the orangutans with them you are also doing your bit to help save these incredible creatures and their habitat

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Day 8 - 17 August: Soraya Research Station - Medan

This morning after an early morning trek and breakfast we will farewell the team and jump back into the motorised boats for our ride to Gelombang where we will then be transferred in our bus (approx 8-9 hours) to our hotel in Medan (B,L)

Day 9 - 18 August: Medan - Airport - Tour ends

This morning you will drive to Medan Airport where your tour ends or you can continue with your onward travels. (B)

How do I get to Medan?

Medan is in northern Sumatra, with the major airport being Medan Kuala Namu International Airport (KNO). There are many daily direct flights to Medan from both Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. Airlines that service these routes include: Singapore Airlines, Silk Air, Air Asia, Malaysian Airlines and Jetstar Asia. Please contact us if you would like a quote for your flight connection to Medan from either Singapore or Kuala Lumpur.

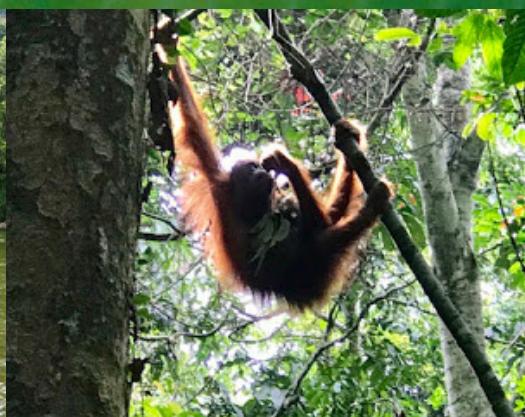


Please note: Additional accommodation can be arranged in Medan or like Toboa should you like to extend your stay in Sumatra. Please ensure that any flights departing Medan on day 9 should be booked for the early to late evening to allow enough connecting time from Lake Toba.

ACTIVITIES

- Orangutan viewing
- Professional conservation education
- Wildlife viewing
- Reforestation program
- Camping in the jungle
- Bird watching.....and more.

You will be supporting The Orangutan Project in their work protecting the Leuser Ecosystem; the last place on earth where orangutans, tigers, rhinos and elephants co-exist. Thank you for being part of the solution.



INCLUSIONS

- Accommodations throughout (twin-share basis). Single supplement available.
- Meals as outlined in the itinerary. (B,L,D)
- All National park and entry fees
- All transfers in private AC vehicles
- Experienced English-speaking local guides
- Donation included for a one-year orangutan adoption through The Orangutan Project
- Ranger and local guide fees plus porters
- Tent and camping equipment

EXCLUSIONS

- International and Domestic airfares and any expenses due to flight delays or cancellations
- Travel Insurance (mandatory)
- Personal expenses; alcohol, laundry, phone calls
- Tipping (optional)

“ We had the most amazing week thanks to Orangutan Odysseys. I highly recommend their adventures. Not only do you learn and see the work that is being done to help these amazing apes but you help the cause as well

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TRAVEL INFORMATION



WEATHER

Sumatra is a tropical climate with high humidity and hot temperatures throughout the year. Daytime temperature is generally 73F/23C to 86F/30C and nighttime is 73F/23C to 80F/27C

The Wet Season is Sep- Jan
The Dry Season is Feb-Aug



TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

A valid passport with at least 6 months validity from your return travel date is required by all visitors. VOA- Visa On Arrival is available at Indonesian Immigration when you arrive for approx \$50 AUD cash.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is mandatory to take part in this trip and Emergency Medical Evacuation Insurance is required for all trekkers.

We strongly recommend that you also take out trip cancellation, baggage loss and accident insurance.



Be healthy for
you
and me

HEALTH AND FIRST AID

No vaccinations are required for entry to Indonesia. However, you should consider cholera, typhoid and hepatitis vaccinations and make sure your tetanus cover is up to date. Please plan ahead and consult your doctor regarding personal health requirements as well as vaccinations and anti-malarial medication recommended for the area you are travelling to.

Orangutans share 97% human DNA making them susceptible to our diseases like the common cold and flu

MONEY

The currency in Indonesia is the Rupiah (Rp).

Money can be changed at the airport and some hotels.

ATM's are also available in some areas while on tour.

Credit cards such as Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted whereas American Express is limited in its acceptance.

TIPPING

Tipping while not compulsory is encouraged to show your appreciation to our guides, drivers and assistants during your travel.

COST

From \$3795.00 (AUD) ex Medan, North Sumatra (twin-share).

Participants in this expedition are required to fundraise a minimum of AUD\$1,250.

Single supplement available \$580

CONTACT

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