



LEIF COCKS' SUMATRA ORANGUTAN DISCOVERY TOUR EXPEDITION ITINERARY (10 days) ~ 5 to 14 NOVEMBER 2012

Join us for an intimate experience with orangutans in the unique jungles of northern Sumatra with two unique personal hosts, one Australia's foremost authority on orangutans, and the other the most respected orangutan rescuer in Indonesia – November 2012, be there!

Travel type:	Small group of 8 to 12. Children 12 years and older allowed.
Expedition grade:	Easy to difficult in parts (some jungle trekking)
Activities:	Orangutan viewing, wildlife viewing, reforestation program, river cruising, bird watching and more
Accommodation:	Hotels, jungle lodges & tent
Transport:	Private vehicles and on foot.
How this helps Orangutans:	You will be supporting the Australian Orangutan Project (AOP) a non-profit organisation in their work protecting orangutans and endangered species and their rainforest habitat in Indonesia.
Price:	\$5,000 – Includes Cash Donation to AOP
Trip duration:	Ten (10)

OVERVIEW

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

Under the auspices of eco tourism group, Orangutan Odysseys, raising funds for the Australian Orangutan Project, who in turn support the local NGO, the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme (SOCP), you will be guided through jungles, on an exclusive expedition led by two men who know orangutans and this location like few others in the world.

This is an adventure you can have nowhere else in the world. In this ten day Orangutan Odysseys tour, beginning and ending in Bali, and visiting reforestation centres, trekking on elephants to the jungle of Gunung Leuser National Park, in Northern Sumatra, you will spend time with viewing wild and ex-captive orangutans who wander freely in their natural surroundings. You will go back in time to a place in the jungle where one of the first orangutan research camps was established in 1971 to do some of the first field research of the red ape.

You will also spend time along the way in a unique orangutan hospital and rescue centre, where veterinarians are breaking new ground in the medical treatment of the red ape, and where orangutans are prepared for reintroduction back into the forests.

One of your hosts will be **Leif Cocks**. Leif is the founder and President of the Australian Orangutan Project. He is the Collections Curator at Perth Zoo, where he has worked for 25. In his role at the Zoo, Leif oversees the animal collection. Leif has also been, as well as an Australasian Species Management Program Committee Member; a Quarantine-Approved Assessor; Artiodactyls TAG Convenor; Australasian Primate Husbandry Adviser; Zoo Accreditation Officer; UN GRASP in-country point of contact; and an International Species Coordinator and Committee Chair for the Javan gibbon. Leif is also a Conservation Fund manager for the Silvery Gibbon Project.



Leif has several academic qualifications, including a Masters of Science studying orangutans. He lectures at universities; supervises university students and regularly publishes papers on orangutans in peer reviewed journals. Leif also has field experience in protecting rainforest, rescuing and releasing orangutan, including the first ever captive-born orangutans from zoos

The other host is **Dr.Ian Singleton**. Ian was a zookeeper at Whipsnade and Edinburgh Zoos and then in 1989 he started at Jersey Zoo as their orangutan keeper. He took a few vacations to Indonesia to learn about orangutans in the wild and eventually completed his PhD., which he started in 1996 in South Aceh and finished in late 2000. He then approached Regina Frey and PanEco as he knew they were starting a new orangutan conservation project here and was hired to help set that up.



Ian now supervises and directs all aspects of the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme (SOCP). It involves lots of office work and meetings but he does still manage to get to the forest now and again and also maintain something of a hands on role at the quarantine centre. It is VERY rewarding to get some orangutans back to the wild...and also to get some of the sick ones healthy again

With these two hosts you will get a full and unusual understanding of what you are seeing, as this adventure of a lifetime takes you deep into the orangutan's home.

You will likely also see many other wild animals, such as the macaques, the proboscis monkey, elephants and exotic birds like the bird of paradise and the electric-blue kingfisher. If we are very luck we may even spot a rare Sumatran Tiger.

After Sumatra, we return to Bali. For those who want to stay longer and experience more of Indonesia's charm, we can organize some options that will intrigue you.

If you are the sort of person interested in adventure and making a contribution to preserving the rainforest and a species of great ape, then this is your expedition.

HIGHLIGHTS

- See the orangutans in their natural rainforest habitat
- Visit the Orangutan Care Centre & Quarantine in Batu Mbelin - closed to the public.
- Travel into jungles to witness elephants, proboscis, ebony and grey macaque monkeys
- See the people of Sumatra and their way of life
- Help save the orangutans from extinction

ITINERARY

- Day 1:** **Arrive Bali.** We will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel for overnight accommodation.
- Day 2:** **Early morning flight to Medan – Halaban - Tangkahan.** Leave early morning via to Jakarta to Medan. You will be greeted at the airport by an OO representative and transferred to SOS/OIC Replanting Centre at Halaban. Here over 500 hectares of reclaimed forest is being replanted. Palm Oil trees have been uprooted and the land is re-vegetated with endemic plants as well as plants that are important to the survival of the orangutan. You will be shown around the grounds, shown replanting sites and the progress that is being made and also have the opportunity to do some planting yourself. From there we will be transported by vehicle to Tangkahan for our overnight stay. You will take a small punt across the river and check into the Mega Inn. (B, L, D)
- Day 3:** **Elephant Trek - Bukit Lawang.** This morning we will head off to a nearby Elephant Rangers Station. There, elephants are used to help Rangers monitor the nearby jungle and also offer elephant treks. After helping the Rangers bathe the elephants we will take a walk with them atop one of the beautiful creatures. The Elephant trek will terminate at the Mega Inn for lunch. After lunch we will go for a river walk and then tube down stream to a beautiful waterfall. We will then walk back to the Mega Inn where we will check out and then drive to Bukit Lawang, approximately 3 hrs away. In Bukit Lawang we will check into our accommodation and then if time allows head off to the afternoon feeding station for a close up view (hopefully) of some local Orangutans. In the evening you will meet your guide for the trek tomorrow. (B, L, D)
- Day 4:** **Bukit Lawang - Brestagi.** Today we start early morning for our ½ day jungle trek and head back towards Bukit Lawang sometime after lunch via a white water tube ride down the river. Once in Bukit Lawang we will may have some free time to wander around town and maybe have a swim in the Bohorok River. We will check out and then drive to Berastagi ; a hill town with a temperate climate and that is powered by thermal power from nearby volcanoes. In Berastagi we will check into our hotel for free time. (B,L,D)
- Day 5:** **Brestagi - Gunung Sinabung - Ketambe.** Early in the morning we will head up to the summit of Gunung Sinabung active volcano to watch the sun rise over the landscape. From there we will head down to the local market where they sell familiar fruits and vegetables such as apples and lettuce and some unfamiliar fruits such as Dragon Fruit. After checking out we will start the drive to Ketambe arriving there at approximately 3pm. We will overnight in a local guest house on the banks of the Alas River. (B,L,D)
- Day 6 :** **White-water Rafting and Alas River.** Today we will whitewater raft the famous and beautiful Alas River. We will drive upstream into the Park to start our journey and then head back via the river, ridding rapids (Class 3 on average) back to the guest house. This afternoon we will also meet our guide who will take us, on our 4 day trek into the Gunung Leuser National Park. Overnight in the guest house. (B,L,D)
- Day 7:** **Gunung Leuser National Park.** After breakfast we head off into the Park. This amazing ecosystem will provide us with viewings of Orangutans, Thomas Leaf monkeys, Gibbons, Macaques, Hornbills and more. Our destination is a remote lake that is a drinking hole for wild elephants. This however will take a couple of days to get to, so we will camp either in the forest or by a river for the first night. (B,L,D)
- Day 8:** **Gunung Leuser - Ketambe.** Today we return to "civilization" at Ketambe but not before a wonderful final days trek through the pristine rainforests. Overnight guest house in Ketambe (B,L,D)
- Day 9:** **Ketambe – Care Centre - Medan.** After breakfast we will drive to the SOCP's Batu Mbelin Quarantine Center. The Center confiscates Orangutans that have been kept in captivity. These Orangutans are usually young orphans after their mothers have been killed during logging and land clearing for monocrops such as Palm Oil. The quarantine station at Batu Mbelin and the reintroduction center in Jambi are both well-equipped, staffed by experienced personnel, and operate to the highest standards. The confiscated Orangutans are eventually released in the Bukit Tigapuluh National Park, an area providing ideal lowland rainforest habitat, that previously had no existing wild Orangutan population



At present there are approximately 50 Orangutans that are cared for before their ultimate release into the wild. One of the driving forces behind the centers creation and the head of the Centre, Ian Singleton, will show us around the facilities, explaining how it works, the interaction between people and the environment, the Palm Oil industry and much more.

This is a privilege few people get to talk with one of the pre-eminent experts on Sumatran Orangutans as well as see this facility and what it does to help. From there we will head to Medan and check into our hotel for the final nights dinner. (B, L)

Day 10: Medan - Home. For those heading back to their original port we will transfer you to the airport (B)

INCLUSIONS

- All return domestic airfares from Bali
- Accommodations in Bali at either end of your trip
- Accommodations Tangkahan, Bukit Lawang, Ketambe and Medan
- Meals as outlined in Itinerary.
- All park fees including personal camera fee
- All transfers in all locations
- Professional local Guides through the expedition
- Donation included for One Orangutan Adoption and Sponsoring 100 hectares of rainforest to those protecting the Orangutans (AOP)
- Special design OO t-shirt & cap
- Ranger and local guide fees + porters
- Access fee/donation for entry to Halaban Reforestation & Batu Mbelin Rescue Centre
- Cash donation to the AOP of \$1,200 pp
- All tips to elephant guides, trek guides and tubing guides. (Excludes tip to OO Guide)
- Tent and camping equipment

EXCLUSIONS

- International airfares to Bali, Indonesia
- Visa on arrival (US\$25)
- Some meals & drinks (see itinerary)

DONATIONS, FEES AND COSTS

The purpose of this trip is to create awareness of the threat of extinction facing orangutans because of the destruction of their rainforest habitat and to raise funds to help orangutans. The trip hosts, Leif Cocks and Ian Singleton are generously donating their time and expertise to help make this a most unique trip and a special experience for all our guests.

Orangutan Odysseys has raised over \$70,000 up to 2011 to help support the orangutan's survival. Each participant of the trip will adopt an orangutan and sponsor rainforest via the AOP as part of the expedition fees of \$130 per person along with a \$1,200 cash donation to the AOP. Orangutan Odysseys will make a direct group contribution to the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme and to the Sumatran Orangutan Society during our visit there, to cover access fees in these locations.

Donations – Can you help more?

We believe that generosity flows best when it comes from the heart according to what you feel is fair. We hope that the unique experience of this trip will persuade you to make a further donation to the non-profit organisation Australian Orangutan Project (AOP) so as they can continue to support the Indonesian NGO's for the excellent work they do in helping orangutans and orangutan habitat or maybe even that you will feel encouraged to organise fundraising in your community. Your contribution will help preserve land for orangutans, build support among Indonesians to save the red ape, and support orphanages for young orangutans whose mothers have been killed. Please help us fight for the survival of orangutans however you can. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



TRIP EXTENSIONS

Why not think about seeing more amazing locations in Indonesia after your orangutan expedition? For more details about some of the exciting trip extensions to other parts of Indonesia [click here](#)

MORE INFORMATION

If you decide to join this trip, we will send you further travel details. Please do not hesitate to contact us at oo@orangutanodysseys.com for more information.

Website Links for more information:

- The Australian Orangutan Project: www.orangutan.org.au
- Orangutan Odysseys – www.orangutanodysseys.com

