



BORNEO: HOME FOR THE GUARDIANS OF THE FOREST

Orangutan Volunteer Program

Information Pack

Samboja Lestari Orangutan Reintroduction Program
A world class release program
Experience the impact of your contribution





Moderate
Fitness Level

14
Days



Snapshot:

\$250 Deposit to secure your spot

\$1,000 Donation to join (\$750 after deposit is paid and can be fundraised)

Travel Price: Approx **\$1,000***

Includes 14 nights' accommodation at Samboja Lodge, all meals & airport transfers (Package starts in Borneo. Flights are not included).

Book your own flights return to Balikpapan, Borneo in Indonesia.

*based on a standard twin room. Subject to changes based on room type chosen

Highlights

- See orangutans in their natural habitat
- Create enrichment items for orangutans to play with and enjoy
- Work and live amongst the forest, immersing yourself in the culture
- Spend time with sun bears
- Improve the life of orangutans who cannot be released back into the wild
- Meet the incredible people who care for the orangutans

THE TRIP AT A GLANCE

Samboja Lestari is an oasis just outside of the hustle and bustle of busy Balikpapan, set in a 2,000-hectare reserve of unique, regenerating rainforest. It is relatively unknown as the centre doesn't encourage tourists.

However, Samboja Lestari remains one of the best and most accessible places in the world to see orangutans whilst respecting the fact that they are wild animals.

It is the home of over 150 orangutans, most of whom are being prepared for release to the wild. The sanctuary also houses over 40 sun bears.

As an Orangutan Volunteer, you'll participate in our enrichment and welfare program.

Participants spend two weeks with a Borneo Orangutan Survival (BOS) Australia representative and the local technicians working on the enrichment program. You will be creating food and play items for orangutans that are essential to their welfare.

Samboja Lestari hosts its own eco-lodge, where visitors are given a taste of the local food and you are also given the chance to visit some amazing local sights. There is nothing like seeing a Proboscis Monkey at twilight.

Most of the time during your stay, you will be making enrichment items for the keepers to feed out to the orangutans, which you get to observe. This may involve making larger items like hammocks. You will also get to spend time with the sun bears.

Please note that there is strictly no hands-on contact with the orangutans. There is also time for other local activities included in the itinerary.



THE EXPERIENCE

Spend two weeks in beautiful Borneo at Samboja Lestari, a sanctuary that cares for over 150 orangutans and 50 sun bears.

A typical day begins at 7am with a wonderful Indonesian breakfast and work begins around 8am. Your day may include a morning trip to the local market for vegetables and then spending an afternoon with the resident botanist, collecting berries and fruit from the wild.

Working closely with the staff, you will develop new enrichment items for orangutans. You could spend a day hauling logs through the forest to build feeding platforms or cutting up bamboo to make food puzzles. It will be hands-on and hard work, but very satisfying.

The highlight of each day will include watching the keepers distribute the new enrichment items - observing and noting how the orangutans interact with them.

End the day, relaxing with a cold drink and watching the sun set over the jungle hills. You will enjoy an impressive dinner before an early bedtime in preparation for another busy day to come.



This is truly an experience of a lifetime that you will not soon forget!

During your stay you will also have the opportunity to participate in activities such as a Black River cruise to view Proboscis Monkeys in their natural habitat, a canopy walk in Bukit Bangkirai, a tour to the Sungai Wain Forest and a visit to the local night market where you can try some tasty street food. *

*Optional Day tours are approx. \$30AUD each and can be paid for at the lodge

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS



Samboja Lodge is very comfortable, and the rooms are clean and neat. Rooms are air-conditioned, relaxing and homely.

Estimated travel cost is based on the twin share standard first floor rooms, with cold water. Each room has a lovely garden view. In the warm climate, the cold water is refreshing and cleansing to shower in after a hot, sweaty day. Single rooms and rooms with hot showers are available at an extra cost.

We recommend bringing a reusable water bottle to fill up with drinking water at the fountain in the dining room. Mosquito nets on the beds are good quality and beds are comfortable with pillows and bolsters. It's Asia so there are mosquitos and bugs and the occasional gecko may appear in your room - but they're friendly!

There are good communal areas for getting to know other guests. These include a pool table, lounge chairs to read and relax in and a viewing deck with breathtaking views.



There is free Wi-Fi, however it is unreliable. WhatsApp works for messages, photos and intermittent phone calls. This is a great opportunity to disconnect!

The lodge has a generator which runs at least 12 hours a day. We recommend taking a 2-pin round with earth travel adapter. If you have multiple devices to charge, a small power board is useful.

What is the food like?

Meals are yummy with a variety of local food, all contain steamed rice plus 3 choices of Indonesian dishes. There are snack options, which cost extra, but are great to fill an empty stomach in the late afternoon.

Dietary needs can in most cases be met, please advise on registration.

The lodge bar usually just has beer, juices and soft drinks as well as a few snacks. You cannot go out walking or jogging alone though there are stairs up to the tower if you want to exercise, however you will get plenty of exercise during the day.



PROJECT DETAILS

What Impact will I have?

By joining the Orangutan Volunteer Program, you are not only contributing your time on the ground in Borneo. With your optional fundraising efforts in the lead up to the trip, you are also helping to raise awareness of orangutans and the work of BOSA.

The money you raise will go directly towards providing care for the orangutans at our rehabilitation centres, as well as helping to fund specific programs such as our Baby Houses, Forest Schools and Reforestation Projects.



Help us make enrichment items

While in Borneo, you will help to make enrichment items for the orangutans that are being cared for at Samboja Lestari. These items really make a difference to the everyday lives of the orangutans, helping them to learn valuable skills that they will need when released into the wild. For those orangutans that unfortunately cannot be released, enrichment items help bring variety, diversion and enjoyment to their days.



The Reintroduction Program

Samboja Lestari is the first orangutan reintroduction program established by the Borneo Orangutan Survival (BOS) Foundation in 1991, specifically to provide care and rehabilitation for displaced or orphaned orangutans rescued from areas of habitat loss.

Our main activities at Samboja Lestari include orangutan rescue, translocation of orangutans from areas of conflict to areas of secure and protected habitat, the provision of welfare and healthcare, rehabilitation, reintroduction and forest restoration activities.



The Sun bear Sanctuary

In addition to orangutan rehabilitation and reintroduction, we manage a sun bear sanctuary at Samboja Lestari, with over 40 sun bears currently in our care.

The BOS Foundation has rescued hundreds of orangutans in East Kalimantan and currently care for and supports over 150 orangutans at Samboja Lestari.

MEET TWO OF OUR ORANGUTANS

You will be working with the Enrichment staff to develop and make enrichment items for our orphaned orangutans.



DODO

When Dodo arrived, he was a scared and vulnerable six-month-old but despite this, he grew into an independent and cheeky toddler. Now at 11 years of age, his behavioural development is not quite the same as those of a similar age. He shows a great deal of dependence on his carers to provide him with food, and other resources he would need to survive if he lived in the wild.

Losing a mother often changes a young orangutan for life and Dodo is one of these cases.

Dodo has shown so far that life in the wild is not for him and so to ensure his safety and protection, as well as those around him, he will be cared for, for the duration of his life at the East Kalimantan Sanctuary, Samboja Lestari.



KOPRAL

At 4 years old, Koprak escaped from the cage where he was kept illegally, climbed an electricity pole and was electrocuted so severely, he was untreated, thought to be dying, for one whole week.

The accident brutally burned both his arms and legs – his right arm so horrifically scorched that there was no flesh, only bone remained. He was in such heartbreakingly poor condition, there was little hope for him.

Though he was significantly injured, Koprak consistently showed a colossal will to survive through his big appetite - for food and for life! Now, he climbs trees and builds nests using his feet and mouth to hold and arrange twigs and leaves. He is ambitious, curious, active, extremely clever and refuses to be held back by the misfortune he suffered.

FUNDRAISING

Visiting as part of this program you will be supporting orangutans directly with a donation of approx. AUD\$1,000.

Borneo Orangutan Survival Australia is a non-profit organisation that raises funds to support the work of Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation (BOSF) in Indonesia.

BOSF works under an official agreement with the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry for the conservation of Bornean orangutans and their ecosystem that works by involving and educating the local people. They focus on orangutan rescue, reintroduction and habitat conservation both in East and Central Kalimantan.

Currently, BOSF, supported by BOSA and other sister organisations, manages the biggest orangutan reintroduction program in the world, and is caring for almost 600 orangutans. BOSF also manages a peatland conservation area which provides habitat for 3,000 wild orangutans in Central Kalimantan and manages an Ecosystem Restoration Concession in East Kalimantan that is dedicated as orangutan habitat.

How You Can Fundraise For Your Trip

“ Fundraising can seem daunting, but you can achieve and even exceed in your fundraising.

Your fundraising efforts will directly support the orangutan rehabilitation projects with BOSA. I'm here to support you with all your fundraising for the incredible adventure you have ahead.

Together we can help create a fundraising plan tailored to help you reach your goal.

Jessie McGuire

Orangutan Volunteer Program Administrator



The sky's the limit when it comes to fundraising! Here's a few ideas:

DINNER PARTY

Do you enjoy cooking? Host a dinner party where your guests pay what they would for a night out e.g. \$50 (10 friends @ \$50 is \$500 and 1/2 of your entire fundraising target!)

TRIVIA NIGHT

Host a trivia night at a local pub that will give you free room hire, ask local businesses for sponsored prizes and charge \$10 per head

GARAGE SALE

Ask friends and family to donate unwanted household items and clothing and host a fundraising garage sale. Advertise your sale on Gumtree or local facebook groups to attract local buyers

The options are endless! Remember, if you're struggling or unsure, get in touch and we can chat about some ideas.

Once you're registered, we'll send you information to set up your own fundraising page. It's easy and convenient to set up and then share with your networks on social media and at events.

Your first part of the donation of \$250 is expected at the time of registration, which lets us know you're serious about coming.



Register now

✉ hello@orangutans.com.au

🌐 orangutans.com.au/volunteer/

COUNTDOWN TO YOUR ENRICHMENT ADVENTURE

To Do	Date	Activity
 Register	Immediately	Completed registration form and \$250 donation secures your spot on your desired travel date.
 Fundraising Plan	After Registration	Let us help you put together a fundraising plan so you're confident you can reach your goal and get to Borneo!
 Conditions of Fundraising	After Registration	Complete your conditions of fundraising form in your welcome email and we'll send you an "Authority to Fundraise" letter. This is your permission to fundraise publicly for BOSA.
 Connect with your team on facebook	After Registration	Get to know your fellow adventurers on Facebook.
 Travel Arrangements & Travel Insurance	After Registration	Book your flights and purchase comprehensive Travel insurance.
 Medical Arrangements	After Registration	Confirm with your GP if you require any vaccinations. Provide test results for TB, HIV, Hep B & C and Yellow Fever (See Guidelines)
 Fundraising Target #2	5 months to departure	Ensure you've reached another \$250 on your fundraising page (this brings total fundraising to \$500 including deposit)
 Fundraising Target #3	3 months to departure	Ensure you've reached another \$250 on your fundraising page (\$750 total including deposit)
 Final Payment Due	1 month to departure	Ensure you've reached a minimum of \$750 on your fundraising page (brings total to \$1,000) or pay remainder yourself. Total due 30 days before departure
 All Documents Completed	1 month to departure	Ensure you've submitted all your documents Including test results, signed guidelines and contact form
 Pack your bags	2 weeks to departure	Pack appropriate clothing and footwear which we will advise you of in a packing check list via email

FAQs

What does it cost?

We ask you to fundraise \$1,000 that goes directly to support orangutan programs.

This needs to be deposited to BOSA either on your fundraising page or to our bank account 30 days before departure.

Your accommodation is payable direct to Samboja Lodge either before departure or when you are in Borneo (credit card fees apply, price subject to exchange rates).

For 14 nights, including transfers, standard share room and all food the cost is approximately AUD\$1,000 (depending on exchange rates and excluding flights) per person. Alcoholic drinks, snacks and optional day trips are additional.

The below rates table (AUD is approximate) is the special room rate for program volunteers and includes tea, coffee and three meals a day. Return airport transfers are approx \$40 per person based on 2 people travelling.

ROOM TYPE	ROOM RATE PER PERSON (IDR)	ROOM RATE PER PERSON (AUD)
Standard Lower - Shared	600,000	\$60
Standard Lower - Single	850,000	\$85
Standard Top - Shared	750,000	\$75
Standard Top - Single	1,000,000	\$100
Queen Suite - Shared	1,000,000	\$100
Queen Suite - Single	1,300,000	\$130
King Suite - Shared	1,400,000	\$140
King Suite - Single	1,800,000	\$180

Do I need to book my own flights?

Yes. Book and pay for yourself for return flights to Balikpapan which are approximately AUD\$1,000–

\$1,500, depending on airline, dates and departing city. Once booked, you will need to advise us of the flight to ensure airport transfers can be arranged. Please ask if you need assistance with choosing flights.

Do I need a passport and/or visa?

You will need a passport with at least 6 months validity from your return date. If you are travelling on an Australian Passport you do not require a visa. For all other nationalities you will need to seek further advice from a travel consultant.

What safety precautions are taken?

When working around animals always be aware of your surroundings and belongings, do not step too close to a fence or barrier, or have items in your hands an animal could grab. Do not leave any belongings within reach of animals.

Keep long hair tied back and do not wear jewelry that an animal may be able to grab. You must always be with a technician or facilitator - do not wander off unaccompanied.

Please keep good hygiene practices, such as washing your hands numerous times throughout the day. Only drink water from water coolers provided. Brush your teeth with bottled water only.

Please remember Indonesia is a conservative society. Wear respectful clothing by making sure your shoulders and knees are covered at the centre as well as on any day trips to the city or local markets. During work you may be cutting leaves and branches, and there are many mosquitos around, so you may prefer to wear light, full length pants and sleeves to protect yourself. Please wear comfortable, covered, protective footwear when working. Around the lodge, you may wear shorts and sleeveless clothing and flip flops are allowed. However, please continue to keep clothing respectful and not overly tight or revealing.



FAQS continued

Do I have to fundraise?

No, you are welcome to pay the \$1,000 donation yourself and we will issue a tax receipt.

How do I fundraise?

We will send you a link to set up your own fundraising page through the Give Easy Platform. It only takes a few minutes. Share your page with friends and family to begin. There are some ideas for fundraising on page 6, but if you're struggling just email us and we can chat about different things you can do. It's easier than you think!

The sooner you pay your deposit the sooner you can begin fundraising. Allowing plenty of time before your departure will help you to reach your target easily.

What's not included?

Accommodation, transfers, food and tours costs given are an estimate and are payable directly to Samboja Lodge. You will be issued with an invoice prior to departure with exact costs. Your flights are payable by you directly to your travel agent or provider.

Any alcohol, snacks, associated health costs (tests and vaccines), personal care, insurances, spending money and other items not explicitly stated are at your additional expense.

Can I raise funds to cover my travel costs?

Yes, you can, once you've reached your fundraising target of \$1,000. Be sure to keep any extra funds raised for travel costs separate to your fundraising page, as they are not tax-deductible. We suggest you set up a separate fundraising page for your own travel costs and make sure your supporters are aware that their money is being used for your travel costs, as it will not be tax deductible.

Is my donation tax-deductible?

Yes, any donations over AUD \$2.00 deposited to BOSA or on your fundraising page are tax-deductible donation for Australian residents. When someone donates to your trip on the fundraising page, they'll get an automatic receipt via Give Easy (the payment portal).

Do I need travel insurance?

Yes, comprehensive travel insurance is compulsory. We recommend World Nomad Volunteer Travel Insurance.

Are the travel costs guaranteed?

We will do our utmost to keep prices as approximated, however costs may change. Please see our Terms and Conditions for more details.

How fit do I need to be?

A moderate level of fitness and agility is required to manage the work which can be quite manual at times. Also, you will be working in a humid forest so be prepared to get dirty and sweaty. Think of it as a working holiday. While your fitness level and health are your responsibility, we advise that you seek medical advice from your GP if you have any concerns about your health.

What is the minimum/maximum age range of participants?

Participants must be over 15 years of age. Children must be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian. There is no maximum age, if you have a moderate level of fitness.

Can I extend my stay?

You sure can! Just give us a heads up when booking. You can also shorten your stay if need be.

I have some more questions...

No worries, send us an email at hello@orangutans.com.au or call 02 9011 5455.

I'M READY TO REGISTER!

Great! All you need to do is visit www.orangutans.com.au/volunteer and complete the online registration form. Don't forget to pay your \$250 deposit to secure your spot!

You can pay online, over the phone or via direct deposit, just let us know how you wish to pay.

After your deposit has been received and your spot has been confirmed for your requested tour date, we will be in touch with further information.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU IN BORNEO!



BOS Australia
primates helping primates