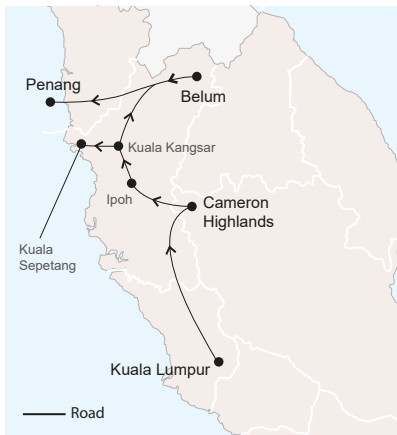


One of the largest untouched forest reserves in Peninsular Malaysia, Belum nature park and its trove of biological treasures – Perak.

HIGHLAND AND BELUM VALLEY EXPLORER

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS



Day 01 – Sat – Kuala Lumpur – Cameron Highlands (220 km)

Depart by 0830 hours for Cameron Highlands, situated 1,542 metres above sea level and a highland getaway famed for its cool and very refreshing natural environment.

En route, stop at the holy Hindu temple of Batu Caves (except three days of pre and post during Thaipusam festival), an enchanting site that blissfully remains an attraction not only to the locals but also to foreign visitors enticed by its sacredness and its

strategic location. The main shrine is embraced in a huge natural limestone outcrop. Climb the steep 272 steps to explore the inner chamber of the great cave with its many religious figures.

Next, drive further northward where we will stop to visit a basket weaving cottage industry. These woven bamboo baskets are used to transport farm produce to the market place. En route to the highlands, visit the Iskandar Waterfall, nestled at the foot of a hill and a native settlement. Observe the native lifestyle and see how a blowpipe is used by them for hunting. On arrival, enjoy the cool crisp air of Cameron Highlands and the wonderful scenery. Rest of the day is at leisure. Overnight.

Overnight in hotel, 4 star, Meals: Breakfast

Day 02 – Sun – Cameron Highlands

After breakfast depart for an exploratory tour of Cameron Highlands, used as a highland retreat station for the British during the colonial days. Proceed to Gunung or Mount Brinchang, the highest peak (6,666ft.) in Cameron Highlands. Upon arrival, walk up the observation tower where you will be treated with a fantastic view over the area.

Early in the morning, or when the temperature is rising fast you will witness the whole dense forest covered in white mist.

Cruise down the hill to visit one of the strawberry farms where we can pay a small fee to pick fresh succulent strawberries by hand. From the farm, we will continue to visit the most scenic tea plantation, the Sungei Palas Boh estate which is regarded as the largest and best known tea station in the region. Enjoy the amazing views over endless valleys covered with tea bushes. Take a tea break after the brief guided tour of the factory. After the refreshing tea break, visit Butterfly & Reptiles Farm to view the many beautiful butterfly species including the renowned Raja Brooke. Stop at a day market where most of the local produce can be found. Spend some time here exploring the many delightful finds.

Last part of the tour will be a 1.5hrs walk (less than 2.5kms) through some of the unmarked trails still used by the natives. Discover the simple lifestyle of our highland natives who has been living in this part of the forests for more than a century. Observe the interesting flora such as pitcher plants, wild orchids, funky fungi, tree-bound epiphytes, huge tree

ferns and lipstick plants or take a glimpse of the small creatures such as millipedes, lizards, frogs, and squirrels (sighting of animals are not guaranteed). We will stop for pack lunch at one of the traditional hut built by the natives for R&R (Rest & Relax), while enjoying the peace and tranquility of the virgin forest before trekking back to the resort. Estimated arrival time at the resort is at 1600hrs. Overnight. [Meals: Breakfast, packed lunch]

Note:

- *Tea factory is closed on Monday and public holidays.*
- *Tea break at the tea factory is not inclusive in tour price.*
- *Please wear comfortable trekking shoes, insect repellent and raincoat.*

Meals: Breakfast, packed lunch.

Day 03 – Mon – Cameron Highlands – Kuala Kangsar – Kuala Sepetang – Belum Rainforest Resort (330 km)

Breakfast. At 0830hrs depart Cameron Highlands towards Belum Valley. En route, visit the Sam Poh Tong cave temple. Thereafter, stop at the Royal town of Kuala Kangsar for a photostop of the exterior view only of the Ubudiah Mosque, Iskandariah and Kenangan Palace.

Proceed further to Kuala Sepetang mangrove area. The Kuala Sepetang mangrove forest is the best-managed mangrove forest in Malaysia due to its ecological importance in protecting the coastline from erosion. Enjoy the sensation of walking through natural mangrove forest on a boardwalk. Kuala Sepetang produces the bulk of the nation's top quality mangrove charcoal. Visit a charcoal kiln where quality charcoal is produced. Drive northeast towards Banding Island in Belum area through Gerik and en route visit the Lenggong Valley Museum. Lenggong Valley is the site of the oldest known place of human activity on the peninsula. The district of Lenggong can be likened to an open-air museum, and is home to legends, skeletons, cave drawings and precious discoveries such as jewellery, pottery, weapons and stone tools of ancient humans who lived and hunted in this area.

On arrival in Belum Rainforest Resort, check in and spend the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight Belum Rainforest Resort/Room: ROH. Meal: Breakfast

Day 04 – Tue – Belum Valley

Breakfast. At 0830hrs after breakfast proceed for a tour of the Belum Valley, an area bristling



with fauna and flora; a rich national heritage. This last frontier of Peninsular Malaysia beckons the adventurous ones with its everlasting charm. From Banding Island on the Temenggor Lake, we will take a boat ride for a tour of the aboriginal villages. Observe and mingle with the 'Orang Asli' people, which literally mean 'the original people'. These are of the Jahai and Temiar tribe, one of the aboriginal ethnic groups of Peninsular Malaysia. We will have the opportunity to trek in the jungle and with some luck to see the 'Rafflesia' - the world's largest flower, in the wilderness. Packed lunch will be served. Enjoy the encounter with scenic waterfalls in the lush green jungle. Visitors will enjoy the privilege of having been in some of the oldest tropical rainforests in the world - 130 million years old. Return to the resort. Rest of the day is free at leisure. Try your luck fishing (note: fishing rod and equipment are available for rental) – who knows, you might catch a famous Toman or the snake head fish. In other words, just relax and enjoy the ever-soothing natural ambiance. It is indeed a place that will leave you with an everlasting memory of nature's greatness and its tropical blessings.

Overnight Belum Rainforest Resort/Room: ROH. Meal: Breakfast & Packed Lunch

Day 05 – Wed – Belum Rainforest Resort – Penang (135 km)

Breakfast. 0830hrs – Depart Temenggor Lake towards Penang. On arrival in Penang proceed with a City, Culture and Heritage tour of Georgetown, which was official declared as a UNESCO Site in 2008. Visit Kek Lok Si Temple that was built in 1904. It is the most beautiful and largest Buddhist temple

complex in South East Asia and is known as the Temple of the 1,000 Buddhas. Thereafter proceed to Fort Cornwallis, the landing site of Captain Francis Light in 1786 when he arrived to start the first British colony in Penang. The tour continues with a visit to the water village of the Clan Jetties at Weld Quay, so named as residents of each jetty share similar surnames. We next take you along Pitt Street, also known as "The Street of Harmony". Here churches, Chinese temples, mosques and Hindu temples have existed along the same street in harmonious existence side by side for centuries. Visit the intricate Khoo Kong Si clan's house. Enjoy a breezy trishaw ride, a still popular mode of transport in Georgetown. □ *Tour ends* □

Meals: Breakfast

Note: *Option to end by boat to Langkawi via Kuala Kedah, supplement applies. This can only be done without doing tour of Penang on this day. Boat trip to Langkawi is without guide onboard.*

Note:

- *Tour ends at city hotel or at beach hotels in Penang. Surcharge applies for direct transfer to Penang airport after the tour. Please ensure that your flight is after 1900hrs.*
- *During the Muslim festival of Hari Raya Aidul Fitri & Hari Raya Aidul Adha together with the Chinese New Year, some places of interest are closed for a period of 2 days each in a year (Festive dates are subject to changes).*

What to bring:

Raincoat, hand torch, personal toiletries, cotton material clothing, swimming attire, body soap, walking shoes with rubber soles, anti-malaria tablets and suntan/block lotion.

For bookings and inquiries, please contact:

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