

Mysterious Sumatra



Days: 17

Price: 1575 EUR
International flight not included

Comfort: ★★☆☆☆

Difficult: ★★☆☆☆

📍 Off the beaten track 📍 Trekking
📍 Fauna & Flora 📍 Adventure

Sumatra is a land rich in wildlife, home to some of the world's last remaining Asian elephants and orangutans. The world's fifth-largest island has also remained very wild, with an infinite variety of landscapes. Steaming volcanoes (some of which reach heights of over 3,000 m) spike up the spine of the backbone of the island (formed by the Mt Barisan range). The famous Lake Toba, a veritable inland sea with blue-mauve reflections, stands out in this landscape and is considered to be the largest crater lake in the world.

Sumatra is also inhabited by a multitude of ethnic groups, the most famous of which, **Batak** and **Minangkabau**, will reveal all their finesse along your itinerary.

Highlights:

- A unique tour in the heart of the **island of Sumatra** to discover its natural and cultural riches: fauna and flora, encounters with the Batak people of Lake Toba, the Minangkabau people and their fascinating traditional houses, etc.
- Immersion in the Mount Leuser National Park: visit the orang-utan rehabilitation centre
- Climb the Sibayak volcano (2172m), which offers superb panoramic views

Day 1. Welcome to Sumatra



Medan 📍

- Meet your English-speaking (or French-speaking) guide at Medan international airport and transfer to your hotel.

🏠 Accommodation

Aryaduta Medan

Day 2. Medan and the surrounding area



Medan 📍

🚗 - 3h

Tangkahan 📍

- In the morning, visit the Sultan's Palace, the Great Mosque and the Chinese temple.
- You then head north-west towards Tangkahan. You will pass through a number of rubber tree plantations, where you can stretch your legs and learn about the methods used to extract this precious sap.

🍽️ Breakfast

Aryaduta Medan

🏠 Accommodation

Mega Inn

Day 3. Firsts Adventures



Tangkahan 📍

- The morning is devoted to a first discovery, on foot, of the jungle of the Mt Leuser national park, where you have the opportunity to observe a very rich fauna and flora.
- The afternoon is rather fun, as you go tubing down the river, i.e. you let yourself be carried by the current, "comfortably" seated on large, fully inflated inner tubes.
- You then stop off at the Buluh waterfalls to relax. Back in Tangkahan, you mix with the local population.

🍳 Breakfast	Mega Inn
🏠 Accommodation	Mega Inn

Day 4. Wild elephants



Tangkahan 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 3h 30m
Bukit Lawang 📍

- The morning is devoted to a walk in the jungle, alongside wild elephants. 4x4 vehicles then take you through plantations and forest tracks to the village of Bukit Lawang, famous for its orangutan rehabilitation centre.

🍳 Breakfast	Mega Inn
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Ecolodge à Bukit Lawang

Day 5. Orangutans



Bukit Lawang 📍
- ⌚ 5h
Mt Leuser 📍

- In the early morning, you will go on a hike to see the orang-utans, which are very numerous in Gunung Leuser Park. You then continue through the tropical forest to explore its thousand and one secrets. If you're lucky, you may even spot some rare black gibbons.

🍳 Breakfast	Ecolodge à Bukit Lawang
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Tent camping

Day 6. Mt Leuser National Park



Mt Leuser 📍
- ⌚ 4h
Bukit Lawang 📍

- You continue your exploration of the Mt Leuser jungle and reach Bukit Lawang in the early afternoon (by tubing on the Bahorok river). Afternoon at leisure.

🍳 Breakfast	Included
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Ecolodge à Bukit Lawang

Day 7. Land of the Batak Karo



Bukit Lawang

🚗 - ⌚ 5h

Berastagi

- Morning transfer to Berastagi, the capital of Batak Karo country, one of the most prosperous in the region. Visit the traditional market and the Buddhist pagoda of Lumbini. Weather permitting, you will also approach the flanks of the Sinabung volcano to discover a ghost village covered in ash.

☕ Breakfast	Ecolodge à Bukit Lawang
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🏠 Accommodation	Sinabung Hill Hotel
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Day 8. Sibayak volcano



Berastagi



Parapat

Samosir Island

- Early in the morning, you are dropped off at the foot of the Sibayak volcano, which dominates the Karo. You begin your ascent along a path lined with thick, rustling jungle. Picnic at the top of the volcano, where the panorama of the whole region is superb, and then begin the descent, by the opposite route, which takes you to the hot springs of Debuk-Debuk, where you can take advantage of the healing properties of the water in the hot and sulphurous pools. *[Note: it is possible to make the ascent at night to reach the summit just before sunrise].*
- Then it's back on to Parapat, with a visit to the traditional village of Doka en route, as well as the famous Sipiso-Piso waterfalls, from where you get your first glimpse of Lake Toba, the largest crater lake in the world. You'll also discover an old royal palace, Simalunggung, and take the opportunity to stretch your legs as you stroll through a variety of plantations and traditional villages. At Parapat, you board a regular ferry bound for the island of Samosir, which lies right in the middle of the lake.

☕ Breakfast	Sinabung Hill Hotel
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🏠 Accommodation	Tabo Cottages
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Day 9. Samosir



Samosir Island

- The day is devoted to discovering the island of Samosir, capital of the Batak Toba culture. You hike through villages and rice paddies, stopping at Ambarita to discover the stone remains of a meeting place of the ancient Sialagan kings. In Tomok, you visit the tombs of the Sidabutar kings, and end the day in the village of Simanindo, where you discover an interesting museum depicting local culture, and watch some traditional dances. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon.

☕ Breakfast	Tabo Cottages
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🏠 Accommodation	Tabo Cottages
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Day 10. Pangururan hot springs



Medan

- Morning transfer to the little-visited centre of the island of Samosir. Isolated on a high plateau, we discover Lake Sidihoni (a lake on an island on a lake on an island!), which extends over 1 km² and whose changing hue has forged more than one legend. You then embark on a lovely hike to Pangururan, on the island's west coast, through rich vegetation and along a path that offers breathtaking scenery. You will also come across peasants, armed with machetes, on their way to the fields. In this region, oral tradition has perpetuated many legends. In Pangururan, you can relax in the hot spring baths.

☕ Breakfast	Tabo Cottages
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🏠 Accommodation	Tabo Cottages
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Day 11. To West Sumatra



Samosir Island 📍
- ⌚ 45m
Parapat 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 5h
Medan 📍
✈️ - ⌚ 1h
Padang 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 4h
Harau Valley 📍

- In the early morning, you take the ferry back to Parapat and then the road to Medan, via the large towns of Pematang Siantar and Tebing Tinggi, surrounded by huge rubber and oil palm plantations.
- Transfer to Medan airport and flight (around 2pm) to Padang, the capital of Minangkabau country. Welcome, then transfer to the formidable Harau Valley.

☕ Breakfast	Tabo Cottages
🍴 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Abdi Homestay

Day 12. In the heart of the Harau Valley



Harau Valley 📍

- A day's trek through the forest and rice fields, during which you will discover nature and the traditional life of the Minang farmers. Visit neighbouring villages by becak, local transport, waterfall bathing and picnic. You will have the opportunity to climb to the top of a hill to admire the view over the valley or to look for eels in the river. You'll discover not only a few waterfalls, but also numerous species of birds and flowers.

☕ Breakfast	Included
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍴 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Abdi Homestay

Day 13. Culture Minang



Harau Valley 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 2h
Batusangkar 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 15m
Sungai Tarab 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 1h 30m
Bukittinggi 📍

- In the morning, you head for the former capital of Minang country, Batusangkar, and visit the palace of King Pagaruyung, now a museum of local culture. On the way, you will make a few stops, notably to admire the magnificent panorama of Tabek Patah. In Sungai Tarab, you will also visit a coffee processing factory. Arriving in the vicinity of Lake Singkarak, you visit a number of weaving and wood-carving workshops.

☕ Breakfast	Included
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Padi Ecolodge

Day 14. Indonesian romance



Bukittinggi 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 1h 30m
Lake Maninjau 📍

- In the early morning, you will head first for some traditional villages, then to Puncak Lawang, a high point overlooking the sumptuous Lake Maninjau and exuding a very romantic atmosphere. You then embark on a lovely walk through the tropical forest towards the shores of the lake. You spend the afternoon by the lake, where the silhouettes of fishermen gathering their nets are reflected in the mauve waters. Return to Batusangkar in the late afternoon.

☕ Breakfast	Padi Ecolodge
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Padi Ecolodge

Day 15. Bukittinggi



Lake Maninjau 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 1h 30m
Bukittinggi 📍

- In the morning, take a walk around the hotel and visit the pretty town of Bukittinggi, situated 930m above sea level and framed by the region's two active volcanoes: Singgalang and Merapi. Visit the central square with its local Big Ben (Jam Gadang), the Sianok canyon with its view of the volcanoes, the Japanese tunnel, a relic of the war, and its two markets (pasar atas and pasar bawah) bursting with life and colour. You can also try Minang cuisine and try the famous rendang, a spicy beef dish cooked in coconut milk and a host of spices. If it's flowering time, make a short trek to Palupuh to admire the world's largest flower: the Rafflesia Arnoldi, or try Luwak coffee, prepared in a very special way.

☕ Breakfast	Padi Ecolodge
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Padi Ecolodge

Day 16. To Padang



Bukittinggi 📍
🚗 - ⌚ 3h
Padang 📍

- Drive to Padang in the morning, where you will discover the old town and its old port. Visit the Adityawarman Museum, the great mosque with its Minangkabau architecture, and a walk up Padang Hill from where you will have a magnificent view of the whole city and the ocean as the sun sets.
- Dinner in a fish restaurant overlooking the ocean.

☕ Breakfast	Padi Ecolodge
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	D'Oxville Hotel

Day 17. See you soon in Sumatra

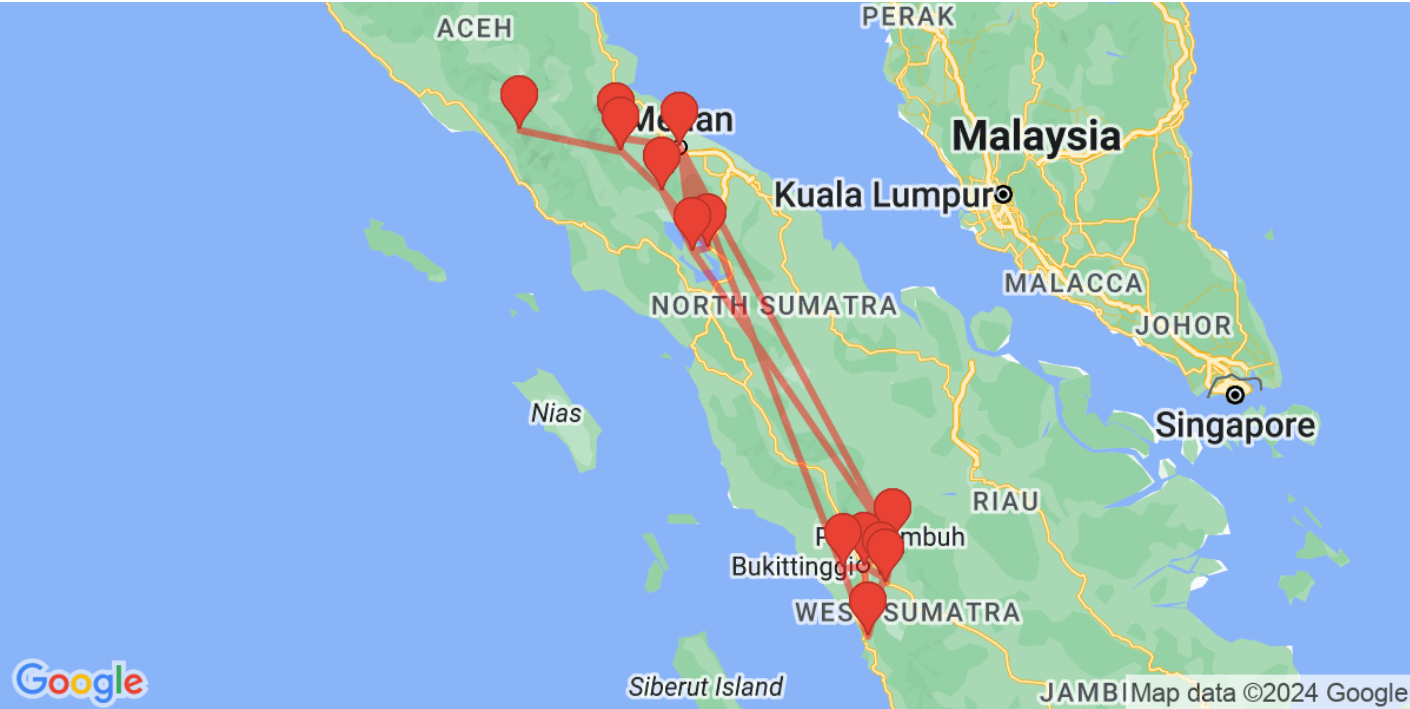


Departure 📍

- Free time until transfer to Padang airport. End of services.

☕ Breakfast	D'Oxville Hotel
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Itinerary map



Individual price per person

2-2	3-3	4-5	6-7	8-8	SS
2550 EUR	2150 EUR	1975 EUR	1725 EUR	1575 EUR	875 EUR

Included

- English-speaking guide and team of porters
- Land transfers in private air-conditioned vehicle
- Lake transfers by regular ferry
- Accommodation in B&B
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary above
- Site entrance fees, trekking permits & donations
- Mineral water and energy supplements on walking days
- 3% donated to the KOLIBRI association

Not included

- International & domestic air
- Insurance & assistance
- Visas & airport taxes
- Drinks, personal expenses & tips
- Anything not mentioned in "Inclusions".