

Sulawesi: immersion in Toraja country



Days:

13

Price:

1290 EUR
International flight not included

Comfort:

★★★★☆

Difficult:

★★★☆☆

📍 Culture

📍 Ethnic minority

📍 Trekking

📍 Off the beaten track

Sulawesi, also known as the Celebes Islands, is a true **mosaic of peoples**. Its position in the heart of the Indonesian archipelago and its strategic role in the international spice trade have made this island a crossroads of populations.

This circuit allows you to discover all the cultural riches of the @Toraja people (toraja), “The People of the Mountains”. It is the originality of their culture and their impressive **funeral ceremonies** that have made this people famous. Add to this the very particular architecture of their boat-shaped house and the **fantastic landscapes of rice fields** and you will understand to what extent the Toraja country is a land of encounters, sacred rites and beauty...

In the extreme southeast of the South Sulawesi peninsula, the region of Bira offers white sand beaches with turquoise and crystal clear waters which conceal colorful seabeds. This stay offers a varied range of activities: intimate hikes, authentic encounters, original rafting adventures, cultural visits, relaxation, snorkeling... Between sea and mountains, you will discover the **fascinating world of the Toraja Country**

Highlights

- Tour combining culture and nature in the heart of the Toraja Country and moments of relaxation in the Bira region along the white sand beaches.
- Authentic discoveries and encounters during hikes allowing direct contact with the local population (nights with locals during the 3-day trek).
- Visits to many traditional Toraja villages including the famous village of Kete Kesu, a true masterpiece of architecture and colorful harmony

Day 1. Arrival in Makassar



Makassar airport 📍
🚗 20km - ⌚ 40m
Makassar 📍

- Reception at Makassar airport and transfer to the hotel. Makassar is the capital of the province of South Sulawesi located on the edge of the Makassar Strait. Rest of the day free.

🍴 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 2. On the way to Toraja Country



Makassar 📍
🚗 320km - ⌚ 8h
Rantepao 📍

- The day is dedicated to the transfer to Rantepao, the largest city in Toraja Country which extends on the banks of the Sa'Dan river, in the hollow of a magnificent surrounded valley green mountains. For lunch, we stop by the sea. Arrival at our hotel in Rantepao late in the afternoon. Night at the hotel.

🍳 Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍴 Dinner	Included

Day 3. Discovery of the south of the Toraja Country: Londa, Kete Kesu, Lemo



Rantepao📍

- Full day exploring the Toraja Country (south of Rantepao). The Torajas live in “**tongkonan**” houses whose shape is reminiscent of a boat hull. They worship the water buffalo which according to them is the only animal capable of carrying the souls of the deceased along the path of their ancestors. The Torajas are also known for the importance of their **funeral ceremonies** which last several days, and their systems of **hanging tombs** installed in the cliffs.
- During the day, we discover several sites: the Londa cliff, with its mortuary niches, located in the middle of rice fields and clove trees, the village of Kete Kesu with its houses traditional traditions, its rice granaries and the rock inhabited by souls of Suaya with its royal tombs.
- After lunch, we discover the **newborn graves** at Sanggala then we stop at a spice plantation before arriving at Lemo, one of the most beautiful Toraja villages, bordered by a cliff pierced with countless graves and niches with **Tau-Tau** (dolls bearing the likeness of the deceased). Return to the hotel at the end of the afternoon. Night in the same hotel.

🍽️ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 4. Discovery of the north of the Toraja Country: Lempo, Palawa,



Rantepao📍

- The day is dedicated to discovering the magnificent landscapes **north of Rantepao**. We start with a short walk (1 hour) around Lempo among the **coffee plantations** and **cocoa fields**. On foot, we cross several villages, allowing us to authentically discover the **daily life** of the Toraja people.
- After lunch, we stop at the village of Palawa, located on a small hill. This traditional village is worth a detour for its superb “tongkonan” with their painted facades decorated with impressive buffalo horns, facing their rice granaries.
- Then, before our return to Rantepao, we visit a traditional weaving center in the village of Sangkombong. Night in the same hotel.
- Note:** If possible and depending on the planned ceremonies, your guide will take you to a funeral ceremony on day 3 or 4.*

🍽️ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 5. 1st day of hiking in Toraja Country



Rantepao 📍
- ⌚ 5h
Karerang 📍

- After breakfast, we take the road to **Mengkendek** where we begin our hike through the rice fields and villages allowing us to appreciate the magnificent landscapes of the Toraja Country. In the evening, traditional dinner and overnight stay in a Toraja house in the village of **Karerang**.

Note: The names of stopover villages are given for information only and are subject to change depending on weather conditions, the trek route, etc.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Homestay

Day 6. 2nd day of hiking in Toraja Country



Karerang 📍
- ⌚ 7h
Karerang 📍

- Second day of hiking through the jungle, rice terraces and villages. Night with locals in the village of **Kaero**.

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

Day 7. 3rd day of hiking in Toraja Country and return to Rantepao



Karerang 📍
- ⌚ 5h
Rantepao 📍

- Third day of walking through bamboo forests, coffee plantations and rice-growing landscapes. Return to Rantepao and overnight at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Homestay
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 8. Rafting on the Maulu River



Rantepao 📍

- After breakfast, transfer to the village of Se'Seng from where we leave, on foot, to the Maulu River. Rafting down the river (approximately 4 hours, no experience necessary). Return to Rantepao in the afternoon. Night at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 9. Exploring Lake Tempe



Rantepao
🚗 210km - ⌚ 5h
Sengkang

- In the morning, we reach the charming little town of Sengkang which stretches on the banks of the Walanae River.
- We then board a fishing boat to explore Tempe Lake and its **floating dwellings**. This vast lake with shallow waters sometimes dries up completely when the rains are unpredictable. In this case, the boat crossing will not be possible. Your guide will then suggest an alternative hike. The lake is also the refuge of a **rich avifauna**. If you are discreet, you can observe several species of egrets, herons, ibises, bitterns, cranes...

Night at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 10. Discovery of Kajeng and road to Bira



Sengkang
🚗 210km - ⌚ 5h
Bira

- Transfer to the village of **Kajeng**, meeting with the inhabitants who have preserved their traditional habits and customs and refuse modern life. Privileged and unique moment with the villagers living almost in **self-sufficiency**. With a little luck, we may be able to meet the traditional chief of the village “**Ammatoa**” known as powerful and possessing great powers.
- After lunch, we take the road to Bira, a peaceful fishing village lined with magnificent white sand beaches. The rest of the afternoon is free. Night at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 11. Boat trip to Liukang Island



Bira

- After breakfast, we board a boat to reach @[Liukang Island] (liukang_island), an ideal place to explore the **magnificent coral beds** (snorkeling).
- In the afternoon, we visit the village of Tanaberu, a charming village surrounded by coconut trees and which is home to one of the main “bugis” shipbuilding sites on the island. Artisans shape one of the oldest traditional fleets in the world. Return to Bira at the end of the afternoon. Night at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 12. Road to Makassar



Bira 📍
🚗 210km - ⌚ 5h
Makassar 📍

- Free morning to enjoy the beach. At the end of the morning, we take the road towards Makassar. Night at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel

Day 13. Transfer to the airport and departure



Makassar 📍
🚗 20km - ⌚ 40m
Makassar airport 📍
Departure 📍

- Free morning. *Transfer to the airport depending on your return flight*

☕ Breakfast	Hotel
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Itinerary map



Individual price per person

2-2	3-3	4-5	6-8
1590 EUR	1450 EUR	1350 EUR	1290 EUR

Included

- The services of a local French-speaking guide
- Land transfers (by private, air-conditioned vehicle) and sea transfers necessary for the smooth running of the tour
- Activities: rafting, boat trips on Lake Tempé and to reach Liukang Island
- Porters during the trek days (days 5 to 7)
- Accommodations
- Meals as indicated in the description day by day
- Site entrances
- Mineral water and energy supplement (fruit, biscuits, etc.) during walking days

Not included

- International and domestic air travel
- Airport taxes & visas
- Drinks, personal expenses & tips
- Travel insurance & assistance
- Anything not listed in “Included”