



Travellers Worldwide is a leading International Provider of
Volunteering Programmes, Work Experience Internships
and Cultural Courses Abroad

MALAYSIA



CARE FOR ANIMALS AT LOK KAWI WILDLIFE PARK IN BORNEO

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH BORNEO'S NATIVE WILDLIFE. Care for animals in Lok Kawi Wildlife Park. Some of the native species you'll work with include Orang-utans, Proboscis Monkeys, Pygmy Elephants (including two cute babies) and a Pygmy Rhino. Also Tigers, a Clouded Leopard, Gibbons, Otters, Sun Bears, Giant Tortoise, Mouse Deer, Ostrich, Civets and a fantastic Aviary complete with talking birds.

Thank you for your interest in volunteering on this Project. Below is a description of what you can do and expect. You can volunteer whether you're taking a gap year, on a career break, retired, or on a holiday with a purpose. No matter what your age or experience, we look forward to welcoming you to the team!

WHAT DO YOU GET?

SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- The enormous satisfaction of helping to improve the quality of life of these animals by working hands-on with them, and knowing that you made a difference to them.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Your safety is our top priority. We risk-assess all destination countries, projects, accommodation and more to ensure that they are stable and safe.
- We have experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who are there to assist you and look after you, starting with an in-depth induction on your arrival.

AN ADVENTURE!

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into Asia and the Thai culture!, and best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**

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Prices: £2,595, excluding flights. See our [Full Price List Online](#)

Duration: Fixed length of 4 weeks.

Start Dates: All year round, you choose your start and finish dates.

Requirements: No experience or qualifications necessary, just lots of enthusiasm. Minimum age 17. You should also:

- Have a high level of fitness and be able to work as part of a team conducting physical work in hot and humid conditions.
- Be able to cope in a tropical environment where there are large insects, snakes, bugs and leeches. If you are squeamish about insects then this is NOT the placement for you.
- Have a genuine interest in Wildlife and recognise the educational importance of having animals in a Wildlife Park such as Lok Kawi - this is NOT a rehabilitation programme and animals won't be released into the wild.

What's Included:

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| ▶ Arranging your Programme, | ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance, |
| ▶ Payment Protection insurance | ▶ All Accommodation |
| ▶ Food | ▶ Transfer to the placement site |
| ▶ Meeting you at the nearest airport | ▶ Local in-country team support and backup |
| ▶ 24-hr emergency support. | ▶ Certificate of Completion |

What Not Included: Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas, Return transfer to airport.

SUMMARY

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WORK CONTENT:

Travellers and the Sabah Wildlife Department have arranged a structured programme at Lok Kawi Wildlife Park which will allow volunteers the opportunity to learn about animal care across a variety of species. You'll have hands on contact with some of the animals that have been hand reared.

Working hours are generally between 8.00am - 12.00am and 2.00pm - 5.00pm. You will assist on a rotation system within the areas listed below:

- Elephants (10 days)
- Primates (Orang-Utans and Monkeys) & Reptiles (5 Days)
- Birds & Hoofstock (5 Days)



ELEPHANTS:

All of the Elephants at Lok Kawi are Pygmy Elephants and there are currently 5 female elephants, 1 male and 2 babies. Pygmy Elephants are native to Borneo - in the wild they are found mainly in Sabah along the Kinabatangan river, but their population and habitat is dwindling due to human intervention. Borneo's Pygmy Elephants are thought to be a separate sub-species of the Asian Elephant as the two differ in many ways.

Pygmy Elephants are typically half a metre smaller in height than Asian Elephants and yet have longer trunks and tails, both of which sweep the ground. They also tend to be much less aggressive than Asian Elephants. Conservation and understanding of Borneo's Elephants is incredibly important as they are critically endangered. Lok Kawi plays an important role in educating the public about Borneo's native wildlife.

The baby elephants at Lok Kawi were rescued from the wild during separate poaching incidents which resulted in their mothers being killed. They have been in contact with humans since a very young age as they had to be bottle fed. Visitors and children can interact with the baby elephants at the Children's zoo.

You may assist the elephant keepers with the following tasks;

- Cleaning enclosures thoroughly
- Preparing food/milk
- Bottle feeding and washing the baby elephants
- Reporting to the veterinarian on behaviour/eating patterns
- Taking the baby elephants to the Children's Zoo and assisting with visitor interaction/safety. This includes some rides for the children but only during weekends, public holidays and school holidays.
- Inspecting animals for different behaviour or signs of illness and report to the veterinarian/other staff where necessary.

PRIMATES:

Primate species at Lok Kawi include Orang-Utans, Proboscis Monkeys and Gibbons. Within this area you'll also look after some of the other small mammals at the park. Both Orang-Utans and Proboscis Monkeys are native to Borneo and both are facing the threat of extinction due to loss of habitat and human intervention.

Orang-Utans are incredibly gentle, inquisitive and endearing creatures. They are native to Borneo and Sumatra and found high up in the forest canopy. Orang-Utans are solitary animals and difficult to spot in the wild. At Lok Kawi there are 8 young Orang-Utans, living in a large unfenced enclosure with plenty of enrichment activities - bridges, hammocks, ropes and tyres to climb and swing on. Visitors are not allowed interaction with the Orang-Utans but as a volunteer you will be involved in some of the behind the scenes duties, which includes a direct hands on approach with the animals where possible.

Orang-utans are facing extinction within the next 10 - 15 years due in part to a loss of habitat in the wild. They also have incredibly slow reproduction rates which means that a drop in their population has an even greater effect on the rate of extinction. The Orang-Utans at Lok Kawi will not be released but will remain in captivity to raise awareness of conservation issues to the public.

Proboscis Monkeys are very unusual, with round protruding bellies and huge, pink, pendulous noses - in males the longer the nose the better for attracting a female mate! They live in groups high up in the trees and usually close to a water source. In Sabah they are mainly found along the banks of the Kinabatangan river. At Lok Kawi there is a group of Proboscis monkey's living in a large glass fronted enclosure, with a water spring and plenty of vegetation for climbing. You will be fascinated watching their interactions with each other - these clever primates can even swim! Currently there are several baby proboscis monkey's that have been born in the Wildlife Park.

Gibbons are found in the subtropical forests of South East Asia and usually live in family groups of 2 - 6 individuals. They are territorial and excellent climbers and jumpers, capable of reaching up to 9 metres in a single jump. You may assist with the following duties within the primates section:

- Cleaning enclosures
- Preparing food and feeding
- Moving orang-utans from the night stalls to their outside enclosures
- Handling other primates when required
- To assist with feeding time at the exhibits and talk to visitors about the various different primates
- Inspecting animals for different behaviour or signs of illness and report to the veterinarian/other staff where necessary.

BIRDS:

Walking into the Aviary is like stepping into the middle of the jungle! The forest canopy is covered with a mesh that is so high that you barely even notice it hovering above the trees. A wooden walkway leads you through the Aviary and across a stream where birds can be seen fishing and wading in the mud. Talking parrots will greet you 'hello' and you may even be lucky enough to spot a mouse deer foraging in the vegetation.

Sabah's iconic Rhinoceros Hornbill will no doubt swoop past you, making a loud whooshing sound with each wing beat - the hornbill is also famous for it's loud trumpeting calls. This black bird has a white tail and a dramatic yellow and red beak and casque. Other birds in this section include Macaws, Myna's and Hornbills.



You may assist with the following duties within the Main Aviary, the Macaw exhibit, the Myna exhibit and the Hornbill exhibit:

- Cleaning enclosures thoroughly to provide a clean environment for the birds
- Preparing food
- Maintaining records of the number of birds that come to the feeding platform and reporting anything abnormal to the veterinarian/other staff
- To assist with feeding time and talk to visitors about the various different birds

RHINOS, DEER AND OTHER HOOFSTOCK:

Within the Hoofstock area you'll assist with Rhino, Cattle (Anchole and Bali), Axis and Deer (Timor, Red, Barking and Mouse). You may assist with the following duties;

- Moving animals from night stalls to enclosures.
- Inspecting animals for different behaviour or signs of illness and report to the veterinarian/other staff where necessary.
- Cleaning enclosures thoroughly to ensure a clean environment for the animals



THE TRAVELLERS / SABAH WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT PARTNERSHIP:

Travellers have worked closely with the Sabah Wildlife Department for many years. In the past, several volunteers from the Travellers Orang-Utan project have been invited by the Sabah Wildlife Department to help with various projects to set up the Wildlife Park. One assisted in the design of the sun bear enclosure and another designed and produced the Wildlife Parks information pamphlet.

Travellers also donated £5,140.00 from the Bridge The Gap Foundation (The Phil Perkes Trust) to sponsor the Children's Zoo. The Children's Zoo is first and foremost an educational facility with an information centre currently under construction that will boast live exhibits. Brightly painted murals engage attention and the petting zoo allows children to have hands on contact with domestic animals and wildlife to encourage learning about conservation. In the petting area there are Rabbits, Tortoise, Miniature Ponies and Goats. Travellers' donation reflects their commitment in education and raising awareness about conservation.

2010 saw the start of a Conservation Awareness Programme at Lok Kawi, funded by Travellers and involving over 1000 local school children in its' first year. The purpose of the awareness programme is to teach the importance of nature and wildlife conservation to younger generations through exposure to Borneo's native wildlife.

"I wanted to say a big thank-you to Travellers for organising this AMAZING experience for me! My month here ran so smoothly, so THANK YOU! Also a huge huge hat off to JB and Ronn who have been making me laugh, taking me out to dinner, introducing me to beautiful people and also just being genuinely a good friend. What an amazing experience i have had. I have learnt so much and I had the opportunity to follow the vet around participating in her countless jobs and watching on with eager eyes!"

Prue Sinclair

"I feel that this placement has been the most wonderful and rewarding experience ever! From start to finish we were looked after extremely well by Travellers."

Laurie Hartree

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation has been arranged within staff quarters on the grounds of the Wildlife Park. One of the staff quarters has been released for the sole use of volunteers. This accommodation has two bedrooms, a living/dining area, a western style toilet and a separate shower. There is a kitchen with a kettle and fridge for your use. Meals will be prepared for you by a caretaker and you'll have plenty of opportunities to socialise with others.

Malaysia has lovely weather all year round with lots of sunshine and you will have some time during your free days to explore the local region and visit some of the tourist attractions.



WHY TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

- Over 20 years' experience of sending thousands of participants overseas, plus the largest variety of flexible projects that are value for money!
- Accredited projects helps appeal to future employers
- Excellent support!
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions before, during and after your trip of a lifetime!
- Detailed information on your project and country and suggestions, safety guide, tips and checklists, via our EXTRANET, available from anywhere, 24/7.
- 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

Donations to **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

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| ✓ Accommodation | ✓ UK administration |
| ✓ Food | ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations) |
| ✓ Meeting you at the airport | ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection |
| ✓ Transport to the placement site | ✓ Staff Training/Equipment |
| ✓ Local in-country team support and backup | ✓ Donations to worthwhile project |
| ✓ 24hr emergency helpline | |
| ✓ Full pre-departure support | |

“Haven't got any improvements to suggest or a bad thing to say about the placement!!! Thank you so much Travellers for making a dream come true and I will definitely do another placement again!”

Rebecca Dechant

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: info@travellersworldwide.com

Once you have applied for a placement, we'll contact you and send you our Welcome Pack. You'll also receive Log-on details and password for our Volunteer Extranet where you'll have access to all the documentation and information which we've put together to facilitate preparations for your adventure!

Your Project Co-ordinator for your country will liaise with you throughout the arrangements process, as well as while you're on your placement and on your return home.

The documents you'll have access to also include a Country Factfile, Safety Guide and any manuals that may assist you on your particular programme (for example, Teaching Guide, Sports Manuals, Enrichment Suggestions for Animal Care, etc.). We do all we can to make your stay one that you'll never forget.

As with all our destinations, the culture and heritage is different to what you're used to ... which, although one of the most exciting aspects of travelling, should be borne in mind. Self-reliance and independence are highly appreciated in all our destinations and will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity! This is a truly awesome, elegant and beautiful country.

MORE ABOUT THE LOK KAWI WILDLIFE PARK

The Lok Kawi Wildlife Park was officially opened in February 2007 and has enjoyed high visitor numbers since this time, with the majority of visitors consisting of local Malays. There are plans to develop an education programme amongst local schools and a volunteer programme for Malaysian citizens

The Wildlife Park is set in a 280 acre forest reserve in the district of Penampang, just 15 kms south west of Sabah's capital, Kota Kinabalu. It is run by the Sabah Wildlife Department and has been developed with education and fostering awareness of conservation issues in mind. Unlike some other Zoos in the region, the Wildlife Park is very big and is able to provide animals with enclosures which imitate natural conditions as much as possible. For children, the petting area provides a hands on experience and the chance to learn about conservation.

The Wildlife Park is a cross between a traditional Wildlife Park and a Zoo, many people refer to it as a modern Zoo. The Park's main aims are to:

- Increase Public Awareness
- Provide World Class animal facilities and enclosures
- Start an environmental education programme
- Make captive breeding of endangered species possible
- Allow research activities to take place

Not only will the Wildlife Park strive to achieve these objectives but also to provide educational opportunities for locals, foreigners and schools, diversify the local economy and utilize local manpower.

Many Western Zoos take a hands-off approach, where even keepers have very little direct hands on contact with the animals. At Lok Kawi, keeper and animal interaction is an important part of keeping the animals well looked after and healthy. Your role will be to assist keepers in their daily duties in looking after the animals, however, not all of the animals are tame and therefore you'll only be allowed hands on contact with some of the animals.



THINGS TO DO IN MALAYSIA

LOCATION, EXPLORING AND SIGHTSEEING:

KOTA KINABALU

Kota Kinabalu, or "KK" (as it is locally known), is the capital of Sabah. KK is home to the International airport and this will be your first point of arrival in Sabah - it is a great place to start your trip and get used to the Malaysian way of life.

Although Kota Kinabalu is far less developed than **Kuala Lumpur** (its counterpart on the Peninsular), the people are very friendly and the atmosphere here is more relaxed. KK also boasts impressive markets, restaurants and nightlife and is a fun introduction to the wide variety of attractions that Sabah has to offer.

Just off the coast it is possible to see an array of beautiful islands which make up the **Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park**. Exploring the coral reefs and marine life in this underwater world is fascinating and day trips here can be easily arranged - most islands are less than 45 minutes away by boat. Once you arrive you will be amazed at how clear the water is and just how many different fish you can see. There are also many wonderful beaches to be explored on the islands!

Facing inland, it's possible to see the peaks of **Mount Kinabalu** in the distance. This is another of Sabah's main attractions and the views from the top at Sun rise more than make up for the two day climb. Afterwards you can soak your aching muscles at Poring where the sulphur hot springs provide a therapeutic bath.

Throughout the whole of Sabah you will find many local "**Tamu**", meaning market - the variety of fruit, vegetables, plants and handcrafted items on sale at cheap prices has to be seen to be believed!

THINGS YOU CAN DO

There is excellent diving and snorkelling on a number of islands surrounding Sabah. The Semporna Islands Marine park, located towards the south of the island, is one of the best. Here you will find Sipadan Island, the most famous within the park and classified as one of the world's top dive sites.

Sipadan is an oceanic island shaped like a mushroom - it was formed by living corals growing on top of an extinct undersea volcano. Due to its geographic position it is at the centre of one of the richest marine environments in the world - both the diving and snorkelling here are outstanding!



HOW TO BOOK

TWO EASY WAYS ...

Complete a [booking form](#) online.

Telephone
01903 502595 (UK)
or
1-603-574-4935 (USA)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR PROGRAMME!

We hope you'll join us!

Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

We're happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

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