

MALAYSIA

UNBOUND STUDY TOUR
TROPICAL BIODIVERSITY EXPEDITION

unbound

CONTACT

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PO Box 985, North Melbourne, Vic, 3051, Australia

KEY DETAILS

Program Length

14 days

Program Cost

AU\$3,250

Payable as \$250 deposit

+ \$3,000 balance

Apply any time, and as early as possible because:

We use rolling applications and programs will close once full; and universities have internal deadlines for funding programs for funding programs like OS-HELP.

INCLUSIONS

INCLUDED

- Accommodation (including hotel, hostel, home-stays)
- Meals for the duration of the program
- >100 contact hours of educational content and cultural experiences
- Expert program facilitators
- Coursework and educational content
- Translators and local guides
- Cultural and social activities
- Transport within the country (including airport pickup / drop off)
- Pre-departure support
- Safety and security monitoring and planning

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Passport and visa costs
- Travel insurance (Students travel insurance may be covered by their university's travel insurance policy. Get in contact with your Student Mobility Office to find out.)
- Personal expenses (such as souvenirs, drinks, laundry, medical expenses, phone calls)



PROGRAM INFORMATION

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Explore the rivers and rainforest of Borneo while you get a real-world education in tropical biodiversity and potentially even discover a new species or two!

We work alongside local biodiversity and education experts to deliver incredible field experiences that simply can't be replicated in a classroom. You will dive into an immersive exploration of your surroundings with nature expeditions, field workshops, and night lectures led by the leading experts in biodiversity. Riverboat travel will become your new normal, and each day will be an introduction to a new aspect of the thriving ecosystem of life all around you.

The Introduction to Tropical Biodiversity Expedition Study Tour is crafted in partnership with Taxon Expeditions, an educational organisation that will guide your hands-on introduction to biodiversity in the rainforests of Malaysian Borneo.

Partner with a team of other Australian students, Malaysian students, and local biodiversity experts to collectively author a scientific research paper. No academic background in biology is required.

COURSE OUTCOMES

DURING THIS STUDY TOUR YOU WILL

1. Gain an increased understanding and knowledge of working in Malaysia and Asia, including Malaysian language, cross-cultural collaboration, cultural sensitivity and engagement.
2. Builds skills to work within multi-disciplinary teams in order to achieve a community-focused professional goal – including design thinking, time management, problem-solving, critical thinking and coordination of work.
3. Increased professional skills including group-work, leadership, oral communication, project design and management.
4. Gain practical experience in an international professional context.
5. Improved understanding and appreciation of active global citizenship, social enterprise and community development issues.
6. Improved ability to reflect, develop and grow.



FUNDING & CREDIT

This program is designed to count for credit and/or meet a program work experience requirement. As such, students may be eligible for OS-HELP funding for this program. OS-HELP is a Government loan scheme providing up to \$7,764 in funding to study in Asia.

More information can be found here:

http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/os-help_overseas_study/pages/os-help-loans-and-study-overseas

Scholarships and other funding support may be applicable depending on availability and eligibility through study abroad and student mobility offices.



A close-up photograph of a bright green lizard perched on a large, textured green leaf. The lizard is facing right, and its body is partially obscured by the leaf's veins. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a natural, outdoor environment.

COUNTRY INFORMATION

THAILAND: ESSENTIAL COUNTRY INFORMATION

Capital	Kuala Lumpur
Population	32 million
Main Language	Malay
Currency	Ringgit
Time Zone	UTC+08:00
Government	Federal parliamentary elective constitutional monarchy
Weather and climate	'Summer': June to August (approx. 22-33°C) 'Winter': December to February (approx. 22-33°C) Rainy seasons: March to May (approx. 23-33°C) and September to November (approx. 23-32°C)

Health and Safety

- Health insurance – is essential for travel to Malaysia
- Visit your doctor before arriving to ensure any required vaccinations are completed and health issues are discussed
- Register with Smart Traveller – <http://smartraveller.gov.au/>
- Bring any medications that you may need with you
- We will have a first aid kit, trained first aiders, and we can access health clinics and hospitals. We will brief you on risks, health and safety daily
- The most common injuries and health issues for travellers are accidental injury (especially traffic accidents) and bouts of stomach sickness

WHAT TO PACK

SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD PACK INCLUDE:

We recommend that you bring a smaller bag to take things to the homestays where space is more limited. You will be required to carry these including some moderate walks. Backpacks are recommended.

Clothes

The aim for your clothes are to be comfortable, respectful and present well.

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Thongs / flip flops
- Loose fitting long sleeve shirts
- T-shirts / Polo shirts - shoulders should be covered, nothing sleeveless for men or women
- Jumper (according to the climate of your country)
- Jackets (according to the climate of your country)
- Shorts (according to the climate of your country)
- Pants (according to the climate of your country)
- Socks and underwear
- Sunglasses
- Sunhat
- Swimmers
- Pyjamas
- If possible, pack one smart/casual outfit for your final presentation.

Toiletries

Most basic hygiene products can be purchased in country if needed.

However, you may still want to pack the following:

- Sunscreen
- Toothpaste / Toothbrush / Floss
- Small shampoo / conditioner
- Razor or shaver
- Deodorant
- Tissues or emergency toilet paper
- Body wash / soap
- Wet wipes (biodegradable for reduced impact)/Hand sanitiser
- Contact Lens case and solution
- Eye drops
- Menstrual products - women
- Nail clippers

Medical and First Aid Kit

- Personal medications
- Small travel first aid kit - band aids,
- Drugs - paracetamol, diarrhea medicine (GastroStop), hay fever or allergy medicines, nausea or travel sick tablets for windy roads or boat journeys, ural if you are prone to UTIs, hydrolytes
- Mosquito repellent

Note for Women

- Please bring a supply of tampons, panty liners, mooncup, pads etc for the whole trip according to your cycle. Although menstrual products are available in country in main cities and supermarkets, they may not be as comfortable or available as you are used to in Australia, so pack this!

Electronics

- Laptop / Tablet / iPad - although it isn't compulsory, a device like this will be invaluable to research
- Phone (unlocked)
- Camera
- Power adapters / converter (multi country ones are useful)
- Torch (handheld, head torch, or use your phone)
- Powerbank or Portable battery pack + cable

Travel Well

- Day bag for water, sunscreen etc. -very practical and useful
- Small plastic bags or reusable cloth bags (for dirty laundry, extra clothes, small supermarket or souvenir shopping)
- Reusable water bottle to reduce plastic consumption
- Passport and Passport Holder
- Vaccination Booklet (yellow)
- Passport Photos (x4) - for general travel -SIM cards/visas
- Photocopy of Passport
- Print out of travel itinerary
- Blank notepad or diary to write down/doodle your travel thoughts
- Backpacks are preferred over suitcases
- Eye Mask
- Ear Plugs
- Travel Pillow
- Lightweight scarf (good to keep the sun off, doubles as a pillow)
- Cash to exchange in country or debit/credit card (notify your bank of international travel)

Optional but Fun

- Vegemite / Tim Tams or other tastes of Australia that you might want to share
- Photos of your family, house, friends, university (this can be on your phone or printed out)
- Playing cards or travel games

Don't Pack

- Anything that is illegal in either Australia or the destination country
- Drugs and alcohol
- Towel (not necessary - but feel free to bring small travel towel)
- Sleeping bag
- Massive suitcase that you can't carry
- Inappropriate or revealing clothes (short shorts, singlets, clothing with offensive/beer slogans, impractical heeled shoes)

LOCAL PARTNER



TAXON EXPEDITIONS

taxonexpeditions.com

Founded in 2017 and based in Leiden, The Netherlands, Taxon Expeditions is an organization which focuses on education and biodiversity discovery.

Taxon Expeditions organise expeditions to remote areas for people interested in nature and science and help them make scientific discoveries. International experts are engaged to guide them through all the steps of real scientific research. Together, they discover, name, and publish completely new species of wild animals.



ABOUT UNBOUND

LEARN WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

Unbound is an Australian social enterprise that leads innovative overseas educational programs with a focus on social and environmental issues.

The organisation aims to educate and connect students to important global issues; to increase the number of students undertaking international education and mobility programs; and to provide tangible connections between technical knowledge and their application to create positive social change.

Unbound draws on a network of academics, educators, community partners and industry groups to make a positive contribution to higher education, student engagement and mobility. Above all, Unbound is committed to the delivery of safe, inclusive, high quality and engaging educational programs for Australian university students.

Our Approach

- 7 Billion Teachers - We believe everyone has something to teach and share.
- Learning by Creating - Making projects for the real world is an exceptional way to learn.
- Working across Borders - Working at the intersection of disciplines is where innovation and real change happens.
- Embrace Innovation - We don't always have the answers, but are ready to try new things and find out.
- Powered by Humans - We care. We learn. We connect. We enjoy the ride.

To read about our awesome team & facilitators, visit: unbound.edu.au/about

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

APPLY NOW!

[UNBOUND.EDU.AU/APPLY](https://unbound.edu.au/apply)

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