

Located on the equator Borneo is a large island consisting of three countries; Brunei, Indonesia and East Malaysia.

The climate is tropical with temperatures ranging from a cool 22 degrees in the evenings to a sultry 34 degrees in the daytime. The East Malaysian state of Sarawak receives an abundance of rainfall (averaging 200-250cm per year). The 'Landas', a local term for the monsoon rains, fall between November to February each year.

The East Malaysian state of Sabah is less wet than Sarawak and because it lies just below the typhoon belt, it is often known as the 'land below the wind'. The monsoon period should not deter visitors to the region as it is not cold; in fact the rain during this time may be heavy but it is sporadic and brings respite from the tropical heat.

Refer to your [Fact Sheet](#) for further information.

Here is an example of a suitable packing list:

- main luggage**
- 'daypack'** - a smaller bag to carry during the day
- luggage padlocks**
- money belt** to carry passport, cash, traveller's cheques, credit cards, airline tickets, etc.
- sun & weather protection** – hat, sunscreen, sun block and lip balm
- personal medical kit** – refer to your [Fact Sheet](#)
- antibacterial wipes** – wipes such as 'Wet Ones' or antibacterial wash to clean hands before eating
- comfortable walking shoes** – bring some shoes that are sturdy and comfortable
- electricity conversion plug, spare batteries for camera and/or electrical devices, spare film and/or memory card** – those available tend to be poor quality or fake. It is far easier to rely on genuine memory cards, film and other devices bought in Australia.
- spare glasses** – it is difficult to get any prescription lenses repaired or replaced
- trousers/shorts or skirts** for women
- short-sleeved shirts/t-shirts**
- swimming costume**
- thin towels** (they dry quicker in the humid climate)
- a light jumper** in case of cooler weather or air-conditioning
- a light waterproof jacket/poncho/umbrella** in case of rain in humid weather
- a torch** and supply of reliable batteries
- insect repellent**
- plastic bags** to keep clothes and cameras dry in case of rain
- rain coat/poncho**
- small compact umbrella**

Things to Do

- Ensure you always have something dry to change into
- Part of your journey will be in open boats where you will be exposed to either rain or sun; both will require you to cover up

This packing list has been compiled from suggestions by our previous passengers and our staff in Borneo– it is a guide only.

Wendy Wu Tours recommends you check recent weather conditions before your departure.

For updated pre-departure information and news – go to our website at www.wendywutours.com.au

Clothing:

The tropical days are hot and humid and we recommend light, comfortable cotton shirts. Casual wear is acceptable for most occasions in the city as are shorts and T-shirts.

For most day trips, bring swimming gear to cool down from the tropical heat. But please remember to respect local modesty. Light rain wear is a must as invariably there will be encounters with rain. On trips to the longhouses don't forget a thin towel and sun hats (to protect against the tropical sun). In the evenings, slip into a comfortable sarong. These items are easily obtained locally and are usually quite cheap.

Footwear:

For trips that require a great deal of walking, comfortable trainers or walking shoes that are suitable for muddy trails are recommended. For shorter trips that do not require a great deal of walking, a good pair of sneakers will do. A pair of flip-flops should also be included. Note that locally, there may be difficulty getting footwear in large sizes.

Equipment:

A torchlight is a must for use in navigating the caves - don't forget to bring extra bulbs and batteries! For all sightseeing and excursions we recommend you take a backpack and water bottle. Bring along plastic bags to keep clothes and cameras dry in case of rain.

Medicine & Toiletries:

Apart from personal toiletries include insect repellent in your day pack. A basic first aid kit should include band aids, mild antiseptic cream for insect bites or light scratches, cotton swabs, tissues, bandages and painkillers.

Be prepared to get wet and have lots of fun as you explore this mystical island and discover for yourself a whole new world!

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