

Green World

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[Mountain Profiles Page](#)

Move the slider to view a profile of the world's mountains and their relative height.

[TK Khong's Waterfall Site](#)

TK Khong's site on the many waterfalls in Malaysia is one of the best resources around if you are one for finding nature's wonders.

[Waterfalls of Malaysia Site](#)

A collaborative effort by waterfall enthusiasts.



by Eric

Glorious Mud of the Kinabatangan!

Here we are back in Borneo again. As promised during the last trip, the troops decided that we would return back to Uncle Tan's little stretch of jungle heaven the following year. Some gratitude to [AirAsia](#) as well for having such wonderful specials this year for people flying over to Sabah. Truly, now "Everyone Can Fly".

The aim of the trip was to see Borneo's [Pygmy Elephants](#) (*Elephas maximus borneensis*), as we had no opportunity to see them last year due to our timing. Apparently, the best time to see them is when they make the annual migration across the Kinabatangan flood plains between the months of March and April, and August and September. So after much anticipation for a year, here we were boarding an AirAsia flight borne for Sandakan, a quiet eastern city of the Malaysian state of Sabah.

I would like to have been able to admit that having being to this part of pristine rain forest had made it easier to prepare for it. Oh, how we were wrong. I guess, that is just the beauty of such an ecosystem, and that it changes every season subject to Mother Nature's tender whim and fancies. Unlike our last trip which took place a little earlier in the year and hence drier, this trip was to say the least, a lot more muddier due to the increasing rainfall.

After all, we should have expected the conditions. It is a floodplain after all, which is a nicer way to call pseudo swamp. During the rains, the area is in under no less than 5 feet of water. What was nice this year was that it did not rain in the time we were there, but be prepared to walk in mud than will let you sink down to your knees!

But the river safaris are always something to look forward to. Having the rains slowly return to the area has attracted a lot more wildlife back to the area and we were able to see the larger denizens of the area such as Estuarine Crocodiles, Orangutans and Bearded Pigs. Pardon me for not being as excited as most would be, but we were also told that we were lucky to witness rare birds as well. We saw [Storm's storks](#) (*Ciconia stormi*), [White-crowned Hornbills](#) (*Berenicornis comatus*) and ample species of Kingfishers on the night safaris.

Unfortunately, we were sadly disappointed. Elephant tracks were sighted, but there were no elephants to be seen. Unlike the African savannah, even a large animal like an elephant can disappear into the thick foliage of a rainforest. Just our luck, but I guess the more of a reason to return next year, crossing our fingers and hoping to see the majestic animal.

If you would like to share some experiences and even photos, please feel free to send them to us at [adventure-x-change](mailto:xcew@adventure-x-change.com). Mail us at xcew@adventure-x-change.com

Photo View



The boat launch and the start of the Uncle Tan experience.



There is nothing more interesting than the river safari.



Silhouette of White-crowned Hornbills in the setting sun.

Photo Album



For **B&W photos** of life around the camp, Click this [link](#) here.



For more **photos** from this trip at the photo album, Click this [link](#) here.

Resources



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