

DO YOU KNOW

By ANNA VIVIENNE

Oriental Pied Hornbill

Drifting along the River Kinabatangan, Sandakan, I felt awesome wonder of nature. The gigantic trees stood at each side of me. The reeds on the river banks rustled as the wind blew and the slate grey sky overhead looked foreboding. There was an eerie silence. My colleague and I as well as a tour guide and boatman were quiet too. Suddenly, the charged silence was broken by a harsh sound. It sounded like a harsh cough that turned into a cackle.

"Oriental Pied Hornbill," murmured Selihing Jaggai our guide. He pointed to one of the trees and we swivelled and looked up obediently. Up on one of the tree a hornbill perched. Then the sky rumbled. The rain started and the wind blew harder. Not a fitting entrance for the interesting bird!

Be that as it may, at the Kinabatangan River, you will be able to see many hornbills.

One of them is the Oriental pied hornbill or Malaysian Pied Hornbill. They are scientifically known as *Anthracoceros albirostris* of the family Bucerotidae.

Hornbills are large, black or brown, and white, arboreal birds, with long, heavy bills. Many species have large protuberances on top of the bill which may be vividly coloured. Hornbills are found throughout Africa, tropical Asia, and Indonesia as well as New Guinea. They eat fruit and insects and have harsh, penetrating calls. The nesting habits of the family are interesting. The incubating females are usually sealed into tree hole nests with mud, leaving only a small opening through which food can be passed by the male. When the young are hatched the female breaks out but reseals the nest entrance again until the young are ready to leave. Ten species of hornbill are found in Sumatra, eight in Borneo, three in Java. The Oriental Pied Hornbill is quite small with coloured black and white, with a large yellow-white protuberance on its beak. They are also found in North India, South China, Peninsula Malaysia and of course Borneo. An eye-catching bird, it is found in lowland primary and secondary forests. This species prefers to live at forest edges, clearings and secondary forest. They can be found in pairs or noisy parties, flapping or gliding from tree to tree. They prefer eating insects but are not averse to fruits.



WHERE TO STAY

Winner Hotel
Phone: 60 088 243222
Fax: 60 088 217345

Hotel Deleton
Phone: 60 088 252222
Fax: 60 088 267999

Kinabalu Daya Hotel
Phone: 60 088 240000
Fax: 60 088 263909

Berjaya Palace Hotel
Phone: 60 088 211911
Fax: 60 088 211600

Hotel Shangri-La
Phone: 60 088 212800
Fax: 60 088 212078

Likas Square Business Suites
Phone: 60 088 252233
Fax: 60 088 251122

Tang Dynasty Hotel
Phone: 60 088 263389 / 251155
Fax: 60 088 263989 / 265566

Beverly Hotel
Phone: 60 088 258998
Fax: 60 088 258778

Promenade Hotel
Phone: 60 088 265555
Fax: 60 088 246666 / 253980

Hyatt Regency Kinabalu
Phone: 60 088 221234
Fax: 60 088 225972

Le Meridien Kota Kinabalu
Phone: 60 088 322222
Fax: 60 088 322223

Nexus Resort Karambunai
Phone: 6 088 411222 / 411030
Fax: 6 088 411020 / 412028

Shangri-La Tanjung Aru Resort
Phone: 60 088 225800 / 41800 / 293306 (Reserv)
Fax: 60 088 244871 / 217155

Sutera Harbour Resort - Magellan Sutera
Phone: 6 088 318 888
Fax: 6 088 317 777

Sutera Harbour Resort - Pacific Sutera
Phone: 6 088 318888
Fax: 6 088 317777

Hotel Capital Sdn Bhd
23, Jalan Haji Saman
P.O Box 11223, 88813
Kota Kinabalu
Phone: 6 088 231 999 (10 lines)
Fax: 6 088 237 222
E mail: capitalh@streamyx.com

Beringgis Beach Resort, Papar
Phone: 6 088 752 999
E mail: bbrpapar@tm.net.my

DECEMBER EVENTS

BALIK KAMPUNG SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Date : 08 November - 31 December 2006
Organiser : Sabah Museum
Venue : Sabah Museum, Sabah
Contact Person : Mr. Dius Kubud
Telephone : 088 253199
Fax : 088 240230
Email Contact : Muzium.Sabah@sabah.gov.my

GRAPHIC ART EXHIBITION

Date : 07 December - 01 January 2007
Organiser : Sabah Art Gallery
Venue : Sabah Art Gallery, Sabah
Contact Person : Datuk Yaman Mus
Telephone : 088 268875
Fax : 088 210040
Email Contact : gallery_9@msn.com

CHRISTMAS AND YEAR-END FESTIVITIES

Date : 22 - 31 December 2006
Organiser : Hyatt Regency Kinabalu
Venue : Hyatt Regency Kinabalu, KK
Contact Person : Food & Beverage Dept
Telephone : 088 221234
Fax : 088 254315
Email Contact : hyatt.kinabalu@hyattintl.com

HARI RAYA AIDIL ADHA

Date : 31 December 2006
Muslims around the world once again celebrate this day in the Islamic calendar. This is a special and rare occasion where the Aidil Adha is celebrated twice within the same year. Muslims go for their Hajj Pilgrimage prior to the day of celebration.
Email Contact : info@sabah-tourism.com

THE NEW YEAR'S

EVE MIDNIGHT DIP

Date : 31 December - 01 January 2007
Organiser : Sabah Tourism Board / Sri Pelancongan Sabah Sdn. Bhd.
Telephone : +60 88 212121 / 232121
Fax : +60 88 212075 / 265540
Email Contact : info@sabah-tourism.com
Event Website : <http://www.sabahtourism.com>

@ GOING RETRO PARTY

Date : 31 December 2006
Organiser : @mosphere Revolving Restaurant & Lounge
Venue : 18th floor of Menara Tun Mustapha, Kota Kinabalu
Telephone : +6088- 425 100 / 249 276
Free valet parking for the night. Tickets sold at RM288 per person (inclusive of dinner) and RM35 for entry after 10pm.

Weekly TAMU (Open Market) in Sabah

■ Tamus are held in almost every town/district in Sabah. Most local traders gather to buy, sell or barter their farm produce, handicrafts, traditional ware, musical instruments, etc.

SUNDAY 6am - 2pm
Kota Belud, Tuaran, Putatan, Papar, Babagon, Tambunan, Tenom, Membakut, Kota Marudu, Sikuati, Gaya Street Fair (Kota Kinabalu)

MONDAY 6am - 2pm
Tandek

TUESDAY 6am - 2pm
Kiulu

WEDNESDAY 6am - 2pm
Pinggan-pinggan, Tamparuli & Kudat

THURSDAY 6am - 2pm
Donggongan, Telipok, Tenghilan, Pekan Nabal, Sipitang, Tambunan, Keningau

FRIDAY 6am - 2pm
Donggongan, Sunsuron, Weston, Mesapol, Kanibangan

SATURDAY 6am - 2pm
Kinarut, Beaufort, Sindumin, Matunggong, Pekan Pitas

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