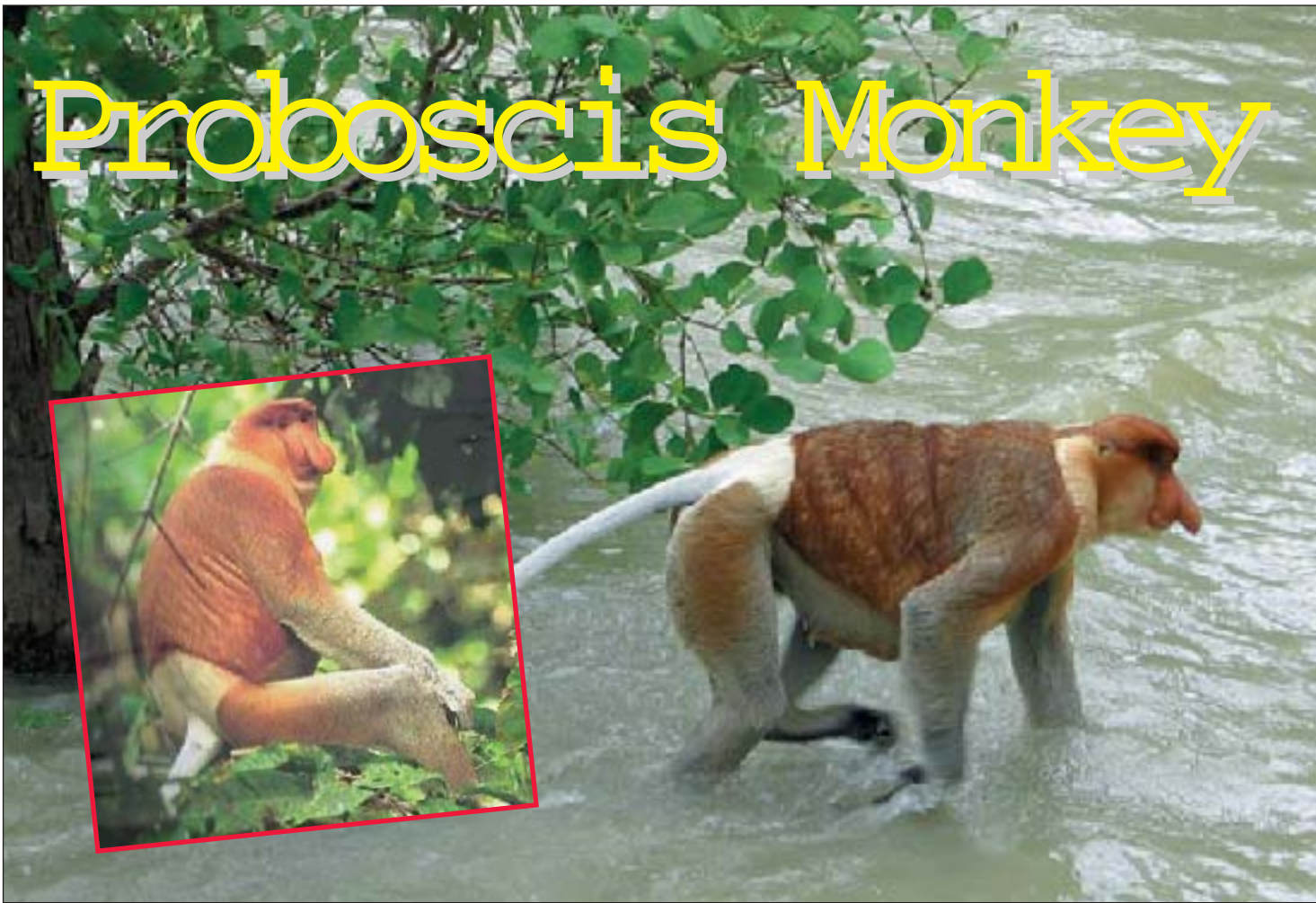


DO YOU KNOW

By ANNA VIVIENNE

WHERE TO STAY



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The Proboscis Monkey, *Nasalis larvatus* also known as Long-nosed Monkey is a reddish-brown to greyish white in colour. It is the only species in monotypic genus *Nasalis*.

The monkey's distinctive trait is the male's large protruding nose. The purpose of the large nose is unclear, but it has been suggested that it is a result of sexual selection. The female Proboscis Monkey prefers big-nosed male, thus propagating the trait.

Males are much larger than females.

The Proboscis Monkey has a large belly, as a result of its diet. Its digestive system is divided into several parts, with distinctive gut flora, which help in digesting leaves. This digestive process releases a lot of gas, resulting in the monkey's "bloated" bellies. A side-effect of this unique digestive system is that it is unable to digest ripe fruit, unlike most other

simians. The diet consists mainly of fruits, seeds and leaves.

The Proboscis Monkey is distributed and endemic to the coastal mangrove, swamps and riverine forests of Borneo. It lives in small groups of 10 to 32 animals. Group membership is very flexible, and they are known to move from group to group quite often.

The Proboscis Monkey lifestyle is both arboreal and amphibious, with its mangrove swamp and riverine environment containing forest, dry land, shallow water allowing wading, and deep water requiring swimming. Like other similar monkeys, the Proboscis Monkey climbs well. It is also a proficient swimmer, often swimming from island to island, and has been picked up by fishing boats in the sea, a mile from shore. While wading, the monkey uses an upright posture, with the females carrying infants on their hip.

Troops have been filmed continuing to walk upright, in single file,

along forest trails when they emerge on land, the only non-human mammal, with the exception of gibbons and giant pangolins, known to use this form of locomotion for any length of time.

Due to ongoing habitat lost and hunted in some areas, only about 7000 are known to still exist in the wild. In Sarawak, the population of this species has declined from 6500 in 1977 to only 1000 in 2006. The Proboscis Monkey is evaluated as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. It is listed on Appendix I of CITES.

The monkey is known as 'monyet belanda' locally. This is due to its large monkey, reddish complexion and huge stomach. Orang Belanda means 'Dutchman'. Perhaps in the past the first impressions the people had of the Dutch was their huge nose, reddish complexion and their huge belly.

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Fax: 60 088 225972
- Le Meridien Kota Kinabalu
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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

JUNE EVENTS

KK ADVENTURE PARK CHALLENGE

Date: 30 June 2007
Organiser: KK Adventure Park
Contact Person: Rahmahwati Andi Samsiar
Telephone: +60 88 750 959
Fax: +60 88 755959

Email Contact: wati@kkadventurepark.com

PESTA MENUKAL

Date: 30 June 2007
Organiser: Persatuan Petani dan Penternak Bumiputera Sabah (PETANAH)

Contact Person: Gaibin Ransoi
Telephone: +60 88 499157 / +6016 813 3156
Fax: +60 88 499157
Email Contact: petanah88@yahoo.com

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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