

OUTLOOK EXPLORE

*A meaningful conservation project
in a paradise beach location*

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EXPLORE
Malaysia
Turtle Conservation

11 Days

'Explore' gets beneath the skin of a country and gives a young person the opportunity to not just visit but 'feel'.

What is Explore?

'Travelling', 'searching', 'discovering' – these are the words that literally define Explore and are the foundations of every one of our itineraries.

Working with people in their own countries, passionate about the places they call home, we have created an experience that is truly special. 'Explore' gets beneath the skin of a destination and gives a young person the opportunity to not just visit but 'feel' the country they are visiting. Through the experiences they have and the people they meet, they will develop a deep understanding of culture, history, precious environments, the challenges faced and the impact that we can have as westerners and visitors; both good and bad.

Explorers return with empathy, excitement, a lust for adventure and the knowledge and desire to travel ethically and responsibly.

Created by Outlook Expeditions, Explore is born from nearly 20 years of expertise in taking schools to developing countries, in an effort to get more young people discovering the world first hand and not from behind screens. Every Explore trip goes through the same rigorous risk assessment processes as our expeditions and benefits from the same world class safety and support network.

Explore itineraries are all inclusive and fully catered. All logistics and accommodation is pre-booked.



get lucky and spot an orangutan

Welcome to Malaysia

Malaysia is a vibrant mix of Asian cultures; Muslim Malays, religiously diverse Chinese, and Hindu and Muslim Indians all muddle along with aboriginal groups living in rural areas. Each ethnic group has its own language and cultural practices which can be appreciated through the country's many colourful celebrations and a delicious variety of cuisines.

It's not just the culture that's mixed. People are drawn to Malaysia to experience its incredibly diverse

environments and landscapes, from primary jungles and eco-systems to glitzy cities with sky scrapers and air-conditioned malls.

The icing on Malaysia's cake is the chance to encounter wildlife in its natural habitat. The most common sightings will be insects or colourful bird life, but you could get lucky and spot a foraging tapir, a slivered leaf monkey or an orangutan swinging through the jungle canopy. The oceans are just as bountiful with shoals of tropical fish, paint-box dipped corals, turtles, sharks and dolphins.



Why Explore Malaysia?

This is an incredible opportunity for those interested in marine conservation and science. The group will spend 6 full days working with Fuze Ecoteer on the Malaysian Perhentian Islands, which have some of the most beautiful beaches in Malaysia and crystal blue seas teeming with marine life and colourful corals.

Fuze Ecoteer is led by qualified marine conservationists with a passion for the environment. They are committed to providing educational conservation programmes that inspire future generations, supporting local communities and helping to protect endangered environments and wildlife. By developing community-based conservation projects it ensures the long-term sustainability of the work carried out, whilst giving volunteers an opportunity to learn about local heritage and benefit from the skills and knowledge of the local people.

The Perhentian Islands were once known to have hundreds of Green and Hawksbill turtles, but due to poaching

and irresponsible tourism damaging their precious feeding grounds the numbers have drastically dropped.

This project is split between the village and turtle beach, and volunteers experience both parts. Volunteers in the village will spend their time helping build the turtle image database; by taking images of turtles during snorkel surveys. Individual turtles can then be identified and their movements mapped around the islands. This data is vital to the development of an effective management plan for sea turtle conservation. Living and working in the village is a fantastic way to experience true Malaysian hospitality, and volunteers are always warmly welcomed. Volunteers at Turtle Beach enjoy the rustic beach life; mornings are spent chilling in hammocks resting, after monitoring mother sea turtles laying their eggs at night.

If you are looking to do a meaningful sea turtle conservation project in a paradise beach location, then this experience is definitely for you.



Your Itinerary



Day 1-2: Depart the UK and arrive in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Depart the UK and arrive in Kuala Lumpur. You will be met at the airport by a member of the Fuze Ecoteer team and taken to your hotel where you can take some time to rest after your long flight. In the evening, after dinner, stretch your legs by wandering in to the incredible city to see the bright lights and colourful lanterns that decorate China Town.

Day 2: Kuala Lumpur Exploration

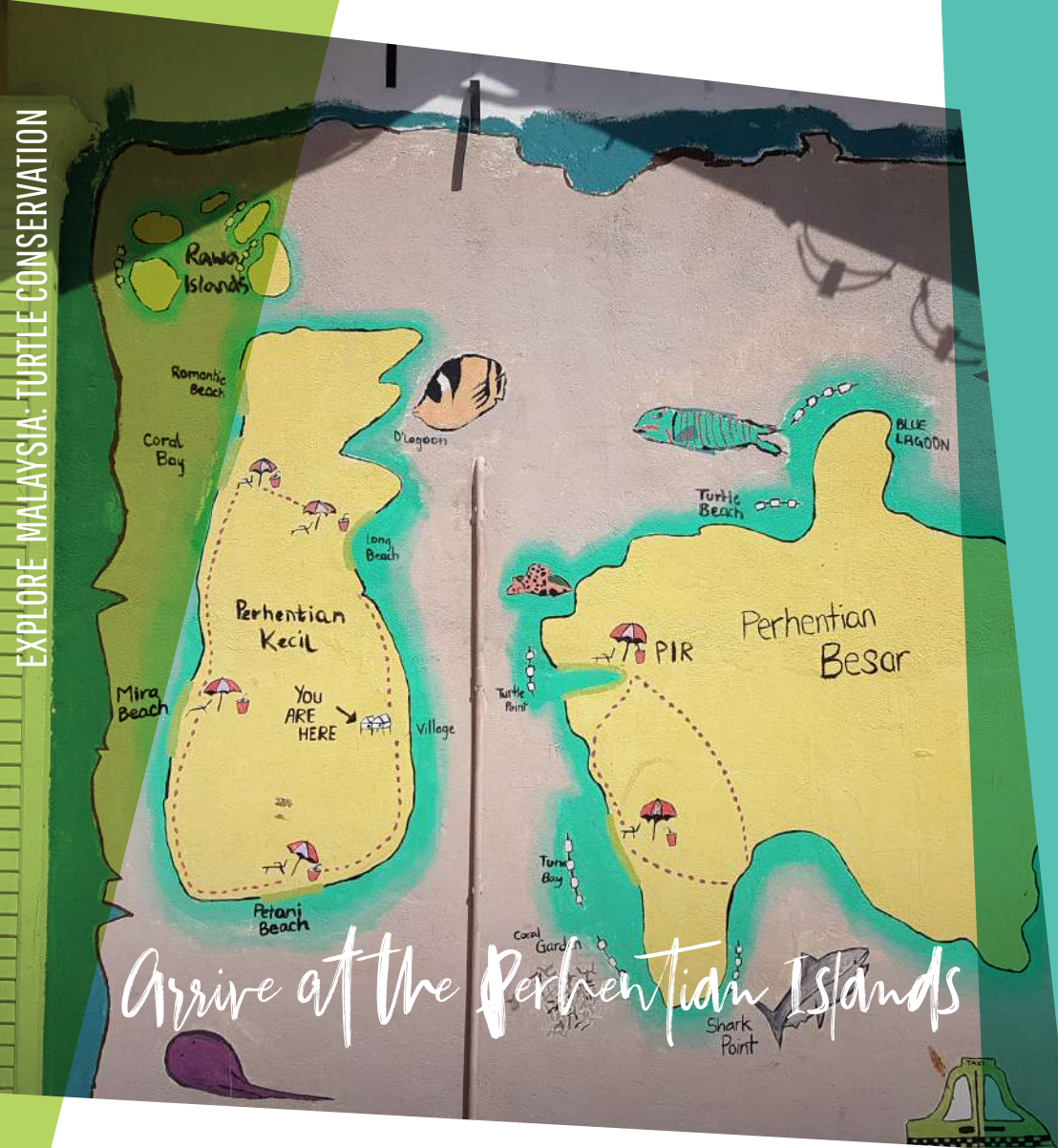
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's capital, is a vibrant mix of gleaming skyscrapers, lush parks, mega-sized shopping malls, colourfully adorned temples and bustling street markets. Divided into numerous districts, its main hub is called the Golden Triangle and the city is recognised for numerous landmarks, including the Petronas Twin Towers (the world's tallest twin skyscrapers), Petaling Street Flea

Market, and Batu Caves, which is over 400 million years old.

Today you will take part in the 'KL Amazing Cultural Race' and visit sights including Batu Caves, Dataran Merdeka, the national Mosque and Little India.

In the evening, with your guide from Fuze Ecoteer you will catch the public bus to Kuala Besut.





Day 3-8: Turtle Conservation Programme

Catch the early boat to the Perhentian Islands. On arrival at the village you will have time to settle into your dorms, followed by lunch and a tour of the village. You will then be given a project

presentation where you will be briefed on the work Fuze Ecoteer do. The rest of the afternoon will be spent gaining confidence in the water, enjoying a mini snorkel session.

Government regulations stipulate that turtle patrol is limited to groups of only

5 people at any one time. As such, the team will be split into different groups, with each spending an equal amount of time on turtle patrol (which is a night-time activity). Whilst on patrol you will help to collect non-invasive photos of nesting sea turtles at beaches around the Perhentian Islands.

The photos that you collect will help researchers to establish nesting patterns of sea turtles in the Perhentian Islands. Additionally, unfortunately poachers still occasionally collect eggs from the beaches around the islands. Your role is to guard the beach (poachers stay away





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when they know people are there) and when a turtle comes to nest inform the government official who will then collect the eggs and safely protect them in their official hatchery. Fuze Ecoteer established a similar programme at another turtle nesting beach on the islands which is still ongoing, so your presence will ensure two

turtle nesting beaches are protected in the Perhentian islands.

Whilst not on turtle patrol you will be based in the village and carrying out turtle surveys. The scutes (scales) on the flippers and the side of a green turtle's face are unique to each individual.



Collecting photos of the sea turtles on nesting beaches and at sea (whilst snorkelling) along with extra data such as location, time, date, male/female etc can be used with software developed by Cambridge University to identify each photo against a database of previously identified individuals. If new turtles are

discovered, then you get to name your new turtle. The information that this research gathers is vital for conservation measures as researchers can identify population numbers of male and female turtles, identify hotspots where conservation efforts need to be focused and monitor movement patterns of the turtles.





Organise games for the children

You'll also be involved in activities including beach cleans and assist on two other projects within the community – educating tourists on responsible snorkelling and working with the local children. The snorkel briefings are very important and have been well received by the snorkel guides, resorts and the snorkelers themselves. By educating the tourists before they go on a snorkel tour it reduces the chances of them making a negative impact by 70%. The

village children are all primary level aged 7 to 12 years old and you can prepare and organise educational games for the children on the beach- they love fun, energetic games!

The local community provide all food and a typical meal will consist of rice, beans and chicken (special dietary requirements will be provided for) as well as the local speciality, Malaysian pancakes.



Day 9: Depart Perhentian Islands

After breakfast attend a final de-brief with Fuze Ecoteer on the work you have done and how you can help to educate others and make a difference on your return to the UK. Pack your bags and say goodbye to your paradise island as you hop on the boat back to the mainland. Spend the night at a hostel in Kota Bharu.

*Due to the changing nature of the world, Outlook may be required to change aspects of, or the order of the itinerary. Any significant change will be discussed with the school, participants, and parents.

Day 10: Return to KL

Take a short flight back to KL where you will catch your international flight back to the UK.

Day 11: Arrive home

Arrive back in the UK to share your new found passion for marine conservation and sea turtles with all your friends and family.





Price and How to Pay

What's Included

- International Flights
- Comprehensive overseas medical insurance
- All overseas transport
- All food and accommodation
- All activities including any entrance fees
- 2 Link Teachers and an Explore Leader to accompany the team
- 24-hour access to information via our online portal 'Basecamp'.

What's Not Included

- Spending money for gifts/souvenirs
- Inoculations, prophylaxis and personal medicine
- Visas and passports
- Personal belongings insurance
- Cancellation Insurance
- Personal equipment (e.g. rucksack, walking boots, waterproof clothing). Everyone will receive a 15% discount at Cotswold Outdoor.
- Transport to and from the airport

Payments

Payments will be staged and can be made via direct debit, debit/credit card, bank transfer or cheque.

A deposit is necessary to secure your place.

A minimum group size of 12 students is necessary for the trip to go ahead. If the group fails to reach this number, any paid deposits will be refunded.

Information on how to apply and view your payment plan will be given at the Information Evening.

Fundraising

Many of our students contribute to the cost of the trip through fundraising. Fundraising activities allow students to demonstrate entrepreneurship, creativity, organisation and commitment and can be used to evidence skills as part of a university or job application.

Outlook has a wide range of resources to support fundraising – please contact our Customer Support Team for more information and to receive a free pack.