



BRUNEI THE SERENE SULTANATE OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

October 25 - October 28, 2024
Led by Local Guide

Nestled on the lush shores of Borneo, this hidden gem invites you to uncover its rich cultural tapestry and natural wonders. Our exclusive tour takes you to the heart of Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital city adorned with resplendent mosques and opulent palaces. Next, venture to the vibrant town of Seria, an economic powerhouse steeped in the legacy of the oil and gas industry. Brunei beckons with its blend of modernity and tradition, a land where opulence harmonizes with natural beauty. Join this adventure now and let Brunei's enchanting allure be your next unforgettable experience!

Ihab Zaki
Managing Director

Friday, October 25 Arrive in Bandar Seri Begawan (**BRUNEI**)

Upon arrival in **Bandar**, Brunei's capital, meet the local guide and transfer to *The Brunei Hotel* or similar for check-in. In the evening, take a wonderful night tour of the capital and all of its magnificent highlights. Stop for photos at two iconic places of worship: **Jame' Asr Hassanil Bolkiah Mosque** and **Omar Ali Saifuddien Mosque**. These are very picturesque sights to visit during the day, but their scale and grandness is most prominent at night when the bright lights and starry night sky shine off of their golden domes. Visit a local night market to see the many rows of stalls selling a wide range of local delicacies. After a savory local dinner, return to the *Hotel* for overnight (**D**).

Saturday, October 26 Bandar

After breakfast, head out on a tour showing the major highlights of *Bandar*. The route will pass by the **Lapau** - a

royal ceremonial hall where HM The Sultan was crowned in 1968. Next to the *Lapau*, is the old parliament house, known as **Dewan Majlis**. Make a brief stop at a local traditional market, known as **Tamu Kianggeh**. This market was also visited by HM Queen Elizabeth II during her state visit to Brunei in 1998. Continuing on to The **Malay Technology Museum**, a gift from Royal Dutch Shell in conjunction with Brunei Independence in 1984. Next stop will be the **Tomb of Sultan Bolkiah**, whose reign was known as the Golden Age of Brunei, and the **Royal Regalia Museum**, which houses the regalia of the Sultan and the royalty. Revisit the **Omar Ali Saifuddien Mosque**, this time from the inside.

After lunch at a local restaurant, explore the **Kampong Ayer**, known as the "Venice of the East." Start with a scenic boat ride of the **Brunei River** by water taxi before taking a walk along wooden paths and bridges rich in Brunei culture and history. Complete the experience by paying a

visit to one of the local houses where traditional cakes and tea will be served. Revisit the other **major mosque**, the majestic *Jame' Asr Hassanil Bolkiah*, completed in 1994 to mark the monarch's 25th year rule. The mosque has 29 golden domes to honor the 29th ruler of Brunei. End the drive visiting **Nurul Iman Palace**, the official residence of The Sultan of Brunei. It was included in the Guinness Book of Records as the world's largest living residence of a head of state. There will be a photo opportunity at the front gate of the palace. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant then return to the *Hotel* for overnight. **(B,L,D)**

Sunday, October 27

Bandar (Seria)



After breakfast, begin the day with a drive to **Seria** (1.5 hrs.), the lifeblood of Brunei's economy and the source of most of the country's wealth. *Seria* is home to the site of where *Royal Dutch Shell* first drilled for oil in Brunei. The first stop is the **Seria Energy Lab**, a flagship program to support the growth of science in the country. The center's exhibition gallery showcases over 100 exhibits that cover the multi-facets of science, technology, and Brunei's hydrocarbons industry. The tour will also include **the Billionth Barrel Monument**, an arch built in 1991 to mark billionth barrel of crude oil produced in Seria, Pass by **Brunei Shell Petroleum** headquarters and the Dutch community accommodation quarters and their recreational facilities. Lunch will be in **Kuala Belait**, not far from the Malaysian border. After lunch, spend the afternoon free at leisure to explore this unique small town. Drive back to **Bandar** stopping en route for another photo opportunity at the **Jerudong Park** area, which is only open during evening hours. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant then return to the *Hotel* for overnight. **(B,L,D)**

Monday, October 28

Bandar - USA



After breakfast, free morning at leisure then transfer to Brunei International Airport for your flight back to the US. **(B)**

"We reserve the right to change the order of activities/visits or sites due to unexpected events such as flight cancellations or changes of schedule, or any other reasons beyond our control. We will do our best to ensure that any necessary changes when/if needed to meet the needs of our clients".

Tour Notes:

Active Touring - You will be covering a lot during this journey. The roads are good, and the bus is very comfortable. Some driving days are long, but there will be several restroom stops along the way. It is important to recognize the exhausting nature of some of the long sightseeing days, as well as some of the site visits where you may have to climb over uneven terrain, steps, rocks, and sand, as well as up inclines and stairs. Be prepared to travel with comfortable shoes. You do have the option of staying in the vehicle if some sites seem difficult to you.

Tour Cost (Land Only): \$1,250.00

Per person sharing in double occupancy

Single Supplement: \$250.00

Price based on group size of minimum 2 participants

Trip Grade: 1 Lodging Level: ****

Tour Includes:

- Airport/Hotel/airport transfers.
- Accommodation at mentioned hotels or similar.
- Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch and D: Dinner).
- Sightseeing in each city as per the itinerary.
- Services of English-speaking guides.
- Entrance fees to all mentioned sites and museums.

Tour does not include:

- International Airfare in and out of Brunei.
- Brunei Visa (currently free upon arrival).
- Beverages and drinks with or without meals.
- Trip surcharge to operate below required minimum participants.
- Items of a personal nature (camera fees, laundry, emails, excess luggage, etc.).
- Gratuities to guide, drivers, and porters, etc.
- Dayroom/overnights necessitated by changes in airline schedules or early arrival.
- Travel protection insurance. (Highly Recommended)

