

DESTINATION ASIA

DESTINATION MANAGEMENT FOR ASIA'S TRAVEL CONNOISSEURS

EXCEPTIONAL
EXPERIENCES

*The WILD
HORIZONS
of Asia*

THAILAND | VIETNAM | JAPAN | HONG KONG | INDONESIA | SINGAPORE | CAMBODIA | MALAYSIA | LAOS



EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Inspiring Your Next Journey

Welcome to issue four of Exceptional Experiences, where we set out into Asia's wild landscapes to experience nature and adventure, while treading lightly through responsible travel. Across the region, dramatic scenery and rare wildlife encounters invite travelers to connect with the natural world while discovering a more mindful way to explore.

From Sabah's mangroves and rainforests alive with orangutans and sun bears to the misty heights of Thailand's Doi Inthanon, Asia reveals itself in breathtaking detail. Glide through Laos' forest canopy in the world's highest treehouses, trek among red-shanked douc langurs in Vietnam, or trace Japan's rugged coastlines in search of whales and sea eagles. Each journey celebrates the wonder of the outdoors, offering moments of awe, discovery, and lasting connection to the landscapes that define Asia.

The art of curated experiences

For close to 30 years, Destination Asia has crafted bespoke travel solutions and offered unparalleled expertise in a region we proudly call home. We continually push boundaries to uncover the most rewarding and unforgettable encounters, paired with private and exclusive properties. The stories shared in this issue are unique and can't be found in any guidebook, ensuring that every journey with us is truly exceptional.

If you see something you like and want to know more, then reach out to our travel planners via the contact page.

What's INSIDE



04

MALAYSIA

*The wild heart
of Sabah*



07

INDONESIA

*Natural wonders
of Indonesia*



10

THAILAND

Thailand's misty trails



11

VIETNAM

A remote Vietnamese reserve



12

HONG KONG

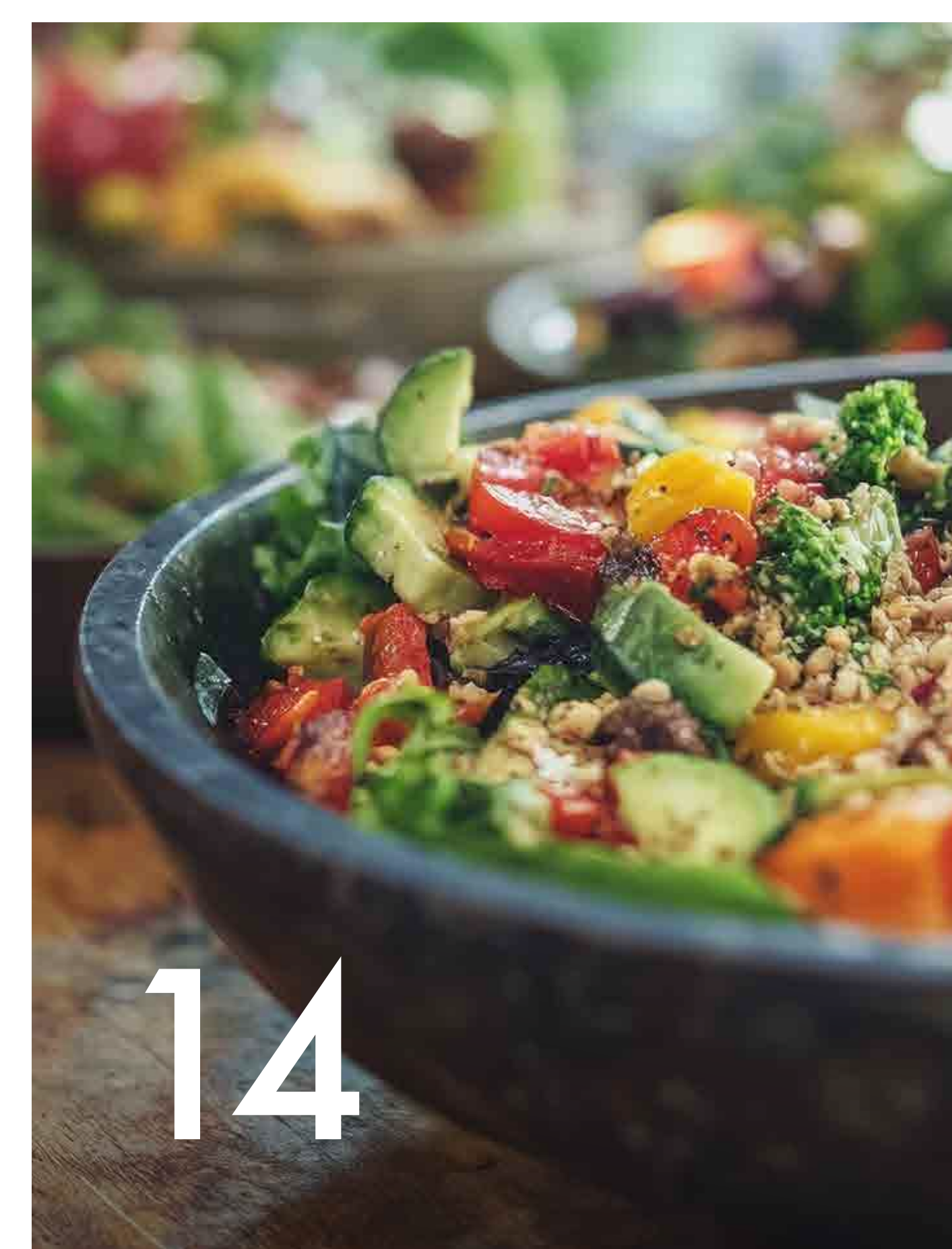
*Wild trails of
Hong Kong*



13

JAPAN

*Untamed beauty
of Japan*



14

SINGAPORE

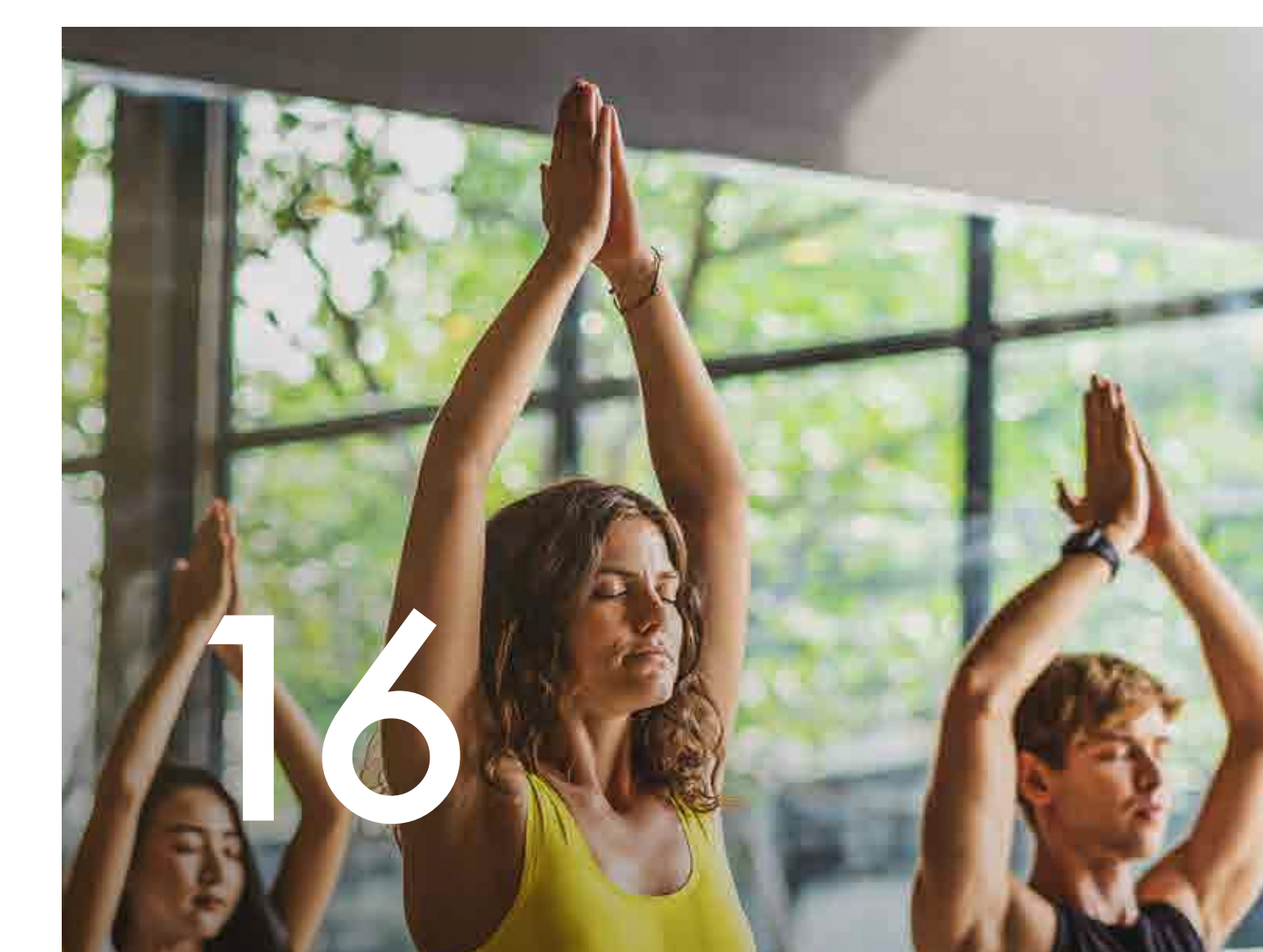
*Immersive
Singapore sanctuary*



15

CAMBODIA

*Connecting with
Cambodia's jungles*



16

LAOS

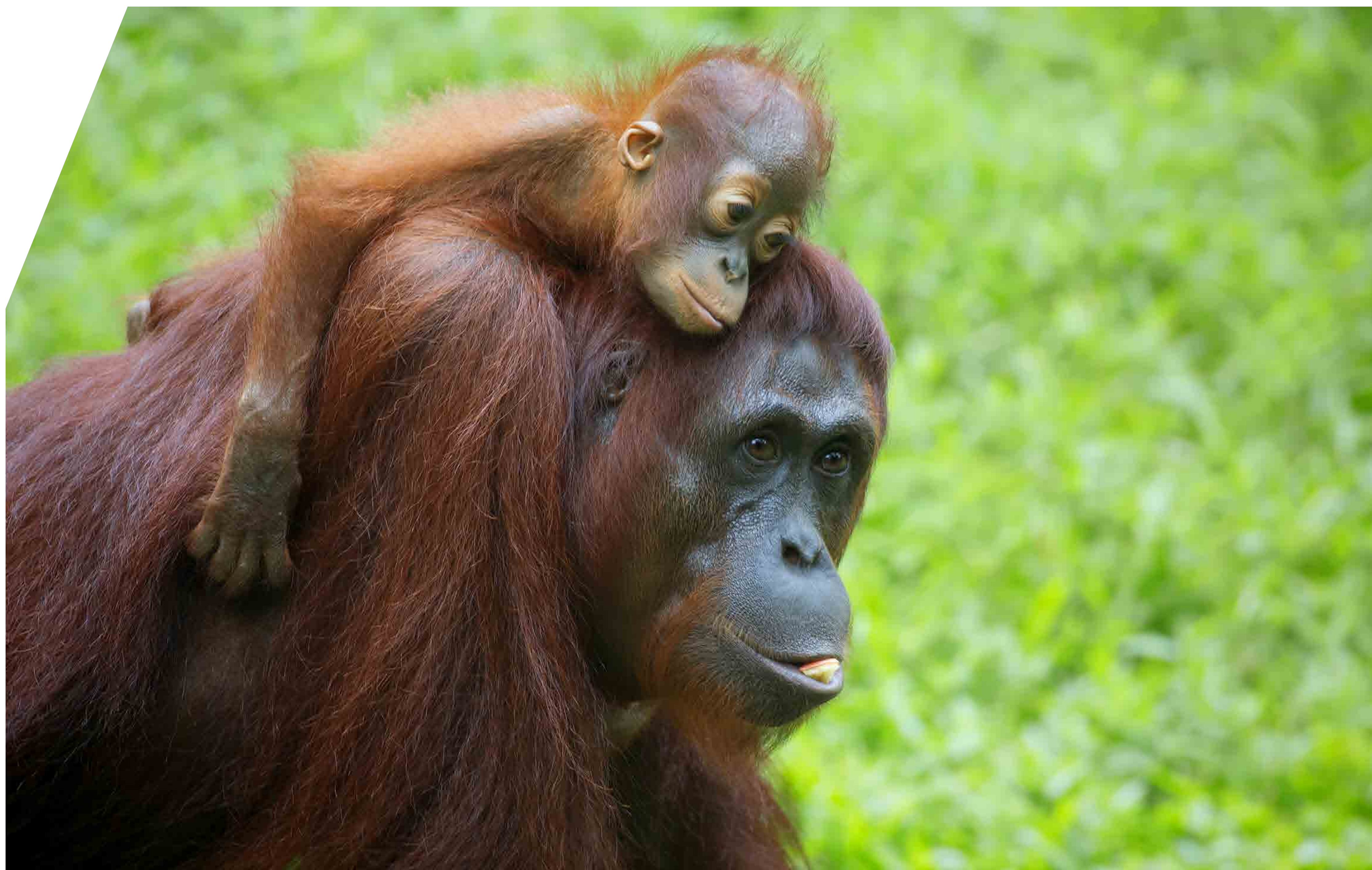
*Mountains & meditation
in Laos*



THE WILD HEART OF SABAH

A journey into the unknown | 4 days

Discover the wildness of Sabah on an unforgettable conservation journey. Begin at the renowned Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Center and Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Center, where rescued animals roam in protected forest settings. Then visit the Kinabatangan Wetlands Resort for an evening cruise spotting proboscis monkeys, hornbills, and crocodiles along the riverbanks. Glide across the tranquil Pitas Oxbow Lake, connect with the Orang Sungai community in their fishing village, and take part in hands-on conservation with tree planting at the Kulamba Field Center.

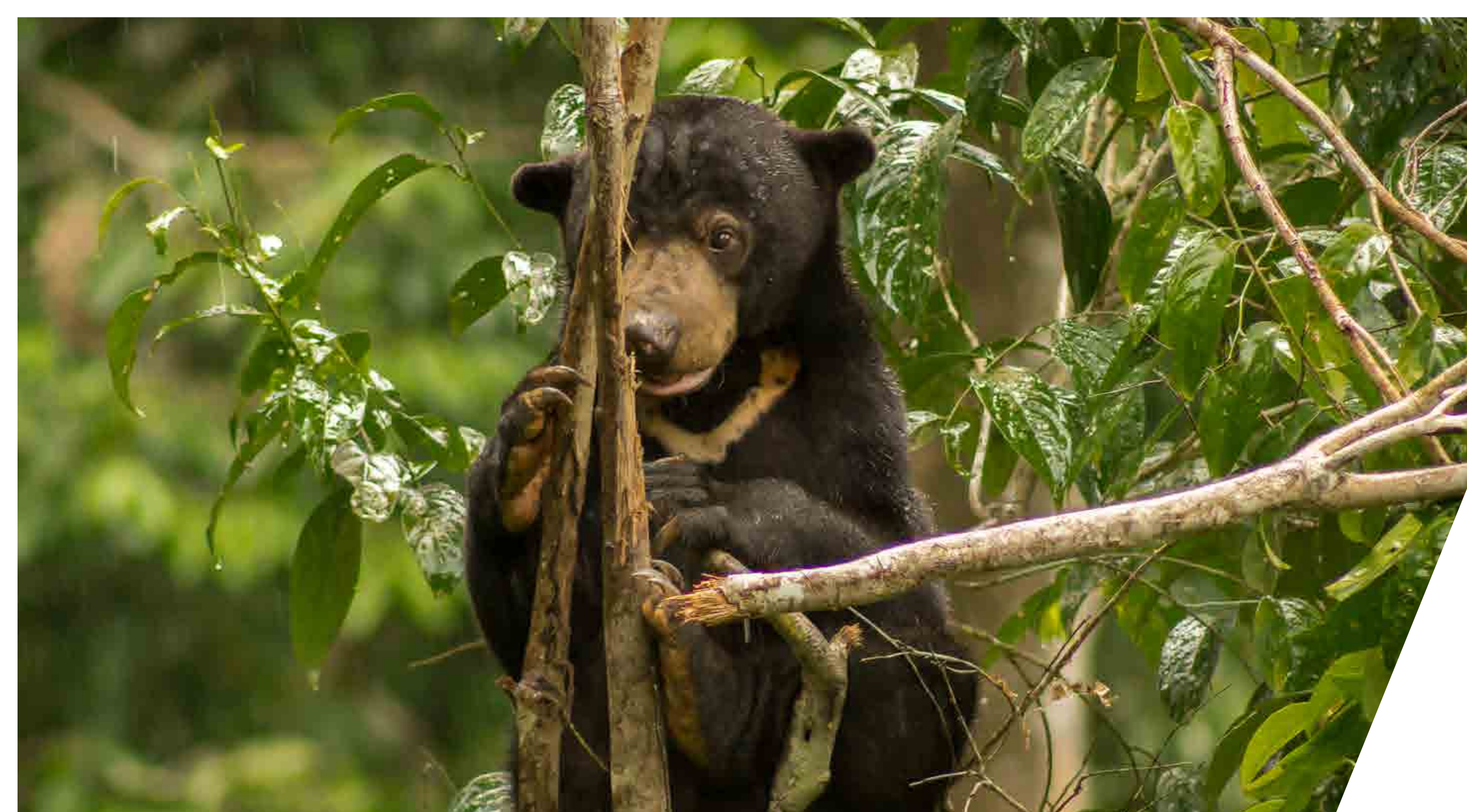


EXCEPTIONAL TOUCHPOINTS

on your journey

- 1** Encounter rescued orangutans at Sepilok and discover inspiring conservation work protecting their future.
- 2** Observe the world's smallest bears at the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre, learning about their behavior, threatened habitat, and ongoing rescue efforts.
- 3** Evening and night cruises offer chances to spot wildlife like Oran Utans, Pygmy Elephants, Proboscis Monkeys and fireflies along the riverbanks.
- 4** Visit Kampung Abai fishing village to meet the Orang Sungai, engaging with local traditions and experiencing their river-centered way of life.
- 5** Join conservation efforts at Kulamba Field Centre through tree planting, reforestation support, and hands-on eco-volunteering within pristine Sabah wilderness.

Want to know more about this wild experience?
Get in touch with our team.





SHANGRI-LA RASA RIA

Malaysia

At Shangri-La Rasa Ria, Kota Kinabalu, the rainforest meets the sea in a sanctuary of natural beauty and timeless luxury. Spanning 400 acres, the resort offers a 3 km stretch of white sandy beach, a 64-acre private nature reserve, and an 18-hole championship golf course. Awaken to birdsong, hike to panoramic sunrises, or bask in golden sunsets over the South China Sea. With over 60 curated experiences, every stay is enriched with discovery, relaxation, and Shangri-La's legendary hospitality in Sabah.



NATURAL WONDERS OF INDONESIA

Ascending to new heights | 17 days

Set out on an inspiring expedition across Java and Bali that uncovers Indonesia's rich heritage, striking landscapes, and breathtaking natural wonders through a sustainable lens. Witness sunrise over dramatic volcanic peaks, trek through lush rainforests alive with wildlife, and embrace a seamless blend of nature, culture, and soft adventure. With eco-conscious stays, responsible activities, and meaningful encounters with local communities, this thoughtfully designed itinerary balances comfort with purpose and authenticity. Perfect for mindful travelers seeking deeper connections, it offers a more conscious way to explore Indonesia while leaving a lasting, positive impact.

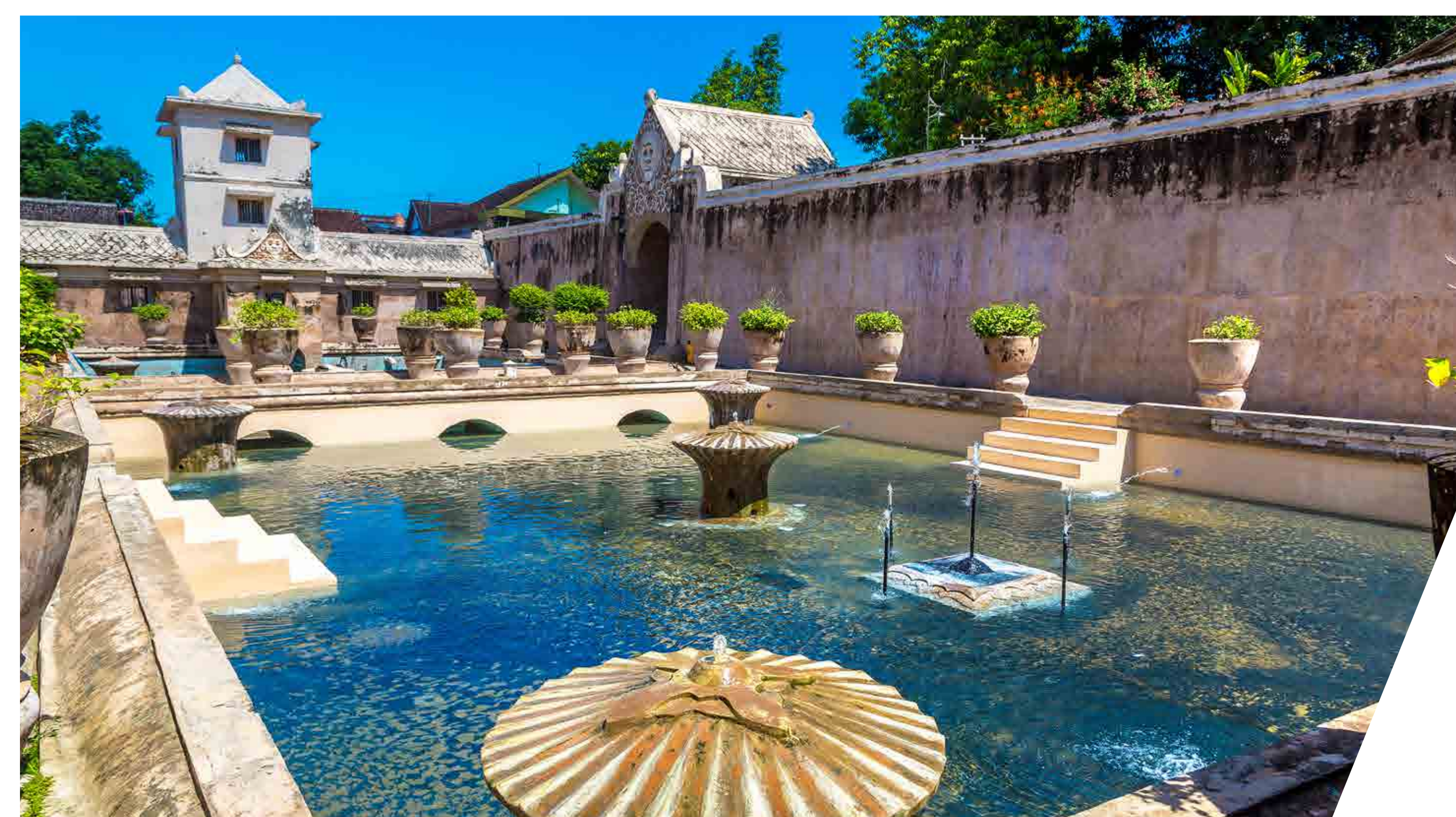


EXCEPTIONAL TOUCHPOINTS

on your journey

- 1** Greet the day with sunrise over Mount Bromo, followed by a picnic breakfast amid the sweeping calm of the surrounding savannah.
- 2** Ascend Ijen Crater for sweeping views of turquoise acid lakes and witness the remarkable daily endurance of local sulfur miners.
- 3** Journey through Munduk's rainforest and glide across a caldera lake in a traditional canoe, discovering Bali's untamed and tranquil highlands.
- 4** Visit Indonesia's first firefly conservation garden with Pak Wayan, learning their light language before watching them illuminate.
- 5** Wander through rice terraces and plantations to reach Candi Selogriyo, a hidden Hindu temple, where a mountain-view picnic awaits in seclusion.

Want to know more about this mindful experience?
Get in touch with our team.





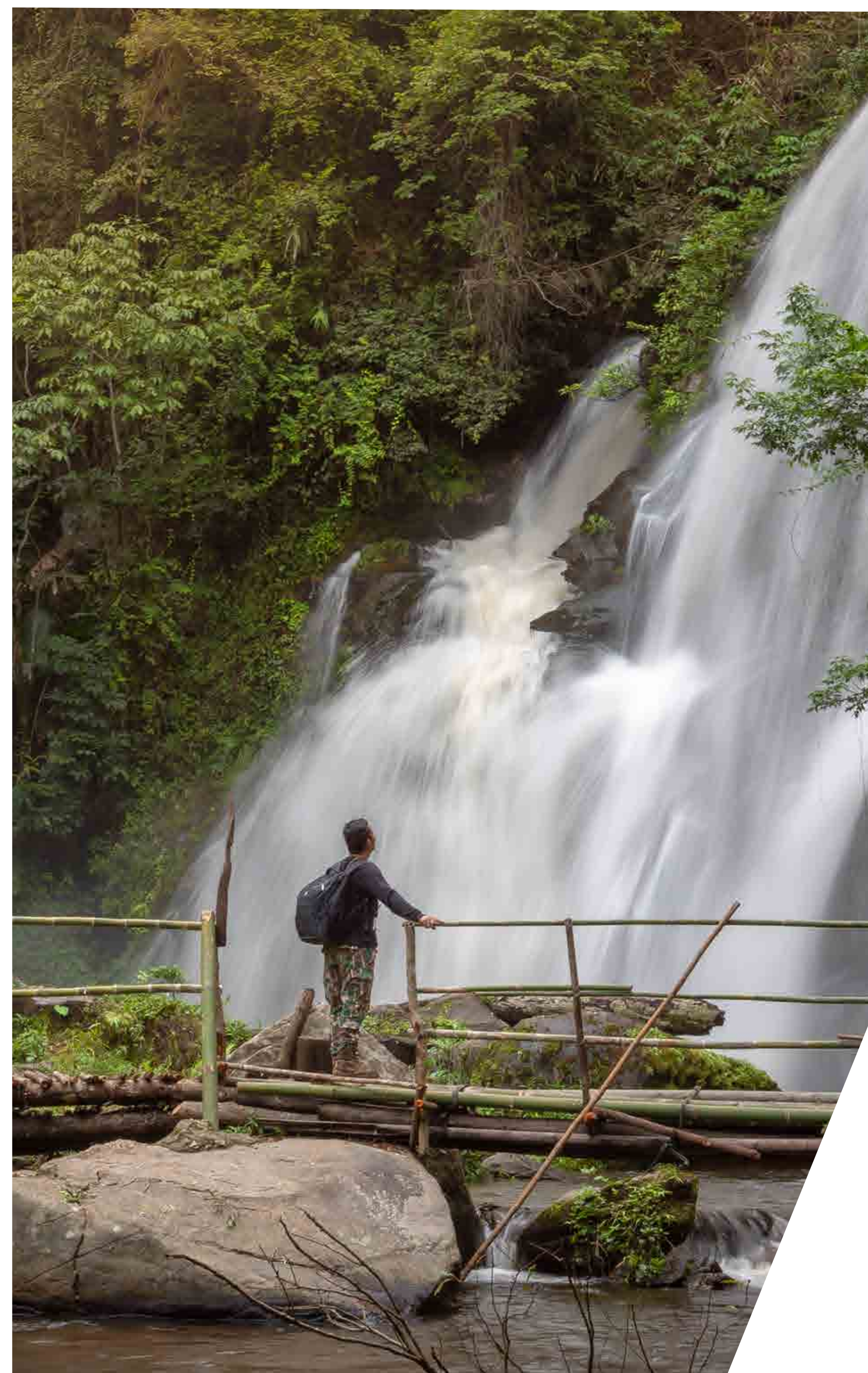
CAPELLA UBUD, BALI

Indonesia

Inspired by the early European settlers of the 1800s, celebrated architect Bill Bensley designed Capella Ubud, Bali as a tribute to their spirit of adventure. Set in the authentic Balinese artist village of Keliki, the camp is nestled among terraced jungle, rice paddies and the sacred Wos River.

This refined tented sanctuary invites guests to immerse in Ubud's untouched natural beauty while enjoying personalised service and stylish comfort, offering a truly unique experience that captures the imagination and celebrates the essence of exploration.





THAILAND'S MISTY TRAILS

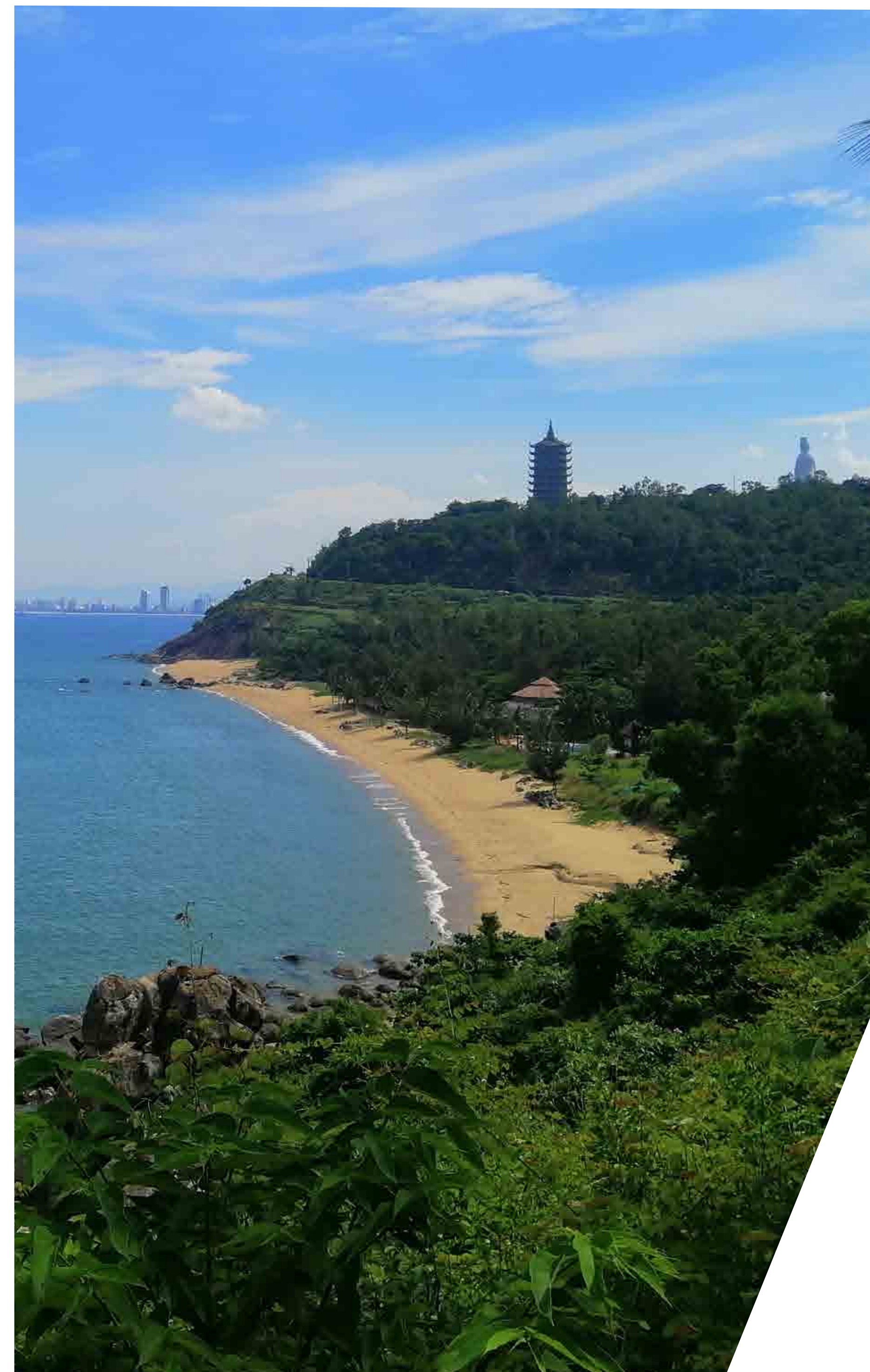
Exploring the wild north | Full-day

Explore “The Roof of Thailand,” where cool mountain air and diverse landscapes create a refreshing escape into nature. Wander misty forests alive with fascinating flora and admire vibrant flower gardens with bursting blooms. Hike scenic trails like Kew Mae Pan for sweeping valley views, or follow the Pha Dok Siew Nature Trail through rice terraces, jungle, and streams to a cascading waterfall. With spectacular sites like Wachirathan Falls and rare birdlife, this region offers a truly immersive natural adventure.

Exceptional Touchpoints *on your journey*

- * Stand at the 2,565-meter summit of Doi Inthanon, Thailand’s highest peak, to enjoy the cool air and sweeping mountain views.
- * Follow scenic trails through lush jungle, past cascading waterfalls and open grasslands, pausing to take in breathtaking panoramic valley vistas.
- * Visit a Karen hilltribe village, where coffee lovers can sample locally grown beans and witness the traditional coffee-making process.

Want to know more about this mountainous experience?
Get in touch with our team.



A REMOTE VIETNAMESE RESERVE

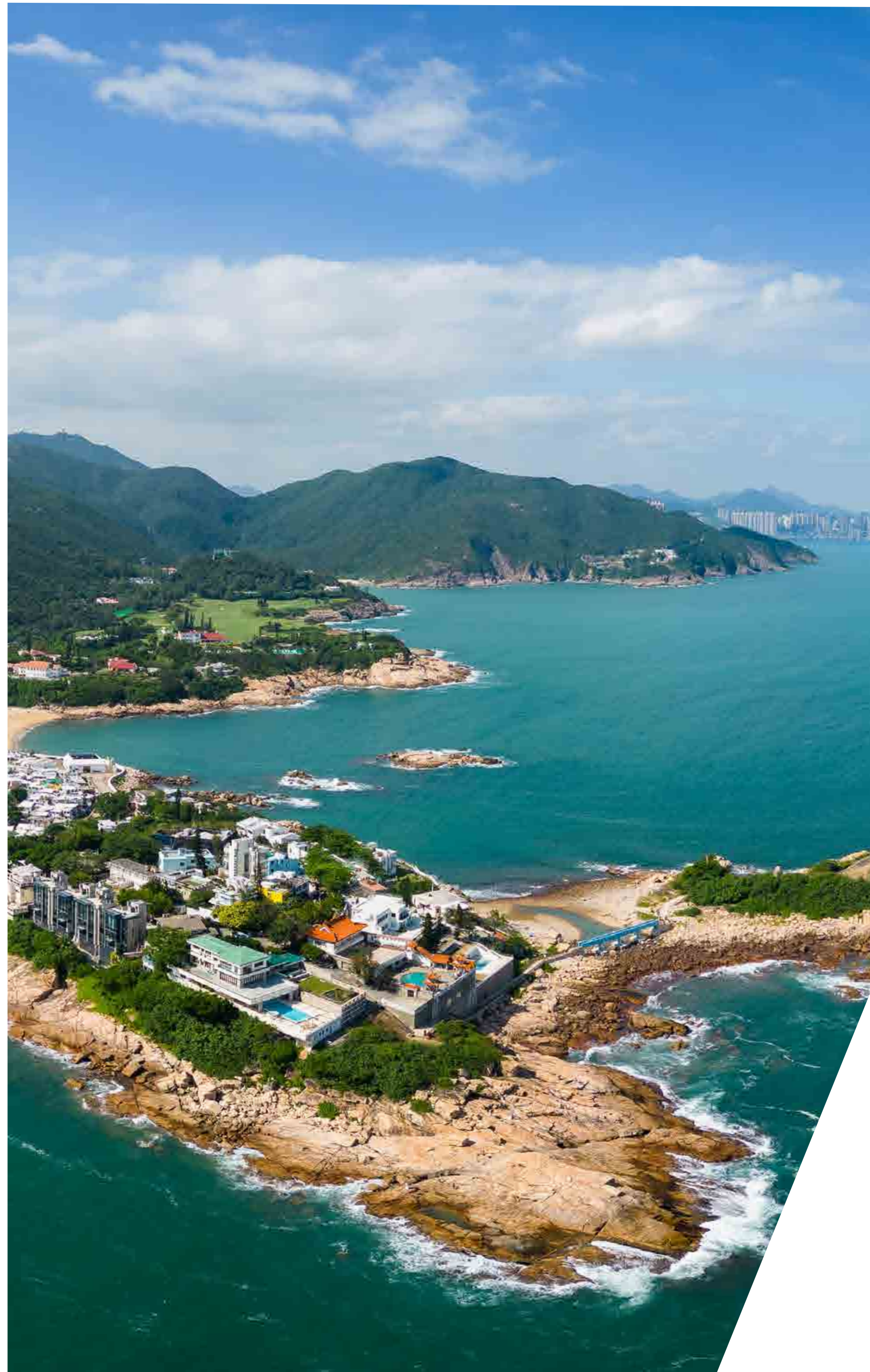
Discover an ancient adventure | Half-day

Set out early for an adventure at Monkey Mountain, exploring the wild beauty of the Son Tra Peninsula. Traverse tropical forests and steep cliffs with a conservation expert, learning about ongoing efforts to protect rare wildlife. With luck, spot the endangered red-shanked douc langur leaping gracefully among ancient trees. Along the way, discover sweeping coastal views and remnants of history, while supporting vital NGO initiatives that promote biodiversity, environmental education, and sustainable conservation in Vietnam's fragile ecosystems.

Exceptional Touchpoints *on your journey*

- * Rise at the break of dawn to explore Son Tra Nature Reserve, a rugged landscape of lush tropical forests, steep cliffs, and rich biodiversity.
- * Trek hidden trails with a conservation expert, spotting endangered red-shanked douc langurs through scopes as they leap gracefully among ancient trees.
- * Pause at scenic viewpoints for sweeping coastal panoramas and cityscapes, embracing tranquility, fresh mountain air, and unforgettable photo opportunities.

Want to know more about this remote experience?
Get in touch with our team.



WILD TRAILS OF HONG KONG

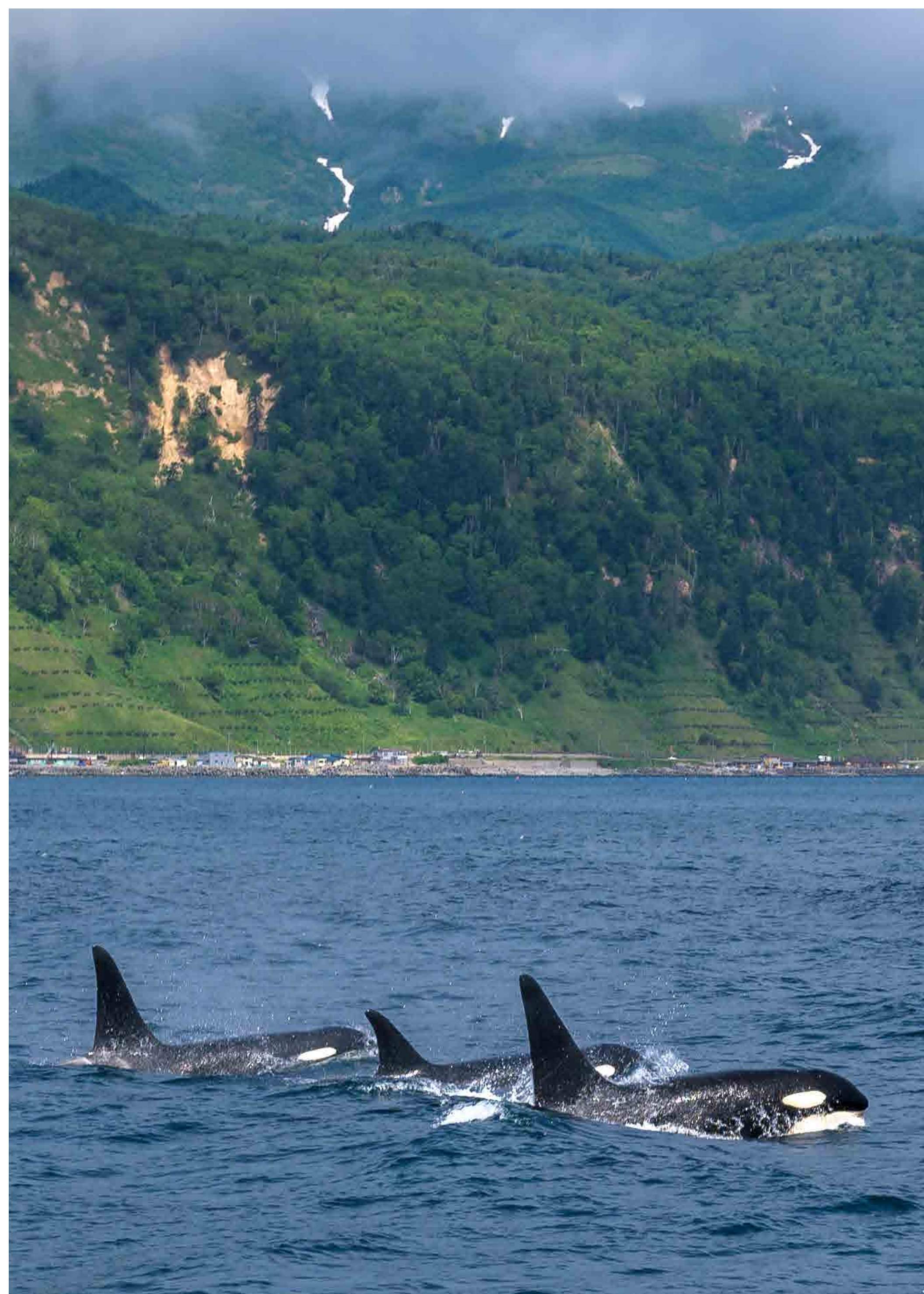
A hike through heritage | Half-day

Discover the natural charm of rural Lamma Island on a journey that blends soft adventure with sustainability. Hike scenic forest trails, passing rich flora and coastal views, before visiting a traditional fishing village to learn about local heritage and sustainable practices. An engaging environmental workshop highlights eco-friendly travel and community conservation efforts, offering hands-on insight into protecting Hong Kong's fragile ecosystems. With its mix of nature, culture, and responsibility, Lamma Island promises an authentic and enriching escape.

Exceptional Touchpoints *on your journey*

- * Embark on a guided eco-hike across Lamma Island's lush trails, discovering native flora, coastal scenery, and vital conservation initiatives.
- * Explore a traditional fishing village, learning about sustainable practices and supporting community efforts that preserve local culture and marine heritage.
- * Join a hands-on environmental workshop, engaging with community-led conservation projects that inspire responsible tourism and raise ecological awareness in Hong Kong.

Want to know more about this hiking experience?
Get in touch with our team.



UNTAMED BEAUTY OF JAPAN

Walking untouched wonderlands | Full-day

Journey into Shiretoko, a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its untouched wilderness and remarkable biodiversity. Cruise the Sea of Okhotsk in search of whales and orcas, then hike forest trails and rugged cliffs where deer, red squirrels, and rare birds thrive. Each season transforms Hokkaido's landscapes, from vibrant summer greens to snow-draped winter wonderlands. In colder months, spot majestic sea eagles and explore by snowshoe, discovering a side of Japan where nature reigns in every detail.

Exceptional Touchpoints *on your journey*

- * Hike ancient Shiretoko forests, a UNESCO World Heritage Site alive with pristine wilderness, rare birds, deer, and vibrant biodiversity.
- * Explore dramatic coastal cliffs and panoramic viewpoints, where untouched landscapes showcase the raw, untamed beauty of Hokkaido's most remote wilderness.
- * Cruise the Sea of Okhotsk, scanning vast waters for orcas and sperm whales as they surface in their natural habitat.

Want to know more about this wilderness experience?
Get in touch with our team.



IMMERSIVE SINGAPORE SANCTUARY

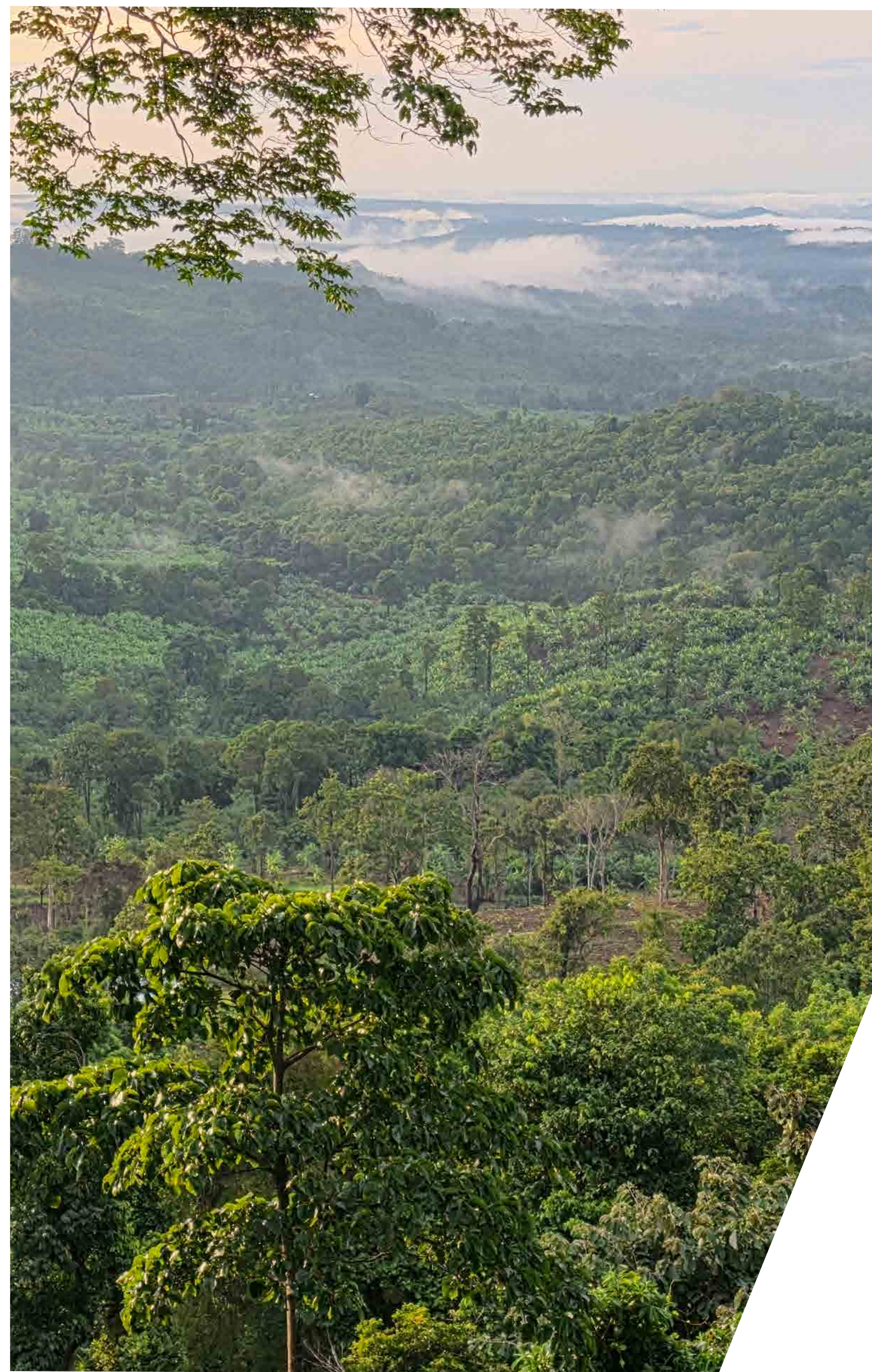
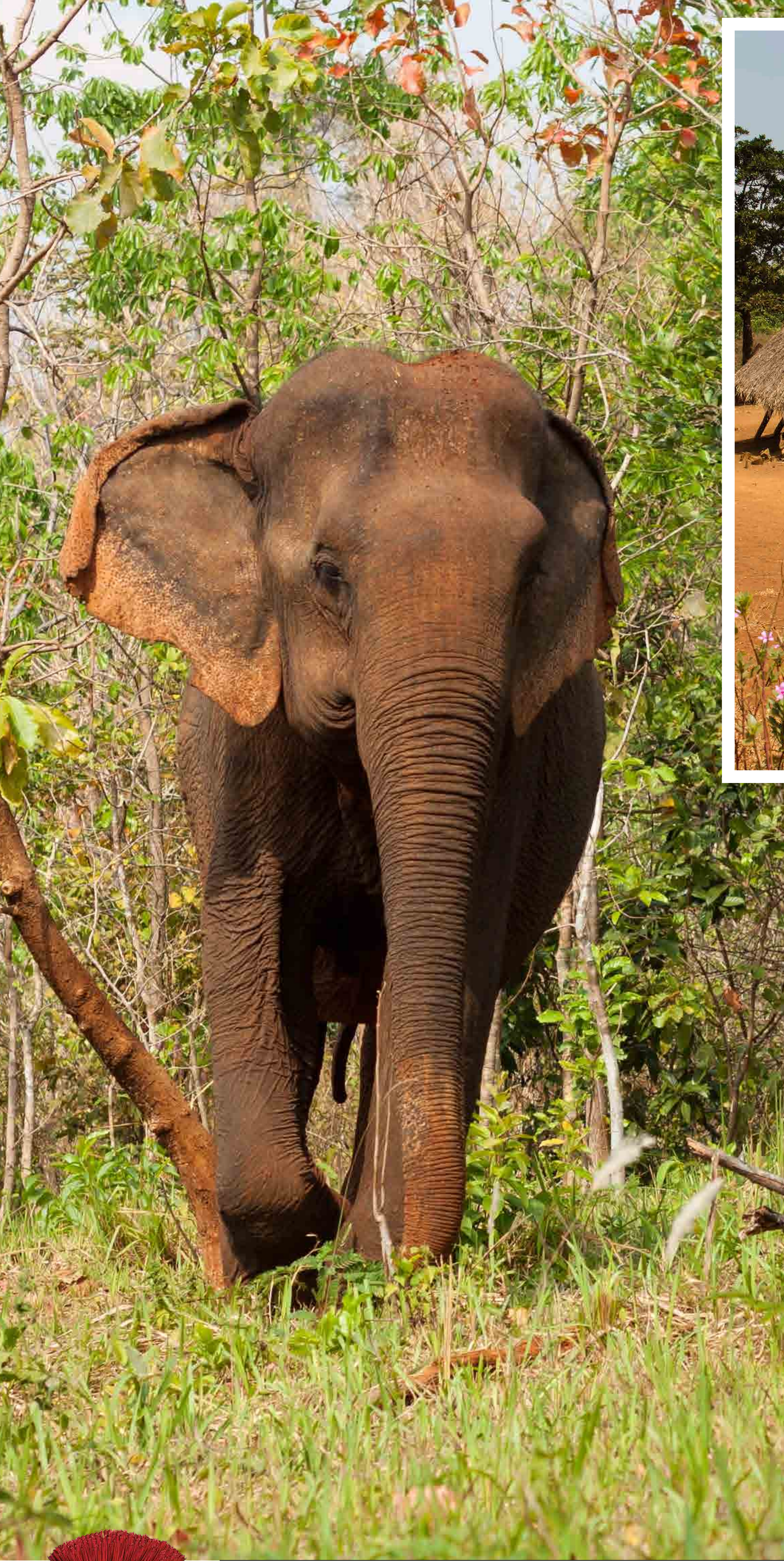
Wandering along eco trails | Half-day

Discover Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, Singapore's first ASEAN Heritage Park and a sanctuary of mangroves, mudflats, and rich biodiversity. Stroll along boardwalks to observe migratory birds, mudskippers, and unique plant life, while learning about vital conservation efforts that protect this fragile ecosystem. This immersive escape offers a refreshing contrast to the city's bustle, combining nature, wildlife, and education. Conclude the journey with a farm-to-table dining experience, savoring dishes prepared with fresh, locally sourced ingredients that celebrate sustainability and homegrown flavors.

Exceptional Touchpoints *on your journey*

- * Join guided trails to explore wetlands, learning about biodiversity and conservation through engaging exhibits that highlight Singapore's delicate natural heritage.
- * Wander through mangroves, mudflats, and forests alive with migratory birds, mudskippers, and unique flora, discovering the reserve's vital ecological importance.
- * Conclude with a countryside farm-to-table lunch, savoring freshly prepared dishes crafted from locally sourced ingredients that celebrate sustainability and homegrown freshness.

Want to know more about this biodiverse experience?
Get in touch with our team.



CONNECTING WITH CAMBODIA'S JUNGLES

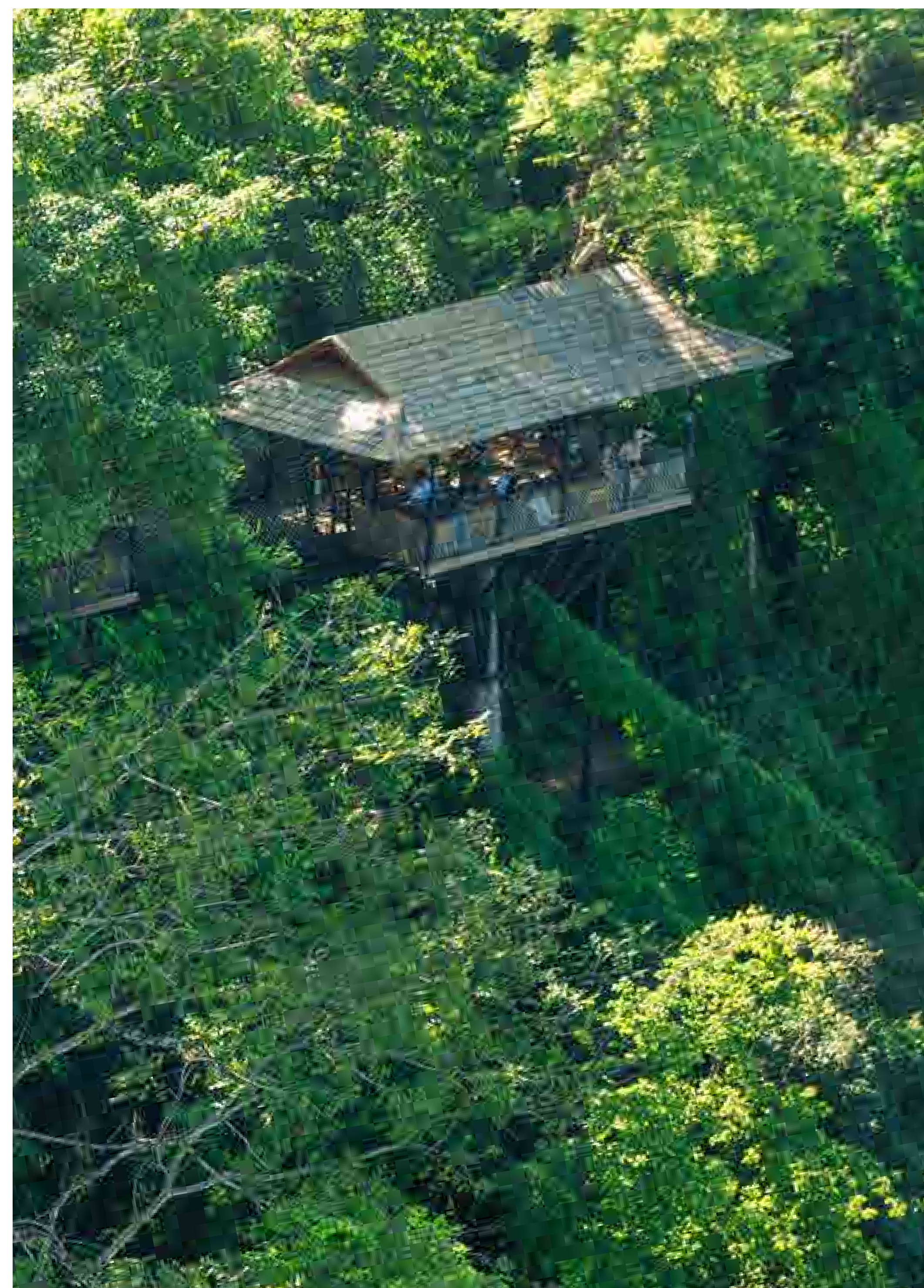
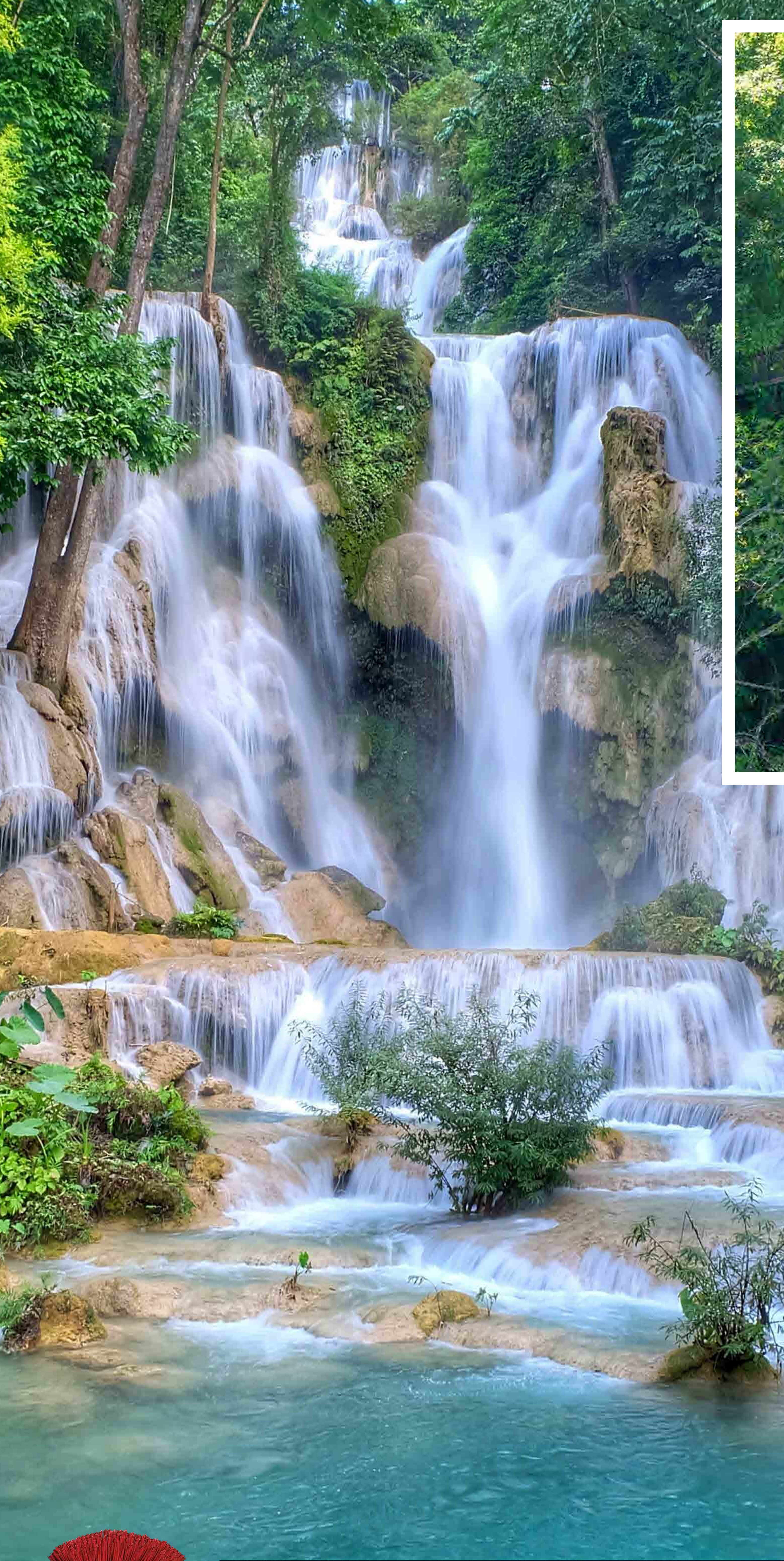
Step alongside the giants | Full-day

Venture into the forest for an immersive experience at Cambodia's Elephant Valley Project, where retired working elephants roam freely in protected surroundings. Guided by the indigenous Bunong people, discover the deep connections between elephant conservation, local culture, and the forest's fragile biodiversity. Walk gently alongside these magnificent animals, observing their natural behaviors while exploring the lush trails of Keo Seima Protected Forest. A traditional Bunong lunch overlooking the forest completes this meaningful journey of respect, learning, and authentic cultural exchange.

Exceptional Touchpoints *on your journey*

- * Explore Keo Seima's ancestral forest with indigenous Bunong guides, learning their traditions, harmonious lifestyles, and deep connection to Cambodia's jungles.
- * Walk gently alongside retired elephants, observing as they graze, roam freely, and bathe in rivers, curious yet comfortable in your presence.
- * Pause for a traditional Bunong lunch overlooking the forest canopy, savoring local flavors while surrounded by the tranquil beauty of nature.

***Want to know more about this magnificent experience?
Get in touch with our team.***



MOUNTAINS & MEDITATION IN LAOS

A cascading adventure | Full-day

Journey beyond Luang Prabang to the spectacular Kuang Si Waterfall, one of the bluest cascades in the world. Begin early with yoga and meditation in a tranquil forest retreat before enjoying breakfast overlooking tiered turquoise pools. Then step up into The View Tree Top Café for coffee and sweeping mountain vistas before choosing between hiking, swimming in gentle waterfalls, or ziplining above the canopy. Along the way, visit a bear rescue center and buffalo dairy farm, supporting conservation and community initiatives in Laos.

Exceptional Touchpoints *on your journey*

- * Start the day with a guided yoga and meditation session, drawing on ancient practices to nurture mindfulness and balance in tranquil surroundings.
- * Savor a peaceful breakfast overlooking Kuang Si Falls, where turquoise waters cascade through forested tiers into cool, crystal-clear natural pools.
- * Visit the Bear Rescue Centre and Buffalo Dairy Farm, meeting rescued wildlife and gentle buffalo while supporting conservation and local communities.

***Want to know more about this revitalizing experience?
Get in touch with our team.***



SIX SENSES KYOTO

Japan

Located in Kyoto's historic Higashiyama district, Six Senses Kyoto is an urban sanctuary where luxury meets holistic wellness. The hotel's 81 guest rooms and suites feature a design inspired by the golden Heian period, with playful modern touches. Guests can reconnect and rejuvenate through a Zen-inspired spa, hyper-seasonal dining at Sekki, and authentic experiences at the Earth Lab and Alchemy Bar. A green oasis in the heart of Japan's cultural capital, Six Senses Kyoto celebrates sustainability through culture, community, and ecology.



BHAYA SOUL CRUISE

Vietnam

In the still waters of Halong Bay, where mist lingers like breath over jade waves, Bhaya Soul Cruise begins her quiet journey. A new offering from Bhaya Cruises, this cruise is designed for those exploring more than scenery, but a deeper connection with themselves and the surroundings. With 20 bespoke cabins, each blending cultural craftsmanship and eco-conscious design, Bhaya Soul promises an intimate escape on the water. Guests can choose from one- or two-night wellness-inclusive cruises filled with breathtaking landscapes and enriching experiences.





LET'S START PLANNING

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