



After reaching Sarawak at about 3pm, we spent a relaxing evening visiting the Kuching Cat Museum, going on a heritage tour of the city and enjoying a yummy local seafood dinner before checking into our hotel.



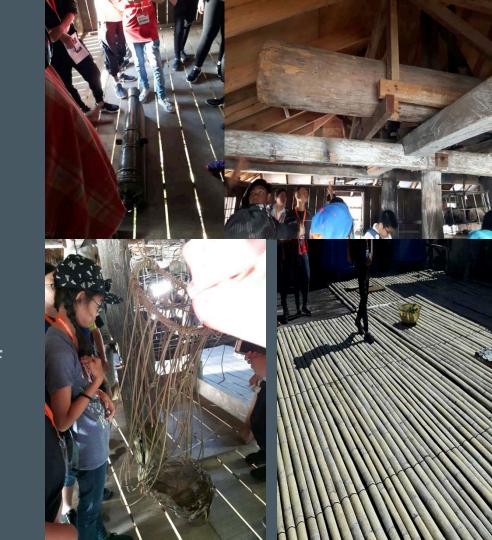
Annah Rais Bidayuh Longhouse

A memorable day spent with the natives.

Firstly, we learnt that the natives collected skulls of their enemies to protect them after the war. Today, only the skull of the general leader is is left at the ceiling of the longhouse..



We also learnt the self-sufficient and eco-friendly natives make a lot of things on their own. For example, they crush sugar cane with a large log to get sugar cane juice to make into rock sugar and the flooring is made of bamboo to alert the natives should there be burglars in the middle of the night because they creak easily.



They also dry their famous black pepper in the most traditional way - under the sun! And coconut husks are their bowls while bamboo, their containers for cooking chicken and rice.

The house we visited is approximately 600 years old. We made headgear with bamboo leaves & some of us even got to change into their



Lodge International School Visit

We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at the Lodge International School. Besides taking turns to share about our schools, we also had a school visit and felt like celebrities because the students were so friendly. There was also a mini concert put up by students from both schools & we played some games together. We made some friends & were sad when we had to leave.



Sarawak Biodiversity Centre

In the afternoon, we headed for a talk at the Biodiversity Centre. Although we did not understand some of the things, we liked the hands-on experiments and the sweet jambu that is grown there. We also learnt how they preserve their flora & fauna specimens by gluing and sewing them on paper. Species like snakes, animals and bats are kept in a bottles of alcohol.



Matang Wildlife Centre

We participated in the junior volunteer programme. We first learnt how Sarawak is trying her best to keep the Orang Utan's population from going extinct and then, we had a once-in-alifetime experience cleaning the Orang Utan cages, sewing packets of food for them & a few of us were lucky enough to be selected to feed them!



We then went up a little hut where we saw the rest of the Orang Utan living in a big enclosure. Most of them have a sad past and have been abused by humans and now, they are slowly trained to go back to the jungle.

We also had a tour around the wildlife centre to see the other animals, such as crocodiles, sun bears and porcupines, that are staying there temporarily before being released back to nature



Sarawak Cultural Village

That afternoon, we headed to the Sarawak Cultural Village to learn more about the various tribes and their way of life. We saw the different types of houses that they stay and the most amazing one was almost 5 storeys high and all made from logs! We also tasted samples of their food, tried some traditional song & dance and ended the day with an enjoyable performance by the





