











Javan Rhino Expedition

Destination: Java, Indonesia **Duration:** 10 Days **Dates:** 7th – 16th June 2018

-  Having amazing close encounters with 2 different Javan Rhinos in just one day!
-  Enjoying the expertise of some of Ujung Kulon's finest guides & rangers
-  Great sightings of various kingfishers and heron species along the rivers
-  Trekking & camping deep inside the core zone of Ujung Kulon National Park
-  Finding very fresh evidence of at least 2 different rhinos from when we were there
-  Seeing over 50 species of birds throughout including Green Peafowl & Elegant Pitta
-  Spotlighting banteng, Sunda leopard cat & Javan mousedeer along the river banks
-  Canoeing down the river where more Javan rhinos have been seen than anywhere
-  Coming across a beautiful neonate Malayan pit viper along one of the trails
-  Enjoying speed boat transfers around the stunning coastline of Ujung Kulon NP



Tour Leader / Guides

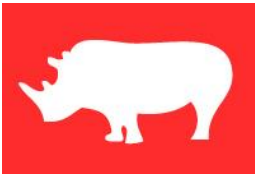
Martin Royle (Royle Safaris Tour Leader)
 Chinglus (Lead Ujung Kulon Guide)
 Meeta & Udung (Ujung Kulon Rangers)
 Adun, Geni, Wilum, Bambu, Wilf, Nurlin, Asif (Porters)
 Edy (Transfer driver)
 Ciggaman (Boat transfer skipper)

Participants

Dr. Jacoba Brinkman Mr. Phillip DuCros
 Mr. Andrew Holman Mrs. Paula Holman

Overview

Day 1:	Jakarta / Carita / Ujung Kulon
Days 2-8:	Ujung Kulon
Day 9:	Ujung Kulon / Handeleum Island
Day 10:	Carita / Jakarta
Day 11:	Home



Day by Day Breakdown

Overview

With only five species of rhinos in the world you would think that everyone would know about all five, there are not that many. But there are two that largely go unnoticed. Royle Safaris wants to change that and highlight the two rarer species which inhabit the forests of Indonesia.

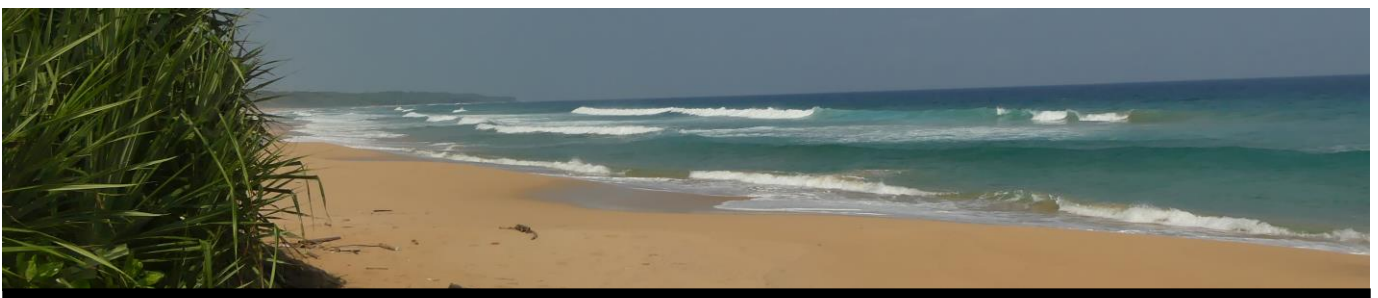
When most people think of rhinos they are invariably thinking of the black and white rhinos of the African continent, but head much further east (and past the haunt of the Indian one-horned rhino) and you reach the lush, tropical forests of Sumatra, Kalimantan and Java. Here the two poorest known of the 5 rhinos are found. This tour is focused on just one of these two, the critically endangered Javan Rhino. This animal has the dubious honour of being the most endangered large mammal in the world, with just 67 recognised individuals known to exist (well that was before one was found dead – from old age (horn still intact) in 2018). They are all confined to the far western tip of Java and one protected forest, Ujung Kulon National Park.

The park itself is a wonderful, pristine forest full of some of the last large mammals to inhabit the island, the rhinos, banteng, leopards, fishing cats to name a few. It was here that the Javan tiger hung on the most and it is here that the Javan rhino is making its last stand. The park is thick and densely vegetated, thorny rattan grows everywhere and the trees make seeing just 3m in front of you near impossible. But there are a handful of rivers that cut across this forest and it is these channels of treelessness that open up the world of the Javan rhino for us to see. That is with a large side of luck of course.

So we embarked on the first of its kind, the first time in the world a tour company offered a specific trip to try and see the Javan rhino. We would head deep into the core area of the park (to help further protect the rhinos from the threat of poaching we will not disclose the actual river we focused on here) and canoe up and down the river where in the last 2 years at least 7 sightings of the rhinos have occurred. Those 7 sightings may not sound like a lot, but they came from a combined total of just 69 days. So a sighting nearly every 10 days of effort, with those odds we thought we had a chance.

We would focus at dawn and dusk, camera trap images suggest these rhinos are nearly exclusively nocturnal now (probably from years of human persecution) and their activity stops at around 10pm. Most sightings occur in the early morning or late evening and so we would focus on those times of day. Other than the rhinos and at other times we would hope to see some of the other species that the wonderful forest harbours.

We hoped to become a landmark group, the first eco tourist group marketed and focused solely on the Javan rhino and the first to succeed. We would have to have flexibility, perseverance, resilience and of course good luck to achieve that aim.

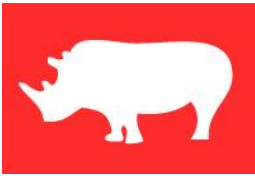


Day 1 **Jakarta / Ujung Kulon National Park**

Travelling & Trekking

This morning everyone was collected from their respective hotels, as everyone had arrived the night before we were able to set off early at 5am and head to Carita before the morning Jakarta traffic could start. We made very good time and made it to the seaside town of Carita at around 8:30am and had breakfast as Thom introduced us to our guide Chinglus and briefed us on the park and the route we would take today. After breakfast we drove the short distance to the harbour and loaded all of our gear and ourselves into the speed boat. We cruised along the coast for around 2.5 hours. Going through fields of fishing rigs made out of bamboo and wood and the temporary homes for fishermen as they caught their quotas. Along the way we had several cave swiftlets around and a great frigatebird and a white-bellied sea eagle. The only marine life we saw were some flying fish skimming along the surface, a bait ball produced by yellow-fin tuna feeding and jumping out of the sea and a very possible loggerhead turtle that Martin saw briefly at the surface.

As we approached the park the fishing rigs dwindled in number, the sea turned a turquoise colour as the sand and coral replaced the dark stone of the deeper water. We could see the forest fringed land come into view as we got our first glimpses of Ujung Kulon National Park. We arrived at a small jetty at Lame, here our porters and national



park rangers were waiting. We had our lunch as they got all of our baggage, canoes, food, water, tents and everything else we needed organised and loaded onto poles to carry balanced over their shoulders.

And off we went, today we wouldn't make it all of the way to the river we wanted to focus on, it is a 6-7 hour walk (at a quick pace to get there) so we made camp around half way. Even to get here we had to hike through several habitats to arrive, first the mangroves and then dry forest, palm forest and then the dominant forest type (wet monsoonal forest). As well as the forest we would walk along some of the beach, the beaches that lined the forests were stunning, they are regularly used by fishermen, it wouldn't be until tomorrow when we got deeper and towards our river that we would leave the regularly used part of the forest. As a result of the people that spend their time here we didn't see much wildlife today, there was a Sunda black-banded squirrel as well as another white-bellied sea eagle. But we did get our first evidence of rhinos, we found two sets of tracks, both relatively fresh, one from around 2 days ago and the other looking even fresher. We also found rhino dung and where one had been feeding on one of its favourite foods, the abundant lianas. Along with the rhino spoor we found many tracks from the abundant (but so far elusive) banteng.

After arriving and setting up camp we had some time to relax and rest after the long day of travelling by car, boat and then a 4 hour hike through the forest and beach in 30°C heat and near 100% humidity. Then after dinner we went for some spotlighting around the camp, not surprisingly as the area is heavily used by fishermen it was quite devoid of life. We did however see a couple of unidentified bats flying through the forest, a likely tanezumi rat and two very nice Java blue banded pittas roosting.

Tomorrow we would arrive at the rhino hotspot (hopefully) and set up our home for the next week. We would aim to get on the river tomorrow dusk and see what we would find.

Day 2 Ujung Kulon National Park

Trekking & Rhino Spotting

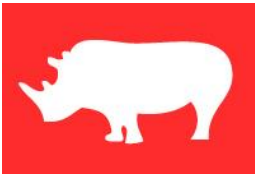
This morning we left our camp just off the beach after breakfast and walked the 6km down the beautiful beach towards our final destination at the mouth of the river we would hope to find our rhino. The walk was ok, it was mostly firm sand and the forest on one side and the roaring Indian Ocean waves on the other made for interesting scenery. We also saw some nice birds along the way including Javan plovers, greater sand plovers, beach thickknees and a smaller number of Kentish plovers. As we approached the river we found a good sized water monitor walking along the beach and there were plenty of Javan mongoose tracks all over the place.

On arrival we quickly set the camp up and then had the rest of the day to rest as we would not be trying for the rhino until nearer sunset. So we spent some time assembling the canoes, testing them out, fixing up the camp, setting up a couple of camera traps and also some small mammal traps nearby. Phil also had sightings of a Javan mousedeer nearby the camp and then a little further along found a small troop of Javan lutungs feeding on ripen palm fruits. They included a mother and still orange baby, which is always nice to see.

Then Martin and Meeta went down the river to plan where they should go later, partly to test one of the canoes but also to look for fresh rhino activity. After around 20 minutes canoeing there was plenty of evidence of rhinos around including fresh dung floating in the river, fresh tracks on both sides of the banks in a few different places. We were definitely in the right place and would try this tributary of the river tonight. Whilst on this scouting mission they had sightings of a couple of purple herons, rufous night herons, striated herons, many giant swiftlets and glossy swiftlets as well as a rufous-backed kingfisher (which we had great sightings of at the camp later that afternoon), but they also spotted a male banteng walking alongside the river in the dense forest. The white rump and stockings being obvious as it moved through the shadows.

After dinner as the sun began to set we headed out in the canoes once again and silently paddled down the river until we couldn't get any further. There was hundreds of frogs all over the banks, on the trees, palm fronds, in the water, on the bank. It was clear to differentiate between at least five different species; including Asian giant toads, *Microhyla palmipes*, Javan cricket frog, Javan giant frogs and crab-eating frogs. We also found a Javan mousedeer but was a fleeting glimpse, as well as a couple of small saltwater crocodiles, luckily their mum and dad had stayed away. As for birdlife we had the usual rufous night herons, striated heron, giant and glossy swiftlets and a couple of stork-billed kingfishers; but the highlight of the night were a couple of large flying foxes and several smaller insectivorous bats, one of which was most likely Javan pipistrelle. Being the most common here, small and one of the earliest emergers. And another looked very much like a lesser Asian house bat. but the others would go unidentified.

We arrived back at the beach and walked to camp at around 8pm, checked the traps (no luck) and no rhino today. It was the first attempt and tomorrow we would further explore another tributary of the river in the morning pre dawn and hoped for a change in fortune.



Day 3 Ujung Kulon National Park

Rhino Spotting

This morning we rose before dawn and headed out on the canoes once again, as dawn broke we saw a couple of large flying foxes coming back to their roost after a night feeding and in the dense palm forest along the bank we heard a massive commotion, several animals running away from us (we think) and most likely either pigs (maybe Javan warty pig or Eurasian wild pig) or banteng, but we couldn't see what made the noise. There were distinctly less frogs around this morning from last night, only a few large Javan giant frogs were around on the muddy banks. We saw several entrance and exit points used by rhinos in the river but nothing of special interest this morning. We then came back for breakfast and afterwards went for a short walk around the camp, the highlight of this walk was a very small neonate Malayan pit viper right in the middle of the path. We had just walked along this trail just 5 minutes before and maybe we just missed it. But Martin noticed it as it struck out at him from around 1.5m away. Bearing in mind the snake was only around 15cm long this was of no danger. But was the only way we would have spotted this well camouflaged snake. Pit vipers are notoriously difficult to see and it was great to have some time with this one posing for us to take pictures.

As we waited around the camp or down by the beach for the evening to cool the air down and us go back onto the river, we had some sightings around the camp including a pair of black giant squirrels, Sunda black banded squirrels, archer fish and some nice birds including scarlet-headed flowerpecker and elegant pitta.

We then started our second canoe of the day, heading as far down the river as we could get (before it would become a battle with vegetation and we would be making too much noise to be of value going any further). In fact it was interesting that there appeared to be a section of river around 3km along where most of the rhino sign seemed to be aggregated. We did get the smell of fresh rhino dung, but once again couldn't see into the vegetation to see if the rhino was still around. This trip we had hundreds of Nicobar cricket frogs and common tree frogs around, they seemed to be all over every branch, every palm frond, every leaf, everywhere on both banks the entire length of the river. We came across several patches of frog spawn and the fact that it is likely breeding season for the frogs here is why they are so numerous and around the rivers.

We did have some nice mammal sightings on this trip, including a small troop of lutung feeding in the trees and them moving quickly and noisily around the canopy along the riverbank. Further along we also found two different troops of long-tailed macaques settling down in the palms for the night. Also in the thick palm lined section of the river we had a couple of rufous-backed kingfishers and a family of black-crowned night herons.

As the sun sunk lower and the sky darkened we started to see the bats again, having the likely lesser Asian house bats coming low against the water to drink before starting their night of feeding. Among them was the likely Javan pipistrelles and some large flying foxes flying above the river. Once it was fully dark we spotlighted a female banteng walking along the bank of the river and giving nice views before we had views of a Sunda leopard cat just on the river bank.

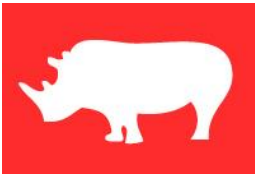
This was our last sighting before we arrived back at the beach, returned to the camp, had dinner and headed to bed ready to do it all again tomorrow.

Day 4 Ujung Kulon National Park

Rhino Spotting

This morning started with another early morning canoe trip along both the west and east tributaries of the river. There was nothing in the dark this morning, just many frogs as usual and then as the sun rose we had a nice large flying fox fly overhead as well as several species of birds including a Javan kingfisher, black bittern, Javan hawk eagle, Imperial green pigeon and pink-necked green pigeons. Phil and Cobie also had views of a Javan mongoose just before dawn on the riverbank. We then heard an almighty splash as a crocodile went diving into the water, apparently the presence of our three canoes was too much and the croc wanted to make us aware it was there and to watch out, needless to say we did.

But the real excitement this morning was finding dung on the side of the riverbank and a fresh wallow hole in the river. This wasn't here when we were there last night and judging by the dung it was from late last night. This was a young rhino and probably just left its mother to become independent judging by the size of the dung pile and wallow hole. This was on the western river and then later on the eastern river we found some very fresh dung floating down the river. We could smell the fresh dung and it was clear that a rhino had been around here this morning. We had probably missed this rhino by an hour or less, if we had chosen the east river first instead of the west we would



have seen it! C'est le vie. But we do at least know that there 2 rhinos active around here and that one of them was moving from the east to the west river. They use regular trails (hopefully) and at some point in the coming days the rhino would likely come along the trail. So after we all returned to the camp and had breakfast, Martin, Meeta, Chinglus and Udung went out and to set a camera trap up on this trail and hoped to get the rhino passing through there.

We would also focus on this section of the west river tonight and the coming days. So at 4pm we went out again and went back and forth down the river, staking out selected areas that are known river crossings. We stayed out until 9pm and then returned to the camp. Whilst we didn't see a rhino we did find a juvenile reticulated python on a tree overhanging the river, several long-tailed macaques in the palms and bamboo, none of which stayed around for a good view, a great stork-billed kingfisher washing itself in front of us by diving in and out of the water randomly and entertainingly. But once it got dark we spotlighted a great Javan mousedeer, we watched for an extended amount of time as it just froze and stood in the open. A great sighting in this very dense forest, shortly after this we had poorer views of a common palm civet hiding among the giant bamboo. And our last sighting of the night was a roosting rufous-backed kingfisher just next to the river bank and giving us very nice views. We returned tired but enthused. After a couple of days of randomly hoping to stumble across a rhino we now had a plan to try and intercept one on its usual travels.



Day 5 Ujung Kulon National Park

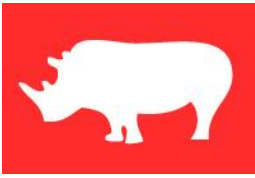
Rhino Spotting

This morning started as usual with a morning canoe trip, we would focus again first on the west river and the area we expected the rhino to out at. Early on we saw a black-capped flying fox flying over the river but it was very quiet pre-dawn. As the sun rose we found a small troop of long-tailed macaques waking up in the dense palm forest and jumping over the river to the other side, leaping from the drooping palm fronds and landing (painfully or maybe skilfully) in a massive rattan plant.

With no fresh evidence of rhinos on the west tributary we tried the east one, this started very quiet too. With just a pair of oriental pied hornbills taking off from a palm and then a solitary rhinoceros hornbill flying overhead. Then we heard a commotion from the bank, followed by the unmistakable smell of rhino. Meeta was pointing excitedly to the bank and gesturing to his on nose in the shape of a horn. We all drifted on our canoes forward and there just 2-3m away from us behind a dense mat of vegetation was the massive face of a Javan rhino. The huge prehensile upper lip curling around palam (a local plant and one of the rhinos' favourite food plants) and stripping the leaves off. The head completed with a stubby horn was clearly visible. Then the wind changed and the rhino (a female known from this area by Meeta) smelt us, snorted and moved back from the riverbank. We couldn't see her now, but heard her urinate and then run a little way in the forest, crashing and snorting as she went. But she hadn't gone far, in fact she had just moved around 5m along the bank and was now stood in a small opening (a dark and very tangled (with vines) opening) with her bank to us. The massive rump looking like a shadow in the forest, we watched mesmerised for around 30 seconds before she turned around, stared at us, head lowered (Martin was half expecting a charge) after many an encounter with the very similar Indian one-horned rhinos of Nepal and India. But she didn't, she looked at us and then turned and ran off into the forest. We could hear that this time she had come a long way off. Incredible!

Just the most amazing sighting we could have hoped for. However getting pictures was tough, between the 5 of us only 2 had cameras with them this morning (as Martin was ruing forgetting his at the beach when getting in the canoe!) and the motion of the canoe coupled with the dark and tangled vegetation meaning that even a huge animal like a rhino stood just 2-5m away was near impossible to photograph. It is no wonder why there are so few pictures of them. But pictures of not we were over the moon, we would be heading back to the camp with a Javan rhino sighting and not just that, but around 5 minutes with one and watching it eat completely oblivious to us at first. Seeing true behaviour of this critically endangered species is more than any of us could have possibly imagined. We then travelled along the river in the general direction we had heard the rhino moving but couldn't see it again, so we returned to camp in celebratory mood.

After breakfast, a bath in the river and rest during the hottest part of the day and some lunch we went back out again and immediately hit the east river. Before the sunset we had a couple of purple herons coming into roost as well as some long-tailed macaques in the distance and then around 0.5km further up river from where we found our female rhino this morning we stopped as a large male rhino was stood on the river bank just staring at us. It was clearly coming to cross the river or just bathe in the water, but we put a stop to that as it ran off snorting and crashing



through the undergrowth as soon as it saw all three of our canoes. This was clearly a different rhino, its horn was nearly absent, instead of being a horn it was a lump, like a halve coconut on its nose. This is not uncommon in Javan rhinos and Meeta identified this individual was a male. With all of the rhinos individually recognisable and identified from camera traps it was great to have a guide who knew the rhinos and their behaviours. Whilst this sighting was much shorter than the first we were still over the moon again, not just one but two rhinos. Two different rhinos. Two different rhinos in just one day! It was unheard of and we hoped our luck continued as we started to spotlight as the sunset.

We were on the west river as got dark and whilst we didn't have any further rhino sightings today but we did spotlight a couple of Javan mousedeer, a common palm civet, a roosting rufous-backed kingfisher and then a lesser short-nosed fruit bat hanging underneath a palm next to the river.

What a day! We celebrated with a little gin that Phillip had brought, mixed with some orange juice and spoke about the rhinos, reliving the sightings after dinner!

Could we possibly get a hatrick of sightings, well we had two more full days at this camp and who knows, would our great luck hold a couple more days.

Day 6 Ujung Kulon National Park

Rhino Spotting

During the night we were all awake by the sound of thunder, a rainstorm struck and we all put our rain flies on the tents and covered up things left outside. The rain, thunder and lightning was persistent for a couple of hours, but come the morning it was pretty dry and hot once again. The wind was much stronger today and it kept getting stronger and stronger as the day wore on.

We first hit the east tributary and went to where we had the male rhino sighting yesterday but it was very quiet. No doubt the storm forced many animals deeper into the forest for cover and away from the rivers. We staked out an area we were quite confident he was in and hoped he would come out to the river, but he didn't. In fact it was so quiet this morning the only sightings of note were a couple of oriental pied hornbills, purple herons and the common edible nest swiftlets feeding on insects just above the water.

The afternoon was much cooler than past days and the wind was ferocious on the beach and along the river it was also very strong. Once again we hit the same area we staked out this morning, Meeta was convinced the rhino was still around, but we didn't get a sighting. It was very quiet again, the storm clearly having affected the wildlife as we didn't see very much at all. After dark on the west river we had sightings of couple of Javan mousedeer. One of which was very nice, close and allowing good views. It appeared to be just waking up and as it stood up it seemed to shake its legs into life. No doubt a day spent huddled up sleeping will send anything's legs to sleep. Before it got dark the only other things we saw were the usual small insectivorous bats which emerge early when it is still light and some birds such as green imperial pigeon, large green pigeons and Javan mynahs.

We returned to camp with just one more full day here at this camp and two more canoe trips as we were going for an unprecedented third sighting in less than a week!



Day 7 Ujung Kulon National Park

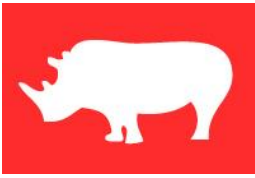
Rhino Spotting

This morning the sky was clear and it was much less windy, we tried the east river first and it was very quiet. We did find two fresh pieces of dung floating in the river and could occasionally smell rhino and so we knew there was one still around here, but we didn't see it. We staked a couple of locations out for it but to no avail.

There were not as many birds around as normal but quite a lot of bats around as the sun rose. Along the way we collected Martin's camera trap. In fact both of the camera traps didn't get anything on them.

Returning to camp and waiting out the middle of the day we watched the resident pair of black giant squirrels chasing each other around the trees above camp and there was a few many-lined sun skinks around hunting for insects in the sun.

Cobie and Paula decided to stay back this afternoon and so Martin, Meeta, Phil, Andy and Udung came long for our final assault. We staked out the same areas again for a while, but with the same luck as this morning. We did see a couple of Javan lutung as they climbed and jumped quickly through the trees to get from the riverbank and away into the dense palm forest. There were many more around but we could only hear them rustling and crashing through the foliage. We also had a fleeting glimpse of a speckled-belly keelback swimming in the river as we staked out a rhino hotspot, but other than that it was very quiet again. Whether the change in the weather, the increasing



height of the river or our presence and disturbance was affecting the lack of animals for the last few days we didn't know but it was very quiet before dark today. As the sunset we heard and then spotted a Salvadori nightjar flying above the river and at first it was being mobbed by two bats! Which was very unusual to see. On the west river we then found a roosting stork-billed kingfisher right next to a roosting rufous-backed kingfisher and then a second rufous-backed kingfisher before we spotlighted a Javan mousedeer and it started to rain. It didn't last very long but as it was getting late and we were getting wet we turned around and started to head back. The last sighting before arriving back at camp was a 1m long saltwater crocodile just laying half submerged on a palm frond in the river. It was by far the best sighting of a croc we had had so far, however when you see one this size you can't help but think that its mum and dad cannot be too far away! Well we pushed that thought from our minds and made it safely back to the camp for our last meal and night along the banks of this river.

Day 8 Ujung Kulon National Park

Trekking

Today we had a relative lie in and didn't get up until 5:30am!! We then had breakfast, packed up and hit the road. Or beach in this instance. We walked along the beach for around 6km, the tide was coming in and the rivers from the forest were coming out. Which meant some wet feet and running out of the way of the incoming waves at times. But we made it up along the ridge towards the far south-western tip of Ujung Kulon and indeed Java. Along the beach we had some birds, but not many; a couple of Javan plovers, beach thickknees and a grey-headed fish eagle soaring above.

As we entered the forest almost immediately there were lots of rhino prints and some dung, one set of prints and a large pile of dung were very fresh. From around 1-2 hours old. However we didn't pursue these as next to no body sees Javan rhino on foot and in 1-2 hours the rhino could be long gone, we were also pushed for time to make it to our next camp in Cidoan by evening and the sound of us clearing a small pathway from the beach to the forest was enough to send any rhino in the area running a long way away. Plus the fact, we had already seen two and so didn't have the same desire to push hard for this possible long shot.

A little further along we came to a small grassland, right on the coast and very picturesque. It also had 3-4 piles of rhino dung in an old latrine. It was also full of banteng dung. Apparently this grassland is a good place, however getting there is difficult and would disturb wildlife and how would you stake this place out without forewarning all of the wildlife you were there. It was an interesting dilemma and one that Martin would look into for the coming trips.

From here we cut directly inland, walking through the stunning forest, crossing a couple of small rivers, climbing a small hill and wandering along the same pathways that the rhinos use. Their large footprints covering every inch of the trail for 8km. We would walk past numerous mud wallows. How and when these rhinos use these no one really knows. But this is a well used trail (well on the tourist circuit) and no one sees them here.

We hiked all day and at around 4pm we arrived at the Cidaon grassland. Here we stopped and rested for a while and also took some nice pictures of a large herd of banteng. The herd was made up of females and their young of various ages, including some males who were beginning to get their darker coat and one quite young calf. Also here and giving us great views was small flock of green peafowl. They were mostly female but we did see one beautiful male as he made a speedy retreat for the forest.

From here our camp for the night was just five minutes walk, our camp was on the beach, overlooking the jetty (from which we would be collected tomorrow and taken to Handeleum Island. It was lovely and cool and much less humid here. We watched the sun set and several species of bat flying around the beach and the large flying foxes leaving the mainland roost and flying over the small stretch of water to a small island just around 1km offshore.

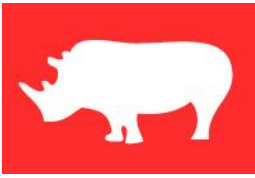
After dinner Phil, Martin and Udong went spotlighting for the sometimes seen Javan slow loris, it was a long shot and we were all pretty tired, but we gave it an hour. No luck unfortunately.



Day 9 Ujung Kulon National Park

Travelling

This morning we awoke on the coast and what a great morning it was too. Some of the group walked the short distance to the grassland and saw the same herd of banteng as they were finishing their morning graze and heading into the forest and there were a similar number of green peafowl too. We then had breakfast and waited for our boat to come. For some reason there was a breakdown in the communication here and the boat didn't arrive when it was meant to, in fact it was a few hours late and as we didn't have any more food we managed to flag down a passing tourist boat and hop over to the neighbouring Peucang Island for lunch. After a week camping in the heat and humidity to get inside and sit on proper chairs was a great little luxury. In the time we spent at beach campsite we did see some wildlife including a few wreathed hornbills flying overhead, the occasional long-



tailed macaque in the mangroves and palms just to the back of the camp, an extremely fast Sunda black-banded squirrel running through the trees, a feral cat and we had a very nice blue-eared barbet hanging around in a tree in the middle of our little camp.

Also predictably as soon as our food arrived at the Peucang Island restaurant our speed boat arrived. We took advantage and had some of the packed lunch the boat had brought too and then loaded up and travelled towards Handeleum Island.

Along the way we saw some sea birds including masked boobies dive bombing a bait ball as well as gull-billed and little terns flying over the water. Before arriving at Handeleum Island we stopped at the Cigenter River for a canoe trip, tomorrow would be the end of Ramadan and the start of Eid and so this river would be very busy and we thought to best to do this now on the rare chance there is a rhino there than wait until tomorrow and have a whole host of noisy holiday makers. As it turned out this was a very quiet canoe trip, no mammals at all. We did see an Oriental pied hornbill fly over the river and then fly back again, lots of crabs on the river banks and half submerged logs and the ubiquitous edible-nest swiftlets over the river with some much larger and elegant looking giant swiftlets too. Then right at the end of the trip Paula and Martin spotted a very colourful blue-eared kingfisher perched on a small branch overhanging the river.

We then hopped over the water to the island, this was where we said goodbye to our fantastic guides Meeta and Udong as they would carry on in the boat to their village a short way away. When we arrived at the island we were greeted by some very habituated Javan rusa, long-tailed macaques and a green peafowl. All allowing for good, close photography. We also found a few roosting lesser false-vampire bats in a hollow tree just adjacent to the guesthouse we would be sleeping in.

We settled in, washed and changed into clean clothes whilst Chinglus cooked up a wonderful sea food BBQ for us and we retired to bed after a great week or so in the depths of Ujung Kulon and seeing not just one but two wonderful Javan rhinos. Tomorrow we would begin our long journeys home (to the UK, USA and Australia) by taking the speed boat to Carita and then driving back to Jakarta.

Day 10 **Jakarta**

Travelling

This morning after breakfast we left via speed boat and made the couple of hour crossing back to the town of Carita with Chinglus. Here we said goodbye to Chinglus and hello to Thom again. We then drove from Carita to Jakarta and our respective hotels, no one was flying home today and so we all said our farewells and began our long journeys home the following day.

3	Blue-eared kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>
4	Oriental pied hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>
5	Purple heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
6	Cattle egret	<i>Bubalus ibis</i>
7	Rhinoceros hornbill	<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>
8	Striated heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
9	Salvadori's nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pulchellus</i>
10	Rufous-backed kingfisher	<i>Ceyx rufidorsa</i>
11	Kentish plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
12	Javan plover	<i>Charadrius javanicus</i>
13	Greater sand plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>
14	Cave swiftlet	<i>Collacaila linchi</i>
15	Edible nest swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>
16	Feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
17	Large-billed crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
18	Scarlet-headed flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trochileum</i>
19	Lesser racket-tailed drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>
20	Green imperial pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>
21	Beach stone-curlew	<i>Esacus magnirostris</i>
22	Lesser frigatebird	<i>Fregata ariel</i>
23	Red jungle fowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
24	Gull-billed tern	<i>Gelochlidon nilotica</i>
25	Asian pied starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>
26	Javan kingfisher	<i>Halcyon cyanoventris</i>
27	Grey-headed fish eagle	<i>Haliaeetus ichthyaetus</i>
28	White-bellied sea eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>
29	Giant swiftlet	<i>Hydrochous gigas</i>
30	Javan banded pitta	<i>Hydrornis guajanus</i>
31	Black bittern	<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i>
32	Blue-eared barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>
33	Large wren-babbler	<i>Napothera macrodactyla</i>
34	Copper throated sunbird	<i>Nectarinia calcostetha</i>
35	Javan hawk eagle	<i>Nisaetus bartelsi</i>
36	Rufous night heron	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>
37	Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
38	Green peafowl	<i>Pavo muticus</i>
39	Stork-billed kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>
40	Elegant pitta	<i>Pitta elegans</i>
41	Crimson-breasted flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus percussus</i>

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3	Small sticky frog	<i>Kalophrynus minusculus</i>
4	Friiled treefrog	<i>Kurixalus appendiculatus</i>
5	Black-eyed litter frog	<i>Leptobranchium nigrops</i>
6	Javan giant frog	<i>Limnonectes macrodon</i>
7	Javan chorus frog	<i>Microhyla achatina</i>
8	Palmated chorus frog	<i>Microhyla palmipes</i>
9	Asian giant toad	<i>Phrynomidis aspera</i>

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Fishes (* = heard or signs only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Black-banded cardinalfish	<i>Apogon cookii</i>
2	Inshore cardinalfish	<i>Apogon lateralis</i>
3	Spotted green pufferfish	<i>Dichomyctere nigroviridis</i>
4	Dogtooth tuna	<i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i>
5	Hampala barb	<i>Hampala macrolepidota</i>
6	Sailfin flying fish	<i>Parexocoetus brachypterus</i>
7	Slender mudskipper	<i>Periophthalmus gracilis</i>
8	Seven spot archerfish	<i>Toxotes chatareus</i>

June									
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