

# Lost *Nepenthes* Adventure

## *Kalimantan, Indonesia*

This challenging adventure for the fit and adventurous sets out to visit some of the least frequently encountered of all *Nepenthes*, *N. mapuluensis* and *N. epiphytica*, both from East Kalimantan on the island of Borneo!

*Nepenthes mapuluensis* is a spectacular, dark pitched species that has only been knowingly seen on a handful of occasions, notably by photographer Chien Lee (*N. mapuluensis* images © C. Lee). The type locality was devastated by fire, but subsequent, rare observations made of this species have shown that it was not endemic to that one place. Growing primarily on limestone formations that are not easily accessed by logging teams, it is thought to persist here and there in the limestone formations of East Kalimantan.

*Nepenthes epiphytica* is an unusual species with striking, broadly funnel-shaped, toilet-like pitchers. It has only been seen on two known occasions since it was first collected in 1963 by botanist André Kostermans. Its type location sits atop Mount Nyapa, a remote but non-technical peak located in Berau Regency. The plants that exist in cultivation come from a peak to the south and differ in being less broadly flared than the specimen on the type sheet. By visiting the type location, it is hoped that the first photos of this species at its *locus classicus* can be made!

During this adventure, we will visit the remote limestone peaks of eastern Borneo in order to locate and study these species. It cannot be guaranteed that the plants will be found, but the best candidate sites have been thoroughly researched. Should we encounter insurmountable obstacles, if time and budget allow we will travel to southeastern Borneo to locate the large and beautiful *Nepenthes boschiana* type form in the very accessible mountains near to the coast.

**Cost:** US\$3,050 per person for **14 days/13 nights** (all inclusive from start point to end point).  
(approximately £2,350 or €2670)

**Start Point:** Berau, Kalimantan, Indonesia

**End Point:** Berau, Kalimantan, Indonesia.

**Dates:** Sunday 14 July to Saturday 27 July 2019.

**Group size:** 8

Email [sales@redfernadventures.com](mailto:sales@redfernadventures.com) for more information and to make bookings.

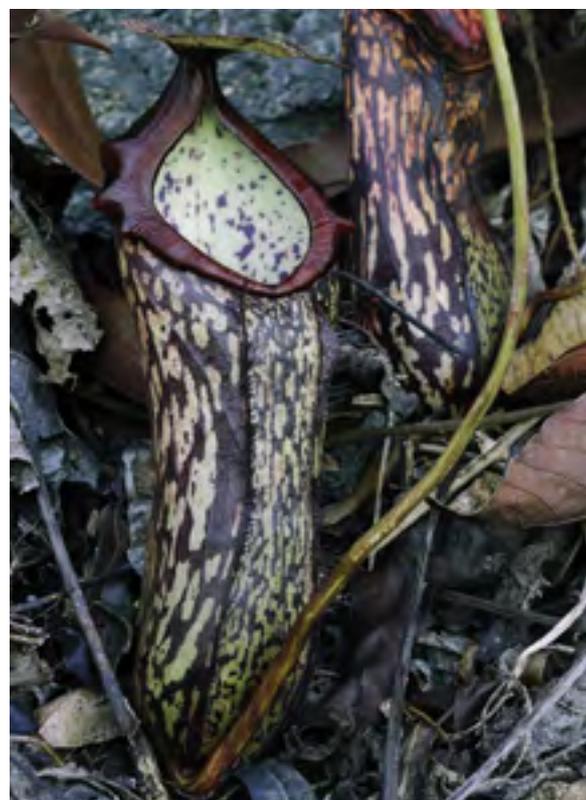
**Optional pre- or post-expedition extensions (price on enquiry, dependent on group size):**

- a visit to southeastern Borneo specifically to visit the large and beautiful *Nepenthes boschiana* in the wild.
- an excursion to Tarakan Island, a renowned diving location off the coast of Berau, famous for its frequent visits by manta rays, which emerge from the deep to naturally rid themselves of parasites at local 'cleaning stations'.

**Getting there:** A number of commercial flights serve Berau via Balikpapan, the local hub, including Indonesia's flag carrier, Garuda Indonesia, but also Lion Air, NAM Air and Citilink. Jakarta is the best served point of entry, however routes via Bali, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore are also available.



Visit: [www.redfernadventures.com](http://www.redfernadventures.com) for further information  
or email [sales@redfernadventures.com](mailto:sales@redfernadventures.com) to register your interest.



## ITINERARY

**Day 1:** Meet in Berau and begin a full day's drive to the Sangkulirang Peninsula, one of the largest karstic landscapes in the world, arriving in time for dinner. If road progress is slow due to road works or poor weather, comfortable overnight accommodation is also available en route.

**Day 2:** In chartered vehicles, we travel to a number of candidate locations in order to explore for *Nepenthes mapuluensis*. Our remote frontier town is surrounded by no fewer than a dozen limestone formations, at least seven of which occur close to logging roads. We will seek local bird's nest collectors to guide us to the most accessible sites in sequence. The region is also known for its wild orangutans, which, if we are very lucky, we may encounter.

**Day 3:** We continue to explore a number of target sites in the region for *Nepenthes mapuluensis*.

**Days 4-6:** We set out to explore any remaining sites for *Nepenthes mapuluensis*, carrying our camping gear in the support vehicles in the event that we are able to overnight on one of the limestone ridges. During these days of searching, there is a high probability that we could encounter interesting limestone dwelling plants, including *Begonia*, various Gesneriads, and of course a number of different aroids including *Amorphophallus*. On suitable terrain, we may also encounter *Nepenthes ampullaria*, *N. gracilis*, *N. mirabilis* or *N. rafflesiana*.

**Day 7:** We return to Berau, starting early to arrive in time for dinner.

**Day 8:** A rest day for laundry and hearty food includes the opportunity to visit a lowland site for *N. ampullaria*, *N. mirabilis* and *N. rafflesiana* if desired.

**Day 9:** We set out for Gunung Nyapa in search of *Nepenthes epiphytica*, seen only two or three times in nature; originally in 1963 and again in the 1990s. We drive to a jump-off point and then begin our hike, striking out into the forest in search of our first campsite on the flanks of the mountain.

**Day 10:** We make our way towards the summit and attempt to photograph native plants en route. It is expected that orchids of various kinds will be encountered, with the possibility of *Paphiopedilum* and *Corybas*.

**Day 11:** We photograph *Nepenthes epiphytica* and other plants in the summit region, allowing a full day in case of inclement weather that prevent effective studies of the plants.

**Day 12:** We begin our descent to the base of the mountain, camping overnight en route and making the most of our time in the forest.

**Day 13:** We arrive at the jump-off point by late morning and transfer to our vehicles for the return journey to Berau.

**Day 14:** Departures from Berau to onward destinations.

**Please Note:** this expedition is to a remote region where infrastructure is minimal. It is not known what we will discover and there are no guarantees, but it will be a true adventure under challenging conditions.



## Simplified Kalimantan Itinerary

Vehicle Transfer

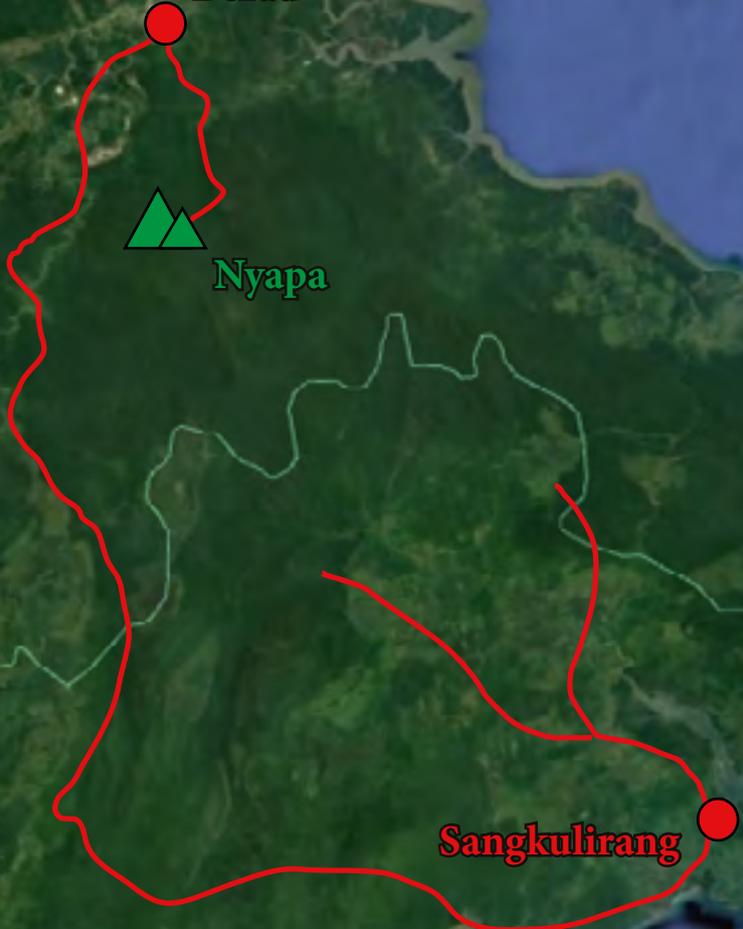


Berau

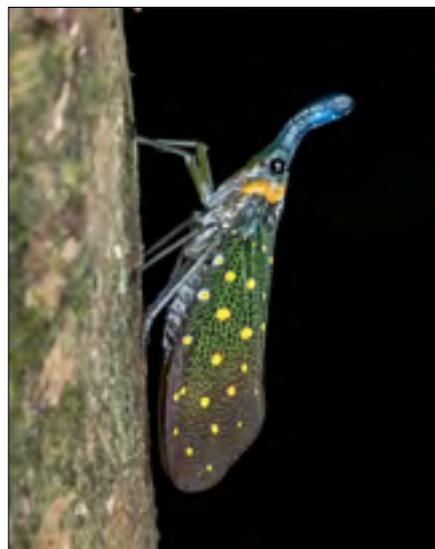
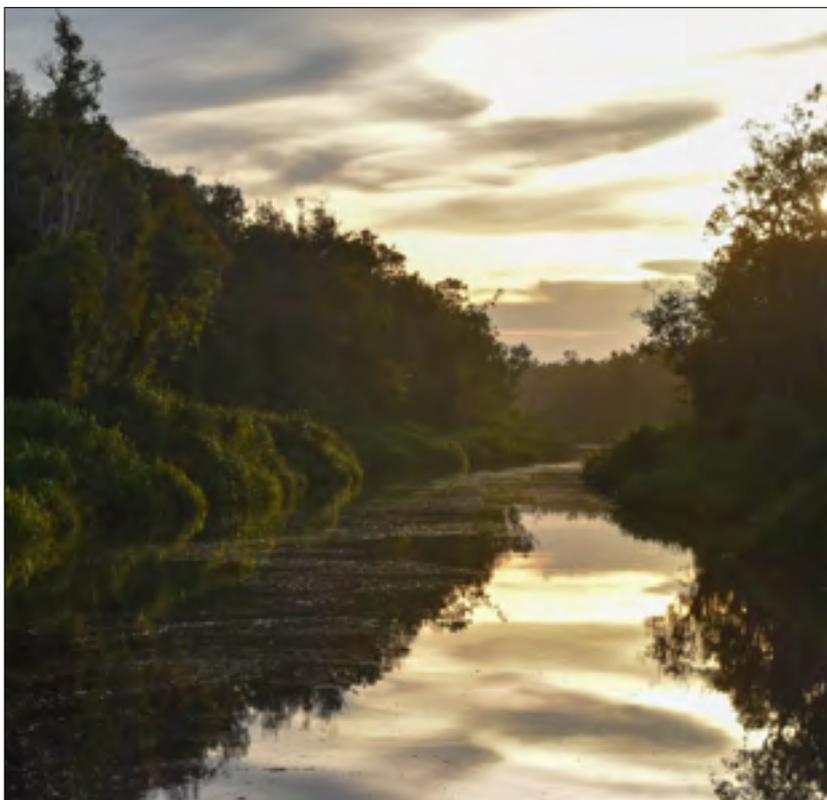


Nyapa

Sangkulirang



Visit: [www.redfernadventures.com](http://www.redfernadventures.com) for further information or email [sales@redfernadventures.com](mailto:sales@redfernadventures.com) to register your interest.



Visit: [www.redfernadventures.com](http://www.redfernadventures.com) for further information or email [sales@redfernadventures.com](mailto:sales@redfernadventures.com) to register your interest.

