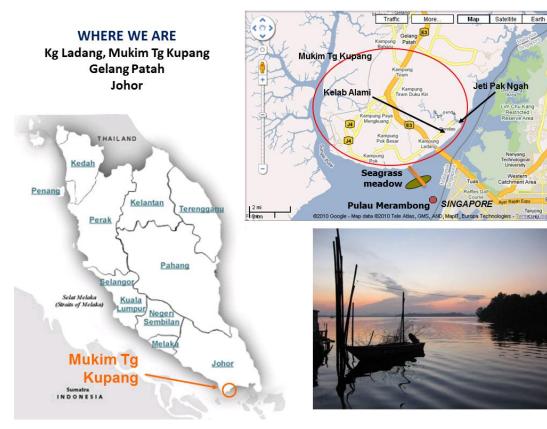
## KELAB ALAMI MUKIM TG. KUPANG SEAGRASS & ISLAND WALKS



Kelab Alami habitat guided walks first began as part of our environmental education programme for the local fishing community. They then evolved into opportunities for our Youth Ranger Guides to share their natural heritage with visitors, as well as earn some pocket money in the process. Now Kelab Alami focuses on community capacity-building, with the hope of enabling local folk to benefit from development in the area or develop alternative income options related to their marine heritage.



# WHAT TO EXPECT

You will enjoy **up close and personal immersions** in the habitats – you may get wet up to your knees (so wear appropriate clothing). But we will only be walking in very shallow waters during the low tide. (No need to swim!)

It could be very hot, or it might rain – but in the event of strong winds or a lightning storm we will have to cancel the tour for everyone's safety.

You will get to see either the seagrass meadow or Merambong Island and dig around for the secrets that they hold. There are many critters hiding around the flora but **we cannot guarantee that anything will appear** as they are wild and beyond our control. **If you are lucky you may spot octopi, sea hares and seahorses** – at times there is mating or egging action. Sea stars, crabs, shrimp and snails abound and you might find the odd dugong feeding trail. Even without major wildlife sightings, there will be lots of habitat trivia for you to learn and discover.

These are unique natural areas that cannot be found elsewhere in Peninsular Malaysia – and sadly we are never sure how long they'll be around for.

Don't miss this chance to visit these areas before they become mere memories on a photograph...

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Waterproof bag to protect your stuff from the sea.
- Long pants if you tend to be allergic to things (some people itch if they touch epiphytes and other floaty critters in the water)
- Aquashoes/ dive boots/ Adidas Kampung or old sneakers/ school shoes that can be tied – they will get muddy!



**NOTE:** Wellington (Pua Chu Kang) boots will **not** work as they will fill up with water – slippers & sandals **will break**. There are sharp things in the sand that can cut you if you are unlucky so you will not be allowed to go barefoot.

- Weather appropriate gear: hat/ shades/ raincoat etc
- Water to drink while at sea

# We will provide life jackets for the boat ride (please let us know if you have young children) and will have a First Aid Kit on standby. Light refreshments will be served when we return to the jetty.

#### - PLEASE BE PUNCTUAL -

We are constrained by limited tides and need to leave on time so that we can maximise time at sea. If there is a storm/ dangerous weather walks will be cancelled on the spot for safety with only partial refunds.

## Beting Tg Kupang Seagrass Guided Walk



## Pulau Merambong Walk







## COSTS

#### TOTAL = RM210 per person (RM100@ for children ≤7yrs) -2017 rates-

- Includes: boat rental & boatman fee, guiding fees, refreshments, education fund
- All earnings go directly to the local community.
- A non-refundable deposit of RM100 has to be paid per pax 1 WEEK before the tour as some payments are made in advance.
- The education fund allows us to support the continued education of our full-time crew (certification courses/ further study).
- Minimum group size is 5 adult pax group numbers should be in multiples of 5 to cover boat costs. Max group size is 20 pax.
- Entire boats can be rented for RM500 each/ each boat can fit ±5 pax (not including guide: depending on guest size). This limit is to ensure safety at sea in strong winds.
- Special arrangements can be made for groups (at extra cost) for seafood dinner or lunch (additional RM40 p/pax – minimum 15 pax).

For more information on Kelab Alami Mukim Tg Kupang or our guided walks:

www.facebook.com/KelabAlamiMukimTgKupang

EMAIL: <u>kelabalami.walks@gmail.com</u> or <u>serina mola@yahoo.com</u>

WATSAPP (msg): Serina +6017-6729367





# Depending on the tide time, we usually meet at the parking area next to the bridge to Jetty Pak Ngah at the entrance to Kg Pendas Baru, Gelang Patah.

Alternatively, if you come in a large group, we might ask you to meet at the clubhouse (90B Kg Ladang) to check your shoes/ distribute life jackets/ give you an extended prebriefing. Directions to our venues are in the following pages.

If you are traveling from Singapore by bus, we can arrange for van pick-up from the Gelang Patah bus station for an additional RM200 p/van (for 10 pax). This fee includes: pick up from Gelang Patah, transport to Kelab Alami clubhouse then to jetty/ pick up from jetty and return to either clubhouse or Gelang Patah bus station.

If you are taking a taxi from Singapore that will drop you off at the clubhouse, transport to the jetty from the clubhouse (by motorbike/ car) can be arranged at RM5 p/pax return. This will take time and you will need to arrive at the clubhouse early.



From P.Merambong (L-R): crab, zoanthids & sponge, octopi mating, sponge, anemone

## KELAB ALAMI MUKIM TG. KUPANG MANGROVE WALKS



Kelab Alami mangrove walks are a knee-deep immersion into a mangrove forest right under the Second Link Bridge to Singapore. This can be a little bit challenging as you will have to clamber over or on mangrove roots and is **not recommended for young children below 7 yrs old and anyone with knee problems or walking difficulties**. As you progress through the mangrove zones you will appreciate the variety and diversity of a mangrove forest and enjoy the encounter with the sea at the end. Most of our participants emerge exhilarated and excited – while others take advantage of the available substrate for a free DIY mud spa!

## COSTS

#### TOTAL = RM85 per person -2017 rates-

- Includes: guiding fees, refreshments, education fund
- All earnings go directly to the local community.
- A non-refundable deposit of RM50 has to be paid per pax 1 WEEK before the tour as some payments are made in advance.
- Max group size is 20 pax.
- Special arrangements can be made for groups (at extra cost) for seafood dinner or lunch (additional RM40 p/pax – minimum 15 pax).



# WHAT TO EXPECT

You will get muddy up to your knees. The right attire is vital – aquashoes/ kampung Adidas/ old sneakers that can be tied and muddied. We recommend light long pants (not jeans!) and do bring a change of clothes.

The walk usually begins at the rocky shore under the bridge and then progresses across a traditional bridge (ie planks) across a stream and straight into the forest. You will be guided through the different mangrove zones and will be asked to (literally) dig around for flora and fauna. There are many critters hiding in cracks and crevices but **we cannot guarantee that anything will appear** as they are wild and beyond our control. **But we will warn you not to stick hands and arms into tree trunk holes as you never know who might be lurking within.** Crabs, shrimp and snails abound and you might find the odd mud lobster, otters or monkeys (if you are very lucky). Even without major wildlife sightings, there will be lots of habitat trivia for you to learn and discover.

While mangrove forests can be found elsewhere in Malaysia, we guarantee that you won't get another complete immersion like this one!

Don't miss this chance to be guided by young local experts for whom this area is their playground...

#### **HOW TO FIND US**

# Directions to Kelab Alami HQ from the Iskandar Coastal Highway (take the Forest City / Port of Tg Pelepas exit) or Tuas Second Link from Singapore (first exit after the toll to the Port of Tg Pelepas (PTP)).

- From this PTP highway, turn right at the 2<sup>nd</sup> traffic light (first traffic light is to Forest City). Please drive carefully here as the lorries drive fast and there is sometimes burst lorry tyre debris scattered across the highway. At the big cross junction turn left towards Pendas. You are in Kg Pekajang the roads have a lot of holes. Go slow and feel free to drive on the wrong side to avoid holes if you need to. Please be wary of children cycling out from the small roads without warning.
- You will pass a mosque on your right and under a bridge and will begin to see the port infrastructure and factories on your right. Keep going straight past the large signboards to Yeo's and Saujana restaurants (popular with Singaporean visitors). You are now in Tg. Adang. Keep going straight.
- Enjoy the view of traditional kampung homes and shops. After about 10 mins you will come to the Forest City junction with a huge highway over the kampung and a construction road. Drive slowly under this highway and past the construction. You are in Kg Pok. On your right you will see SRK Sri Morni Pok (a primary school) and the village hall (Dewan Kg Pok) keep going straight. You will soon pass Indra Corner (a pretty good warung over Sg Pok) on your right. Keep going straight.
- You are now entering Tg Kupang, and will pass the entrance & archway to the Ibu Pejabat Pembinaan Forest City (on your right).
- Keep going straight. You will eventually pass SRK Tg Kupang (primary school on your left), a small mosque and a graveyard. You then go through a tunnel (under the 2<sup>nd</sup> link highway). Keep going straight.
- On your left there will be an AgroBazaar. Keep going straight for about 200m until you see new condominium type housing on your right.
  - Immediately after these condominiums and before the blue zinc compound is our home base. Enter the small road between the new purple/grey houses to find the Kelab Alami clubhouse. Ours are the yellow wooden units at the centre

#### TO GET TO JETI PAK NGAH

If you are meeting us straight at the jetty... keep going straight down this road (no need to turn into the clubhouse)...

• After about 5mins you will pass a soccer field on your left and then fish ponds.





- Exactly at the fish ponds there is a turning to the right (there is a sign to Kg Pendas Baru) take this turning to the right and head towards the end of the parking area just before the bridge over the river into the kampung. There will be a fish stall to the left and a small foodstall to the right just before the bridge.
- Park here. We will be waiting here for you and you will get life jackets from us here before we take the cement walkway across the river to the jetty.

#### PLEASE BE ON TIME SO THAT WE CAN CATCH THE TIDE – THANK YOU!!!

