

Annah Rais Bidayuh Longhouse

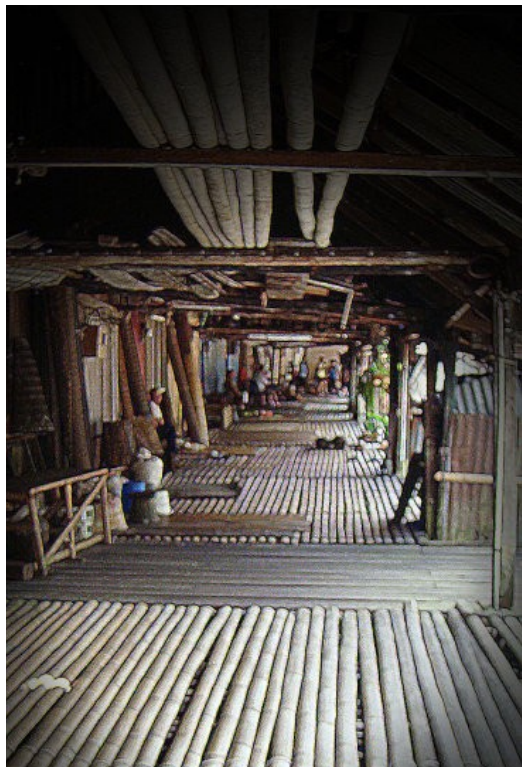
DURATION: 5 HOURS

CAPACITY: RECOMMENDED 150 PAX

The Bidayuh is the second largest ethnic group in Sarawak, and for their ingenuity with the use of bamboo, they are also dubbed the “Engineer of Bamboo”. A visit to Annah Rais, the largest and most famous Bidayuh longhouse in Sarawak will confirm the reference as apt. The Annah Rais Longhouse stands on the same site where its original longhouse first stood 200 years ago, and is built in the same manner using bamboo as its main construction material, along with timber and Nipah palm leaves.

Upon arrival at the village located about 100km east of Kuching city, guests are greeted by a welcoming ceremony by the friendly local natives, and served a cup of rice wine at the Bidayuh Longhouse.

During the visit guests will be able to witness first hand the villagers’ daily routine which typically includes rice pounding and winnowing, basket and mat weaving, bamboo carving and more. Guests will also get to visit the most unique and important Bidayuh structure – the “Baruk”, or Head house. The Baruk, situated in the middle of the longhouse was once used as a fort to protect the whole village from enemy attack. Inside the Baruk are real human skulls hanging around the fireplace alongside their sacred war drum, left behind by their ancestors who were once the feared “head hunters” in years gone by.



ENCHANCEMENTS

- ☞ Traditional lunch at the longhouse
- ☞ Blowpipe demonstration