

Travellers' Tales

WE'RE ALWAYS INTERESTED to hear about your travels, whether it's a return trip to a country you love, great moments captured on camera, or the smaller things that help make an enjoyable trip such as a great restaurant, good book or a piece of travel advice.



Female macaque and infant at Sepilok Orang-utan Sanctuary

Honeymoon in Java

As part of our honeymoon in August, my new husband and I visited Java where we took the sunrise tour to Mount Bromo. It's an almost perfect volcanic peak rising out of a vast plain, and a popular tourist attraction. However, what isn't much talked about is the rather exhilarating jeep ride at 3am. When we met our guide at 2:45am she was keen to get going, which, being several hours to sunrise, we couldn't quite understand. But as we started the long ascent to the summit I looked behind me and all I could see was a snake of headlights clinging to the hillside. It reminded me of something out of the Mad Max films, slightly weird but very memorable, and the views from the top really were awe-inspiring.

Sarah Horohan travelled to Indonesia with Audley in August 2010.



Our sunrise tour of Mount Bromo

Family adventures in Borneo

Our recent holiday to Borneo with Audley turned out to be the trip of a lifetime for all sorts of reasons. Both Wayne and Jonathan, our guides on different parts of the trip, were wonderful – helpful, informative and fun – and although the orang-utan were by far the stars in animal terms, we all agreed that the highlight of our trip was staying with the Iban tribe in their traditional longhouse. It was a fantastic experience, we were made so welcome and stayed up late learning riddles and



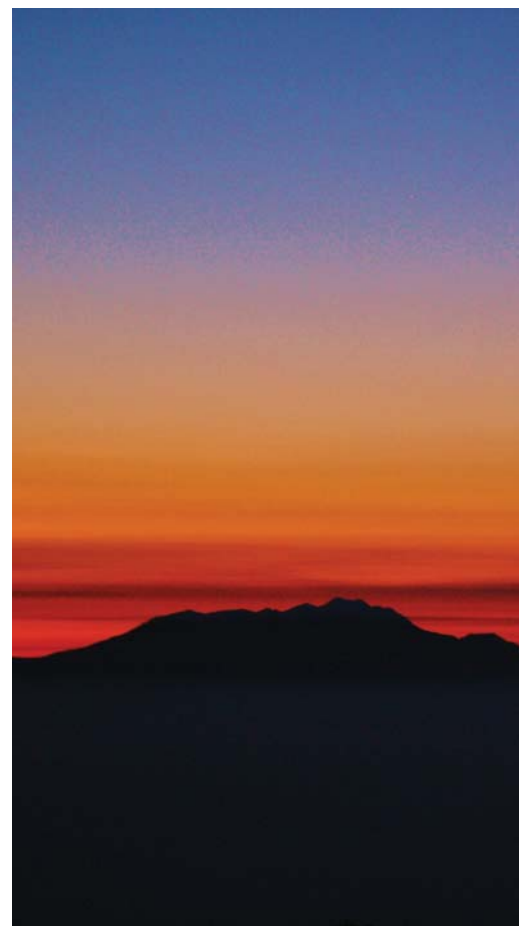
Staying with the Iban tribe was the highlight of our trip

card games from our hosts and then taught them some of ours. One of the girls from the tribe tweaked my nose as forfeit in one of their games! We learned so much about their way of life and had such an amazing time that we have lots of wonderful memories to take away and cherish from our trip.

Kay Rawlins travelled to Borneo with Audley in September 2010.



A forfeit during one of the games



Sunrise in Java



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Moroccan Magic

Suffering from a bout of post-holiday blues on a cold winter's evening, our conversation meandered around to possible destinations for a short-flight holiday in the spring. We discussed various options and discounted most of them, but Morocco just kept on cropping up. We'd already been on six previous occasions and wondered if another visit could possibly live up to the memories of the stunning scenery, vibrant colours and incredible architecture we had encountered. We didn't want to come home disappointed and needed a route that would include both the country's frenetic city souks and languid remote villages.



The air was filled with the scent of flowers

Sitting on the terrace of our hotel in mid-May, looking down over lush gardens and a very inviting swimming pool, all our apprehensions disappeared. The scent of roses, geraniums, hollyhocks and Arun lilies wafted through the air and the sound of trickling water rose from the many pools and waterfalls of the aptly-named Hotel des Cascades.



Sunset from our balcony



Kasbah Chez Amaliya, Tafraoute

Superbly positioned on the outskirts of the village of Imouzzers des Ida Outane, the hotel is surrounded by the mountains at the western tip of the High Atlas. Our balcony gave us a stunning view down a valley, and the sunsets were mesmerising. Although I had little idea where I was on a map I didn't really care.

The following day we explored the area driving through palm-lined valleys and past isolated villages. Everywhere, as for most of our holiday, there was dawn 'til dusk activity in the fields as the harvest was being gathered, mostly by hand.



The swimming pool at Hotel des Cascades

From here we moved swiftly past the sprawling new suburbs of Agadir, and as we continued through the Ibel Tikwayne range of the Anti Atlas we knew for sure that this holiday was not going to disappoint.

Gill Mitchell travelled to Morocco with Audley in May 2010. To read the full story of Gill's experience in Morocco, visit our online magazine at www.audley.co.uk/traveller/winter2011