

Tangkoko National Park



Walk through 8718 hectares of Tangkoko National Park and observe the unique black macaque monkeys, maleo birds, cuscus and the hornbills roaming free in their natural forest habitat. Stay and camp to see the nocturnal tarsiers, the smallest primates in the world – only about a fist size – who make Tangkoko their last refuge and are found only in Sulawesi. Relax later on at one of the numerous white sand - and a few with black sand - beaches and small villages bordering the park on the Sulawesi Sea. You may meet researchers who frequent the four nature reserves located within the park or see the bizarre Mimic Octopus in the sea.

Accessing Tangkoko

Tangkoko is most easily accessed from the Batuputih Village entrance which is ± 60 km from the city of Manado in the province of North Sulawesi, Indonesia.

- *By car:* From most hotels in Manado, it is a 2.5 hour- drive along paved road to the Tangkoko site entrance.
- *By public transport:* From the city of Manado – you can take public transport to Bitung. From the 'Paal dua' Tangkoko bus terminal (RP. 7500/person) you can catch a local 'public transport' to the site entrance (Rp. 5000/person)



- *On foot:* If you stay at one of the lodges in Batuputih, you can walk 30 m from lodge in Batuputih to the site.

Activities to enhance your visit to the site

- Photograph the beautiful flora and protected wildlife and birds; 328 species of which 47 are endemic
- *Enjoy an interpretive guided trek* through the forest reserve. Be picked up at your hotel by an experienced guide who will lead you through the park trails and provide interesting facts about the rare plants and animals. Your guide will drive you back to your hotel. (Rp. 50,000 – Rp.100,000 - return). Guides are provided by the hotels.
- Bring your own camping gear

and spend one or more nights with a guide in the forest.

- Hike 4 -5 hours along up steep 6 km trail to the peak Mount Tangkoko, one of the 3 volcanic mountains in the park.
- Walk, swim and relax at numerous beaches and enjoy views of the mountains

How you can help us preserve this site and the surrounding community

- Be careful not to disturb the rare plants, birds or animals in the national park..
- Remove all of your garbage.
- Purchase supplies and locally made souvenirs from local villages

- Donate to help with the site improvements - construction of public toilets in the park, directional signs, garbage receptacles, and solar lighting along the road to the area.
- Consider one of the investment opportunities in the area (see below).

Places to stay

Batuputih has a variety of simple cottages :

- Tangkoko lodge
- Tarsius lodge
- Bungalow
- There is also the more upscale Benten Resort on the beach.

Camping is allowed in the forest by permit. A guide who is aware of animal habitat must accompany campers.

Places to eat

The lodges listed above have food services. There are also Canteen (traditional restaurants) with barbequed fresh fish menu or traditional spicy food. Food supplies for camping can be purchased in the Villages and at the fresh fish auction in Batuputih Atas.

Safety and Tips

- Use caution around the wildlife. Always follow the advice of your guide.
- Wear long sleeves /long pants to protect your skin from the wild savannah or snake
- Wear a sun hat.
- Provide your own drinking water (available at stalls in Batuputih).

To learn more, contact:

- Tourism and Culture Agency of Bitung
Kompleks Kantor Walikota – Bitung
Phone: 0438 34426

Investment opportunities:

The Government of Bitung will facilitate and approve the private development of:

- *A small restaurant and souvenir shop at the site* that offers fresh meals unique to the area, and that are made from fish, chicken and vegetables grown by local farmers. The building must be a design that complements and protects the natural environment, and uses local materials and labor. Souvenirs that are sold must be made locally. Contact The Government Office of Bitung *for more information.*
- *Eco-lodge* based in or near Batuputih
- *Bio tour guide service* that provides knowledgeable information about local plants,

More facts on Tangkoko National Park

Despite the reserve's small size, its boundary runs from the sea to an altitude of 1351m, providing opportunities for tracks from beach forest through gently sloping lowland forest and on up to cloud forests that cling to the edges of volcanic calderas. The reserve contains three volcanoes; the mountain Tangkoko (1109 m), the ash cone of Batu Angus (450 m) which resulted from an eruption in 1839, and the twin peaks of Dua Saudara (1351 m). The ash cone of Batu Angus is almost bare of vegetation and has a lava flow that extends to the sea. Where the lava flow meets the sea, a collapsed tunnel has formed a 400 m long cove that contains coral formation and the only mangrove habitat in the reserve. Rainfall in the reserve is seasonal with the majority of rain falling between October and May. The dry season generally begins in June with southeasterly winds. The seas are calm and water visibility is excellent. Temperatures are relatively constant throughout the year, ranging from 94° to 71°F. Related websites:

www.gadling.com/2011/03/04/tangkoko-nature-reserve-sulawesi-indonesia

www.diverslodgelembek.com/tangkoko_national_park_information.html

www.indonesia.travel/en/destination/89/the-tangkoko

<http://www.bitung.go.id/>