The information in this brochure is taken from a small book, The Trees of Lalut Birai, produced by WWF and the Indigenous peoples of Long Alango, Malinau, East Kalimantan. The book describes some of the most majestic trees in the primary Tana Ulen forest which is an area traditionally protected by local people.

The book combines local expertise and traditional knowledge with botanical and ecological sciences. The book is one of the many products of many years of ecological and biological research conducted at the Lalut Birai Forest Research Station of Long Alango, in the Kayan Mentarang National Park.

For more information on Lalut Birai and how to visit the area:
www.borneo-ecotourism.com

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Photos credit: Ery Bukhorie, Stephan Wulfraat
Cover photo: Young and old “Laran Babui” trees grow side by side in the Tana Ulen forest of Long Alango. (Photo Credit: Ery Bukhorie)

LALUT BIRAI

The Lalut Birai Forest research station is located in the ‘Tana Ulen’ of the people of Long Alango. It is a traditionally protected forest along the Enggeng River, a tributary of the Bahau River. The area has been used by local people for the collection of forest products, hunting and fishing but only upon permission of the Customary Council and collection must be according to local regulations to ensure sustainability. As a rich and protected forest, it cannot be used for shifting cultivation to open rice fields.

This area is part of the Kayan Mentarang National Park, a conservation area in the interior of East Kalimantan, Malinau District, along the border with Sarawak and Sabah. The Station is named “Lalut Birai” after the mountain stream from where the station gets its drinking water. The estuary of the Enggeng River is situated between the villages of Long Alango and Long Tebulo; both villages are on the Bahau River.

The field station was built in 1991 by WWF Indonesia and the people of Long Alango upon the consent of the Customary Chief. During the first few years, Lalut Birai served as a base camp for many research activities of the ”Culture and Conservation” program and biodiversity surveys conducted by researchers from local, national, and foreign universities.

Between 1997–2007, a long term ecological research program was conducted at Lalut Birai in order to obtain data needed for the management of the National Park and for community development activities. Several local people were trained in scientific techniques and methods and are now able to combine science and their traditional knowledge about the forest.

HOW TO GET THERE?

The Kayan Mentarang National Park and the area in the interior at the border with Sarawak are not so easy to reach. There are no roads and the only way to get there is by river or air. Longboats owned by traders travel frequently from Tanjung Selor (a town near the coast and capital of the Bulungan District) upriver to Long Pujunggan. This trip can take from one to two days, depending on the water level of the Bahau River, a tributary of the Kayan River, the second longest river in East Kalimantan. In the journey upriver, several large rapids need to be passed. From Long Pujunggan, motorized canoes with long-tail engines are the preferred means of transportation to Long Alango and further upstream to Apau Ping. Depending on river conditions, sometimes passengers are asked to get off the boat and walk along the river. It takes about four hours to get to the estuary of the Enggeng River, and from there it is a 30 minutes walk to the Lalut Birai forest station.

The alternative way to get to Long Alango is by flying small planes operated by the Mission Aviation Fellowship and SUSI AIR from Malinau. Chartered flights can also be arranged.
The trail to the Lalut Birai research station. The area is primary forest very rich in biodiversity and animal life.

Legend:
- Trees number
- Scientific name
- Local name
- Trees family
- Trees benefits
- Trees commercial value
- Hard wood/soft wood

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trees Number</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Local Name</th>
<th>Trees Family</th>
<th>Trees Benefits</th>
<th>Trees Commercial Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05 07 08 60 62</td>
<td>Quercus argentata</td>
<td>Nyelewai</td>
<td>Fagaceae</td>
<td>Used for roof shingles, boat paddle, firewood.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 43 53</td>
<td>Ochnosiafchys amentacea</td>
<td>Pelong</td>
<td>Olacaceae</td>
<td>The logs used for building materials, home pole and door.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 22 23 25 26 28 30 32 33 69 70 75 76 78 84 86</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 50 59</td>
<td>Santiria tomentosa</td>
<td>Ela Kelamu</td>
<td>Burseraceae</td>
<td>The trunk is used for building materials. Fruit eaten by birds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>51 54 57</td>
<td>Dryobalanops sp</td>
<td>Kapun</td>
<td>Dipterocarpaceae</td>
<td>The timber is used as building material (beams and roof). The sap is used in traditional medicine as a remedy against swelling.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>