



The Alliance for Tompotika Conservation
(AlTo)'s

Tompotika Ecotour and Butterfly Survey

July 18 – August 2, 2009



Come join a small group of other conservationists for AlTo's ecotour to view wildlife, meet local people, and participate in the first scientific butterfly survey of the Tompotika peninsula of Sulawesi, Indonesia .

Do you like to travel, but also want to make a positive difference in the places you visit? Do you enjoy seeing wildlife, especially butterflies, and contributing to scientific knowledge? Like



to go off the beaten path? Then this trip is for you! The Alliance for Tompotika Conservation, also known as Aliansi Konservasi Tompotika, or "AlTo," is a non-profit partnership dedicated to conserving and appreciating the unparalleled biodiversity and cultural heritage of the area around Mount Tompotika, Sulawesi, Indonesia. AlTo facilitates small group visits to tour Tompotika and participate in direct, people-to-people conservation activities. This year, AlTo's eco-service tour will accompany one of Indonesia's foremost lepidopterists in the first-ever survey to document which of Sulawesi's over 500 butterfly species occur in the Tompotika region. Ecotour participants will be active ambassadors and agents for conservation through direct contact with local people and through helping to carry out the first-ever scientific butterfly survey of the Tompotika area.

Celebrating Nature, Bringing People Together

AlTo's eco-service visitors get acquainted with the natural wonders of Sulawesi while also participating in on-the-ground conservation projects. The trip begins and ends in North Sulawesi, where we explore nature from our bases in beach and garden resorts—the perfect bookends to our time in the wilder, more rustic Tompotika area.

Our 16-day trip includes:

- Hiking and wildlife-watching in Sulawesi's lush native tropical rainforests



- Snorkeling (or diving) the most biodiverse coral reefs in the world
- Scouting beaches for nesting sea turtles
- Observing endangered maleo birds at their communal nesting ground
- Witnessing the nightly migration of huge flying foxes from their island roosting site
- Taking part in AlTo's Conservation Awareness Campaign to advocate for conservation among local children and villagers
- Swimming, birding, and relaxing in a tropical paradise
- A visit to Bantimurung National Park, one of Indonesia's most celebrated butterfly sites
- Accompanying a top Indonesian lepidopterist in the first-ever butterfly survey of the Tompotika area



Sulawesi wildlife: unique and endangered

About half of Sulawesi's vertebrate animals are found nowhere else in the world, and many of them are endangered. Through AlTo's efforts, the endangered maleo bird – a striking bird that lays enormous eggs in a sandy communal nesting ground—is now recovering in Tompotika, and we will observe these rare birds as they gather daily to lay their eggs. We will also join AlTo's local staff in their nighttime patrols for nesting sea turtles. Other wildlife we are likely to see includes tiny primate tarsiers, endangered Sulawesi macaques, huge red-knobbed hornbills, spinner dolphins, bats, frogs, fish, and myriad other species. In addition, we will spend 6 days assisting expert Sulawesi lepidopterist Dr. Djunijanti Peggie in capturing and identifying butterflies in coastal, forest, and grassland habitats on the

Tompotika peninsula— the first time ever that this area has been surveyed for butterflies.

The Details:

Dates: July 18 – August 2, 2009 (16 days)

Cost: \$2950 per person, not including international airfare (usually \$1600-\$2200). Limit 10 people. (Price assumes 10 people and double occupancy). Price includes all in-country travel, meals, accommodation, and survey costs. A \$500 deposit is required to hold your space.

Leadership: The trip is led by AlTo Director Marcy Summers, a conservation biologist experienced in Sulawesi who has lived in Indonesia and speaks Indonesian. The butterfly survey will be led by Dr. Djunijanti Peggie, PhD, of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), a foremost expert on the butterflies of Sulawesi.



Join us ~ Travel with a purpose!

For further information, contact:

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