

# GAYO WILD

*Nature's Rarest Brew – Genuinely Wild*

THE ORIGIN JOURNEY

## A TASTE of Gayo

*The proof of wild Kopi Luwak is not a certificate. It is a forest, and you are invited into it.*

6-8 GUESTS

ABOUT A WEEK

GAYO HIGHLANDS, SUMATRA

DATES BY INVITATION

EVIDENCE YOU CAN WALK THROUGH

## ANYONE CAN PRINT 'WILD' ON A BAG

Very few producers could ever invite you to see where their coffee begins, because a caged operation has nothing it can show. We can, and we do.

On the Origin Journey you stand in the forest where wild civets choose their cherries, walk the forest edge at dawn with the collectors who gather what the civets leave behind, and follow the beans through every step that follows: washing, drying, sorting by hand, roasting and the cupping table.

It is a small journey, deliberately. Six to eight guests, hosted by us from Medan and back, with an interpreter throughout and time with the farming families we buy from.

*The proof is in the forest, and  
you are invited.*



What the wild civets leave behind on the forest floor, photographed by the collectors. This is where every bag begins.

## THE ROUTE

# FROM YOUR DOOR TO THE FOREST EDGE

*Fly to Medan in North Sumatra. We meet you there, then travel up together by propeller plane and road to Takengon, in the Gayo Highlands, and on foot to the forest edge.*



1,400–  
1,600

METRES, WHERE THE  
COFFEE GROWS

6–8

GUESTS ON EACH  
DEPARTURE

7

DAYS, MORE OR LESS

0

CAGES, ANYWHERE



The last leg: a small propeller plane up to the Gayo Highlands.

# A WEEK IN THE HIGHLANDS



## DAY 1

### ARRIVE IN MEDAN

Meet the group in North Sumatra, rest, and travel up to Takengon the next morning by propeller plane and road.



## DAY 2

### THE FOREST EDGE AT DAWN

Out with the collectors at first light, following the trails the wild civets walked overnight and gathering what they chose. This is the part that cannot be explained secondhand.



## DAY 3

### DUSK IN THE CIVETS' FOREST

An evening walk with the collectors to watch for the civets, free in the forest that makes this coffee possible. We never promise a sighting: they keep their own hours, and the forest is theirs.

The civet is an engraving, not a photograph.



## DAY 4

### WASHING & DRYING

The unglamorous middle of the process, and the reason the coffee costs what it costs. Every lot is washed, then turned by hand as it dries under the canopies in the highland air.



#### DAY 5

### SORTING, ROASTING & CUPPING

Sorting is done by hand, bean by bean, and you will try it. Then small-batch roasting the traditional way, and a cupping table: tasting the results side by side, as the professionals do.



#### DAY 6

### WITH THE FAMILIES

Time in the villages rather than at a visitor centre. Meals, conversation, and a clear look at where the money goes.



#### DAY 7-8

### LAKE LAUT TAWAR

A slower day on the lake and in the highlands around it, before the return leg to Medan.



Every photograph in this brochure is from our own visits to Gayo, except the civet: they keep their own hours, so that one is a drawing.

## WHAT WE TAKE CARE OF

### INCLUDED

- ◇ Hosting by us, from Medan and back
- ◇ An interpreter throughout
- ◇ The journey up to Takengon with the group, by propeller plane and road
- ◇ Every visit in the itinerary: the collectors, processing, roasting, the villages and the lake
- ◇ Time with the farming families we buy from

### YOUR PART

- ◇ International flights to and from Medan (Kualanamu, KNO)
- ◇ Comprehensive travel insurance
- ◇ Your visa, if your passport needs one
- ◇ Personal spending

Accommodation and meals are confirmed with each departure.

### AN HONEST FIT

## IS IT FOR YOU?

It is not a resort holiday. The highlands are remote, the mornings begin early and the walking is real. Aceh is a conservative, Islamic province: modest dress, no alcohol, halal food throughout, and some of the warmest hospitality anywhere.

What it offers instead is what almost nobody sees: the rarest coffee in the world, gathered by the people who gather it, in the forest where it begins.

## BEFORE YOU REGISTER

### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Price on request while we fix dates and group size. Register your interest and we will send the full itinerary and price before anything is booked. Registering is free and commits you to nothing.

### WHEN ARE THE DEPARTURES?

Small groups, with dates still to be set. We plan around the harvest, when collection in the forest is at its most active. Tell us your preferred months and we will match you to a departure.

### HOW FIT DO I NEED TO BE?

Comfortable walking a few hours on uneven forest trails, sometimes before dawn, in cool highland air at well over 1,000 metres. Tell us about any mobility needs and we will tell you honestly what is possible.

### WILL I SEE A WILD CIVET?

Perhaps, but we never promise it. The civets are wild and nocturnal and keep their own hours. We walk the forest with the collectors at dusk to watch for them; what you will certainly see is the forest they roam and the coffee they leave behind.

### WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT ACEH?

Aceh is the only Indonesian province governed by Islamic law. Visitors dress modestly (shoulders and knees covered), alcohol is not available, and some customs differ from Bali or Jakarta. Food throughout is halal. People are warm and welcoming, and we brief every guest before travel.

### DO I NEED A VISA?

That depends on your passport. Many nationalities, including UK and EU passport holders, can get an electronic visa on arrival for Indonesia, but the rules change: check your government's travel advice before you book.

### WHAT ABOUT HEALTH AND INSURANCE?

Speak to your GP or a travel clinic at least six weeks before you travel about vaccinations and advice for Sumatra. Comprehensive travel insurance is essential.

### CAN I COME ALONE, OR AS A GROUP?

Both. Solo travellers join a small group of six to eight; families, friends and companies can ask for a private departure.

### HOW WILL BOOKING WORK?

When a departure is confirmed, we write first to the people who registered, with the full itinerary, price and how places are confirmed. Until then, nothing is charged.

GAYO WILD

PRICE ON REQUEST · DATES BY INVITATION

# REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

*Tell us when you would like to travel and what matters to you. We write first to those who registered, with the full itinerary and price, before anything is booked.*



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