

# Time Out

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(See p26)

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## Kuala Lun

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**TOU**  
*in your*

# International Orangutan Awareness Week

Around Town



*'I've found this is my best angle'*

Orangutans the world over will be feted in these two weeks, and at Zoo Negara they're not going to let the festivities pass them by. (They'll be joining zoos in Honolulu, Miami, Denver and Atlanta, among others.) And at no better time, as school holidays approach. There'll be all manner of activities going on at the zoo, including most notably the unveiling of a life-sized orangutan nest which curious visitors can climb into.

It's infotainment at its best – throughout the fortnight there'll be interactive stalls and games for visitors. Measure up against an orangutan in specially created tests of strength and wits. The little ones can busy themselves with the requisite colouring

sessions and face painting. Sit in on an orangutan playtime session, and watch how zookeepers keep clever orangutans thinking (12noon, 2pm). You can even try your hand at designing and making a toy for the orangutans and other apes and then wait for the reaction – will they like it? (10am – 12noon, 2 – 4pm).

The last weekend (Nov 20 & 21) will see a zoo-wide treasure hunt with goodie bags for everyone who takes part. Go ape!  
*Emma Chong*

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**International Orangutan Awareness Week** Zoo Negara, Hulu Kelang, Ampang (03 4108 3422/[www.zoonegara.org.my](http://www.zoonegara.org.my)). Nov 7–21.



## ● Go behind the bars at Zoo Negara

Sure, the signs say no feeding. But here's how you can do that legitimately – by being a volunteer zookeeper. However, there's more poop and less cuddling than you'd imagine. Half a day's volunteer work at Zoo Negara's 'Way Out Experience' programme includes some initiation with shovelling animal waste and raking leaves, before you get to move onto the fun stuff – designing things that help the animals play and reduce captive animal stress. 'This section is what most people look forward to but nobody is allowed to proceed to this without doing the first part; they have to work for it,' WOX CEO Fareea Ma says. 'When we say we work with them, we do not go in there to brush their coats or bathe them.' The animals you'll work with depend on the needs of the zoo – you could be working with bears, elephants, apes or just some buffalos, so prepare to be surprised and get mucky. *EC* ([03 7724 2272](tel:0377242272)/[www.w-o-x.com/info@w-o-x.com](http://www.w-o-x.com/info@w-o-x.com)). *Booking required.*

