



De' Gigant Tours



Jl. Martadinata Raudah 1, no 21, Samarinda - East Kalimantan - Indonesia
Ph +62 8125846578, info@borneotourgigant.com www.borneotourgigant.com



ERAU

07 - 13 June 2015

Erau as one of the Most Spectacular Cultural Event in Kalimantan

There are various other rituals and ceremonies designed to mark important events, too numerous to mention one by one. Erau is usually held at Tenggarong East Kalimantan, Indonesia from 22-28 September each year, but due of the Erau event has become an international festival with recommendation of UNESCO, Erau Eevent in 2015 will be held from 07 till 13 June 2015. For the latest update and details, please feel free to contact us.

The Erau

The word "Erau" is derived from Kutai language means crowded, noisy, and joyful. The ceremony is held by the Sultan and it 's relatives and participated by people of Kutai Kartanegara. The first Erau was performed at the ceremony of Tijk Tanah and Mandi ke Tepian by the first king of Kutai Kartanegara, Aji Batara Agung Dewa Sakti (1300-1325AD) when he was 5 years old (believed to be a descendant of God). He conducted Erau ceremony when he was ascended to rule Kutai kingdom. Since then, the ceremony is often held in Kutai Kartanegara on the coronation of Kings. Henceforth, the ceremony was not only held on the coronation of Kings but also on inauguration of customary titles to parties who performed good services in supporting, maintaining, and developing indigenous culture in the Sultanate administrative environment. Erau tradition is still preserved till today by the Kutai Sultanate to clean up all sorts of things interfere with earth's resources in the area of Kutai Sultanate, to tame the bad spirits and bring in the good spirits for proper and luck for all Kutai inhabitants.



Erau Paray is a ceremonial feast of the Kutai Kingdom. It starts with the worship of the ancestors and the offering of thanks. Many Dayak Tribes will show here their kind of culture and ceremony style.



The first Erau ceremony was held by Sultan "Aji Batara Agung Dewa Sakti" at around 1305, since then the Erau Ceremony is held each appointment or replacement of the Sultan Kutai Kartanegara

In it's development during the years, the ceremonial ritual of Erau of replacement of the King, or also for the title of King of the leaders or community leaders who are considered to render the Kingdom.

At an Erau Event, all tribal citizens come from all corners of Kalimantan with the provision of food, livestock, fruits, and also the artists, to show the Cultural acts and performances at the streets of Tenggarong.

The Erau Feast Ceremony begins with standing the Ayu procession by the Sultan of Kutai, it's relatives and his witnessed guests, where the Sultan will instruct with his hands to stand the Ayu and throw yellow rice as part of the procession.

Now-a-days Erau tradition is still a party of the people and culture, and became a routine festival to celebrate the anniversary of the city Tenggarong (28 September 1782),



This year Erau Event will be an International Folklore Festival to be held at 02-08 August 2015, with guests and cultural acts not only from Kalimantan island but shared with international Cultures of 15 countries, with daily street stage performances divided in whole Tenggarong.

Prior the Opening of Erau some custom spiritual Sultanate Ceremonies as "Beluluh Sultan" , "Menjamu Benua" , "Merangin" and "Nagtur Dahar" will be held at the Sultanate Palace, for future proper and luck



The Opening of the Public Erau event will take place in the stadion of Tenggarong, with Dayak and Kutai Cultural dances, be followed by a Cultural street parade through Tenggarong of all Borneo Tribes and countries who will fill the Erau Event this year.

During the whole Erau event he Sultanate Palace will the stage of the traditional spiritual and sacrifice ceremonies as being part of the Erau event since the year 1305. With performances as "Beluluh", "Bepelas" and "Ritual Naga Kuning"

ERAU CEREMONIES

Beluluh ceremony

Beluluh is a daily afternoon procession in which the Sultan will step on the stone toward the hall of colorful rice decorated with flowers located on the right and left. During the reversal process, the yellow rice is dropped to the rear, and pray, during the procession Salaseh Gamelan or Marandowo music is played.

Bepelas ceremony

Bepelas is held for seven nights, featuring dances and interference of spiritual spirits, with gamelan music and the highlight of the cannon explosions that will take place at all seven nights continuously. The first night until the sixth will be carried out the blast in accordance with number of nights, while on the seventh night is carried out only one explosion. The ritual is a step by step ritual per night into the highest spirit before the Dragons (man and wife) can be taken from the Palace to be stretched into the Mahakam River.



Naga Kuning ceremony



The Stretching Dragon ceremony or also known as Ngulur Naga is held as the end of the Erau Event, which requires two dragons, Dragon Laki (male) and Dragon Bini (female). Each dragon is composed three parts, the colorful wooden head, the frilly neck and the rattan body decorated in yellow, red, blue and green scales. The Dragon will be carried from the Sultanate Palace by 17 men to the boat at the Mahakam River which will sail the Dragons to Kutai Lama, as being the place where the Dragon and Kutai Kingdom were born. During the sail there will be several super natural processions with sacrificing and gamelan music at Pulau Kumala, Jembayan, Loa Kulu, Tepian Aji Samarinda Seberang where the boat will spin 2 times and 3 times to be spinned at Kutai Lama, before the dragon will be stretched by a Belimbur ceremony at the Mahakam River as an expression of gratitude and distraction of evil spirit using water as an element of life.

The on row spiritual processions of Erau are counted 29 rituals from the opening till the end, held by the Sultan and it's relatives and participated by people of Kutai Kartanegara

Beluluh
Menjamu Benua
Merangin
Establishing Pillar Ayu
Belian Dance
Deity Dance
Demoting Sanghiyang Sri Ganjur
Dance
Ganjur Dance
Repatriating Sanghiyang Sri
Ganjur Dance
Mengoyak Rendu
Inviting Water
Picking up Water
Kanjari Bini Dance
Kanjari Laki Dance
Taking Tuli Water
Beluluh (daily at Sultanate Palace)
Begorok
Be Umpan
Rangga Titi
Stretching Dragon
Belimbur
Menyisik Suana
Dewa and Belian Menjala
Begelar
Seluang Mudik
Picking Kamal Fruit
Nyamper
Laying Pillar Ayu
Gong Golong



Overview of Erau Festival

Erau is a spiritual Kingdom ceremony as a specific intention for either a ritual or a cultural entertainment which is organized by the relatives of Sultan of Kutai Kartanegara.

Generally, the Erau Festival is ceremonial event relating to the King of Kutai Kartanegara to preserve the local wisdoms of the Kutai Kartanegara people. The main implemented Royal ceremony is Beluluh, a ceremony in memory of finding a beautiful princess named Putri karang Melenu on the yellow bamboo hall paved with yellow cloth. This yellow colored ceremony is a self-cleaning ceremony as a newborn baby.



The opening of the Erau Festival is marked with the procession of *Menegakkan Tiang Ayu* (erecting the pole Ayu) by the Sultan of the Kingdom of Kutai Kartanegara. This rite serves as a form of petition to God for the welfare of the whole people of Kutai. Before the rite takes place, the sultan read a prayer accompanied by spreading yellow rice on the pole. In addition, an oil lamp and offerings in the form of typical food and snacks of Kutai are also put around the pole to symbolize a life. This pole will stand up before the sultan when the festival takes place.

Once the procession of *Menegakkan Tiang Ayu* is finished by the Sultan of Kutai, series of other performances, including lighting *brong* (torch), and mass dance involving thousands of local dancers of diverse Cultural tribes will be performed. During the week, the festival will be enlivened by several supporting events, such as traditional tribal ceremonies, art events, traditional sport competitions, traditional carnival, and more. The event of eating together or also called *Beseprah*, the Sultan and his family will give a banquet to all people for free on the road (1km) in front of the Sultanate Palace by sitting cross-legged and facing each other.

The peak of Erau festival is the procession called *Mengulur Naga* (stretching dragon). This ritual requires *Naga Laki* (male dragon) and *Naga Bini* (female dragon), which both have been given colorful decoration. The two dragons are carried out of the palace foyer before being paraded into the Mahakam River, to end up in the procession called *Belimbur*, where all participants and residents flushing water to each other in various ways, such as using buckets, plastic bags, or even using water hoses.



Erau Event Location & Access

Erau Festival is held in Kutai Kartanegara, Tenggarong, East Kalimantan province, Indonesia. Tenggarong is about 150 km from Balikpapan international Airport, or about 30 km from the Province capital Samarinda, can be reached overland. Balikpapan international airport can be reached by international airlines daily from Singapore and Kuala Lumpur or daily Domestic flights from Batam, Denpasar, Jakarta, Makassar, and Surabaya.

Facilities on the spot

Tenggarong has hotels, guesthouses, restaurants, banks and more, while for accommodation booking in advance is advised. For last minute visitors, accommodation at Samarinda could work as the solution with an overland distance of 30km (40 minutes drive).



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