



TRIP REPORT

3 HOURS NOCTURNAL MAMMAL WATCHING

Kemuning Forest, Central Java, Indonesia - October 3, 2024

Website : jawi.or.id

Email : javanwildlife@gmail.com

Instagram : [javanwildlife](https://www.instagram.com/javanwildlife)

OVERVIEW

The Javan Wildlife Institute (JAWI) is a non-governmental organization that promotes wildlife conservation and community development in Kemuning, a small village surrounded by one of the remaining lowland tropical forests in Java. Kemuning is notable for its population Javan slow lorises (*Nycticebus javanicus*), which inspired us to initiate an exclusive tourism program in this area since 2022. We limit the participant maximum 8 person per trip to apply sustainable tourism and bring boundless joy for them. On October 3, 2024, JAWI welcomed Sichao, a wildlife enthusiast who came to Kemuning to observe the loris. The mission of this trip was to witness the elusive loris in its natural habitat and capture its beauty in a photograph.

TRIP INFORMATION

Date

October 3rd, 2024

Location

Kemuning Forest, Temanggung, Central Java, Indonesia

Participants

- Sichao
- Imam Taufiqurrahman (Primavest)

Interpeter

- Farah Dini Rachmawati (JAWI)

Guides

- Muhammad Farhan Anshori (JAWI)
- Samsul Hidayat (local people)
- Imam Safi'i (local people)
- Riyono (local people)

DETAIL OF ACTIVITIES

Our trip started at 7:30 pm from basecamp. Due to limited observation time (only 3 hours), we divided into two teams to maximize the chances of spotting Javan slow lorises. We needed to walk about 500 meters to reach Kemuning Forest, a lowland tropical forest also managed by local people for shade-grown coffee. We didn't have to worry about walking in the forest because there were many paths, which locals typically use to access their coffee farms. Along the forest footpath, we focused on searching for Javan slow lorises using flashlights and headlamps. Only red and yellow lights were allowed for this trip to minimize disturbance to the animals' eyes. We shined the flashlights into the tall trees since lorises are often found crawling there.

After an hour in the forest, we spotted a Sunda colugo (*Galeopterus variegatus*) hanging from a tree branch about 70 meters from the footpath. Then, one hour later, we finally met a Javan slow loris 50 meters from the footpath. Dayat, a local guide, found the loris in a tree about 20 meters high, feeding on gum. We communicated with the other team using a walkie-talkie to inform them to stop their search as we had already found our target species. It took about 30 minutes for Sichao to observe and photograph the loris. Afterward, we headed back to basecamp. On the way, we also encountered another nocturnal mammal that inhabits Kemuning Forest, the Javanese flying squirrel (*Iomys horsfieldii*), hiding shyly behind the leaves. We ended the trip at 11 pm with full hearts after successfully finding the Javan slow loris, one of the rarest primates in the world, along with two bonus mammals: the Sunda colugo and the Javanese flying squirrel.

RESULTS

- Javan slow loris (*Nycticebus javanicus*)
- Sunda colugo (*Galeopterus variegatus*)
- Javanese flying squirrel (*Iomys horsfieldii*)



RECOMMENDATION

The best time for observing Javan slow lorises in Kemuning Forest is during the dry season and apart from the full moon phase. Rain creates obstacles for observing the species in the forest, making the lorises harder to find and the trail slippery. We also need to avoid the full moon phase because lorises are lunar-phobic. Observing the species during the full moon phase will limit our chances of encountering a loris.

TRIP GALLERY

