

BACKGROUND STORY

OTAN

Rehabilitation Centre : Nyaru Menteng
Arrival Date : 7 February 2015
Age on Arrival : 1,5 years
Current Age : 12 years
Gender : Male
Current Position : Bangamat Pre-Release Island
Health Status : Healthy (BCS 3)

Otan: A Calm Observer Thriving in the Wild

Otan, a male orangutan, first arrived at the Nyaru Menteng Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre on February 7, 2015. He was about one and a half years old at the time and weighed 5.2 kg. Rescued from Buntok, South Barito Regency, by a joint team from the Central Kalimantan BKSDA and the BOS Foundation, Otan began his long journey toward freedom like many other young orangutans without his mother but with an indomitable spirit to survive.

After completing a period of quarantine and progressing through Forest School, where he learned the essential survival skills needed for life in the wild, Otan advanced to the pre-release stage on Bangamat Island on December 19, 2023. Known for his strong curiosity and love of exploration, Otan quickly demonstrated impressive foraging skills, showing a keen ability to find natural food sources on his own.

Currently, Otan continues his rehabilitation journey on Bangamat Island, where he is in good health and adapting well to his semi-wild surroundings. During recent monitoring around feeding platform #1, Otan was observed spending much of his time in the trees, preferring to eat, rest, and move about in the canopy rather than on the ground. He was seen enjoying supplementary foods such as melon, papaya, and bananas, all while keeping a calm and observant demeanour.

Though other orangutans like Sulam, Himba, Spongebob, Sido, and Meki were present in the area, Otan did not engage in direct social interactions, maintaining a peaceful distance instead. His behaviour reflected both independence and awareness, a balance that shows he is developing the instincts necessary to thrive in the wild. After feeding, he alternated between resting, grooming himself, and occasionally watching the observers and his fellow orangutans from the safety of the trees.

With his steady progress, curiosity, and independence, Otan continues to show promising signs of readiness for a fully wild life, one step closer to reclaiming the freedom that once belonged to him.

- Additional information:
After ten years of rehabilitation, Otan, who is 12 years old and weighs 33.5 kg, is

ready to return to the pristine forests of TNBBBR. He is still in quarantine and being monitored by our veterinarian to ensure his good health.