



SELAMAT DATANG

WELCOME TO INDONESIA!

Indonesia is a diverse country: it consists of more than 17,000 islands, of which approximately 8,000 are inhabited, and 700 languages are spoken amongst its population of almost 273 million. It is the fourth most populous country in the world behind China, India and the United States of America. The Indonesian archipelago stretches for 5,000 km along the equator. From the western tip of Sumatra to the eastern edge of Papua, this nation spans a vast area and is a melting pot of different cultures and traditions; from the cuisine to the flora and fauna, Indonesia is incredibly varied. Over time, deep and rich cultures have evolved, from the mysteries of the spiritual Balinese to the traditional tribal ways of Papua's Asmat people.





GEOGRAPHY

Indonesia is a vast country composed of over 17,000 islands; it stretches more than 5,000 km from east to west and 1,700 km from north to south. Lying between the Indian and Pacific Oceans, Indonesia is home to the second (New Guinea), third (Borneo), sixth (Sumatra), eleventh (Sulawesi) and thirteenth (Java) largest islands in the world. New Guinea is shared with neighboring Papua New Guinea and Borneo is shared with Malaysia and Brunei.

Located in the South Pacific along the Ring of Fire, Indonesia is home to more active volcanoes than any other nation. With roughly 130 live volcanoes across the country, there are around 5 million people living in the immediate danger zones surrounding them.

Given the landscape and remoteness of many of the islands, Indonesia has some of the best diving and trekking opportunities in the world.

PEOPLE

Indonesia is the fourth most populous country in the world and the largest Muslim nation. Being a nation comprised of thousands of islands, there is a natural separation of cultures and therefore over 700 languages are spoken throughout the country. The largest ethnic group is the Javanese, as more than half of Indonesia's 265 million residents live on the island of Java, making it the most populated island in the world. Traditions can vary greatly from island to island, and there can be many different cultures and languages on a single island.

**INDONESIA IS
THE 4TH MOST POPULOUS
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD.**

FAST FACTS

OFFICIAL NAME

Republic of Indonesia

CAPITAL CITY

Jakarta

BOUNDARIES

Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste

CURRENCY

Indonesia Rupiah (IDR)

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Bahasa Indonesia

POPULATION

265 million

TOTAL AREA

1.905 million km²

INDONESIA DESTINATIONS

Indonesia's tourist attractions are unimaginably diverse: dramatic volcanoes of which many are still active; abundant wildlife in Sumatra and Kalimantan, including Orangutans; traditional Javanese and Balinese dancing; idyllic deserted white sand beaches in Sumbawa; glittering mega malls in the crowded capital Jakarta; and magnificent Borobudur and Prambanan temples. Below you will find a description of Indonesia's main islands and attractions. If you wish to travel to, or receive information about any other destinations in Indonesia, please do not hesitate to contact us.



SUMATRA

This giant island is still as wild and unpredictable as when the first explorers set foot here centuries ago. Millennia of erupting volcanoes from the earth's core and the fierce ocean waves mean the landscape of this island is constantly evolving.

The rugged mountains and fertile valleys are fed by near-constant rains, coloring the jungles and the rice terraces in many rich shades of green. Visitors can climb up the smoking volcano craters that ring the hill town of Berastagi, or trek lush jungle paths and spot wild Orangutans high up in the canopy at Bukit Lawang.

Sumatra is still visibly diverse with more than 52 different languages spoken and a broad range of different cultures – from the Bataks of beautiful Danau Toba to the Ilineal Minangkabau of West Sumatra. In some remaining pockets, hunter-gatherer tribes still exist, while on other parts of the island different tribes have blended customs from the outside world with their own traditions.

LOMBOK & THE GILI ISLANDS

All too often overshadowed by its famous neighbor Bali, Lombok is blessed with exquisite white-sand beaches, epic surf, a lush forested interior, and hiking trails through tobacco and rice fields. This island is fully loaded with tropical allure!

Gili Meno is the most beautiful of the three bounty islands referred to as The Gili Islands, which lie just off the northwest shore of Lombok. This is an ideal place to relax, swim or snorkel and is also known for its breathtaking sunsets.

JAVA

At the heart of the nation, Java is an island home to the mega metropolis of Jakarta. With its population of over 10.5 million the traffic can seem endless; however, mesmerizing natural beauty, and profound traditions in art, dance, spiritualism and learning make it a destination well worth a visit.

Boasting a dazzling array of bewitching landscapes, most journeys in Java are defined by the scenery. This island is one of the most fertile and therefore heavily populated places on this planet; unsurprisingly, transportation can prove challenging at times. Travel by road can be slow, particularly in the west of the island. However, the beauty of its sights makes it all worthwhile. The UNESCO Heritage listed temples of Borobudur, the volcanic craters of Bromo and Ijen, and the historically important city of Yogyakarta are just some of the must-see attractions on any Java itinerary.

LESSER SUNDA ISLANDS / NUSA TENGGARA

This sparsely inhabited archipelago extends eastward from Lombok to Timor and includes the protruding peaks of a giant submarine mountain range that stretches to Sumatra. The infrastructure in Nusa Tenggara is less developed than on the larger islands, and since the region continues to receive relatively few foreign visitors, modest dress and politeness out of respect for ancient cultures and religions are imperative.

BALI

The word 'Bali' evokes thoughts of paradise. More than just a destination, it's a mood, an aspiration, and a tropical state of mind. Visit green rice terraces, enjoy abundant surf, meet truly charming people, enjoy world-class food, lounge on stunning beaches, or spend an epic night clubbing – Bali has it all!

KALIMANTAN (BORNEO)

Kalimantan is Indonesia's name for its two-thirds share of Borneo, the world's fourth-largest island. Kalimantan represents nearly 30 per cent of Indonesia's land area, but is occupied by barely six per cent of the population. Kalimantan is covered with some of the world's oldest rainforests and is one of the very few places where people can enjoy the presence of the Orangutans. One of the best places to view these magnificent creatures is at Tanjung Puting National Park.

KOMODO & FLORES

The main attraction of the inhospitable Komodo islands is the remarkable Komodo dragon, the largest lizard in the world. Flores is famed for its untamed beautiful sites like Gunung Kelimutu – with three crater lakes that constantly change color – and the traditional villages in the area of Bajawa.



SULAWESI (CELEBES)

Covering an area of 174,600 km², Sulawesi is the fourth biggest island of Indonesia after Irian Jaya, Kalimantan and Sumatra. Rugged mountains are scattered across much of the island with active volcanoes at the northern end. It is definitely one of Indonesia's most fascinating islands, although compared to Bali it is much less developed.

Situated on the Wallacea ecozone, the island (formerly known as Celebes) shares both Asian and Australasian flora and fauna. The famous native mammals of Sulawesi among others are Anoa (small buffalo), Babirusa (a wild pig with four upturned horn-like tusks), and also the big-eyed Tarsius.

Sulawesi has outstanding diving and snorkeling spots. Two of the most famous underwater havens surrounding the island are Bunaken and Togian.

There are many other attractions: take in the valley views from the hill of Batutumonga, walk through the rice fields or villages in the area of Tanah Toraja, dive around the World War II wrecks at Bunaken, or spot a 1-meter-long coconut crab stealing coconuts on the Togian islands. One will be amazed by both the natural wonders and amazing culture this island has to offer!

SUMBA

Together with Flores, Komodo, West Timor and some other small islands, Sumba forms the Province of East Nusa Tenggara with its capital in Kupang, West Timor. Situated on a non-volcanic outer arch of Indonesia, Sumba has no volcano. The highest peak on the island is a relatively low 1,225 m. Since there is no high mountain to hold the cloud, Sumba has less rain and the island is dotted with vast areas of savanna and steppe. Evergreen rainforests are only found on the southern part of the island where the land stays moist during the long dry season.

The people of Sumba have a unique culture that is maintained today and traditional villages are still found throughout the island. In Indonesia, Sumba is also known for its horses, Kuda Sumba. A famous festival in Sumba is Pasola, a wooden-spear fighting competition that involves riding these horses.

Sumba is rich with animal life, including birds; in fact, around 200 types of birds have been recorded on the island. Two National Parks have been set up by the central government to protect this island's distinctive flora and fauna.

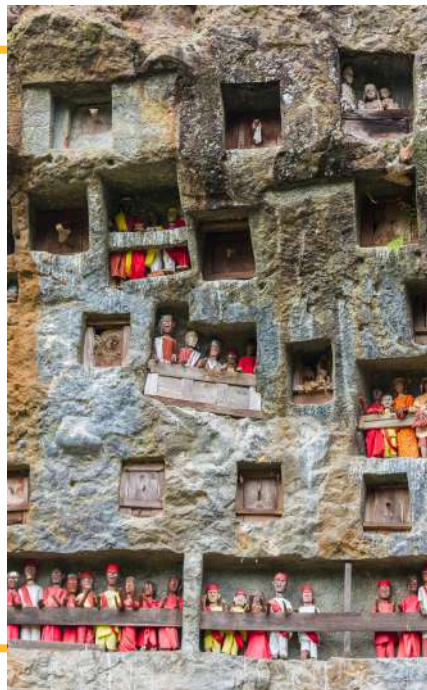
TIMOR

Timor is shared between Indonesia and Timor Leste. For centuries, the Dutch and the Portuguese fought for control over Timor until a treaty divided the island in 1859. In a Dutch-Indonesian round table conference signed in November 1949, it was agreed that all areas under the Netherlands would be Indonesia, thus half of Timor, half of Papua and half of Borneo were excluded.

In spite of amazing traditional villages, mountainous countryside, and almost empty beaches, this land of sandalwood and Sasando (a unique harp-like instrument) is less known to tourists. Traditions are well preserved here, and when entering one of the traditional villages, you may be welcomed with a kiss on the nose!



BALI

TORAJA,
SULAWESI

FLORES

INSIDER'S PICK

On the island of Java, the city of Yogyakarta (Jogja for short) is known for being an important cultural destination in Indonesia. Nearby is Borobudur, the largest Buddhist temple in the world, as well as Prambanan, the most beautiful and largest Hindu temple in Java. Jogja, the location of many universities, is also the country's center for education. The fine arts such as music, ballet, as well as the globally recognized batik fabric all thrive in Yogyakarta. The most popular place to shop, and certainly most crowded, is Malioboro Street. Along both sides of this mile-long strip of road you will find shops and stalls selling an array of clothes, plants, leather goods, ornaments, and other handicrafts. While the prices are quite reasonable, you should be prepared to bargain as is the custom and you will be rewarded with a discount. Travelers should also bring their appetite since this market street has many warungs, or traditional eateries where locals and visitors alike can enjoy a snack or small meal starting at less than one dollar.

Located about one kilometer from the north end of Malioboro Street is Beringharjo Market. This market, located inside a large building, is the epicenter of activity on the street as it is one of the biggest traditional markets in the city. There are hundreds of shops offering fruits and vegetables, plants, spices and herbs, various clothing and of course batik. Batik is a method of producing various colored designs on a cotton cloth using dye and wax. Indonesia's batik, originating in Java, has been given special status by UNESCO. This artistic and colorful cloth makes a great souvenir; travelers should feel free to stock up on it at great prices! At night, Malioboro Street is still quite busy with vendors continuing to hustle selling food, drinks and goods. Also, many young people come to hang out at a warung, or go drinking at a local bar or club. You may also see a group of drummers playing some traditional local beats that will keep the atmosphere lively. After visiting these market areas, it will be easy to see why it is the busiest area in the Jogja.



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