

INDONESIA TRIP NOTES

Almost everyone knows the name Bali, and that it is an idyllic Indian Ocean island featured in many romance movies. What comes as a surprise once visitors arrive, is how rich a destination Bali is. Thanks in part to its Hindu history, and an early influx of artisans and intelligentsia from the rest of Indonesia, Bali has so much more to offer than pretty beaches. This diversity makes Bali a rewarding choice for travelers from any demographic. Toddlers, teenagers, adults, groups, families and solo travelers...Bali will enchant all who visit.

For those with the time and a love of exploration, the other islands of Indonesia have much to offer - from visiting with Komodo dragons and orangutans to the some of best dive sites in the world.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Visitors from the US and Canada in possession of a passport with at least 6 months' validity from date of return and one blank visa page, will be granted an entry stamp on arrival, at a cost of 35USD. Stays of up to 30 days are allowed.

MEDICATIONS & INNOCULATIONS

No medication or vaccinations are required for entry to Bali.

CURRENCY

The Indonesian Rupiah (IDR and Rp) is the currency of Indonesia. USD notes that are post 2006 and in mint condition are accepted widely, but rupiahs are often required in small restaurants and at markets. Having a mix of both is recommended.

A convenient currency converter can be found at <http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

CREDIT CARDS

Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted, American Express less so. ATMs are easily found in major shopping areas.



TIME DIFFERENCE

Bali is 13 hours ahead of US Eastern Standard Time and 16 hours ahead of US Pacific Standard Time.

SHOPPING

Bali is known for silver work, handicrafts, art work and paintings, fashion and clothes, furniture and decor items, natural soaps and essences, coffee and cloth. Ikat fabric is especially popular.

ELECTRICITY

Indonesia uses 230V and frequency of 50 Hz. Power sockets are type c or F. For more information on plugs and voltage, please visit <http://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plugs-and-sockets/>

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LANGUAGE

Balinese and Indonesian are the primary languages of Indonesia, but English is widely spoken in the tourist trade, especially in Bali.

CLIMATE

Bali has a tropical climate appropriate to its proximity to the equator. Year-round temperatures average 92 degrees F. High humidity can be expected during the wet season between the months of October – April. The dry season between the months of May – September have the lowest humidity.

TIPPING GUIDELINES

Generally speaking, there is no custom of tipping in Bali; give Rp.10,000 to Rp.20,000 for porters and housekeepers at a hotel if you would like to. There is no need to leave a tip at restaurants as most of them usually already include a service charge on your bill.

ETIQUETTE

Act modestly Balinese locals are far more conservative than most Westerners; they frown on public displays of affection. So when in or near Balinese temples or rural settlements, avoid public displays of affection.

Dress modestly Away from the beach, dress as modestly as possible. Flip-flops are acceptable.

Temple attire When paying a visit to a temple, both men and women are expected to wear shirts that cover shoulders and part of the upper arms. Legs must also be covered, a sarong will suffice.

This information is provided as a guideline to the country you will be visiting, and is up to date to the best of our knowledge. Further information is available to you on the official Indonesia Tourism Office website - <http://www.indonesia.travel/en>