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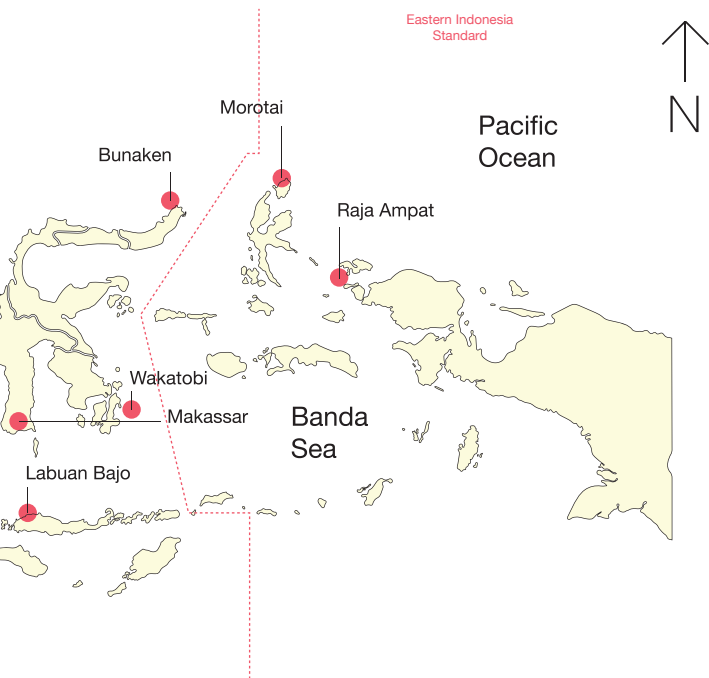
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The Coastal Treasures

Indonesia, the vast archipelago of rich tapestry, unfolds before the world like a beautifully woven batik. It's a nation where nature thrives brazenly and mesmerises the world through its untamed beauty and cultural heritage that has been preserved through different generations. Indonesia dares to captivate; from the aromatic streets of **Jakarta**, where the spirits are high to the vast terraced rice fields of **Bali**, and the many sun drenched islands in every corner of the country, there's a kaleidoscope of flavours, colours, and scents. Yet beneath the vibrant and warm facade resilience, for Indonesia is a nation that has deserved its place in the world. The spirit of its people embodies a great deal of balance between **tradition** and **modernity**, navigating a vast ocean of aspirations with an enduring grace. Indonesia emerges as a land of celebrated diversity, where tradition dances with progress, and where the echoes of **nature's** raw prowess will forever be heard.





Indonesia's
three time zone



Western Indonesia
Standard

GMT+ 7 hours

Central Indonesia
Standard

GMT+ 8 hours

Eastern Indonesia
Standard

GMT+ 9 hours

Average
temperature



Coastal
Plains

● 28°C

Inland and
mountain

● 26°C

Higher
mountain

● 23°C

Toba Lake  Medan • 

Bangka Belitung  Riau
Islands • Jakarta  • INDONESIA

 Bandung • Borobudur •
Bromo Tengger Semeru •

 Yogyakarta • Solo •

Semarang • ○○○○  GUIDE

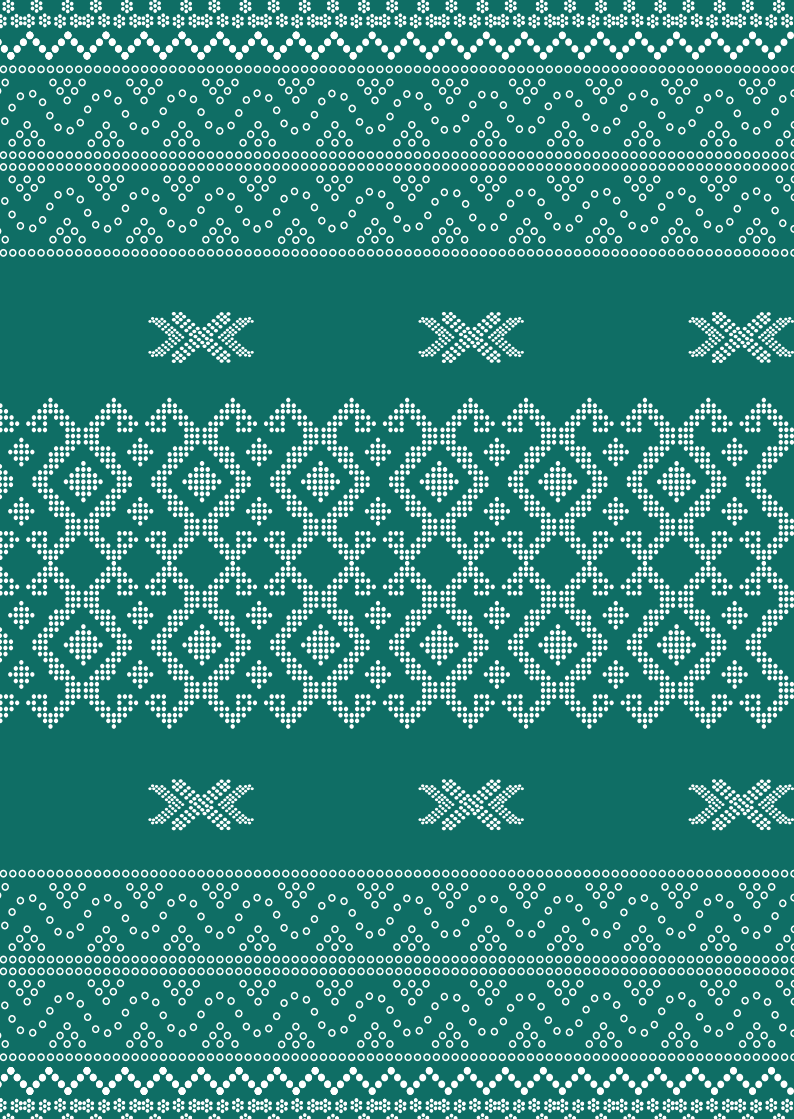
Banyuwangi • Bali 

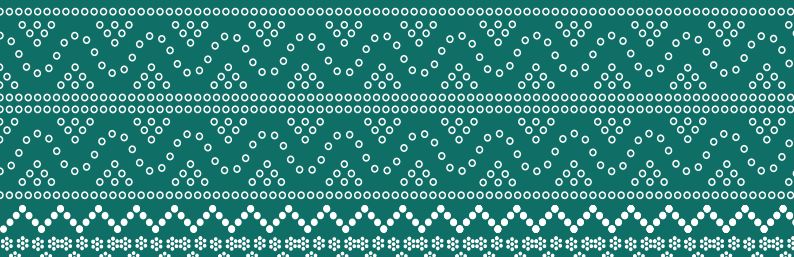
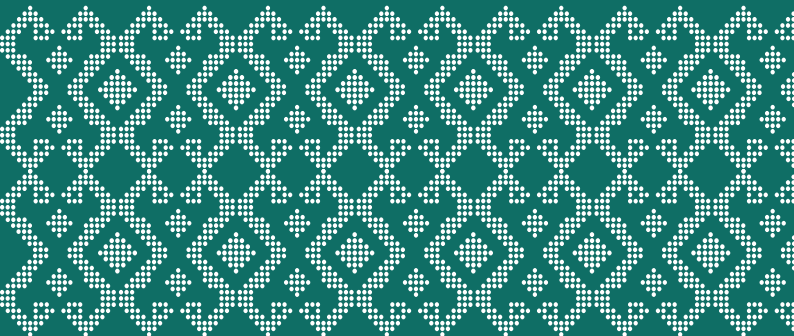
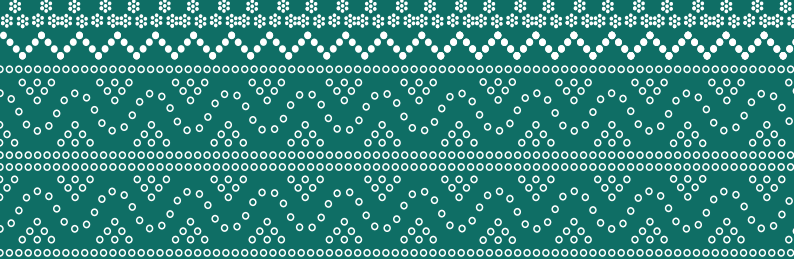
Labuan Bajo  Mandalika,
Lombok  Makassar • BOOK

Maluku • Likupang  ▲

Bunaken  Wakatobi •

Raja Ampat  2023 — — — 





The Hushed Serenity of Lake Toba



Located in the northern part of Sumatra, Toba Lake is a mesmerising natural wonder and one of the largest volcanic lakes in the world. Formed by a massive volcanic eruption that occurred 69,000 to 77,000 years ago, this lake represents a climate-changing event that decreases the world's temperature between 3 and 5 °C (5.4 and 9.0 °F), and up to 15 °C (27 °F) in higher latitudes. Toba Lake is not only renowned for its size but also for its breathtaking beauty after a calamity arising from the largest-known explosive eruption on Earth in the last 25 million years. Toba Lake seems like an ocean, at over 1,145 square km and a depth of 450 metres. It's a beautiful lake that happens to be the largest in Southeast Asia and one of the deepest in the world.

This beauty comes with a centrepiece. In the middle of the lake, lies Samosir Island, a large volcanic island almost the size of Singapore that has since become home to the Batak people. You can immerse yourselves in the vibrant Batak culture, explore traditional villages, and experience their unique rituals and music. The lake is also dotted with charming lakeside towns and villages where travellers can enjoy traditional Batak cuisine, take a glimpse at their traditional houses, visit local markets, and witness traditional crafts such as handwoven fabrics and woodcarvings. Toba Lake has since proven to be a cultural destination that offers a fascinating glimpse into the indigenous heritage of the Batak people, cocooned in the middle of natural allure.

What to Do?

Explore

Samosir Island ⁰¹

A captivating destination indeed, Samosir Island is situated in the middle of Toba Lake. This large volcanic island is known for its stunning scenery, including lush green landscapes, traditional Batak villages, and serene beaches. You can explore the island by renting a bicycle or motorcycle, visiting historical sites like the Tomok Village to see ancient stone tombs, or simply relaxing by the lake and enjoying the tranquillity of the surroundings.

Chill in

Sipiso-Piso Waterfall ⁰²

Sipiso-Piso waterfall is a majestic waterfall cascading from a great height of approximately 120 meters. This waterfall is set in the depth of the green valley, creating a memorable scenic view that captures your heart. You can take a short hike to reach the base of the waterfall to feel the refreshing mist and admire the waters. The area surrounding Sipiso-Piso Waterfall is surrounded by pine trees that create a cool crisp atmosphere in its surrounding, making it even more of a scenic spot for those exploring the Toba Lake area.

Kayaking

in Lake Toba ⁰³

Taking a boat ride in Toba Lake is one thing, but kayaking in it will be a memorable experience. There are three different routes you can take: Tongging - Silalahi for beginners, stretching about 12 km, Tongging - Samosir, 50 km and the Northern Circle for advanced users, at an impressive 175 km.



01

Samosir Island



02

Sipiso-Piso Waterfall



03

Lake Toba

Other Activities

Take a boat ride around the lake 

Explore ancient Batak kings'  tombs
in Tomok Village  Explore Simanindo

Relax at the local hot springs  Visit

the Toba Caldera Museum  Hike to the
summit of Mount Sibayak 

Hidden Gems

Huta Siallagan Village

When you visit Lake Toba, don't miss out on learning about the Batak culture, especially at Huta Siallagan, an ancient village on Samosir Island. This historic village is home to the Siallagan clan and surrounded by walls built to protect it from wild animals and invaders. At its

center lies the Batu Parsidangan, a 200-year-old stone seating arrangement where leaders once held meetings and trials, even executions. With its unique Bolon houses and deep-rooted history, Huta Siallagan is a gateway into Batak traditions and their fascinating past.



Culinary

Arsik Fish

Cooked in a flavorful sauce made from ingredients like turmeric, ginger, and native spice andaliman, the Arsik Fish is known for its rich and aromatic flavours. It has a perfect balance of spiciness and tanginess, it is guaranteed to give you a brand-new and exotic taste in your tongue. Arsik fish is a must-try culinary delight for seafood lovers visiting Lake Toba, offering a taste of the local Batak cuisine. The Batak people of Lake Toba believe that if you eat this dish regularly, you may find balance and harmony in your life, much like goldfish who always move forward in a straight line, in herds, and without ever breaking each other's movements.



Ombus-Ombus

This steamed cake is made from rice flour, coconut milk, and a hint of palm sugar, resulting in a soft and slightly sweet treat. Ombus-Ombus is often wrapped in banana leaves before steaming, creating a subtle aroma and enhancing its natural flavours. For the ultimate enjoyment, eat this dish while it's still warm, and have your coffee or tea by its side!



Samosir Coffee

Locally grown and produced coffee varieties have always been a Sumatran pride. But the beans that come from Samosir Island are their own thing. The rich volcanic soil and great climate make the beans that grow in Samosir distinctive. Known for its smoothness, medium body, herbal taste, and subtle acidity, it has become one of the island's proudest masterpieces. Take a sip and be a part of the local tradition -- one that has taken place for generations.



Culture

Tortor Dance

The Tortor Dance is a traditional Batak dance that originated from the Batak ethnic group, who are the indigenous people of the Lake Toba area. This lively dance is often performed during funeral services, where the dancers move in a circular formation, accompanied by rhythmic music and the beat of traditional instruments. The Tortor Dance showcases the Batak community's unity and joyous spirit, in celebration of life.



Sigale-Gale Dance

The Sigale-Gale Dance is another unique and intriguing dance ritual performed by the Batak Toba people. It involves a wooden puppet called Sigale-Gale, which is performed to imitate human movements. The dance has spiritual and cultural significance, as it is believed to communicate with ancestral spirits.



Batak Tandok Dance

Tandok dancers are generally women who wear traditional Batak clothes. The dance properties used include tandok, ulos, and sarong. The Tandok dance has a deep meaning with the close family ties in the Batak land. The hand movements of the dancers gesture the atmosphere of the working mothers in the fields.



Arts

& Crafts

Ulos

Ulos is a traditional Batak textile made through intricate weaving techniques passed down through generations. It holds great significance in Batak culture as it is used for various ceremonial purposes like weddings, funerals, and other important events. Skilled artisans create stunning patterns and motifs using a backstrap loom, showcasing the artistry and cultural symbolism of Batak textiles.



Tunggal Panaluan

For those of you with a penchant for unique mementos, Tunggal Panaluan is the perfect craft for you. This mysterious staff is made out of tada-tada or ijor wood, with layered carvings, depicting humans and serpentine, with scorpions dancing with lizards. This staff is a reassuring talisman for Batak people, who believe that the staff possesses the power to repel disasters, and an important object that punctuates their sacred rituals.



Silalahi Tourism Village

Silalahi Village is a hidden treasure located on the northwestern shore of Lake Toba, offering breathtaking views and rich cultural experiences. The village stretches along a stunning 21-kilometer beach and features the deepest underwater trench in Indonesia, making it a paradise for nature lovers. Visitors can explore traditional Batak culture, where vibrant customs and high community values prevail, ensuring a warm welcome for all.

The serene Tao Silalahi offers various activities for relaxation and adventure, including swimming in the crystal-clear waters of Lake Toba. The cultural richness is showcased through local traditions, including ceremonies and cultural performances that preserve the heritage of the Batak people. Guests are encouraged to take in the village's natural beauty while engaging with its deep-rooted customs and friendly locals.

Meanwhile the Tao Silalahi is also must-visit destination while you're in the area, for those looking to experience the best of nature and culture in Indonesia. From its awe-inspiring natural landscapes to the rich traditions of the Batak people, the area offers an immersive journey into the heart of North Sumatra. This enchanting location is perfect for travelers who seek adventure, serenity, and cultural depth.







Medan

Medan



01

Maimun Palace



02

The Great Mosque



03

Tjong A Fie Mansion

A busy city in North Sumatra that has a dynamic energy. From colonial buildings to intricate temples, the streets of the city are adorned with rich and vibrant cultures and architecture. You can smell the sizzling street delicacies that fill the air, inviting you to taste its flavours – from the mouthwatering Soto to the rich Mie Gomak. Medan intrigues you with culture, but makes you stay through its people that welcomes you with open arms, sharing their cultural heritage through vibrant festivals and performances. In this city, there's a richness of history, traditions, and delicious cuisine that will for sure be memorable.

Must

Visits

Maimun Palace ⁰¹

A true testament to Medan as a cultural melting pot, the Maimun Palace is a grand residence in the city. The architecture carries out historical and cultural depth, as it blends elements of Malay, Middle Eastern and Indian styles. Brimming with opulence, you can gaze upon the intricately carved wooden panels, vibrant glass windows and the bright yellow facade that stands proud with prestige.

The Great Mosque ⁰²

The Great Mosque of Medan is a beautiful building that's also known as Masjid Raya Al-Mashun. Its towering minarets are a blend of Middle Eastern, Malay and Islamic styles of architecture, built in an octagonal shape. Feel the serene atmosphere, as beautiful tile works and calligraphies decorate the hallways, inviting for spiritual contemplation.

Tjong A Fie Mansion ⁰³

Made as a gift for his wife, Tjong A Fie had this mansion built in the 1900. With two storeys, and an impressive room of 35, each and every room transports you back in time through its vintage interiors, ornate furniture, details on every corner and nostalgic colour palette. As you wander through its halls and courtyards, you'll discover hidden rooms, peaceful gardens and even a teahouse. It's a stunning visual feast that makes you understand why it's called the crown jewel of Medan.

Culinary

Soto Medan

Get your taste palate ready as you feast on Soto Medan, a flavorful dish that nobody can get enough of! This savoury soup is filled with chunks of chicken (or beef), rice noodles, and a mix of herbs and spices. Whether you're craving a warm meal for lunch or a comfort food at night, this dish will have you coming back for more!



Durian

For the adventurous eater, dare to have the Durian. Known as the “King of Fruits,” this fruit is infamous for its strong aroma, but has a unique flavour that divides the room. Taste the creamy, custard-like, durian and decide if you love it or hate it!



Mie Gomak

Mie Gomak Medan is a popular local dish known for its yellow noodles and rich flavor. This traditional dish features thick yellow noodles cooked with tender beef, spices, and a large amount of coconut milk, making the texture of the broth creamy that tastes savory. The dish is often topped with crispy shallots, and fresh herbs, and served with a side of lime for an added tangy kick. Whenever you're in Medan, be sure to check this noodle out!



Arts

& Crafts

Gunung Timur Temple



For those who seek a bit of calmness, immerse yourself in this beautiful and cultural experience in the Gunung Timur Temple. With shades of red and yellow decorating every corner, the temple stuns with its architecture details and smell of incense throughout the building. This Buddhist temple was built across the River Babura, as a way to provide moments of zen in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the city.



Bangka



Belitung Islands

Bangka Belitung Islands



In Bangka Belitung, the waves sing to the whispers of the ocean breeze. It is a sanctuary where pristine white sand beaches meet the clear turquoise waters. It lures you away from the bustling business of the world. Traditional houses stand on stilts along the coastline, revealing the islands' rich maritime heritage. Among the beautiful scenery, the locals are brimming with warmth, with stories and smiles that embrace the islands' flow of life. Time seems to slow down in Bangka Belitung, bringing a glimpse of paradise that's waiting for more to be discovered.

As you venture further into the heart of Bangka Belitung, a selection of flavours and aromas awaits. It will tingle your taste buds and excite your senses. The Bangka Belitung Islands are well known for their culinary delights, combining Indonesian, Chinese and Malay taste palettes in their cuisines. With the mouthwatering seafood dishes, freshly caught from its open waters, let the spices treat you to an unforgettable cuisine experience.



Must



Tanjung Kelayang

With its white sands, deep blue clear waters, and picturesque rock formations, the Tanjung Kelayang Beach is a tropical paradise that will leave you in amazement. Take a dip in the sea, relax by the beach, or hop from one island to another and create memorable trips. While you're here, check out the nearby oceanic gems like Pulau Lengkuas and Pulau Batu Berlayar.

Visits

Kaolin Lake



Step into a surreal world at the enchanting Kaolin Lake, where the landscape transforms into a mesmerising palette of colours. The white sand, turquoise water, and hues of blue and green create a surreal backdrop that is perfect for you to take in the moment (and a photo or two). Don't forget to take a stroll along the lake's edge and soak in the serenity of this hidden gems!

Penyusuk Beach



Escape to one of Bangka Belitung's hidden gems and walk along its secluded shore as you gaze upon the crystal clear blue waters. Bask in the sun and watch the panoramic views of its neighbouring islands. Take a photo (or five) and have some peace and quiet in this natural beauty!

Culinary



Belitung Noodles

A beloved local dish, Belitung Noodles (Mie Belitung) is usually served with yellow sauce made from a blend of spices with seafood such as fish, shrimp and squid all over the dish. The savoury flavours of the tender noodles, with the fresh seafood creates a distinct culinary experience that is truly its very own.



Gurame Goreng

The Fried Gurame Fish (Gurame Goreng) is succulent and crispy – another Bangka Belitung favourite. The fish is locally sourced from the blue waters, deep fried to perfection until it has a golden, crispy exterior and leaves the meat tender and ripe. Served with sambal (spicy chilli sauce), the Fried Gurame Goreng is full of textures and flavours of what Belitung's ocean has to offer.



Lempah Kuning

Lempah Kuning is a traditional dish from Bangka. The soup is made with a combination of fish, coconut milk, turmeric, and various aromatic herbs and spices. The dish gets its vibrant yellow color from the turmeric used in the recipe, which also gives it a distinct earthy flavor. Other variations would have shrimp and squid among the fish soup, making it a delightful well rounded seafood dish.

Arts

& Crafts



Traditional Market

Experience the vibrant local culture at Tanjungpandan's traditional market, a bustling traditional market where you can find many selections of local products, handicrafts, and mouth watering street food. Indulge in Belitung's delicacies and explore the stalls.



Batik Belitung

A traditional textile craft that shows intricate designs and beautiful colours. Watch artisans create unique patterns using wax-resistant dyeing techniques and find Bangka Belitung's own cultural heritage through its batik.



Riau



Islands

Riau

Islands

In the tapestry of Indonesian archipelago, Riau Islands emerges as its own mosaic of cultural heritage. As an archipelago province, Riau holds various ethnic groups such as Malay, Bugis, Javanese, Batak, Tionghoa, Padang, and Flores. Located in the eastern region of Sumatra, this cluster of islands is rich with history, as well as breathtaking landscapes. From the busy streets of Tanjung Pinang, the capital city, to the idyllic beaches and tranquil fishing villages, Riau Islands offers a glimpse into the vibrant local traditions that are woven by its diverse communities. Being an archipelago, Riau is composed of approximately 96% water, offering great potential for fishery cultivation, seaweed farming, and even a centre for Kerapu Fish Farming (Grouper Fish). It's also a region that's historically significant as the birthplace of the Malay language, as it becomes the base for not only Indonesian language, but also used in Malaysia and Brunei. With its merging of cultural influences, Riau Islands embodies the spirit of cultural diversity and serves as a testament to the resilience and beauty of the Indonesian archipelago.



Must



Bintan Island

Bintan Island, where the sun-kissed shores meet the sky. It's a sanctuary that offers a harmonious blend of natural beauty and cultural richness. With its pristine beaches, lush rainforests, and crystal-clear waters, Bintan is a haven that will embrace you and carry you away. The island's cultural tapestry, shaped by Malay, Chinese, and indigenous influences, adds depth to its beauty and welcomes you in bliss



Pulau Penyengat

Stepping foot on the shores of Penyengat Island is like entering a time capsule, where remnants of a bygone era whisper tales of royal intrigue and cultural heritage. From its grand palaces to the intricate architecture of the mosques, Penyengat Island offers a glimpse into the traditions of Riau's past.

Visits



Tanjung Pinang

At the vibrant centre of Riau Islands, Tanjung Pinang is its heart of a city that pulsates with energy. With a captivating blend of cultural diversity and urban energy the city streets come alive from the blending of multiple cultures. From the colourful markets that are lined up with local delicacies, to the historical landmarks that narrate the city's past, Tanjung Pinang invites visitors to explore its vibrant streets and embrace the richness of its cultural heritage.

Culinary

Otak - Otak



Otak-otak in Riau is a true gastronomic revelation. These grilled fish cakes are infused with a blend of aromatic spices, and it ignites vibrant tastes that dance around in your mouth. With each bite, Otak-otak truly creates a sensation that leaves you wanting for more.

Asam Pedas



Asam Pedas has become a signature dish in Riau throughout time. It tickles the tongue with its bold and fiery taste. This spicy and sour fish stew, combined with the tanginess of tamarind blends perfectly with herbs and spices. Complex in its flavour, Asam Pedas is simply a must-try, especially for ones who are adventurous with their food.

Laksa Riau



Laksa Riau is a culinary masterpiece from the Riau region. It captivates you with its fusion of flavours, where the aromatic noodle soup is mixed together with coconut milk, tamarind, and a medley of spices. With its complex yet harmonious combination of ingredients, Laksa Riau is a treat that showcases Riau's very own cultural diversity.

Arts

Songket Weaving



In weaving songket, the rhythmic dance of the threads creates a tapestry of tradition and craftsmanship, true only to where it's made. Each intricate pattern woven into the fabric tells a story of Riau's ancestral heritage, a celebration of culture that transcends time and stitches generations together.

Woodcarving



The woodcarving of Riau is a testament to the region's artistic mastery and rich cultural heritage. With each deft stroke of the chisel, intricate patterns and motifs come to life, revealing a profound connection between the woodcarver and the natural world. You can take home these captivating creations – from traditional masks, figurines, or ornate furniture, all of which embodies the essence of Riau's artistic soul, capturing the imagination and preserving a legacy of craftsmanship.

Idrus Tintin Art Center



The Idrus Tintin Art Center is a prominent cultural institution that has a significance in Malay and Riau culture. Its architecture has a magnificent design, just like a palace, towering impressively. Named after one of Riau's artist, Idrus Tintin, this art center is a place for dramatic rehearsals and has become the most prestigious theater building in Riau.

& Crafts





Jakarta

Jakarta



01

Monas



02

Kota Tua



03

TMII

In Jakarta, the city opens up like an urban tapestry, with stories and hustles and aspiration all seamed together. With over 10 million people with diverse backgrounds, the city has expanded over the years. The skyscrapers tower over its alleyways, casting long shades and panoramic views. Find iconic landmarks such as Monas, the Jakarta Cathedral, and National Museum - or find your inner child in Dufan, Taman Mini and Seaworld. The city's juxtaposition of modernity against the backdrop of ancient culture and traditions, as well as the diverse cultures and languages, the soul of Jakarta reveals itself - and it's ambitious, with high hopes and full of spirit.

Must

Visits

Monas ⁰¹

The National Monument (Monas) is an iconic must-visit spot for those of you who want to see the symbol of the capital city in real life! This towering monument offers a panoramic view of Jakarta through its observation deck, perfect for you who wants to capture the moment. Dive into the city's cultural history by exploring the museum beneath the tower, with interactive exhibitions that transport you back in time.

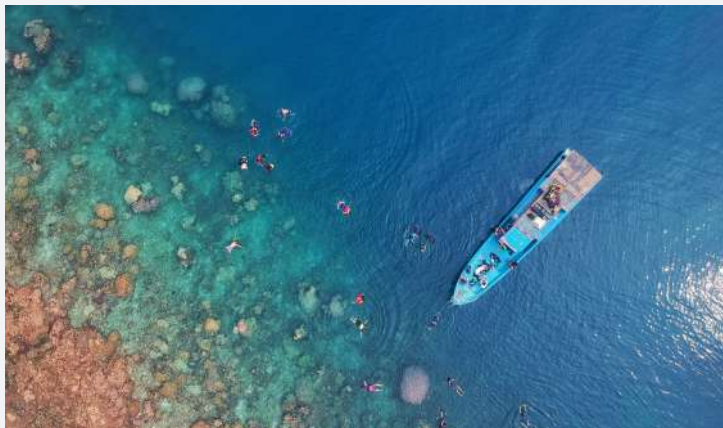
Kota Tua ⁰²

The Old Town (Kota Tua) in Jakarta is a haven for nostalgia and culture that you will adore. This trendy neighbourhood is filled with cool cafes, galleries, vintage shops that are perfect for you and your friends. Be charmed by its historical feat as you walk through the Dutch colonial buildings, take photos of the vibrant street art, and chill as you eat the street food. It's a great experience to travel back in time, with style.

TMII ⁰³

Taman Mini Indonesia Indah (TMII) is a wonderland in the middle of the city that will remind you of the kid within. Stroll through miniatures of Indonesia's iconic landmarks, catch traditional performances and play with interactive exhibitions before you take photos against its colourful backgrounds. The latest revitalization includes their museum and buildings renovations and new landscaping. The island landscapes have always been renewed, with more green open space and friendly to pedestrians.

Must



04

Thousand Islands

Thousand Islands⁰⁴

Imagine clear blue waters and white sandy beaches, with an array of tropical islands for you to choose from – and trust that you can get it all just a boat ride away from the city! Have beach parties, and play water sports as you explore Thousand Islands. While you're in here, visit the beautiful Macan Island to get the most out of this quick getaway.

Visits



05

Pantjoran Chinatown

Pantjoran Chinatown ⁰⁵

Pantjoran Chinatown busy and vibrant district well known for its fusion of Chinese, Indonesian, and European influences. Its narrow streets are lined with beautifully built shophouses showcasing the colorful traditional Chinese architecture decorated with skillful carvings and ornaments. The lively culinary scene offers different types of dishes, including noodles, dumplings, and fried rice, making it a perfect spot for food enthusiasts and cultural explorers.

Culinary

Kerak Telor

Kerak Telor is a Jakarta specialty street dish that features a savoury rice cake cooked with eggs, dried shrimps and aromatic spices. The crispy dry outer layer and creamy egg fillings spoils the tongue with its contrast of textures, while the smoky aroma adds a richness to the taste. Sprinkle it with coconut and crispy fried shallots to bring more of the flavour!



Nasi Goreng

The beloved Indonesian Fried Rice (Nasi Goreng) is a staple from the city that can be found almost literally anywhere! Made with stir-fried rice with kecap manis (sweet soy sauce), garlic, and a variety of spices. Topped with an omelette (or sunny side up, or scrambled egg, or whatever you like), it's usually served with pickles and prawn crackers and can satisfy your cravings at any time of the day.



Gado-Gado

Stands as our version of a salad, Gado-Gado is Jakarta on a plate. This dish is made up out of a rich mix of blanched vegetables, tofu, boiled eggs and tempeh, finished with a rich peanut sauce. The combination of fresh ingredients, creamy sauce, with a hint of spiciness (on a level of your choice) makes Gado-Gado a refreshing choice as a breakfast, lunch, or dinner.



Arts

& Crafts

Taman Ismail Marzuki

The Taman Ismail Marzuki (TIM) is a space for the city's creativity. Inside there's a world of music, art, and culture that has recently been renewed with a state-of-the-art architectural design. Inside the creative complex, you can also visit their planetarium and watch a simulation of the stars and galaxy. On the 4th to 6th floor of the Ali Sadikin building, you can read and borrow books in the Jakarta Library. You can witness live performances and theatre productions, or explore a range of exhibitions to enrich the inner artist inside of you.







Bandung

Bandung

Bandung offers a captivating escape for travellers seeking a perfect blend of culture and modernity. Explore its eclectic architecture, from Dutch colonial buildings to hip art galleries, each housing a treasure trove of artistic expression. Indulge in the city's culinary delights, from savouring aromatic cups of local coffee to trying out the street food that bursts with flavours. With its own vibrant arts scene, picturesque surroundings, and warm hospitality, Bandung asks you to immerse themselves in its very own energy and create lasting memories. Once you see it for yourself, it's not going to be hard to stay.



01

Tangkuban Perahu



02

Bosscha Observatory



03

Kawah Putih

Must

Visits

Tangkuban Perahu ⁰¹

This enigmatic volcano stands as a testament to Bandung's own natural power. Its grand crater brims with wisps of steam, creating a surreal landscape for you to see. As you walk along the volcanic slopes, the air hangs with a sense of mystique, beauty and mystery.

Bosscha Observatory ⁰²

Nestled among Bandung's lush greenery, watch the stars and constellations as you come to Bosscha. Here astronomers have watched the skies, decoding secrets of the galaxies that are out of reach. Here, every night is where the skies offer a new possibility every time, inviting you to peer to the unknown and ponder our existence.

Kawah Putih ⁰³

A serene crater that can be found in the highlands, Kawah Putih is ethereal. Its turquoise waters, meeting with the chalky white shores, are one to be memorable. Surreal and dreamy, this natural beauty will get you lost and allure you with nature's very own artistry.

Culinary



Sate Maranggi

The Beef Satay (Sate Maranggi) is meat on a stick. But wait, the skewered chunks of meat are marinated in a blend of spices, and grilled to perfection. Throughout time, it truly has become Bandung's own must-try.



Nasi Timbel

Humble yet satisfying, Nasi Timbel speaks of Bandung. Wrapped in banana leaf, the steamed rice is served with fried chicken, salted fish and sambal. As the steam escapes with a lingering aroma, this dish is Bandung's own way to taste home and nostalgia.



Batagor

Truly a street food sensation, Batagor will make you surrender to both its tenderness and crispiness. These fried dumplings, essentially, burst with a delightful blend of fish, shrimp and served with dripping peanut sauce. In each bite, the texture blends its contrasts, and will for sure linger in your mouth.

Arts

& Crafts

Saung Mang Udjo



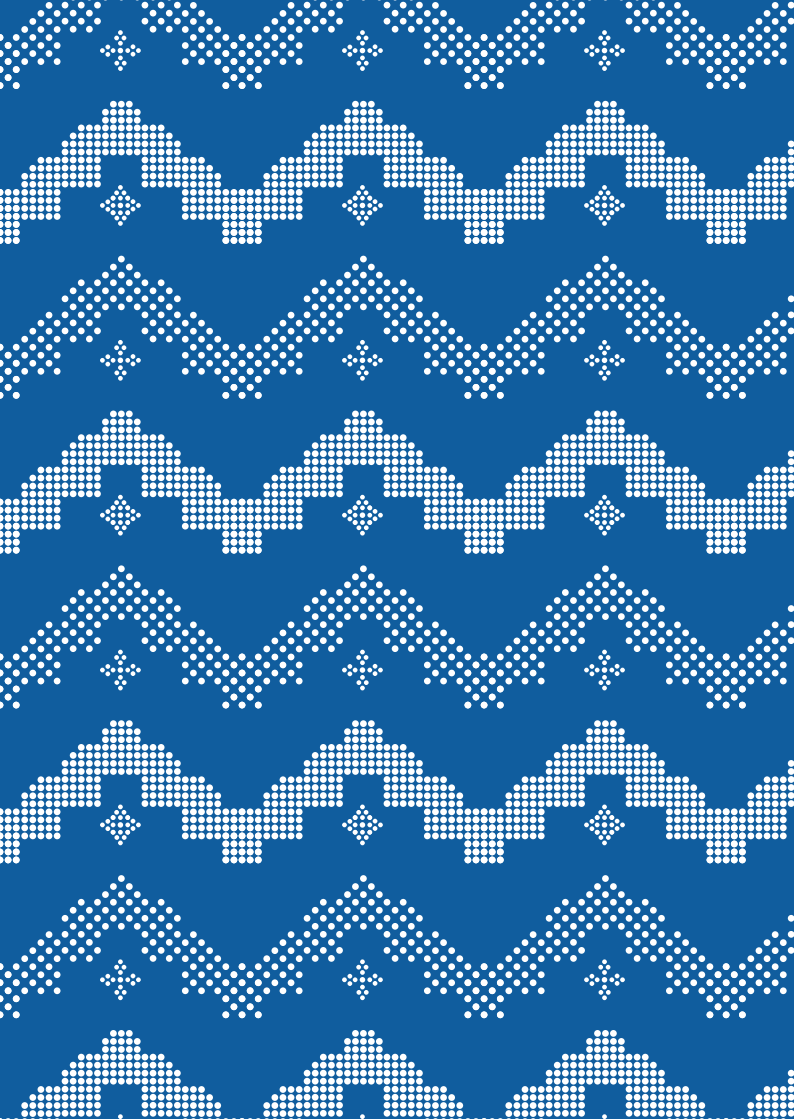
Saung Mang Udjo is a sanctuary that celebrates traditional music and dance. Here, you can watch performances of Angklung players and learn how to play the instruments and get one for you to bring home. Hear the melodies of the gamelan, watch the performers move, and immerse yourself to the beauty of Indonesian music.

Selasar Sunaryo



Seek inspiration in Selasar Sunaryo as you walk through its serene halls. The gallery is a space for both seasoned art enthusiasts and casual people to be in a creative headspace. Check out what exhibitions are available for you to visit, whenever you're in Bandung.





The Grandeur of Borobudur



Borobudur is one of the world's most renowned and largest Buddhist temples, revered as a masterpiece of ancient architecture and artistry. Constructed in the 8th and 9th centuries, Borobudur stands as a testament to the rich cultural heritage and spiritual legacy of Indonesia. Since then, it has been heralded as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

This colossal temple is comprised of nine stacked platforms adorned with over 2,600 intricate relief panels and 500 Buddha statues. The elaborate stone carvings tell a journey of enlightenment, depicting scenes from Buddhist teachings and narratives. The temple's unique and beautiful architectural design, with its terraces, stupas, and central dome, represents the path to attaining Nirvana according to Buddhism. Every Vesak, Buddhists from all over the world would come to the Borobudur temple and release lanterns, illuminating the sky in celebration of their faith.

Beyond its architectural grandeur, Borobudur holds deep spiritual significance for Buddhists and offers a serene and contemplative atmosphere. Pilgrims and You alike ascend through the levels, following a symbolic path toward spiritual enlightenment. The breathtaking panoramic views from the upper platforms hold the lush green landscapes beyond, and distant mountain peaks, highlighting the already heightened experience of being in Borobudur. A visit to this ancient marvel is a journey through time, culture, and spirituality, leaving an everlasting impression on all who come across it.

What to Do?

Hang Around the Chicken Building ⁰¹

Rhema Hills is a scenic destination that offers stunning panoramic views of the surrounding landscapes. It has lush green hills and rice terraces where The Chicken Building stands. Also known as Gereja Ayam, it is an iconic structure in Borobudur shaped like a giant chicken that was built in 1992. It serves as a unique landmark and attraction, adding a touch of whimsy to the area's cultural and architectural wonders.

Climb up Punthuk Setumbu ⁰²

Somewhere nearby the majestic Borobudur temple, there's a serene escape from the busy world. As you ascend up the hills, a hidden gems reveals itself – a rustic wooden platform that lets you stand there to take in the breathtaking panoramic views around the landscape. Witness as the sun rises casting its bright golden hues upon the iconic Borobudur temple, leaving you in awe and keeps you ascending.

Take in the Countryside in Wanurejo Village ⁰³

Wanurejo Village offers you a glimpse into the traditional Javanese way of life. The village is known for its warm hospitality and friendly residents who warmly welcome You. Exploring Wanurejo allows you to witness the daily activities of the villagers, such as farming, traditional handicraft making, and cultural performances. You can immerse yourself in the local traditions by participating in batik workshops, learning traditional dance or music, or simply enjoying a cup of freshly brewed Javanese coffee while engaging in friendly conversations with the locals. The tranquil and authentic atmosphere of Wanurejo Village provides a refreshing contrast to the bustling tourist areas, offering a chance to experience the genuine essence of Javanese village life and create lasting memories of Indonesian hospitality.

Take a chill ride with the VW Safari Riders ⁰⁴

Embark on a whimsical adventure through the scenic landscapes of Borobudur with a VW Safari Riders. As you cruise along the winding roads, the colours and retro charm of the classic Volkswagen adds a touch of nostalgia to the journey. With the wind in your hair and the open sky above, the VW Safari Riders lets you embrace the spirit of wanderlust, letting you lose yourself in the natural beauty of the region and creating memories that will last a lifetime.



01

Chicken Building



02

Punthuk Setumbu



03

Wanurejo Village



04

VW Safari Riders

Other Activities

Sunrise at Borobudur 🌅 Rafting on Elo

River 🚣 Jeep tour around the Merapi 🏔️

Hidden Gems

Karangrejo Village ⁰¹

Be charmed by a little village near Borobudur, as Karangrejo welcomes you to its quiet and pleasant surroundings. Discover traditional Javanese architecture and houses with colourful gardens and intricate wooden carvings. The village's warm hospitality presents you with an authentic cultural experience that lets you peer into the timelessness of Indonesian traditions in the rural areas.



01

Karangrejo Village



02

The andong Tour



03

Nglanggeran Village

The Andong Tour ⁰²

The Andong trip at Borobudur offers you a unique and enchanting experience. It refers to the traditional horse-drawn carriages that take you on a leisurely ride, which was widely popular among Javanese royals back in the day. The carriage gallops around the temple complex and its surrounding areas, providing a nostalgic and charming way to explore the Borobudur area with its countryside charm.

Nglanggeran Village ⁰³

Nglanggeran Village is a beautiful calming destination located in Yogyakarta. Nestled at the foot of Menoreh Hills, this charming village offers you adventures in its beautiful outdoors, natural heritage and culture. Known for its ancient volcanic landscape, limestone hills, rice terraces and lush surroundings, it provides a peaceful change of pace. It offers spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding countryside and a popular spot for hikers and nature lovers. You will be greeted by its warm locals and have the opportunity to draw batik with the villagers, watch traditional dance performances and attend local ceremonies.

Kupat Tahu Magelang ⁰⁴

Although Kupat Tahu is fairly popular in Indonesia, nothing comes close to the ones you can find in Magelang. These steamed rice cakes are served with tofu, lontong, and bean sprouts before topped with a delicious peanut sauce. The combo of flavors and textures will satisfy you!

Culinary

Mangut Beong ⁰⁵

Drowned and marinated with spicy curry, the Mangut Beong is a fish stew dish that is popular around Borobudur. With the selection of fresh fish found in the rivers, it is tender and rich with spices, made with a hint of coconut, creating an authentic culinary experience for seafood lovers in the area.



04

Kupat Tahu Magelang

Wedang Kacang ⁰⁶

Wedang Kacang is a popular warm beverage that is often sold at night. It's a delightful concoction made from a blend of peanuts, ginger, palm sugar, and various aromatic spices. The drink has a comforting and rich flavour, with the earthiness of peanuts complemented by the warmth of ginger and the sweetness of palm sugar, creating a cosy friend for the tongue in the cool crisp night.



05

Mangut Beong



06

Wedang Kacang

Culture



The Ramayana Ballet

The Ramayana Ballet is a highly popular and spectacular performance that showcases the ancient Hindu epic of Ramayana. This dance drama involves complex choreography, lively costumes, and live gamelan music that adds to its spectacle. The performance tells the journey of Rama and his wife Sita, rescuing her from the demon king Ravana.



Kuda Lumping

Also known as Jaran Kepang, this is a folk dance from Java that features dancers, performing on horse-shaped figures. This dance is accompanied by vibrant music and is believed to have mystical elements that induce trance and wonder.



Serimpi Dance

Watch the Serimpi Dance as the refined performance sweeps you off your feet. It is a graceful dance that originated in the royal courts of Surakarta and Yogyakarta, depicting stories of love, devotion, and spiritual beauty. Female dancers move in a slow, careful manner, enchanting whoever watches.

Arts

& Crafts



Batik Tulis

Weave yourself in classic Indonesian textile art forms. You can learn how to create intricate patterns on fabric and hand-draw beautiful images before dyeing the fabric in several stages. The result is a stunning piece of art, rich in colours and details, for you to bring back home.



Woodcarving

Renowned in the area, woodcarving is a traditional practice in Java. Local artisans skillfully carve various types of wood into stunning sculptures, masks, and decorative items. The carvings often depict mythological figures, traditional motifs, or scenes from local folklore, showcasing the cultural heritage and artistic prowess of the craftsmen.



Silver Filigree

Silver filigree is a traditional and intricate craft, where skilled silversmiths create delicate and intricate jewellery pieces using fine silver wires. The wires are twisted, bent, and shaped by hand to form exquisite patterns and designs. The result is stunning jewellery with intricate filigree work, such as necklaces, earrings, and bracelets, showcasing the mastery of silver craftsmanship in the region.

Karanganyar

Tourism

Village

Karanganyar Tourism Village is a hidden gems nestled not too far away from Borobudur Temple. This peaceful rural village offers a delightful escape from the bustling tourist areas, providing a serene and authentic experience for you. The village is identical through the surrounding rice fields, and its traditional Javanese architecture, with charming wooden houses and intricate carvings that reflect the rich cultural heritage of the region.

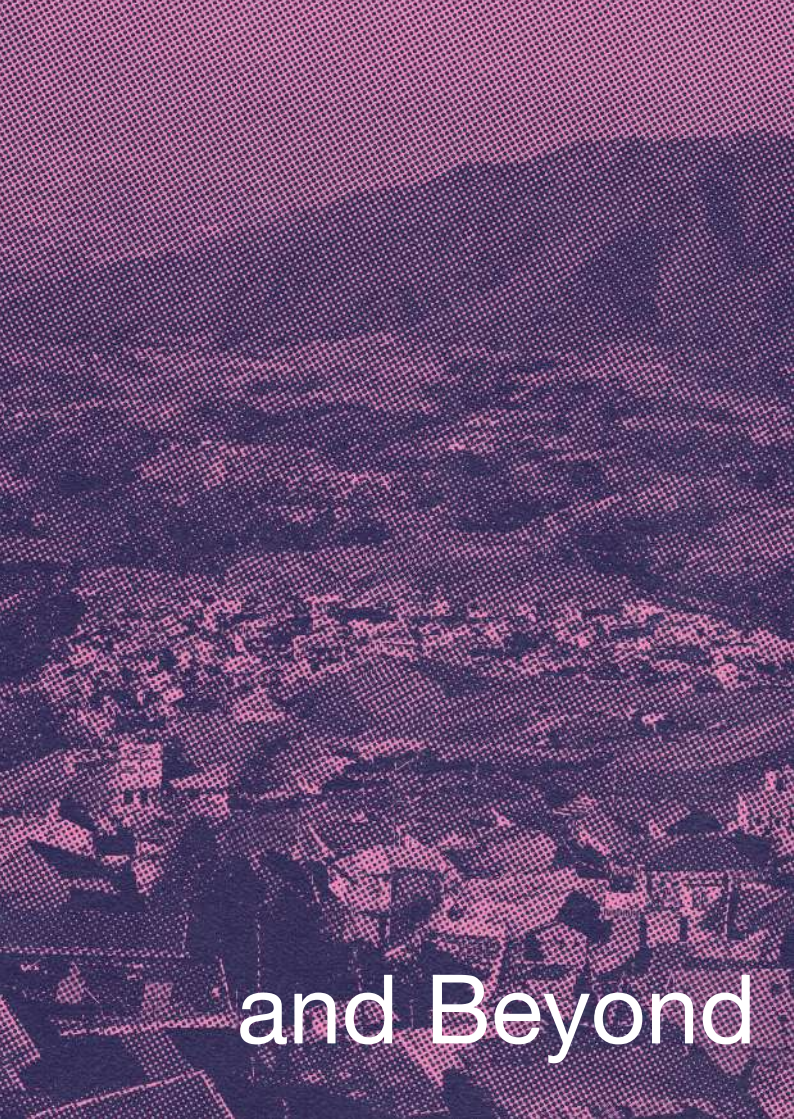
Walking through the village, you can witness the daily activities of the villagers, such as farming, traditional crafts, and cultural rituals. The villagers are often more than happy to share their traditions, offering a way to learn about batik making, pottery, or even trying your hand at the traditional art of cooking. In Karanganyar, every interaction might just be a memorable one, as you are welcomed to their local ways of life, and engage with the villagers.

The surrounding landscapes are surely a sight to behold, with vast stretches of emerald-green rice fields and picturesque views. You can take peaceful walks or bike rides through the village, soaking in the overall ambiance as you enjoy the fresh air. The village's proximity to Borobudur Temple also allows for convenient access to explore the majestic temple and witness its splendour during sunrise or sunset. Karanganyar Tourism Village has its own charm, providing a perfect blend of cultural immersion and natural beauty.



The background of the entire page is a halftone (dithered) image. It depicts a landscape with a range of mountains in the distance and a river or stream flowing through the foreground. The image is composed of small dots of varying density, creating a grayscale effect. The text 'Central Java' is overlaid on the lower portion of this image.

Central Java

The image is a full-page background featuring a halftone dot pattern. The dots are arranged in a grid, with varying densities to create a sense of depth and texture. The overall color palette is a range of purples, from light lavender to deep, dark indigo. The pattern suggests an aerial view of a city, with the denser dots representing urban areas and the sparser dots representing open spaces or water. A river or body of water is visible in the lower right, and a hill or mountain range is visible in the upper left.

and Beyond

DIY

Solo

Semarang



01

Bromo Tengger Semeru



02

Kraton Yogyakarta



03

Malioboro

A place where traditions are strong, you will find a sense of magic in Central Java and Beyond. Find ancient temples in the heart of Yogyakarta, and witness the testaments to a land before time through its stone carvings and stories of magic and spiritual beliefs. Find yourself among regal places and beautiful batik drawings that stand with elegance while standing against the test of time. As you watch the sun set over in Semarang, witness how the silhouettes of old colonial buildings whisper echoes of the past. With a rich cultural roots, warm hospitality, let Central Java leave a mark on you as it charms you with its timeless allure.

Must

Bromo Tengger Semeru ⁰¹

Bromo Tengger Semeru is a breathtaking wonder of volcanic landscapes that will leave you in awe. As the sun rises over the terrain, a golden hue washes over the ancient quiet caldera, casting shadows over the smoking Mount Semeru in the distance. The cool crisp of the mountain air smells of adventure and free spirit of nature, asking you to embark on a journey through its crevices. Here is where the earth kisses the sky and you can see the spectacle that is Mount Bromo. With every step, nature prevails.

Kraton Yogyakarta, DIY ⁰²

As soon as you walk in the footsteps of Kraton Yogyakarta, you're soon to be transported to the past where you can witness opulence on every corner. Within its halls, look into the intricate carvings and ornate architecture details that speaks volumes of when the Javanese royals reigned the region. With grand halls and lush gardens, the royal past comes back alive, leaving a timeless impression on you.

Visits

Malioboro, DIY ⁰³

At the centre of the heart of Yogyakarta, Malioboro is a place with many sights, sounds of nostalgia and flavours of tradition are weaved together. In its busy streets, vibrant markets line up along with cafes that present you with a selection of feasts. You can really feel the energy here, as it begs you to implore more and discover the essence of Yogyakarta's cultural centre.

Must

Visits



Lawang Sewu, Semarang

A grand architectural marvel that stands proud in Semarang, Lawang Sewu echoes of historical grandeur. With many doors and windows the building's name translates to "A Thousand Doors." Step inside and be transported through time whenever you're here.



Sam Poo Kong, Semarang

Sam Poo Kong is a celebrated Chinese temple in Semarang that brings you serenity and spiritual reverence. Find artworks and beautiful colour inside the building as you walk through the incense-scented paths. This architectural masterpiece is a testament to where Javanese culture meets Chinese culture, and let you find yourself in its cultural richness among its sacred grounds.

Culinary



Gudeg

With tender jackfruit, simmered in coconut milk and a mix of rich spices, Gudeg is a beloved dish in Central Java. Its vibrant flavour, with a touch of sweetness brings out the sense of comfort and nostalgia. It's tradition on a plate, as you savour each and every bite, letting the textures and flavours bring you to the heart of Javanese taste palate.



Soto Kudus

Soto Kudus presents a humble yet tasteful bowl of comfort. The broth, mixed with herbs, spices, bean sprouts and scallions brings out the taste of tender chicken and noodles. Each spoonful of Soto Kudus warms the soul, and soothes you as you find a deeper appreciation for the deep yet simplicity of Indonesian cuisine.



Bandeng Presto

Through a meticulous cooking process, Bandeng Presto is a pressure-cooked fish that gives you an experience. This dish showcases the mastery of cooking that transforms a mere milkfish into a masterpiece. Bandeng Presto is an homage to the culinary innovation of the area, letting you savour the balanced flavours and explore the gastronomic traditions of Javanese culinary.

Arts

& Crafts



01

Klewer Market



02

Triwindu Market

Klewer Market,
Solo ⁰¹

Triwindu Market,
Solo ⁰²

Ullen Sentalu,
DIY ⁰³

In the busy heart of Central Java, Klewer Market is a breath of colourful air. Dive into the sea of vibrant batik fabrics and artistic expression as this market stands as a cultural heritage. Lose yourself in the maze of stalls, where the people are warm with smiles and the interactions are lively.

Find hidden gems in the Triwindu Market, as the market is filled with troves of treasures from the past. Here, collectors and history enthusiasts travel through time, finding a selection of vintage goods from wooden furniture to delicate porcelain trinkets. Walk through the corridors and let the objects charm you with stories from the past.

Step into the serene gardens and refined galleries as a world of artefacts and tales from the past unfolds before you. Ullen Sentalu bridges a the past and the present, letting you appreciate the depths of Javanese culture, beauty and life.







Banyuwangi

Banyuwangi

As you travel to the eastern coast of Java, Banyuwangi welcomes you in a world of natural wonders and cultural originality. With the vast emerald rice terraces and lush rainforests, time moves at its own rhythm. Venture off the beaten path, and you'll stumble upon hidden trails that lead to secret waterfalls cascading down moss-covered rocks, their soothing melodies blending with the surrounding tranquillity. Along the coastline, there are many secluded beaches await, their pristine shores kissed by the gentle lapping of waves, inviting you to immerse yourself in their untouched beauty.



The region also hosts vibrant festivals and cultural events that showcase the traditions and heritage of its people. Each year, Banyuwangi has 99 events that fill its calendar. From the enchanting dances and music performances to the lively markets bursting with local crafts, Banyuwangi aims to be a vibrant cultural site. It's authenticity beckons you to witness its unique allure. Banyuwangi is an endless feat of natural treasures while also having many festivals and cultural wonders that you could witness.



Must



De Djawatan Forest

Surround yourself in the lush haven of Banyuwangi, as you walk further down the De Djawatan Forest and become more enveloped within it. With its dense canopies of trees, you can see Trembesi trees on every corner, tucking away all the wildlife inside of it. Hear the acoustics of nature as the soothing rhythms of flora and fauna move to its own beat.



Alas Purwo National Park

This enchanting sanctuary holds pristine wilderness and ancient mystique. Holding an impressive biodiversity within its keep, the Alas Purwo National Park welcomes the gentle sea breeze into its dense forests. Here is where Javanese tigers roam around, while beaches and sacred caves are tucked away on its corners, waiting for you to come and explore them yourselves.



Red Island

A captivating coastal retreat, the Red Island is legendary for its surf breaks and rugged natural charm. As the sun hides below the horizon, you can see the surfers riding the waves full in spirit, against the golden glow of the crimson cliffs. The landscape on this island is truly unforgettable, begging for you to dip your toes in the waters.

Visits



Ijen Crater

Ijen Crater offers a surreal experience. It is recognised as the largest highly acidic lake in the world, while also being a feat for the eyes. As you watch the sky turn to hues of pink and gold at the break of dawn, it is the perfect time for you to start your trek through this mystical landscape. The journey ends in a awe-inspiring view, with veils of sulfuric smoke shrouds the raw power of natural events, leaving solace and ethereal wonder in its place.



Baluran

Indonesia's very own little savannah, Baluran is an impressive wildlife reserve in Banyuwangi where the lands are pristine and the beauty thrives. Stretching as far as the eye can see, watch the sun cast an illuminating glow, as the calls of exotic birds fill the air. Be immersed in a true natural spectacle that is Indonesian wilderness.

Culinary



Sate Udang

The Shrimp Satay (Sate Udang) is a culinary staple for the coastal haven of Banyuwangi. The prawns are marinated in a well-marinated blend of local spices and sizzled over an open flame, creating a delicious aroma that lingers in the air. As the meat melts in your mouth, you're invited to embrace the rich cultural heritage of the Banyuwangi region.



Nasi Tempong

A culinary gem in Banyuwangi, the Tempong Rice (Nasi Tempong) is a great blend of bold flavours and comforting textures. The aromatic steamed rice is served with a selection of fiery hot hot sambal, crispy fried tempeh and a savoury grilled chicken that pleases the mouth.

Arts

& Crafts



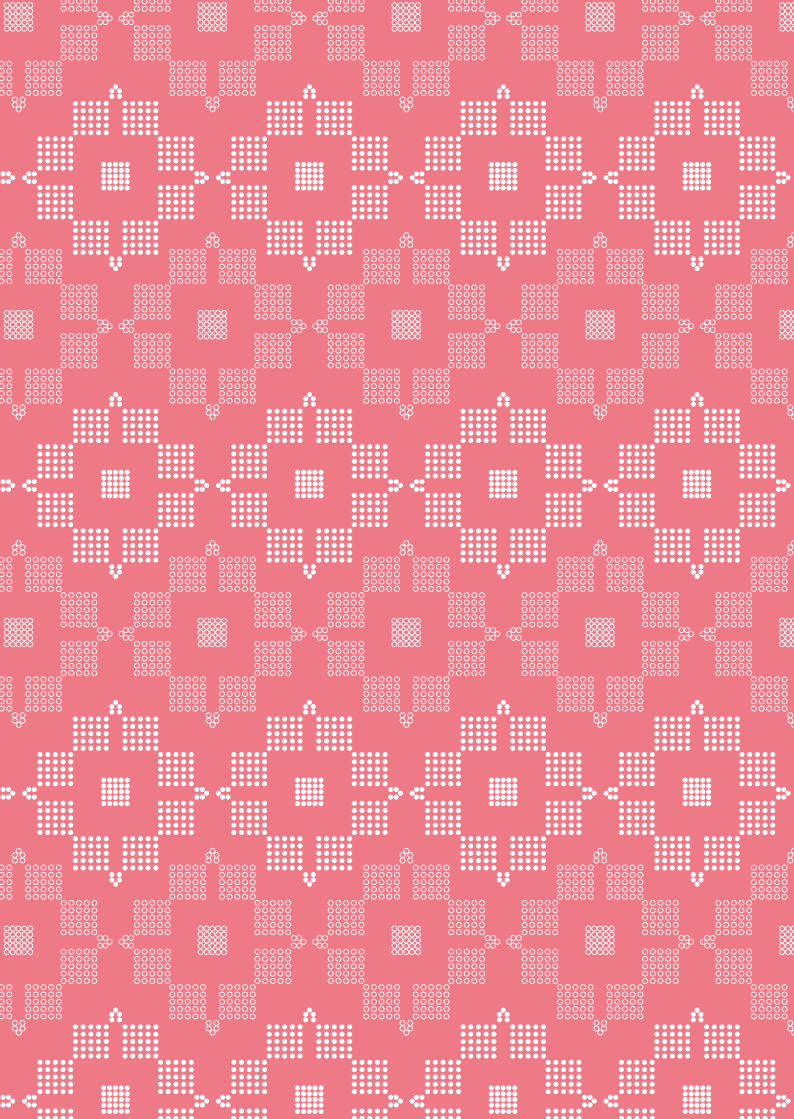
Batik Banyuwangi

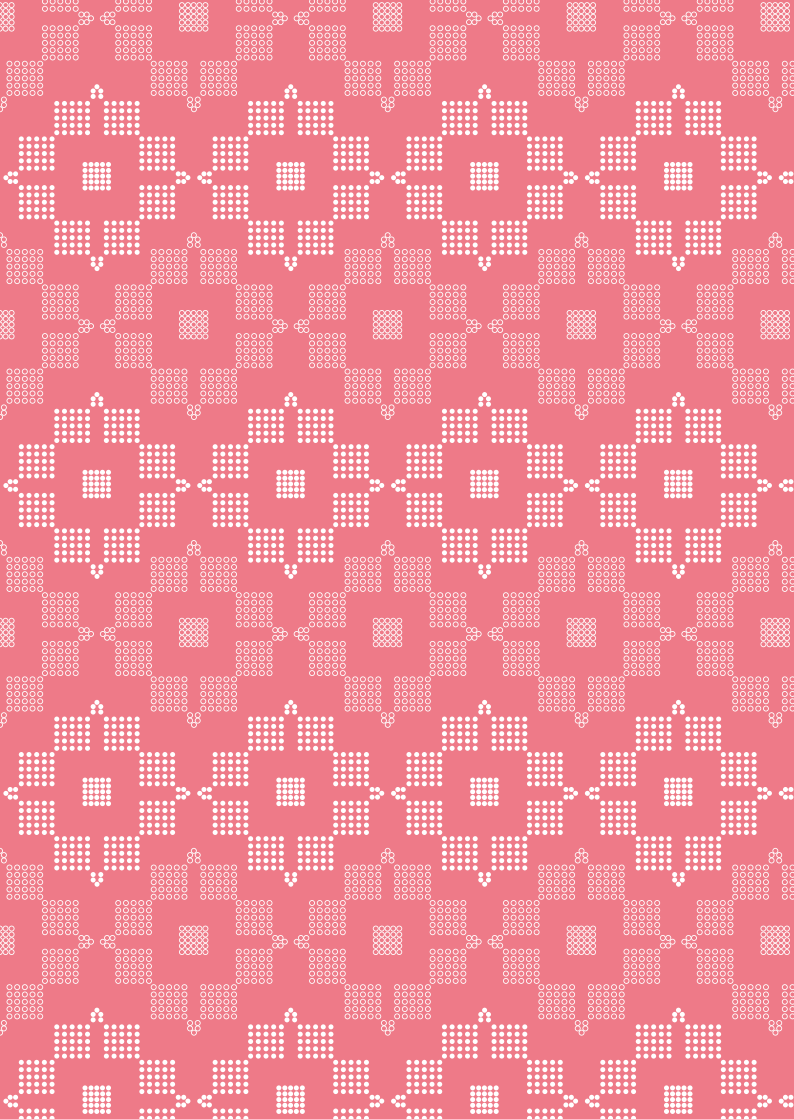
A celebrated artistic tradition of Indonesia, the batik in Banyuwangi weaves tales of intricate patterns and beautiful bright colours that reflect the region's own cultural richness. As you admire the details, you're drawn into the world of Banyuwangi through textile and fabric explorations.



Bamboo Craft

The bamboo craftsmanship showcase the remarkable creativity of the people in Banyuwangi. From woven baskets to strong furniture, these bamboo artisans transform bamboo into daily objects.





The Mystical Reverie of Bali



Known as the “Island of the Gods,” Bali is Indonesia’s very own tried and true paradise. This tropical island is renowned for its stunning landscapes, vibrant culture, and warm hospitality, making it a popular choice for travellers from all over the world. From pristine beaches and lush rice terraces to ancient temples and traditional arts, Bali offers diverse experiences catering to every visitor’s interests. One of the highlights of Bali is its breathtaking natural beauty. The island boasts gorgeous beaches with crystal-clear waters, perfect for swimming, surfing, and sunbathing. Inland, you’ll find picturesque rice terraces that stretch as far as the eye can see, creating a stunning patchwork of greenery. Bali is also home to volcanic peaks and lush jungles, where adventurous travellers can embark on hiking expeditions and explore hidden waterfalls.

The Balinese people are deeply rooted in their traditions and religious beliefs, which are evident in the elaborate temple ceremonies and vibrant festivals that take place throughout the year. The island is dotted with thousands of temples, including the famous Tanah Lot and Uluwatu temples, where you can admire intricate architectural details and enjoy breathtaking sunset views. Bali is also a haven for wellness and spirituality, offering a wide range of yoga retreats, meditation centres, and healing practices. The island’s tranquil ambiance and serene landscapes provide the perfect backdrop for self-reflection and rejuvenation. Additionally, Bali is known for its vibrant arts scene, with talented artisans creating intricate woodcarvings, stunning silver jewellery, and vibrant paintings. Whether you’re seeking relaxation, adventure, spirituality, or cultural immersion, Bali has something to offer everyone.

What to Do?



01

Batur Lake



02

Tanah Lot

Boat ride in Batur Lake ⁰¹

Located in the highlands of Bali, Batur Lake is a picturesque volcanic lake surrounded by lush greenery and majestic mountains. You can take a boat ride on the lake, hike to the summit of Mount Batur for sunrise views, or simply relax and enjoy the tranquil atmosphere while taking in the stunning natural beauty.

Find peace in Tanah Lot ⁰²

Tanah Lot is an iconic temple and has become a landmark in Bali, perched on a rocky outcrop along the southwestern coast. This sea temple offers mesmerising views, especially during sunset when the temple appears to seemingly float on the horizon. It is not only a place of cultural and spiritual significance but also a stunning spot for photography while experiencing the crashing waves and coastal breeze.

Have fun in the sacred Monkey Forest ⁰³

Interact with playful monkeys in their natural habitat, as you visit the Sacred Monkey Forest in Ubud. This lush sanctuary is not only home to hundreds of monkeys but also boasts ancient temples, serene pathways, and tall magnificent rows of trees. Observe the monkeys up close, explore the temple complexes, and find stories all throughout this forest's pathway.

Keep calm in Nusa Penida ⁰⁴

Nestled off the coast of Bali lies the enchanting island of Nusa Penida. The towering cliffs and beautiful beaches invites you to keep calm and enjoy peace. Travel down the winding paths and gaze upon the clear blue waters, and let serenity wash over you.



03

Monkey Forest



04

Nusa Penida

Other Activities

Enjoy the sunrise in Sanur 🌅 Kiss the

dolphins by Lovina Beach 🐬 Surf in

Padang Padang 🏄 Party in Canggu 🕺

Be enriched in Ubud 💎 Trek Mount Batur

Stroll in Tegalalang Rice Terraces 🚶 Relax

in Seminyak Beach 🏊 Swim in Waterfalls

Hidden Gems



Sidemen

Nestled in the lush countryside of East Bali, Sidemen is a beautiful village that offers its own authentic and off-the-beaten-path experience. Surrounded by terraced rice fields, glistening rivers, and great mountains, Sidemen is ideal for those looking for a quiet getaway. Explore the traditional villages, go on scenic hikes, or simply relax in one of the many charming eco-lodges with stunning views of the surrounding landscape. Sidemen is a hidden gems that allows you to connect with nature and immerse yourself in the rural beauty of Bali.

Tirta Gangga

Tucked away in the eastern part of Bali, Tirta Gangga is a tranquil water palace known for its beautiful gardens, sacred pools, and intricate stone carvings. This hidden gems offers a certain majestic stillness, allowing you to relax and rejuvenate while surrounded by lush greenery and traditional Balinese architecture.



Nunggalan Beach

To go to Nunggalan Beach, you would have to walk up past a forest and its clearing before you find this hidden gems. Known for its pristine beauty, the beach has clear waters, white sands and dramatic cliffs enclosing the whole area.



Yeh Leh Beach

Spreading all over Bali's west coastline, Yeh Leh Beach is a hidden gems known for its dramatic cliffs, stunning rock formations, and secluded black sand beach. It's a serene spot to unwind, take in breathtaking views, and explore the unique rock pools and natural formations created by the crashing waves. It is truly a cinematic place to be.



Culinary

Betutu Chicken ⁰¹

Back in the day, Betutu Chicken was only served during cultural and religious ceremonies. The cooking method is considered to be unique as it takes at least 10 hours for it to marinate, where then the chicken would be mixed with spice mix and wrapped in betel leaf before it's buried underground with coals until the chicken is cooked. This cooking method is inherited from the 16th century Majapahit empire era. Since then, they have found faster ways to prepare the dish, for you to enjoy anytime you want.



02

Lilit Satay



03

Ayam Lawar

Lilit Satay ⁰²

Who doesn't know Lilit Satay? Originating from the Klungkung area, this traditional Balinese dish is made from minced meat (usually chicken, fish, or pork) mixed with a variety of aromatic herbs, spices, and grated coconut. The mixture is then wrapped around lemongrass or bamboo skewers and grilled to perfection, resulting in a flavorful and juicy satay with a hint of smokiness.

Ayam Lawar ⁰³

Also known as Lawar Chicken is a traditional Balinese dish known for its unique combination of minced chicken, coconut, and rich herbs and spices. The chicken is prepared using a mortar and pestle to grind the ingredients, resulting in a tasteful and fragrant blend. Ayam Lawar holds cultural significance in Bali, often served during religious ceremonies and special occasions to honor ancestors and bring communities together.



Culture



The Kecak Dance

At Luhur Uluwatu Temple, you can watch about 50 to 70 men perform a ritualistic, rhythmic, world-famous performance called the Kecak Dance. It is a mesmerising performance that combines rhythmic chanting, rapid hand movements, and captivating storytelling, often depicting scenes from the Hindu epic, Ramayana. The dynamic and energetic nature of the Kecak dance, with a chorus of male performers creating a rhythmic soundtrack, creates a spellbinding experience for anyone who watches.



The Barong Dance

Another iconic dance in Bali is the Barong dance, that shows a symbolic battle between good and evil. The Barong, a mythical lion-like creature, represents good, while the Rangda, an evil witch, represents evil. The performers skillfully portray the battle through elaborate costumes, dynamic movements, and expressive facial expressions, making it a fascinating and visually stunning spectacle.



The Legong Dance

For a more graceful and elegant dance treat, the Legong dance is a must-see. This traditional Balinese dance is performed by young girls, who portray celestial nymphs with delicate movements and intricate hand gestures. The Legong dance is accompanied by traditional Gamelan music and tells stories of love, mythology, and Balinese folklore, leaving the audience stunned by its beauty and grace.

Arts



Balinese Batik

Balinese batik painting is a traditional craft that involves applying wax and dyes onto fabric to create intricate and vibrant designs. Skilled artisans use a special technique to create patterns inspired by nature, mythology, and religious symbolism. The result is a beautiful piece of textile art that showcases the rich cultural heritage of Bali.



Woodcarving

Woodcarving is a highly regarded art form in Bali, with skilled carvers making intricate sculptures and decorative pieces from various types of wood. Balinese woodcarvings often depict mythological figures, deities, and scenes from religious stories, showcasing the deep spirituality and symbolism of the Balinese culture.



Silver Jewellery

Bali is famous for its exquisite silver jewellery, handcrafted by skilled silversmiths using traditional techniques passed down through generations. Balinese silver jewellery is known for its intricate designs inspired by nature, Hindu mythology, and Balinese motifs. From intricate filigree work to stunning gemstone settings, Balinese silver jewellery reflects the island's artistic heritage and offers a wide range of unique and beautifully crafted pieces.

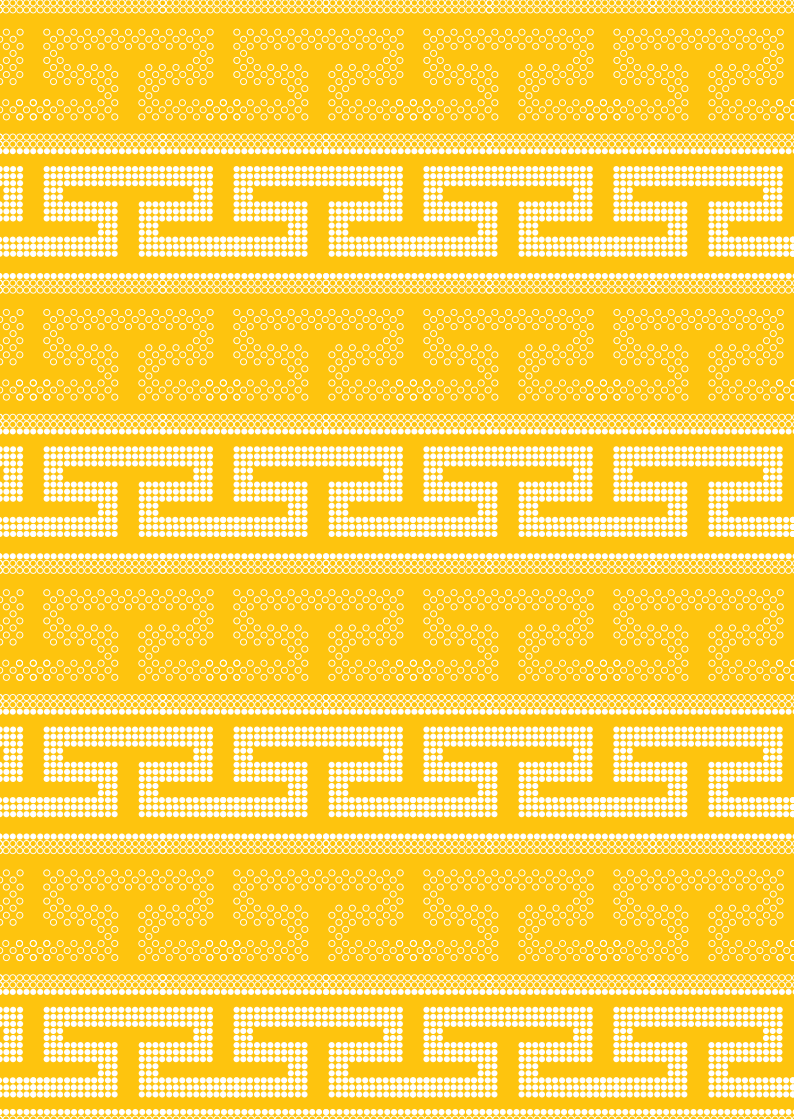
& Crafts

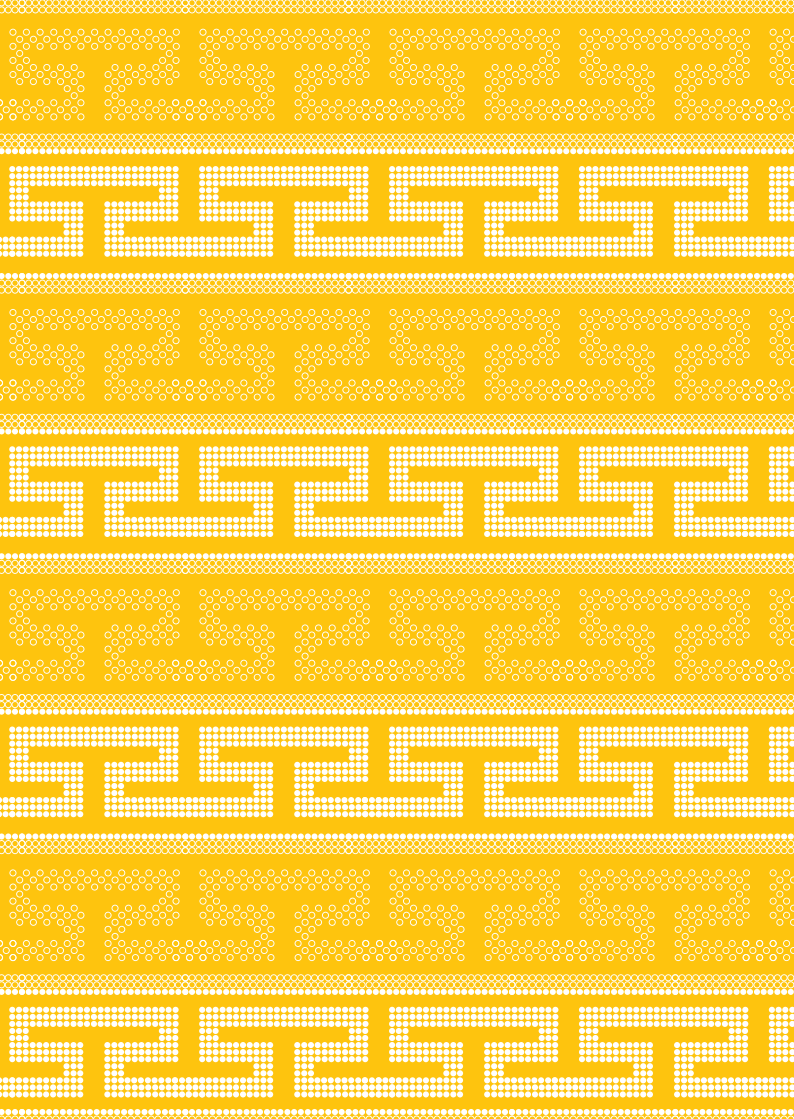
Penglipuran Village

Penglipuran Village is a charming traditional village located in the Bangli Regency of Bali. It is known for its well-preserved Balinese architecture, cultural traditions, and harmonious community life. The village offers a glimpse into the traditional way of life in Bali, providing you with a unique cultural experience. One of the standout high points of Penglipuran Village is its traditional architecture. The village is laid out in a neat and orderly manner, with houses aligned along a single main street. The houses are constructed from natural materials such as bamboo, wood, and thatch, and are adorned with intricate carvings and traditional ornaments. The architectural design showcases the Balinese concept of Tri Hita Karana, which emphasises the harmony between humans, nature, and the spiritual realm.

In addition to its architectural beauty, Penglipuran Village is renowned for its strong sense of community and cultural preservation. The villagers take great pride in their traditions and customs, which have been passed down through generations. You can witness daily village life, observe traditional ceremonies, and interact with the friendly locals. The village also offers opportunities to participate in traditional activities such as making offerings, weaving, and learning about the significance of Balinese rituals. Penglipuran Village is quite the hidden gems in Bali, offering a serene and authentic experience away from the bustling tourist areas. It provides a glimpse into the rich cultural heritage of Bali, allowing you to appreciate the beauty of traditional Balinese architecture, witness local customs, and immerse yourself in the warm hospitality of the villagers. A visit to Penglipuran Village is a journey back in time, offering a deeper understanding of Bali's unique cultural identity.







The Daring Thrill Of Mandalika, Lombok



Tucked away somewhere in the country is a new coastal gem with its own magnetic charm. Located in the Center Lombok Regency, Mandalika and its sun-kissed beaches invite you to surrender to the embrace of the ocean. Each crashing wave will slowly pick apart all the worries you have in the world, replacing it with a profound sense of life that invigorates you.

As the palm trees rustle with each other, Mandalika reveals itself to be the thrilling haven in Lombok. Thrill-seekers may flock to the ocean waves Mandalika has that challenge you to surf in it, or the renowned MotoGP circuit to get your excitement on land. Those who are looking to calm their nerves might find peaceful temples in Mandalika, listening to stories of ancient traditions and spiritual wisdom, before listening back to yourselves. Mandalika is a fusion of raw natural wonders, cultural beauty, and the adrenaline rush of thrilling stories that will surely leave an impression on you.

What to Do?



01

Kuta Mandalika Beach

Be amazed at the Kuta Mandalika Beach ⁰¹

A must-visit for everyone who's in Mandalika for the first time, this beach has everything. From crystal blue waters, pristine white sands and a cinematic set of cliffs you can do anything here with a dramatic background. Sunbathe, swim, and do beach activities here while taking up its breathtaking scenery.

Find thrill in the Mandalika International Street Circuit ⁰²

Be thrilled by speed and adrenaline at the Mandalika International Street Circuit. It's Indonesia's world-class racing track where you can experience and witness motorcycle races and even step your foot on the gas as you can try to drive on the tracks yourselves. When the engines roar, your adrenaline roars louder!

Walk up the Merese Hill ⁰³

You will need to walk and hike up to Merese Hill, but when you finish it you'll be granted a beautiful, mesmerising panoramic view of the coastline, beach and surrounding landscapes. This tall viewpoint is perfect to catch the sunset and capture a photo or two, or simply just sit there in silence, and take in everything.



02

Mandalika International Street Circuit



03

Merese Hill

Other Activities

Sunbathe in Tanjung Aan Beach 🏖️ Take a
boat tour in Gerupuk Bay 🚤 Surf in Mawi
Beach 🏄 Stroll around Seger Beach 🌴
Snorkel in Ekas Bay 🐠 Be mesmerised
in Segara Anak Lake 🏞️ Relax on the soft
pink sands of Mekaki Beach

Hidden Gems

Putri Nyale Beach ⁰¹

Tucked away from tourist crowds, Putri Nyale Beach is known for its quiet atmosphere. This secluded, secret beach offers white sands and turquoise waters, creating a peaceful ambiance for those of you who want to get away. Don't miss the chance to witness or even participate in the Bau Nyale traditions, where locals gather to catch sea worms during the Nyale Festival.



01

Putri Nyale Beach



02

Tanjung Luar Fishing Market



03

Tetebatu Village

Tanjung Luar Fishing Market ⁰²

Immerse yourself in the heart of local commercial culture and visit the Tanjung Luar Fishing Market. Watch fishermen return with their fresh catches and browse through the bustling fish market before you sample delicious seafood dishes at the local warungs. While you're here, take a boat ride along the river and look and experience a traditional way of life that has been passed down through generations.

Tetebatu Village ⁰³

Nestled in Mandalika there's a hidden village of Tetebatu in the peaceful highlands of the area. Contrasting the bright, sunny beaches, this village offers the cool air, lush greeneries and forestries and breathtaking views of sloping mountains and grand valleys. Greet the friendly locals as you pass the peaceful rice terraces, and hike to waterfalls within the area, Tetebatu is a serene getaway that offers plenty of choices that may calm your nerves.

Culinary

Plecing Kangkung ⁰⁴

Taste the bold flavours of Plecing Kangkung that combines water spinach with a spicy chilli sauce. The smooth spinach against the fiery sauce creates a tingling sensation in your mouth. This dish is a testament to the rich spice culture of Mandalika, and a delicious dish that you can eat by itself or as a side.

Ayam Taliwang ⁰⁵

Smell and savour the smoky goodness of Taliwang Chicken (Ayam Taliwang), a traditional grilled chicken dish of Lombok that's widely celebrated in Mandalika. This tender chicken is marinated in a blend of fragrant spices, grilled to crispy perfection and served with a side of Plecing Kangkung and steamed rice. This combination makes this a must-try culinary experience in Mandalika.

Sate Bulayak ⁰⁶

The Bulayak Satay (Sate Bulayak) features skewered grilled meat that's served with steamed rice cakes that's wrapped in banana leaf. The tender meat, whether it's chicken, beef or lamb, is marinated in an aromatic blend of spices that's all grilled to perfection. The rice cakes add a hint of sweetness to the dish, creating a harmony of flavours!



04

Plecing Kangkung



05

Ayam Taliwang



06

Sate Bulayak

Culture

Bau Nyale Festival

The Bau Nyale Festival is unique to Mandalika. A celebration by the Sasak People where locals gather on the many beaches of the region to catch sea worms, known as Nyale, who were to be believed to be the reincarnation of a princess. The festival tells stories through music and dances, offering you the opportunity to engage with the cultural heritage and folklores of the locals.



Sasak Traditional Dance Performance

Witness the graceful movements and complex choreography as you watch the Sasak traditional dance performance. The dancers, draped in colourful, beautiful clothing, tell stories of love, natural beauty and folklore through their expressive movements.



Handicraft Workshop

Participate and get hands-on experience as you learn the traditional artforms passed down through generations in Mandalika. From pottery, to weaving, and woodcarving, there are various workshops for you to interact with skilled artisans and skillshare to gain insights of their craftsmanship. Create your own unique piece of art and bring a piece of Mandalika home with you!



Arts

& Crafts

Weaving Workshop

Join a weaving workshop and interact with skilled artisans as they create intricate patterns and bright textiles. Try your hand out and weave your own pattern as you feel the flow of the loom, and imagine how people would pass their time back in the old days.



Pottery Making

Discover the art of pottery making in Mandalika and participate in pottery workshops! Shape the cool clay with your fingers as you spin the wheel, and get lost in the meditative rhythm that allows you to express yourself while experiencing something quite therapeutic.



Tenun Weaving

Tenun, or weaving, also has a significant cultural value in Mandalika. The process involves meticulous handwork, where the weavers skillfully intertwine threads to produce beautiful fabrics that are often used for traditional garments, accessories, and decorative purposes in Mandalika.



Sade Village

Nestling in the heart of Mandalika, Sade Village welcomes you to the traditional Sasak ways of life. As you enter the area, time slows down. Greeted with simplicity, the traditions are strong here. You can experience being in the traditional bamboo architecture houses, with thatched-roof houses, that stand in harmony with the surrounding nature that envelopes it.

You'll encounter warm smiles from the locals, as they pass you down the streets or welcome you into their homes to tell stories of traditions, cultures and immerse you with their daily routines.



Lombok: Beyond Mandalika

Lombok, with its pristine beaches and captivating landscapes, beckons you with its own irresistible charm. Beyond Mandalika, there's so much more of Lombok to explore. Here, the vibrant culture of the Sasak people intertwines with the natural beauty of the island, creating an enchanting experience. As you venture along the coastline, the waters of the Gili Islands allure you to dive into a world of vibrant coral reefs and colourful marine life, while the lush greenery of Mount Rinjani calls out to adventurous souls seeking the thrill of a challenging hike.

Beyond its natural charm, Lombok holds a deeper layer because of the warmth and hospitality of its people. The locals welcome you with smiles, eager to share their stories and traditions. Whether you're savouring the flavours of traditional Sasak cuisine, joining in a lively dance performance, or simply wanting to enjoy yourself in the island's laid-back atmosphere, Lombok embraces you like an old friend, leaving a deep blue mark on your heart.

Must



Gili Island

Explore tropical paradise off the coast of Lombok in Gili Island, a haven that offers a wild escape. Here, the line between reality and fantasy blurs as the turquoise waters and pristine beaches become a playground for casual travellers and seekers of adventure. Embrace the vibrant energy and indulge in natural pleasures as you get lost in this paradise.

Visits



Mount Rinjani

Ascending the majestic Mount Rinjani is a daring quest that pushes you into a surreal world of volcanic peaks, lush forests, and fresh waterfalls. The challenging trek challenges you both physically and mentally, but it rewards those who persist in climbing up the mountain. With breathtaking panoramic views Mount Rinjani is a gift that keeps on giving, exciting you with an overwhelming sense of accomplishment. As you navigate the rugged terrain, the ever-present thrill of uncertainty reminds you of how vast nature truly is.



Senggigi

This coastal town radiates with a vibrant energy that draws adventurers and casual travellers alike. From the lively street markets and cool bars to the inviting shores of its pristine beaches, Senggigi offers a sensory overload that invigorates you. As the sun sets over the horizon, casting light over the water, the air comes alive with the rhythm of live music and the infectious laughter of locals and travellers that mingles under the starlit sky. Senggigi is a place where boundaries blur, inhibitions fade, and the thrill of discovery intertwines with the pulse of island life.

Culinary

Nasi Balap Puyung



Dive headfirst into the heart and soul of Lombok's street food scene with Puyung Rice (Nasi Balap Puyung). This humble yet captivating dish features a plate of rice topped with a selection of sides, including fried chicken, tempeh, chilli sambal, and fragrant herbs. The delightful mix of flavours and textures will surely make you crave for more!

Sate Rembiga



Sink your teeth into skewers of Rembiga Satay (Sate Rembiga) and be prepared to crave for more! This dish is made up out of tender pieces of marinated beef that has been grilled, and when their smoky aroma mingles in the air you can smell the blend of spices that sets your taste buds ablaze. Each bite is an intoxicating texture of succulence and spice, an invitation to embrace the carnivorous palate that Lombok has to offer.

Bebalung



Surrender to the carnivorous delights of Bebalung, a traditional Lombok dish that showcases the island's mastery of flavours. This hearty, slow-cooked beef rib soup is an indulgent symphony of spices and rich broth that melts in your mouth with each spoonful. Savour the tender meat, fragrant herbs, and robust broth, and try out Lombok's own culinary prowess!

& Crafts



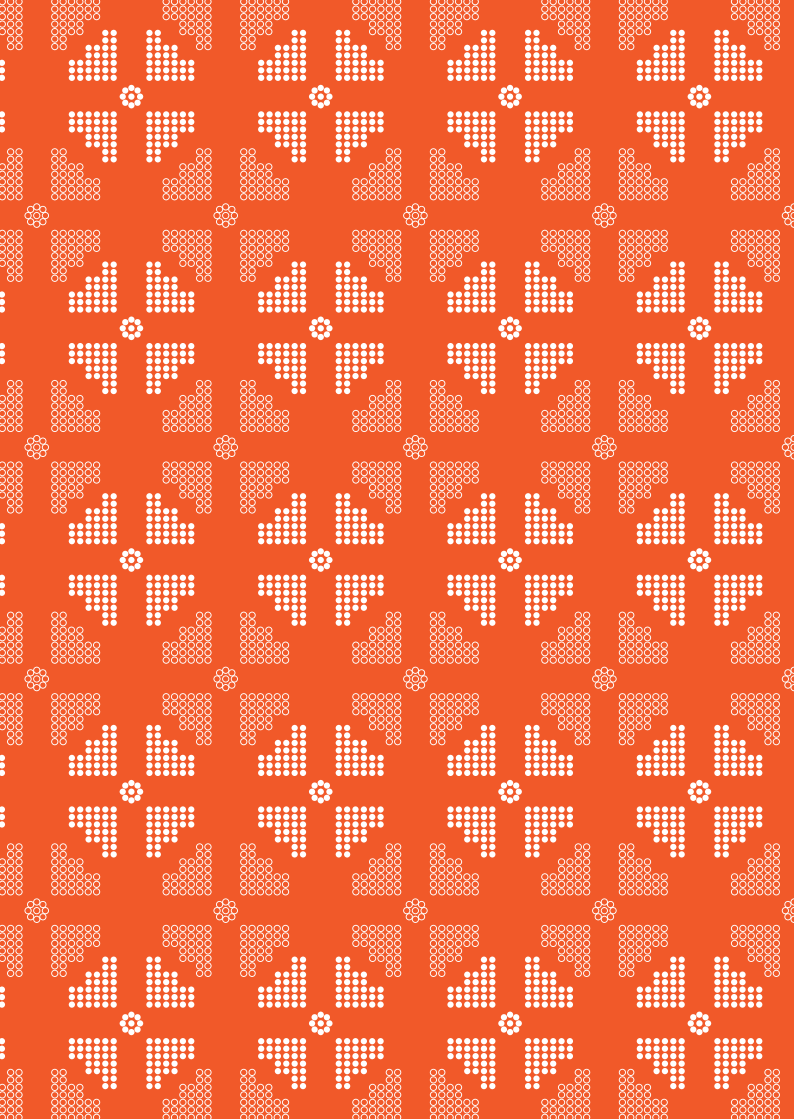
Sasak Weaving

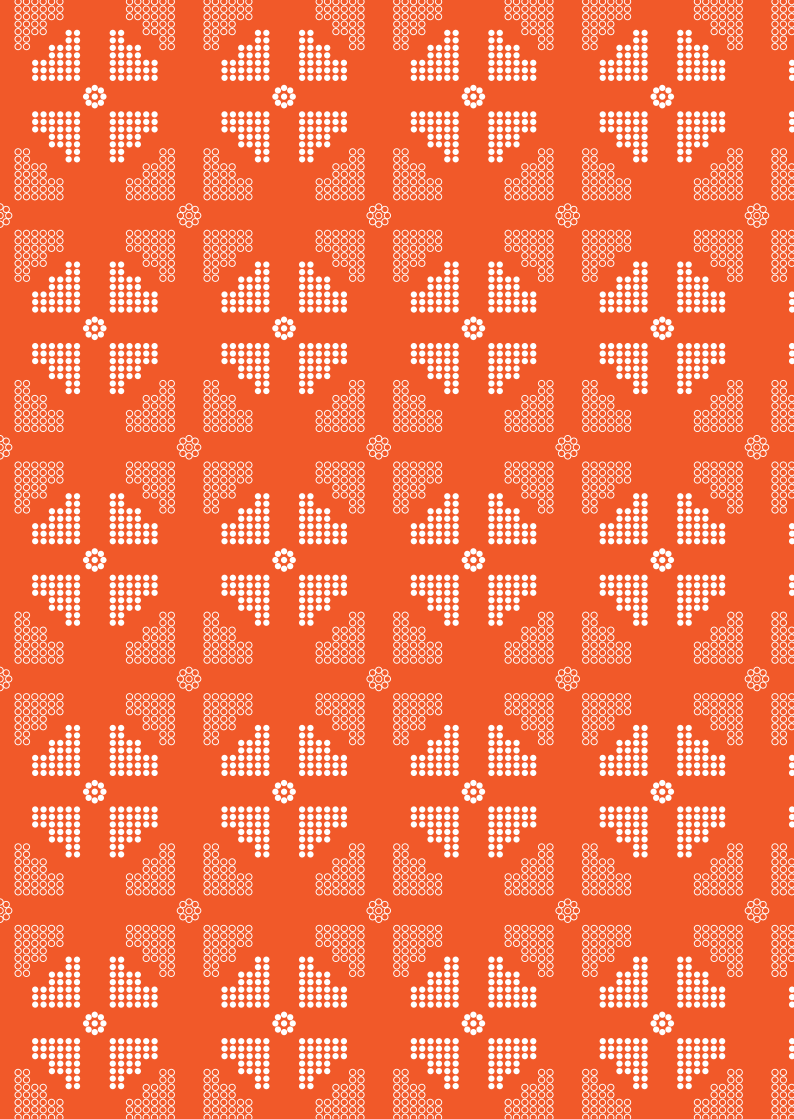
Immerse yourself in the careful world of Sasak weaving, where the hands of artisans bring intricate patterns to life on traditional textiles. Witness the meticulous craftsmanship and the vibrant colours that come in every thread, as you take a deeper dive into the rich cultural heritage of Lombok. Each woven masterpiece tells a story, connecting you to the ancient traditions and artistic expression of the Sasak people.



Pearl Farming

Come into the mysterious world of pearl farming, where Lombok's pristine waters give birth to luminous treasures. Explore the techniques and dedication involved in cultivating these exquisite gems, witnessing firsthand the process of nurturing, harvesting, and transforming oysters into radiant pearls.





The Tender Blues of Labuan Bajo



Labuan Bajo is a beautiful fishing town situated on the western tip of Flores Island in Indonesia. It serves as the gateway to the stunning Komodo National Park, famous for its breathtaking landscapes and the remarkable Komodo dragons. Labuan Bajo has emerged as a popular tourist destination, offering a range of attractions and activities for nature enthusiasts, adventure seekers, and those looking to experience the unique charm of this coastal town.

The town of Labuan Bajo itself exudes a laid-back and relaxed vibe, with its stunning sunsets, bustling harbour, and waterfront cafes. You can explore the local markets, sample delicious seafood, and immerse themselves in the local culture. The main draw, however, is the opportunity to embark on unforgettable boat trips to the neighbouring Komodo National Park, where you can witness the raw beauty of rugged islands, pristine beaches, and vibrant coral reefs, and encounter the legendary Komodo dragons, the world's largest lizards. The area also offers excellent snorkelling and diving spots, providing a chance to explore the rich marine biodiversity that thrives in these turquoise waters. With its breathtaking natural beauty and unique wildlife encounters, Labuan Bajo has become a must-visit destination for those seeking adventure and natural wonders in Indonesia.

What to Do?



01

Komodo National Park

See the dragon at the Komodo National Park ⁰¹

The Komodo National Park is synonymous with Labuan Bajo, so it's a no-brainer that it's a must-see destination while you're there! Getting there would have you take the ferry or a small boat that is available from morning to evening. The Komodo National Park was registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991. It has several islands including Komodo Island, Padar Island, Rinca Island, and other islands in the area. This is the only place in the world that has dragons. Komodo dragons, that is! Feast your eyes on the largest lizard in the world as the Komodo dragon can grow up to 3 metres and weighs about 70 kg.

Have a picnic in Pink Beach ⁰²

Whenever you get the chance to visit Labuan Bajo, you may also find rare pink sands on Pink Beach for you to take photos of your beach fits. In Labuan Bajo, there's the brightest Pink Beach on Padar Island, another is located in Komodo Island where the hills and mountains provide a scenic look, and another is located on Sabolo Island. The reddish-pink color of the sands actually comes from microscopic animals and fragments of sea corals along the coastline that drifts ashore.

Trek in Padar Island ⁰³

Padar Island is a testament to nature's own artistry. With rugged landscapes, dramatic cliffs and vibrant greenery, it offers a captivating experience as you trek across the island. Walk up the trail and find a beautiful panoramic view that stretches across the deep blue ocean and neighbouring islands. This island invites you to lose yourself, and find the solace you desperately need.



02

Pink Beach



03

Padar Island



04

Manta Point

Dive in Manta Point ⁰⁴

For everyone who loves diving, Manta Point is a perfect place to visit. Located near the Komodo National Park, it's also near Gili Lawa. As its namesake, it's the perfect spot for you to find the Manta Rays, as well as jellyfish and other sea creatures, and the beautiful scenic underwater view. Just remember to prepare everything and wear the diving gear properly, as you dive the deep end with an instructor.

Other Activities

Dive in Kelor Island 🐟 Walk along the

Waecicu Beach 🏃 Enjoy water sports in the

beach 🚣 Take a City Tour in Labuan Bajo

Visit Batu Cermin Cave 🏔 Taka Makassar

Hidden Gems



The Strawberry Rock

The Strawberry Rock is a hidden gems nestled in the waters of Labuan Bajo. This unique rock formation resembles a giant strawberry, with its bright red hue and distinctive shape. It stands tall and solitary against the beautiful turquoise ocean, creating a picturesque and captivating scenery. The Strawberry Rock is a favourite spot for boat trips and snorkelling, as it has stunning underwater scenery with colourful coral reefs and lively marine life, making it a hidden paradise for nature lovers, photographers, and casual travellers alike.



Cunca Rami Waterfalls

Cascading down from lush green cliffs the Cunca Rami waterfall is a stunning natural wonder. With its mesmerising spectacle of rushing water, the mist that draws into the view creates a mystical wonder. You can enjoy swimming in the crystal-clear pool at the base of the waterfall, floating around in the water among the serene natural beauty.

Culinary

Kompiang

When you're here, you must try the Kompiang. It's a savoury treat that is a little more dense than a regular bread. On top of it, you'll find it sprinkled with sesame seeds with a filling in the middle with many flavours. There's chocolate, cheese, chicken, tuna, mayo or spicy tuna, mushroom beef or chicken, beef ham and cheese, original banana, cheese banana, and chocolate banana, just to name a few.



Rebok

Or you can find Rebok, one of Manggarai people's traditional foods. It's often offered to guests as they visit their homes. It is made out of rice flour and grated coconut. It tastes sweet, like biscuits and usually most Manggarai people serve this snack without oil and leave it to dry.



Manggarai Coffee

The Manggarai area is also famous for its unique coffee beans. You may find lots of shops that sell ready-to-go coffee powders, both robusta and arabica. The best coffee powders would be the Spice Tubruk Coffee, the original Manggarai beans, the Arabica Manggarai powder, and the Robusta Manggarai powder.



Culture



The Caci Dance

The Caci Dance is a captivating traditional dance from the indigenous Manggarai people of Labuan Bajo. It is a dynamic and powerful performance, combining martial arts, music, and storytelling into the spectacle. The dancers, adorned in traditional costumes and wielding whips, engage in a symbolic battle, accompanied by traditional instruments and rhythmic chants, creating an exhilarating and immersive cultural experience.

Arts

& Craft



Songke

The Songke motifs are a prominent feature in the craftsmanship of Labuan Bajo, particularly in the weaving tradition of the Manggarai people. These motifs are intricate and geometric patterns that are skillfully incorporated into various woven textiles, such as traditional garments, blankets, and ceremonial fabrics. The Songke motifs are meticulously woven by hand using backstrap looms, with each design carrying deep cultural and symbolic meanings.

If any of you want to bring souvenirs after returning from Labuan Bajo, there are several unique souvenirs that you can't miss, one of which is the typical Tanah Manggarai songke cloth. This cloth is generally black in colour with a variety of colourful motifs on it. As with other Indonesian fabrics, songke motifs are very diverse and have their own meanings!

Wae Rebo

Village

The traditional village of Wae Rebo is a small and isolated village in the Island of Flores. The village was founded around 100 years ago by their ancestor Empu Maro. Today, the locals of this village are the 18th generation of Empu Maro's descendants. It's located about 4-5 hours by foot from Denge, and completely surrounded by mountains and the trees of the Todo forest. Rich in vegetation, you'll find many orchids and types of ferns as you hear the acoustics of nature. While the air in the village might be crisp and cool, the people of Wae Rebo give a warm welcome to you each time.

You may find their unique communal houses. Called Mbaru Niang, it has a tall structure and conical shape. Most of the building is its roof, made by lontar thatch in its entirety. The house has five levels that have different functions. The first level is called Lutar the

living quarters of the families; the second level called Lobo stores food and goods; the third level called Lentar is to store seedlings for their next harvest; the fourth level is called Lempa Rae and stores food stocks; while the fifth level called Hekang Kode is the sacred place, a floor to place offerings for their ancestors.

Wae Rebo is rich in both cultural heritage and natural beauty. It was known for its efforts in sustaining its traditions and since has grown as the people's choice of ecotourism destination. It's a beautiful sight to see, and an unforgettable experience all around.







Makassar

Makassar

See the silhouettes of the Phinisi boats, floating in the ocean of Makassar. This city are pulsing with spirit in its bustling markets and colourful treasures you can find in it. Smell the exotic spices filling the air as the city is filled with diverse colours where you can watch performances under the sky. It's where ancient traditions are carried over in modern times, where the people are welcoming and the city's just purely infectious with its own charm.



01

Losari Beach



02

Fort Rotterdam



03

Tana Toraja

Must

Visits

Losari Beach ⁰¹

Stretching throughout Makassar's coastline, the Losari beach has its own kind of atmospheric calmness. As the sun sets, locals and visitors are drawn to sit in front of the waterfront, escaping the city's rhythm even just for a little while. Walk along the promenade of palm trees while breathing in the ocean air, as you're intrigued by the many food stalls that add flavour to your day.

Fort Rotterdam ⁰²

Deeply rooted in history, the Fort Rotterdam stands impressively in Makassar. It's a well-preserved fortress built by the Dutch and has dated since the 17th century, as a mark of the colonial era. Explore the architecture of the wartime, and stroll around the museum to discover the story of Makassar's historical past.

Tana Toraja ⁰³

Tana Toraja is a regency in South Sulawesi, and home to the famous Toraja ethnic group. You can find the Statue of Jesus located on Burake Hill, which you can marvel at as it's the tallest Jesus statue in the world. As the iconic Toraja traditional houses spread out throughout the region, greet the locals and engage in their warm welcome.

Culinary

Coto Makassar

One simply can't be in Makassar without trying the city's famous dish, Coto Makassar. The hearty beef soup, simmered with rich spices and served with rice cakes has become a culinary delight that's celebrated all over the nation.



Pallubasa

The way Pallubasa is prepared is almost similar to Coto Makassar, but Pallubasa is peppered with its own kind of seasoning. The richly spiced beef is simmered for hours, and then infused to the meat that will melt in your mouth.



Konro

Makassar's Konro is a primal dish. It's dark, aromatic broth where stacks of beef ribs would simmer is just so enticing. The meat is so tender, it falls easily off the bone, and into your mouth so surrender to the dish, as the heat dances around inside your mouth.



Arts

& Crafts

Pasar Somba Opu

There's so many things that can stimulate you over at the Pasar Somba Opu. The swirling, busy marketplace presents you with so many things to look at, so many conversations and interactions to hear, and great delicious food to smell. In the middle of this sea of vendors, bright colourful stalls are overflowing with colourful fruits, spices and fabrics. Navigate through the labyrinth of shops and people, haggling with vendors and try out samples of street food and enjoy the thrill!







Maluku

Maluku

In the remote islands of Maluku, time rolls like the tides. Among the clear blue waters and deep lush greeneries there's a land filled with stories of ancient kingdoms, colonial conquests and spirit of communal strife. The people of Maluku possess a quiet resilience, where it captivates you enough for you to look into their tales. This is the land where the markets are the ports, the spices and the people are all vibrant with life. Maluku invites you to discover its gems, dive deep into its history and embrace the power of the people.



01

Banda Island



02

Ambon



03

Seram Island



04

Saparua Island

Must

Visits

Banda Island ⁰¹

Another jewel in the vast Indonesian archipelago, Banda Island emerges from the depths of the cerulean sea like a secret waiting to be unveiled. Here, the air tinged with the scent of rare spices that have lured traders for centuries. The island's shores, decorated with white sands, are a natural feat, while the dense jungles hide tales of colonial conquest and fierce resistance. Amidst the colourful houses and narrow streets, the spirit of Banda whispers through the wind. From the depths of the coral reefs to the heights of the volcano, Banda Island is an intoxicating blend of natural beauty and historical intrigue, a place where the essence of adventure and tranquillity intertwine.

Ambon ⁰²

Steeped deep in the history of the nation, Ambon unfolds stories of resilience and rebirth. The streets are a patchwork of many cultures, and where modernity carries the spirit of traditional values. Known as Indonesia's city of music, it finally caught the attention of UNESCO who named it Southeast Asia's first city of music in 2019.

Seram Island ⁰³

Seram is the largest island in Maluku and offers diverse natural attractions. You can explore the Manusela National Park to witness beautiful unique flora and fauna, a biodiversity hotspot with unique flora and fauna, and walk with your friends and family to discover waterfalls and caves. While you're there, you must visit Ora Beach to swim and look for the fish inside the clear sparkling waters.

Saparua Island ⁰⁴

This beautiful island is known for its idyllic beaches, coral reefs, and historical sites. Find the old Dutch fort Fort Duurstede and explore the traditional villages to learn about the local way of life. The island also offers opportunities for snorkeling, diving, for you to enjoy.

Culinary

Papeda



Papeda is a traditional staple of food in the maritime islands. It holds a simple connection with the land and its people through its velvety texture and subtle flavour. Passed down through generations, a spoonful of Papeda holds stories of resilience, endurance, and heritage.

Nasi Kelapa



Coconut Rice (Nasi Kelapa) is a true Maluku heritage. It tingles the senses with the smell of rice that has been infused with coconut, and a medley of flavours that plays around with the taste palate. In every bite, Nasi Kelapa offers a glimpse to Maluku's tradition and innovation.

Ikan Bakar



Being in a coastal town makes you have to try the essence of every coastal dish. The Grilled Fish (Ikan Bakar) reveals a symphony of smoky notes and spices that make the charred fillet taste come alive. Get your fill of grilled fish, originally from Maluku's very own ocean.

Art

& Crafts

Tenun Ikat



The Tenun Ikat of Maluku weaves a tale of heritage and craftsmanship. As the patterns intertwine, a tapestry with the local identity and local pride emerges in its colour, connecting the present to the storied past of Maluku.

Shell Craft

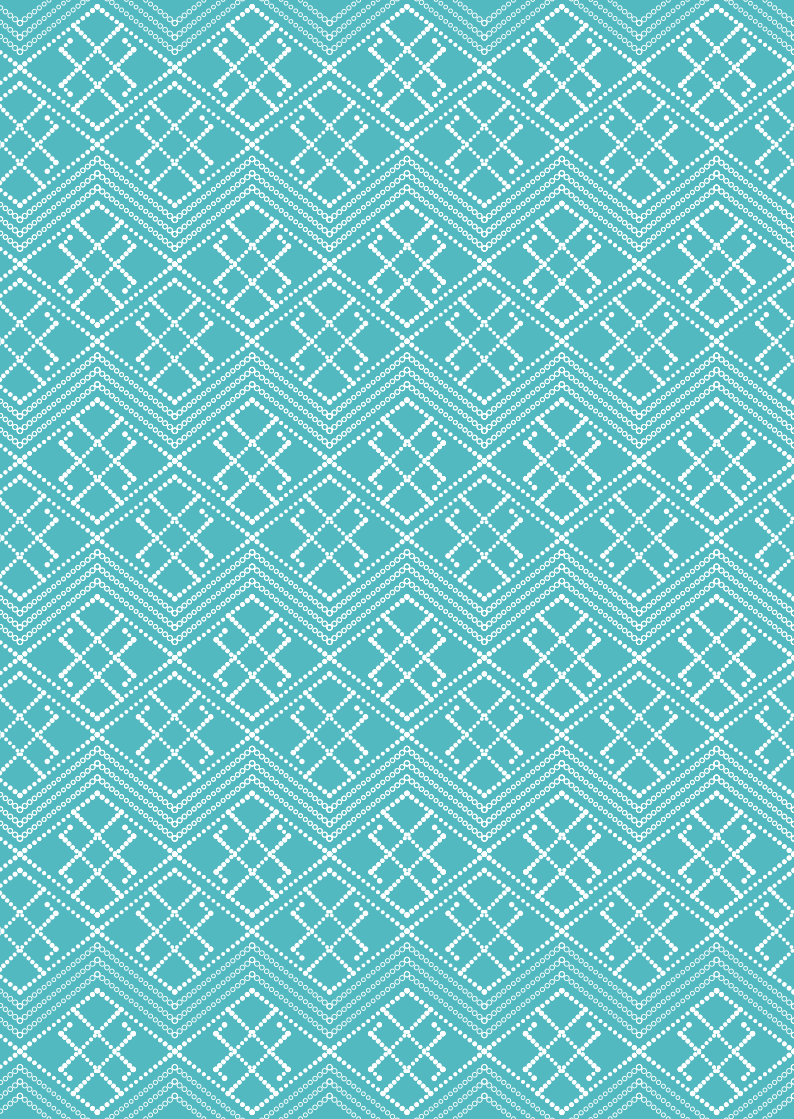


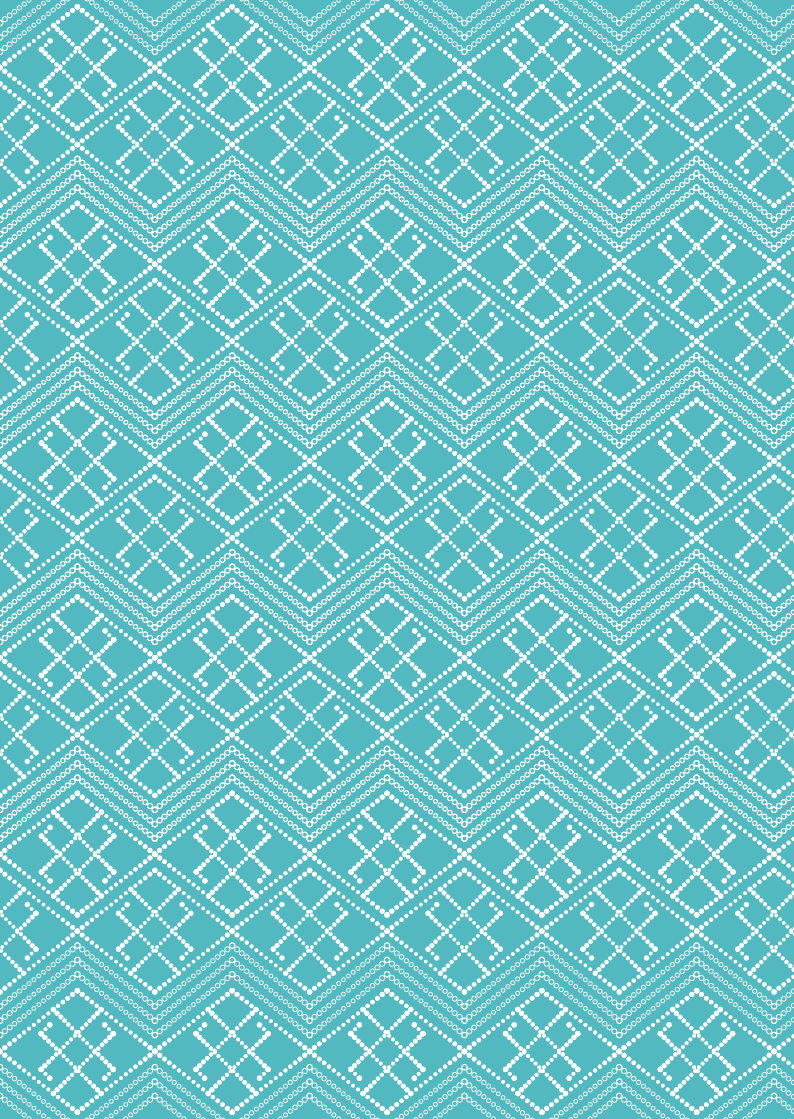
Dive into the world of shell crafting, where the beautiful findings from the natural ecosystem are transformed into beautiful jewellery, decorative items and ornaments. Learn the delicate techniques of shell carving and let the iridescent beauty of the ocean shells illuminates you.

Tifa Drums



The Tifa drum is an important musical instrument in Malukan culture. These large drums are traditionally made by skilled craftsmen who carefully shape and carve the wooden body. They are then decorated using paint or natural dyes and used during performances, rituals and cultural ceremonies.





The Oceanic Glimmer of Likupang

Likupang is a slice of paradise with spectacular wildlife. The waters are crystal clear and the vibrant coral reefs underneath for sure doesn't disappoint. From colourful coral gardens to majestic sea turtles, tropical fish, and even the elusive dugongs, the underwater life happening in Likupang makes you forget the life above water. What's impressive is the local community's commitment to conservation. They've established marine protected areas and implemented sustainability practices in the local tourism industry. Whether you're a nature lover, animal enthusiast or just want to sunbathe on the beach, Likupang will surely leave you in awe.



What to Do?



01

Gangga Island

Be enchanted in Gangga Island ⁰¹

A small tropical paradise surrounded by clear waters, Gangga Island offers a quiet retreat for nature enthusiasts and casual travellers alike. Take a deep dive into the island's tranquil ambiance, explore vibrant coral reefs underwater, and indulge in the exquisite beauty of its underwater world.

Hike up the Mahawu Peak ⁰²

Walk up a thrilling hike to Mahawu Peak – an active volcano that rewards you with breathtaking panoramic views of Likupang and its neighbouring beauty. The island may not be big in size, but this peak will surely remind you of the great power nature has, and the secret beauty spread all across the island that can be found.

Wind down in Pulisan Beach ⁰³

Tucked away and hidden in Likupang, the serenity of Pulisan Beach lets you forget the hustle and bustle of city-living. Sway with the coconut trees and take a dip into the crystal waters for some relaxation and reawakening.



02

Mahawu Peak



03

Pulisan Beach

Other Activities



Birdwatch in the Tangkoko Nature

Reserve



Take a boat tour to the nearby

Bangka Island



Relax at Likupang Beach

Explore the Tondano Lake



Sunset cruise
along the Likupang coastline

Hidden Gems



Pulau Gangga Satu

Discover the hidden gems of Gangga Satu Island (Pulau Gangga Satu), a secluded island not too far off Likupang, by going on a unique adventure. Take in the natural, pristine beauty of its untouched beaches, translucent waters, and diverse marine biodiversity.



Tapak Paderi Beach

A paradise nestled in the coastline of Bengkulu, Tapak Paderi Beach offers a breath of relief for those seeking solitude. With its rocks standing still against the clear crystal waters, and swaying palm trees, this beach is the perfect spot to unwind, and take in the breathtaking coastal scenery

Culinary



Nasi Jaha

While you're here, try the local specialty of Nasi Jaha, a traditional rice dish cooked with coconut milk and served with various side dishes. The aromatic rice is accompanied by rich curries, grilled chicken or fish, and an array of vegetables, creating a delightful and satisfying meal.



Seafood Feast

Enjoy the freshest catches from the sea! From grilled fish to prawns and mouth watering lobsters and delectable squids. The local seafood dishes in Likupang are a true culinary experience that are surely not to be missed. Don't forget to try out the celebrated Cakalang Fufu!

Culture



Tumatenden Dance

The Tumatenden performance is a captivating traditional dance from the Minahasa region of Indonesia. It showcases women dancing through intricate choreography and beautiful traditional costumes. The dancers move gracefully, depicting narratives from folklore and historical events, mesmerising the viewers with their precise movements and music.



Kolintang

Kolintang is a traditional musical instrument from Minahasa. It's a wooden xylophone with multiple keys that produce unique melodic sounds. Played by striking the keys with mallets, the kolintang creates a harmonious ensemble when combined with other traditional instruments, captivating listeners with its distinct timbre and rhythmic patterns.

Arts



Woven Rattan Bags

Handcrafted by local artisans, these intricately woven rattan bags are not only stylish but also eco-friendly. Each bag is uniquely designed with patterns and colours inspired by the local flora and fauna, making them a unique accessory with a touch of nature.

& Crafts



Shell Jewelry

The shell jewellery of Likupang is a true marvel! Fashioned with precision and artistry using shells that have been collected from unspoiled beaches. Necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and rings reflect the captivating beauty of the shells, embodying the coast, and bringing a piece of it home with you.

Bahoi

Village

Bahoi Village in North Minahasa is a hidden gems that offers a complete experience, merging modern ecotourism with a rich local culture. The journey to Bahoi Village from Manado takes you through natural landscapes, and upon arrival, you're greeted with a charming view of the village coast and simple houses.

The natural beauty of Bahoi Village extends beyond its picturesque landscapes. With mangrove forests, white sand areas, and stunning panoramas, an ecotourism expedition to this village is a major win. Don't miss the opportunity to explore the beautiful suspension bridge in the middle of the mangrove forest and even try fishing from it. The village takes pride in maintaining cleanliness, as there is minimal visible trash, and household waste is neatly collected in hanging trash cans.

In addition to the captivating mangrove forests, Bahoi Village boasts diving and snorkelling spots in its Marine Protected Area. With protected coral reefs and a strong emphasis on conservation, the community works closely with the government and NGOs to manage tourism activities. For an authentic experience, visitors can choose to stay in the homes of local residents, immersing themselves in the local culture and enjoying the warm hospitality. Bahoi Village promises a welcoming atmosphere, friendly residents, and an environment that will make you feel right at home.



The background of the entire page is a halftone image of a coastal scene. It shows a rocky shoreline with waves breaking over the rocks. The image is composed of a grid of dots, with darker areas having denser dots and lighter areas having sparser dots. The overall color palette is monochromatic, ranging from dark grey to light grey.

The Coastal



Treasures

Bunaken

Wakatobi



01

Bunaken marine Park



02

Wakatobi National Park



03

Wayag Island, Raja Ampat

In the realm of Indonesian aquatic treasures, three destinations stand out at the top of our heads: Bunaken, Wakatobi, and Raja Ampat. Bunaken's waters are a visual symphony, where the colours of coral reefs sing and dance alongside an impressive diversity of aquatic life. Wakatobi, a haven for divers and dreamers alike, boasts a captivating underwater realm brimming with vibrant corals and its very own ecosystems, a testament to nature's boundless charmer. And then there's Raja Ampat, an archipelago draped in allure, where four kings used to rule the land and stone cliffs stand tall and proud. Three destinations, like chapters in a novel, invite us to immerse ourselves in the fragile beauty of our planet, reminding us of our responsibility to protect and cherish these sacred places, where the real magic lies in the natural connections between land, sea, and the human spirit.

Raja Ampat

Must

Visits

Bunaken Marine Park ⁰¹

This marine park is an underwater paradise filled with vibrant coral reefs, diverse marine life, and crystal-clear waters. Snorkel or dive into its depths to witness the kaleidoscope of colours, swim alongside turtles and reef sharks, and have your breath taken away by this marine sanctuary.

Wakatobi National Park ⁰²

Wakatobi National Park is a haven for marine enthusiasts and nature lovers. Get yourself into the depth of the ocean to marvel at its coral reefs, encounter schools of tropical fish, and explore the stunning underwater landscapes. With its untouched beaches and deep green coastal forests, Wakatobi offers a truly unforgettable eco-adventure.

Wayag Islands, Raja Ampat ⁰³

Wayag Island in Raja Ampat is a paradise, with its iconic karst islands and turquoise lagoons that create a breathtaking landscape. Explore the mesmerising viewpoints, hike up to panoramic peaks, and revel in the beauty of this remote corner of the world. Wayag Island is a true gem, offering a glimpse into the pristine wonders of Raja Ampat.

Culinary

Ikan Bakar in Bunaken

Indulge in the flavours of Bunaken with the famous Grilled Fish (Ikan Bakar). Freshly caught fish, marinated with local spices, is grilled, creating a smoky and flavorful culinary delight. Savour the tender and juicy fish, complemented by a side of aromatic rice and a tangy sambal, for a truly satisfying dining experience.



Kasuami

Kasuami is made from sticky rice cooked by steaming. This food is a symbol of togetherness and often served at certain events. Kasuami has a chewy texture and delicious taste, usually served with various side dishes, such as fish, meat, or vegetables, and is often complemented with chili sauce.



Papeda Kuah Kuning

Papeda Kuah Kuning is a traditional dish that's quite popular around the eastern regions of Maluku and Papua, known for its distinct combination of starchy sago pudding and flavorful yellow soup. The dish features a velvety, translucent papeda made from sago flour, which is served alongside a fragrant yellow soup infused with lemongrass, kaffir lime leaves, galangal, and other aromatic ingredients. Papeda Kuah Kuning can be enjoyed with grilled fish fillets or seafood, adding protein to the dish, while garnishes of chopped green onions and fried shallots provide a final touch of texture and flavor.



Arts

Seashells Crafts of Bunaken

Explore the artistic traditions of the locals through its seashell crafts. Locals transform seashells found in Bunaken into intricate and beautiful creations, ranging from jewellery and accessories to decorative items.



Tenun Ikat of Wakatobi

Discover the cultural heritage of Wakatobi through the exquisite art of Tenun Ikat. This traditional weaving technique produces intricate patterns and designs on fabrics, reflecting the rich cultural tapestry of the region.



Noken Bags of Raja Ampat

Experience the unique craftsmanship of Raja Ampat with the iconic Noken bags. Made from natural fibres, these handwoven bags are not just functional but have throughout time become a symbol of cultural identity. The intricate patterns and vibrant colours of Noken bags represent the traditions and skills passed down through generations, making them a true authentic souvenir from Raja Ampat.



General

Information

General Information

Currency

The currency of Indonesia is Rupiah (IDR).

Timezone

Indonesia has three different time zones of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

WIB: Western Indonesian Time (GMT+7)

WITA: Central Indonesian Time (GMT+8)

WIT: Eastern Indonesian Time (GMT+9)



Electricity

The electricity in Indonesia uses electrical sockets with two round holes. Each socket can carry electricity up to 220 volts.

Weather

Indonesia has two main seasons: wet (or rainy) and dry. Officially, the rainy season starts in October until April. However, it can vary from year to year.

The dry season is around May until September.

The best months for diving are April-May and September-November.



Pocket Dictionary

Introduction

Hello	Halo
Welcome	Selamat datang
How are you? I'm fine	Apa kabar? Baik
Yes/No	Iya/Tidak
Please	Tolong
Excuse me	Permisi
Sorry	Maaf
Thank you	Terima kasih
You're welcome	Sama-sama
Goodbye	Sampai jumpa

What's your name?	Nama anda / kamu siapa?
My name is...	Nama saya/aku...
What's his/her name?	Siapa nama dia?

Good morning	Selamat pagi
Good afternoon	Selamat siang
Good evening	Selamat sore
Good night	Selamat malam
Enjoy your meal	Selamat makan
Good night (before bed)	Selamat tidur

About Oneself

I'm from...	Saya / aku dari
I'm ... years old	Umur saya / aku ...
I'm a ...	Saya / aku adalah ...
I like ...	Saya / aku suka ...
I don't like ...	Saya / aku tidak suka ...

Problems

Can you help me?	Bisa tolong bantu saya?
I don't understand	Saya tidak mengerti
Do you speak English?	Apakah Anda (ber)bicara bahasa Inggris? / Apakah Anda bisa bahasa Inggris?
I don't know	Saya tidak tahu
Please speak slower, I am lost	Tolong bicara lebih pelan, Saya tersesat
Wait a minute	Tunggu sebentar

Question

What is this?	Apa ini?
What is that?	Apa itu?
Where is that?	Dimana itu?
How much is it?	Berapa harganya?
Can I have one more?	Boleh minta satu lagi?
What time is it?	Jam berapa sekarang?

Time

Today	Hari ini	Half an hour	Setengah jam
Yesterday	Kemarin	Second	Detik
Tomorrow	Besok	Minute	Menit
This week	Minggu ini	Hour	Jam
Next week	Minggu depan	Day	Hari
Tonight	Malam ini	Week	Minggu
Yesterday afternoon	Kemarin siang	Month	Bulan
Tommorow morning	Besok pagi	Year	Tahun

Days

Monday	Senin
Tuesday	Selasa
Wednesday	Rabu
Thursday	Kamis
Friday	Jumat
Saturday	Sabtu
Sunday	Minggu

Months

January	Januari	July	Juli
February	Februari	August	Agustus
March	Maret	September	September
April	April	October	Oktober
May	Mei	November	November
June	Juni	December	Desember

Months

One	Satu	Fourteen	Empat Belas
Two	Dua	Fifteen	Lima Belas
Three	Tiga	Sixteen	Enam Belas
Fourteen	Empat	Seventeen	Tujuh Belas
Five	Lima	Eighteen	Delapan Belas
Six	Enam	Nineteen	Sembilan Belas
Seven	Tujuh	Twenty	Dua Puluh
Eight	Delapan	100	Seratus
Nine	Sembilan	110	Seratus Sepuluh
Ten	Sepuluh	1,000	Seribu
Eleven	Sebelas	10,000	Sepuluh Ribu
Twelve	Dua Belas	100,000	Seratus Ribu
Thirteen	Tiga Belas	1,000,000	Satu Juta



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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