

Overseas Adventure Travel[®]

THE LEADER IN CUSTOMIZED SMALL GROUP ADVENTURES SINCE 1978

Your O.A.T. Adventure Travel Planning Guide[®]



Java & Bali: Indonesia's Mystical Islands

2026

Overseas Adventure Travel®

347 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210

Dear Traveler,

I am thrilled that you are considering exploring the world with O.A.T. There are so many wonderful destinations to discover, and the itinerary described inside is a perfect way to fulfill a travel dream.

When you join us, you will slip seamlessly into local life as you explore off the beaten path in your small group. Like all our itineraries, this one is designed to give you an intimate understanding of your destination, not just a superficial view. You will get to know community leaders and try your hand at local trades during your *A Day in the Life* experience, share traditional fare and lively conversation during a Home-Hosted Visit, discuss the Controversial Topics impacting everyday life, and visit sites supported by Grand Circle Foundation. And if you choose to travel solo, you will enjoy all these cultural experiences at an unmatched value, with our FREE Single Supplements—just one of the reasons we continue to be the leader in solo travel.

To ensure you experience the true culture and feel supported every step of the way, we provide the services of a local Trip Experience Leader from the beginning of your adventure to the end. Along with introducing you to the history and culture of their homeland, these friendly experts will gladly help you out with any special requests to make your trip even more special. You can also rely on the seasoned team at our regional office, who are ready to help 24/7 in case any unexpected circumstances arise.

Plus, you can put your own personal stamp on your trip, like the **87% of our travelers who customize their experience**. Perhaps you will choose to see more of your destination by adding an optional trip extension to your itinerary. You can also arrive a few days early to explore independently and get acclimated, customize your air itinerary, and more.

I hope you find this Travel Planning Guide helpful. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact one of our Travel Counselors at **1-800-955-1925**.

Warm regards,



Harriet R. Lewis
Chair
Overseas Adventure Travel

CONTENTS

JAVA & BALI: INDONESIA'S MYSTICAL ISLANDS

Your Adventure at a Glance:

Where You're Going, What it Costs,
and What's Included **4**

Your Detailed Day-To-Day Itinerary **6**

Pre-Trip Extension **17**

Post-Trip Extension **20**

ESSENTIAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Travel Documents & Entry Requirements... **24**

Rigors, Vaccines & General Health **26**

Money Matters: Local Currency &
Tipping Guidelines. **30**

Air, Optional Tours & Staying in Touch **33**

Packing: What to Bring & Luggage Limits... **37**

Climate & Average Temperatures **44**

ABOUT YOUR DESTINATIONS: CULTURE, ETIQUETTE & MORE

Culture & Points to Know..... **47**

Shopping: What to Buy, Customs,
Shipping & More **49**

DEMOGRAPHICS & HISTORY

Indonesia **51**

RESOURCES

Suggested Reading **56**

Suggested Films & Videos **56**

Useful Websites **57**

Useful Apps **58**



Bali

Java & Bali: Indonesia's Mystical Islands

Small Group Adventure

Java: Jakarta, Yogyakarta | **Bali:** Ubud, Candidasa, Sanur

Small groups of no more than 16 travelers, guaranteed

17 days starting from \$4,995

including international airfare

Single Supplement: **FREE**

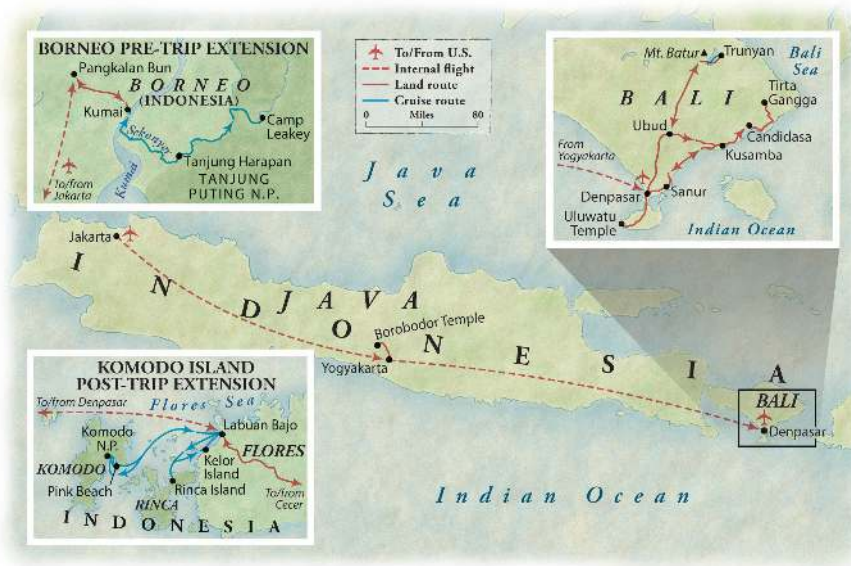
For departure dates & prices, visit www.oattravel.com/jav2026pricing

Travel to Indonesia's tropical islands, where sacred ruins rise out of jungles, monkeys frolic in temples, and artists are still revered. Although Java and Bali are neighbors in the archipelago nation of Indonesia, they each have their own religions, histories, and traditions. Java is the country's political and cultural heart, while Bali is its artistic soul, with a spiritual Hindu population and landscapes that have inspired painters and performers for centuries.

IT'S INCLUDED

- 14 nights accommodation
- International airfare, airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges unless you choose to make your own air arrangements
- All land transportation and 2 internal flights
- 32 meals—14 breakfasts, 11 lunches, and 7 dinners (including 1 Home-Hosted Dinner)
- 15 small group activities
- Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader
- Gratuities for local guides, drivers, and luggage porters
- 5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next adventure

Prices are accurate as of the date of this publishing and are subject to change.



ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAYS	DESTINATION
1-2	Fly to Jakarta, Indonesia
3-5	Jakarta
6-9	Yogyakarta • Borobudur
10-12	Ubud
13-14	Candidasa
15-16	Sanur
17	Fly to U.S.

PERSONALIZE YOUR ADVENTURE

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

Borneo's Rain Forests & Orangutans

PRE-TRIP: 4 nights from **\$2,295**

Komodo Island & Beyond: Land of Dragons

POST-TRIP: 5 nights from **\$1,995**

ARRIVE EARLY

We recommend that you relax after a long flight or explore more in depth before your trip. Prices shown include accommodations and private airport transfer.

- Arrive early in **Jakarta** before your Borneo pre-trip extension or before your main adventure from **\$130** per room, per night

WHAT TO EXPECT

① ② ③ ④ ⑤ Moderately Easy

Pacing: 5 locations in 14 days

Physical requirements: Travel over some rugged paths by bus and on foot; climb many stairs during temple visits. Several day-long overland transfers.

Flight Time: Flight time will be 20-27 hours and will most likely have two connections.

View all physical requirements at www.oattravel.com/jav

INDONESIA: THE O.A.T. DIFFERENCE

Unbeatable Value: Travel at the lowest price and per diems in the industry.

People-to-People Experiences: Share a **Home-Hosted Dinner** with a local family in Yogyakarta and spend **A Day in the Life** of a village in Java's Berbah region, where you'll help out with daily tasks alongside the residents, and share a home-cooked meal together.

O.A.T. Exclusives: Visit the **Grand Circle Foundation**-sponsored Sudirawan Children's Dance School, which seeks to preserve traditional Balinese art. And throughout your adventure, participate in discussions about **Controversial Topics** such as Bali's caste system and human rights issues in the new Indonesian criminal code.

Java & Bali: Indonesia's Mystical Islands

YOUR DETAILED ITINERARY

BEGIN YOUR ADVENTURE WITH AN OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION

4 nights in *Borneo's Rain Forests & Orangutans*

Day 1 Depart U.S.

Day 2 Fly to Jakarta, Indonesia

Day 3 Arrive in Jakarta, Indonesia

Day 4 Fly to Pangkalan Bun • Boat ride to Tanjung Harapan

Day 5 Tanjung Harapan • Sungai Sekonyer Village • **Controversial Topic:** Ethnic tensions on Borneo • Camp Leakey

Day 6 Pondok Tangui • **Controversial**

Topic: The palm oil industry's effect on Borneo's ecosystem • Transfer to Pangkalan Bun

Day 7 Fly to Jakarta • Begin main adventure

Day 1 Begin your journey to Jakarta, Indonesia via a domestic gateway city

Depart from your home city today. Due to different air carriers and varied flight schedules, some travelers will fly from their home city to a domestic gateway city later today. If you are already located in a gateway city, you will likely depart directly from there early in the morning on Day 2.

Day 2 Fly to Jakarta, Indonesia

Early Morning: You'll fly from your domestic gateway city to Jakarta, Indonesia via Hong Kong. Travelers departing very early are advised to arrive at their gateway city the night before their flight.

Day 3 Arrive Jakarta

- Destination: Jakarta
- Accommodations: Santika Hayam Wuruk or similar

Morning: Catch a connecting flight from Hong Kong to Jakarta, Indonesia.

Lunch: On your own, en route.

Afternoon: Arrive in Jakarta on the island of Java, Indonesia. Your Trip Experience Leader will greet you at the airport and escort to your hotel. Here, you'll be joined by travelers who arrived early in Jakarta, or who took the pre-trip extension to *Borneo's Rain Forests & Orangutans*. After you check in, set off on an orientation walk with your Trip Experience Leader. Then, enjoy the rest of the day to relax or begin exploring the city on your own.

Dinner: On your own. Your Trip Experience Leader will be happy to provide you restaurant recommendations, or you can take advantage of the high tea and light refreshments offered by the hotel.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like, whether that's venturing out to explore Jakarta's nightlife or retiring early to rest up for tomorrow's activities.

Day 4 Explore Jakarta • Cooking demonstration in local home

- Destination: Jakarta
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Santika Hayam Wuruk or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today, we'll begin our explorations of Jakarta, the capital and largest city of Indonesia. Originally a trading port of the Kingdom of Sunda in the fourth century, Jakarta caught the attention of the Dutch and became their colonial capital, known as Batavia, during the 17th and 18th centuries. When Indonesia declared its independence in 1945, Jakarta re-emerged as the symbol of both the nation's freedom and its diverse cultural heritage.

We'll start our day with a Welcome Briefing at the hotel. This is a great opportunity to begin getting acquainted with your fellow travelers.

Then, we'll drive to the home of a local family. Here, our host will welcome us into his or her kitchen for a lesson in Indonesian cooking, beginning with an introduction to the spices commonly used in local cuisine. We'll have the opportunity to roll up our sleeves and try our own hand at preparing dishes such as *lontong opor ayam* (Indonesian chicken curry) and *sambal udang pete* (fried shrimp with chilli and Javanese green *pete* bean).

Lunch: We'll sit down with our host to enjoy the fruits of our labor.

Afternoon: You'll have some free time to make your own independent discoveries.

Dinner: Enjoy an included Welcome Dinner at the hotel tonight.

Evening: Free for you to do as you'd like. Check with your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Day 5 Jakarta • Visit Luar Batang Muslim community

- Destination: Jakarta
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Santika Hayam Wuruk or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today we'll head to Luar Batang, a predominantly Muslim community and one of the oldest neighborhoods in Jakarta. When we arrive, we'll walk through the neighborhood to reach the Muslim Women's Center, where we'll be greeted by a local woman who leads the local Muslim women's association, who enlighten us on the role women play in contemporary Indonesian society. Following our discussion, we'll enjoy a performance of Islamic music, featuring traditional instruments like *marawis* (hand drums). We'll learn how these instruments are used to play music that is traditionally performed at ceremonial events like weddings.

Next, we'll travel by *bajai* (three-wheeled scooters) to Fatahillah Square. Once the former administrative and commercial heart of Dutch Colonial Indonesia, the cobblestone square still retains vestiges of its past grandeur. You can explore the square on your own or join your

Trip Experience Leader who can inform you of the significance of the 17th and 18th century colonial architecture before lunch.

Lunch: At a local restaurant in Fatahillah Square.

Afternoon: Your afternoon is free to continue exploring the Indonesian capital on your own; check with your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Dinner: On your own. Perhaps you'll seek out bakpao, a traditional steamed bun filled with pork or vegetables.

Evening: Your evening is free to rest or explore independently.

Day 6 Fly to Yogyakarta • Home-Hosted Dinner

- Destination: Yogyakarta
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Hotel Santika Jogya or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We depart the hotel for our flight to Yogyakarta (pronounced "Jokjakarta" and nicknamed Yogya or "Jogja"). Located in the valley below Mount Merapi, Yogya is the epicenter of Javanese arts, where wooden and silver handcrafts and dance and music performances all abound. It also displays some classic examples of the island's architecture and design, defined by low-rise buildings with tall, pyramid-shaped roofs.

When we arrive this afternoon, we transfer to our hotel.

Lunch: A light lunch will be provided en route to our hotel.

Afternoon: Upon arrival at the hotel, we'll check in and have time to settle in.

Dinner: You'll be welcomed into the home of a local family for a **Home-Hosted Dinner**. The family you visit may be young or old, retired or working. But all will be eager to share with you a glimpse of their lives and routines. Together, you'll sit down to a home-cooked meal of traditional Javanese cuisine. A typical Yogyakarta meal is *gudeg*, unripe jackfruit slowly cooked with palm-sugar and coconut milk for several hours. This might be served with *sambal krecek*, crisp beef skins fried with chili and peanuts. Whatever you dine on, your meal will be seasoned with conviviality and cross-cultural exchange.

Evening: After returning to the hotel, the remainder of the evening is yours to do as you'd like.

Day 7 Explore Borobudur Temple • Optional Explore Yogya by Scooter & Street Food Experience tour

- Destination: Yogyakarta
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Accommodations: Hotel Santika Jogya or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today, we'll visit the colossal Borobudur Temple, which UNESCO calls "one of the greatest Buddhist monuments in the world."

A masterpiece of the Shaliendra dynasty, whose 8th-century reign ushered in a Javanese cultural renaissance, Borobudur is a massive pyramid that rises up from the green plains like the neighboring volcanoes. From its 150,000-square-foot base, we have a chance to climb up the six tiers to the top. Moving from bottom to top, note how the volcanic-rock carvings progress from depictions of the world of desire, to the world of forms, and reaching the pinnacle in the world of formlessness—the

realm of nirvana in Buddhist ideology. The top level is dotted with 72 small latticework stupas, each with a statue of Buddha inside, which we can see through the grates.

We'll leave the complex and stop for a short visit at a family-run *rengginang* bakery. *Rengginang* is a traditional cracker-like snack made of sticky rice, and can have either a sweet or salty flavor. During our time at the bakery, we'll see how the crackers are made and have a chance to sample them ourselves, perhaps as the locals do with a cup of Java coffee.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: After returning to the hotel, you'll be free to make your own discoveries. Perhaps you'll choose to explore one of the region's other historic temples, or you may visit a nearby museum to learn more about the history and culture of Yogyakarta.

Late this afternoon, you can choose to join our optional *Explore Yogya by Scooter & Street Food Experience*, for a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the sights and cuisine of the city. Travel like a local aboard a scooter as you explore Yogya's historical center, admiring landmarks such as Vredenburg Fort and the Presidential Palace, calling upon local street vendors along the way to sample typical Indonesian appetizers.

We'll also wander the narrow alleys of the Kauman neighborhood, home to Masjid Gede (Great Mosque), the oldest mosque in Yogyakarta, then head to the southern courtyard of the city's royal palace, where we'll have the chance to mingle with the citizens who come here to relax, and participate in local traditions. The courtyard is also popular among street food vendors, and their stalls offer us

another opportunity to sample their specialties before concluding our discoveries with dinner at a local restaurant.

Dinner: Travelers on our optional tour will enjoy an included dinner at a local restaurant. Otherwise, dinner is on your own. You might like to try *brongkos*, a beef dish cooked with coconut milk, soy sauce, and local spices.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like.

Day 8 Yogyakarta • *A Day in the Life of Berbah village*

- Destination: Yogyakarta
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Accommodations: Hotel Santika Jogya or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today we'll enjoy an exclusive O.A.T. experience: *A Day in the Life* of a village in Indonesia's Berbah region, located about 5 miles outside of Yogyakarta's city center.

Our first stop will be a visit to a traditional local market, where we'll have a chance to practice a few phrases of Javanese as we interact with shoppers and merchants, and purchase ingredients that we'll later use to prepare lunch with the villagers.

Then, we'll board an *odong-odong*—a traditional local bus, typically decorated in bright and cheerful colors—and drive to the village center, where we'll meet the chief, who will introduce herself and tell us about the community before we set off to explore and meet its members for ourselves.

As we stroll through the village, we'll witness scenes of typical life, with opportunities to roll up our sleeves and pitch in with daily tasks. Depending on the season, we might help out the farmers in their fields as they plant,

harvest, and tend to their crops throughout the year. We'll also learn more about the village's culinary traditions as we help to prepare local staples like tempeh (fermented soy bean cake), and learn how to roast and brew coffee.

Next, we'll return to the chief's house, where we'll help to prepare a community lunch using the ingredients we purchased earlier. We'll learn how to make traditional dishes using the local methods and techniques that the village residents have used for generations.

Lunch: We'll sit down to lunch alongside the villagers. As we eat, we'll have the chance to enjoy intimate conversation with the locals, to get a firsthand view of what daily life is like in this region of Indonesia.

Afternoon: We'll say farewell to our new friends and drive back to our hotel in Yogyakarta. When we arrive, you'll have the remainder of the day to yourself. If you'd like to continue your education into local traditions, consider visiting the Batik Museum, which showcases this Indonesian craft.

Dinner: On your own, whenever you'd like.

Evening: Free for independent explorations. Perhaps you'll join your fellow travelers for a nightcap at the hotel bar.

Day 9 Explore Prambanan Temple • Visit Sekar Rinonce Batik Foundation

- Destination: Yogyakarta
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
- Accommodations: Hotel Santika Jogya or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: After breakfast, we set off for the nearby plains to witness the ninth-century Prambanan Temple complex. Built by the Sanjaya Dynasty, a Hindu group thought to

be political rivals to the Buddhist Sailendra rulers in the area, Prambanan is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the largest Hindu temple complex in Indonesia. Many of its 240 structures collapsed during a major earthquake in the 16th century, and they were largely forgotten by the outside world until British statesman Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles stumbled upon the site in 1811. Still in various states of repair, they retain an aura of being lost in time, awaiting discovery.

Lunch: On your own. Ask your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Afternoon: You'll have some free time to make your own discoveries. Perhaps you'll choose to explore one of the region's other historic temples, or you may visit a nearby museum to learn more about the history and culture of Yogyakarta.

Later, our small group will reconvene and drive to the Sekar Rinonce Batik Foundation. The foundation was established to help preserve the traditional "hand-waxed" Batik craft, which is under serious threat from the mass-produced printed textiles that copy the Batik designs. During the hour or so that we spend here, we'll meet with a senior artist for an introduction to Batik and witness a demonstration of the traditional wax method.

We'll then drive back to our hotel where you'll have some time to relax or freshen up.

Dinner: At a local restaurant.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like, whether that's exploring Yogyakarta's nightlife or retiring early.

Day 10 Fly to Denpasar, Bali • Overland transfer to Ubud • Grand Circle Foundation visit: Sudirawan Children's Dance School

- Destination: Ubud
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Accommodations: SenS Hotel & Spa or similar

Early Morning: Rise early and say farewell to Java this morning as we fly to the tropical paradise of Bali.

Breakfast: We'll enjoy a boxed breakfast on the way to the airport.

Morning: Our flight arrives in Denpasar, Bali late this morning.

A Hindu enclave that stands alone in the middle of the rest of the largely Muslim Indonesia, Bali has fostered a deeply spiritual culture with arts, customs, and social rules unlike any place on Earth. In fact, Balinese Hinduism is a unique *mélange* of different cultural influences, including traditional Hinduism, brought to the island by a Javanese princess and priests in the 16th century; Buddhism, the island's state religion in the seventh century; and indigenous animist and ancestor-deifying religions. Throughout our time here, we'll see how spirituality factors into nearly every aspect of Balinese life.

Upon arrival in Denpasar, we begin our transfer to Ubud, Bali's artistic heart.

Lunch: We'll have a light boxed lunch as we travel to Ubud.

Afternoon: We continue our drive to Ubud, stopping along the way in a nearby village to visit the Sudirawan Children's Dance School, a **NEW Grand Circle Foundation site**. The school is run by Sudirawan and his wife with the goal of encouraging Balinese art and

cultural preservation. The school provides an almost free education in traditional dance and music in the hopes of getting more young Balinese children interested in learning these declining arts. Here, we'll meet students who will teach us some of the moves of traditional Legong dancing. Note the precise footwork and finger movements and the ornate costumes of the dancers. Afterward, we'll be treated to a special performance accompanied by a live band—and perhaps we'll even dance along at the end.

Afterwards, we depart for our hotel, check in, and enjoy the rest of the day free to get acquainted with Ubud.

Dinner: On your own. Ask your Trip Experience Leader for restaurant recommendations.

Evening: Free. Perhaps you'll take a stroll through town to check out the local nightlife.

Day 11 Visit “happy yoga” master • Controversial Topic: The Balinese caste system with a mixed caste couple

- Destination: Ubud
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: SenS Hotel & Spa or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today we'll visit the nearby village of Batuan. Here, we'll meet a spiritual practitioner and a “happy yoga” instructor. Every day, she produces *tirta* holy water, an essential element in Balinese spiritual rituals. In the afternoon, she teaches “happy yoga” for senior women in her village. Her unique style combines easy-to-follow, basic yoga poses; the stretching movement of Balinese dance; and communal laughter. We'll learn about the process of making *tirta* during a Q&A session. Afterwards, join her and her female relatives

in making *canang*, the simplest form of daily offering, which is made of woven palm-leaf and an assortment of local flowers.

Our next stop is the village of Batuyang. Here, we'll enter the home of a local couple to learn about the **Controversial Topic** of the Balinese caste system. The husband and wife come from different castes: a low caste and a higher one. They will talk to us about the history of the Balinese caste system, a centuries-old tradition which dates back to the time of Balinese kingdoms. They will also explain the difficulties faced by women of higher castes who are married to lower caste men, highlighting their own personal experiences with this issue. While more and more Balinese people are marrying outside their caste, the system still divides society today.

After our visit, we'll depart for a local restaurant for lunch.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: We'll drive back to our hotel where the rest of the afternoon is free for you to continue exploring at your own pace. If you'd like, you may join your Trip Experience Leader for a walk across the ridge of Campuhan Hill on the northwestern outskirts of Ubud. The gentle hike passes through a scenic valley, rice fields, and a rural artists' community.

Or, remain in town and spend your free time exploring Ubud's vibrant art scenes. In the 1920s, Ubud grew from a sleepy but charming village into a nucleus for the arts. The scenic rice fields, hills, and streams surrounding the town enticed European painters like Walter Spies and Rudolf Bonnet to settle there. They brought with them an influx of arts funding—which in turn, drew local painters, carvers, woodworkers, and performers.

Dinner: At a local restaurant.

Evening: Free for your own discoveries. Your Trip Experience Leader will be happy to provide suggestions on how best to spend an evening in Ubud.

Day 12 Boat ride to Trunyan Village • Meet with an animist spiritual leader

- Destination: Ubud
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Accommodations: SenS Hotel & Spa or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today we'll drive to the Mount Batur area. We'll travel to the village of Trunyan, crossing Lake Batur by motorboat to get there. Trunyan is home to the Bali Aga ethnic group, known for their ancestral rituals and animist spiritual beliefs. Contrary to Balinese tradition, the people of Trunyan do not practice cremation, but display their dead in open graves, concealed by bamboo lattices and remarkably preserved by the roots of the fragrant taru menyan tree. We'll take a walking tour around the village and its environs, enjoying striking views of the Kintamani Volcano and Lake Batur. While in the village, we'll meet with a local religious leader to learn more about the village's animist beliefs. Then, we take a short boat ride to a local cemetery to see Trunyan's unique graves.

We'll return by boat to the Mount Batur area later this morning.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: The rest of your afternoon is free. You may choose to visit one of Ubud's many art museums. Museum Puri Lukisan has Balinese works of art from the 16th century all the way through to the 20th century on display, and the Neka Art Museum has a private collection of art that showcases myriad painting styles.

Dinner: On your own, whenever you'd like. Consider trying *mie goreng*, an Indonesian fried noodle dish served with vegetables and shrimp or pork.

Evening: Free. Craving something sweet? Cap off your night with *pisang goreng*, or deep-friend plantain.

Day 13 Visit master mask maker • Overland transfer to Candidasa

- Destination: Candidasa
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Candi Beach Resort & Spa or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We'll check out of our hotel in Ubud and begin our overland transfer to Candidasa, a seaside town on Bali's eastern end. We'll break up our drive with a visit to the home of a local artisanal mask-making master who has dedicated his life to crafting traditional Balinese masks. We'll meet with him and his son to learn about the techniques they use and the various characters from whom they draw inspiration. During the time we spend with the men, we'll have the chance to try our hands at the art of mask making, as well as learn some of the movements used to bring the masks to life.

Then we'll continue our drive, stopping next for lunch.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: We continue our drive, arriving at our hotel in Candidasa where we will check in. You'll have some free time to freshen up after our transfer, or take advantage of the hotel's amenities.

Dinner: At a local restaurant.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like. Check with your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Day 14 Candidasa • Meet local blacksmith • Visit Balinese villages & salak palm orchard • Explore Tirta Gangga

- Destination: Candidasa
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Candi Beach Resort & Spa or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today, we'll drive through the picturesque rural villages along the southern slopes of Mount Agung. Our first stop on our journey is to the home of a Balinese blacksmith. We'll take a tour of the blacksmith's workshop and learn about the metalworks he produces, such as *keris*, or ceremonial daggers. We'll enjoy a Q&A session with the blacksmith about the craftsmanship that goes into the blades he makes, and why they are an important part of Balinese rituals. As we'll learn, the tradition of *keris* making is now a dying art on the island of Bali, making our visit to this blacksmith's workshop all the more special.

We'll next drive to Sidemen, a mountain village where weavers make *ikat* textiles, a traditional Balinese technique of dyeing fabric. Here, our small group will get an intimate glimpse of this industry when we meet with local weavers. You'll have a chance to try your own hand at dyeing an *ikat* fabric.

Then we'll set off for our next destination—a salak palm orchard. Salak, also known as snakeskin fruit for its scaly outer layer, is a small sweet fruit indigenous to Indonesia that packs an apple-worthy crunch. During our visit to the family-run orchard, we'll see how this fruit is harvested and visit the on-site workshop to find out how the family turns raw salak into tasty treats. You'll even have a chance to try salak candies and crackers.

Afterwards, we'll continue on to Tirta Gangga, a former summer residence of the Karang Asem royal family.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: After lunch, we'll enjoy some time to explore Tirta Gangga. Literally meaning "Water from the Ganges" (Hinduism's most holy river), Tirta Gangga was built around a sacred spring, which feeds four large pools dotted with stone statues, shrines, and pagodas. Beautifully landscaped gardens and a magnificent 11-tiered fountain complete the idyllic scene.

We'll then return to our hotel in Candidasa, after which you'll have some free time.

Dinner: At the hotel restaurant.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like. Check with your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Day 15 Overland transfer to Sanur • Meet salt miners in Kusamba • Purification ceremony at Taman Baginda Temple

- Destination: Sanur
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Accommodations: Taksu Sanur Hotel or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We check out of our Candidasa hotel and drive to Kusamba, a coastal village known for its black sand beach. Here, we'll visit the home of a married couple who work as salt miners. We'll spend some time with the pair learning about the salt mining process, why they got into this line of work, and what they like to do during their free time. If the day is sunny, you may be able to see salt miners hard at work transforming seawater into high quality salt.

Then, we'll drive to the Taman Baginda Purification Temple. A Hindu priest will conduct a purification ceremony using water from the temple's holy spring. We are welcome to participate in this traditional rite, which is believed to provide spiritual cleansing. Afterwards, we continue our overland transfer to Sanur.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: We continue our drive to Sanur. When we arrive, we'll check in to our hotel. The rest of your day is free for independent discoveries in Sanur.

Dinner: On your own. For a truly authentic meal, go to the Sanur night market to sample a variety of street foods and enjoy the people watching.

Evening: Free for your own discoveries. You might like to take a nighttime stroll down Jalan Danau Tamblingan, Sanur's tree-lined main street.

Day 16 Explore Uluwatu Cliffside Temple

- Destination: Sanur
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
- Accommodations: Taksu Sanur Hotel or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: After breakfast, we'll drive southwest to Pura Luhur Uluwatu, or the Temple above the Headstone. With origins that date back to the tenth century, it's one of the most striking examples of a Balinese sea temple, perched on a cliff 330 feet above the water. Two types of creatures greet visitors here: statues of the elephant-headed Hindu god, Ganesha, and a resident colony of mischievous macaque monkeys. We have time to explore the ancient

structure and take in the dramatic seascapes along its promenade before departing back to our hotel.

Lunch: On your own in Sanur. Ask your Trip Experience Leader for restaurant recommendations.

Afternoon: You'll have some free time to explore Sanur on your own, or simply relax. Feel free to consult with your Trip Experience Leader about activity suggestions.

Dinner: Enjoy a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like on your last night in Indonesia. Perhaps you'll join your fellow travelers for a nightcap in the hotel bar.

Day 17 Fly to U.S. or begin post-trip extension

• Included Meals: Breakfast

Activity Note: You may wish to break up your flights back to the U.S. with an optional overnight stay in Los Angeles. Please call our Travel Counselors for details.

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Enjoy a free morning to make any last discoveries in Sanur. Then, we'll check out of our hotel and drive to the airport to begin our journey home. Travelers on the post-trip extension to *Komodo Island & Beyond: Land of Dragons* will fly from Denpasar to Labuan Bajo this morning.

Lunch: On your own. You may like to pick up something quick at the airport before your flight.

Afternoon/Evening: Fly to Los Angeles via Taipei. Upon arrival, you'll transfer to your connecting flight home.

END YOUR ADVENTURE WITH AN OPTIONAL POST-TRIP EXTENSION

5 nights in *Komodo Island & Beyond: Land of Dragons*

Day 1 Fly to Labuan Bajo, Flores

Day 2 Boat ride to Komodo Island • Picnic lunch on pink sand beach • Swimming & snorkeling

Day 3 Discover Cecer Village • Conversation about Manggarai culture

Day 4 Visit Rinca Island • Search for Komodo Dragons • Discover Bidadari Island

Day 5 Labuan Bajo • Fly to Denpasar, Bali • Transfer to Kuta

Day 6 Denpasar • Fly to Los Angeles via Hong Kong

Day 7 Continue trip home

OPTIONAL TOURS

During your trip you will be able to book optional tours directly with your Trip Experience Leader. He or she will ask you to confirm the payment for these tours by filling out a payment form. Optional tours can only be purchased with a credit or debit card. We accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover credit cards. We also accept Visa and MasterCard debit cards, but it must be a debit card that allows you to sign for purchases.

In order to correctly process these charges, there can be a delay of 2–3 months from the date of your return for the charges to be posted to your account. Therefore we ask that you use a card that will not expire in the 2–3 months following your return.

Please note: Optional tour prices are listed in U.S. dollar estimates determined at the time of publication and are subject to change. Optional tours may vary.

Explore Yogya by Scooter & Street Food Experience

(Day 7 \$75 per person)

Join our optional Yogya street food adventure by scooter, sampling some of the sights and cuisine of the city. Travel like a local aboard a scooter as you explore Yogya's historical center, admiring landmarks such as Vredeburg Fort and the Presidential Palace, calling upon local street vendors along the way to eat your fill of typical Indonesian appetizers.

We'll also wander the narrow alleys of the Kauman neighborhood, home to Masjid Gede (Great Mosque), the oldest mosque in Yogya, then head to the southern courtyard of the city's royal palace, where we'll have the chance to mingle with the citizens who come here to relax, and participate in local traditions. The courtyard is also popular among street food vendors, and their stalls offer us another opportunity to sample their specialties before heading to a local restaurant for dinner.

PRE-TRIP

Borneo's Rain Forests & Orangutans

INCLUDED IN YOUR PRICE

- » Roundtrip airfare between Jakarta and Pangkalan Bun
- » 4 nights accommodations
- » 12 meals—4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 4 dinners
- » 3 small group activities
- » Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader
- » Gratuities for local guides, drivers, and luggage porters
- » All transfers

PRE-TRIP EXTENSION ITINERARY

Discover exotic Borneo, traveling by riverboat to an Indonesian national park that is home to orangutans—a primate closely related to humans. Here we also have chances to observe many other kinds of wildlife, and to meet the charming people of this tropical island.

Day 1 Depart U.S.

Your air journey to Jakarta begins today.

Day 2 Fly to Jakarta, Indonesia

Activity Note: Your flight to Hong Kong will leave from the West Coast in the very early morning. Travelers will likely need to travel to the West Coast the day before in order to make their international flight.

Early Morning: Your journey continues as you board an early morning flight to Hong Kong, a stop on your way to Jakarta.

Day 3 Arrive in Jakarta, Indonesia

- Destination: Jakarta
- Included Meals: Dinner
- Accommodations: Swiss-Belhotel Airport or similar

Morning: Arrive in Hong Kong this morning and catch a connecting flight to Jakarta, Indonesia's capital city.

Afternoon: Upon arrival, we'll be met by our O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader at the airport and then we'll transfer to our nearby hotel. After checking in, enjoy some time to relax.

Your Trip Experience Leader will lead a Welcome Briefing later this afternoon to go over your itinerary in more detail and to answer any questions you may have.

Dinner: At the hotel.

Evening: On your own—retire early to your room to rest up for tomorrow’s activities, or check with your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions on how to spend your free time.

Day 4 Fly to Pangkalan Bun • Boat ride to Tanjung Harapan

- Destination: Borneo
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Rimba Orangutan Ecolodge or similar

Activity Note: Local airlines are subject to frequent schedule changes and flight cancellations. We will make every effort to ensure that these changes do not impact your experience.

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We catch a morning flight for Pangkalan Bun on the Indonesian part of the island of Borneo, then travel to the port of Kumai.

From there, we board a *klotok*—a traditional style of riverboat—and cruise on the Sekonyer River to Tanjung Harapan, the gateway to Tanjung Puting National Park. This park protects a 140-million-year-old tropical forest that is home to an outstanding diversity of plant and animal life, including orangutans. As we cruise, you may spot wildlife—this is a good time to bring out the binoculars. If we’re lucky, we’ll catch a glimpse of the proboscis monkey, the primate with the Durante-esque nose.

Lunch: Onboard our *klotok* as we cruise.

Afternoon: We arrive in Tanjung Harapan and check in at our eco-lodge. You’ll have some free time to explore on your own. You may choose to take a *klotok* to the Tanjung Harapan feeding station where you’ll have the chance to encounter orangutans—close relatives of humans.

Dinner: At the lodge.

Evening: Free to do as you’d like—check with your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Day 5 Tanjung Harapan • Sungai Sekonyer Village • Controversial Topic: Ethnic tensions on Borneo • Camp Leakey

- Destination: Borneo
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Rimba Orangutan Ecolodge or similar

Early Morning: After waking up to birdsong and the whoop-whoop of the gibbon’s call, we’ll board a *klotok* to reach a local village.

Breakfast: Onboard our *klotok* as we cruise.

Morning: We will arrive in Sungai Sekonyer village, where we’ll have the chance to interact with local people and learn about their way of life. The village’s residents used to live inside the nearby National Park before being relocated to the present settlement. The once semi-nomadic people now make their living as fishermen, farmers or even as rangers at the park. As we’ll see, some families still preserve the palm-leaf weaving tradition of their ancestors.

During our time in the village, we’ll meet with a local Muslim woman married to a Dayak tribesman to learn about the **Controversial Topic** of ethnic tensions on Borneo. In 2001, a series of riots broke out between the Dayak, a group indigenous to Borneo, and the increasing number of Muslim immigrants from Java. Sadly, the riots escalated to violence and thousands of people were killed on both sides of the conflict.

Lunch: Served on the *klotok* as we voyage to our next destination, Camp Leakey.

Afternoon: We'll arrive at Camp Leakey, which has been the base for dozens of research efforts. We will visit the camp's feeding station, for a firsthand look at the work the rangers do here to preserve the local orangutan community. After our time here, we'll board our *klotok* and return to the lodge, hoping for sights of proboscis monkeys along the way.

Dinner: We'll enjoy dinner together on board as we cruise back to the lodge.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like—check with your Trip Experience Leader.

Day 6 Pondok Tangui • Controversial Topic: The palm oil industry's effect on Borneo's ecosystem • Transfer to Pangkalan Bun

- Destination: Borneo
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Grand Kecubung Hotel or similar

Early Morning: We'll check out of our lodge and board a *klotok* to reach our next destination.

Breakfast: Onboard our *klotok* as we cruise.

Morning: We cruise to the Pandok Tangui feeding station, which we reach with a short trek through the jungle. Orangutan rehabilitation necessitates feedings to supplement the diet of these primates until they are fully able to forage for themselves. The feeding stations in the park provide us with our best opportunities to observe these auburn-haired apes.

While here, we'll also learn about the **Controversial Topic** of palm oil harvesting and the industry's impact on the environment. Indonesia is one of the world's largest producers and exporters of palm oil, but

the industry's rapid growth is threatening the delicate eco-system of Borneo, and is a particular threat to the orangutans.

Lunch: Back aboard the boat as we cruise to the jetty.

Afternoon: Bid farewell to our *klotok*'s crew and drive by bus to Pangkalan Bun in the mid-afternoon. Here, we'll check in to our hotel and enjoy a free afternoon.

Dinner: At a local restaurant.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like—ask your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Day 7 Fly to Jakarta • Begin main adventure

- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Activity Note: We rise early today to catch our flight to Jakarta.

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We'll check out of our hotel later this morning and begin our drive to the airport.

Lunch: At a local restaurant en route to the airport.

Afternoon: This afternoon, we'll arrive at the airport and catch our flight to Jakarta, where we'll join the rest of the group at our hotel to begin our *Java & Bali* adventure.

POST-TRIP

Komodo Island & Beyond: Land of Dragons

INCLUDED IN YOUR PRICE

- » International airfare from Denpasar, Bali, to Labuan Bajo, Flores
- » 5 nights accommodations
- » 13 meals—6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 3 dinners
- » 4 small group activities
- » Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader
- » Gratuities for local guides, drivers, and luggage porters
- » All transfers

POST-TRIP EXTENSION ITINERARY

Discover why the first Dutch sailors to arrive on Komodo Island dubbed the legendary ten-foot lizards “dragons.” Explore nearby Rinca Island, and get to know the people who share this archipelago, witnessing their traditional arts and exploring the dramatic landscapes they call home, from mountain caves to a pink-sand beach.

Day 1 Fly to Labuan Bajo, Flores

- Destination: Labuan Bajo
- Included Meals: Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Bintang Flores Hotel or similar

Morning: We leave Denpasar and fly to Labuan Bajo, where we’ll transfer to our hotel.

Ideal for swimming and snorkeling, the small fishing village of Labuan Bajo is located on the western end of Flores and has become the gateway town for trips to nearby Komodo Island and Rinca Island. We’ll spend some time this morning exploring the harbor, visiting the local fish market, and mingling with members of this waterfront community.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: Free for you to continue exploring Labuan Bajo on your own. You might like to visit Bukit Cinta (Love Hill) to take in lovely panoramic views as the sun sets on Labuan Bajo and the sea.

Dinner: At a local restaurant.

Evening: Free—check with your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Day 2 Boat ride to Komodo Island • Picnic lunch on pink sand beach • Swimming & snorkeling

- Destination: Komodo Island
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Accommodations: Bintang Flores Hotel or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We transfer to Labuan Bajo's rustic jetty, where wooden homes and piers hug the blue water. We board small boats for our ride to Komodo Island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Like Australia, Komodo was first settled as a penal exile colony, but the descendants of its first settlers are now avid fishermen.

It's not the human inhabitants for whom the island is best known in the popular imagination however; that distinction goes to the island's "dragons," the existence of which was first reported 200 years ago but not proved until the early 20th century. More accurately described as a monitor lizard, the scaly giants have attracted scientists and curious travelers from around the globe. A local ranger will greet us when we go ashore on Komodo Island, then lead us on a walking exploration of the island's flora and fauna, keeping an eye out for the lizards. They have famously keen hearing, so our guide may encourage us to be fairly quiet on our walk, in hopes of not disrupting its natural behavior patterns.

Then, we discover the island's other unique feature: pink sand. One of only a handful of pink sand beaches on Earth, this shoreline is colored by foraminifera, living marine protozoa which turn the sand reddish; when the red sand and white beach sand are tumbled together by the tide, the resulting blend is an attractive pink color.

Lunch: We'll enjoy a picnic on the pink sand beach for lunch.

Afternoon: We'll remain at the pink sand beach for the early afternoon, leaving time for snorkeling or swimming. Then, we return by boat to Flores, where you'll enjoy free time to explore.

Dinner: On your own. Ask your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions on where to dine.

Evening: Free.

Day 3 Discover Cecer Village • Conversation about Manggarai culture

- Destination: Labuan Bajo
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- Accommodations: Bintang Flores Hotel or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We spend the day getting to know what life on the island of Flores is like with a visit to Cecer Village, where the clan-based Manggarai speak their own dialect. Though their tribal population rose to a half million in the 20th century, their numbers have dwindled somewhat in recent years, and village elders are working hard to preserve their culture, which we'll learn about during conversations with members of the community.

During our time in the village we'll also witness Caci dancing, a sport in which masked men wield whips in stylized combat that is meant to symbolize the unity of men and women in creation. Then, we watch villagers pounding homegrown coffee beans into powder and learn about their seasonal crops. As we talk with the locals, we'll enjoy a richer understanding of village life and Manggarai culture. We return to Labuan Bajo this afternoon.

Lunch: At a local restaurant.

Afternoon: The balance of the afternoon is yours to enjoy. Perhaps you'll stroll among the stalls of the ocean-side market for local favorites such as fried locally caught squid or *martabak* pancakes, stuffed with chocolate, cheese, fruit, and nuts.

Dinner: At a local restaurant.

Evening: Free—consider asking your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions.

Day 4 Visit Rinca Island • Search for Komodo Dragons • Discover Bidadari Island

- Destination: Labuan Bajo
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Accommodations: Bintang Flores Hotel or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Today, we enjoy a rare opportunity to discover Rinca, an island few Americans visit. Smaller than Komodo Island, this is the best locale for having a chance to witness Komodo dragons in their natural habitat.

We begin our explorations aboard a traditional tall mast fishing boat like the ones used by islanders. Our boat brings us to Rinca, where a ranger will guide us on our quest to see the mighty creatures—the longest lizards on Earth—which often grow to a length of nearly ten feet.

Lunch: Back aboard our vessel as we cruise to Bidadari Island.

Afternoon: On Bidadari, we enjoy free time to relax and swim along the island's beautiful shore.

We return to our hotel in Labuan Bajo later this evening, and the rest of the day is free for independent discoveries.

Dinner: On your own. Your Trip Experience Leader will be happy to provide dining suggestions.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like. Perhaps you'll stroll along the harbor.

Day 5 Labuan Bajo • Fly to Denpasar, Bali • Transfer to Kuta

- Destination: Kuta
- Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
- Accommodations: Bintang Kuta Hotel or similar

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: We'll check out of our hotel and transfer to the airport for our flight to Denpasar, Bali. Upon arrival, we'll transfer to our centrally-located hotel in nearby Kuta, check in, and receive room assignments.

Lunch: On your own.

Afternoon: Enjoy some time to settle into your room or explore Kuta independently.

Dinner: At a local restaurant.

Evening: Free to do as you'd like. Perhaps you'll head out to a local bar with your fellow travelers for one final night together.

Day 6 Denpasar • Fly to Los Angeles via Hong Kong

- Included Meals: Breakfast

Activity Note: You may wish to break up your flights back to the U.S. with an optional overnight stay in Los Angeles. Please call our Travel Counselors for details.

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: A morning free to explore awaits you in Denpasar, where you can shop, unwind on beautiful Kuta Beach, or visit a park that features traditional Balinese art.

Lunch: On your own today. Ask your Trip Experience Leader for suggestions on where to dine.

Afternoon: We transfer to the Denpasar airport to begin our return journey home. Travelers who purchased air and an optional overnight stay in Los Angeles with O.A.T. will check in to our airport hotel upon arrival in the “City of Angels.”

Dinner: On your own.

Evening: Free to explore Los Angeles or retire early after your flight.

Day 7 Continue trip home

- Included Meals: Breakfast

Activity Note: Today’s itinerary only applies to travelers who have purchased air and an optional overnight stay in Los Angeles with O.A.T.

Breakfast: At the hotel.

Morning: Return to the airport for your flight to your final destination.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Your Passport

- Must be in good condition
- Must be valid for at least 6 months after your scheduled return to the U.S.
- Must have the required number of blank pages (details below)
- The blank pages must be labeled “Visas” at the top. Pages labeled “Amendments and Endorsements” are not acceptable

Need to Renew Your Passport?

Contact the National Passport Information Center (NPIC) at **1-877-487-2778**, or visit the U.S. Department of State’s official website at **www.travel.state.gov** for information on obtaining a new passport or renewing your existing passport. The U.S. Department of State allows for passport renewal by mail or, for applicable citizens, renewal online. We advise you review the process and requirements for online passport renewal on the official website.

You may also contact our recommended visa service company, PVS International, at **1-800-556-9990** for help with your passport.

Recommended Blank Pages

Please confirm that your passport has enough blank pages for this adventure.

- **Main trip only:** If you are taking only the main trip, you will need 3 blank passport pages.
- **Extensions in Borneo or Dragon Islands:** As both of these extensions are in Indonesia, no additional pages are needed.

Visa Required

We’re providing the information below as a guideline on what to expect during your adventure. This information is for U.S. citizens only. All visas and fees are subject to change.

- **Indonesia:** A visa is required. U.S. travelers arriving into certain airports, such as the Soekarno-Hatta International airport (which O.A.T. uses) are required to pay a \$35 entry fee to obtain a visa. You will also be required to show proof of your return flights.

Traveling Without a U.S. Passport?

If you are not a U.S. citizen, or if your passport is from any country other than the U.S., it is your responsibility to check with your local consulate, embassy, or a visa services company about visa requirements. We recommend the services of PVS International, a national visa service located in Washington D.C.; they can be reached at **1-800-556-9990** or **www.pvsinternational.org**.

Traveling With a Minor?

Some governments may require certain documentation for minors to enter and depart the country or to obtain a visa (if applicable). For further detail on the required documentation, please contact your local embassy or consulate.

Emergency Photocopies of Key Documents

We recommend you carry color photocopies of key documents including the photo page of your passport plus any applicable visas, air itinerary, credit cards (front and back), and an alternative form of ID. Add emergency phone numbers like your credit card company and the number for your travel protection plan. Store copies separate from the originals.

If you plan to email this information to yourself, please keep in mind that email is not always secure; consider using password protection or encryption. Also email is not always available worldwide. As an alternative, you could load these documents onto a flash drive instead, which can do double-duty as a place to backup photos during your trip.

Overseas Taxes & Fees

This tour may have taxes and fees that cannot be included in your airline ticket price because you are required to pay them in person onsite. All taxes are subject to change without notice and can be paid in cash (either U.S. or local currency).

RIGORS, VACCINES & GENERAL HEALTH

Is This Adventure Right for You?

Please review the information below prior to departing on this adventure. We reserve the right for our Trip Experience Leaders to modify participation, or in some circumstances send travelers home, if their condition would adversely affect the health, safety, or enjoyment of themselves or of other travelers.

PACING

- 5 locations in 14 days

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Not appropriate for travelers using wheelchairs, walkers, or other mobility aids
- You must be able to walk 2-3 miles and ascend hills and numerous stairs unassisted, and participate in 4-6 hours of physical activities each day
- Agility and balance are required for boarding cyclo-rickshaw
- We reserve the right for Trip Experience Leaders to restrict participation, or in some circumstances send travelers home, if their limitations impact the group's experience

CLIMATE

- Daytime temperatures range from 75-90°F, often with high humidity

TERRAIN & TRANSPORTATION

- Travel over some rugged paths by bus and on foot
- Temple visits feature numerous steps, while hikes and walks will require walking up and down hills
- Travel by 21-passenger coach, 3-wheeled scooter, and motorboat
- Two 90-minute internal flights and several day-long overland transfers

FLIGHT INFORMATION

- Travel time will be 20-27 hours and will most likely have two connections of between 2-3 hours
- Local airlines used for Borneo flights on our optional *Borneo's Rain Forests & Orangutans* extension are subject to frequent schedule changes and flight cancellations. We will make every effort to ensure that these changes do not impact your experience

ACCOMMODATIONS & FACILITIES

- All accommodations feature private baths and Western-style toilets

IMPORTANT: THIS ADVENTURE INCLUDES HIKES, LONG WALKS, AND TEMPLE VISITS WITH LOTS OF STAIRS!

- Hikes/Long Walks: We'll have at least two hikes/long walks on the main trip (Days 12 and 16) and two more on the post-trip extension. All hikes are 1–2 hours long, on a combination of paved and dirt surfaces, and involve hills. Walking sticks are highly recommended.
- Temple Visits: We'll tour three different temples on the main trip (Days 7, 9, and 16). Each visit involves up to two hours of walking and up to 250 stairs to the main sanctuary. Often the stairs are steep, uneven, and without handrails, meaning good balance is key, and walking sticks are recommended.

Steps to Take Before Your Trip

Before you leave on this adventure, we recommend the following:

- Check with the CDC for their recommendations for the countries you'll be visiting. You can contact them online at **www.cdc.gov/travel** or by phone at **1-800-232-4636**.
- Have a medical checkup with your doctor at least 6 weeks before your trip.
- Pick up any necessary medications, both prescription and over-the-counter.
- Have a dental and/or eye checkup. (Recommended, but less urgent)

No Vaccines Required

Recommended Vaccines

At the time of writing there were no required vaccines for this trip. The CDC recommends that all travelers be up to date on their routine vaccinations and on basic travel vaccines like Hepatitis A and Typhoid, but these are suggestions only. However, this could change in future so we encourage you to check with the CDC yourself before meeting with your doctor.

Medication Suggestions

- An antibiotic medication for gastrointestinal illness
- Prescription pain medication in the unlikely event of an injury in a remote location
- Anti-malaria medication—but only for the Borneo and Dragon Islands extensions. At time of writing, the CDC suggested this medication for travelers to Borneo or the Dragon Islands (Nusa Tenggara Timur province), but not for the main trip. Anti-malarial medication can have strong side effects, so be certain to ask your doctor first.

Traveling with Medications

- **Pack medications in your carry-on bag** to avoid loss and to have them handy.
- **Keep medicines in their original, labeled containers** for a quicker security screen at the airport and a better experience if you get stopped by customs while overseas.

- **Bring copies of your prescriptions**, written using the generic drug name rather than a brand name to be prepared for any unforeseen loss of your medications.

We recommend checking with the State Department for medication restrictions by country: **travel.state.gov** (Go to “Find International Travel Information”, select “Country Information”, then enter the country into the search bar; if you don’t see any medications specifically mentioned under the “Health” section, then you can presume major U.S. brands should be OK).

Staying Healthy on Your Trip

Jet Lag Tips

- Start your trip well-rested.
- Begin a gradual transition to your new time zone before you leave or switch to your destination time zone when you get on the plane.
- Attempt to sleep and eat according to the new schedule.
- Avoid heavy eating and drinking caffeine or alcoholic beverages right before—and during—your flight.
- Drink plenty of water and/or fruit juice while flying
- Stretch your legs, neck, and back periodically while seated on the plane.
- After arrival, avoid the temptation to nap.
- Don’t push yourself to see a lot on your first day.
- Try to stay awake your first day until after dinner.

Allergies

If you have any serious allergies or dietary restrictions, we advise you to notify us at least 30 days prior to your departure. Please call our Travel Counselors at **1-800-221-0814**, and we will communicate them to our regional office. Every effort will be made to accommodate you.

Water

- Tap water on this adventure is not safe to drink, so we recommend you use only bottled water for drinking and brushing your teeth.
- Avoid drinks with ice or salads/fruits unless you first confirm that the ice is made with safe water or the salad/fruit has been washed in safe water. (Fruit you peel yourself should be fine.)
- Hot drinks made with water are safe if they have been boiled.
- Bottled water is readily available for purchase; just be sure to check that the cap is sealed properly before buying.

Food

- We've carefully chosen the restaurants for your group meals. Your Trip Experience Leader can suggest restaurants for meals you take on your own.
- When dining on your own, keep in mind that meats sold by street vendors may not have had proper refrigeration.
- Be cautious with non-pasteurized milk products—they may or may not upset your stomach.

Electricity Supply

A constant electricity supply cannot be guaranteed during overnight stays. Specifically, electricity can be an issue on the Borneo or Komodo extensions; on the main trip it is pretty stable. Travelers dependent on electricity supply (as in the case of those with sleep apnea) should consider a different O.A.T. adventure or ensure their apparatus has back-up battery power.

MONEY MATTERS: LOCAL CURRENCY & TIPPING GUIDELINES

Top Three Tips

- **Carry a mix of different types of payments**, such as U.S. dollars, local currency, an ATM card, and a credit card. Traveler's checks are not accepted in the countries you will be visiting.
- **Traveler's checks are not recommended.** They can be difficult to exchange and are rarely accepted in shops and restaurants.
- **U.S. dollars should be in excellent condition.** Torn, worn, dirty, or taped U.S. bills may not be accepted.

Local Currency

For current exchange rates, please refer to an online converter tool like www.xe.com/currencyconverter, your bank, or the financial section of your newspaper.

Indonesia: Indonesian Rupiah (Rp)

How to Exchange Money

You can change money when you arrive at banks, most hotels, and money exchange offices. In some countries you do not even need to exchange money at all—you can use U.S. dollars. For information on what type of currency can be used on this trip, see the “Currency” section.

You can also obtain local currency from an ATM. Using a local ATM on an international network will allow you to withdraw money from your U.S. account in local currency; your bank at home will calculate the conversion rate and charge you in U.S. dollars. Please note that ATMs are hard to find in the Dragon Islands and parts of Borneo. We recommend that you bring enough cash to cover expenses and plan to use an ATM card as a supplement.

Throughout the trip, your Trip Experience Leader can advise you of ATM availability and warn you before you enter areas where there are no ATMs, but will not be able to guarantee which ATM will take your card.

ATMs

When using the ATM, keep in mind that it may only accept cards from local banks, and may not allow cash advances on credit cards; you might need to try more than one ATM or more than one card. Many banks will charge a set fee or a percentage fee each time you use a foreign ATM. We recommend that you check with your bank before you depart. Don't forget to memorize the actual digits of your card's PIN number (many keypads at foreign ATMs do not include letters on their keys—they only display numbers.)

In most countries, ATMs are widely available in major cities. If you are in a rural location, it will likely be harder to find an ATM. If you are visiting a country that has different expectation for ATMs, they will be listed below.

Indonesia: ATMs are usually not hard to find in Indonesia unless you are in a remote or rural area (the Dragon Islands; parts of Borneo). However, not all ATMs in Indonesia are open 24/7—some have downtime hours when they shut down or are inaccessible—and not every ATM will accept foreign cards. You may need to try more than one machine to get money.

Credit & Debit Cards

While traveling, most countries and major cities will accept credit cards. We suggest that you bring one or two, especially if you are planning a large purchase (artwork, jewelry). We also suggest that you bring more than one brand of card (i.e. Visa, MasterCard, American Express) if possible, as not all are accepted around the world. If you are visiting a country that does not commonly accept credit cards, they will be listed below.

Indonesia: Credit cards are becoming more common in Indonesia, but they aren't nearly as common here as in the U.S. For example, some estimates state that only 6% of Indonesians have a credit card. And in 2015, the government initiated new rules that made it even harder to get one. Since most Indonesians don't own a credit card, not every business will take them as payment. You'll have a higher chance of using plastic at a shop or restaurant in a city (vs. one in the countryside) or at a business that caters to foreign visitors (a hotel, a souvenir shop, etc.). The brand of the card matters too—most shops prefer Visa or MasterCard over American Express.

Notify Card Providers of Upcoming Travel

Many credit card companies and banks have fraud alert departments that will freeze your card if they see suspicious charges—such as charges or withdrawals from another country. To avoid an accidental security block, it is a good idea to notify your credit card company and/or bank you will be using your cards abroad. You can do this by calling their customer service number a week or two before your departure. Some banks or credit card companies will also let you do this online.

You should also double-check what phone number you could call if you have a problem with a card while you are abroad. Don't assume you can use the 1-800 number printed on the back of your card—most 1 800 numbers don't work outside of the U.S.!

Tipping Guidelines

Of course, whether you tip, and how much, is always at your own discretion. But for those of you who have asked for tipping suggestions, we offer these guidelines:

- **O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader:** It is customary to express a personal “thank you” to your Trip Experience Leader at the end of your trip. As a guideline, many travelers give \$8–\$12 USD (or equivalent in local currency) per person for each day their Trip Experience Leader

is with them. *Please note that these tips can only be in cash. If you are taking any of the optional extensions, your Trip Experience Leader during the extension(s) may not be the same as the one on your main trip.*

- **Housekeeping staff at hotels:** \$1–2 per room, per night
- **Waiters:** Tipping waiters is not common practice, but if the service is excellent you may leave about 10% of the bill in appreciation. Your Trip Experience Leader will handle any tips, if appropriate, for included meals.
- **Taxi drivers:** If you are taking a taxi by yourself, keep in mind that tipping is not common practice, but many people simply let the driver keep the change by rounding up the fare to the next whole number.

Please Note: Your tour price includes gratuities on the main trip and optional extensions for local guides, drivers, and luggage porters that may assist you during the scheduled activities on your adventure. All tips are quoted in U.S. dollars; tips can be converted and paid in local currency or in U.S. dollars. Please do not use personal or traveler's checks for tips.

AIR, OPTIONAL TOURS & STAYING IN TOUCH

Land Only Travelers & Customized Air

Quick Definitions

- **Land Only:** You will be booking your own international flights. Airport transfers are not included.
- **Air-Inclusive:** You booked international air with us. Airport transfers are included as long as you didn't customize your trip's dates (see next bullet).
- **Arrive Early or Stopover (select adventures only):** If you chose one of these Customization options and purchased air through O.A.T, accommodations and airport transfers are included. However, if you chose one of our Customization options, but did not purchase air through O.A.T., accommodations are included, but airport transfers are not. If you chose one of our customization options, and purchase air through O.A.T. but not the accommodations, the airport transfers are not included. We have included transfer options below.
- **Customization on Your Own:** If you have not purchased air through O.A.T. and decided to arrive early, stay longer, or stop in a connecting city on your own, you are responsible for airport transfers and accommodations. For your convenience, a preliminary list of your included hotels is available on your My Planner at www.oattravel.com/myplanner under "My Reservations" to help you with selecting a hotel for your additional time.

Air Inclusive Travelers

If you have purchased international air with us, there are some points that may be helpful for you to know.

- **Flying with a Travel Companion:** If you're traveling with a companion from a different household, and both of you are beginning and ending your trip at the same airport on the same dates, let us know you'd like to travel together and we'll make every effort to arrange this (please note, however, that this is not always possible). If you request any changes to your flights, please be sure that both you and your companion tell us that you still want to fly together.
- **Selecting Your Seats:** If your airline allows pre-assigned seats, you will be able to select and view them directly from the airline's website after booking. Some airlines will not allow seat confirmation until your reservation is ticketed 45-30 days prior to departure, and/or they may charge a nominal fee. You may locate your itinerary on an airline's website utilizing the Record Locator Number found on the Air Itinerary in your My Planner.

When booking your international flights, please keep the following in mind:

Arrival in Southeast Asia

- If you are taking the main trip or Borneo pre-trip extension: Fly to Jakarta, on Java Island in Indonesia.

Departure from Southeast Asia

- Fly home from Denpasar Airport on Bali Island in Indonesia. It does not matter if you are taking a post-trip extension or not.

Airport Transfers Can Be Purchased

For eligible flights, airport transfers may be purchased separately as an optional add-on, subject to availability. To be eligible, your flight(s) must meet the following requirements:

- You must fly into or fly home from the same airport as O.A.T. travelers who purchased included airfare.
- Your flight(s) must arrive/depart on the same day that the group arrives or departs.
- If you are arriving early, you must have arranged the hotels through our Arrive Early personalization option

Airport transfers can be purchased up to 45 days prior to your departure; they are not available for purchase onsite. To learn more, or purchase airport transfers, please call our Travel Counselors at **1-800-221-0814**.

If you don't meet the requirements above, you'll need to make your own transfer arrangements. We suggest the Rome to Rio website as a handy resource: www.rome2rio.com

Optional Tours

Optional tours are additional add-on tours that allow you to personalize your adventure by tailoring it to your tastes and needs. And if you decide not to join an optional tour? Then you'll have free time to relax or explore on your own—it's about options, not obligations.

What You Need to Know

- All optional tours are subject to change and availability.
- Optional tours that are reserved with your Trip Experience Leader can be paid for using credit/debit cards only. We accept MasterCard, Visa, and Discover credit cards; we can also take MasterCard or Visa debit cards as long as the card allows you to sign for purchases. (You won't be able to enter a PIN.)
- To ensure that you are charged in U.S. dollars, your payment will be processed by our U.S. headquarters in Boston. This process can take up to three months, so we ask that you only use a card that will still be valid three months after your trip is over. The charge may appear on your credit card statement as being from Boston, MA or may be labeled as "OPT Boston".

- Your Trip Experience Leader will give you details on the optional tours while you're on the trip. But if you'd like to look over descriptions of them earlier, you can do so at any time by referring to your Day-to-Day Itinerary (available online by signing into My Planner at www.oattravel.com/myplanner).

Communicating with Home from Abroad

To ensure you are available during your trip to friends and relatives at home, you will receive two copies of your hotel list, including phone numbers, with your Final Documents. One copy is for you to bring, and one to leave behind with friends or relatives in case they need to contact you during the trip.

Cell Phones

If you want to use your cell phone on the trip, check with your phone provider to see if your phone and service will work outside of the U.S. It may turn out to be cheaper to rent an international phone or buy a SIM card onsite. If you want to use a local SIM, just make certain your phone can accept one.

Calling Apps

We recommend you use WhatsApp while abroad to communicate home and with your Trip Experience Leader while onsite. You will need a Wi-Fi connection if you do not have international coverage. Other calling options include smartphone apps such as Skype or FaceTime. You will need a Wi-Fi connection for these apps and the calls may count towards your phone plan's data allowance. Many smartphones—and some tablets or laptops—come with one of these apps pre-installed or you can download them for free from the appropriate apps store.

Calling Cards and 1-800 Numbers

When calling the U.S. from a foreign country, a prepaid calling card can be useful because it circumvents unexpected charges from the hotel. Calling cards purchased locally are typically the best (less expensive, more likely to work with the local phones, etc.).

One reminder: Do not call U.S. 1-800 numbers outside the continental United States. This can result in costly long distance fees, since 1-800 numbers do not work outside the country.

Internet

Most hotels in Indonesia have Internet services available, some for free, some for an hourly charge. This can be either WiFi service or cabled access. Sometimes the hotels will only provide WiFi service in a common area, like the lobby or reception; sometimes it is in the rooms. In Indonesia, you will also find WiFi in some cafés or restaurants.

However, the WiFi connections in hotels, cafes, and restaurants are generally not stable. They are unpredictable; so you may be better off leaving your device at home and relying on places that provide computers, like hotels with a business center or Internet cafes.

How to Call Overseas

When calling overseas from the U.S., dial 011 for international exchange, then the country code (indicated by a plus sign: +), and then the number. Note that foreign phone numbers may not have the same number of digits as U.S. numbers; even within a country the number of digits can vary depending on the city and if the phone is a land line or cell phone.

Indonesia: +62

PACKING: WHAT TO BRING & LUGGAGE LIMITS

Luggage Limits

MAIN TRIP LIMITS	
Pieces per person	One checked bag and one carry-on per person.
Weight restrictions	Checked bag is limited to 44 lbs total . Carry-on is limited to 15 lbs total .
Size Restrictions	Standard airline size: checked luggage should not exceed 62 linear inches (length+ width + depth) and carry-on should not exceed 45 linear inches
Luggage Type	Duffel bag or soft-sided suitcase. Please do not bring a hard-sided (clamshell) suitcase.

TRIP EXTENSION(S) LIMITS
Same as the main trip.

REMARKS/SUGGESTIONS
Luggage rules: Luggage rules and limits are set by governmental and airline policy. Enforcement of the rules may include spot checks or may be inconsistent. However one thing is the same across the board: If you are found to have oversized or overweight luggage, you will be subject to additional fees, to be assessed by—and paid to—the airline in question. Reminder for travelers on the extensions to bring a small additional bag: Previous travelers have suggested re-purposing your carry-on for these portions of the extensions. A waterproof bag is preferable, as is a bag that locks. • Borneo extension: This small bag is a necessity due to limited space on the flight from Jakarta to Pangkalan Bun. • Komodo Island extension: Small bag is strongly recommended. The luggage limit on this extension is 44 lbs, however, if the flight is full, the airline may require passengers to leave luggage behind. To ensure that you are prepared for your post-trip extension, we recommend that you bring a small additional bag to bring with you on the extension and you will have the option to store the remainder of your luggage in the hotel in Sanur, to be retrieved at the end of your extension.

Don't Forget:

- **These luggage limits may change.** If the airline(s) notify us of any changes, we will include an update in your Final Documents booklet.
- It's a good idea to reconfirm baggage restrictions and fees directly with the airline a week or so prior to departure. For your convenience, we maintain a list of the toll-free numbers for the most common airlines on our website in the FAQ section.
- **Baggage fees are not included in your trip price;** they are payable directly to the airlines.
- The luggage limits above are based on your regional flights, which may be less than your international flights. Even if your international airline offers a larger weight limit, you will need to pack according to the lower restrictions.

Your Luggage

Checked Luggage

One duffel bag or suitcase. Look for one with heavy nylon fabric, wrap-around handles, built-in wheels, and a heavy duty lockable zipper. Please do not bring a rigid (plastic shell) suitcase.

Carry-on Bag

You are allowed one carry-on bag per person. We suggest a tote or small backpack that can be used as both a carry-on bag for your flight and to carry your daily necessities—water bottle, camera, etc—during your daily activities.

A Small Additional Bag

This small bag is a necessity for the optional extension in Borneo, and is strongly recommended for the optional extension to the Komodo Islands. A waterproof bag is preferable, as is a bag that locks. Some previous travelers have suggested re-purposing your carry-on for this portion of your trip.

- **Borneo extension:** You will need to bring it for the Borneo extension due to the limited space on your flight from Jakarta to Pangkalan Bun.
- **Komodo Island extension:** The luggage limit on this extension is 44 lbs, however, if the flight is full, the airline may require passengers to leave luggage behind. To ensure that you are prepared for your post-trip extension, we recommend that you bring a small additional bag to bring with you on the extension and you will have the option to store the remainder of your luggage in the hotel in Sanur, to be retrieved at the end of your extension.

Locks

For flights that originate in the U.S., you can either use a TSA-approved lock or leave your luggage unlocked. Outside of the U.S. we strongly recommend locking your luggage as a theft-prevention measure.

Clothing Suggestions: Functional Tips

Given the tropical nature of Indonesia, you'll most likely want clothing lightweight and breathable fabrics. But if you like to hand-wash your clothes, synthetics or cotton/synthetic blends may dry quicker than all natural fabrics. You can buy clothing made of quick-dry fabric specially designed for travel.

- **Footwear:** You'll be on your feet and walking a lot, sometimes over rough and slippery surfaces, so choose your footwear carefully. The soles of your shoes should offer good traction. You can find especially supportive shoes designed for walking. Light hiking boots might be useful for the ankle support, but they are optional. Sport sandals (the kind with good support, not flimsy flip-flops) are also an option.
- **Walking sticks:** Many past travelers to Asia have recommended bringing a folding walking stick, sold in most camping stores. An alternative is a folding ski pole. This is very useful when exploring ruins and trails that have no handrails.

Style Hints and Dress Codes

- **Dress on our trip is functional and casual.** The most formal you might need for a city evening would be a sport jacket with no tie for men, a dress and dressy sandals for women—but this is not necessary on this trip—the decision is yours.
- **Wearing shorts and sleeveless tops is acceptable in most places, except at some religious sites.** Specifically, shorts, knee-baring skirts, sleeveless shirts, and tank tops, are often forbidden in temples, so we suggest that you stick to trousers or a long skirt for temple visits. If you forget and wear shorts on a day that includes a temple visit, all is not lost—temples will generally loan cover-ups to visitors who are perceived as “too bare”—but you must cover up to go inside.
- **It is common practice to remove your shoes inside temples and mosques,** so consider a pair that you can get on/off easily and perhaps a couple extra pairs of socks. (Use these to replace the ones that will get extra dirty. Or you could designate a couple pairs as your “temple socks” and wear them more than once.) Occasionally a temple may request that you take off your socks as well.

Recommended Packing Lists

We have included suggestions from Trip Experience Leaders and former travelers to help you pack. These packing lists are only jumping-off points—they offer recommendations based on experience, but not requirements. Each travelers packing list may be different depending on the climate you are used to. We recommend using **www.weather.com** and consulting the “Climate” chapter of this handbook.

And don't forget a reusable water bottle—you'll need it to take advantage of any refills we offer as we are working to eliminate single-use plastic bottles on all of our trips.

Recommended Clothing

- ☐ Shirts: A mixture of short and long-sleeved shirts in a breathable fabric, like cotton or cotton-blend. Polo shirts are more versatile than T-shirts. Sleeveless shirts are acceptable in most situations, but are considered less appropriate at religious sites.
- ☐ Trousers and/or jeans
- ☐ Shorts: Shorts are acceptable almost everywhere, but are viewed as inappropriate for visiting a religious site, so we suggest you stick to trousers or a long skirt (below the knee or longer) for these visits. In a pinch you could rent or borrow a cover-up.
- ☐ Shoes and socks: The soles of your shoes should offer good traction. Some options are: supportive shoes designed for walking, light hiking boots, or sport sandals (the kind with good support, not flimsy flip-flops). Because it is common to remove your shoes in mosques and temples, bring at least one pair of shoes that you can get on/off easily. You might want a couple extra pairs of socks.
- ☐ Light cotton or wool sweater: Because motor coach air conditioning can be cold.
- ☐ Light rain jacket/windbreaker with hood
- ☐ Wide-brim sun hat
- ☐ Underwear and sleepwear
- ☐ Swimsuit

Seasonal Clothing Recommendations

Keep in mind that the islands of Indonesia don't experience four seasons the way that most of the U.S. does. Instead, there are two main seasons—wet (or rainy season) and dry season. The wet season usually runs October–March and the dry season is generally from April–September, although in Bali the wet season may begin and end a bit earlier (September–February or March).

For travel in October–November:

- ☐ This is the wet season, so be sure to bring waterproof raingear, waterproof shoes, and an umbrella.

For travel in April–September:

- ☐ This is the dry season, so there will be less chance of rain, but an umbrella would still be a good idea. September is a shoulder month—part dry and part wet—so it might be worthwhile to bring a raincoat or poncho too if you are traveling in September.

Essential Items

- ☐ Daily essentials: toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, hairbrush or comb, shaving items, deodorant, etc.
- ☐ Spare eyeglasses/contact lenses
- ☐ Sunglasses, 100% UV block
- ☐ Sunscreen, SPF 30 or stronger
- ☐ Insect repellent
- ☐ Hand-wash laundry soap and possibly plastic clothespins
- ☐ Light folding umbrella
- ☐ Packets of pocket-size tissues or small roll of toilet paper
- ☐ Moist towelettes and/or anti-bacterial “water-free” hand cleanser
- ☐ Flashlight. This is recommended because of poor outdoor lighting on public roads and sidewalks.
- ☐ Electrical converter & plug adapter: see “A Word about Electricity” for details
- ☐ Camera gear with extra batteries or battery charger
- ☐ Folding walking stick, sold in most camping stores

Medicines & First Aid Gear

- ☐ Your own prescription medicines
- ☐ Travel first aid kit: Band-Aids, headache and pain relief, laxatives and anti-diarrhea tablets, something for upset stomach. Maybe a cold remedy, moleskin foot pads, antibiotic cream, or allergy medication.
- ☐ Prescription antibiotic for diarrhea
- ☐ Optional: A strong prescription pain medication for rare emergency purposes
- ☐ Optional for Borneo or the Dragon Islands: Anti-malarial medication—discuss with your doctor first.

TIP: We suggest that you bring a flashlight not only for the occasional power cut, but also because of poor outdoor lighting on public roads and sidewalks.

Electricity Abroad

When traveling overseas, the voltage is usually different and the plugs might not be the same shape.

Voltage

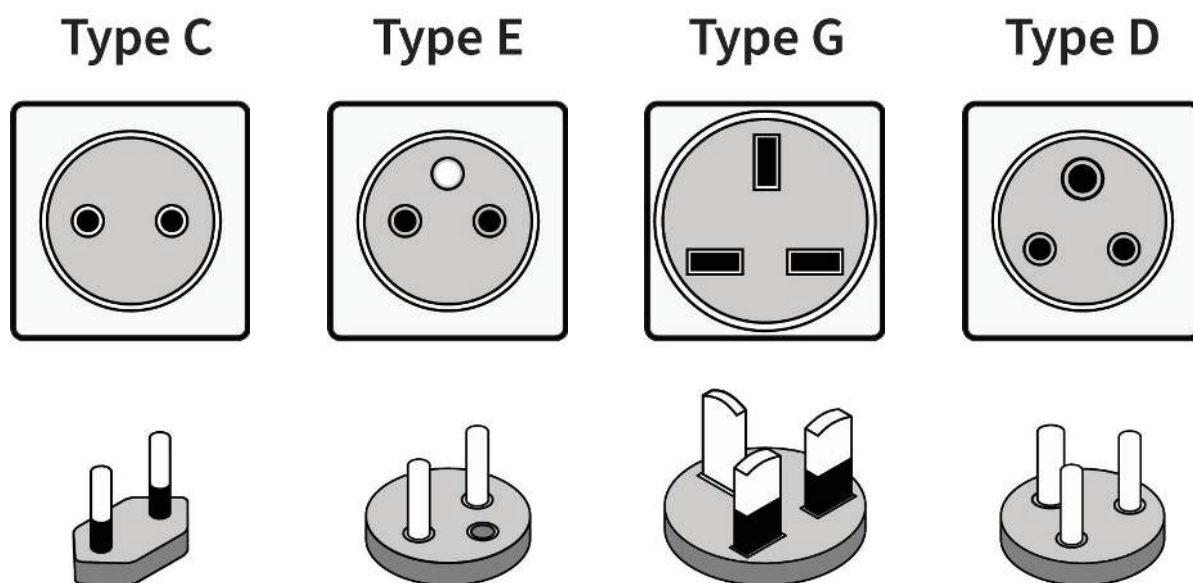
Electricity in Indonesia is 220–230 volts. In the U.S. it is 110 volts. Most of the things a traveler will want to plug in—battery chargers, tablets or computers—can run off both 110 and 220–240. But you should check the item or the owner’s guide first to confirm this before you plug it in. If you have something that needs 110 volts—like a shaver or a hairdryer—you can bring a transformer to change the current. (But transformers tend to burn out, so it might be better to leave whatever it is at home.)

Plugs

The shape of plugs will vary from country to country, and sometimes even within a country depending on when that building was built. To plug something from the U.S. into a local socket you’ll need an adapter that fits between the plug and the socket. Because there are many different types of plugs in this region, it may be easier to purchase an all-in-one, universal adapter/converter combo. Versatile and lightweight, these can usually be found at your local electronics goods or hardware stores. Sometimes you can buy them at large retailers too, like Target or Walmart. If you forget to bring an adapter, you might also find them for sale at the airport when you arrive at your destination.

Different plug shapes are named by letters of the alphabet. Standard U.S. plugs are Type A and Type B. Here is the list of plugs for the countries on this trip:

Indonesia: C, E, or G



Availability

A constant electricity supply cannot be guaranteed during overnight stays. Specifically, electricity can be an issue on the Borneo or Komodo extensions; on the main trip it is pretty stable. Travelers dependent on electricity supply (as in the case of those with sleep apnea) should consider a different adventure or ensure their apparatus has back-up battery power.

CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Indonesia: Overall, Indonesia has a tropical climate that can be summed up as hot, humid, and wet. Fortunately, the fact that the country is made up of several islands—with cooling ocean breezes—helps modify the heat and humidity a little bit. However, the average highs and average lows don't vary much from month to month. Generally the daytime highs are in the 90s or 80s while the nighttime lows are in the 70s or 60s. Occasionally, there will be a heat wave that spikes temperatures up into the high 90s or even past 100 degrees. These heat waves can happen at any time, but seem more common in October, November, and December. The heat can be compounded by the high humidity, which makes it feel hotter than it really is.

Borneo and the Dragon Islands: These islands have a similar climate to the rest of Indonesia, although temperatures tend to be a few degrees cooler in the Dragon Islands compared to Java and Bali; and Borneo gets more rainfall than other islands.

Seasons: Since the heat and humidity don't change much throughout the year, the islands don't experience four seasons the way that most of the U.S. does. Instead, there are two main seasons—wet (or rainy season) and dry season. The wet season, which usually runs October to March, sees the most rainfall, higher humidity, and a higher chance of heat waves. The dry season, which is generally from April to September, has considerably less rainfall and less humidity. In Bali the wet season may begin and end a bit earlier (September to February/March) and the dry season may be a little shorter (April to August).

Climate Averages & Online Forecast

The following charts reflect the **average** climate as opposed to exact weather conditions. This means they serve only as general indicators of what can reasonably be expected. An extreme heat wave or cold snap could fall outside these ranges. As your departure approaches, we encourage you to use **www.weather.com** for a more accurate forecast of the locations you visit.

Average Daily High/Low Temperatures (°F), Humidity & Monthly Rainfall

MONTH	JAKARTA, INDONESIA			YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA		
	Temp. High-Low	% Relative Humidity (am-pm)	Average # of Days with Rainfall	Temp. High-Low	% Relative Humidity (avg)	Monthly Rainfall (inches)
JAN	87-76	94 to 77	19	84 to 72	82	13.9
FEB	87-76	94 to 73	14	84 to 72	82	13.2
MAR	89-77	93 to 73	14	85 to 72	81	12.2
APR	90-78	93 to 72	11	87 to 72	78	8.3
MAY	91-78	93 to 70	8	86 to 72	77	5.0
JUN	90-78	92 to 67	5	86 to 70	74	3.5
JUL	90-77	91 to 62	5	85 to 69	74	1.6
AUG	90-77	90 to 62	5	86 to 69	71	1.0
SEP	91-77	87 to 62	5	87 to 71	69	1.2
OCT	91-78	87 to 65	8	88 to 72	73	3.7
NOV	90-78	88 to 70	11	86 to 72	77	9.0
DEC	89-77	91 to 72	14	85 to 72	82	13.4

MONTH	UBUD, INDONESIA			CANDIDASA, INDONESIA		
	Temp. High-Low	% Relative Humidity (avg)	Monthly Rainfall (inches)	Temp. High-Low	% Relative Humidity (am-pm)	Monthly Rainfall (inches)
JAN	89 to 75	79	12.9	88 to 76	--	3.8
FEB	89 to 75	79	10.3	88 to 75	--	4.6
MAR	89 to 75	80	8.8	88 to 75	--	5.3
APR	89 to 76	79	4.6	89 to 74	--	3.6
MAY	88 to 75	80	4.2	89 to 73	--	2.4
JUN	86 to 74	78	3.6	88 to 72	--	1.1
JUL	85 to 74	77	4.7	87 to 70	--	0.7
AUG	85 to 73	76	2.1	87 to 70	--	0.1
SEP	87 to 74	76	4.6	89 to 72	--	1.1
OCT	89 to 75	76	6.8	89 to 74	--	4.3
NOV	91 to 76	78	7.4	89 to 75	--	8.5
DEC	90 to 75	79	10.1	88 to 76	--	5.5

MONTH	PANGKALAN BUN, INDONESIA			KOMODO, INDONESIA		
	Temp. High-Low	% Relative Humidity (avg)	Monthly Rainfall (inches)	Temp. (avg)	% Relative Humidity (avg)	Monthly Rainfall (inches)
JAN	85 to 75	77	10.1	78	85	14.1
FEB	86 to 75	79	10.0	78	86	13.2
MAR	86 to 75	80	11.0	78	84	10.9
APR	86 to 76	80	10.8	78	78	5.6
MAY	87 to 77	77	11.3	77	76	4.6
JUN	87 to 76	73	7.1	76	73	1.6
JUL	86 to 75	72	6.8	75	71	1.1
AUG	86 to 75	67	6.3	75	68	1.0
SEP	87 to 75	72	7.0	77	67	1.4
OCT	87 to 76	75	7.5	79	69	3.4
NOV	86 to 76	81	11.7	80	75	7.2
DEC	85 to 75	82	13.1	78	81	10.9

ABOUT YOUR DESTINATIONS: CULTURE, ETIQUETTE & MORE

O.A.T. Trip Experience Leaders: A World of Difference

During your adventure, you'll be accompanied by one of our local, Trip Experience Leaders. All are fluent in English and possess the skills, certification, and experience necessary to ensure an enriching adventure. As locals of the regions you'll explore with them, our Trip Experience Leaders provide the kind of firsthand knowledge and insight that make local history, culture, and wildlife come alive. Coupled with their unbridled enthusiasm, caring personalities, and ability to bring diverse groups of travelers together, our Trip Experience Leaders ensure that your experience with O.A.T. is one you'll remember for a lifetime.

Culture & Points to Know

Komodo Dragons

Travel to Indonesia; see a mythological animal? During our optional Dragon Islands extension, travelers will have an opportunity to see dragons—Komodo dragons, that is. As the world's largest species of lizard these giants can grow up to 10 feet in length and on average weigh about 150 pounds. (That's comparable to an American alligator in length and a Great Dane in weight.) You'll be briefed during the trip before we head off to see these amazing creatures, but a few points to know now are:

- The Komodo dragon can barely hear and has poor vision, but is compensated by an amazing sense of smell. Their ability to smell blood is so acute that they can sense it from more than a mile away. And like sharks, the presence of blood brings out their predatory instincts. Therefore, travelers who are bleeding in any way on the day of our visit—even a relatively small cut—are encouraged to stay behind.
- Current estimates put the total population of Komodo dragons worldwide at only 4,000–5,000 individuals. These are rare animals, so a sighting cannot be 100% guaranteed.
- The low population, combined with the fact that the dragons' habitat is relatively small (just a handful of islands) has put the Komodo dragon on the international threatened species list. Please do everything you can to limit your impact on the animals and their habitat. Please do not bring food with you during the visit. Do not feed the dragons.
- Although rare, Komodo dragons can display aggressive behavior towards people. There's no need to be fearful, but you should follow any and all safety instructions from your Trip Experience Leader and the staff at the National Park.

Your Departure Date: A Reminder

The “rule of thumb” is to check in for international flights about three hours before departure. But because many flights to Asia leave just after midnight or in the early morning hours (one and two a.m.), you could be checking in before midnight, which is technically the day before. For

example: If the flight to Asia leaves at 12:05 a.m. on May 2nd, you would want to arrive for check-in at 9 p.m. on May 1st. You can confirm the date and time of your international flight by referring to your preliminary air itinerary.

Taking Photographs

When taking photos of people in most countries, be polite and ask permission to take a close-up. In many countries, you should not be taking photos of children or older women without permission. Do not take photographs of military personnel, military compounds, or other official institutions/personnel (such as police). This may result in the confiscation of your camera.

Please obey any signs regarding photos at museum or sites; the no-flash rule protects the fragile artifacts and artwork from damage by repeated exposure to light. Occasionally, there may also be a small fee levied by the museum or site for the privilege of taking photos.

Safety & Security

As you travel, exercise the same caution and awareness that you would in a large American city. Carry a one-day supply of cash, and your passport, in a travel pouch. Don't leave valuables unattended in your hotel room – use a room safe as needed. In any sort of puzzling street situation, try to keep one hand on your wallet or money belt.

Indonesian Cuisine

Indonesian cuisine is varied and sophisticated. The sheer number of islands, each with slightly different specialties, has led to a large diversity of regional dishes. However, some generalizations can be made: most dishes are served with **nasi** (rice); fresh produce is usually a key ingredient; fish and chicken are far more common than red meat. On islands with a largely Muslim population (like Java) pork is usually not on the menu, on islands that are largely Hindu (like Bali) beef is hard to find.

Because so many of the islands were part of the spice trade, spices like peppercorn, turmeric, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, lemongrass, coriander, and ginger are frequently used. Chili peppers and chili powder add flavor and heat. (Look out for the tiny green chilies—they are particularly spicy.) Many restaurants will have a jar of red chili sauce called sambal on the table; you use it as a condiment. Other common ingredients include coconut milk and peanut sauce. (If you are allergic to peanuts, please let your Trip Experience Leader know at the start of the trip.) You might come across dishes like these:

- **Satay:** These meat skewers can be made from almost any meat. The meat is marinated and then barbecued.
- **Soto:** This traditional meat soup changes based on the region. In Jakarta, the soup base is made from a sweet coconut milk.
- **Nasi Goreng:** Also known as Indonesian fried rice. The fried rice is tossed with chicken shrimp, lamb, and an array of vegetables.

- **Bakso:** A soup that includes meatballs, noodles, and vegetables.
- **Martabak:** An omelet pancake stuffed with minced meat, vegetables, and spices. You can find a sweet version stuffed with chocolate.

Etiquette

Don't let the fine points of local customs worry you; locals know that visitors can't be expected to know every detail. Much of what is considered polite in this region is similar to what's polite in the U.S. But as a matter of interest, here are a few "finer points" that might surprise you:

- Body posture is important. Sprawling, resting your feet on furniture or chairs, or pointing your feet at someone are seen as impolite.
- In temples you may notice locals sitting on the floor with their feet tucked under them or in a cross-legged position. This is to avoid pointing their feet at the Buddha, which is rude.
- A woman may speak to a Buddhist monk, and a man may speak with a Buddhist nun, but generally the correct thing is to let them approach you.
- You may see people greeting one another with a bow of the head, and in some countries this will be accompanied with hands pressed together as in prayer. Traditionally, the deeper the bow, the more respect one is showing, with the greatest respect being towards elders and clergy. For you, a gentle western-style handshake is an acceptable greeting, but if you wish to try the more traditional head bow, that's OK too.
- Avoid wearing clothing imprinted with a Buddha logo or image as this may offend some of the locals.

Language Barrier

You can have some great 'conversations' with local people who do not speak English, even if you don't speak a word of the local language. Indeed, this non-verbal communication can be a highly rewarding part of travel. To break the ice, bring along some family photographs, or a few postcards of your hometown. If you want to meet kids, bring a puppet or other interactive toy. Your Trip Experience Leader can help get the ball rolling.

Shopping: What to Buy, Customs, Shipping & More

There may be scheduled visits to local shops during your adventure. There is no requirement to make a purchase during these stops, and any purchase made is a direct transaction with the shop in question, subject to the vendor's terms of purchase. O.A.T. is not responsible for purchases you make on your trip or for the shipment of your purchases.

Returns

If you discover an issue with an item, you should contact the vendor directly and expect that any resolution will take longer than it would in the U.S. We recommend that you keep a copy of all your receipts, invoices, or contracts, along with the shop's contact information. Keep in mind, local practice may vary from U.S. standards, so don't assume that you have a certain number of days after the purchase to speak up or that you are guaranteed a refund.

Crafts & Souvenirs

Indonesia

Indonesia offers many fine craft items at good prices. Indonesian handcrafts include elaborate masks, ikat and batik fabrics, carved bamboo or bamboo baskets, leather puppets, and lacquer boxes.

U.S. Customs Regulations & Shipping Charges

For all things related to U.S. Customs, the ultimate authority is the U.S. Bureau of Customs & Border Protection. Their website, www.cbp.gov has the answers to the most frequently asked questions. Or you can call them at **1-877-227-5511**.

The top three points to know are:

- At time of writing, your personal duty-free allowance is \$800 for items brought with you. Items totaling more than \$800 are subject to duty fees.
- **Items shipped home are always subject to duty when received in the U.S.** Even when the shop has offered to include shipping and duties in the price, this typically means shipping to the nearest customs facility and payment of the export duties—not door-to-door shipping or payment of the import duties. All additional duties or shipping charges would be your responsibility. Unless an item is small enough to send by parcel service (like FedEx), chances are you will need to arrange shipping or pick-up once the item is in the U.S. and will need to pay customs duties.
- It is illegal to import products made from endangered animal species. U.S. Customs & Border Protection will seize these items, as well as most furs, coral, tortoise shell, reptile skins, feathers, plants, and items made from animal skins.

DEMOGRAPHICS & HISTORY

Indonesia

Facts, Figures & National Holidays

- **Area:** 735,358 square miles
- **Capital:** Jakarta
- **Languages:** Bahasa Indonesia, which is a modified form of Malay, is the official language. English, Dutch, and local dialects (such as Javanese) are also spoken.
- **Ethnicities:** Javanese 40.1%, Sundanese 15.5%, Malay 3.7%, Batak 3.6%, Madurese 3%, Betawi 2.9%, Minangkabau 2.7%, Buginese 2.7%, Bantenese 2%, Banjarese 1.7%, Balinese 1.7%, Acehnese 1.4%, Dayak 1.4%, Sasak 1.3%, Chinese 1.2%, other 15%
- **Location:** Indonesia is made up of a collection of over 17,500 islands spread out between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. However, it does have land borders with Papua New Guinea, East Timor, and Malaysia. It also shares the island of Borneo with Malaysia and Brunei.
- **Geography:** Although individual islands might be small, the sheer number of islands adds up to a surprising amount of land—almost three times the size of Texas. Of course as an island nation, the majority of that land is coastline, but some of the larger islands (Sumatra, Java) have mountain ranges in the interior. Some islands, like Java are densely populated while others, like Bali, have more open countryside.
- **Population:** 255,993,674
- **Religions:** Muslim 87.2%, Christian 7%, Roman Catholic 2.9%, Hindu 1.7%, other 0.9% (includes Buddhist and Confucian), unspecified 0.4%
- **Time Zone:** Indonesia has multiple time zones, ranging from to 11 to 13 hours ahead of U.S. EST. When it is 6am in Washington D.C., it is 6pm in Bali.

National Holidays: Indonesia

In addition to the holidays listed below, Indonesia celebrates a number of national holidays that follow a lunar calendar, such as Easter and Eid el Fitri. To find out if you will be traveling during these holidays, please visit www.timeanddate.com/holidays.

01/01 New Year's Day

February Lunar New Year (moves each year; see note above)

March Balinese Day of Silence (moves each year)

05/01 Labor Day

08/17 Indonesian Independence Day

12/25 Christmas Day

Indonesia: A Brief History

Pre-History

The early history of Indonesia truly goes back a long way—over a million years, as evidenced by the remains of *Homo erectus* that were found in Java. Known as the “Java Man”, these early hominids eventually died out, replaced by our early ancestors, *Homo sapien*. Archeological evidence suggests that the earliest groups were most likely fishermen who relied on deep-sea fishing for survival. Eventually, they too were displaced, this time by waves of settlers known as the Austronesian peoples in about 2000 BC. These Neolithic people used stone tools, which they used to build simple huts and villages.

Early History

Over the following centuries, the villages of Indonesia thrived. The easy access to the ocean, plus the spread of rice cultivation—which was perfectly suited to the islands’ wet tropical climate—provided two steady food sources. In times of plenty, this gave the islands a surplus that they could trade. By the first century AD, the different islands were not only trading with each other, but also with other faraway countries such as China, India, and Vietnam.

Contact with these outside countries left its mark. For one thing, Indonesia entered the Bronze Age, but through trade, not through natural resources (they didn’t have the materials to make bronze). Ideas also began to flow into Indonesia. By the 700s, Buddhism and Hinduism had arrived in key islands such as Sumatra, Java, and Bali.

From the 700s to the 1000s, the key islands—the ones with the best and busiest trade routes—morphed from local powers into kingdoms that intermarried and allied with other islands. Examples include the sea-going Srivijaya Empire on Sumatra, who allied with the Sailendra dynasty on Java, and also had ties to the rulers of Bali. Although the islands had traded amongst themselves for years, the shared religions of Buddhism and Hinduism meant that groups of islands were starting to develop a similar culture, sowing the seeds for a unified empire that spanned more than one island.

The Majapahit Empire

One such multi-island nation was the Majapahit Empire. A Hindu empire based in Java, the Majapahit dynasty had a dramatic beginning. It started out with a diplomatic incident in 1292 AD when the king of Java insulted—and possibly injured—an envoy of Kublai Khan (the Mongol emperor of China and the grandson of Genghis Khan; not someone who took insults lightly). While the envoy returned home, one of the king's subjects, Duke Jayakatwang, rebelled. The king sent his son-in-law Prince Raden Wijaya to fight the rebels, but intimately the duke prevailed and the king was assassinated.

Making the best of the situation, the prince went into exile in a village named Majapahit. Not long afterwards, the Khan's response to the insult arrived: a fleet of 1,000 ships poised to attack Java. Again making the best of a bad situation, the prince allied with the Khan's forces, sizing the island from the rebellious duke. But once Java was secure, the prince turned against the Mongols in a surprise attack. Between the fighting and the fear that the trade winds would soon change, leaving them stranded, the Khan's fleet left Java, leaving the prince to start his own dynasty—the Majapahit.

Subsequent generations added to the empire, bring the Majapahit culture to other Indonesian islands, such as Bali, and uniting them into one empire. At its height, the empire covered a large part of present-day Indonesia, Singapore, parts of southern Thailand, and the Philippines. In addition to its large terrain, the dynasty also brought its influence to the arts—the graceful sculptures, brick and terracotta architecture, and heroic folklore of the time still informs Indonesian art today. This is why many refer to the Majapahit Empire as the “Golden Age”.

The Rise of the Sultanates

Unfortunately, golden ages don't last, and the Majapahit was no exception. While Europe was experiencing a renaissance, Indonesia was slowly undergoing a shift in power—one that was connected to religion. Under the Majapahit, who were Hindu, various religions were practiced: Hinduism, Buddhism, and Shamanism. But starting in the 1300s, a new religion began gaining momentum in the area: Islam. By the mid-1400s, two Islamic states were established on the island of Sumatra—the Malacca Sultanate and the Aceh Sultanate—and a third, the Demak Sultanate was on Java.

The Sultanates traded in spices, making them very wealthy, very quickly. By the early 1500s, each had broken from the Majapahit Empire to various degrees. Some time around 1527 the Demak Sultanate took the island of Java and the Majapahit capital, effectively ending the empire. (Many of the Majapahit elite fled to Bali and established long-lasting communities there, which is why Bali is still predominantly Hindu even today.)

The rise of Islam was both a uniting and a dividing force for Indonesia. Although Islam became the dominant religion in most of the islands, each sultanate was effectively its own kingdom. Thus while some sultanates flourished (Aceh), others floundered (Demak), and still others quickly fell to European powers (Malacca).

The Colonial Era

Although Sir Francis Drake briefly stopped in Bali in 1580, the first Europeans with a lasting presence in Indonesia were the Portuguese, who seized the Malacca Sultanate in 1512. The Dutch quickly followed, and by 1619 occupied the Javanese port of Jayakarta (present-day Jakarta). In both cases it was spices that brought the European traders, plus the desire to open new shipping lanes to India and China.

Between the two powers, the Dutch were better organized and soon overcame their rivals. In 1641, they captured the former Malacca territory from the Portuguese, effectively gaining a monopoly on the Indonesian spice trade. The Dutch East India Company now controlled most of the world trade in nutmeg and pepper, making Indonesia one of the most valuable colonial territories held by a European power.

This in turn fed the Dutch economy, which was one of the most prosperous of the 17th and 18th centuries. But the money wasn't made on spices alone. The Dutch also traded in opium and slaves. In particular slaves from Bali were highly prized, as the island was known for its craftsmen. Usually these slaves would end up on other Indonesian islands, but some were sold to the French and sent to work in French colonies.

The slave trade in Bali was also encouraged by the Balinese king, who saw it as a way to control the ordinary citizens while making money. This type of arrangement was typical of the early Dutch colonies in Indonesia—instead of overthrowing the local royal and noble classes, the Dutch collaborated with them for economic gain. In many cases the king or the nobles were merely figureheads while the Dutch held real power. But some local leaders had more authority. The Sultan of Aceh for example, kept the Dutch at bay by playing them against the British. And in 1825, a Javanese prince named Diponegoro rebelled against the Dutch, fighting a fierce guerilla-style war that lasted five years.

In response to these challenges to their authority, the Dutch became more stringent in their rule. Starting in the 1830s, new laws forced the average Indonesian to work state-owned plantations in a form of indentured service known as the Cultivation System. The Dutch also re-asserted their control through military campaigns, such as the seizure of northern Bali in the 1840s and southern Bali in 1906–1908.

Nationalism and World Wars

The early 1900s saw a rise in nationalist groups in Indonesia, but after World War I these groups were seen as dangerous, especially if they had ties to Islam or Communism. The 1930s was particularly repressive, with thousands of arrests. During this same time, the island of Bali was opened up to tourists as a sort of “living museum” of Indonesian culture.

It was during the 1930s that the Japanese first began proposing a trade zone in Southeast Asia that would include Indonesia. But with the invasion of the Netherlands by the Germans in 1940, Indonesia could not rely on troops from Europe to defend itself. In March 1942, the Japanese invaded; they would occupy the islands until 1945. Originally many Indonesians were happy to change their Dutch government for a Japanese one. Dutch rule had heavily favored citizens of

Dutch decent, even going so far as to create two classes of citizens, European and indigenous. The hope was that as an Asian power, the Japanese would be more tolerant towards the indigenous peoples. Unfortunately, this hope was not realized.

The wartime experience during the occupation varied considerably, but everyone—European and indigenous—suffered hardship to some degree. Many Indonesians became forced laborers in Japanese work camps, others were imprisoned, and still others simply starved. Today the United Nations estimates the roughly four million Indonesians died in World War II as a result of labor camps and famine.

Independence and the Modern Era

One benefit of the harsh treatment was that it helped forge a sense of common purpose and common identity among Indonesians. On August 17, 1945, only two days after the Japanese surrendered, Indonesia declared its independence. Two nationalist leaders of long standing were put in charge: President Sukarno and Vice President Mohammad Hatta. But there were complications. Not only did the Dutch hope to regain their former colony, but also some of the Western nations were wary of the two new leaders because they had publicly supported the Japanese occupation.

After four years of fighting (sometimes diplomatically, sometimes in real battles) the Dutch gave in to international pressure and recognized Indonesia as an independent nation in 1949. But now internal divisions—political and religious—threatened to divide the country. In response President Sukarno and his political party (the Indonesian National Party) moved towards a more authoritarian rule. On September 30 1965, an attempted coup by the Communist Party against President Sukarno was forcibly put down by the army, headed by General Suharto. In 1968, the general was elected President. He instituted a series of reforms known as the “New Order”, with mixed results. The economy improved, but the government was often accused of corruption and mistreatment of citizens, especially those with different political views.

During the 1970s and 1980s Indonesians looked for greater democracy and autonomy. Some groups tried to effect change through the political machine with petitions and elections. The Free Aceh Movement, which sought to separate the Aceh region (on the island of Sumatra) from the rest of Indonesia, went as far as armed conflict, albeit on a small scale.

During this time President Suharto remained in power, mostly because under his administration the economy improved. However, in the late 1990s, a series of crashes and recessions in the Asian financial markets hit Indonesia hard, forcing Suharto to step down in 1998. Since then Indonesia has seen its first directly-elected president (Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, in 2004) and negotiated a peace accord with the Free Aceh Movement (in 2005).

RESOURCES

Suggested Reading

Indonesia

Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert (Travel Narrative) Follows a writer's year-long adventure in Italy (eat), India (pray), and Indonesia (love). Although only partly set in Indonesia, the authors observations on her time there give a nice picture of modern Bali. The book was also made into a movie with the same title.

The Airmen and the Headhunters by Judith Heimann (History) The unlikely yet true story of US airmen that were shot down over Borneo in 1944—and the Dayak people that came to their rescue.

Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded by Simon Winchester (History) When the volcanoes of the Indonesian isle of Krakatoa erupted on August 27, 1883 the explosion unleashed a series of natural disasters, violence, and political change. Winchester captures the global and historic impact in vivid detail.

The Year of Living Dangerously by Christopher Koch (Fiction) Set against the backdrop of the 1965 coup attempt, the novel follows an ambitious young journalist through ups, downs, and romance in Jakarta.

Reflections of Eden by Birute M.F. Galdikas (Memoir/Nature) Like Jane Goodall or Dian Fossey, Birute Galdikas has spent her life studying and protecting one of the great apes—the orangutans of Borneo.

Suggested Films & Videos

Indonesia

Balibo (2009, Drama/Thriller) As Indonesia prepares to invade East Timor in 1975, five journalists go missing. Another reporter, Roger East, decides to go in search of them despite the dangers and teams up with an important figure from East Timor's history to find out the shocking truth. Based on a true story.

Eat, Pray, Love (2010, Romantic Comedy) Based on the book by the same name, the film follows a recently divorced Liz on a round-the-world journey of self discovery to Italy, India, and Indonesia. With scenes filmed on location in Bali.

Ganja Queen (2007, Documentary) A documentary that follows one of Indonesia's most famous court cases—the trial of Australian citizen Schapelle Corby, who was accused of trying to smuggle 10 lbs of marijuana into Indonesia. The documentary is unusual in that it was filmed as events were happening, rather than afterwards.

The Year of Living Dangerously (1982, Drama) Based on a novel by the same name, Year tells the story of a young journalist's search for the "big story" and romance in Jakarta during the 1965 coup. The film was banned in Indonesia until 1999.

The Act of Killing (2012, Documentary) and ***The Look of Silence*** (2014, Documentary). Two documentaries by the same director on the same subject—the Indonesian killings of 1965–1966—but with very different styles. Act focuses on death squad members while Look follows a man confronting his brother's killer.

Useful Websites

Overseas Adventure Travel Frequently Asked Questions

www.oattravel.com/faq

International Health Information/CDC (Centers for Disease Control)

www.cdc.gov/travel

Electricity & Plugs

www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plugs-and-sockets

Foreign Exchange Rates

www.xe.com/currencyconverter
www.oanda.com/converter/classic

ATM Locators

www.mastercard.com/atm
www.visa.com/atmlocator

World Weather

www.intellicast.com
www.weather.com
www.wunderground.com

Basic Travel Phrases (80 languages)

www.travlang.com/languages

Packing Tips

www.travelite.org

U.S. Customs & Border Protection

www.cbp.gov/travel

Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

www.tsa.gov

National Passport Information Center

www.travel.state.gov

Holidays Worldwide

www.timeanddate.com/holidays

Useful Apps

Flight Stats

Track departures, arrivals, and flight status

LoungeBuddy

Get access to premium airport lounges around the world

Timeshifter

Personalized tips for avoiding jetlag, based on neuroscience and your own data

GoogleMaps or Maps.me

Maps and directions anywhere in the world

Triposo

City guides, walking maps, and more – and it works offline

Rome2rio

Where to go, what to see, and what to do in more than 160 countries

Flush or Sit or Squat

Find a clean toilet anywhere

Uber or Bolt or Grab

Ride sharing around the world

Visa Plus and Mastercard Cirrus

ATM locations

Shows the location of the nearest ATM in your network

TunnelBear

Provides a secure VPN (virtual private network) that will encrypt your browsing data when you use a public WiFi network

What's App or Skype or Signal

WiFi calling anywhere in the world

Duolingo or FLuentU or Babbel

Learn dozens of foreign languages

Google Translate

Fast and simple translations

XE

Currency conversions

SizeGuide

Clothing and shoe sizes in all countries

Best Units Converter

Converts currency, mileage, weights, and many other units of measurement

Tourlina

For women only, it connects you with other female travelers

Happy Cow

Locate vegan and vegetarian eateries in 195 countries

Eatwith

Dine with locals all over the world

Meetup

Connects you with locals who share your interests

Skyview

Identifies constellations and heavenly bodies

Travello

Find travel friends on the road

ALIX for One

Created by and for women, it identifies solo-friendly dining spots in major international cities

TripWhistle

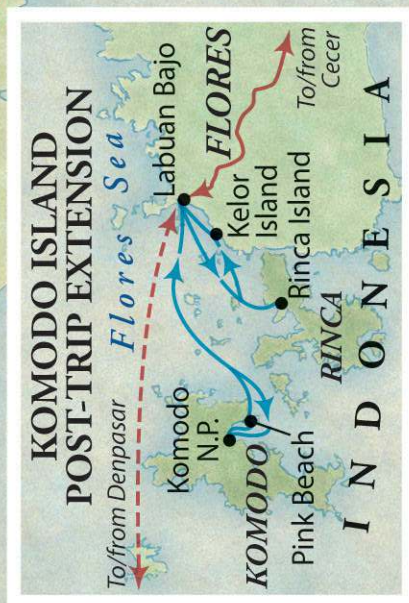
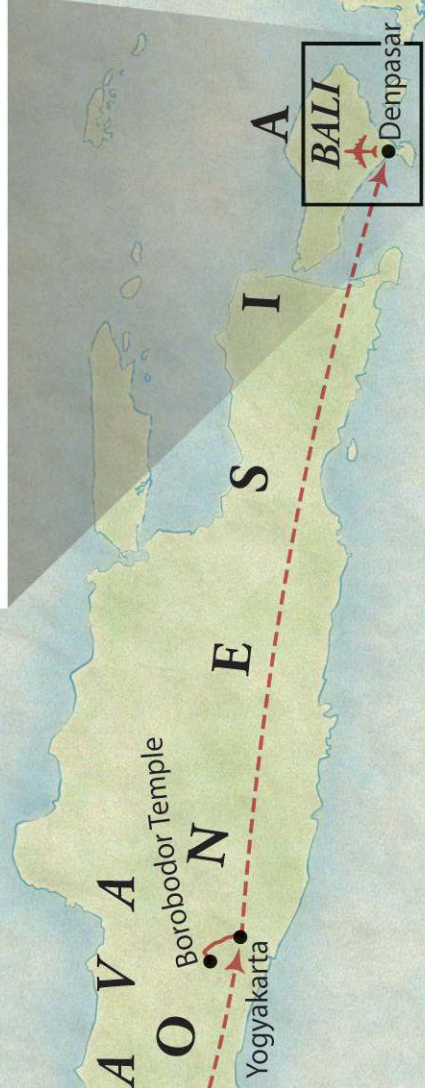
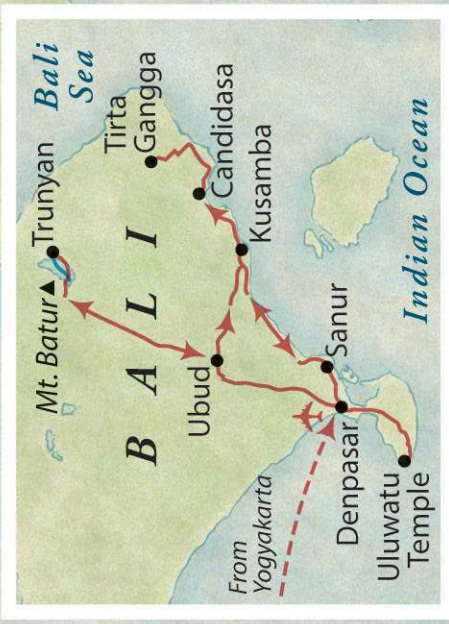
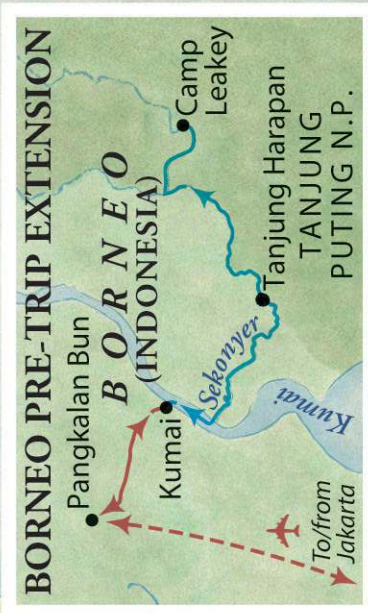
Maps your location and provides emergency numbers for police, medics, and more

GeoSure

Safely navigate neighborhoods around the world

Chirpey

For women only, connect with other women, find out what's safe, meet up, and more



SHARE YOUR TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

We invite you to share your videos, slideshows, and photos of your past O.A.T. adventures to help inspire your fellow travelers. Go to www.oattravel.com/myplanner to upload your photos or videos, and they may be featured on our website.

Most Popular Videos, Slideshows & Photos from our O.A.T. Adventures Created by O.A.T. Travelers



Submitted by Joy and Don Janke,
8-time travelers from Stevensville, MI



Submitted by Julia Schneider,
5-time traveler from Pinellas Park, FL



Submitted by Martin Schwartzman,
30-time traveler from Woodbury, NY



Submitted by Paul Stark, 17-time traveler
from Edina, MN



Submitted by David Fong, 16-time traveler
from Foster City, CA



Submitted by Steven dos Remedios,
23-time traveler from Oakland, CA



1-800-955-1925 | www.oattravel.com

CONNECT WITH US:  



World's Best
#4 Best Intimate-Ship
Ocean Cruise Line



Readers' Choice
Named to the Best
Tour Operators list



USA Today
#6 Best Educational
Tour Companies



"Best Tours"
Named one of the
"Best Tours"