



Incredible Indonesia Dossier

Classic Tour | 17 Days | Physical Level 2

Yogyakarta – Borobudur – Solo – Bromo – Surabaya – Flores – Bali

Discover Java, an island bursting with fascinating traditions that have remained strong through the ages, before journeying to the island of Flores, gateway to Komodo National Park, where you'll embark on an adventure in search of the infamous Komodo dragon.

- Spot legendary Komodo dragons
- Taste the culinary delights of Yogyakarta
- Marvel at Borobudur sunrise
- Discover the heritage Laweyan batik village
- Explore the Bromo volcano by Jeep
- Be inspired by Flores beauty
- Cruise to Kelor and Rinca Islands
- Swim at the beautiful Pink Beach



Incredible Indonesia Tour Inclusions:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- All meals
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escort (if your group is 10 or more passengers) or Local Guides
- Visa fees for Australian passport holders
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Comprehensive travel guides

The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary.

Classic Tours:

Venture off the beaten track to explore fascinating destinations away from the tourist trail. You will discover the local culture in depth and see sights rarely witnessed by other travellers. These tours take you away from the comforts of home but will reward you with the experiences of a lifetime. These tours include:

- Walking through classic sites
- Unique cultural experiences and encounters
- Off the beaten track destinations

Physical Level 2:

All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights.

‘Incredible Indonesia’ is rated as a **physical level 2** tour. A reasonable level of fitness is required but it’s more about spending time on your feet rather than covering large distances. You’ll be getting on and off coaches, walking around the sights and climbing some steps.

- On several days, there will be sightseeing on foot for extended periods of time often on an incline or on uneven surfaces.
- You will be required to get on and off varying sizes of boats often without assistance.

Of course, our National Escorts and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

Country Profile: Indonesia

Indonesia is a fascinating country situated in Southeast Asia. It is devised of more than 13,000 islands – the Indonesian archipelago houses some of the most breath-taking scenery in the world. Home to a magnitude of historical sites, luscious flora and fauna, crater lakes, a desert and volcanoes. Indonesia has everything a curious wanderer could hope for.

Joining Your Tour

The tour is 17 days in duration including international flights. Please note due to flight schedules passengers may arrive/depart on Day 2.

Travellers booked on 'Land Only, the price includes your arrival/ departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour. Please advise your international flight times to reservations.

Join the tour on Day 2 in Yogyakarta and end the tour in Denpasar on Day 16. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

Itinerary Changes

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate. In these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements maintaining the integrity of your trip.

- The domestic airlines in this region have frequent schedule changes. For this reason, we have indicated morning, afternoon or evening flights only in the following section. Your Local Guide or National Escort will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them

Itinerary – Incredible Indonesia

Days 1-2: Yogyakarta

Fly overnight to Yogyakarta, the cultural and historical heart of Java. The rest of the day is free to spend as you wish.



Destination Information

Yogyakarta – Still headed by its Sultan, Yogyakarta is central to Java's heritage, with traditional life and contemporary colliding in the huge urban centre. The entire metropolitan area is home to over 3.3 million people and has cultural attractions wherever you look, with a plethora of coffee shops, street art and galleries.

Day 3: Yogyakarta

The day begins at the huge palace complex, the Kraton, seat of the reigning Sultan and the hub of the city's cultural and political life before continuing to Taman Sari Water Castle, built in the 18th century as a place for the Sultan to relax. Later, learn about the art of leather shadow puppet making, a traditional craft, before a stroll through the Beringharjo market. This evening, dine in a Javanese house with a local family.



Destination Information

Kraton – The heart of the city, Kraton is a huge palace for the Sultans of Yogyakarta which is effectively a walled city in its own right, with around 1,000 of the residents being employed by the Sultan.

Taman Sari – Located near the Keraton, the water castle is known as the royal garden and has a unique combination of Eastern and Western architectural styles.

Beringharjo Market – Traditionally styled, this is Yogyakarta's biggest market and dates back to the 18th century. You can find a huge variety of items here, with fruit, vegetables, batik, fabrics being just a few of the types of items on offer.

Day 4: Yogyakarta

Explore a lesser seen side of the city, visiting a Buddhist vihara, a traditional 1,300-year old medicine shop and the Puro Pakualaman, the palace of the princely state of Pakualaman. The afternoon is at leisure before a street food tour of the Malioboro Road.

Day 5: Yogyakarta

Explore the historical neighbourhood of Kotagede, once the seat of a powerful Mataram Sutanate, by becak. Here you'll see the thriving silver industry and visit some traditional Javanese houses including an eclectic Kalang house, as well as Pasar Legi, a traditional Javanese market. Finally, change into Javanese costume to wander the sacred royal cemetery. Transfer to Magelang.



Destination Information

Kotagede – Once the first capital of the Mataram kingdom, Kotagede is now an upmarket suburb of Yogyakarta and also the hub of the silver industry here since the 1930's.

Day 6: Borobudur

Get up early to witness the sunrise at the famous Borobudur, a 1,200-year-old Buddhist temple set picturesquely amongst lush paddy fields and tropical forest, before discovering more about the complex. Get a taste of rural life in the close-by Candirejo, visiting the village by horse drawn carriage.



Destination Information

Borobudur – Noted for the UNESCO World-Heritage listed Borobudur temple, the world's largest Buddhist temple, which still stands tall after over 1200 years, Borobudur region is a gorgeous landscape of impossibly green rice fields and soaring volcanic peaks and is, noted by locals as the Garden of Java.

Day 7: Mt Merapi

Transfer to Solo. Stop en route to explore the spectacular Turgu Hills by Jeep, driving up to a viewpoint where you can admire a panorama of the surrounding area, including Mount Merapi. Browse the Sisa Hartaku Mini Museum before continuing to Kaliurang to visit the Museum of Mount Merapi and tuck into a Javanese buffet with beautiful views over the rice fields and volcano. Finally, stop at the 10th-century Prambanan Temple with its exquisite sculptural detail.



Destination Information

Mount Merapi – Towering 2,930m over Yogyakarta, Borobudur and the other surrounding towns and cities, Mount Merapi is officially Indonesia's most active volcano, despite the nation having 127 active volcanoes.

Day 8: Solo

An epicentre of Javanese culture, the city of Solo gives a wonderfully authentic glimpse of traditional island life. Explore the streets on a becak ride, stopping off at Triwindu market to browse the antiques. This afternoon, visit Laweyan batik village, to learn about this Javanese craft.



Destination Information

Solo – One of the least Westernised cities on the island, Solo has a long past as a seat of the Mataram empire and is full of traditional markets, crafts and performing arts, making it a fierce rival to Yogyakarta as the hub of Javanese culture.

Day 9: Solo - Jombang

At Solo station, board the train to Jombang, taking a scenic ride through the countryside into East Java. On arrival, transfer over to Bromo, located at the foot of volcanic Mt Bromo, stopping en route at the artefact-filled Trowulan Museum, to learn about the Majapahit Empire.

Day 10: Mt Bromo

Rise early and travel up Gunung Penanjakan by Jeep for a spectacular sunrise over Bromo and the surrounding area. Travel through the Sea of Sand, a nature reserve, to Bromo itself where you can climb the 245 steps up to the rim for excellent views. Stop at the village of Cemoro Lawang for a stroll around before returning to the hotel for an easy afternoon.



Destination Information

Mt Bromo – One of Indonesia's most breath taking sights, Mount Bromo stands at 2,329m and is surrounded by the peaks of Kursi, Batok, with Semeru in the distance. In the middle of a sea of volcanic sand, these mountains are part of the Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park that covers 800 square km.

Day 11: Surabaya

Drive to Surabaya, East Java's capital. Visit the House of Sampoerna, a cigarette factory housed in a 19th century Dutch colonial building with a fascinating museum. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Day 12: Surabaya - Flores

Transfer back to Yogyakarta and fly to the island of Flores, a lush tropical island and the gateway to Komodo National Park.



Destination Information

Komodo National Park – Established in 1980, the 1,817 square km Komodo National Park encompasses Komodo, Rinca, Padar, other lesser islands and a huge marine ecosystem.

Day 13: Komodo National Park

Enjoy a full day boat trip to Komodo National Park. On Komodo Island, take an easy trek to the Banungbratan park ranger, on which you can spot Komodo dragons and enjoy the unusual nature of the island. Later you'll be able to swim and snorkel at Pink Beach and the beautiful Kanawa Island.



Destination Information

Pink Beach – Komodo Island is home to one of the 7 pink beaches on the planet, and gets its striking colour from Foraminifera, a microscopic animal that produces red pigment on the coral reefs.

Day 14: Komodo National Park

A second full day exploring Komodo National Park, visiting first Kelor and then Rinca Island. This voyage past hundreds of beautiful little islands will take around 2 hours. Here, walk with a local ranger to spot more Komodo dragons as well as tropical birds, buffalo, deer and pigs. Cruise on to the tiny Sembilan Island, shaped like a number 9, where you can swim and discover Jellyfish Lake!



To book call **1300 727 998** or visit your local travel agent

Visit wendywutours.com.au

Day 15: Flores - Bali

After a morning at leisure, transfer to the airport and fly to Bali where you'll spend the night close to the beach in Denpasar.



Destination Information

Bali – Home to an estimated 10,000 temples, Bali is filled with rich and diverse culture with Denpasar being a hub for nearly a million locals with a real authenticity.

Day 16-17: Depart Bali

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Australia arriving home the following day; any time before your flight is at leisure.

Late check-out is not included in our Southeast Asia group tours. If you wish to book a late check-out for your final day, please contact our reservations department who can confirm additional pricing and make this arrangement for you, subject to availability at the hotel.

Incredible Indonesia Travel Information

Visas

Passports must be valid for 6 months beyond the length of stay. Visas are not required for Australian passport holders for entry into Indonesia for stays of up to 30 days.

Insurance

We strongly encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the originals.

Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Eating in Southeast Asia

Southeast Asia is home to an incredibly rich food history. The local cuisine is known for its intense flavours, spices and some of the freshest ingredients you can find. In general, meals include either rice or noodles and are packed full of flavour. Coconut milk, ginger, lime leaves, coriander, fish sauce and sweet soy sauce are used in most local dishes. Whilst Southeast Asian food has a reputation for being hot and spicy, each region actually has its own distinct characteristics. Java, for example, is perceived to have sweeter cuisine than other parts of Indonesia and is mostly indigenous based food and most Indonesian dishes are a result of many regional influences, particularly from neighbouring China and India.

Your itinerary has been carefully crafted to introduce you to a range of local dishes and we hope that you enjoy the culinary adventure ahead. All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our fully inclusive group tours from dinner on the day of your groups' arrival until breakfast on your day of departure. When dining in Southeast Asia, although some restaurants have adopted a western approach to dining, expect some restaurants to follow the traditional communal style of eating. Typically, this will mean each diner has their own small bowl and may serve themselves from a variety of shared dishes. At some local restaurants, appetizers and main courses might be served when they are ready instead of following a particular order.

Determining when it's appropriate to use chopsticks, forks or spoons can be challenging for some travellers, as each country has different customs. In Indonesia and some other countries in Southeast Asia, fork and spoon are used, but chopsticks and Chinese-style spoons are usually provided to eat noodles and noodle salads although it is also common for people to eat without utensils. Typically, the Indonesian eat most rice-based dishes with their right hand and sit on a bamboo mat at a low table.

Please refer to your travel guide for more information on Southeast Asian cuisine, including information for travellers with restricted diets.

Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to 4-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between Australia and Southeast Asia. All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort or Local Guide. Please note that double bed requests can be made at time of booking but can't be guaranteed.

Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Solo travellers: If you are a solo traveller and willing to share a room, you will not have to pay a single supplement for any hotel rooms. Willing to share single travellers booking within 75 days of the first day of a group tour will be subject to availability. If no suitable match is available at time of booking you will be required to pay all single supplements.

Porterage

Please be aware that porterage is not included on our tours in Southeast Asia. You will therefore need to be able to handle your own luggage within the hotel and when using transportation like trains and coaches

Transport

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. However, mini buses may be used for smaller groups (under 10 passengers). Roads in Southeast Asia have generally improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road - not just one or two kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the itinerary are approximations only.

Seatbelts: Please note that seatbelts are not compulsory by law in Southeast Asia and therefore the local people largely choose not to wear them. For this reason, some vehicles may not be fitted with seatbelts or they may be hidden underneath protective seat covers. It is recommended that customers use seatbelts where available and remain seated while the vehicle is moving. If you have any concerns, please notify your National Escort/Local Guides.

Planes: Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines. Pre-flight seat allocation is not available on international and internal flight sectors.

Development in Southeast Asia

Although Southeast Asia is developing quickly, it still lacks the international standards of civil infrastructure and tourist facilities. Concepts of personal responsibility are also different to those in Australia. Consequently, tourist and public facilities may not uphold the same safety standards as in Australia; for example, you may see a hole in the road without a warning sign or safety barricade. All of our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense, refer to notices and follow advice from your National Escort or Local Guides.

Indonesia Public Holidays

If you are travelling within the below Indonesian Public Holidays please note that celebrations can last a couple of days and during these times some businesses will be closed and coach, air and train travel may be affected. Tourist attractions will be open but may be crowded. Nyepi Day is 24th - 25th March 2020 and Eid-Al-Fitr is celebrated from 15th May - 30th May 2020.

Souvenirs

We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs, so we include some stops at museums or exhibitions which demonstrates a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone, so we aim to take you to places, which hold local interest.

We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance

Group Size

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by a national escort. There will usually be no more than 28 travellers in each group although you may encounter other Wendy Wu tour groups while you are travelling.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 8 travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so. For groups with fewer than 10 travellers, departures will operate with Local Guides instead of a National Escort.

Tipping Policy

Local tipping is customary in Asia. However, this can often lead to awkwardness in knowing when it is appropriate to tip and how much, as well as ensuring you have a suitable amount of change available at the time. For your convenience, with years of experiences in providing the best customer service, Wendy Wu Tours operates a kitty system on our Group Tours so your National Escort will look after this aspect of your trip for you. It also ensures that the amounts paid are reasonable for you but still fair for the local people. The amount is stated on each Group Tour page will be advised again on your final documentation. Tipping is in US Dollars and will be collected by your National Escort on arrival and distributed throughout the tour on your behalf. Any additional tipping on any of our tours is welcomed at your discretion. Further guidance for tipping contributions will be outlined in your final documentation.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy, but we do recognize that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour, we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour

Cultural Difference

With six official religions; cultural influence from across the globe and a rich history; cultural differences are inevitable in Indonesia. It is important to be considerate of the local beliefs and customs and dress with consideration.

Appropriate Dress

When visiting temples or mosques, both men and women should dress in conservative, non-revealing clothing. Full-length trousers with a shirt or t-shirt for men; and pants or skirts well below the knee with a top that covers the shoulders and upper arms for women. Women might also consider carrying a 'modesty shawl' in their daypack. This could be a sarong or light scarf – which they can wear over their shoulders and heads to feel more comfortable while sightseeing.

When visiting religious sites and homes throughout Southeast Asia – we require all visitors to remove their shoes to enter. Even if you then need to walk outdoors, over hot or rough ground, you will not be allowed to wear shoes. You will often find shoe storage rooms near the entrance of a site where it is customary to leave your shoes near the entrance. Occasionally there are 'shoe minders' who will offer to keep your shoes safe for a 'tip' – this is not compulsory, so each customer can choose to tip for this service or not. If you do not want to remove your shoes, you will have to remain outside.

We recommend shoes that easily slip on and off, and to carry a pair of thick socks in your daypack, which you can wear to protect your feet from any rough or hot surfaces.

Climbing Steps

Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps. These palaces were built to provide defense against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails. Hindu and Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb some steps inside.

People with knee or hip injuries, who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

Packing List & Climate

You will find a complete packing list and a helpful climate chart in the 'Suggested Packing List', which will be included in the pre-departure information link sent within your deposit documentation. Seasonal weather patterns can be quite unpredictable. Up to the minute information on worldwide weather can be found on www.weather.com

Luggage

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each; a suitcase with a maximum weight of 15kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of 5kg. It is essential that your luggage is lockable.

Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.

Exchanging Cash

It is highly recommended that extra care and attention is paid when exchanging money when travelling outside major cities in Borneo. Australian Dollars are easily exchanged throughout Borneo and can generally be exchanged in hotels and airports provided notes are new and undamaged.

We suggest exchanging your money before travelling to remote areas and smaller towns, as exchange facilities can be limited. Your National Escort will remind you to do this before departure.

Personal Expenses & Optional Tours

Personal Expense - You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you. Based on the advice of previous customers an approximate amount of AU\$250.00 per person, per week should be sufficient; however, for those that can't resist a bargain or may wish to participate in all of the optional excursions, consider allocating a higher amount.

Optional tours may be offered in each city you visit during your tour at an additional cost. These are not included in the standard itinerary and will only be available if time permits. Each option will be arranged locally by your National Escort/Local Guide.

Vaccinations & Your Health

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au

Before You Leave

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smartraveller.gov.au as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

After Your Booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice, which includes a link to our Visas, Passports and Health page. Here you will find the applicable visa application form, and a help sheet (if required). Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

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