



INDONESIA TRAVEL TIPS

Dear Travelers,

Welcome to Indonesia!

Wonderful Indonesia is located in Southeast Asia, the country is made up of 17,000 islands and stretches for 5,000 miles along the equator. To the northwest are Peninsular Malaysia and Indochina, and to the south is the Australian mainland. To the north are the Philippines and Micronesia. The misty volcanoes and mountains, undeveloped rainforests, thousands of kilometers of beaches and endless offshore coral reefs are home to a wealth of wildlife, making Indonesia an ideal destination for adventure tours and eco travel as well as to discover the rich culture of this country.



PLANNING YOUR TRIP TO INDONESIA

WHAT IS THE WEATHER LIKE IN INDONESIA FOR ALL YEAR ROUND?

Indonesia is a tropical country right along the equator. This means that temperatures tend to be very similar year-round: hot in the lowlands, cooler or (only at night) even downright cold as you move higher up in the mountains. The climate is characterized by high temperatures and rain.

These two seasons as:

☀️ **Hot & dry season** starting in **April until September**.

Then the rainy season starts at the end of September until March. The uniformly warm waters that make up 81% of Indonesia's area ensure that temperatures on land remain fairly constant, with the coastal plains averaging 28 °C, the inland and mountain areas averaging 26 °C, and the higher mountain regions, 23 °C. However, just like any other country around the world, Indonesia is also affected by global warming which makes the climate and seasons hard to predict.



Indonesia's climate is **equatorial** that is **hot, humid** and **rainy** throughout the year.



☀ **Summer Season in Indonesia**

The summers in Indonesia are from **March to October**. It is the best time to visit Indonesia in its eastern part which remains drier during this time of the year. The west coast of Indonesia including places like **Penang, Langkawi, and Pangkor** experience rainy season from April to October. March is the hottest month in Indonesia with a temperature rising up to 28°C, while the weather from April to October is also comparatively warmer as compared to the other months of the year. One must carry light clothes to Indonesia during this time, to stay cool.

WHEN IS THE BEST TIMES TO VISIT INDONESIA?

The best times to visit Indonesia are as:



The best time to visit Indonesia is between April and October yearly!

During these months, the weather is perfect for island-hopping, snorkeling, and beach relaxation.

IMPORTANT NOCES BEFORE YOU TRAVEL TO INDONESIA

Check Visa & Passport Requirements

Check **if you need a travel/tourist visa before travelling to Indonesia**. Indonesia's tourist visa policy states that there are currently around 75 nationalities that require an approved visa to visit the country for tourism, no matter the intended period of the stay. Depending on nationality, this may be either a tourist visa obtained from an embassy or a tourist visa on arrival issued at an immigration checkpoint.


- 1- You must make sure **your passport is valid at least 6 months** from the arrival date to Indonesia to avoid trouble!
- 2- You must make sure if **your passport has more than 2 blank pages**, less than 2, you will not allow to enter Indonesia!

Tip:

- 1- All kinds of visas
- 2- All documents needed
- 3- All requirements
- 4- All you need for Indonesian visa, please check at:

<https://www.imigrasi.go.id/en/e-voa/>

Packing lists for Traveling to Indonesia

| Checklist travel documents | Electronics checklist |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Original passport (must have at least 2 blank pages) ✓ Visa on Arrival if applicable (see above) ✓ Insurance certificate if have ✓ Vaccination card (check if you need) ✓ Flight ticket (printout or e-ticket) ✓ Travel credit card | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cell phone with charger ✓ Most power plugs and sockets in Indonesia are type C and F. Check out the following pictures.  |



| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cash USD & Indonesian Ringgit accepted ✓ List of emergency contacts. ✓ International Driver's License ✓ Optional: Diving certificate ✓ Optional: Waterproof document bag | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Headphones ✓ Power bank or solar charger ✓ Flashlight/headlamp if needed ✓ Optional: Camera with charger ✓ Optional: Rain cover for your camera ✓ Optional: Multiple socket <p>Note: Electricity Socket: is normally 230 V and with a standard frequency of 50 Hz.</p> |
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Wearing

When planning what to wear in Indonesia, bear in mind **dress is informal in Indonesia**. However, it is a hot and humid climate, so we suggest that lightweight clothes in natural fibers (linen, silk and cotton) will be more comfortable and easier to wash.

Clothing tips for women

- ✓ Our advice is to **avoid wearing revealing clothes** as a mark of respect to the country's predominantly Muslim values.
- ✓ A long skirt or pants with a loose cotton shirt with sleeves would all work well and will protect you from the sun.
- ✓ Wearing bikinis and swimwear is fine around the pool at the resort, but not when visiting villages or shopping in town. At such times, we'd recommend you wear a kaftan or sarong at the least. Or, better still, get properly dressed so you fit right in.
- ✓ If you are planning to visit any of the temples on your trip, you should make sure that your arms and head are covered – carry a scarf or pashmina for this.
- ✓ The humidity can play havoc with your hair – so think about accessories or a scarf to keep it looking neat and tidy.
- ✓ If you are there on business, then a suit with tights or stockings will be expected.

Clothing tips for men

- ✓ When visiting temples men are expected to wear a sash, however you can normally rent these at the temple.
- ✓ For versatile and stylish beachwear, try the Madda Fella range of shirts, shorts, polos and swimwear.
- ✓ If you are there on business, you should wear a jacket and tie.
- ✓ For great versatile travel jackets with multiple pockets including RFID security options, we love the **SCOTTeVEST** range.

Others

- ✓ A waterproof camera if you go scuba diving or snorkeling
- ✓ Tampons: hard to find in certain places
- ✓ A sheet (or sleeping bag liner)
- ✓ Headlamp or torch
- ✓ Flip-flops or easy-to-remove shoes
- ✓ First-aid kit: anti-malaria, anti-diarrhea, antibiotics, antihistamine, Biafine, headache treatment, etc.



- ✓ An anti-mosquito lotion, especially if you go during the rainy season
- ✓ A camera with a good zoom and a spare battery
- ✓ Hiking shoes if you are planning a trek
- ✓ A small bottle of hand disinfectant
- ✓ Cleaning wipes (ideal during a trek or to cool off)
- ✓ A pareo for bathing and to visit temples (can be bought on the spot)
- ✓ Sunglasses, a hat and sunscreen
- ✓ Long-sleeved T-shirts to protect against mosquitoes
- ✓ A fleece and a windbreaker if you are planning a trek
- ✓ Light cotton clothing

Purchase Travel Insurance

Always travel with travel insurance. You never know what will happen abroad, especially if you are taking part in more extreme activities like riding motorbikes, hiking mountains, cliff-jumping, and doing water sports. Even if you don't plan on doing crazy sports, you still want to be covered in case you get sick. **InAsisTrips Travel & DMC** recommend you to buy travel insurance with a trusted **LOCAL INSURANCE COMPANY** in your country as it is much easier to work with when there is anything happened!

Consult Your Doctor

Visit your doctor at home before you visit Indonesia. Ask them if they recommend taking any medications or if you need any vaccinations before you go.

WHEN YOU ARE IN INDONESIA

Currencies

The **official currency of Indonesia is Rupiah** which is Issued and controlled by the **Bank of Indonesia**.

The currency code for Rupiahs is **IDR**, and the currency symbol is **Rp** . By law, all transactions are required to be conducted in rupiah, and information on the daily exchange rate can be found in newspapers or from the internet and online apps. Credit cards are widely accepted in hotels, large restaurants, and large stores.

Indonesian banknotes come in denominations of **IDR1000, IDR2000, IDR5000, IDR10000, IDR20000, IDR50000, and IDR100000**.

Coins in circulation include IDR1000, IDR500, IDR200, IDR100, and IDR50.

Where are the Best Places to Exchange Money in Indonesia?

You can exchange foreign currency in major cities throughout the archipelago at banks and money changers. Most tourists' resorts have money changer facilities; however, if you are traveling to more remote areas it is advisable to exchange your money beforehand. If you need a large amount of foreign currency, and you don't have a foreign currency account at your bank, it is best to order the money the day before. Local banks keep a limited amount of foreign



currency in their smaller branches.

Are ATMs easily accessible?

ATMs on the international Plus/Cirrus or Alto networks are common in all major Indonesian cities and tourist destinations. Limitation withdrawal is depending on your respective home bank. Machines are loaded with IDR50,000 denomination notes or IDR100,000 denomination notes, as indicated on the machine; however keep in mind that the bigger notes can be harder to split, especially in rural non-tourist areas. It is also best to withdraw some money from an ATM in major cities before venturing onto more secluded destinations.

The **official currency in Indonesia is Ringgit** with the code MYR and symbol as: **"RM"**. Ringgit have banknotes worth RM100, RM50, RM20, RM10, RM5, RM1 and 50 sen (cent) coins, as well as **20 sen, 10 sen, and 5 sen coins, exchange rates here: <https://www.bnm.gov.my/latest-rates>**

DRESS RESPECTFULLY

When entering temples, you have to abide by the dress code. In addition to removing your shoes, you have to wear clothes that cover your knees, shoulders, chest and stomach.

RESPECT THEIR WAY OF LIFE BY COVERING UP A BIT MORE.

You are perfectly fine wearing shorts and T-shirts when it is hot out, just try to hide areas like cleavage and the midriff so you seem a bit more aware of the Indonesian modesty.

ASK BEFORE PHOTOGRAPHING PEOPLE

Before taking a photo of someone, ask for their permission. If you see a local wearing a traditional garment or a monk praying in a temple, this can be a beautiful image to capture.

Indonesians are usually very friendly, so if you ask for a photo they will most likely oblige.

If you need more help with this, check out our guide to travel photography tips for beginners.

AVOID TOUCHING OTHER PEOPLE'S HEADS

The head is considered the holiest part of the body, so you should never touch someone's head. It seems unlikely that you would touch someone's head anyway, but just be aware that it is seen as disrespectful so try to avoid that.

BARGAIN WITH DIGNITY

Bargaining for goods at street markets is a huge part of travelling to Indonesia. Definitely give it a try, but always be respectful and don't bargain too low. See what the original price is, and slowly try and lower the cost. Generally speaking, half of the original price is as low as you should go. Anything lower than that may offend the vendor.

If you are buying something handmade or truly unique and special, just pay the full price as your money will benefit the local artist and community.

TIPPING IN INDONESIA



There are **no set rules for tipping in Indonesia**, but there are still times when it is appropriate to leave a little extra. Although it isn't a standard practice, as a service charge may be added to the final bill in hotels and restaurants. If service, however, isn't included or it exceeds all expectations, you are welcome to leave a little extra to show your gratitude and it will be appreciated. The currency in Indonesia is the rupiah (Rp) and it's considered acceptable to round up to the nearest rupiah when in doubt on what to tip. Be sure to hand the tip directly to the person you want to thank for excellent service

Here is InAsiaTrips Travel & DMC advices:

How much should I tip a guide?

As a rough guide, around **\$12 per day for your guide** would be about right for a good job, perhaps more for something special or if you are a larger group or family.

How much for drivers?

Drivers usually receive 2/3rds of what the accompanying guide gets. **\$7-8 per day** is a guideline, but do note that you don't have to tip drivers doing pickups and drop offs at airports.

For Café Server:

A tip isn't required, but you can leave a few coins for top-notch service.

For Restaurant Server:

A service charge of 5 to 10 percent may be included in the final bill. If service exceeds expectations, feel free to give the server a few extra coins. If service isn't included, leave up to 15 percent for a job well done. A tip will always be appreciated, but isn't expected. To ensure the server receives the tip, hand the money directly to them.

For bartender:

A tip isn't required, but you can leave a few coins for top-notch service.

For taxis:

It is common, but not obligatory, to round up to the nearest rupiah on a fare.

For doorman:

Hotels typically include a 10 percent service charge on top of the 10 to 11 percent tax in the final bill, and therefore tipping isn't required. You can, however, offer a few coins for exemplary service.

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For bellhop:

Hotels typically include a 10 percent service charge on top of the 10 to 11 percent tax in the final bill, and therefore tipping isn't required. You can, however, give a few extra coins for delivering your luggage to your room.

For housecleaning:

Hotels typically include a 10 percent service charge on top of the 10 to 11 percent tax in the final bill, and therefore tipping isn't required. You can, however, give a few extra coins for a squeaky-clean stay.

For concierge:

Hotels typically include a 10 percent service charge on top of the 10 to 11 percent tax in the final



bill, and therefore tipping isn't required. You can, however, give a few extra coins for a special recommendation or hard-to-get reservation.

FIND THE CHEAPEST FORM OF TRANSPORTATION

Buses are inexpensive, easy to book and leave roughly on time. However, they're also slow, cramped and often plain terrifying. Tickets are sold a day or more in advance from the point of departure or bus company offices; buy them as early as possible where services are infrequent. Tell the driver your exact destination, as it may be possible to get delivered right to the door.

In cities, colour-coded or numbered minibuses known as angkots (also called bemos, oplets or microlets) run fixed circuits, although routes are often adaptable according to their customers. Once on their way, they're faster than buses and cheaper; fares are handed over on board.

A more pleasant alternative to big buses and angkots is tourist shuttle buses. Though far more expensive than local services, these air-conditioned vehicles will take you between points as quickly as possible.

DON'T DRINK THE TAP WATER

The tap water is not safe for drinking in Indonesia. Bring a reusable water bottle that you can refill at drinking water stations, or bring your own filter so you can always have clean water. You can buy bottled water during your trip to Indonesia, but try to reduce your plastic waste whenever possible!

USE SUN PROTECTION

Always wear sunscreen. Whether you are on the beach, in the city or in the mountains, whether it is sunny or cloudy, just wear sunscreen to be safe. The sun is so strong in Indonesia, so you are always at risk of burning, no matter what skin type you have. You may want to bring your own sunscreen from home, as the prices are quite expensive in Indonesia. Also, wear sunglasses and a hat whenever possible.

AVOID PETTY THEFT

- ✓ Be alert and aware of pick pocketing and bag-snatching, as petty crime is rampant in Indonesia.
- ✓ Avoid secluded places at night.
- ✓ Do not carry big amounts of cash with you at public places.

INTERNET

In Indonesia, the Wi-Fi connection is available in many major public areas.

- Most International airports in Indonesia provide Wi-Fi connection. For information on Wi-Fi connections in other airports, contact the local information desk at the airport once you arrived.
- Most major hotels in Indonesian cities have free Wi-Fi connection for its guests. Each are usually protected by passwords and the guest will obtain the password info when checking



in the hotel. For smaller hotels in small towns, Wi-Fi connections are also commonly provided, but to be sure, you should check ahead prior to booking.

- There are currently facilities that support Wi-Fi in a few stations in Indonesia's capital city, Jakarta. However, PT KAI, Indonesia's state-owned train company announced in 2018 that they plan to provide free internet connection installed on all trains gradually.
- Most public places in Indonesia's major cities have Free Hot Spots for Wi-Fi such as malls, restaurants, café's, tourist attractions, etc. However in public areas, they are not always secured networks, so you might want to be really careful and read the terms and conditions more thoroughly before signing in.

BE SAFE IN INDONESIA

Indonesia is mostly a safe country to travel to, though it still has its dangers from natural disasters to terrorism and petty theft. **Be very cautious on the streets** of Indonesia and plan your trip carefully.

- 1- **Pickpocketing** and bag snatching is a very common issue in Indonesia, especially in public and crowded places like bus and train stations and airports. Keep your belongings by your side at all times and try to leave all your valuables in a security deposit box of your hotel.
- 2- **TERRORISM RISK:** There is a high risk of this country being targeted for a terrorist attack. Recent ones involved suicide bombings and small-arms fire. The last one was performed on May 24th, 2017 when there were bomb explosions at the Kampung Melayu bus station in East Jakarta, killing three police officers.
- 3- **How Safe Is Indonesia Really?** Indonesia is, for the most part, safe to visit, though you should keep in mind many dangers that may befall you if you plan on visiting this gorgeous country.

WHAT TO DO & NOT TO DO IN INDONESIA

These are some of the most important things to know before you go travelling in Indonesia.

| DO | DON'T |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dress appropriately ❖ Make an effort to keep discussion harmonious and balanced. ❖ It is important to ask questions in several ways in order to be certain of what was meant by a vague response. ❖ Be obvious in showing an Indonesian that you enjoy their company and are fond of them. ❖ Express flattery when it is due as this will give face. However, always do so with sincerity - giving a blatantly | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Don't Use your left hand ❖ Don't Step over someone ❖ Don't Underestimate The Power Of Local Phrases ❖ Do Not Hitchhike ❖ Don't Ignore Local Customs ❖ Don't Disrupt The Wildlife ❖ Don't Forget To Say Thank You ❖ Don't Do Drugs ❖ Do Not Drink Alcohol Or Play Card Games In Public Places ❖ Never Underestimate How Spicy A Meal Can Be ❖ Never Joke About Race, Religion, And Ethnicity |



| | |
|--|--|
| <p>'fake' compliment can cause an Indonesian to lose face instead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Treat older Indonesians with respect. Always give substantial recognition of their opinion. ❖ Try to take an unassuming attitude and be discreet about your private life with those you do not know well. ❖ Respect an Indonesian's modesty and keep a distance from those of the opposite gender unless you know them well. Do wear Appropriate Clothing! ❖ Do ask before, taking photos of locals. ❖ Do take your Hat off! ❖ Do remove Your Shoes Before Entering A Indonesian Home ❖ Do dress Modestly At Religious Sites ❖ Do greet People With A Smile & Nod ❖ Do try The Local Cuisine ❖ Do haggle At Markets ❖ Do ASK people before you tip ❖ Do avoid talking to politic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Avoid directly criticizing someone or pointing out their mistakes ❖ Avoid raising your voice, shouting or losing your temper in public. ❖ Try not to interrupt or fill in the silence during conversations ❖ Avoid talking about government/military corruption in Indonesia as broaching sensitive topics such as these can make an Indonesian feel uncomfortable. They may not know how to respond without losing face. ❖ Do not laugh at the mistake of another or tell jokes that poke fun at the disadvantage of others. ❖ Don't Shake Hands With Muslim Women ❖ Avoid Public Displays of Affection ❖ Don't Use Your Forefinger To Point At Things ❖ Don't Insult The Local people ❖ Don't Litter ❖ Don't Take Photos Of People Without Their Permission ❖ Don't give to Street Children – Honestly i'm not heartless! ❖ Don't – Handle Objects with your left hand only! |
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OTHERS

Useful Words and Expressions

Indonesian language or Bahasa Indonesia is the official language of the Republic of Indonesia. The root of this language is Malay which belongs to the Austronesian language. Bahasa Indonesia is primarily used in education, administration, and media, so in this modern time, every Indonesian speaks the language. If you want to communicate with Indonesians during your travel, Bahasa Indonesia is the first language you need to learn!

General greetings in Bahasa Indonesian:

- ❖ Hello: Halo
- ❖ Goodbye: Sampai jumpa
- ❖ How are you?: Apa kabar?
- ❖ Very good, thanks!: Sangat baik / bagus, terima kasih!
- ❖ Not good: Tidak baik / bagus
- ❖ I'm not well: Saya kurang sehat
- ❖ Have you eaten yet?: Kamu sudah makan?
- ❖ It's nice to meet you: Senang bertemu dengan kamu / anda



- ❖ Thank you: Terima kasih
- ❖ Thank you very much: Terima kasih banyak
- ❖ Excuse me: Permisi
- ❖ Yes: Iya
- ❖ No: Tidak

Getting to know Indonesian people:

- ❖ What is your name?: Siapa nama kamu?
- ❖ My name is John: Nama saya John
- ❖ My name is Suzy: Nama saya Suzy
- ❖ How old are you?: Berapa umur kamu?
- ❖ I like Indonesia: Saya suka Indonesia
- ❖ What country are you from?: Kamu dari negara mana?
- ❖ I am from Australia: Saya dari Australia

Directions and transport in Bahasa Indonesian:

- ❖ Can you put the taxi meter on?: Bisa kah kamu nyalakan taxi meternya?
- ❖ To the train station please: Ke stasiun kereta
- ❖ To the airport please: Ke Bandara
- ❖ Where are you going?: Kamu mau ke mana?
- ❖ Where is the market?: Di mana pasar?
- ❖ Where is the train station?: Di mana stasiun kereta?
- ❖ I am staying close by: Saya tinggal dekat sini
- ❖ Not far: Tidak jauh
- ❖ Turn left: Belok kiri
- ❖ Turn right: Belok kanan
- ❖ Straight: Lurus
- ❖ Short cut: Jalan pintas
- ❖ Traffic jam: Macet
- ❖ Rush hour: Jam sibuk

Time and special days in Indonesia:

- ❖ Today: Hari ini
- ❖ Tomorrow: Besok
- ❖ Yesterday: Kemarin
- ❖ Next week: Minggu depan
- ❖ Next month: Bulan depan
- ❖ Happy Birthday: Selamat ulang tahun
- ❖ Happy New Year: Selamat tahu baru
- ❖ What time is it?: Jam berapa sekarang?
- ❖ What time does it open?: Jam berapa buka nya?
- ❖ What time does it close?: Jam berapa tutup nya?
- ❖ Do you have a room? (Hotel): Kamu ada kamar kosong?

Numbers 1 – 10 in Bahasa Indonesian:






- ❖ 1 – Satu
- ❖ 2 – Dua
- ❖ 3 – Tiga
- ❖ 4 – Empat
- ❖ 5 – Lima
- ❖ 6 – Enam
- ❖ 7 – Tujuh
- ❖ 8 – Delapan
- ❖ 9 – Sembilan
- ❖ 10 – Sepuluh

Others:

- ❖ I don't understand: Saya tidak mengerti
- ❖ I don't know: Saya tidak tahu
- ❖ I don't speak Bahasa: Saya tidak bisa bicara Bahasa Indonesia
- ❖ I speak a little: Saya bisa bicara Bahasa Indonesia sedikit
- ❖ Do you speak English?: Apakah kamu bisa bicara Bahasa Inggris?
- ❖ Do you speak Bahasa Indonesia?: Apakah kamu bisa bicara Bahasa Indonesia?
- ❖ You're very good!: Kamu sangat bagus!
- ❖ Sure!: Bisa / Baik! (Baik typically means okay!)
- ❖ Do you have a menu?: Apakah kamu punya menu?
- ❖ Can I have the bill?: Bolehkah saya minta bill?
- ❖ I don't want it spicy: Saya tidak mau pedas
- ❖ I don't want sugar: Saya tidak mau gula
- ❖ Where is the toilet?: Toilet di mana?
- ❖ I like spicy food: Saya suka makan pedas
- ❖ I don't like spicy food: Saya tidak suka makan pedas
- ❖ I don't like chilli: Saya tidak suka cabe
- ❖ I'm really hungry: Saya lapar sekali
- ❖ I'm really thirsty: Saya haus sekali
- ❖ Delicious: Enak
- ❖ It smells (good): Ini wangi
- ❖ How much?: Berapa?
- ❖ Too expensive: Mahal sekali
- ❖ I don't want it: Saya tidak mau itu

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