



INDONESIA Java & Bali

July 6-17, 2023
12 Days / 9 Nights

 **WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
OF GREATER HOUSTON**
Global Perspectives, Local Conversations



Indonesia

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ITINERARY

DAY 1	Leave USA for Jakarta, Indonesia.
DAY 2	In Transit.
DAY 3	Arrive in Jakarta / Jakarta.
DAY 4	Sightseeing in Jakarta / Jakarta.
DAY 5	Jakarta - Fly to Yogyakarta / Yogyakarta.
DAY 6	Borobudur sightseeing / Yogyakarta.
DAY 7	Yogyakarta sightseeing / Yogyakarta.
DAY 8	Fly to Bali / Ubud - Bali
DAY 9	Sightseeing in Bali / Ubud - Bali
DAY 10	Sightseeing in Bali / Ubud - Bali
DAY 11	Free time and sightseeing in Bali / Ubud - Bali
DAY 12	Departure.

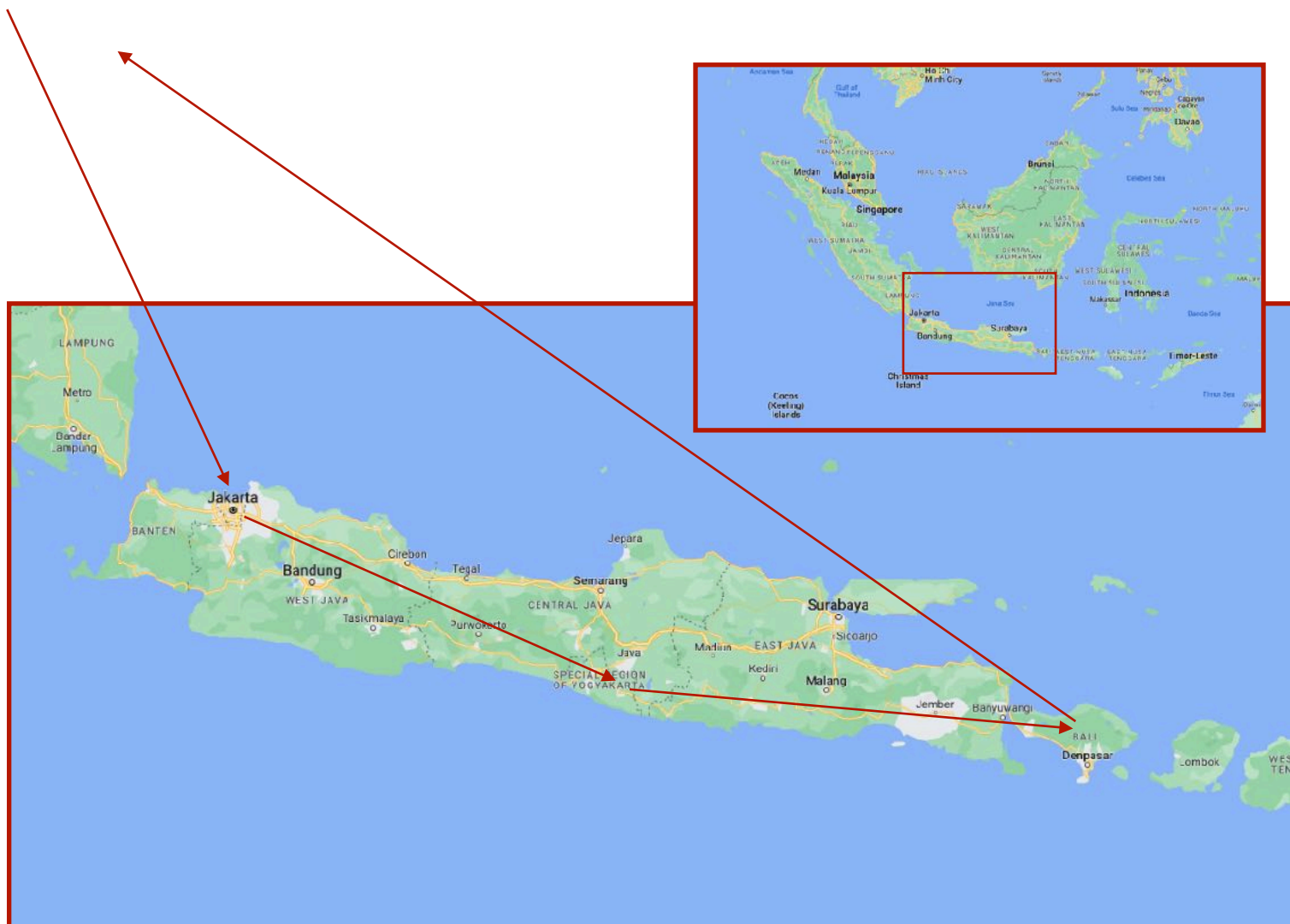
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MAP TRAJECTORY





HIGHLIGHTS

Borobudur, world's biggest Buddhist monument.

Jakarta, the capital and a mixture of cultures.

Istiklal Mosque, the largest mosque in Southeast Asia.

Candirejo, a traditional Javanese village.

The Kraton, Palace of Yogyakarta.

Ramayana ballet dance show.

Kecak Fire Dance performance in Bali.

Besakih, Bali's biggest and holiest temple.

The town of Ubud, cultural center of Bali.

Gamelan music and traditional Indonesian puppet show.

Delicious food and more...



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INCLUDED

Visa fee

All accommodations based on double occupancy in hotels as listed.

Meals as listed with bottled water.

Bottled water on the bus.

Transportation in a deluxe motor-coach with air-conditioning.

Arrival & departure transfers - for suggested flights only.

All sightseeing, excursions and entrances as listed.

Two domestic flights in Indonesia.

English speaking professional guide throughout the tour.

Tips for meals and hotels.

Gratuities for guides and drivers.

NOT INCLUDED

International airfare.

Any drinks other than tea/coffee for breakfast and water for meals.

Photo/video camera charges for some sites.

Excess luggage charges.

Travel insurance.

Any items not listed.



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SUGGESTED FLIGHTS:

Suggested flights are on Turkish Airlines:

6 July	Houston to Istanbul
TK 34	dep: 8:50 pm / arr: 4:45 pm on 7 July
8 July	Istanbul to Jakarta
TK 56	dep: 1:55 am / arr: 5:35 pm
17 July	Bali to Istanbul
TK 67	dep: 9:10 pm / arr: 5:10 am on 18 July
18 July	Istanbul to Houston
TK 33	dep: 2:10 pm / arr: 7:10 pm

Economy class fare TBA

Business class fare TBA

per person including taxes, surcharges and fees as of October 27, 2022. Fares can change based on availability.



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ACCOMMODATIONS

Jakarta: Jambuluwuk Thamrin (2 nights)



Yogyakarta: The Phoenix (3 nights)





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ACCOMMODATIONS

Ubud-Bali: The Sankara Suites (4 nights)





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DAY 4

Sun, July 9 - Jakarta

We will have a full day sightseeing program in Jakarta:

We will start with Glodok neighborhood, which is the center of Jakarta's China Town. We will visit Petak Sembilan Chinese temple dedicated to the Buddhist goddess of mercy, Kuan Yin. Built around 1650, it was one of the earliest centers of worship for the Batavian Chinese. We will also walk through the traditional market to experience the daily activity.

Then on to Jakarta Old Town or "Kota Tua". Jakarta Old Town, officially known as Kota Tua, is a neighborhood comprising the original downtown area of Jakarta. We will also visit Wayang Museum which is dedicated to Javan wayang puppetry.

Sunda Kelapa Harbor; this old harbor area was a vital link to the outside world markets for the 15th Century kingdom of Pajajaran. Since then this port had belonged to the Portuguese and Dutch. The harbor is still one of the most important calls for sailing vessels from all over Indonesia.

Overnight in Jakarta

Meals: B-L-D

Wayang is a traditional form of puppet theater play originating from the Indonesian island of Java.

Performances of wayang puppet theater are accompanied by a gamelan orchestra in Java. The dramatic stories depict mythologies, such as episodes from the Hindu epics the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, as well as local adaptations of cultural legends. Traditionally, a wayang is played out in a ritualized midnight-to-dawn show by a dalang, an artist and spiritual leader; people watch the show from both sides of the screen.

Wayang performances are still very popular among Indonesians, especially in the islands of Java and Bali.



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DAY 5

Mon, July 10 - Jakarta - Yogyakarta

In the morning we will continue with sightseeing in Jakarta: Our visits will include Istiqlal Mosque, Cathedral Church and the National Museum.

After lunch we will take the flight from Jakarta to Yogyakarta. Upon arrival transfer to our hotel for overnight

Overnight in Yogyakarta

Meals: B-L-D

Istiqlal Mosque in Jakarta, Indonesia is the largest mosque in Southeast Asia and the sixth largest mosque in the world in terms of worshipper capacity. Built to commemorate Indonesian independence, this national mosque of Indonesia was named "Istiqlal", an Arabic word for "independence". The mosque was opened to the public on 22 February 1978.

Yogyakarta is the cradle of civilization on Java. This city was the seat of power that produced the magnificent temples of Borobudur and Prambanan in the 8th and 9th centuries and the new powerful Mataram kingdom of the 16th and 17th century.

This city is one of the foremost cultural centers of Indonesia. From strolling through the living museum of The Kraton (Sultan's Palace), to watching silversmiths produce amazing jewelry at Kotagede there is a lot to do and see.

DAY 6

Tue, July 11 - Borobudur - Candirejo

On our first day in Yogyakarta we will have an excursion to one of the most impressive sites of the country.

We will leave our hotel in the morning to visit the magical temple of Borobudur. From our guide we can learn the philosophy behind Buddhism by exploring the reliefs on Borobudur temple.

After our visit, we will drive to Candirejo village, a traditional Javanese village which is rich in its natural surrounding and portrays the traditional Javanese culture and daily life in the countryside. With its traditional houses, plantation, art performances, farming and local food, we will have first hand experience of the local life.

Overnight in Yogyakarta

Meals: B-L-D

Located on the island of Java, the magnificent **Borobudur temple** is the world's biggest Buddhist monument.

The temple sits majestically on a hilltop overlooking lush green fields and distant hills. Built between AD 780 and 840 during the reign of Syailendra dynasty, the temple's design in Gupta architecture reflects India's influence on the region. However, there are enough indigenous scenes and elements incorporated to make Borobudur uniquely Indonesian.

The temple has remained strong even through ten centuries of neglect. It was rediscovered in 1814 under the order of Sir Thomas Stanford Raffles. In the 1970s, the Indonesian Government and UNESCO worked together to restore Borobudur to its former majesty.



DAY 7

Wed, July 12 - Yogyakarta

On our second day, we will be in Yogyakarta visiting Palace of Yogyakarta, also known as The Kraton, Tamansari Watercastle & Pashy Bird Market. Yogyakarta is also known for its batik and silverwork which we will learn about visiting workshops.

In the afternoon we will visit Prambanan temple in the outskirts of the city. This will also give us an opportunity to attend Ramayana ballet dance show at Trimurti indoor theater after dinner.

Overnight in Yogyakarta

Meals: B-L-D

The Kraton or the Palace of Yogyakarta, is a grand complex that was meticulously planned to reflect the Javanese cosmos.

This elegant complex of pavilions was constructed based on ancient beliefs, of the connection between the God, human and the natural realms. Each feature holds a special symbolic meaning related to the Javanese worldview, who consider the importance of Mount Merapi and The Indian Ocean.

The Kraton was built in the center, facing directly north towards the majestic Mount Merapi. Its south side was built facing the Indian Ocean, believed to be the abode of Kanjeng Ratu Loro Kidul, the Queen of the South Seas and the mystical consort of the Sultan.

This splendid example of traditional Javanese architecture has no equal. The basic and original layout of the main building of The Kraton began its construction during the reign of Sultan Hamengku Buwono I, in 1755 - 1756.



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DAY 8

Thu, July 13 - Yogyakarta - Bali

Before noon we will be transferred to the airport for our flight to Bali. Upon arrival, we will be transferred to our hotel in Ubud.

Rest of the afternoon at leisure.

In the evening we will attend a Kecak Fire Dance performance.

Overnight in Ubud

Meals B-L-D

Bali, the famed Island of the Gods, with its varied landscape of hills and mountains, rugged coastlines and sandy beaches, lush rice terraces, and volcanic hillsides all providing a picturesque backdrop to its colorful, deeply spiritual, and unique culture stakes a serious claim to be paradise on earth.

Bali is the only Hindu-majority province in Indonesia, with 86.9% of the population adhering to Balinese Hinduism. It is renowned for its highly developed arts, including traditional and modern dance, sculpture, painting, leather, metalworking, and music.

The upland town of Ubud in Greater Denpasar is considered Bali's cultural center.

Kecak is a form of Balinese Hindu dance and music drama that was developed in the 1930s in Bali. Since its creation, it has been performed primarily by men, with the first women's kecak group having started in 2006. The dance is based on the story of the Ramayana and is traditionally performed in temples and villages across Bali. Also known as the Ramayana monkey chant, the dance is performed by a circle of as many as 150 performers wearing checked cloths around their waists, percussively chanting "chak" and moving their hands and arms.



DAY 9

Fri, July 14 - Besakih Temple Tour - Bali

Today we have a full day excursion featuring a visit to the greatest temple of Bali.

Firstly we will visit the waterfall at Kemenuh Village and observing the traditional technique of tie and dye weaving in Gianyar. Next we visit Klungkung to see the Old Court of Justice of Kertagosa at Klungkung Village.

In the afternoon, we will finally drive up to Bali's biggest and holiest temple at Besakih, majestically situated on the slope of Mt. Agung.

Overnight in Ubud

Meals B-L-D

The Klungkung Palace, officially Puri Agung Semarapura, is a historical building complex situated in Semarapura, the capital of the Klungkung Regency on Bali. The palace was erected at the end of the 17th century, but largely destroyed during the Dutch colonial conquest in 1908. Today the basic remains of the palace are the court of justice, the Kertha Gosa Pavilion, and the main gate. Within the old palace compound is also a floating pavilion, the Bale Kembang. The descendants of the rajas that once ruled Klungkung today live in Puri Agung, a residence to the west of the old palace, which was built after 1929.

DAY 10

Sat, July 15 - Ubud Tour - Bali

This is our day in and around Ubud, the cultural center of Bali.

We will start with visiting Ubud monkey forest where we will be welcomed by tame and friendly monkeys. Then our visits will include Ubud Palace, Tegallalang rice terrace, Gunung Kawi Temple at Sebatu with its impressive holy springs, Tampak Siring temple with a ritual purification bath. Finally we will visit Goa Gajah (Elephant cave).

Overnight in Ubud

Meals B-L-D

Goa Gajah, or Elephant Cave, was built in the 9th century and served as a sanctuary. Although the exact origins of the cave are uncertain, it is believed to have been built as place for spiritual meditation. One folklore relates that it was created by the fingernail of the legendary giant Kebo Iwa.

The complex contains both Hindu and Buddhist imagery, as the cave contains lingam and yoni, symbol of Shiva, and the image of Ganesha, while by the river there are carved images of stupas and chattra, imagery of Buddhism.

The cave was rediscovered by Dutch archaeologists in 1923, but the fountains and bathing pool were not discovered until 1954.



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DAY 11

Sun, July 16 - Gamelan & Puppets - Bali

We will have a leisurely morning on our own.

After lunch we will drive to have Balinese Gamelan Lesson. In this two-hour workshop we will learn about the history of gamelan, the use of gamelan in the village context, and a demonstration by master musicians. The participants will then get an opportunity to play the instruments and learn to play a short piece.

Rest of the day at leisure in Ubud.

In the evening we will watch a traditional shadow puppet show.

Overnight in Ubud

Meals B-L-D

Gamelan is the traditional ensemble music of the Javanese, Sundanese, and Balinese peoples of Indonesia, made up predominantly of percussive instruments.

The gamelan predates the Hindu-Buddhist culture that dominated Indonesia in its earliest records and thus represents an indigenous art form of Indonesia. In contrast to the heavy Indian influence in other art forms, the only obvious Indian influence in gamelan music is in the Javanese, Sundanese, and Balinese style of singing, and in the themes of the Wayang kulit and Wayang Golek (shadow puppet plays).



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DAY 12

Mon, July 17 - Departure

Depending on our flight time, we will be transferred to the airport for our return flight.

Meals B

Contact Us

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