

Bali & Komodo Detailed Itinerary

Trip Highlights: Hidden Gems and Sacred Temples. Sail to Komodo Dragons. Swim with Manta Rays. Pink Sand Beaches. Experience Cleansing Rituals & Local Immersion

Forget the ordinary. This is where we redefine exploration. Get ready for Bali's hidden gems.

<u>Airport Information</u>: Need assistance booking your flight? We are here to help.

Arrive and depart: I Gusti Ngurah Rai International Airport (DPS)

Day 1: Welcome!

Welcome to Bali!

Plan to arrive at Gusti Ngurah Rai International Airport (DPS) **by 5 PM**, to make our welcome meeting and dinner, which typically start at 6:30pm. Upon arrival, we'll meet you at the airport and whisk you away to our Bali beach accommodations. After dinner, take time to rest and relax from your journey. Our retreat offers a peaceful first night to recharge and tune into the island rhythm.

If you are unable to arrive by 5pm, please contact us to arrange alternative transportation and dinner options. After dinner, adjust to the time difference and rest up for our adventure packed itinerary.

Airport transfer and hotel details will be provided after booking.

If you are arriving ahead of our scheduled itinerary, we will help coordinate transportation and hotel accommodations.

Transportation:

Air-conditioned vehicle Airport transfer → Accommodations

Phone: 314.440.8033

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Approximate travel time: 20-35 minutes

Meals included: Welcome dinner

Accommodation included: Single occupancy accommodations in Bali

Day 2: Jungle Spirits & Monkey Mischief

We kick off our Bali adventure with a visit to Sangeh Monkey Forest, a lush, sacred jungle just outside Ubud. Far quieter than its famous cousin in town, this hidden gem is home to towering nutmeg trees, ancient temples, and over 700 long-tailed macaques who rule the forest with playful

charm.

As we wander beneath the canopy, you'll feel the energy shift—this isn't just a nature walk, it's a spiritual immersion. Local legend says the monkeys are guardians of the temple, and you'll see why as they swing through the trees, pose for photos, and occasionally try to steal your snacks

(don't worry, we'll brief you!).

Expect a morning of laughter, awe, and connection—with nature, with culture, and with each other.

After morning monkey shenaigans, we'll step off the beaten path and into the Setia Darma House of Mask and Puppets—a surreal, open-air museum tucked behind rice fields near Ubud. With over 1,300 masks and 5,700 puppets from across Indonesia and the world, it's a living archive of myth, ceremony, and theatrical magic. Think shadow puppets, ceremonial masks, and eerie relics that whisper centuries of stories. Afterward, we'll wander through a nearby art village, where master woodcarvers and artisans open their studios to share centuries-old craft and quiet magic.

Midday: Sacred Stillness Beyond the Crowds

Bali isn't called the *Island of a Thousand Temples* for nothing—though the real number is far higher. With temples in nearly every home, village, and rice field, it's no exaggeration to say you'll pass one every few minutes. But instead of jostling through the usual tourist-packed shrines, we'll venture off the beaten path with a local guide to a temple that's just as beautiful—and far more peaceful.

This temple isn't listed in glossy guidebooks. It's tucked into the jungle, wrapped in silence and ceremony. You'll learn about the temple's role in daily Balinese life, the meaning behind its architecture, and the rituals that unfold here—without selfie sticks or staged performances.

Expect a shift in energy—from wild jungle play to quiet reflection and inspiration. It's the perfect way to balance our day with depth, beauty, and a touch of magic.

Day 3: Day Three: Rituals, Rice Fields & Real Connection

Morning: Misty Rice Field Walk

We begin the day with a gentle walk through Bali's emerald rice terraces, guided by locals who know every bend of the land. As the morning mist rises, you'll hear the soft rustle of palm leaves

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and the rhythmic splash of farmers tending their crops. It's a quiet, grounding moment—where movement meets magic and the island begins to reveal itself.

Post-Walk: Breakfast with a View

After our stroll, we'll settle into a tucked-away café nestled right in the rice fields. Think open-air seating, panoramic green views, and tranquility that makes you soak it all in. This isn't a rushed meal—it's a moment to pause, reflect, and soak in the beauty around you.

Whether you journal, chat softly with fellow travelers, or simply sit in silence, this breakfast is designed to nourish more than just your body. It's a gentle reminder that Bali's magic often lives in its quietest corners.

Midday: Purification in Sacred Waters

After a quiet canyon walk led by our local priest—past mossy stones and whispering waterfalls we arrive at a temple where time feels suspended. This isn't a tourist stop. It's a sanctuary. No crowds. No cameras. Just you and the healing rhythm of Bali's spiritual heart.

Here, we take part in a *Melukat* purification ceremony, a centuries-old ritual designed to cleanse the body, mind, and spirit. Dressed in ceremonial sarongs, we step into spring-fed pools surrounded by jungle and silence. The water flows from sacred sources, believed to carry blessings and renewal.

Our local priest welcomes and guides us through each step—offering prayers, making offerings, and explaining the deeper meaning behind the ritual. You'll feel the cool rush of water over your skin, the scent of incense in the air, and the quiet presence of something ancient and profound.

This is not a performance. It's a practice. And it's one of the most intimate ways to connect with Bali's spiritual essence.

It's a rare chance to experience Bali's spiritual heartbeat the way locals do—intimate, intentional, and unforgettable.

Lunch in a Temple Courtyard

After our cleansing ritual, we head into Ubud for lunch at a beloved local spot tucked inside a traditional Balinese compound that feels like a temple courtyard. You'll step through carved gates into a serene space where shoes come off, cushions invite you to sink in, and the scent of incense lingers in the air.

The menu is a celebration of Bali's bold, soulful flavors: fragrant nasi campur, smoky satay, vibrant sambals, and fresh tropical juices. Vegan and vegetarian options are abundant, and the housemade kombucha and coconut crepes are cult favorites.

But what makes this place unforgettable isn't just the food—it's the feeling. The courtyard hums with quiet joy, the architecture whispers tradition, and the whole experience feels like a continuation of the morning's ritual. It's not just lunch—it's a moment of connection, reflection, and delicious reward.

After a morning of monkey mischief and cultural immersion, the rest of the day is yours to shape.

You can keep exploring the vibrant Ubud area—think boutique shops, jungle cafés, and hidden temples—or retreat to our private oasis tucked deep in the lush heart of Bali.

Option 2: Relax at our accommodations. Our retreat is pure magic: surrounded by swaying palms, birdsong, and the scent of frangipani. Swim in the pool beneath the canopy, indulge in a floating basket of Balinese treats, or simply sink into a lounger with a coconut in hand and let the jungle do its thing.

Option 3: Sunset Sound Bath or Massage Ease into the evening with a guided sound bath or traditional Balinese massage—designed to ground, restore, and awaken your senses.

Option 4: Craft in the Village. For those craving creativity, there's an optional cultural craft workshop—choose between woodcarving, batik painting, or silver jewelry-making, guided by artisans whose skills have been passed down for generations.

However you choose to spend it, this is your time to breathe, connect, and soak in the magic of Bali.

Day 4: Ancient Rhythms & Coastal Retreats

We begin the day with a peaceful escape to **Tirta Gangga**, Bali's royal water palace tucked into the lush hills of Karangasem. Picture stepping stones across koi-filled ponds, ornate fountains, and tropical gardens that feel like a dream. It's a slow, sacred start—perfect for reflection, photography, and soaking in the island's quieter magic before the day unfolds.

Midday: Lunch with a View:

Perched high in the hills, we visit an open-air restaurant offers one of the most breathtaking lunch settings in Bali. Think infinity pool meets jungle temple—with panoramic views of coconut-lined valleys and skies that stretch forever. The space blends natural stone, tropical gardens, and dramatic architecture that feels both luxurious and grounded.

Lunch here is a full-body experience. You'll dine on fresh, locally sourced dishes—crispy tempeh, vibrant salads, grilled seafood, and tropical juices—while soaking in the mountain air and the hush of nature. Whether you're lounging by the pool or tucked into a shaded corner, every seat comes

with a view.

Midday: Temple Trail to Our Coastal Escape

On our way to the beach, we'll stop at a few of Bali's lesser-known but spiritually rich temples—quiet sanctuaries tucked into jungle clearings and cliffside perches. The scent of incense mingles

with sea breeze and the spirit of Bali feels untouched.

We close the day with a retreat to one of Bali's hidden beaches—soft sand, turquoise water, and

cliffside views that feel cinematic. You'll find space to swim, sunbathe, or sip something cold with

your toes in the tide.

No vendors shouting. No selfie sticks in sight. Just the sound of waves, the scent of salt, and the

feeling that you've found your own slice of Bali.

Day 5: Coastlines & Culture

This morning, options abound. Wake by the beach with the sound of waves and the scent of salt in

the air—the morning is yours to shape.

Prefer to keep things coastal? Watch the sunrise stretch across the horizon from your lounger or a

quiet stretch of sand. Sip your coffee with your toes in the tide, or take a slow walk along the shore

as the island wakes up around you.

Feeling adventurous? This area offers incredible diving and snorkeling—think coral gardens, sea

turtles, and underwater temples waiting just offshore. Whether you're certified or brand new, there

are options to suit every level.

Whether you're floating in reef-blue water or soaking in the morning light, this day begins with

freedom, beauty, and whatever Bali magic calls to you.

Evening: Volcano Views & Quiet Awe

As the sun sets, we head into the highlands toward Mount Batur. Our accommodations here are

stunning—volcano views, crisp mountain air, and a peaceful energy that sets the tone for what's to

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come.

Tomorrow, the mountain reveals its secrets. Tonight, we rest in its shadow.

Day 6: Steam, Stillness & Spice

Morning: Volcano Awakens Wake early and step onto your terrace—the air crisp, the sky ink-blue. As dawn breaks, **Mount Batur** begins to glow, its silhouette etched against the rising sun. Steam rises from the crater, birds stir in the trees, and the lake below mirrors the sky's slow transformation.

You have two ways to greet the day:

- **Option 1: Sunrise Trek** Join a guided hike to the summit of Mount Batur. You'll ascend in the pre-dawn hush and reach the top just as the sun spills gold across the caldera. It's exhilarating, humbling, and unforgettable.
- **Option 2: Sunrise Stillness** Stay wrapped in a blanket on your balcony, sipping warm kopi Bali as the volcano reveals itself. No crowds. No rush. Just you, the mountain, and the morning.

Midday: Soak & Surrender at natural hot springs

After breakfast, we head to soak in natural hot springs, nestled at the foot of Mount Batur beside Lake Batur.

Evening: Farm-to-Flame Cooking with a Local Family

As the sun begins to dip, we're welcomed into a nearby family compound for a **private cooking class** that's as warm and flavorful as the sambal you'll be stirring.

You'll harvest herbs from the garden, learn the secrets of coconut oil and spice blends, and prepare a full Balinese meal side by side with your hosts. Expect banana leaf parcels, grilled sate lilit, and stories that flow freely.

This isn't a polished studio—it's a lived-in kitchen, where generations cook together and guests become part of the rhythm. It's the kind of experience that leaves you full in every sense of the word.

Day 7: The Quiet Before the Wild

This morning, we rise and begin our journey towards the next chapter of our adventure – Our Komodo Island escape. **Komodo Dragon hunting, pink sand beaches and stunning views on our sail excursion.**

By afternoon, we've traded airport terminals for turquoise waters. Spend the rest of the day unwinding by the **ocean-view pool**, cocktail in hand, watching the sun melt into the horizon. Whether you're floating in the water, lounging on your terrace, or simply soaking in the silence, this is your soft landing before the wild beauty of Komodo unfolds.

Tomorrow, the dragons await. Tonight, we rest in paradise.

Day 8: Sail to Komodo

Morning: All Aboard! We board our fast boat for a day of exploration.

As we sail into the heart of **Komodo National Park**, the world begins to unfold in:

• Padar Island Sunrise We rise early and hike the winding trail to the top of Padar Island, where jagged ridgelines frame three crescent-shaped beaches—black, white, and pink. The view stretches endlessly across Komodo's wild terrain. It's one of the most iconic vistas in Indonesia.

- **Komodo Dragons**: Trek across Komodo or Rinca Island to spot these prehistoric giants in their natural habitat—slow, powerful, and utterly mesmerizing.
- **Manta Point**: Snorkel alongside graceful manta rays as they glide through crystal-clear waters, wings spanning meters wide.
- **Pink Beach**: Sink your toes into blush-colored sand, where crushed coral meets turquoise tide in one of the world's rarest beachscapes.

After our day exploring the Komodo Islands, we unwind from our open-air dining at a local restaurant with one of the best views in the world. The harbor glows below, the sky melts into gold and violet, and the sea stretches into forever. As the sun dips, we feast on fresh snapper and prawns—each bite kissed by the ocean breeze.

Day 9: Departure Day

As the sun rises over Bali one last time, we gather our bags and memories, preparing for departure. But this isn't just goodbye—it's a gentle nudge that Bali's magic doesn't end here.

From the sacred temples to the warmth of its people, from jungle rituals to volcanic ridgelines, Bali leaves its mark. And if your soul isn't quite finished exploring, we've got you covered.

Craving one last thrill? Take on the legendary **Kawah Ijen blue lava hike** in East Java—a surreal night trek to witness electric-blue flames dancing across a volcanic crater. It's raw, rare, and absolutely unforgettable.

Want to dive deeper? Swim with **whale sharks** in Sumbawa or Alor—gentle giants gliding through Indonesia's pristine waters3. It's a humbling, once-in-a-lifetime encounter.

Prefer to linger in Bali's embrace? Spend a few more days soaking in the island's rhythm— explore hidden waterfalls, take a sunrise yoga class, or hop over to Nusa Penida for a day of jaw-dropping cliffs, turquoise coves, and manta ray sightings. Craving a splash of island glam? Lean

into Bali's wilder side: dance barefoot under the stars, sip cocktails at beach clubs, and let the music carry you through a few unforgettable nights.

Whatever you choose, we're here to help you extend the magic. Because sometimes, the best journeys don't end—they evolve.

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