

INDONESIA · BEACHES · CULTURE · SACRED SITES · DIVING · HIKING

 Bali

Bali mixes surf beaches and clifftop beach clubs with Hindu temples, rice terraces and volcano treks, and its dry season from May to September lines up neatly with the UK summer holidays. There is no non-stop flight from London, so allow a long day each way via Singapore or the Gulf, and give the trip at least ten days to make it worthwhile.

 Read the UK government's travel advice for Indonesia and entry requirements before you go.

 COUNTRY Indonesia	 BEST TIME May-Sep	 FLIGHT FROM LONDON 18h via Singapore, Doha or Dubai ~£650-£1,150 return	 DAILY BUDGET £35-£220 ££ Moderate
 WARMEST MONTH April (32°C)	 SEA TEMPERATURE 27-29°C coolest-warmest	 TIME ZONE Makassar +7h vs UK now	 CURRENCY Indonesian rupiah £1 ≈ IDR 24,045

Most first trips to Bali split time between the hills and the coast: a few nights in Ubud for rice terraces, temples, dance performances and the pre-dawn trek up Mount Batur, then the south for the beach. Seminyak and Canggu suit couples and the beach-club crowd, Sanur's reef-sheltered water suits families, and the Bukit peninsula around Uluwatu has the surf breaks and cliff-backed coves. Add a boat to Nusa Penida or the Gili Islands, or the quieter east coast at Amed for snorkelling. The dry season runs roughly April to October, peaking in July and August; November to March brings heavy afternoon downpours, but also lower prices and greener landscapes.

Highlights

- 1** NATURE

Jatiluwi rice terraces

Tegallalang, 20 minutes north of Ubud, is the easy photo stop, but Jatiluwi in the west is far larger and part of Bali's UNESCO-listed subak irrigation landscape. Walk the paths early, before the tour buses and midday heat.
- 2** SACRED SITE

Uluwatu Temple

Pura Luhur Uluwatu stands on a cliff edge some 70 metres above the Indian Ocean at the tip of the Bukit peninsula. Stay for the sunset Kecak fire dance, and keep sunglasses and phones away from the resident macaques.
- 3** ADVENTURE

Mount Batur sunrise trek

Guided treks leave around 4am to reach the 1,717-metre summit of this active volcano for sunrise over Lake Batur and Mount Agung. The climb takes about two hours, and hotel pick-ups from Ubud are standard.
- 4** BEACH

Nusa Penida

A fast boat from Sanur reaches this rugged island in under an hour, for Kelingking's dramatic headland, Crystal Bay and snorkelling with manta rays at Manta Point. Roads are rough, so hire a driver rather than a scooter.

5

WILDLIFE

Tulamben and Amed

On the dry north-east coast, the wreck of the USAT Liberty, torpedoed in 1942, lies about 30 metres off Tulamben's pebble beach and is crusted with coral and reef fish. Amed's black-sand bays nearby have good snorkelling.

Where to stay

WHERE TO STAY

Ubud

Bali's cultural centre, with yoga retreats, galleries, temple dances and rice-field walks; suits couples and anyone keener on scenery and food than the beach.

WHERE TO STAY

Seminyak

Boutique villas, beach clubs and the island's best restaurants on a long surf beach; suits couples and groups who want sunsets and nightlife, despite heavy traffic.

WHERE TO STAY

Sanur

Calm, reef-sheltered water, a flat seafront path and a gentler pace; the best choice for families and older travellers, with fast boats to Nusa Penida.

WHERE TO STAY

Uluwatu and the Bukit

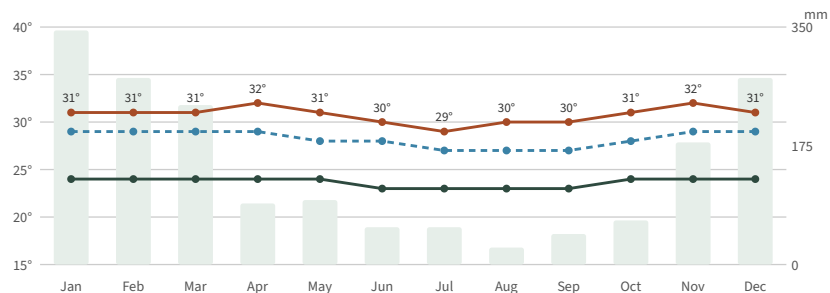
Cliff-top hotels above surf breaks and small sandy coves; suits surfers and couples, though you will need a driver or scooter to get around.

When to go to Bali

Best time: **May-Sep.**

**Average climate in Kuta (Denpasar)**

High °C Low °C Sea °C Rain (mm)

**How much does Bali cost?**

SHOESTRING

£35

per person / day
≈ IDR 841,560

MID-RANGE

£90

per person / day
≈ IDR 2,164,011

COMFORTABLE

£220

per person / day
≈ IDR 5,289,804

Per person per day excluding flights. Return flights from London typically cost £650 off-peak and £1,150 in school holidays.

Visas & entry for Bali

Shown for a British passport.

Visa required — apply before you go

You must have a visa to visit Indonesia.

You can get a 30-day visa on arrival (VOA) for:

From the UK government's FCDO entry requirements for British passport holders — read the full page for passport validity, permits and exceptions.

Health & vaccinations

See a travel health nurse, GP or travel clinic **6–8 weeks before you go**. Make sure routine UK vaccinations (such as MMR and diphtheria-tetanus-polio) are up to date.

RECOMMENDED FOR MOST TRAVELLERS

Hepatitis A Tetanus Typhoid

SOMETIMES ADVISED — DEPENDS ON YOUR TRIP, ACTIVITIES AND HEALTH

Chikungunya Dengue Hepatitis B Japanese encephalitis Measles Rabies Tuberculosis

YELLOW FEVER CERTIFICATE

No yellow fever certificate is required to enter.

MALARIA

Malaria risk varies across the country

- There is a high risk of malaria in Irian Jaya (Papua): antimalarial tablets recommended.
- This information covers the whole country; check with a travel health professional whether Bali itself is affected.

Source: TravelHealthPro (National Travel Health Network and Centre), checked 21 October 2026. This is a summary, not medical advice.

Public holidays in Indonesia

The next 12 months. Banks, offices and some sights may close, and transport and hotels get busy around these dates.

Fri 25 Dec 2026	Christmas Day
Fri 1 Jan 2027	New Year's Day
Tue 5 Jan 2027	Isra' and Mi'raj
Sat 6 Feb 2027	Lunar New Year
Mon 8 Mar 2027	Day of Silence
Wed 10 Mar 2027	Eid al-Fitr (date may shift)
Thu 11 Mar 2027	Eid al-Fitr Second Day (date may shift)
Fri 26 Mar 2027	Good Friday

Sun 28 Mar 2027	Easter Sunday
Sat 1 May 2027	International Labour Day
Thu 6 May 2027	Ascension Day
Mon 17 May 2027	Eid al-Adha (date may shift)
Thu 20 May 2027	Vesak Day
Tue 1 Jun 2027	Pancasila Day
Sun 6 Jun 2027	Islamic New Year
Sun 15 Aug 2027	Prophet's Birthday
Tue 17 Aug 2027	Independence Day

National holidays only. Dates based on lunar calendars can move by a day or two depending on official announcements.

Know before you go

Nyepi, the Balinese Day of Silence, usually in March, shuts the whole island for 24 hours, including the airport, and guests must stay inside their hotel, so check the date before booking.

Southern Bali's traffic is slow, and Seminyak to Ubud can take 90 minutes. Hire a driver for day trips, and don't ride a scooter without a full motorbike licence, as insurance won't cover you.

Plugs, money, phrases, emergency numbers and more: see our [Indonesia guide](#).

Visa, health and safety rules change. Before you book or travel, check the FCDO travel advice (gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice) and TravelHealthPro (travelhealthpro.org.uk). Costs are estimates. © 2026 Pick My Trip.