



# ĀMAN

Journey Through the Archipelago | 2025







# Foreword

*"But that is what islands are for; they are places where different destinies can meet and intersect in the full isolation of time"*

Lawrence Durrell

## *Journey Through the Archipelago*

The Indonesian islands are known as tropical idylls, but their individual landscapes and centuries-old traditions reveal a vibrant diversity. Experience the extraordinary natural beauty and rich spiritual and cultural heritage of the Indonesian archipelago with a journey across Aman destinations in Indonesia.

From the romantic train ride from the energetic city of Jakarta to the vividly colourful reefs and underwater seascapes surrounding Indonesia's fabled Spice Islands, Aman's individually curated expeditions and extraordinary experiences invite you to an enriching experience of the world's marvels.

Aman Indonesia Family



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# The Indonesian Archipelago

Indonesia, is the world's largest archipelago, stretching some 5,120 kilometres from west to east, 1,760 kilometres from north to south, and comprising over 17,000 islands. It is a country blessed with countless wonders of diverse culture and magnificent nature, a country of transitions and contrasts, where spellbinding beaches mark the threshold between ocean and rainforest; where religious traditions shift from island to island, and the eco-zones of Asia and Australia meet and mingle in the Lombok Strait.

Seeded throughout this floating world, from the culturally rich of Java and jungle interior of Bali to the hidden paradise shores of Moyo Island, five Aman destinations each provide distinct perspectives on the nation's nature and culture, while Aman's oceangoing phinisi yacht invites travellers on voyages to untouched atolls and isles unspoilt.





# Faces of Indonesia



Indonesia is a complex place of varied human and environmental patterns. This variety and diversity are seen as the key defining characteristic of the country - the very essence of the personality of Indonesia.

Culturally, Indonesia appears extremely diverse. Each community has its own culture and follows its adat (customary law). Some 700 languages are spoken and over 1,300 ethnic groups have been recognised. Yet there are also remarkable similarities between cultures across the archipelago. Common cultural elements appear to be ancient, with differences in geography, economy, spiritual beliefs, and history producing the present cultural richness. 'Bhinneka Tunggal Ika', the country's motto, means 'Unity in Diversity'.

Island hopping across Indonesia is not just a geographic journey, but the crossing of a cultural and spiritual bridge, as Adam H. Graham discovers.





# Travelling to Indonesia

## *Climate*

Indonesia is right at the equator while Java, Bali, and Moyo Island are situated between six to nine degrees south of the equator. Indonesia enjoys a warm, tropical climate year-round. The weather is particularly pleasant from June through September. The wet season runs from November to March. But even during the heaviest rains, the sun is rarely out of sight for long. The mean temperature is 27.2°C (81°F).

## *Language*

Bahasa Indonesia is the official national language and is used throughout the Indonesian archipelago. English is widely used in daily conversations in Bali and Jakarta and is increasingly spoken in other destinations. Other major languages used in each Aman Indonesia destination are Javanese, Balinese, and Sumbawanese. Dutch is still understood by the older generation while French, German, and Japanese have a smaller following in the tourist trade.

## *Currency*

The national currency is the Indonesian Rupiah (IDR). The bills are issued between 1,000 and 100,000 Rupiahs while coinage runs from 100 to 1,000. Moneychangers readily change most currencies but not always traveller's cheques. Credit cards are widely accepted by hotels, restaurants, tour operators, and other large establishments.

## *Immigration*

Visitors from certain countries require a tourist visa in advance, some can obtain these on arrival at international airports and some visitors do not require a visa at all. Prices also vary. Tourist visas are valid for up to thirty days and Passports must be valid for at least six months from the arrival date and should have at least four full blank pages.

For further real-time information, please visit Indonesia Immigration Office's official website: [www.imigrasi.go.id/en/bebas-visa-kunjungan/](http://www.imigrasi.go.id/en/bebas-visa-kunjungan/)





# Aman Indonesia

## *Island of Java*

Start the journey with Amanjiwo's Journey Through Java by Train, connecting Indonesia's capital Jakarta with Java's cultural heart Yogyakarta. Explore the region's rich history and natural landscape with a stay at the resort whose sweeping circular monolith frames the views of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Borobudur, the biggest Buddhist monument in the world.

## *Island of Bali*

Amandari in Ubud's foresty hillside is the original Balinese sanctuary, the first to honour the rich culture and village life of the Island of the Gods to become an icon of design the world over.

In the East Bali coastline, Amankila rests on a lush hillside beneath sacred Mount Agung. Connected by frangipani-lined walkways through the treetops, its stilted suites offer spectacular views high on the hillside, while its iconic three-tier infinity pool cascades at the resort's heart and the Beach Club leads to a private black-sand beach.

In Bali's southern peninsula, Aman Villas at Nusa Dua offers a secluded getaway with each of its villas serviced by two butlers and a private chef, providing easy access to its private Beach Club and the Bali National Golf Club.

## *Nusa Tenggara*

Lesser Sunda Islands

A natural paradise, Amanwana is on the beautiful island of Moyo, a veritable Eden in the Flores Sea. In 2022, Moyo Island was designated a National Park by the Indonesian government, ensuring that its stunning landscapes and diverse marine life are protected for generations to come. This allows Amanwana to become a uniquely intimate setting surrounded by true wilderness.

## *East Indonesia*

Continue the journey through the archipelago and navigate new horizons with Aman's flagship yacht, Amandira. Dive into pristine reefs, witness the Komodo dragon in its natural habitat, and relax in unparalleled seclusion, privacy, and comfort.











## ISLAND OF JAVA



The most important island in the world's largest archipelago, Java is at the centre of Indonesian culture and industry. Stretching more than 1,000 kilometres, Java is framed by the Indian Ocean to the south and the Java Sea to the north, with Sumatra bordering its west coast and Bali immediately to the east. The volcanic, ruggedly beautiful island of Java is about the size of England. Its population, however, is nearly half of Indonesia's entire population.

The province of Central Java, in the middle of the island, is a land of mountains and rice fields, hidden villages, and historic temples – including one of the greatest treasures of the ancient world, the UNESCO-preserved 8th-century Buddhist complex of Borobudur.

Amanjiwo in Central Java can be reached by several daily domestic flights to Yogyakarta from Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, and from Bali. Direct international flights are available from Singapore and Malaysia.





## Amanjiwo

### Featured Destination

#### *The Peaceful Soul*

In a natural amphitheatre formed by hills and rice paddies, Amanjiwo's temple-like structure forms an architectural echo of Borobudur, whose stupas rise from the forest canopy just a couple of kilometres away. Against a backdrop of monument and mountain, volcano and plain, the resort's coral-coloured stone pavilions, sunken outdoor baths, and garden terraces nurse a sense of sanctuary and serenity that cannot fail to settle the soul.

The rugged landscape of the Menoreh Hills is crisscrossed with trails, rewarding hikers, bikers, and picnickers with jaw-dropping views at every turn. Both rambling and riding routes can be tailored to for all, but the boldest of ramblers can tackle the steep slopes of Mount Merapi, or undertake an early-morning guided hike up the Menoreh Hills, to be rewarded by a spectacular sunrise view – and an Aman breakfast – at the summit.

#### *Amanjiwo's Resident Anthropologist – Patrick Vanhobrouck*

Amanjiwo, in its role showcasing Central Java's cultural heritage, is delighted to introduce Patrick Vanhobrouck, its Resident Anthropologist who has an incurable passion for Java. Patrick first came to live in Indonesia in 1997 but left to pursue his academic interests. He acquired a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology in 2001 from the University of Illinois, Chicago –

– followed by a Masters of Arts in Cultural Anthropology in 2004 from Leiden University, The Netherlands. In 2009, he achieved a Masters of Science in Humanitarian Action from the University College of Dublin. Patrick, who speaks Bahasa Indonesia and Javanese, has an incurable passion for Javanese and Balinese culture and spirituality, and frequently spent time with guests exploring sacred sites and ancient rituals.



# JOURNEY THROUGH JAVA BY TRAIN

Sit back, relax, and be inspired by the breathtaking views of Java's rolling countryside and the ever-changing landscape as you edge closer to Yogyakarta.

## *Train journey with Aman*

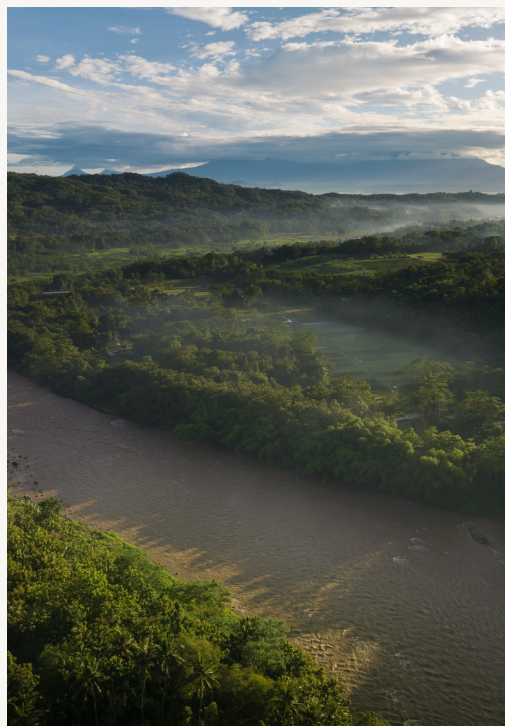
Board the regal Kereta Api Wisata train from the lounge at Gambir Station and embark on a seven-hour journey through spectacular scenery. You will be joined by Amanjiwo's resident anthropologist, Patrick Vanhoebrouck, who will share insights into Javanese culture and the historical sites you pass along the way. With meals on your journey prepared by Amanjiwo, your Aman experience will begin from the moment you set foot in your private carriage.

After a fascinating seven-hour train journey in consummate comfort, you will arrive at Amanjiwo, named 'peaceful soul' for the serenity, privacy, and beauty of its setting. The resort overlooks the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Borobudur, one of Buddhism's most sacred Mahayana temples. Perfectly placed for exploring the region's historic, artistic and cultural highlights, or for simply relaxing in blissful surroundings, the resort lies at the foot of the Menoreh Hills, cascading gracefully from a lofty rotunda down the hillside to a magnificent swimming pool.

Also, for groups with a minimum of eight guests, the journey is available on a private charter basis, allowing friends or family to travel to Amanjiwo in the safety and security of their own private carriage.







**Top and Bottom Left** The lush scenic view of hills, rice fields, volcanoes, and villages of the Javanese countryside along the journey by train.  
**Bottom Right** An Amansanti onboard the Aman train bound for Yogyakarta.  
**Right** The colonial facade of Yogyakarta Tugu Station, built in 1887.



Starting off at Gambir Station in Jakarta, your Javanese journey with Aman begins which at the end will stop at Tugu Station of Yogyakarta. On the way, witness the magnificent views of Java's countryside, nature, and landscape as fresh cuisine is prepared by Amanjiwo's culinary team.

Listen to insights from the resort's resident anthropologist, Patrick Vanhoebrouck, a history expert who shares his captivating histories, tales, and cultures of the Java region. After a fascinating seven-hour train journey in consummate comfort, you will arrive at Amanjiwo, named 'Peaceful Soul' for the serenity, privacy, and beauty of its setting.







## SIGNATURE EVENTS AT AMANJIWO

### *A Culinary Expedition to Java*

Hosted by Indonesia's most renowned chefs, Amanjiwo regularly celebrates Javanese cuisine, food artisans, and local produce, with a series of events. Over three days, you will be invited to experience exquisite dining sessions, exciting culinary trips, lunch with a view, cooking classes, intimate dinners, and an exclusive gala dinner delivering a culinary masterpiece with a majestic backdrop of Borobudur Temple.

### *Celebration of Ancient Wisdom*

To honour the rich heritage of Javanese healing traditions and ceremonies, Amanjiwo presents an annual spiritual wellness immersion called the Celebration of Ancient Wisdom, a three-night self-healing retreat hosted by renowned wellness and cultural practitioners Joko Triagung, Sugeng Karyanto, the resort's Resident Anthropologist Patrick Vanhoebrouck, and a guest practitioner.

Guests are invited to join a curated journey, immersing themselves in cultural experiences, enjoying fascinating spiritual wellness sessions and inspiring lectures on the history of Shiva Buddha Tantra, full moon meditation, personal consultations, blessing and cleansing ceremonies, as well as participating in a 'Pradakshina' ceremony led by a monk next to the world's largest and most spiritually resonant Buddhist monument, Borobudur.

*Contact our Guest Assistant for more information*







**Top Left** A market vendor preparing to sell his freshly picked vegetables sourced from his garden.

**Top Right** Local chips and brittle sold inside vibrant blue containers.

**Bottom** Bustling atmosphere of the Pasar Papringan amidst the bamboo garden. "Pring" means bamboo in Javanese.

Photographed by Pasar Papringan.

## RECURRING EVENTS IN JAVA

### *Pasar Papringan Ngadiprono*

Every Sunday Wage & Pon (Javanese Calendar)  
at Ngadiprono village, Temanggung

*approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Pasar Papringan is held every Sunday Wage and Pon from 6.00am until 12.00pm. Pasar means to market, and Papringan means 'bamboo garden'. So from the name, it is clear that Pasar Papringan is a market in a bamboo garden. While Wage and Pon are the names of the days in the Pancawara (Pasaran) system of the Javanese calendar. One week of the Javanese calendar is five days, similar to the Balinese calendar. Besides Wage and Pon, there are also Pahing, Kliwon, and Legi.

Pasar Papringan is developed and managed by Spedagi Movement together with Mata Air Ngadiprono community, aiming to help build the economy of the village in which the market is located, and make it a financially and environmentally sustainable and independent community.

One thing that is very interesting about this market is its payment system. Guests can't use regular money. Instead, you have to use 'Pring'. 1 Pring was worth IDR 2,000. Guests exchange this Pring to shop throughout the market. The market sells traditional food and drinks, as well as anything bamboos such as traditional toys made from bamboo, bamboo baskets, and locally grown agricultural products such as pumpkin, cassava, chilies, and many more.

### *Yogyakarta Royal Orchestra*

14 Feb, 19 Apr, 2 May, 21 Jun, 23 July, 17 Aug,  
20 Sep, 13 Dec in Yogyakarta Special Region

*approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

It is known that the presence of Classical European music at the Yogyakarta Palace has existed since the leadership of Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono I (1755-1792). During the reign of Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono II (1792-1810), the presence of western musical instruments such as trumpets and drums were used in the Military Music Corps. in 1805

The existence of this music corps continued to grow until the era of Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono V (1823-1855) who took the initiative to include European musical instruments such as trumpets, trombones, and clarinets to accompany Javanese traditional cultural performances the Bedhaya, Srimpi, and Beksan Trunajaya dances.

This marriage of two cultures continue to the reign of Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono VIII (1921-1939) when the Yogyakarta Palace had a Brass Orchestra led by Walter Spies, a multi-talented German artist who was part of the Pita Maha cultural movement in Bali.

Yogyakarta Royal Orchestra was inaugurated on 21 June 2021 by KHP Kridhomardowo, Head of the Performing Arts Division of the Yogyakarta Palace, which coincided with the World Music Day celebration. The orchestra held regular performances within the Special Region of Yogyakarta.



## *Wayang Kulit, Javanese Shadow Puppets*

Every Tuesday from 8.00 pm – 9.30 pm  
at Sonobudoyo Museum, Yogyakarta

*approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Wayang comes from the word “Ma Hyang” meaning a journey toward the realm of spirituality. It also said that Wayang originated from a Javanese word meaning shadow, hence the “shadow puppet” translation in English. While the term referred to the entire Wayang Kulit performance, most of the time the puppet itself is referred to as wayang. In 2003, UNESCO acknowledged Indonesian Wayang, including Wayang Kulit, as a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

The stage of a wayang performance includes a stretched linen canvas (kelir) that acts as a canvas, dividing the dalang (puppeteer) and the spectator. A coconut oil lamp (Javanese blencong or Balinese damar) – which in modern times is usually replaced with electric light – casts shadows onto the screen. A banana trunk (Javanese gedebog, Balinese gedebong) lies on the ground between the screen and the dalang, where the figures are stuck to hold them in place.

In a Javanese Wayang Kulit performance, the dalang may use a cymbal-like percussion instrument at his feet to cue the musicians. The musicians sit behind the dalang in a gamelan orchestra setting. The gamelan orchestra is an integral part of the Javanese wayang kulit performance. The performance is accompanied by female singers (pesinden) and male singers (wirasudara).

## *Wayang Wong*

Every Wednesday and Thursday  
from 8.00 pm – 9.15 pm  
at Sonobudoyo Museum, Yogyakarta

*approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Wayang Wong is a kind of Wayang Kulit (shadow puppets) performance where the puppets were replaced by human dancers. It adapts the aesthetics and narratives from leather shadow puppets into a full theatrical dance performance which includes visual aesthetics, such as facial makeup, headdress, weaponry, and entire costume attire.

The Wayang Wong performance adapts leather shadow puppet-like movements to a very detailed body movements. The movements of the wayang wong performer are generally fluid and solemn, and recitation is extremely stylised.

Performances of wayang wong are regularly staged in the Javanese cultural heartlands, the court cities of Yogyakarta, and Surakarta (Solo). A series of well-known dramatic monthly evening performances of Wayang Wong from the Ramayana epic is performed all year round at the Prambanan Temple near Yogyakarta. The most complete Ramayana Wayang Wong involving more than a hundred dancers, artists, and gamelan musicians is performed only during the dry season (usually May to October) on a large, open-air stage with the Prambanan Trimurti temples as the background. In downtown Yogyakarta, Wayang Wong is also performed every night, at the Sonobudoyo Museum nearby the Yogyakarta Royal Palace.







#### Top

*Larung Sajen*, a parade procession of bringing offerings to the sacred site as a gesture of gratefulness to God.

Photographed by  
Hana Krisna.

#### Left

*Sajen*, a Javanese offering. An essential element in Javanese ritual that has a deep symbolic meaning, such as, asking for God's protection and obtaining blessing from the ancestors.

## SPECIAL EVENTS IN JAVA

### JANUARY

#### *Labuhan Keraton Yogyakarta*

30 January  
at Parangkusumo Beach,  
Mt. Lawu, and Mt. Merapi

*approx. 2 hours drive to Parangkusumo Beach from Amanjiwo*

*approx. 4 hours drive to Mt. Lawu from Amanjiwo*

*approx. 90 minutes drive to Mt. Merapi from Amanjiwo*

The Labuhan ceremony is a traditional ceremony that has been carried out since the time of the Islamic Mataram Kingdom in the 13th century until now in the Special Region of Yogyakarta. The name Labuhan is derived from the word Labuh which means "to throw", "put", or "wash away". The purpose of this ceremony is to get rid of all kinds of bad traits. The Labuhan ceremony is conducted by the Yogyakarta Palace at three sacred sites: Mount Merapi, Parangkusumo Beach, and Mount Lawu, by drowning and burying relics and items with high spiritual significance.

### MARCH

#### *MesaStila Rails to Trails*

12 March  
at Ambarawa, Semarang

*approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Ambarawa is a small town that holds cultural and historical importance in Central Java, where the famous antique steam train was operated from Ambarawa to Magelang. Its old train station has now been converted into a museum and is the first railway museum in Indonesia. A legacy from the Dutch colonial era, this train is an important tourism asset in this area. Rails to Trails is a cross-country race or run trail whose route runs along the old rail track and crosses the antique steam train bridge, a race that became a pioneer of trail running competitions in Indonesia.

This 16km race is starting from Ambarawa old train station, passes Bedono station, and finishes at MesaStila. Its scenic route offers views and beauty of the Ambarawa mountains, coffee and rubber plantations, rice fields, and villages in the districts of Semarang and Magelang.



# APRIL

## *Grebeg Syawal*

1 April  
at Pagelaran Kraton Yogyakarta  
to Kauman Grand Mosque

*approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

The word Grebeg is a Javanese term for traditional celebration or a carnival, usually for, but not exclusive to, Islamic events, such as the commemoration of the birth of the Prophet Muhammad, the Islamic New Year, and Eid al-Fitr. Grebeg Syawal refers to the last one, Eid al-Fitr.

During Grebeg Syawal, the Yogyakarta Palace crafted the biggest Gunungan, a gigantic mountain-shaped offering, resembling a Tumpeng.

This Gunungan contains various agricultural products such as long beans, carrots, large red chilies, sugar cane, salted eggs, klenyem (made of cassava filled with palm sugar), and at the bottom of the mountain are cones of white rice and side dishes.

Gunungan symbolises gratitude towards the Supreme Being and the King and his subjects and all the courtiers of the Palace who have successfully completed fasting for a full month. This tradition is a hereditary legacy from Sultan Agung, the great King of the Mataram Kingdom, which has been preserved until now.

## *Java Paper Balloon Festival*

1 to 5 April  
at Kembaran village, Wonosobo

*approximately 1 hour and 35 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Java Paper Balloon attraction is an annual event held in Wonosobo Regency, Central Java. Flying paper balloons is usually done by the region's residents at every Eid celebration. The balloon is a symbol of acculturation, where the Chinese, Dutch, and Javanese influences blend harmoniously. The balloon shape was influenced by Dutch, the paper material came from Chinese, and the Batik patterns are native to Java.

During the festival, the paper balloons were flown at a height of 15 to 30 metres using firewood smoke and then arranged so that they swayed to the sound of the Lengger dance gamelan music.



**Above** Colourful paper balloons dotting Java's sky with Mount Sindoro towering gracefully as a backdrop. Photographed by Hana Krisna.

**Left** Gotong Royong, kids and the youth works hand-in-hand to fly the balloon using smoke from the firewood. Photographed Badruz Zamzani.





## MAY

### *Tri Suci Waisak*

*12 to 13 May*

*approximately 15 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

The Vesak Day celebration is one of the most awaited events that is held annually at the Borobudur Temple complex in Magelang, only a 5-minute drive from Amanjiwo and less than an hour away from the Special Region of Yogyakarta.

Vesak commemorates three of the most important events in the life of Buddha Siddhartha Gautama, also known in Indonesia as Tri Suci Waisak (Three Holy Days of Vesak). The first one is the Birth of Prince Siddhartha in the Lumbini Gardens. The second is the enlightenment in which Prince Siddhartha became the Buddha in Bodhgaya at the age of 35, and the third is the passing of Gautama Buddha at Kusinara at the age of 80 in 543 BC. Vesak is also known as simply Buddha's day.

The Vesak Day rituals are held according to the annual tradition, initially by obtaining the holy water from Umbul Jumprit spring in Temanggung. The next ritual will be getting the flames of eternal fire from Mrapen in Grobogan. Both will then be kept safely at Mendut temple, located in one straight line with Pawon and the Borobudur Temple itself. The next day, the holy water and the flame will be escorted from Mendut Temple to Borobudur Temple to join the Vesak Day procession, before the famous lantern release starts. Throughout these three days of processions, Amanjiwo is hosting its annual Vesak retreat experiences, guided by its Resident Anthropologist Patrick Vanhoebrouck together with Javanese spiritual practitioners from the surrounding region.

## JUNE

### *ArtJog*

20 June to 31 August  
at Jogja National Museum, Yogyakarta

*approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

ARTJOG is an annual contemporary art exhibition held in the Special Region of Yogyakarta, which is usually held for one whole month in the period between May and July. The exhibition is regarded as the benchmark of contemporary art in Indonesia as it always showcases both local and international artists from various circles and their works – from two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks, digital and physical, to performance art and art installations.

Since its inception in 2010, ARTJOG's iconic trademark is its main venue, where commissioned artists showcase their thematic, commissioned works. Individuals and art collectives that have been commissioned by ARTJOG are expected to respond to the theme given to them accordingly and translate it into a stunning visual display.

Another special feature of ARTJOG is the very well-organised fringe events that include curatorial tours, meet-the-artist sessions, art performances, and even a historical tour of the Jogja National Museum, which used to be the art school ASRI – the predecessor of Institut Seni Indonesia Yogyakarta (The Indonesian Institute of Art Yogyakarta). In addition, there is a special "viewing" for art collectors at the beginning of the event, so they can learn about the price and the artworks in detail.



# JULY

## Wisuda Lenggèr

Late July  
at Giyanti village, Wonosobo

*approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Wisuda Lenggèr Giyanti is a rite culture that has taken place in Dusun Giyanti, Wonosobo Regency since the 1970s. But the dance itself has been part of the Javanese community for centuries. Referring to the name of this procession (wisuda means "graduation"), Wisuda Lenggèr must be carried out by the art students of the traditional Lenggèr Dance. The students must pass both theoretical, historical, and practical exams in several dance studios in Giyanti village, before officially being confirmed as a Lenggèr dancer.

Lenggèr is derived from the Javanese word 'Elinga Ngger', an advise to always remember the Almighty and do good deeds to others. The historic manuscript stated that the Lenggèr dance was once used by Sunan Kalijaga, one of the nine saints of Java, to introduce religious values.

### Right

*Jamasan*, one of the key ritual where the Lenggèr dancers receive a water blessing from the *Sesepuh* as a symbol of self-purification.

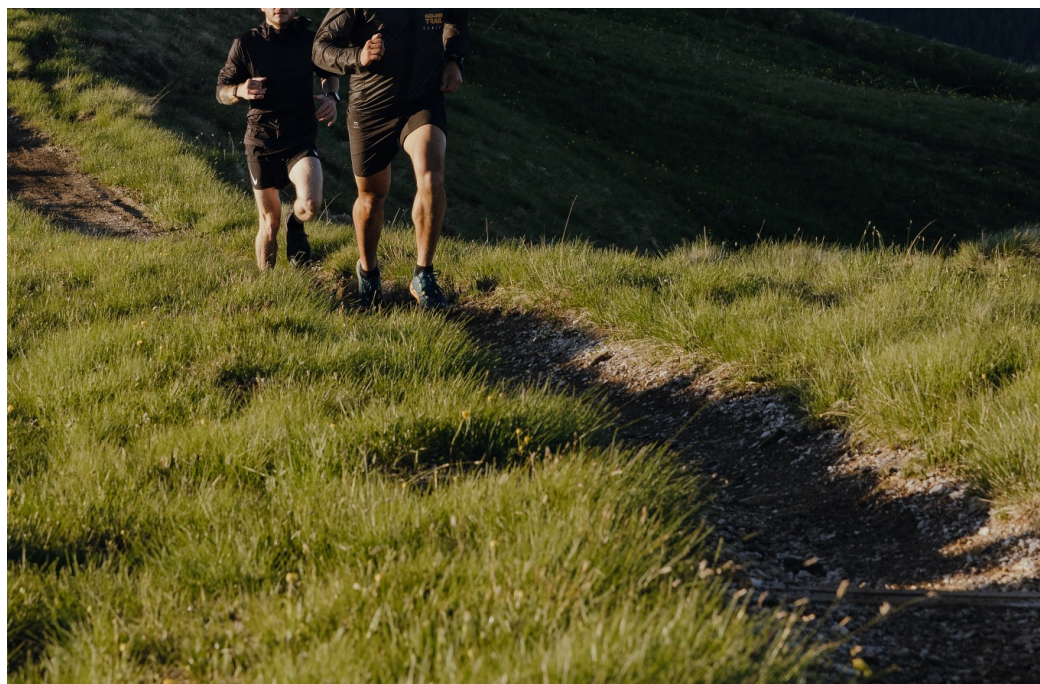
### Bottom

*Macak*, a Javanese word for makeup. After completing the whole ritual, the Lenggèr dancers are getting ready for their first-ever performance.

*Photographed by Hana Krisna*







Top Diverse volcanic mountain range spreads across the island of Java. Photographed by Andi Priyanto

## OCTOBER

### *Biennale Jogja*

October - November  
at Taman Budaya Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta

*approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Known as a flagship exhibition that showcases contemporary art practice and discourse, the Jogja Biennale has contributed significantly to the dynamic of the local and regional art scene in Indonesia and Southeast Asia particularly. The exhibition is held every 2 years since 1988.

The exhibition program includes the Equator Symposium, an international sub-event involving art and culture specialists and practitioners from around the globe. Within the framework of an expert and knowledgeable discourse, the Equator Symposium will be cross-disciplinary, although its focus of attention is contemporary art.

### *Solo Batik Carnival*

July  
at Sriwedari Stadium to Fort Vastenburg, Surakarta

*approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

The Solo Batik Carnival is an annual carnival celebration that occurs in Solo City also known as Surakarta City in Indonesia. It first began in 2008 as an annual celebration of Indonesian heritage and culture and to showcase Batik, an Indonesian technique of wax-resist dyeing of cloth and other wearables. Batik itself has been officially recognised by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity from Indonesia.

### *MesaStila 100*

3 - 5 October  
in Central Java

*approx. 1 hour and 30 minutes drive from Amanjiwo to each mountain*

MesaStila100 is part of Grand Slam Ultra Indonesia, a unique and extreme ultra trail running event that invites runners to cross and climb up to five mountains in Central Java: Mount Andong (1,726m), Mount Merbabu (3,145m), Mount Merapi (2,930m), Mount Telomoyo (1,894m), and Mount Gilituri (1,368m). The running event is divided into five categories: 120km, 75km, 50km, 25km, and 12km.



## NOVEMBER

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### *Borobudur Marathon*

*Sunday, Mid-Late November*

at Borobudur, Magelang

*Contact our Guest Assistant for more information*

*approximately 15 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Borobudur Marathon is a yearly event that has been established since 2012. The marathon has proven to be a magnet for runners from all over Indonesia as well as international runners from around the globe. Annually, over 10,000 runners from more than 30 countries took part in the event.

Apart from the excitement of participating in the race with the majestic Borobudur Temple as the grand backdrop for the race, the event is also a treat for runners and tourists to explore Magelang and its surrounding landscape. Breathe in the refreshing morning air experience the warm welcome and hospitality, and enjoy the scenic views as well as the culinary treats - each element embodies and compliments the meaning of race in harmony with the rich Javanese culture.

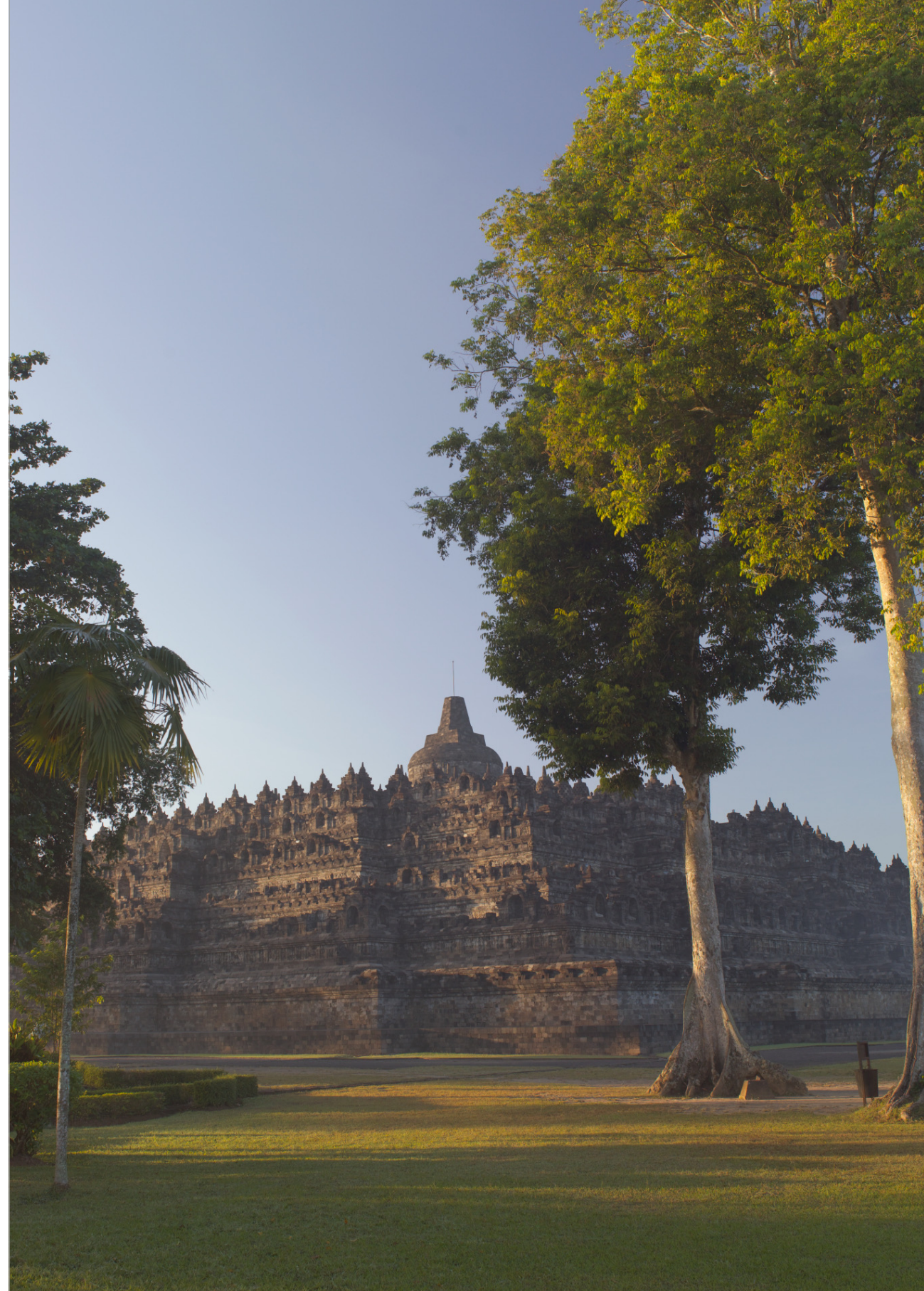
### *Borobudur Writers and Cultural Festival*

at Borobudur, Magelang

*Contact our Guest Assistant for more information*

*approximately 15 minutes drive from Amanjiwo*

Borobudur Writers & Cultural Festival is a meeting point for writers – both fiction and non-fiction – creative workers, and cultural, and interfaith religious activists. Each year, BWCF presents a main theme, selected for its potential to stimulate the participants to re-acknowledge the variety, wealth, and uniqueness of ideas in literature, art, and indigenous religions of the Archipelago.







## Complementary Destinations

### *Amandari* Ubud, Bali

Bali's complex and endlessly renewing culture offers new experiences from morning to evening - from temple ceremonies and gamelan performances to village festivals and palace theatre. Discover the unique lives of the Balinese, their Hindu rituals, and unique craftsmanship through tours or comprehensive activities from Amandari, offering guests unrivaled access to the island's captivating soul.

The breathtaking site atop the untouched Ayung River Gorge was chosen for the location of Amandari for its lush serenity, unparalleled views, and sacred connection to Kedewatan Village nearby.

### *Amankora* Kingdom of Bhutan

Bhutan is a global pioneer, the first nation of the world to systematically measure its success not by the strength of its economy but by the happiness of its people. Such a unique approach befits a country unlike any other - a wild, spiritual and majestic mountain kingdom where tranquility reigns and everything is off the beaten track.

The first resort in Bhutan and with five lodges across its central and western valleys, Amankora has been a part of this legendary Buddhist Kingdom for almost 20 years. Dedicated to providing an unparalleled experience of this pristine, year-round destination - one of the happiest places in the world - Amankora's five lodges are each a sanctuary designed to complement its uniquely beautiful setting.

### *Amansara* Siem Reap, Cambodia

The foundation of the Angkor period in Cambodian history started with the consecration ritual conducted by Jayavarman II, who lived in Java, in the early 800s in Phnom Kulen, to celebrate the independence of the Khmer Empire from Java.

At that ceremony, he proclaimed a universal monarch (Kamraten jagad ta Raja in Khmer) or Devaraja / God King. According to some sources, he had resided for some time in Java during the reign of the Sailendra Dynasty (The Lords of Mountains), and as such the concept of Devaraja or God King was borrowed from Java. At that time, the Sailendra Dynasty allegedly ruled over Java, Sumatra, the Malay Peninsula, and parts of Cambodia.









## ISLAND OF BALI



Bali is located at the heart of the Indonesian archipelago. Its north coast faces the Bali Sea, while the southern coast is lapped by the Indian Ocean. The island is just two kilometres off the eastern tip of Java. For all its cultural richness, Bali is a small island, less than 150km from east to west and only about 80km from north to south. The island has four million people, most of whom still live in villages and small towns. Bali's unique variant of Hinduism influences every aspect of island culture, from day-to-day village life to art, dance and music.

Bali's age-old appeal to explorers, beach seekers, yogis and those seeking the salve of the spiritual has made it the most beloved travel destination in Indonesia. It is an island of near-infinite variety, from the gloriously green, artistically rich Ubud region at the centre, to the villages and volcanoes of East Bali. For those in search of sand and sunshine, Bali has palm-fringed shores to suit. And for travellers who seek to reap more spiritual rewards, an abundance of open-air Hindu temples offer opportunities for blessings and reflection. There is a reason they call this 'the Island of the Gods'.

As one of the most accessible destinations in Southeast Asia, daily flights are available from most major cities in Asia and Australia. Travellers from the United States or Europe tend to fly via Singapore. There are also domestic flights and ferry connections from the surrounding Indonesian islands.



# The Bali Journey

Gilimanuk

▲ Mt. Kelatakan

▲ Mt. Merbuk

▲ Mt. Patas

Medewi



Amandari is located in the heart of the island's natural and cultural richness, thus making it an ideal start for the Aman Bali journey. Amankila, located in East Bali, is known for its diverse natural wonders, palatial architecture, and secluded beaches, which promise rare Balinese experiences. While Aman Villas at Nusa Dua in Bali's southern peninsula offers tranquil relaxation and easy access to Ngurah Rai International Airport (DPS).



Singaraja

Tejakula

Gretek

Bali Sea

Lake Buyan  
Lake Tamblingan

▲ Mt. Catu / Pengelengan

▲ Mt. Batur

Lake Batur

▲ Mt. Abang

▲ Mt. Lesung

▲ Mt. Bratan

▲ Mt. Pohen

▲ Mt. Sanghyang

▲ Mt. Sengayang

▲ Mt. Adeng

▲ Mt. Batukaru

▲ Mt. Agung

▲ Mt. Lempuyang / Seraya

Jatiluwi

Bangli

Sidemen

Amlapura

AMANDARI

AMANKILA

Ubud

Candidasa

Tabanan

Gianyar

Padang Bai

Tanah Lot

Canggu

Denpasar

Seminyak

Sanur

Ngurah Rai International  
Airport - (DPS)

Kuta

South Kuta

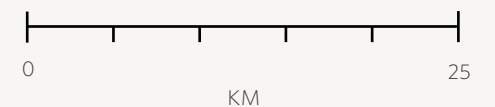
Benoa

Uluwatu

AMAN VILLAS  
AT NUSA DUA

NUSA  
LEMBONGAN

NUSA  
PENIDA







## Amandari

Featured Destination

### *The Peaceful Spirit*

Ubud is the spiritual heart of Bali, a vital valley of thriving jungle surrounding a town alive with art. Here, on a ridge above the Ayung River valley, Amandari takes its inspiration from the layout and architecture of a traditional Balinese settlement, integrated so sensitively into its surroundings that it feels as though it has always been here.

The resort is tightly woven into the everyday life of the neighbouring village, Kedewatan, where many of the team live, and local children come to the grounds daily for their dance class since the resort opened in 1989. Outside the paras-stone walls, a landscape of terraced rice fields, thick forest, and white-water river invites exploration and adventure, and the artisan studios and cultural spectacles of Ubud town beckon a little way beyond.





## Amankila

Featured Destination

### *The Peaceful Hill*

Ensconced into the hillside on the less-explored coast of East Bali, the spirit-lifting sanctuary of Amankila is a gateway to the cultural and natural highlights of the Karangasem Regency and the undersea beauty of the Lombok Strait, making it the only resort in Bali that combines beach and mountain experiences in one location.

Architecturally inspired by the Ujung Water Palace, the resort's central showpiece is a trio of infinity pools, which cascade down the cliffside towards a private strip of beautiful black-sand shoreline. Here, the Amankila Beach Club caters to guests seeking watersports thrills, and the resort's traditional jukung-style boats – Aman XII and Aman XVI – are primed for cruising the coastline, snorkelling and fishing trips, and sunset cocktails.





## Aman Villas at Nusa Dua

### Featured Destination

#### *The Tranquil Haven*

A collection of peaceful retreats on southern Bali's Bukit peninsula, just half an hour from Denpasar airport, Aman Villas at Nusa Dua is the perfect endpoint for any Aman journey in Bali – as well as a naturally inspiring setting for celebrations.

Affording guests unparalleled space and privacy, the multi-bedroom villas are serviced by two dedicated butlers and a chef and are a short drive from the white-sand beaches of Nusa Dua.



## RECURRING EVENTS IN BALI

### *Kecak Dance Performance*

Daily, from 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm  
at Uluwatu Temple, Pecatu

*approx. 2 hours drive from Amandari*

*approx. 2 hours and 20 minutes drive from Amankila*

*approx. 45 minutes drive from Aman Villas at Nusa Dua*

Daily, from 6.45 pm – 7.30 pm  
at Pura Dalem Ubud

*approx. 10 minutes drive from Amandari*

*approx. 1 hour and 40 minutes drive from Amankila*

*approx. 100 minutes drive from Aman Villas at Nusa Dua*

The dramatic temple of Uluwatu Temple rises from the surf and Kecak dancers retell myths and legends through dance and drama. Originally created in the 1930s, Kecak Dance is a collaboration between Balinese dancer Wayan Limbak and the German artist Walter Spies. The dance combines a traditional pre-Hindu Balinese trance chant with the famous story of Ramayana.

What makes this dance particularly unique is that the drama uses no artificial backdrop and involves no musical instrument. The focus is entirely on the concentric circles of about 50-60 men, bare-chested, wearing only distinct Balinese sarongs sitting cross-legged around a set of torches in the centre.

Instead of the traditional “gamelan” orchestra which usually accompanies other Balinese traditional performances, the Kecak is simply accompanied by the chanting of the chorus of men representing an army of monkeys continuously intoning “Cak! Cak! Cak!” or “Keh-Chak” in polyrhythmic sounds during almost the entire performance. -

- This amazing human-voiced orchestra is led by a soloist, who is in charge of indicating the high and low notes, and also acts as narrator. The effect, after a while, is to provide a wall of dramatic sound against which the action of the play is enacted.

Kecak Dance is regularly performed in many places all over Bali. However, the best place to watch this spectacular show is at the Uluwatu Temple, where the dance is performed daily with the dramatic Uluwatu sunset as its backdrop.

### *Purnama*

Every full and new moon  
occurring at the entirety of Bali island

The full and new moon days have special importance for the Balinese, as their yearly calendar is based on the moon phases each month. The full moon in Bahasa Indonesia is called “Purnama”, meaning full moon but also complete, infinite, and perfect. It is believed that on this day the Moon God Chandra is showering his blessings and magic on the people by offering his light, reminding them of their own light inside.

On full moon days, which are celebrated island-wide, Balinese men and women, dressed up in traditional attire of a sarong and white shirt for the men, and sarong, corset, and a white lace kebaya for the women with a colourful belt around the waist. The Balinese will take the Purnama offerings to the temple, perform sacred rituals which include holy water, incense, flowers, and prayer, and then offer them to the Gods. -



Top In honoring the full moon, Balinese people visit their local temple to present offerings of fruits and flowers and recite holy mantras to the Gods.





## SPECIAL EVENTS IN BALI

### MARCH

#### *Nyepi*

29 March  
occurring at the entirety of Bali island

On Nyepi day, which is New Year's day in the Balinese Saka Calendar, the island of Bali turns off all lights and sounds, stops all traffic, deserts all worldly activities, and meditates, while complete silence and serenity reigns over the entire island - the island reduced its emissions by 5,000 metric tons of CO<sup>2</sup> (carbon dioxide) in one Nyepi Day.

No planes will land or take off for 24 hours. All traffic across Bali will be stopped. All shops are closed. No pedestrian traffic is allowed on the beach or the streets. There will be local watchmen known as *pecalang* to ascertain that this rule is strictly obeyed. At night, all lights will have to be turned off. Hotels will close all curtains so that no ray of light shines outside. All sound and music indoors should be held to its lowest volume.

On the eve of Nyepi, however, celebrations are held with large papier-mache giant effigies, called *Ogoh-Ogoh*, paraded throughout the streets and accompanied by traditional chanting and gamelan music. These are then torched and, it is believed, that with the conflagration, any evil spirits that have brought disease and misery to the island during the past year will have also been banished.

### APRIL & MAY

#### *Galungan and Kuningan*

23 April & 19 November for Galungan  
3 May & 29 November for Kuningan  
occurring at the entirety of Bali island

Celebrated every 210 days according to the Hindu Saka Calendar, Galungan symbolises the victory of Dharma over Adharma or virtue over evil which has its origin in the mythology of "Mayadenawa". It is believed that during the ten days of Galungan, all the gods, as well as the supreme deity *Ida Sang Hyang Widi*, will come down to earth and join the festivities. The Balinese also believe that the spirit of ancestors and deceased relatives return to visit their homes, and for this reason, the various rituals conducted and offerings given to welcome them.

During the festival, all across the island sprout tall bamboo poles called "*penjor*" - that are decorated with fruit, coconut leaves, and flowers, and set up on the right side at the entrance of every home. At each gate, one will also find small bamboo altars set up, especially for the holiday, each carrying woven palm-leaf offerings for the spirits.

The last and pinnacle event in the ten-day festival is called Kuningan. It is believed that on this particular day, the Supreme God *Sang Hyang Widi* descends to earth to give blessings to all the people. As a closure to the series of Galungan rituals, Kuningan also marks the return of the gods and all ancestors to their realm.

As one of the most important religious activities on the island, Galungan provides the best opportunity to observe the most fascinating part of Bali's unique culture. A visit to Bali during the festival will surely be an unforgettable experience for all the senses.



## *Piodalan at Aman Bali*

**12 April** at Amandari Temple, Ubud

**12 April** at Amankila Temple, Manggis

**5 November** at Aman Villas Nusa Dua Temple

Odalan, Piodalan, or Pujawali is a celebration to commemorate the inauguration day of a temple, a Mrajan (family temple), or a Palinggih (holy shrine). In Balinese, the word Piodalan means "being born" or "leaving", it originated from the word "Wedal". In some areas, the Piodalan ceremony is also called Wali, especially in Bangli and Karangasem areas.

Piodalan is a form of Yadnya, or a sincere sacrifice to Ida Sang Hyang Widhi which is held on the day the temple is born according to the Pawukon – the 210-day Balinese calendar. Therefore each temple has a different Piodalan day.

At the time of Piodalan, Palinggih, Mrajan, or public temples will be decorated with colourful fabrics and decorations made of coconuts such as penjor, and a variety of beautiful offerings. The one who leads the ceremony, in general, is a Sulinggih (high priest) or Pemangku (common priest) according to the complexity of the ceremony. When a large piodalan ceremony is performed, this ceremony can last three days, seven days, or even 42 days, as is usually done at Pura Agung Besakih and other large public temples in Bali. At the end of a series of Piodalan ceremonies, there is a closing ceremony called Nyineb.



**Right** A dancer performs the Sidakarya Dance during the Piodalan ceremony at Amandari, symbolizing the completion and spiritual blessing of the ritual.









## SPECIAL EVENTS IN BALI

### JUNE

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#### *Ubud Food Festival*

Early June  
at Taman Baca, Ubud

*approx. 5 minutes drive from Amandari*

*approx. 1 hour and 40 minutes drive from Amankila*

*approx. 90 minutes drive from Aman Villas at Nusa Dua*

Founded in 2015, Ubud Food Festival is a three-day cross-cultural culinary adventure with Indonesian food as the star. Showcasing Indonesia's diverse cuisine, innovative chefs, and extraordinary local produce has been at the heart of every UFF.

Each year, the Festival welcomes audiences and chefs from near and far to learn about Indonesia through its cuisine.



# AUGUST

## *Maybank Marathon*

24 August

*approx. 1 hour drive from Amandari*

*approx. 50 minutes drive from Amankila*

*approx. 1 hour and 15 minutes drive from Aman Villas at Nusa Dua*

Formerly known as Bali Marathon, Maybank Marathon is a running event held in Gianyar, Bali. This annual race begins in front of the Bali Safari and Marine Park in Gianyar. From there, runners pass through the combination of flat and rocky road tracks with stunning picturesque Balinese countryside and traditional village scenery.

In 2020, Maybank Marathon became Indonesia's first and only 'Elite Label' marathon event, acknowledged by World Athletics and is included as one of World Athletics' marathon events.



# SEPTEMBER

## *Saraswati*

8 February & 4 September  
occurring at the entirety of Bali island

Saraswati Day is when Balinese Hindus praise and thank the Goddess of knowledge for bestowing the ability to read, write and understand nature upon humans. The Goddess is portrayed as a beautiful, four-armed goddess riding on a white swan among water lilies holding a different object in each hand; a lontar manuscript, prayer beads, a lyre, and a pot of holy water. The swans symbolise prudence, so that one's knowledge may distinguish between good and evil, and the water lilies (Lotus) are symbols of holiness. The Lotus flower is the holiest for the Balinese. And the four arms represent the four aspects of human learning; mind, intellect, alertness, and ego.

Four days after Saraswati Day is Pagerwesi Day. "Pager" means fence and "Wesi" means iron. On this day, Balinese pray to Sang Hyang Pramesti Guru (manifestation of God) and put together offerings to their Sanggah (shrine in their home) and at all of their temples. The philosophy of this celebration is that they must keep knowledge, health, food, cloth, and gold high in their lives to keep the universe in balance.



# OCTOBER

## *Ubud Writers and Readers Festival*

*approx. 10 minutes drive from Amandari*

*approx. 1 hour and 30 minutes drive from Amankila*

*approx. 90 minutes drive from Aman Villas at Nusa Dua*

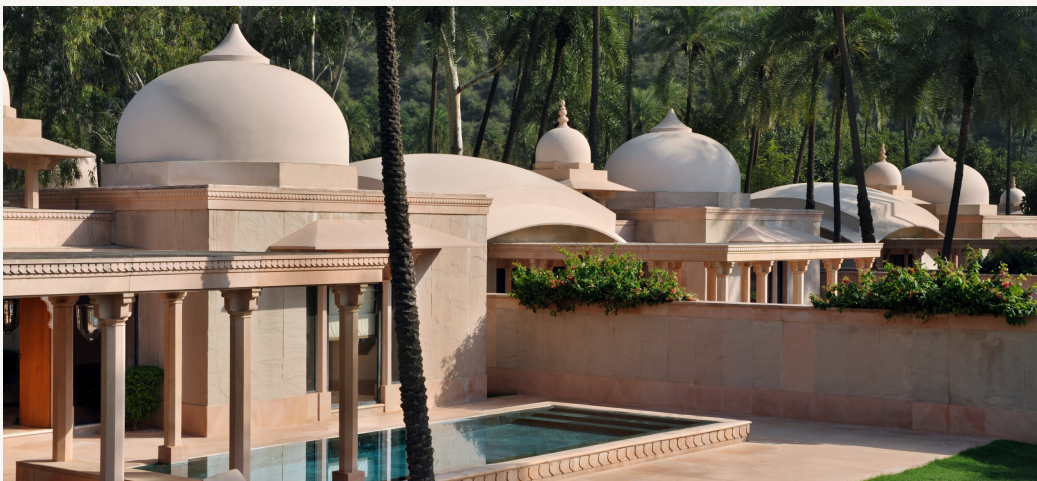
Ubud Writers & Readers Festival (UWRF) is one of the major annual projects of the not-for-profit Foundation, Yayasan Mudra Swari Saraswati. It was first conceived in 2004 by Janet DeNeefe, co-founder of the Foundation, as a healing project in response to the first Bali bombing.

The Festival is known as the biggest Festival of words and ideas in Southeast Asia. It helps to promote Ubud as an art and cultural centre, showcases Indonesian writers on an international stage, and helps young Indonesians to reach their potential through educational programs and literature.

Proceeds from ticket sales are also used to cover free public events, and free workshops for local children and high school students and their teachers, and to subsidise the attendance of residents who otherwise could not afford to attend.







## Complementary Destinations

### *Amanjiwo* Central Java, Indonesia

Discover the cultural heartland of Java with a stay at Amanjiwo. The resort is located within a natural amphitheatre, with the limestone Menoreh Hills rising gently behind, the Kedu Plain in front, and four volcanoes (Sumbing and Sindoro to the west, Merbabu, and Merapi to the east) on the horizon. Amanjiwo looks out onto the 9th-century Buddhist sanctuary of Borobudur, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Several villages are within walking distance of the resort.

### *Amanwana* Moyo Island, Indonesia

A natural paradise, Amanwana is on the beautiful island of Moyo, a veritable Eden in the Flores Sea. In 2022, Moyo Island was designated a National Park by the Indonesian government, ensuring that its stunning landscapes and diverse marine life are protected for generations to come. This allows Amanwana a uniquely intimate setting surrounded by true wilderness.

### *Amandira* East Indonesian Archipelago

Sail the high seas of the East Indonesia archipelago, weave your way among UNESCO-protected islands and discover landscapes few are ever privy to with Amandira. Inspired by the Phinisi sailing vessels of old, twin-masted Amandira was custom designed and handcrafted from local hardwoods by Konjo artisans. Travelling under sail as well as by motor, the vessel combines the ancient romance of the spice trade with cutting-edge contemporary amenities.

### *Amanbagh* Rajasthan, India

The topography of the Alwar region consists of sandy plains interspersed with craggy hills, a stark contrast to Amanbagh's setting which is an oasis of verdant greenery. Deriving its name from Aman, meaning 'peace' in Sanskrit, and Bagh, meaning 'garden' in Hindi, Amanbagh lies within a walled compound once used by the Maharajah of Alwar to site his mobile hunting camps in search of the elusive tigers known to roam the nearby hills. Long since abandoned, the trees and vegetation continued to thrive due to a reliable source of underground water. The resort is very much a modern-day 'Mughal Palace', conceived in the present, but paying homage to the architecture and design of India's golden age.









# NUSA TENGGARA

LESSER SUNDA ISLANDS



Covering an area of approximately 31,200.15 hectares, the Moyo-Satonda National Park strengthens conservation efforts and enhances the natural and cultural heritage of the area. The Moyo-Satonda National Park consists of two major islands: Moyo Island and Satonda Island.

Its neighbouring Tambora National Park is known for its historical and geological impact while still maintaining its appeal as a natural landmark with rich biodiversity. In the southeast, Saleh Bay is known for being the home of the ever-elusive giant swimmer, the whale shark.

Bali and Lombok are the international gateways to Moyo Island. As one of the most accessible destinations in Southeast Asia, daily flights to Bali and Lombok are available from most major cities in Asia and Australia. Travellers from the United States or Europe tend to fly via Singapore. There are also domestic flights and ferry connections from the surrounding Indonesian islands.



# Moyo - Satonda National Park Journey

Once a marine nature park, Moyo Island officially became Indonesia's 55th national park together with the neighbouring island of Satonda.

The experience of Moyo Island begins by air and sea, with a scenic flight from Denpasar to Sumbawa and a trip across the shimmering Flores Sea into Amanwana - the first tented camp resort in the world. Medang Island in the northwest, the rugged mountains of Sumbawa in the south, and Lombok's volcanic Mount Rinjani - at 3,726 metres, the third-highest mountain in Indonesia - are visible from Moyo. The island all but plugs the narrow entrance to Saleh Bay, famous for being the favourite sport of the whale sharks.

## Moyo Island

An Indonesian wildlife reserve since 1976, Moyo Island lies east of Bali in the West Sumbawa regency. In August 2022, Moyo Island was designated a National Park by the Indonesian government. Surrounded by a marine reserve, Moyo Island is one of Indonesia's key areas of conservation and home to an extraordinary array of animal and plant life - an island for explorers, lovers of wildlife, and those seeking the solace of untouched nature.

## Saleh Bay

Located just east of Moyo Island, Saleh Bay is known as the location for the second-largest whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) population on earth with at least 99 whale sharks detected. UNESCO also recognises the presence of whale sharks in the bay and adds the Saleh-Moyo-Tambora areas to its biosphere reserves list in 2019. Unlike other places in the world, whale sharks at Saleh Bay can be found all year round.

## Satonda Island

The island of Satonda is a rare phenomenon on earth. Formed by a volcanic eruption on the sea floor, the island boasts a crater lake well known for its salt water. Even, the lake contains more salt than the sea. Making it scientifically unique because the saltwater lake and its species-poor biota represent an ecosystem of global significance, unmatched by any other site currently known worldwide.

Depart to Satonda Island on Aman X or XX for a 75-minute journey to the island. Choose from a host of activities including kayaking on the large salt-water lake in the centre of Satonda. Jungle trekking, snorkelling, diving, and even some deep-sea fishing can also be enjoyed on this excursion. Take a picnic-style lunch on the beach or on board, completing an action-packed day that you will never forget.

## Tambora National Park

Tambora National park is home to splendid nature, such as fall-season forest, high-landscape forest, and savanna forest, which is why it is dubbed the Africa of Sumbawa. Unlike other mountains in Lombok, Bali, or Java, hikers of Mount Tambora will be rewarded with little traffic and a well-marked path throughout the trek along its varied landscapes, from coffee plantations and dense jungle to the vast savannah. For wildlife enthusiasts, a constant serenade of healthy birdsong will accompany your hike, a sure sign of a vibrant ecosystem as the mountain is home to the Crested White-eye, Hill Mynas, Rainbow Lorikeets, flying foxes, deer, horses, wild pigs, and rainforest trees, among many other things.







## Amanwana

### Featured Destination

#### *The Peaceful Forest*

Amanwana looks out over Amanwana Bay, a marine reserve, and beyond to the Flores Sea. Set back from the sea on the island's beachfront rainforest fringe, 15 standalone safari tents balance low-impact sustainability with hardwood-floored, high-ceilinged, air-conditioned, ensuite comfort, and macaques and wild deer roam freely among the camp.

Caves featuring exotic wildlife, bike trails, and waterfall treks await inland, but the most precious treasures are out at sea, where a technicolor reef showcases 75 percent of all known corals.

Amanwana's mission is not only to bear witness to the spectacular biodiversity beneath the waves but to preserve it too.

Guests are invited to join the camp's conservation team chaperoning newly hatched turtles from the sand to the sea, or to take part in the Amanwana coral-restoration programme, cultivating beds in the waters surrounding the island.





## SPECIAL EVENTS IN NUSA TENGGARA

### SEPTEMBER

#### *Samota International Festival*

27 to 29 September  
at The MXGP Samota Area and Tambora National  
Park Area

*approximately ±60km away from Amanwana*

The Samota International Festival celebrates the rich culture, natural beauty, and adventure opportunities of the Samota region—named after its key landmarks: Saleh Bay, known for its vibrant marine biodiversity; Moyo Island, a haven of pristine beaches and lush forests; and Mount Tambora, renowned for its historic eruption and breathtaking caldera. The festival features cultural performances, sports tourism activities, and engaging seminars, all designed to showcase the unique heritage and stunning landscapes of West Nusa Tenggara.







## Complementary Destinations

### *Amandira* East Indonesian Archipelago

Sail the high seas of the East Indonesia archipelago, weave your way among UNESCO-protected islands and discover landscapes few are ever privy to with Amandira. Inspired by the Phinisi sailing vessels of old, twin-masted Amandira was custom designed and handcrafted from local hardwoods by Konjo artisans. Travelling under sail as well as by motor, the vessel combines the ancient romance of the spice trade with cutting-edge contemporary amenities.

Offering three spacious king-bed cabins and two bunk-bed cabins, Amandira can accommodate up to 10 guests. The three king-bed cabins each have a living area, as well as a large bathroom with a shower and twin vanities.

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### *Amanpulo* Pamalican Island, The Philippines

Set on its own private island in the Sulu Sea, Amanpulo is skirted by white smiles of sand, clear blue waters and a coral reef 300 metres from the shore, which makes it the epitome of a tropical paradise, and has been for the past three decades.

The resort is located on Pamalican and is part of the Quiniluban Group of Cuyo Islands, situated in the north of the Philippine province of Palawan. Located 288 kilometres south of Manila, Pamalican is five kilometres long and only 500 metres across at its widest point.

The island's turquoise waters and coral reefs provide a variety of water and beach activities. These include snorkelling and scuba diving (with PADI certification available), as well as fishing. And with seven square kilometres of pristine coral reef, Amanpulo offers some of the most exceptional and easily accessible diving sites in the region.

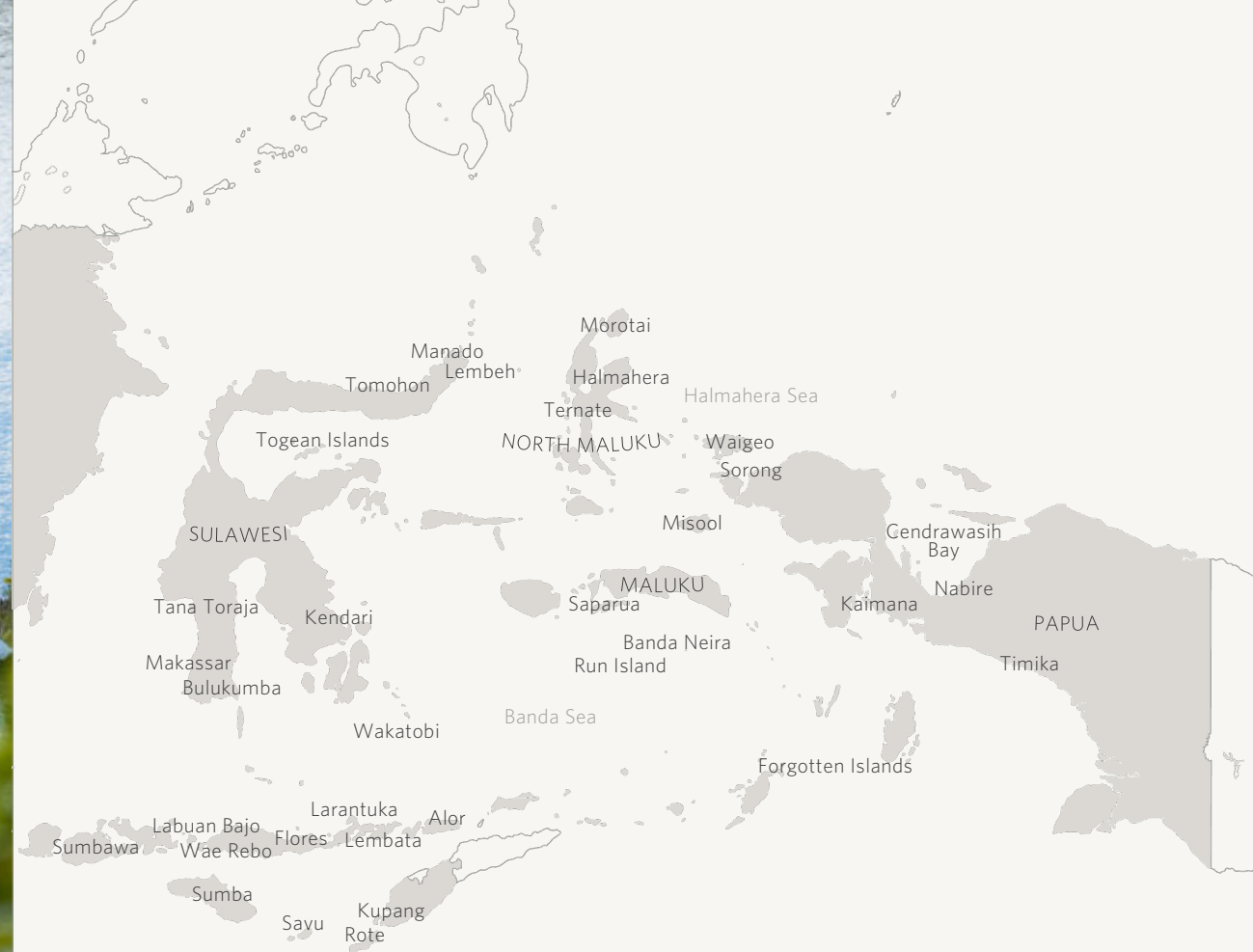








## EAST INDONESIA



Sail the high seas of the East Indonesia archipelago, weave your way among UNESCO-protected islands and discover landscapes few are ever privy to. Explore the realm of the Komodo dragons, the storied Spice Islands, and the underwater kingdoms of Raja Ampat and the Flores Sea. Climb volcanoes, dive with mantas, and bask in rose-hued sunsets from the decks of Aman's custom-made expedition vessel.

Satisfy a yearning for adventure with uncomplicated serenity – East Indonesia journey with Amandira is a unique way to experience untouched environments in some of the world's most captivating destinations.





# Amandira

## Featured Destination

### *The Peaceful Intrepid*

Explore the isolated coves and the region's countless bays and tropical islets, with white sand beaches, mangroves, lagoons, and remarkable limestone formations. It is best for short and extended breaks of 5 or 21 nights - or longer.

Unparalleled comfort and privacy inspired by the Phinisi sailing vessels of old, twin-masted Amandira was custom designed and handcrafted from local hardwoods by Konjo artisans. Travelling under sail as well as by motor, the vessel combines the ancient romance of the spice trade with cutting-edge contemporary amenities.

### *Private Crew*

Amandira's crew of 13 includes two private chefs, skilled waitstaff, an expert dive master, and a highly trained spa therapist, each of whom is accomplished at providing intuitive, personalised service. Experienced guides accompany guests onshore and can arrange kayaking and hiking expeditions, as well as revealing the secrets of each new bay – whether a snorkelling spot frequented by turtles or a special viewpoint.



# The East Indonesia Journey Routes

KALIMANTAN

SULAWESI

NORTH  
MALUKU

## Raja Ampat Route

November to March  
around the Islands of Raja Ampat Regency

Raja Ampat

Sorong

Misool

Farondi  
Islands

MALUKU

Ambon

Gorom Islands

Banda Islands

## Triton Bay Route

March to April  
Kaimana to Kiti Kiti

Fak Fak

Kaimana

Adi Island

Cendrawasih Bay

PAPUA

## Spice Islands Route

October to November  
Island hopping from the Islands of  
Central Maluku to West Papua

Banda Sea

## Alor Route

May to July  
Island hopping from Maumere to Alor Island

Maumere

Komba Island

Alor Island

## Komodo Route

March to October  
around the Islands of Komodo  
National Park

Komodo

SUMBA

## Journey Across the Sea Route

any time of the year  
from Amankila to Amanwana

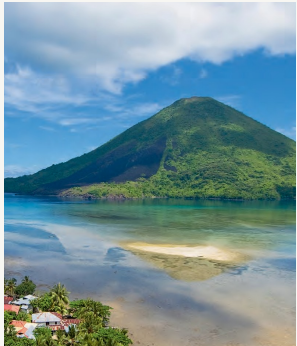
BALI

LOMBOK

SUMBAWA

AMANKILA

AMANWANA





# The East Indonesia Journeys

## *Journey Across the Sea*

Embark on an adventure, sailing from Bali through the Flores Sea, reaching Moyo Island on the Sumbawa archipelago.

The turquoise waters and pristine reefs of the Flores Sea are home to some of Indonesia's best scuba diving and snorkelling spots. On land, the hilly tropical forests are crisscrossed by hiking trails, home to the island's protected deer, macaques, and wild boar.



## *Komodo Journey*

Dive and snorkel the world's most biologically diverse and acclaimed underwater sites around the Nusa Tenggara archipelago.

Explore the isolated coves and the region's countless bays and tropical islets, with white sand beaches, mangroves, lagoons, and remarkable limestone formations. It is best for short and extended breaks of 5 or 21 nights - or longer.



## *Alor Journey*

Alor is the least-visited part of the East Nusa Tenggara province. The unspoilt flora of the islands is paired with world-class diving for an all-around experience of natural beauty.

Pristine waters and beautiful coral reefs – which scorpionfish and pygmy seahorses call home – provide world-class diving, with opportunities to see sunfish, reef sharks, hammerheads, and even whales.

## *Spice Islands Journey*

Four and a half degrees south of the Equator, the seven volcanic islands of the Banda archipelago were, for centuries, the world's only source of nutmeg, earning their nickname - the Spice Islands. Keep in mind, that this journey only takes place once a year.

Charming villages can be found on five of the islands, with traces of Dutch forts on Banda Neira, Banda Besar, and Run.

## *Triton Bay Journey*

A pristine area, unspoilt by development, the Kaimana Marine Protected Area is a region still being explored, with new dive sites being located each year.

The colourful corals, endemic marine species, and unique underwater environments make Triton Bay a must-see for any keen diver. The array of marine life will keep even the most well-explored divers interested.

## *Raja Ampat Journey*

Known as the Four Kings, these 40,000 square kilometres of the Indonesian archipelago in the northeast seas are where the Pacific and Indian Oceans collide.

These nutrient-rich waters nurture magnificent coral reefs and marine life unlike anywhere else. As beautiful above water as it is below, the islands are cloaked in exotic flora and fauna such as karst forests of endangered orchids.





## SPECIAL EVENTS IN EAST INDONESIA

### MAY

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#### *Tokuwela Morotai Festival*

May 2025 at Morotai Island, North Maluku  
*Contact our Voyage team for more information*

Located north of the larger island of Halmahera in the province of North Maluku, the island of Morotai has a number of great beaches and interesting diving spots. The largest town here is Daruba in the south. To Morotai's north are the Philippines and to its east the Pacific Ocean. Not much remains to be seen from those hectic World War II days, except for several interesting wrecks to be explored underwater.

Nearby at Kao Bay in Halmahera, a half-submerged Japanese wreck named the Tosimaru can still be seen from shore. A shack filled with memorabilia of World War II collected by a private citizen and known as the Morotai Museum can be visited to remind visitors of those terrible war days, which will hopefully never occur again on this planet.

Bringing this rich history and culture to the global audience, the Tokuwela Morotai Festival consists of The Morotai Tour, Morotai Music Corner, and several competitions such as the Suratin Cup Competition, Regent Cup 2022 Competition, Ornamental Boat Competition, Morotai Cooking Competition, and Fun Dive, Snorkelling and Surfing Competition. Other exciting activities are an exploration of the Tosimaru shipwreck, a shark dive, and a historical trail of the World War II remnants that are scattered across the island.

### AUGUST

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#### *Tomohon International Flower Festival*

August 2025 at Tomohon City, North Sulawesi  
*Contact our Voyage team for more information*

Tomohon International Flower Festival is a series of international-scale art and cultural events held by the Tomohon City Government in North Sulawesi Province. This annual event which is held along Jalan Tomohon was launched in 2006, to introduce and promote the arts and cultural richness of Tomohon City. Tomohon International Flower Festival participants come from various cities across Indonesia.

Complementing a visit to Tomohon City are natural and cultural landmarks located around the city such as Linow Lake, Bukit Doa, Waruga, Temboan Peak, Tumiperas Waterfall, Flower Villages, Lahendong Tourism Forest, Inspiration Hill, Sion Church, and Ekayana Pagoda. Tomohon City is also known for its extreme culinary delights as well as sweet and savoury street food: Jaha Rice, Klapertaart, Grilled Tilapia, Cakalang Fufu, and Colombi Satay.



## SEPTEMBER

### *Festival Phinisi*

at Tanjung Bira, South Sulawesi  
*Contact our Voyage team for more information*

The Phinisi Festival is an annual festival held to introduce the phinisi ship to the world. Through this festival, visitors can see the meticulous process of crafting a phinisi ship and various traditional ceremonies and rituals that accompany its creation and launch.

The festival is held at Tanjung Bira, known for its natural beauty typical of Sulawesi Island. Its clear blue sea and stretching white sand are accompanied by the festival's culinary offerings that introduce various traditional cuisine of Bulukumba and its surrounding regions.



## OCTOBER

### *Festival Pesona Bahari Raja Ampat*

at Waisai, Waigeo Island, West Papua  
*Contact our Voyage team for more information*

Encompasses more than 40,000 square kilometres of nutrient-rich waters where the Pacific and Indian Oceans meet, Raja Ampat boasts unparalleled marine life, islands, cays, and shoals cloaked in the tropical jungle - this region is an explorer's dream.

Festival Bahari Raja Ampat is held to highlight the region's rich culture and biodiversity. Taking place in the Capital of the Raja Ampat Regency, Waisai which is on Waigeo Island, this maritime festival offers a variety of events and activities. A wildlife excursion, an activity to get to know the flora and fauna in Raja Ampat and Papua in general, island hopping such as visiting Pianemo Island and the Fam Islands, and snorkelling and diving, for which the destination is globally known, are all available throughout the event.

## OCTOBER

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### *Festival Pesona Selat Lembeh*

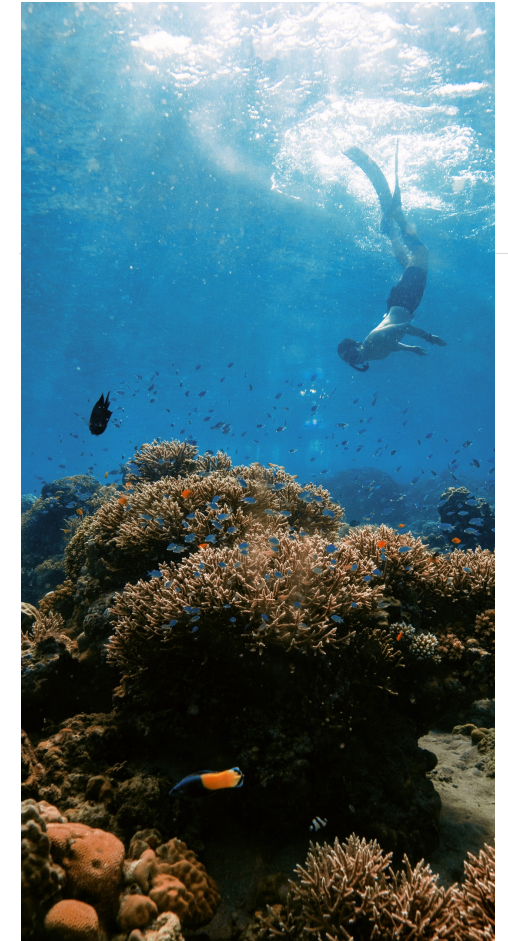
at Bitung, North Sulawesi  
*Contact our Voyage team for more information*

Festival Pesona Selat Lembeh is an annual festival held every October. As the name implies, this tourism promotion festival takes place in Lembeh Strait, in the city of Bitung, North Sulawesi.

The Lembeh Strait has up to 95 dive spots, and diving in Lembeh Strait can reach a depth of 15 - 25 metres. There is almost no current, and all year round the water stays warm at just 24 to 30 degrees Celsius. Its unique ecosystem makes this place a home for nudibranchs, flamboyant squid, mimic octopus, and hairy frogfish. Its peculiarity has made divers call it "The World's Muck Diving Heaven" or a paradise for diving on the seabed. This designation is certainly not without reason. The natural character of the volcano that covers the underwater Lembeh Strait offers a rich biodiversity.

These extraordinarily beautiful animals are rare subjects for underwater photographers. For that reason, underwater photographers have dubbed the Lembeh Strait the "Paradise for Underwater Photography".

Another activity of the festival is coral planting which involves 200 divers planting 400 seedling coral reefs. This activity is a favourite for environmentalists and foreign tourists who are still unfamiliar with marine life.



A visit to Bitung is incomplete if you don't experience the Tangkoko Nature Reserve, home to black monkeys and the cute fist-sized tarsier with large saucer eyes - icons of the area. The Tangkoko Nature Reserve is a division known as the Wallace Line. An imaginary geographical line is given by Alfred Russel Wallace, a naturalist, explorer, geographer, anthropologist, biologist, and illustrator, known for independently conceiving the theory of evolution through natural selection.



# NOVEMBER

## *Spice Island Festival*

at Saparua Island, Central Maluku

*Contact our Voyage team for more information*

Blessed with abundant natural wealth, Indonesia is known as a country filled with myriad tropical paradises. Apart from having a variety of charming natural landscapes, the archipelago is also known as a spice-producing country.

Held in one of the forts left by the Dutch on Saparua Island, Central Maluku, the Spice Islands Festival is held annually to reintroduce herbs, spices, as well as the region's rich culture and beautiful landscape to the international world. Known as Fort Duurstede, the fort, which was built around the 17th century by the sea, has changed hands many times, from the Portuguese, Dutch, and British, to the Indonesian people themselves.







## Complementary Destinations

### *Amanwana* Moyo Island, Indonesia

A natural paradise, Amanwana is on the beautiful island of Moyo, a veritable Eden in the Flores Sea. In 2022, Moyo Island was designated a National Park by the Indonesian government, ensuring that its stunning landscapes and diverse marine life are protected for generations to come. This allows Amanwana a uniquely intimate setting surrounded by true wilderness.

### *Amanpulo* Pamalican Island, The Philippines

Set on its own private island in the Sulu Sea, Amanpulo is skirted by white smiles of sand, clear blue waters and a coral reef 300 metres from the shore, which makes it the epitome of a tropical paradise, and has been for the past three decades.

The resort is located on Pamalican and is part of the Quiniluban Group of Cuyo Islands, situated in the north of the Philippine province of Palawan. Located 288 kilometres south of Manila, Pamalican is five kilometres long and only 500 metres across at its widest point.

The island's turquoise waters and coral reefs provide a variety of water and beach activities. These include snorkelling and scuba diving (with PADI certification available), as well as fishing. And with seven square kilometres of pristine coral reef, Amanpulo offers some of the most exceptional and easily accessible diving sites in the region.







# Indonesian Independence Day

A national holiday that happens throughout the archipelago on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August.

## *Balap Karung*

Balap Karung is a popular game played to celebrate Indonesia's Independence Day and consists of kids racing to the finish line with their legs inside a sack. This game originated from the Dutch colonial era when they often played this game at their institutions, competing with both their fellow citizens and the Indonesians.

## *Makan Kerupuk*

Kerupuk, salty, savory crackers, is not only a favourite side dish served with Indonesian cuisines such as Nasi Goreng and Nasi Campur but also a food item used in the well-known game Makan Kerupuk where the participants have to eat the kerupuk as fast as they can. This game holds great historical significance. During the colonial period, Indonesian soldiers were faced with a scarcity of food. Eating rice with kerupuk was nothing less than a treat for them. Hence, Makan Kerupuk is a reminder for every Indonesian to be grateful for the freedom struggles of their ancestors.

## *Panjat Pinang*

Requiring both skill and determination, Panjat Pinang is a demanding teamwork game. It requires a group of participants to climb an Areca palm tree and reach the prizes at the top. Sounds easy, but it's quite a challenge. Participants must climb up a tree that is covered in oil, making it difficult to reach the top. This tricky yet hilarious activity brings laughter and cheers as participants fall down or claim victory.







## Festive at Aman Indonesia

Celebrate the festive season across 4 Aman resorts, 1 Aman villa, and 1 Phinisi yacht around the majestic Indonesian archipelago.

With every break of dawn, the sun's warm rays spread over the earth, fueling fresh starts and new opportunities. They replenish our energy, awaken our souls, and illuminate the myriad paths that lay ahead. As dusk falls and gives way to moonlight, we ease into a state of reflection for the day that was.

Often shrouded in mist at sunrise, the mystical landscape of Indonesia surrounding each Aman resort calms the weary eyes sweeping through them. The first light that shines through their peaks on the first day of the year rouses the soul, with a promise of spiritual awakening through an adventure of a lifetime.

Inspired by solar and lunar rituals, the festive calendar at each Aman resort in Indonesia is curated to include beloved local holiday traditions such as ancient performance arts of music and dances, as well as sacred rites and wellness rituals. And as part of its commitment to respect the nature and culture of where the resorts are located, all Aman resorts in Indonesia are eliminating fireworks displays from the festive itinerary.







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*Festival and cultural event dates stated in this calendar are not final and are subject to changes by the festival organizers or the governing districts of the Republic of Indonesia. Aman Indonesia may also make updates depending on indications of old or irrelevant information or facts contained therein. The information regarding the events and dates contained in this calendar is complete to the best of our (Aman Indonesia) knowledge.*

*Reconfirmation with our Aman Reservations team at least a month before your holiday and visit to Indonesia coinciding with specific festivals you wish to see and experience is essential.*

*If you are already in Indonesia and staying with Aman, it is highly advisable to always check with your Guest Assistant for details, information, availabilities, and guarantees regarding the events subject in this document.*



ĀMAN