

Indonesian Most Popular Travel Destinations You Must Visit

There are so many excellent places in Indonesia that you can visit. It can't be denied, that the archipelago of **beautiful Indonesia** makes this country rich in natural resources and human resources, like history and culture.

So, what are the interesting places you can visit in Indonesia? Here are five popular travel destinations you must visit when you're **traveling to Indonesia**.

1. Borobudur Temples

*Visiting Indonesia but never tasted the **Indonesian tour** of temples? Your trip is not yet complete!*

When you're **traveling to Indonesia**, you can visit the two magnificent temples that also became the icons of the wonderful Indonesia. Both are known as Borobudur Temple and Prambanan Temple.

Borobudur Temple is the biggest temple in Indonesia and the largest Buddhist monument in the world. That's why, Borobudur Temple was considered as the seven wonders of the world. It has 504 Buddha statues and 72 stupas with one main stupa. This temple was built around the year 824, or at least 300 years before Angkor Wat in Thailand, and 400 years before the cathedrals of Europe were built.

Don't ever doubt its beauty. With inching up the staircase of the temple, you will be presented to a beautiful panorama of the mountains around the Borobudur area. From its peak, you will see Menoreh Hills, Sumbing, and Sindoro Mountain, or even Merbabu Mountain—just like the guard which are regarded as the fort that protects Borobudur. Well, if your condition is fit enough, you can try to climb Mount Merapi. This mountain is one of the active volcanoes in Indonesia. When the major eruptions occurred in 2010 hundreds of people are left dead, and the ashes was scattered until Jakarta (about 600 km).

2. Prambanan Temples

From Borobudur Temple, you can continue your **Indonesian cultural tour** to visit the Prambanan Temple. Built in the 10th century, this temple was first discovered by a Dutchman, C.A. Lons-in 1733. In contrast to the Borobudur Temple, Prambanan Temple is the largest Hindu temple in Southeast Asia, which is also designated as a world heritage by UNESCO. Not only can enjoying the beauty of the temple, in here, you can also watch Ramayana Ballet performances (Sendratari Ramayana) which is held every night of the full moon; every month.

There is one interesting fact about Prambanan. Many people called it as "A Thousand Temples" because there are so many temples in the Prambanan area. Its famous local myth: a large number of this temple were believed relating to the story of Roro Jonggrang. When a tyrannical king, Bandung Bondowoso, asked princess Roro Jonggrang to marry him, she requested him to build a thousand temples in one night as the condition,. In the end, Bandung Bondowoso failed to create a thousand temples, and in anger, he cursed Roro Jonggrang into a statue. And now, you can still find this statue inside of the temple.

3. Yogyakarta City Tour: Keraton Yogya and Malioboro Street

The next recommendation for your **Indonesian cultural tour** is surely Keraton Yogya. You can do a city tour when in Yogyakarta. You can try to visit “Keraton Yogya” or “Kraton Yogyakarta.” Keraton Yogya is not only known as a palace, residence of the king of Yogyakarta (commonly known as “Sultan”), but also the keeper and a living museum of Javanese culture. At Keraton Yogya, you can immediately see how the Javanese culture remains preserved in the midst of time changing.

Yogyakarta palace was built by Pangeran Mangkubumi in 1755. For the most people of Yogyakarta, this palace is considered as a sacred place, where the palace also became the center of an imaginary line that is connecting Parangtritis (south) and Mount Merapi (north).

There are many things you can see in this palace. It starts from many item collections, such as weapons, photographs, miniatures, replicas, horse-drawn vehicles; art performs; and the activity of courtiers who was doing his job.

After visiting Keraton Yogya, you can visit the area of Malioboro Street, located not far from the palace. Malioboro Street has been functioned as a shopping paradise of the local and foreign tourists. You can see various items lined that enthrall your eyes along the 2.5 kilometers with affordable prices. Rows of stalls selling a variety of merchandise, like Indonesian traditional batik, other kind of clothings, ethnic jewelry, trinkets (key chains, refrigerator magnets, etc.), typical foods, and so on. You can also enjoy the atmosphere of Yogyakarta, with a leisurely walk on the pedestrian, enjoy the traditional music and the artists creations—which can be very more interesting when the night comes.

4. Dataran Tinggi Dieng (Dieng Plateau), Central Jawa

Located in Wonosobo, Jawa Tengah—exactly at a height of over 2.000 m above sea level, Dataran Tinggi Dieng, which is also known as Dieng Plateau, provides many travel destinations, as temples, craters, lakes, waterfalls, and museums. The name of “Dieng” comes from the Sanskrit “*Di*” which means “high place”, and “*Hyang*” which means “the ancestors or gods.” Furthermore, it can be defined as “the place of the gods.”

There is one favorite Dieng typical panorama; when many visitors watch the sunrise creeping up, from the best spot: the peak of Mount Sikunir, which also known as “The Best Golden Sunrise in Asia.” Here, you can also enjoy the panorama of three nearby mountains, such as Prau Mountain, Sindoro Mountain, and Sumbing Mountain. The type of easy climbing makes Mount Sikunir as an appropriate alternative for those who want to enjoy the sunrise from the top of the mountain, without having to spend much energy and time.

Do not forget to feel the **beautiful Indonesia** which is clearly seen through the charm of Telaga Warna, a three-colors lake. It is one of the favorite places in Dieng, because of its strategic locations and its uniqueness. The color of the lake can change anytime—with the bluish green and white, as dominant color which reflects of sulfur deposits in it.

5. Bromo Mountain, East Jawa

Many people called it as a "Indonesian Mountain Tour" because of its beauty and the ease of enjoying its magnificent panorama. Not surprisingly, its popularity was making tourism of Mount Bromo as the most prominent tourist destinations; or even destination icon in East Java. Mount Bromo is located and flanked by four districts, such as Malang, Pasuruan, Probolinggo, and Lumajang.

"Bromo" derives from "Brahma," one of the gods of the Hindu religion. It's why, Bromo was also nicknamed as the "Holy Mountain" by the local community. Geographically, Bromo is one of the volcanoes which is located at an altitude of 2,329 m above sea level, and famous for its natural scenery when sunrise comes.

There are several **Indonesian tourist destinations** you can enjoy in Mount Bromo. People usually come to watch the beautiful sunrise from Puncak Pananjakan; enjoy the vast desert like Sahara Desert in Lautan Pasir Bromo and its Pasir Berbisik; the sensation of savannah in Bukit Teletubbies; look down to the crater that (sometimes) full of its smokes, even to experiencing the hospitality and the uniqueness of the local community, namely the Tenggerese people. Still in one area, you can also visit other beautiful places, such as Ranu Kumbolo lake, Madakaripura Waterfall, even climb the highest mountain in Java Island, Mount Semeru.

6. Jakarta, the Capital City of Indonesia

Your **Indonesian tour** won't be complete without visiting Jakarta. As a capital of Indonesia—Jakarta also has been the largest city, with an inhabitant population more than ten million. At first, Jakarta was called as Sunda Kelapa Jakarta-which at around 1527, are renamed with Jayakarta. In the Dutch colonial era, this name was changed to Batavia (1619), then turned back to Jakarta when Indonesia declared its independence. Now, you can find traces of it in a series of tours, like a visit to the port of Sunda Kelapa (Sunda Kalapa) and Old Batavia.

History has revealed that Sunda Kelapa Harbour was not only became one of the old port of Jakarta or even Indonesia, this Harbour is also the origin of the formation of the city. The port was already there since the 5th century, and have become an important port at that time. There, the local and foreign merchants peddled a variety of commodity; until finally invaded by the Portuguese and Dutch.

Shifting from Sunda Kelapa Harbor, you can visit the the Old Town of Jakarta officially well known as "Old Batavia" or "Kota Tua". There are many old buildings you can find here, because this ancient city retained its status as the administrative center of the Dutch East Indies-precisely when VOC transferred its possession to the monarch of the Netherlands (1800). Here, you still can enjoy the old time of **wonderful Indonesia**.

In the end, enjoying wonderful Jakarta is not complete without coming to the National Monument (Monumen Nasional, or popularly called "Monas"), one of the main icons of the city. The construction began in 1961, under the direction of the first Indonesian President, Ir. Soekarno. It was built to commemorate the struggle for Indonesian independence—as Soekarno's desire to have a country icon for symbolizing the fight for freedom, comparable to the Eiffel Tower, France. Because of this goal, the National Monument was built in an area of 80 hectares; with a height of 132 meters; and a replica of the "flames" as high as 17 meters which were made from bronze weighing 14.5 tons. The flames, was plated with gold weighing 45 kilograms.

Those are the most popular **Indonesian travel destinations** you ought to know. **Traveling to Indonesia** won't be complete if you haven't visit those famous sites. Come and enjoy the **wonderful Indonesia!**