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GUIDE

YOUR DESTINATION

Everything you need to know about your destination



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STUDY DESTINATION

INDONESIA

1. ARRIVAL IN INDONESIA

We recommend traveling to Indonesia, Bali at least a few days before the start of the study program, if possible. This will give you a chance to get to know the surroundings and recover from possible jetlag before the beginning of your semester. However, we don't recommend arriving in Bali too early, especially with a tourist visa. Please let us know if you for some reason are unable to arrive in Bali in time.

Once you arrive at Ngurah Rai International Airport, go through the Immigration and Customs control. Present your passport and other documents when asked to the immigration officers. Please be polite to all the officials at the airport. After the inspection, go to the luggage pick-up area to collect your luggage. There is also a possibility to purchase a local SIM card from the airport, but you can also do it later after being settled to your destination.



There are different options for transport from the airport. Find out more about transportation in Indonesia from below.

1.1. Documents you need when arriving

- A valid passport.
- The digital form called HEALTH PASS and available at <https://sshp.kemkes.go.id/register>
- This pass will be available 48 hours before boarding. It must be accessed in an updated browser (except for Internet Explorer)
- After completion of the form, you will receive a QR code that must be carried on your mobile phone or printed out on paper to be allowed to pass through airport authority posts
- Alternatively, the Health Pass can also be filled when arriving at the Ngurah Rai International Airport.

Depending on the type of your visa, you might sometimes be requested to also present the following documents. Please have them available when arriving in Bali.

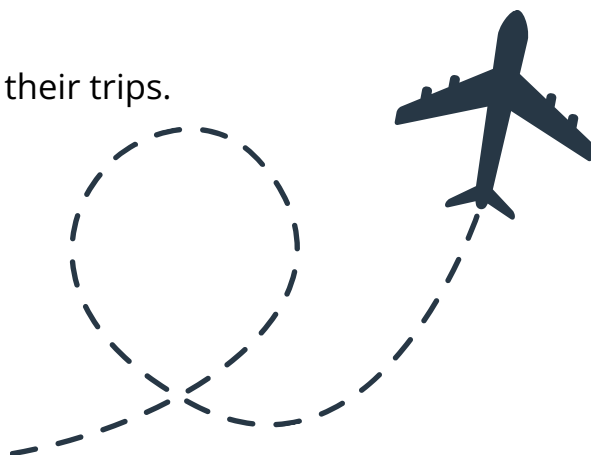
- Proof of when you intend to exit the country such as a return flight ticket, an outbound exit or onward ticket.

1.2. Registering with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

We recommend that all students register their trip at their home country's embassy or Ministry for Foreign Affairs before the start of the study abroad program. Once you have a local cell phone subscription, you can give the number to your local embassy. Most countries offer citizens the possibility of registering online.

Registration includes giving out your personal data, contact information for the duration of your trip and information about your stay abroad to the ministry in case of emergencies or crises.

All independent travelers are advised to register their trips.



2. HOST UNIVERSITY – UDAYANA UNIVERSITY, BALI INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM ON ASIAN STUDIES (BIPAS)

BIPAS is an interdisciplinary study abroad program taught in English at Udayana University in Bali, introducing you to Indonesian language and culture, international business, marketing, tourism, law and environmental management. You'll also learn about modern Indonesia, gain insight into South-East Asia and discover fascinating Balinese traditions.

Originally established as a cultural think tank in 1962, Udayana University in Bali has become one of Indonesia's foremost higher education institutions. Udayana University is the largest and most respected university in Bali and has a total of 13 faculties. Find out more about the university.



3. WORKING IN INDONESIA

You are not allowed to work in Indonesia. Indonesia has very strict rules regarding employing foreign nationals because they try to prevent foreigners from taking up positions that can be filled by a native.

4. CONTACTS

The international office at BIPAS provides support for exchange students for academic issues, assistance and information. It is responsible for the documents required for scholarships, the issuing of certificates. The person that is responsible for the International Office is the head of BIPAS I Made Sena Darmasetiyawan, S.S., M.Hum, Ph.D.

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5. MONEY

You will need cash in Indonesia as the opportunities to pay with a credit card can be limited. You should exchange a small amount of Indonesia Rupiah already in your home country, e.g. for the taxi at the airport.

We recommend taking at least one credit card and/or a VISA Electron with you. Sometimes ATM cards are lost or stolen so it is recommended to keep a second card in a separate area in case this happens. Don't wait until you're all out of cash to withdraw more money because sometimes you may face technical difficulties when using the ATM.

5.1. Cash withdrawing money, and credit cards

- **ATMs:** ATMs are widely available in Bali, particularly in tourist areas like Kuta, Ubud, Seminyak, and Denpasar. Look for ATMs connected to major banks like BNI, BCA, or Mandiri. Most ATMs accept international cards.
- **Card Types:** Visa and MasterCard are commonly accepted at ATMs and larger establishments, though some places may not accept American Express or Diners Club cards.

- **Withdrawal Fees:** International withdrawal fees can vary, so check with your home bank for exact charges. Indonesian ATMs usually limit withdrawals to IDR 1,500,000 to IDR 3,000,000 (~€90-€180) per transaction.
- **Currency Exchange:** It's often more cost-effective to withdraw cash rather than exchanging money at airport kiosks or hotels. If exchanging cash, stick to authorized money changers with a proper license.

5.2.Tipping

Tipping in Indonesia is not mandatory, but you can always leave a few extra Rupiah (or IDR) if the service exceeds expectations. In restaurants, a 10 percent service charge will be included on the final bill and is considered a sufficient tip. With taxi drivers, depending on the quality of their service it's kind to show your appreciation by rounding up the total sum or let the driver "keep the change".

5.3. Bargaining

When to Bargain: Bargaining is common in markets, souvenir shops, and with street vendors. However, it's not appropriate in department stores or fixed-price shops.

6. PHONE CALL AND CELL PHONE SUBSCRIPTION

Buying a SIM Card:

- SIM cards are inexpensive and widely available at the airport, convenience stores (like Circle K or Alfamart), and mobile phone shops across Bali.

Popular Providers:

- **Telkomsel (Simpati)** – Best for nationwide coverage, especially in rural areas.
- **XL Axiata** – Offers solid data packages and good coverage in urban areas.
- **Indosat Ooredoo** – Known for affordable packages, mainly in cities and tourist zones.

You can buy a prepaid SIM for around IDR 30,000-50,000 (€2-€3) with some credit already included.

How to Activate & Register:

- SIM cards need to be registered with your passport or a valid ID.

- The registration process is usually completed by the vendor selling the card, but make sure to provide accurate details, as unregistered SIMs may stop working after a short period.

Data Plans and Top-Ups:

- Data Packages: Prices depend on the provider, but common packages offer 5-10GB of data for around IDR 50,000-100,000 (€3-€6). Larger packages are available for those who need more data.
- Top-Up: You can top up credit or buy data via:
 1. Convenience stores (Alfamart, Indomaret)
 2. Mobile apps (most providers have their apps for top-up)
 3. Online services
- Bali has widespread 4G coverage, and 5G is available in some parts of Denpasar and other urban areas.

Calling and Texting:

- Local Calls: Cheap, usually IDR 1,000-2,000 per minute (~€0.07-€0.13).
- International Calls: More expensive. To keep costs low, use apps like WhatsApp, Skype, or Zoom for internet-based calls.
- SMS (Text Messaging): Less common due to the popularity of messaging apps, but local SMS rates are usually very affordable (around IDR 100-200 per SMS).

Alternative Options:

- Pocket Wi-Fi: If you're staying short-term or need constant connectivity, renting a pocket Wi-Fi device can be a good option. Rates are around IDR 50,000-100,000 (€3-€6) per day, depending on the provider.

7. TRANSPORTATION IN BALI, INDONESIA

Traffic Conditions

Bali is known for heavy traffic, especially in popular tourist areas like Kuta, Seminyak, Canggu, Ubud, and Denpasar. The roads can be narrow and congested, particularly during rush hours (morning 7-9 AM and late afternoon 4-6 PM).

Motorbikes dominate the traffic, weaving through cars, and making the roads feel chaotic for newcomers. Be cautious when crossing streets or driving. In rural areas, the traffic is less intense, and the roads are quieter but may be in worse condition.

Getting Around

Taxis in Bali are easy to find, especially in tourist hotspots.

The most reliable taxi service is Bluebird Taxi, known for using meters and offering fair prices. Avoid unmetered or “freelance” taxis as they often overcharge.

How to Get a Taxi

You can hail taxis on the street, or book them via apps like Gojek or Grab (similar to Uber).

Taxi Fares

- The starting fare (flag drop) for Bluebird taxis is around IDR 7,000 (€0.45), with the cost per kilometer around IDR 6,500 (€0.40).
- Example fares: A 15-minute ride within the city may cost around IDR 30,000-60,000 (€2-€4), while a longer ride from Kuta to Ubud could be IDR 200,000 (€12).

Airport Taxi Fares

The official airport taxi service offers set rates, with fares starting at IDR 150,000-300,000 (~€9-€18) depending on the destination.

Ride-Hailing Apps

- Grab and Gojek: Popular ride-hailing apps like Grab and Gojek offer affordable transport services for both cars and motorbikes (called GoRide or GrabBike for motorbike rides).
- GrabCar and GoCar provide rides similar to Uber, with fares calculated upfront through the app.
- GrabBike or GoRide: For short distances, motorbike taxis are quicker and cheaper, with fares starting as low as IDR 10,000 (~€0.60).

These apps also allow you to pay with cash or through the app.

Motorbike Rental

Renting a Motorbike is a common and inexpensive way to get around Bali. Many of our students in the past ended up renting a motorbike.

- Rental prices start at around IDR 50,000-80,000 per day (~€3-€5), with discounts for long-term rentals.
- Driver's License An international driver's license is required to legally drive a motorbike in Bali. Police frequently check tourists for licenses, and not having one can result in fines.
- Safety Tip: Always wear a helmet and drive cautiously, especially if you're not used to navigating Bali's hectic traffic.

7.1 Making your way to the airport

Ngurah Rai International Airport, is located in Kuta. The first option is to take one of the many official taxis you see when exiting the airport. You can book an online Grab taxis in the airport by approaching Grab Booth. On top of that, you can find also private shuttles that will pick you up directly from the airport. Also, many accommodation providers offer airport pickup services.



YOUR WAY ABROAD

The world has an interesting way of giving great experiences
to the ones who are passionate about their dreams.

Miia Muukkonen, Asia Exchange student

