



## VILLA MATAHARI

# Visitors Info

## About Bali

Bali is an island with a famous beautiful landscape and is one of the, more than 13.000 thousands islands of Indonesia, that has its own uniqueness.

Located in the south of equator and a part of Sunda Islands, Bali lays in between Java and Lombok Islands. The combination between friendly people with the various cultures makes Bali an unforgettable island for those who ever experienced it.

## Language

There are more than 500 languages and dialects spoken across the Indonesian archipelago but it is Bahasa Indonesia that is embraced as the national language.

Bahasa Bali is used mostly by the native people of Bali in daily life. It is greatly complicated by its caste influences. There are three levels of Bahasa Bali: Low, Middle and High. It is possible to identify the social status of a person through the kind of the language that they use to communicate.

Almost everybody attached with the tourism industry speaks English.

## Religion

The population of Balinese people is around four million, and the local religion is Hinduism. Religion and culture is a unity that cannot be separated in Bali.

Religion has big impact in Balinese daily life. Various kinds of religious ceremonies are commonly found at the temples, either large or small. A small temple can be found in each home for devotions and offerings to the gods.



## Climate in Bali

Bali has a wet season and a dry season, with average temperatures varying between 26°C and 32°C in the rainy season and between 24°C and 28°C in the dry season.

The wet season starts from November and ends in March. This does not mean that you will have rain every day or all day. Sometimes it will rain "cats & dogs" for one hour, some days you will get no rain or it can also rain for the whole day, but most often during the night.

## Currency

The official currency in Bali and the rest of Indonesia is the Rupiah.

The best way to change your cash foreign currency into Rupiah is at an official Money Changer. There are many spread almost everywhere, but be aware that some of the moneychangers will try to cheat you (they do it with a smile, but they do!). Always check the rate of exchange and what they take as a commission. Make sure you count the money yourself after they hand you the money and double-check the received money before you leave the office.

Be aware also, with the calculators used by some "unofficial" money changers as they are often "tricked" on their favor. Also be aware with those who offer "especially attractive" exchange rates.

In the south of Bali it is also very common and easy to obtain money from ATM cash machines with your own credit card and pin code. Major credit cards are accepted in many shops, restaurants and hotels. Normally there will be a charge from 3% to 5% for administration costs.

## Electricity

Most electricity home lines in Bali are 220V using the two-pronged plugs variety like most European Union countries. It is easy to find plug adaptors in many shops in Bali but if you have electrical devices that use a different type, we suggest you to bring your own adaptors as the local ones are of a very poor quality.



## Time

Indonesia has 3 time zones, WIB, WITA and WIT. Bali is part of the WITA time zone, which is in summertime 8 hours ahead GMT.

## Visa

Most visitors entering Indonesia need a visa. For some countries it is only required a Visa on Arrival valid for one month stay, but for others the Indonesian authorities could ask for a special visa that could take several days to obtain in your own country before arriving to Indonesia.

All passports should be valid for at least 6 months from the day of entry.

Details of visa formalities must be checked at the Indonesian Consulate in your home country before departure.

## Health

For a visit to only Bali you do not need vaccinations. Bali has no Malaria or other contagious tropical diseases.

Never drink water from the tap, drink only bottled water. You can find it everywhere under the commercial name AQUA.

Be aware that Bali is in the tropics so a special care should be taken using an effective sun block to protect your skin.

If you want to swim at the sea, you should be aware of the strong currents in some areas. Please be careful with kids and only swim in safely marked areas.

In case you need hospital care, there are many high quality centers in Bali, but most of them very expensive if you don't have a valid international medical insurance.

Even though it is not a big issue in Bali, the use of a mosquito repellent is advised in certain locations, especially while in the proximity of rice fields and rivers and mainly one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset.



## Driving in Bali

In Bali you will drive on the left. If you wish to hire a car during your trip and drive it yourself, you must be over 18 years of age and must carry a valid International Driving License.

## Guests Registration

Every tourist in Bali must be registered at the local Police Station upon arrival. As soon as you arrive to the villa, our staff will ask for your passport to do the required registration. They will ask a small fee (less than 2 USD) to pay the Registration Fees. Next day, they will give your passport back.

## Illegal Drugs

Indonesia gives a very hard punishment to drug users and even death penalty to drug dealers. For your own sake, please, don't bring or use drugs in this country.

Avoid also relating to people connected with drugs or assisting to parties where drugs are involved. You could be involved in a nightmare you will never forget.

## Airport Tax

When you leave Bali you must pay (after check-in) an airport/departure tax of the following amounts:

- International flights: Rp. 200.000
- National flights: Rp. 50.000