

DON'S BALI VIRGINS GUIDE

(UPDATED VERSION MARCH 2010)



SHORT TRIPS BY DRIVER WITH CAR:

Tuban - Kuta	RP 8000 - 10000
Kuta - Legian	RP 8000 - 10000
Legian - Semnyak	RP 8000 - 10000
Tuban - Nusa Dua	RP 40000 - 45000
Kuta - Tanah Lot	RP 65000 - 75000
Kuta - Sanur Beach	RP 45000 - 55000

BLUE TAXIS: (average meter price)

Airport to:

Batu Bulan	RP 95000
Candi Dasa	RP 300000
Canggu	RP 110000
Denpasar	RP 70000
Jimbaran	RP 55000
Kerobokan	RP 60000
Kuta	RP 45000
Legian	RP 50000
Nusa Dua	RP 80000
Oberoi	RP 60000
Padang Bay	RP 280000
Sanur	RP 85000
Seminyak	RP 55000
Tanah Lot	RP 170000
Tuban	RP 35000
Ubud	RP 175000
Uluwatu	RP 120000

(Short trips and 4 Persons or less best with these metered Blue Taxis)

TAXI PRICES - CAR & DRIVER HIRE (TOURS)

Checkout Airport Taxi Prices here: <http://www.mybaliuide.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?action=viewnews&id=188>

Car and Driver Hire - Half day hire approx 4-5 hrs (depends on mileage) RP 300000 - 350000

All day hire approx 6-8hrs (depends on mileage) RP 450000 - 600000

Above prices should include: Car, Driver, Petrol & Parking fees (check driver has tourist licence and insurance). There are many "drivers" that will accept less than this but most are just private citizens that have no tourist licence and therefore no insurance in case there is an accident. Be warned..... and please be careful who you do business with.

RECOMMENDED (LICENCED) DRIVER & TOUR OPERATOR

Everyone has a favourite driver, and for Airport Transfers and Guided Tours I highly recommend Dewa Parwita. Dewa is a great guy, good value for money, has very clean modern air conditioned vehicles, and above all is very reliable. He has several "standard" tour packages for the 1st and 2nd timers but can "customise" a tour for the well travelled Bali lover who wants something different and off the beaten track. He can be contacted at either: dewaparwita@hotmail.com Dewa now has his own website...which shows tours and prices and some info on him and his beloved island of Bali check it out at: http://www.baliexploretours.com/about_us.html Dewa will give discounts to BTF and My Bali Guide members.....just tell him Mr Don from My Bali Guide recommended him to you and ask him for your 10% BTF discount off all his advertised services.

TRAVEL AGENT - PACKAGE DEALS

For the best package deal prices contact Nicki Lawson (07) 55 30 3555 or email her at: alltrav3@bigpond.net.au

Nicki's overheads are low and she passes these savings onto her customers.....please mention that you are a BTF or My Bali Guide member. Nicki posts on the BTF under the name "Nicno". Email her if you have any queries or want to check out package prices. Check out Nicki's details here: <http://www.mybaliuide.com/cgi-bin/index.cgi?action=viewnews&id=81>

GPS NAVIGATION

GPS Navigation units can either be purchased in or rented in Bali.

Bali GPS Maps are also available to download for GPS enabled SmartPhones

For more information contact: www.balinavigator.com

NEVER GET LOST IN BALI AGAIN !

Bali Navigator
GPS Mapping Technologies

BUY OR RENT

GPS Sales & Rentals - GPS Phone Maps

BALI SUPERMARKET GROCERY ITEM PRICES

Beer Bintang 330ml	10300
Beer Heineken 330ml	12800
Cat Food (Whiskas) Dry 500g	22750
Cheeze Kraft Singles 200g	25000
Coca Cola 1.5lt	10500
Coca Cola 300ml	5170
Coffee Nescafe Classic Blend 200g	47000
Cornflakes 150g	11000
Cup of Noodles	5700
Dog Food (Pedigree) 1.15kg	38700
Eggs 1doz	10200
Fish Tuna Steak (per 100g)	5990
Fly Spray Baygon 600ml	28975
Fresh Fruit	
Oranges (ea)	920
Mangoes (ea)	2590
Strawberries (250g)	16900
Jack Daniels 750ml	760000
Jam Strawberry 430g	13500
Ketchup (Tomato Sauce) 340g	8850
Listerene 250ml	16000
Milk UHT Longlife 1lt	12700
Mizone Sports Drink 500ml	2700
Naygon Insect Spray 330ml	18500
Noodles Indo Mie	1225
Orange Juice 1lt	21500
Oyster Sauce 255g	17800
Panadol Painkiller Tablets (strip of 10)	4775
Pringles 160g	16000
Shampoo Dove 180ml	11975
Shampoo Pantene 400ml	24775
Soap (Cussons) 80g	2250
Tea Twinings 50g	41500
Tooth Brush Oral B	20500
Toothpaste 75g	3700
Washing Powder Rinso 1.4kg	15500
Water (Aqua) 600ml	1200
Water (Aqua) Lge Drum	10500
WD40 Lubricant (191ml)	29900
Wine Australian Red 750ml	422000
Wine Hatten Local Red 2 lt	220000

BALI TOURIST SEASONS

LOW SHOULDER	FEB - JUN OCT - NOV
HIGH SEASON	JUL - SEP
PEAK SEASON	DEC - JAN

ACCOMMODATION

There are many sites on the net that give details for various accommodation so I won't touch on that but if you want a local travel agent that is "on the ground" and based in Bali that can barter some great deals try Mida. Almost always she gets better prices than if you tried booking direct with the hotel. Tell her what you want and she will Email you with prices. She provides free transport (she will try to get you to do tours but is not pushy if you say no). You just pay upon arrival at the hotel. Cheap for local accommodation but she does not do flights. Contact Mida at:

wahyutur@indosat.net.id

LINKS TO MAPS AND GUIDES

Why not print a copy of this list and a few maps and take them with you.
Try these links for handy maps, guides and information:

A WEDDING IN BALI:	http://www.baliweddingsinternational.com
AIRCRAFT SEAT LAYOUT:	http://frequentflyer.oag.com/airlines_airports/seating.asp
BALI COOKING SCHOOLS:	http://www.bali-cooking.com
BALI INFORMATION GUIDE:	http://www.mybaliuide.com
BALI RESTAURANT GUIDE:	http://www.balieats.com/search.cfm
BALI TRAVEL FORUM:	http://www.balitravelforum.com
BALI WEATHER DAILY:	http://weather.yahoo.com/forecast/IDX0019_c.html
BALI WEATHER CLIMATE:	http://weather.yahoo.com/climo/IDX0019_c.html
BEST TRAVEL DEALS:	alltrav3@bigpond.net.au (Attn: Nicki Lawson)
BEST BALI INFO SITE:	http://www.filosbali.net
BEST SHOPPING GUIDE:	http://www.mybaliuide.com
BEST DRIVER IN BALI:	http://www.baliexploretours.com
CALENDAR TRIP PLANNER:	http://www.timeanddate.com/calendar/index.html?year=2006&country=29
CHECKING HOME EMAILS:	http://www.mail2web.com/
DENTIST IN BALI:	http://www.drsucipto.com
DENTIST DR (RUDY)	rudysalindeho@yahoo.com (Bali Dental Clinic)
GARUDA AIRLINES SITE:	http://www.garuda-indonesia.com/index.php
GARUDA HOLIDAYS:	http://www.balionanybudget.com.au/index.jsp
GPS NAVIGATION:	http://www.balinavigator.com
ONLINE TRANSLATOR:	http://www.toggletext.com/kataku_trial.php
LEARN SIMPLE PHRASES:	http://www.seasite.niu.edu/indonesian/percakapan/indonesia7days/indo7days_fs.htm
more SIMPLE PHRASES:	http://www.werple.net.au/~wreid/bali_lng.html
MAP BALI EAST COAST:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/eastcost.jpg
MAP BALI WEST COAST:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/west-bali.jpg
MAP DENPASAR:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/denpasar.jpg
MAP DENPASAR HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/denpasar.htm
MAP KUTA / LEGIAN:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/kutalegian.jpg
MAP KUTA & HOTELS:	http://www.wurli.com/wurli/bali/images/Maps/Bali-Map%20Kuta%20Area.jpg
MAP SANUR:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/sanur.jpg
MAP SANUR HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/sanur.htm
MAP UBUD:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/ubud.jpg
MAP UBUD HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/ubud.htm
MAP LOVINA HOTELS:	http://www.wurli.com/wurli/bali/images/Maps/Bali-Map%20Lovina%20Beach.jpg
MAP NUSA DUA-JIMBARAN:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/nusaduaijimbaram.jpg
MAP NUSA DUA HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/nusadua.htm
MAP CANDIDASA:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/candidasa.jpg
MAP CANDIDASA HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/candidasa.htm
MAP BEDUGAL HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/bedugul.htm
MAP JIMBARAN HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/jimbaran.htm
MAP KINTAMANI HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/kintamani.htm
MAP LEMBOKAN HOTELS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/roomfinder/lembongan.htm
MAP SEMINYAK:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/seminyak.jpg
MAP SINGARAJA-NTH BALI:	http://www.balitravelink.com/images/map/northcoastbali.jpg
MAP SINGARAJA HOTELS:	http://www.wurli.com/wurli/bali/images/Maps/Bali-Map%20Singaraja.jpg
MEDICAL CENTRE:	http://www.sos-bali.com/about_bali.php
MONEY EXCH RATE:	http://au.finance.yahoo.com/currency/convert?amt=1&from=AUD&to=IDR&submit=Convert
MY FAV ORPHANAGE:	http://www.carryforkids.org/schools/bali/salam.html
POWER PLUG ADAPTERS:	http://www.voltagevalet.com/country/all.html
PLUS SIZE CLOTHING:	http://www.balitravelforum.com/msg/76946.html
SANUR PLACES TO EAT:	http://sanurbeach.net/eatingout.htm
SANUR NIGHTLIFE & PUBS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/fastfinder/sanur/snightlife.htm
SANUR RESTAURANTS:	http://baliwww.com/bali/fastfinder/sanur/srestaurants.htm
SCHOOL DATES:	http://www.dest.gov.au/portfolio_department/calendar_dates/school_term_dates_2007.htm
SIZE CONVERSION CHART	http://www.coastshop.com.au/tourist/clothes_sizes.htm
SUBMARINE REEF TOUR:	http://www.submarine-bali.com
SURF REPORTS FOR BALI:	http://www.baliwaves.com/
TIME IN BALI NOW:	http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/city.html?n=761
TOUR OPERATOR DRIVER:	www.baliexplore.com/about_us.html
WILDLIFE AND ELEPHANTS	www.baliadventuretours.com
WHOLESALE WINE/SPIRITS	http://www.baliblog.com/travel-tips/bali-expats/wine-distributor-in-sanur-bali.html

NEVER GET LOST IN BALI AGAIN !







Bali Navigator
GPS Mapping Technologies

GPS Sales & Rentals - GPS Phone Maps

THINGS TO DO (and NOT TO DO) WHILE IN BALI**THE "TO DO" LIST**

- DO go to a Elephant park. (see above links)
- DO go to the Monkey Forest in Ubud
- DO take the kids to Waterbom Park...they'll have a ball
- DO get a Massage
- DO buy some copy DVD's
- DO buy a fake watch
- DO buy some fake perfume
- DO buy a leather jacket
- DO see a Barong or Kecak or Legong Dance
- DO see a shadow puppet show
- DO go to Ubud
- DO eat some Satay...no..... eat many satays...the best in the world
- DO go White Water Rafting
- DO buy some silver jewellery in Celuk
- DO drink some Bintang.....no..... drink much Bintang
- DO have an Arak Attack cocktail.....no.....have many cocktails
- DO buy a T-shirt with "Fu*k The Terrorists" printed on the front even if you never wear it again it will make you feel good.
- DO change money at the Kodak shops, and bank exchange tellers, the small back street guys aren't worth the risk.
- DO try a swim up bar in one of the resorts, it's heaps of fun.
- DO take sunblock and use heaps of it.
- DO go on the submarine tour (see link above)
- DO go to the Monkey forest in Ubud is beautiful, monkeys not to cheeky!
- DO ask first before you take a picture of somebody its common courtesy.
- DO go to Tanah Lot Temple and get "blessed" by the priests (check tides as this only happens at low tide)
- DO eat seafood at Jimbaran Bay
- DO see the black sand of Lovina Beach
- DO go to Poppies in Poppies Lane 1 for lunch (or dinner).
- DO try and go see the memorial to the bombings...a time to reflect...a time to remember...a time for respect...We Won't Forget
- DO take a trip to Mandala Garuda Wisnu Kencana Cultural Park the views are breathtaking and the size of the statues awesome.
Not many tourists get to see this attraction (don't be one of them).
See link: <http://www.baliblog.com/travel-tips/bali-daily/gwk-garuda-wisnu-kencana-on-the-bukit-in-bali.html>
- DO check out Filos Pages before you leave for the most comprehensive Bali information: www.filosbali.net
- DO go to Poppies Lane II to shop...you won't find better deals anywhere and won't have to leave this street to get just about anything you want or need
- DO smile at everyone who smiles at you....
- DO take all your spending money in cash!! Don't bother with a visa card in Bali...why ?? in Bali..... "CASH is KING".
- DO go on an ocean cruise, do go snorkelling and I highly recommend a trip up to Lovina Beach to see and feed the dolphins..
- DO go on volcano tour, and stop and have lunch at the crater rim....truly awesome views.
- DO get a fake tattoo just before you come home and freak out your mum/kids/hubby etc. They are great and really realistic!
- DO try Arak. Arak is a rice wine made over there, very potent (40% alcohol) don't drink too much of it, but it's a really great drink with fruit juice (punch)
- DO drink many Bintang. Bintang takes a couple to get used to but once you get the taste for itlookout !
- DO leave the air-conditioning on when you sleep cos it doesn't get cool at night like it does in Oz
- DO start your shopping in an area that is fairly busy (like Poppies Lane II or Legian st) they are not so desperate and hence not so scarily pushy.
- DO hire a "Blue Cab" for short distance travel – they are metered and so cheap half the time your tip will be more than the fare
- DO book you holidays for 10+ days...it takes 4-5 simply to unwind and get into "Bali Mode".
- DO post your JBR (Just Back Report) on the Bali Travel Forum (BTF) so that others can share your experience.

THE "NOT TO DO LIST"

- DONT step on the offerings on the footpath, please be respectful.
- DONT drive yourself anywhere - get a Driver and / or Guide
- DONT fall for the money changing magicians, they have all day long to practice their slight of hand. If you see an exchange rate from a money changer that looks too good to be true, then it probably is.
- DONT do anything in the resort (ie. use internet, hire DVD player burn CD's make phone calls) big rip off, you can get any of these things way cheaper in the shops.
- DONT freak out about the roads. There are road rules, even if they are less obvious, they are very good drivers/riders.
- DONT get sucked in by someone who calls out a price for some thing (especially if it sounds really cheap) once you show interest the price will start to go up. Pick what you want, ask the price, then start bargaining, anytime the process is any different to that, don't get yourself into it.
- DONT get stuck with hair braiding hawkers. Worst hawkers were the women wanting to braid hair in the street, they would grab our girls hair and are a lot harder to get away from, so get braided early on, cut it short or tie it up well. If a hawker says "I sell this watch for 350000 normally" say either "But I'm not Japanese" or "maybe to a first timer" they will laugh and realise you are not "an easy touch".. The Japanese tourists mostly just pay the first price, they hardly ever bargain. The Balinese are really nice genuine people, but they are only happy to sell something to you for too much if you are happy to pay too much, if you're not sure about a price, show your discomfort they will pick it up straight away and will become much more reasonable.
- DONT be afraid to go into a shop with a price in mind and if they wont give it to you for near that price walk away. There are no doubt a hundred shops with the same thing, so the next time you put your price up a little bit. Once the battering is over with usually they are so keen to get to know you and ask many questions.
- DONT forget to take a small medical kit. Include things like Aqua ear drops, and if possible a course of antibiotics (very expensive to get in Bali).

As you can see there are many...many...more DO's than DON'Ts in Bali.....and if it's your first holiday in Bali I will guarantee it won't be your last...once you make that first step you'll get "Hooked on Bali" just like the rest of us. (do I get the credit for coining that one Filo)...LOL.

DVD's

After advice on the BTF we placed our order with Helgi via email before we left for Bali and he supplied us about 300 DVD's and 150 PS2 Games. They are all great quality so we are totally satisfied. He is a really nice guy and also hires DVD's players at about a quarter of the price inside the hotels. Usually he has deals like buy 10 get 3 free / buy 100 get 30 free etc..... ask him. Check a list of titles available at: http://www.geocities.com/mcshop_bali/ His email address is: mcshop_bali@yahoo.com or at mcshop@hotmail.com send him a list before you go and he will deliver to your hotel room when you arrive (pay in rupiah). I have been dealing with Helgie now for several years and highly recommend his services and quality of merchandise.

PRINTING

Deka Graffika art design and printing for business cards, letterheads, labels, stickers, paper & plastic bags, tshirts, brochures, stubby holders etc..... They are down a lane off Jalan Padma...not far from the Melasti corner, heading towards Rama Gardens. ph/fax +62 361 766320 and mobile +62 81338678835 or email on: deka_suyadnya@yahoo.com.au

THE LAST WORD ON PRICING & SHOPPING

I have had mail from some experienced forumites who tell me that they have purchased some of the items on my list cheaper than I have quoted or that they can get transport a bit cheaper from this guy or that guy. But to those experienced Bali Travellers I ask one simple question "how much did you pay the 1st time you went to Bali". I think that most would agree, if you were a Bali Virgin again and you paid the prices that I have listed in this guide first up you would have to be pretty chuffed with yourself.... wouldn't you ?

When shopping the stalls and markets just adopt the friendly practice of saying no thank you (tidak!, terimah kasih) or sorry, no money (sing lapis). Be firm but sympathetically friendly. Keep walking as though you are on a mission. Don't look at the goods they are offering unless you are really interested. Keep your sunglasses on so they cannot see your gazing eyes. Keep your money in a bum bag draped in front of you, wallets in back pockets are real targets as is opened handbags, only take with you the money you intend to spend for that day plus say 20%. Some hawkers get too close and when they do it is time for you to move on. Walk off as though you are looking for something or someone you are with is up the road. Don't make promises like I will come back "maybe tomorrow" or "maybe later." You will regret it if you run into that person again, to them you had made a promise and they will hold you to it. Don't get into a slanging match with the hawkers if things get heated simply walk away. Don't be intimidated by them. Talk to them you will find that after the bargaining is over with they are very keen to chat and share a joke with you.

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

A very special thank you and huge credit goes to the many Bali Travel Forum (BTF) contributors (many that I have plagiarised) for making this list possible. I constantly troll the forum for news, recommendations, links and prices so please keep up with your JBR's (Just Back Reports) that is how we share our experiences on here.

Please make sure you take a look at Filo's Guide <http://www.filosbali.net> it is the ultimate and most comprehensive Bali information site on the net and it merely beginswhere I finish off.

I will keep this guide updated regularly and a current version of this guide is always available for download at: www.mybaliguide.com

I hope that this helps you to better enjoy your trip to the "ISLE of SMILES"

Happy Holidays in Bali

Cheers

Don



Information and travel guide for visitors to Bali

"All you ever wanted to know about Bali - but had no one to ask"

Checkout this website: www.mybaliguide.com

Bali
IS MY LIFE