

BALI INDULGENCE --- 01

A 10-DAY LUXURIOUS EXPLORATION OF BALI September 28-October 8 (In-Country)

Join us for an uplifting journey to Bali, a land of exquisite sites, charming people, and handmade treasures. Indulge yourself on this curated buying trip with Indonesian experts and experienced interior designers. Immerse yourself for 11 days and 10 nights on this enchanting island, experiencing Balinese arts and culture while nourishing your body and soul. Venture to Bali's heart, Ubud, travel inland to the exquisite picturesque rice terraces and verdant mountains, and conclude at fabulous Seminyak Beach. We'll help you create indelible memories and maybe even help you bring home some inner peace and a little Balinese serenity, along with some unique pieces to beautify your home.



BUYING IN BALI

We'll feature local guides and designer-led shopping excursions for Bali's most unique treasures, big and small. Indonesian experts will advise on pricing and quality, and negotiate with vendors on your behalf. Designers will work with your individual needs, addressing style, scale, and color for your home. Most importantly, we'll handle all aspects of shipping your purchases affordably back to Denver in a shared container. Buying stops will be established by the tour leaders based on their past experiences and contacts. Tour participants' special requests will of course be considered.



Tour Leaders

Shannon Avis has both degrees and work experience in interior design as well as tour management. She is currently the principal designer and owner of Cody and Co Interior Design. Having spent years traveling, curating goods for her boutique home store, and reflecting on interior spaces and nature's beauty, Shannon draws inspiration and meaning from the elements she's collected during her travels. She utilizes the many genres of design that inspire her, combining them in fresh and unexpected ways. Having led groups with Globus Tours, Shannon is now combining her love for travel, people, design, and spirituality in this special journey to Bali.

Rusty Staff is a renowned Asian travel specialist and also owns and operates DecorAsian, Denver's premier source for Fine Things Asian. Co-founder of Asia Transpacific Journeys – one of the preeminent Asia travel specialists in the US – he's organized and led trips throughout Asia, including many pioneering adventures. The incredible variety and quality of goods and textiles in the region drew Rusty into the import business. For the last 20 years, he's traveled to Bali on buying trips and developed extensive knowledge of Indonesian artifacts, furniture, and best of all, the intricacies of organizing container shipments back to the U.S. Rusty's expertise and engaging personality have helped to create invaluable relationships throughout Asia. Komang, our Balinese guide, is a most engaging soul, with a fabulous sense of humor, near native command of English, and boundless knowledge of all things Bali. During his 30 + years as a guide he has made and still counts as friends a plethora of people from all over the world. During the trip, Rusty and Komang will share the story of Komang's fateful visit to the U.S. in September, 2001.

OUR HOTELS



OUR HOTELS



To facilitate a relaxing journey, we will minimize “transitions” and stay in only three different properties. Two of the three are easily the best available in their respective locations—Munduk (in the mountains) and Seminyak Beach. The third property in Ubud, being of the small boutique variety, might not be considered five-star in one of those snooty travel publications, but it is absolutely five-star in terms of the experience, hospitality, and location. The Seminyak and Munduk properties are limited to rooms with king-sized beds and so we have priced in single rooms for all participants. There is a double/twin-room share deduction for members of a couple or anyone really, if you are OK with sleeping in one big bed.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Activities described as optional are not included in the tour cost. They will be at nominal cost on a ‘pay as you go’ basis, and generally will be a fraction of the cost that similar services/experiences would be at home in the US.

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Day 1 - Welcome to Bali

Land in paradise and meet your private guide for the scenic 1 hour scenic drive north to Ubud, the cultural heart of Bali. You'll then be escorted to your charming bungalow set amongst tropical gardens. Depending on your arrival time, you'll have time to unpack, relax, and join your fellow travelers and guides for a welcome dinner at a lovely local restaurant. You'll be presented with your own fabulous Balinese garments – a sarong, a kain, and batik head scarf – to be both fashionably and respectfully worn over your Western clothes when inside temples or observing any religious ceremonies we may encounter.

Day 2 - Unforgettable Ubud

After our orientation breakfast, we'll drive through verdant rice-fields and small villages to a fascinating furniture workshop where reclaimed remnants (roots and stumps) of long-ago harvested old-growth teak trees are crafted into fabulous tables, benches, and much more.

We'll see these rough-cut remnants transformed into chic live-edge masterpieces which you may purchase for pennies on the dollar. Next, we'll make a quick stop at a boisterous and colorful local market before settling down for lunch at a lovely local restaurant. On the way back to our hotel, we'll make a stop at a Balinese art/antique shop brimming with treasures from around the Indonesian archipelago before our mid-afternoon return. Enjoy some downtime at our serene oasis. Optional spa services are available if requested. For dinner, we'll stroll to the nearby Laka Leke restaurant for a private dinner and an exuberant Kechak dance.



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Day 3 - Monkeys and Markets

Monkey around time! After breakfast, we'll walk through the Monkey Forest Sanctuary. The resident macaques, seen as sacred animals, symbolize both protection and mischief, so hang on to your purses! Next, we'll explore the vast Ubud Art Market, where we'll haggle for more treasures before having lunch at one of our favorite al fresco restaurants. After lunch, we'll take a drive along Tegallalang road and explore various shops and workshops, including a fabulous woodcarving studio where you can see master-craftsmen at work and perhaps pick up something to be placed in our container. The remainder of the afternoon you may continue shopping or be dropped at an internationally known spa for Balinese treatments (optional). Late afternoon we'll drive through dramatic rice-fields to the scenic village of Petulu, where thousands of Javanese herons nest, before returning to Ubud for dinner at a renowned international restaurant.



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Day 4 - Cooking and Curating

Today we try our hand at a traditional Balinese cooking class, where we will immerse ourselves in the local culture through its cuisine. Following our culinary experience, we are off to browse unique antiques, housewares, and accessories. This evening we dine at the renowned Cafe Wayan, surrounded by lotus ponds and tranquil gardens. Early to bed in anticipation of tomorrow's sunrise adventure.



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Day 5 - *Hiking and Temples*

Cock-a-doodle-doo (if they're even up at this hour!) It's a 3:00 am departure for a true bucket list experience! We travel to Mount Batur for a rewarding and magical start to the day. We'll jeep and hike the active volcano to the summit all-the-while marveling at stunning panoramic mountain and Lake Batur views. A sunrise like no other! We will continue to take in the vistas while resting our bodies in the mountain hot springs. Next, we awaken our sense of taste with lunch at the Bali Handara Country Club before admiring the Ulan Danu Beratan Temple complex. We'll end our day tour at the magnificent Hanging Gardens Hotel in the picturesque forest-clad mountains. Relax for the late afternoon before we enjoy a special dinner at the hotel. (Note: Day 5 activities may be modified depending on local weather conditions).



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Day 6 - Rainforest, Waterfall and Village Experience

We'll take a beautiful morning hike through magnificent rainforest to a lovely rushing waterfall. After lunch, we'll have time to relax before departing mid-afternoon for Bulian, a typical traditional Balinese village, the home of our local guide. Our insider's experience will feature observing and participating in children's traditional dance and music classes, a visit to the 1,000 year-old village temple, and an enjoyable pig roast at our guide's home compound. The evening will be capped off with a lively join-in traditional music and dance session.



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Day 7 - Self-Care and Rice Terraces

Morning of leisure with options for yoga, spa, or just relaxing poolside. Later we'll travel for about one hour through small villages, rice fields, and clove plantations to the World Heritage site Jatiluwah Rice Terraces. We'll enjoy a beautiful and informative hike through this stunning landscape. On the way back, we'll stop at the colorful and lively Candi Kuning Highlands Market. This evening we will enjoy our dinner at our enchanting hotel.



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Day 8 - Countryside Shopping and Beautiful Beach

Today we travel through the countryside to Seminyak, home to some of Bali's most beautiful pristine beaches and top shopping destinations. Stops at stone carving villages, including Silakarang and Batubulan ('stone moon'), will lead us to an unforgettable lunch at a rice fields' edge restaurant. Our luxurious beachfront Oberoi Hotel (voted best hotel in the world by Travel and Leisure in 2023!) awaits where we will enjoy the rhythmic surf during our ocean-front dinner.



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Day 9 - *Spectacular Seminyak*



After breakfast, we'll browse the local wares in the Seminyak area. Seminyak's options are abundant and include contemporary baskets, lovely decor, stunning live edge furnishings, artwork, and much more. Following a delicious lunch, you are free to explore on your own or relax at the beach. This evening we will dine at the stunning beachfront restaurant, KU DE TA. Its infectious international vibe, with live music, will charm and mesmerize you late into the night, if you choose. Both Rusty and Shannon are no stranger to the night life, and so, if you wish to experience a bit of it, this is the time!

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Day 10 - Bali Bliss and Farewell Dinner

This morning, wake up and enjoy the beach, a spa treatment, or venture out to experience much that Seminyak has to offer. In the afternoon we'll don our traditional attire to visit cliff-side Ulu Watu Temple, one of Bali's five most important temples. We'll stay at Ulu Watu for sunset before heading to Jimbaran Beach for a delectable barbecue seafood dinner on the beach, where we'll also be soothed one last time by the sounds of the surf.

Day 11 - Homeward Bound

After your final breakfast in Bali, depending on your flight time, we'll transfer you to the airport for your journey home or arrange for some additional optional sightseeing or shopping.

Note: Activities identified as optional are not included in the land cost.



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Additional Information

Land Cost:

4-6 Participants: \$9,295

7-10 Participants: \$8,550

11-12 Participants: : \$8,295

Includes:

- Single accommodations at all hotels except Elevate Bali Hanging Gardens in Munduk (which will be twin share or double). If you would like single accommodations at Elevate, there will be a single supplement fee of \$750.
- Twin share or double accommodations can be arranged at both Alam Indah (in Ubud) and Oberoi (in Seminyak) for a reduction in land cost of \$850 per person.
- All meals & non-alcoholic beverages
- Airport transfers (with group or private depending on flight schedules)
- All activities listed and not designated as "optional"
- All transportation with group
- Professional buying facilitation with inclusion of your items in the container*
- Professional guides
- Balinese traditional garments (for temple visitations)
- Booking assistance for international flights
- Booking assistance for pre- or post-trip extensions if desired
- Cultural, Medical, and Packing guides
- Unlimited pre-trip consultation (Held virtually)
- Assistance in shopping for travel insurance (cost not included)

* Shipping and other acquisition costs will be added to your base cost for your purchases. We anticipate an 'acquisition cost' load of between 70-90% of the cost of your items. More details will be provided with the sign-up materials.
