

Magic of Bali 2026
Indonesia

Bali Trip – From May 18th to 27th, 2026

Bali is only one of more than 17,000 islands in Indonesia--the fourth most populous nation in the world. But this island, currently enjoying an Artistic Renaissance, must be one of the world's loveliest, rich in dramatic scenery, ancient temples, and graceful people. Bali remains one of the few places in the world where the traveler can explore and discover untouched places and witness exotic rituals that have not diminished with the passing of time. Every back road is a gateway to the heart of the Balinese people. This unique travel/learning experience invites the participant to live in the cultural center of Ubud, to meet the artists and dancers, to get to know the people and their customs, and to visit rituals and ceremonies in some cases far from the tourists' beaten path. This is a chance to learn about a fascinating and vibrant culture from the inside. A popular movie "Eat, Pray, Love" with Julia Roberts, displays some of the island's beauty. The itinerary presents multiple opportunities to learn about the spiritual traditions and practices of Hindi Culture. Each participant can embrace these spiritual teachings to the level at which they are comfortable; respect and open mindedness will always guide the learning process. Here is a list of scheduled adventures included in Bali.

- Travel international with a group of spiritually orientated, sober people.
- Participate in Yoga classes and dine on fresh healthy foods.
- Spend a day on a local beach to soak in some sun and enjoy the shops.
- Learn how to cook Balinese cuisine in a cooking class.
- Immerse yourself in the culture through local dance, mask and gamelan presentations.
- Take a day trip to the volcano countryside with lush jungle region.
- Join our host, Surya Made, in traditional healings and Hindu rituals.
- Visit sacred sites, temples, and ancient places of worship.
- Guided walks through villages, monkey forests, rice terraces, and tropical countryside.

Group Host and Leader

Made Surya could best be described as a Balinese Renaissance Man. He carves his own traditional masks, and has performed mask dance at many Colleges, Universities, and Museums, including the Asian and De Young in San Francisco. He has led culinary tours, been a guest chef at several restaurants, and his recipes are found in several cookbooks. Lonely Planet has declared him the local expert on Balinese traditional healers, and he has lectured and assisted numerous scholars and film crews on such subjects as Hindu religious rituals and practices, vocal music for ceremonies, traditional architecture, and herbal medicine. He is on the advisory board for Sacred Sites International and has been a contributor to Hinduism Today. Surya studied with one of Bali's most renown healers for 15 years and collaborated on a book about the experience: "A Balinese Self-Healing System."



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Traveling Costs for Bali Trip

This all-inclusive program lasts 10 days and costs \$3,700, which includes flights from New York City, Seattle or San Francisco (based on airfare and availability). Also included are all listed excursions and activities on the itinerary, all lodging, daily breakfast, yoga classes, all ground transportation, temple entrance fees, cultural and spiritual lectures, day-tours, cooking class that includes dinner, and licensed tour guides, yoga instructors, and healing practitioners. Flights departing from alternative cities in the USA may be possible but may vary the price.

Traveling Abroad

It is a timely and tedious excursion traveling from the USA to Bali but once you arrive, it will all be worth it. The cost of a Bali Visa on Arrival (VoA) is IDR 500,000 (approximately USD \$35), which is valid for 30 days and can be extended once for another 30 days. This fee can be paid in cash or by credit card upon arrival at the airport. In addition to the VoA, all tourists are required to pay a separate Balinese tourist levy of IDR 150,000 (approximately USD \$10) to protect Bali's culture and environment. Each participant will need a passport with a minimum of 6 months before the expiration date at the time of entry. The law does not require vaccinations, but those decisions are better to be consulted with your family's physician. Most people living in the United States have already been immunized against various diseases found in Indonesia. Booster shots against tetanus, measles, hepatitis A, typhoid fever, and polio are common recommendations. "Traveler's Flu" and diarrhea are common occurrences with any foreign travel. Antibiotics can greatly improve a possibly miserable situation (like a bus ride). We strongly recommend having your physician prescribe an antibiotic to help. The prescriptions need to be filled-in the United States prior to departure.

Trip Payment

Contact Peru Alive for an application packet. Return the completed packet with a payment in full of \$3,700 per person. At this point, Peru Alive will purchase your flights and transportation needs for the trip. An initial sum of \$1,700 is immediately used for transportation and lodging costs and is non-refundable. However, we do purchase your flight in your name with your own confirmation number. The airline ticket is yours to manage for seating, upgrades, meals, etc. You will be subject to the specific airline's refund policy, change fees, and ticket credit, should you cancel. The remaining balance of your full payment will be \$2,000 and is 100% refundable before February 15th; 50% refundable before March 30th; 0% refundable after March 30th, 2026. Please make payments to Peru Alive by direct bank deposit or PayPal (3day+ to avoid fees). All payment information will be sent directly to your e-mail when we receive and approve your application packet. The only guarantee for full or partial reimbursement, due to trip cancellation, is purchasing your own traveler's insurance policy. This is not required but certainly suggested. If you are choosing to include the Scuba Safari Add-On Trip, your payment will include an additional \$1,000.

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Lodging

During the trip, the group will be staying in a hotel in the traditional village of Nyu Kunning. Throughout the program, breakfast will be provided. A Bali cooking class is included. All lunches and dinners ARE NOT included. Our hotel provides a healthy menu and serve as a place to host group activities, yoga, and cultural lectures. Throughout the entire visit, there are restaurants, Wi-Fi hotspots, hospitals, 24- hour pharmacies, banks, ATMs, taxi transportation, and phones. The Ubud area is known to be safe for foreign travelers while still possessing a local feel. All lodging is based on double and triple occupancy rooms. **Single hotel occupancy requests will require an additional \$350 fee.**

Health Issues and Covid Concerns

The tourism industry has certainly changed since the pandemic. Peru Alive has made some adjustments to best accommodate unknown future factors of living in a post-pandemic era. If any member is to encounter a health ailment in which they cannot continue or contract Covid, they will be moved to an individual hotel room, close to adequate medical facilities, to quarantine and recover. A staff member will be assigned to help you through the healing. However, the traveler will assume all additional costs needed to stay safe. Reported on April 30, 2025, Indonesia remains on a Level II Travel Advisory: Exercise Increased Precautions. Bali is not on the list of Areas of Concern. You can follow more safety information and alerts for Indonesia at www.travel.state.gov.

Add-On Scuba Diving Safari – Additional fees apply.

From May 27th to June 2nd, this portion of the trip turns to South Pacific Scuba Diving. First, the group will take a boat to Nusa Lomongan for trench, drift, and coral dives. This area is most renowned for the unique Mola Mola, a giant sunfish. Returning back to the main island of Bali, the group heads to Amed for a day of ‘muck-diving’ for rare and unique micro-aquatic life-forms. This is followed by a full day diving on the USAT Liberty, which was a United States Army cargo ship torpedoed by in January 1942 and beached on the island of Bali, Indonesia. She had been built as a Design 1037 ship for the United States Shipping Board in World War II and had served in the United States Navy in that war as animal transport. This is actually a shore dive, where a past lava-flow pushed the grounded vessel just off the beach into approximately 60 feet of water. Finally, the group will van transport back to Denpasar for their international flight back to the USA. **This trip costs an additional \$1,000**, not including lunch and dinners. Included are 10 dives, gear, transportation and double occupancy hotel accommodations. Single occupancy will cost an additional \$200.

Traveling in Southeast Asia

There are walking tours, bus and van transports, that cover ground across Bali. Casual walking tours will require a moderate level of walking (3-4 hours) with multiple steps and stairs. There

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will be no trekking or camping involved on the Bali Tour. There will always be times to rest, hydrate, and eat during the tours. If anyone is feeling sick or fatigued, Peru Alive will plan to safely assist each participant through the itinerary or escort them back to their lodging. Bali weather consists of wet season from October through April. The months from May through September are considered perfect and is the height of tourist season. The average temperature ranges from 64 to 100°F. Humidity is always high. There are certain disabilities and medical conditions that would make Bali an unsafe travel destination. Please complete the application packet accurately and discuss any physical or mental concerns directly with Mick Stemborski. Peru Alive reserves the right to refuse services to any applicant who presents medical or mental issues that would deem this program unsafe or inappropriate to the individual or group as a whole.

Non-Alcohol Policy

Due to the spiritual nature of the program, cultural sensitivity, risks of sickness, and spiritual focus, alcohol and other substance-use is discouraged. This can be the source of multiple problems tourists experience abroad and never seems to enhance the experience our travelers are seeking. The reasons an individual prefers a “sober trip” may vary as long as the group can respect their preference by adhering to this policy.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance policies vary depending on the price of the trip, and the tier-level of coverage you want, from basic, to premier. Any policy you review will offer some form of emergency medical reimbursement, emergency evacuation reimbursement, lost luggage reimbursement, trip interruption stipends, and trip refunds for various pre-approved reasons depending on the tier. Only the highest tier and most expensive policies will offer a 100% cancellation refund for any reason. Travelex, Travel Guard, AAA, and Allianz Travel are some of the more popular travel insurance companies you can find on the internet. Every travel insurance website will ask the same basic questions; destination(s), travel dates, and age. These answers are set according to our itinerary. Next, they will ask how much your trip costs. This is the amount they will use to determine what percentage of trip refund you can collect, should you cancel the trip (for the pre-approved reasons). You do not have to list the actual price of the trip. You can start as low as \$50 trip cost, which allows you to receive medical coverage and other benefits for the lowest cost without any type of refund for cancellation. If you are seeking trip reimbursement for cancellation, you need to list the actual amount of \$3,700 to assure the higher refund amounts and reimbursement rates. Once you have entered this information, you will get multiple quotes for various tiers of coverage. Any emergency medical cost you accrue abroad needs to be paid out-of-pocket before you leave the medical provider’s facility. This is why a credit card is essential for travel emergencies. When you return home, you submit a claim for your medical and emergency bills to the travel insurance claims department. Reading the fine print of any

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insurance policy will inform the holder of what services are covered. Peru Alive can not assist with this process and make no guarantee of refund. Peru Alive cannot assist with claims and has no influence in refund amounts.

Additional Costs Not Included

Additional costs NOT included in the program are bottled water, personal gear expenses, gifts and souvenirs, personal snacks, any medical or emergency needs, Covid or any Medical Action Plan expenses, visa and cultural preservation fees, traveler's insurance, tips for local guides and staff, hotel upgrades, single lodging occupancy, airline meals and layovers, transportation to and from international flight, and, all lunches and dinners throughout the trip. Food can be affordable in Bali when avoiding expensive tourist establishments. Mealtimes allow participants to get some free time and explore on their own. One scheduled Free Day does not include meals, transports, or activities.

How to Apply

Step 1: Once you receive the application packet, please complete and sign with all the information requested. We can email an application, or you can find it at www.peru-alive.com. Enrollment is now open and there are limited seats. All information provided is kept in privacy and is relevant to your safety and well-being while traveling abroad. You can submit your application by email to mickstem@hotmail.com or by text if you don't have access to a computer. When your application is reviewed and approved, Peru Alive will send you an invoice and payment information for a direct bank transfer (free) or by PayPal (3+ day transfer), in the amount of \$3,700 per person (add \$350 for single occupancy). Inform Peru Alive if you plan on attending the Scuba Safari for an additional \$1,000. **Payment in full is required to hold your reservation.**

Step 2: Flight information, updates, travel tips, gear list, and useful information will be distributed by e-mail to help prepare for the adventure. Group participants will be invited to an informal meet-and-greet sometime in August (TBA). This meeting is highly encouraged but NOT mandatory.

Trip Facilitator and Lead Guide

Mick Stemborski discovered the wonders of Bali on a personal trip in the 2000s. Mick operates Peru Alive, a Cultural Immersion Traveling Program and Study Abroad Program for higher education. He holds a master's degree in professional counseling and is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor. His under-graduate Degree is in Business Recreation and Leisure. Mick has been developing unique programs that introduces various groups and students to the cultural wonders of the world. He has the honor of working with many amazing people around the world and cherishes these friendships.

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Money Abroad

Probably the most common question when traveling to developing countries. Here is a basic suggestion. Bring 3 forms of money. Start with a Visa or Mastercard. This can be used for bigger purchases or emergencies. Second, bring an ATM card. This will provide the best exchange rates and can be replaced if lost. Lastly, bring a few hundred US dollars in cash and keep for back-up when there are no ATMs or power outages. You can put this away for unexpected situations. Please: keep your passport and major means of currency on your person.

Final Thoughts

The program requires extensive traveling by plane, walking, and van. The lighter the pack, the easier the traveling can be. Please, do not exceed the gear list recommendations unless you have special needs. If you require additional supplies or clothing, local merchants sell all goods at extremely low prices compared to the United States. A mild to moderate degree of physical activity is required to participate in the itinerary. Please, remember life is different outside the United States. The level of services, degree of modern infrastructure, time management and local cuisine may not be what Americans are accustomed to. This is all part of the “international experience.” All program meals, transports and sleeping accommodations will be safe, adequate, and reflect the cost of the program. Thank You.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
May 18 Mon	USA - Denpasar – Arrive May 19 +1 Day Arrival
May 19 Tue	Introduction to Bali Culture – Check in to hotel AM: Village of Nyu Kunning PM : Tour Ubud - Customs
May 20 Wed	Introduction to Balinese Arts AM: Lecture, Walking Tour PM: Dance & Exhibit/Performance
May 21 Thurs	Ubud – Bargaining and Markets AM: Lecture, Market, Gamalan PM: Yoga 1, Gamelan Performance
May 22 Fri	Beach Day AM: Full Day on Beach PM: Return to Hotel, Yoga 2
May 23 Sat	Ubud – Healing Practices AM: Ceremony & Rites of Passage PM: Yoga 3, Dance Performance
May 24 Sun	Volcano Countryside Tour AM: All-Day Tour PM: Start Free-Day
May 25 Mon	Free Day - Breakfast Included All activities, meals, and transports not included
May 26 Tue	Final Day – Food and Cooking Course AM: Traditional Market PM: Closing Dinner
May 27 Wed	Departure – Denpasar to USA AM: Transport to Denpasar International Airport
May 27-June 2	Scuba Diving Safari – 10 dives at 3 premier locations

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