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Do Not Miss Beautiful Ubud For Your Bali Vacation

By Made Dertha

What is it about Ubud that one should visit this beautiful village? Because Ubud has much to offer;

from its stunning panorama of Ayung River valley and the terraces rice field, its most talented artist, its typical traditional market and myriad of shops that line the road is a heaven for shopping, its undying culture, its serene environs and plentiful of nice small hotels and restaurants and many more.

Ubud has no great beaches to speak of, no mountain lakes, and no grand hotels. Yet it has the richness of soil and it is the center of Bali's art and culture. If you don't stay in Ubud, or you don't have much time during your Bali Holiday, a visit is worth because it would offer you a memorable stay in Bali.

Driving out of bustling Denpasar, the tranquil green of rice paddies contrast sharply with the boisterous sounds of the city. Palm-leaf carvings of Dewi Sri (the Rice Goddess) guards over the crops, and small thatch huts dot the rice fields, giving shade to those who work them. Temples and small shrines can be seen along the way, women lay out offerings of flowers, rice, incense and holy water to placate evils spirits and please the good one. Even with the great influx of tourism, village life basically goes on the same. Almost every village on the way up to Ubud specializes in some kind of art form. You can stop off and see the artisans at work in their studios.

Many places near Ubud make beautiful side trips. Morning walk through the villages lead to out-of-the-way retreats. The route to Tegalalang offer beautiful views of terraces rice field and myriad of art studios, Mas, Penestanan and Peliatan, the centers of wood carving and painting, Sayan offer a stunning panorama of Ayung River valley and still home to spectacular view of gorges and palms and rice fields. Campuhan , the place where three rivers meet - a sacred site. There is a very beautiful temple called Pura Gunung Lebah is worth a visit.

To the north is Petulu village is known for many things but the most spectacular is the kokokan or white herons. Every morning at dawn and the afternoon around three or four o'clock, you can see them circling the trees in droves.

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To the south a short walk you will arrive at Monkey Forest. To visit it, one must buy a ticket. There are hundreds of tame monkeys and a temple stands in the middle of the forest. In the center of town the interesting places to see are the Puri (the court of palace of former kings), here every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock dozen of young girls study traditional Balinese dance. Ubud main market just opposite the Puri offer varieties of merchandises; Produce, dry goods, linens, T-shirts, paintings, wood carvings, even traveling medicine men appear here. Closed to market you can visit Puri Lukisan (Museum of Paintings). Established in 1954, it is dedicated to showing the works of local painters. It is the excellent place to get an overview of the stylistic differences between artists.

Ubud is a picturesque township and visitors have been attracted by its charm and beauty for decades. If shopping is your interest, Ubud has a myriad of shops which line the road to Monkey Forest and the Museum Puri Lukisan. Don't forget to bargain!!! If art is your interest, in Ubud, Mas and Peliatan, one can study dance, music, painting or a number of other art forms. The best way to meet a teacher is to find a style that appeal to you (by going to galleries and watching performances) and then approach the artist directly about lessons.

While you are in Ubud and need more complete information, you can visit Bina Wisata a local Tourism Bureau. It prepare map of Bali and Ubud. There is a massage board, small book store and a printing press on the premises. It's about 500 m past the market.

Waka Namya Resort is a nice place to stay. It offers free luxury shuttle service to the center of town and to the Rudana Museum and Arts Gallery; it is one of the best galleries in Ubud. It also offers a free tracking to the rice field. Excellent service and very friendly staffs. I know the manager very well, so I send many guests to this resort. Waka di Ume, Komaneka, Santi Mandala Resort and Maya Ubud are also very nice place to stay. For more affordable accommodation you can choose Ubud Sari; small, charming and rustic ambience. It has a complete Spa and Beauty Salon service, Yoga, Chiropractic, Healing Week in Bali Program. Raw Health Food Program and Colonic Hydrotherapy.

So Ubud has many attractive objects can be seen for your Bali Vacation. And do not hesitate to choose beautiful Bali for your holiday. Bali is a small, beautiful island in Indonesia, the ultimate tourist destination in Asia.

The quickest and easiest way to find Bali hotels at your destination is to go online and visit a hotel reservation website. Do a search for Bali you are traveling to and you will be presented with a list of available hotels in Bali, Choose your preferred Bali Hotels.

Made Dertha was an English and Italian tour guide for many years in Bali, writes for Bali Turista Tours where he is the Managing Director now. Bali Turista is focusing on Bali hotels and villas reservation. Just visit

<http://www.baliturismo.com>

and

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Bali's Islands And Natural Treasures

By Naldo Camarones

Thinking about traveling to somewhere different on your next vacations? Then here is an interesting option for you: Bali.

Bali is found in Indonesia and is arguably one of the most beautiful and peaceful tourist resorts on earth. People enjoy visiting Bali because unlike other tropical destinations, Bali hasn't been broken into an array of hotels and water front resorts. The people of Bali take pride in their land and exhibit this in many ways.

One way that they do this is through their art. Local art is a cornerstone of life in Bali and it's also one of the first things most tourists notice. Everything from paintings to woodwork can be found in Bali. Dance is also a fundamental part of life in Bali and it's not uncommon to see local people engaged in a ritualistic dance.

The people who live in Bali don't normally speak English which can make the stay interesting for those who only speak the language. They speak Balinese but when staying at a hotel you will have the ability to converse in English with the staff. The native tongue is lovely to listen to though.

The water around Bali is pure heaven. You can stand near the edge and look out onto a sea of brilliant blue among the coral reefs. If you are particularly adventurous you can even arrange to travel by boat out into the water.

One of the most amazing sights you'll witness while in Bali is the serene beaches. Much of the sand in Bali is white. For someone venturing there from North America, where the sand is a dingy brown, this is a delight. Not to be outdone, there are also beaches in Bali, mainly in the southern regions that boast black sand.

Traveling around Bali can prove to be an adventure. Transportation is fast and efficient in the urban areas but when you wander into the more rural settings you'll find yourself faced with an unending maze of country roads. These are best left to the natives as they know how to navigate from point a to point b without getting lost. You can arrange for a private tour of the islands of Bali and if you have the resources to do this, it's a wonderful way to fully experience the area.

The people of the islands of Bali are very cordial. They welcome visitors and you'll often find them sitting selling their wares.

It's been said that once you visit Bali it's very difficult to leave. The pure beauty of the surroundings and the climate make it a tiny corner of serenity. If you get a chance to visit the islands of Bali don't let the opportunity pass you by.

Read more from this author at:

<http://www.travelviaje-magazine.com>



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