

Jawa

ADVENTURE BY RAIL

Trains, Temples and Volcanoes

Saturday 28th April — Tuesday 15th May 2018
With Bob Daniel

• JAKARTA • BANDUNG • YOGYAKARTA • BOROBUDUR • LOSARI • AMBARAWA • SOLO •
• MADIUN • MALANG • MT BROMO • JEMBER • KALIBARU • UBUD •



Scott McGregor's

RAILWAY ADVENTURES

OVERVIEW

Java is the richest, lushest and most densely populated of Indonesia's countless islands. Its diverse landscape ranges from towering volcanoes to dense rainforest, manicured rice paddies and vibrant cities. Our train adventure explores this 1000km long island starting in Jakarta and travelling through Bandung, Yogyakarta, Solo and Mt Bromo in the east where we take a short ferry trip to Bali. This is a unique tour that includes many cultural highlights, exclusive visits, private train experiences and opportunities to mix with the friendly people of this amazing island. Our journey ends in Ubud at a luxurious resort nestled in the lush tropical rain forest. This tour really does explore the undiscovered gem that is Java.

WHY TRAVEL WITH US

The joy of travelling is no longer confined to the destination—the mode of travel is a large part of the experience. Railway Adventures offers a truly unique perspective on some of the world's most spectacular holiday destinations, with the assurance that the journey is just as magical and unforgettable as what is discovered at the end of the line.

With us, you can confidently expect:

- **Small group sizes** — a maximum of 20 passengers per trip guarantees an intimate experience with less time spent queuing, more time with your guide, and better access to sightseeing destinations.
- **Unique itineraries** — each itinerary has been meticulously developed by a team with great cultural awareness and many years' knowledge of each destination. You are guaranteed to experience the best that each destination has to offer.
- **Authentic local experiences** — whether it's a little-known yet impressive steam railway, a small boutique hotel or an authentic restaurant, know that you will experience something special on our tours.
- **Expert local guides and local operators** — we employ local guides to share their passion and knowledge of the places they call home, while our partners on the ground offer us support and backup all the way.
- **Customer satisfaction** — our testimonials speak for themselves. Thousands have travelled with us over the years and many come back year after year, often bringing friends along! On our customer satisfaction ratings, over 97% would recommend us to others and/or travel with us again.
- **Fully escorted** — our team of tour leaders is experienced and capable, entertaining and considerate, and together with our local guides, has your needs well covered. They will help with everything along the way, giving you the peace of mind to soak up your surroundings. And you'll find them jolly good company to boot!

Javanese Puppets

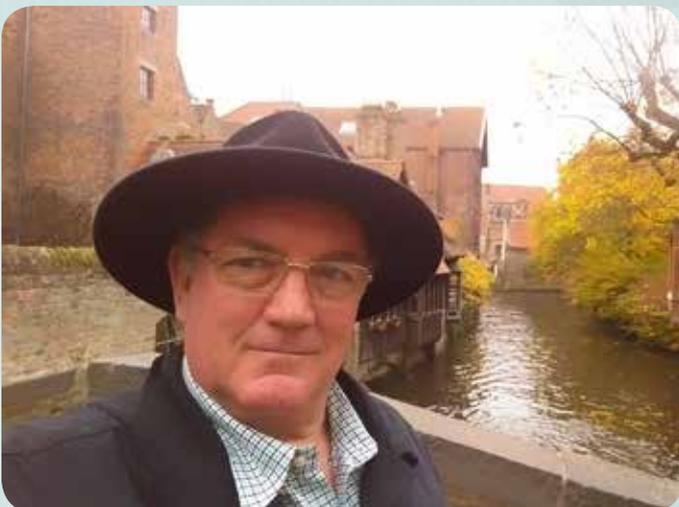


MEET YOUR TOUR LEADER

BOB DANIEL has been fascinated with trains all his life, his father having engineered the construction of many of the famous Australian trains during the 1950's and 60's such as the Southern Aurora and The Sunlander. Bob is also the founder and original owner of Guidepost Tours nearly 40 years ago, which now operate niche market tours to many destinations around the world. He regularly travels by rail on local trains throughout South East Asia and many other countries, discovering how the spread of rail routes has led to the development and enhancement of culture and life in rural communities and cities, even in undeveloped regions.

Bob has travelled to Indonesia many times. This has given Bob an in-depth knowledge of the Indonesian Archipelago and an appreciation of which trains are a must to experience, the most scenic routes, and how to use a mix of train travel and other transport modes to feel the love for the country, the people and the culture.

Whilst still involved with the development of itineraries for Guidepost Tours and Railway Adventures, Bob is heavily involved with Heritage Rail Groups in New South Wales, is qualified in Rail Safety and Track Awareness, and travels regularly on steam and diesel tours as train manager or in other capacities.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Unique transport including 3 private train charters, an ox cart ride through a local village, a lorry (rail trike) tour through the tropical coffee & spice jungles of East Java, steam train rides in Ambarawa and Solo and a ferry to Bali
- Guided tour of the world UNESCO heritage sites of Borobudur and Prambanan
- A visit to the smouldering volcano of Tangkuban Perahu and an option to view sunrise over volcanic Mt Bromo
- Tour the PT INKA workshops in Madiun where Indonesian Rail build their locomotives and carriages
- Cultural experiences such as batik making, leather puppet making, traditional musical instrument demonstrations and a Ramayana Ballet performance

TOUR MAP



Mt Bromo

HOW YOU WILL TRAVEL

Being rail enthusiasts we know that the journey itself is often more important than the destination. Wherever possible we have sourced interesting and nostalgic rail journeys and other noteworthy modes of transport. Here is an example of what you will experience:



Argo Wilis Rail



Becak in Yogyakarta



Steam Train at Ambarawa

Day 1 • Saturday 28 April: Arrival Jakarta

Selamat datang di Jakarta! Welcome to Jakarta!

After checking in to your hotel there will be time to relax before gathering for the Welcome Dinner with Bob and your fellow travellers. Our hotel in Central Jakarta has 23 acres of tropical gardens and extensive recreational facilities. Why not arrive a day or too earlier to relax before the tour.

Overnight: Hotel Borobudur, Jakarta (D)

Day 2 • Sunday 29 April: Jakarta

This morning we have a city tour of the Durian city of Jakarta. We visit the Museum National featuring a collection of more than 140,000 items spreading from a wide range of subjects. Afterwards proceed to Batavia Train Stations (Jakarta Kota) for a short visit. Visit Taman Prasasti Museum. Later we visit Fatahillah Square with its paved cobblestones before walking along the historical Kali Besar Barat, lined with Dutch architecture before visiting the Wayang Kulit, or Shadow Puppet Museum.

Lunch is served at Batavia Café, set in a 200-year-old building on the north-western corner of Fatahillah Square.

After lunch we head to Sunda Kelapa Harbour housing a range of Buginese Phinisi Schooners which unloaded goods from across the archipelago – the largest fleet of commercial sailing ships in the world today. Thought to be operational since before the 13th century, the port is a fascinating location that preserves the history of Jakarta. Finally we stop at the national monument, MONAS, and Mosque Istiqlal for a photo stop.

Overnight: Hotel Borobudur, Jakarta (B,L)

Day 3 • Monday 30 April: Jakarta - Taman Mini Indonesia Indah – Bandung

After breakfast we make our way to Taman Mini Indonesia Indah (literally translated: “Beautiful Indonesia Miniature Park”), a cultural themed Indonesian tourist park in East Jakarta spread over 150 hectares. Here we will get to know Indonesian cultures from the 33 provinces of Indonesia. We will also view the Indonesian Museum of Transportation with a large collection of steam locos and other vehicles.

Lunch is at a local restaurant.

Later in the afternoon we transfer to Gambir Train Station for check-in on The Kereta Wisata (our chartered train) to Bandung. The journey takes about 3hrs. Upon arrival in Bandung Train Station, we transfer to our hotel.

Overnight: Padma Hotel, Bandung (B,L)

Day 4 • Tuesday 1 May: Bandung – Tangkuban Perahu - Bandung

After breakfast we proceed to Tangkuban Perahu, a smouldering 2000 metre wide volcano. Start with a walk around the main crater, Kawah Ratu and then onto a natural Ciater (hot springs) with time for a dip. Lunch is at a local restaurant.

Later we drive back to Bandung stopping for a visit at the Saung Angklung Udjo workshop, a venue aimed at preserving the rich culture of Java. We'll see an energizing performance of Angklung (traditional bamboo instruments) and dancing by village students and then we can try our hands at playing this instrument.

Overnight: Padma Hotel, Bandung (B,L)

Day 5 • Wednesday 2 May: Bandung – Yogyakarta

Awake early for breakfast and check out of our hotel. We transfer to Bandung's railway station and board the morning train to Yogyakarta. This is a 7 hour journey so is served on board the train. Upon arrival in Yogyakarta at around 4pm our local guide greets us and transfers us to the hotel for check in.

Overnight: Royal Ambarrukmo Yogyakarta (B,L)

Day 6 • Thursday 3 May: Yogyakarta

This morning after breakfast we are picked up by our tour guide and driver. We visit the Sultan's Palace (Kraton), built between 1756 and 1790. It is a fine example of traditional Javanese sultanate architecture. As we walk through the various rooms and chambers, we will learn more about this aspect of Javanese heritage and culture.

We continue with a becak (bike taxi) ride to the adjacent Taman Sari water palace and garden. This addition to the royal complex was built over 200 years ago by the first Sultan with bathing pools for his harem.

Next we make our way to a small “home-factory” where Java's iconic Wayang Kulit leather puppets are made and the entire process is explained to you followed by a short performance. Afterwards we go to the nearby Batik “home-factory” where you see the local women make these colourful textiles.

Lunch will be served in a local restaurant, followed by a visit to the Sonobudoyo Museum and a stroll along Jl. Malioboro, the main street of Yogyakarta full of shops and local street vendors. After being transferred back to the hotel, the remainder of the day is free at leisure.

Overnight: Royal Ambarrukmo Yogyakarta (B,L)



Prambanan Temple near Yogyakarta

Day 7 • Friday 4 May: Yogyakarta - Prambanan – Bugisan Village – Yogyakarta

This morning our driver and tour guide will bring us to the main highlight in Yogya, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Prambanan. This ancient Hindu temple compound is one of the biggest in South-East Asia and was built in the 9th century. Our tour guide will explain the history and symbolism of the temples as you walk around.

The next visit is to the nearby traditional village of Bugisan where our friendly local hosts will pick us up by ox-cart and take us to their village passing the intriguing Plaosan temple complex. We are welcomed into a traditional house for refreshing tea and some local snacks before continuing by ox-cart. Call in at the house of the Jamu maker and see how the colourful bottles of herbal medicines are concocted. Try a glass of the healing drink to treat your ailments! Watch how the Javanese snack called 'emping' is made and try playing the gamelan, a traditional Indonesian instrument, together with the ladies of the village.

Lunch is served in a local restaurant. Back to the hotel for a freshen up before heading out for the evening to enjoy a special dinner and the spectacular Ramayana Ballet performance in an open air theatre with Prambanan Temple as the backdrop.

Overnight: Royal Ambarrukmo Yogyakarta (B,L,D)

Day 8 • Saturday 5 May: Yogyakarta – Borobudur - Losari

This morning after a leisurely breakfast we are picked up by our tour guide and coach for the drive to Borobudur. Explore this famous Buddhist Temple of Borobudur, a UNESCO world heritage site comprised of thousands of volcanic and river stone blocks. There is ample time to explore and photograph this ancient temple built in the 8th century and the largest Buddhist temple in world.

Lunch is served in a local restaurant before continuing with a visit to Candi Mendut and Candi Pawon temples nearby Borobudur. Older than Borobudur, the pyramid-shaped temple houses three impressively carved stone statues. Pawon was built during the Sailendra dynasty in the 8th & 9th centuries and is older than Borobudur. Afterwards we drive north through Magelang to our "plantation" hotel in Losari.

Overnight: MesaStila, Magelang (B, L)

Day 9 • Sunday 6 May: Losari - Ambarawa – Losari

This morning we visit Ambarawa Railway Museum. This museum has a collection of steam locomotives dating from early 20th century. Some of them are still in working order. Established in 1976, the railway museum utilises the 1873 Dutch built railway station to store some of the last steam locomotives that saw regular service. A few of the locomotives displayed here are the sole survivors of their type. After visiting the museum we will take a trip behind a steam locomotive from Ambarawa to Tuntang and return. Our excursion takes us along beautiful Lake Rawa Pening, a source of power, irrigation, and flood control, and is used for fishing and recreational activities.

Lunch is served in a local restaurant. We then travel back to our resort and the rest of the day is at leisure. Take a swim, schedule a massage or explore the plantation.

Overnight: MesaStila, Magelang (B, L)

Day 10 • Monday 7 May: Losari – Solo

Start today with a walking tour at the Mesa Stila coffee plantation. Our guide explains everything you need to know about the quality organic Robusta coffee grown on the property as you walk through the fields. At the coffee shed you'll witness traditional techniques of roasting and grinding the beans. Then, amid the plantation, you'll stop to enjoy a tasting session of coffee as well as jamu, Javanese herbal drinks. You will also see the organic vegetables and tropical fruits grown on site. Afterwards we will travel to Solo city, lunch will be served en-route. We visit the batik Museum of Danar Hadi, the biggest in Indonesia, containing a 10,000 piece collection from different cultural periods – Javanese, Chinese, Indian and Dutch. After check in at our hotel. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure.

Overnight: Alila Solo (B,L)

Day 11 • Tuesday 8 May: Solo - Madiun

Today we'll have a Solo city tour with a special steam tram journey. Trundling through the heart of the city, the Jaladara steam train (built in Germany in 1896) is a fun morning excursion in carriages with Victorian-style wood fittings. The trip (with English-speaking guide) starts at Purwosari train station (3km west of centre). Lunch is served before departing for Madiun, East Java.

Overnight: Aston Madiun (B,L)

Day 12 • Wednesday 9 May: Madiun

Today we have a special tour of the PT INKA, where Indonesian Rail build their locomotives and carriages for the nationwide network as well rolling stock for other Asian countries and our own Queensland Rail. The train industry is the main tourism attraction and industry in Madiun city. As of mid-1970s, steam locomotives are no longer used in Indonesia so the defunct workshop was converted into a railway rolling stock manufacturing. PT INKA is also pioneering the production of a national car called GEA (short for Gulirkan Energi Alternatif) and a prototype was created in 2008.

The rest of the day is free at your leisure.

Overnight: Aston Madiun (B)

Day 13 • Thursday 10 May: Madiun – Malang

This morning we transfer to the train station for our journey to Malang. We are scheduled to depart at around 10.30am and arrive in Malang 5 hours later. Our guide will accompany us on the journey as we travel through this rich agricultural region. Lunch is served on the train.

Upon arrival in Malang, our local driver will transfer us to our hotel, the Tugu Park, which is listed as one of the world's 100 most beautiful hotels. The public rooms are adorned with priceless works of art and antiques. Tugu Hotels' founder, Anhar Setjadibrata, once upon a time a medical student-turned-lawyer, and now the owner of the biggest collection of fine Indonesian art and cultural antiquities in Indonesia, designed these beautiful boutique museum hotels to house his antiques and to share with the world the romantic stories and legends of ancient kingdoms of Indonesia.

Overnight: Hotel Tugu Malang (B,L)

Day 14 • Friday 11 May: Malang - Bromo

This morning after breakfast we will take a walking orientation tour of Malang which has many grand colonial-era buildings. Prized by the Dutch for its mild highland climate, the city retains much of its colonial architecture. We'll cruise past historic sites and local markets (bird and flower) the small Brawijaya Museum with displays of the military history of East Java from the mid-20th century, before finishing at the city Cathedral. Lunch is at a local restaurant.

Afterwards we continue the drive towards Mt Bromo, via a stop on the way at the Singosari Hindu temple dating from the 13th century. We proceed through the very scenic road up to Bromo-Tengger National Park. Upon arrival at the hotel, check-in and enjoy time at leisure so we are well rested for the very early start of our excursion tomorrow morning.

Overnight: Jiwa Jawa Bromo (B,L)

Day 15 • Saturday 12 May: Mt Bromo – Jember

(OPTIONAL ACTIVITY \$95pp.) A very early wake up this morning for the start of our program. We travel by 4WD jeep to a spot with stunning views of the Bromo volcano and surroundings. Watch the sun rise from behind the volcano in Penanjakan as the mist rises from the valleys. Continue by jeep down to the volcano caldera, often still covered by mist in the early morning. The mist, combined with the grey ashen-covered ground form to create an unusual atmosphere, often compared to the surface of the moon. We walk or ride on horses to the crater and take stairs which lead to the rim of the still-active Bromo Volcano crater. Return by horse and jeep to the hotel for breakfast.

After leaving Bromo mid-morning, we continue through spectacular country via Probolinggo to Jember. This is a long day of driving but through some amazingly scenic areas. A lunch stop will be made at a local restaurant en-route as well as breaks and photo stops along the way. We arrive in the hotel in Jember for check in late afternoon.

Overnight: Hotel Aston Jember (B,L)

Day 16 • Sunday 13 May: Kalibaru – Ketapang

This morning we travel to Kalibaru. Our highlight today is a lorry tour through plantations of cacao, coffee and spices. The “lorries” are small track inspection rail vehicles which travel along the main lines where we get a different view of the tropical Gunitir Valley and Mount Mrawan This is an adventurous tour through a mountainous part of East Java with its romantic views, entering two tunnels, respectively 684 and 113 metres long, and passing one of the longest hanging bridges in Java, 200 metres long and 80 metres above a deep valley and ravine.

Lunch will be served at a local restaurant in Kalibaru. After the tour we continue by coach to Banyuwangi at the eastern tip of Java.

Overnight: Ketapang Indah Hotel (B,L)

Day 17 • Monday 14 May: Banyuwangi – Gilimanuk - Ubud

After breakfast we drive to Ketapang Harbour and check-in at the ferry terminal before crossing the Bali Strait to the island of Bali. We will then continue by road to Ubud. Along the way we stop at Brahma Vihara Arama, an impressive mini replica of Borobudur located on a mountain hillside affording wonderful views of the northern coastline.

After lunch in Lovina, we visit Ulun Danu Beratan Temple, the most iconic landmark in Bali and a significant temple complex located on the picturesque shore of Beratan Lake in Bedugul. The Bedugul area is a favourite cool upland retreat region in one of the most scenic parts of Bali.

Tonight’s farewell celebration dinner and overnight stay is at the Komaneka at Bisma Resort, a very unique luxury hotel with views of the Campuhan River, coconut plantations and rice fields. - all just a 10-minute walk from Ubud’s main street.

Overnight: Komaneka at Bisma, Ubud (B,L,D)

Day 18 * Tuesday 15 May: Ubud

Breakfast at the resort and morning at leisure transfer to Denpasar Airport for your departure flight. We are happy to arrange for you to extend your stay at Komaneka at Bisma or elsewhere in Bali. Call us to discuss the many options.

(B)

PRICE	Per person twin share.....	\$5,949	Deposit (per person)	\$1000 at time of booking
	Single supplement.....	\$1,389	Final payment due by	28 February 2018

INCLUSIONS

- 17 nights’ accommodation in centrally located 4 to 5 star quality hotels
- Breakfast daily, 15 x lunches and 3 x dinners (excluding drinks)
- All transport mentioned in the itinerary
- Comprehensive sightseeing with expert local guides
- Excursions / entrance fees to attractions listed in the itinerary

Indonesian Railways - Central Highlands



Rice farming - Central Java



EXCLUSIONS

- International airfares
- Airport transfers on arrival and departure (contact our office for options)
- Excursions / entrances listed as optional in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature e.g. telephone, laundry, mini bar

SUGGESTED FLIGHTS

We have suggested flights for this itinerary depending on your departure point from Australia, any preferred stopovers en-route and/or your planned pre- and post-tour activities. We can also investigate your preferred airline and offer you a solution based on connection times and prices. Contact 1300 733 323 to discuss your options.

HOW TO BOOK

Download a booking form from our website and follow the easy steps to getting on board. Alternatively, contact Platinum Travel & Tours on 1300 733 323 or enquiries@platinumtravel.com if you'd prefer a form be sent to you.

Complete the form and submit it, along with your \$1000 pp deposit to secure your place on the tour.

DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

We endeavour to have all the details of our tours correct at the time of printing. However, sometimes factors beyond our control may affect the final inclusions and prices. These factors may include, but not be limited to; significant fluctuations in currency exchange rates, individual hotel/restaurant decisions that may affect bookings; weather events forcing a change of itinerary; unexpected trackwork on rail lines, unexpected closure of site attractions and so forth. Therefore, items mentioned in the brochure such as quoted prices, hotels and inclusions are subject to change. If a change is imposed on us, we will endeavour to ensure the substitute is of the same quality that you've paid for.

TOUR PACE / LEVEL OF FITNESS:

Our itineraries are designed to make the most of each destination, so a reasonable amount of activity is built into most days, which is why we call them adventures. Our philosophy is to offer you the best experience possible, while leaving you, our guest, the flexibility to pace yourself and choose how much or how little you want to do. Each Railway Adventures tour incorporates periods of free time for your own exploration and relaxation. While you don't need to be a 'gym junky', a reasonable level of fitness is required for most of our tours.

The ability to manage your own luggage, get on and off all manner of trains and coaches, walk for extended periods, stand comfortably, and climb steps and stairs will ensure you get the maximum enjoyment from your adventure.

ADDITIONAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to assisting with flight suggestions and bookings, we can also give you some ideas of what you could do before and after your Railway Adventure. We can also organise your all-important Travel Insurance for you. Call our office on 1300 733 323 if you would like to discuss options.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For more information on factors such as travel insurance requirements, fitness levels, fees and charges, tour cancellations, payment schedules and so on, please refer to our Terms and Conditions, which accompany the booking form. They can also be found on our website.

WHERE YOU WILL STAY

The properties we have selected have been hand-picked based on their location, customer feedback, value and atmosphere. Here's some of what you can expect on this tour:



Komaneka at Bisma, Ubud



Mesa Stila, Losari



The Royal Surakarta, Solo



Tugu Malang, Malang



Borobudur

THE RAILWAY ADVENTURES STORY

A passion for train travel can manifest itself in many ways. Founder and director of Railway Adventures, Scott McGregor, has made much of his obsession over the years. "Travelling to boarding school on the Mudgee Mail gave me a sense of how an active social life and long-distance trains can be a good combination."

Building a rural retreat out of a collection of vintage railway carriages in the early 1980s gave Scott a new perspective on rail heritage. During this time, he also operated his first tour—the Antipodean Renaissance Express—an experience he has never forgotten. Trading in vintage memorabilia and furniture sourced largely from the railways was also a source of great inspiration. Scott travelled far and wide trading and collecting for his Sydney shop, Off The Rails.

Hosting a couple of TV documentary series about great train journeys paved the way for leading his own train journeys. Once just an enjoyable part-time hobby, "getting paid to do what I love" has, naturally enough, led to a more substantial commitment and ultimately the launch of Scott's own dedicated train travel and touring company.



Scott McGregor's

**RAILWAY
ADVENTURES**

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