



# ACROSS JAVA BY RAIL

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20th July - 6 August 2020



**Guidepost**  
SPECIAL INTEREST TRAVEL

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**ESCORTED BY**  
Bob Daniel

## EXPLORE THE GARDEN OF THE EAST



## HIGHLIGHTS

*Jakarta to Ubud over 18 days*

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You will travel with no more than 30 passengers on this tour experiencing a variety of modes of transport from a bullock cart ride to becaks. There are 3 chartered steam train excursions and you will be staying in 4 to 5 star properties. You will visit smouldering volcanoes, feast on local delicacies, enjoy traditional dance performances, travel through spice plantations, be guided through UNESCO World Heritage sites and experience the warmth and hospitality of the locals.

## YOUR LEADER

*Bob Daniel*

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An Indonesian expert, a rail enthusiast and an accomplished tour leader, Bob will have you laughing and learning your way across Java, "The Garden Of The East". His credentials include owning a travel company for over 40 years, regularly volunteering on rail projects, and attending global travel marts to keep him educated with latest trends, you are in great hands.





## EXPLORE THE GARDEN OF THE EAST

# VISITING

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Jakarta - Taman Mini Indonesia Indah - Bandung  
Tangkuban Perahu - Yogyakarta Prambanan -  
Bugisan Village - Borobudur - Losari - Ambarawa -  
Solo - Madiun - Malang - Bromo - Jember -  
Kalibaru - Ketapang - Banyuwangi - Gilimanuk -  
Ubud



# INCLUDING

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17 nights in centrally located 4&5 star hotels -  
breakfast daily - 15 lunches - 3 dinners - transport  
throughout the tour - entrance fees & excursions -  
local expert guides - tipping - Australian tour  
leader

# EXPERIENCING

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Tropical gardens - many museums including the  
National Museum of Indonesia & Ambarawa  
Railway Museum - MONAS and Istiqlal Mosque -  
150 hectare park - hot springs - the UNESCO World  
Heritage site of Prambanan - Borobudur, the  
famous Buddhist temple - MesaStila coffee  
plantation - Malang tour with its many grand  
colonial-era buildings - 4WD jeep to Mt Bromo -  
Bali's iconic Ulun Danu Beratan - lots of train  
journeys - much much more!



# COSTING

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AUD \$5,649 pp twin share. Add \$1,695 if travelling  
solo. AUD \$1,000 non refundable deposit due at  
time of booking with balance due 30 May 2020.

# BOOKING

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Call **+612 4234 1175** or email [bob@guidepost-travel.com](mailto:bob@guidepost-travel.com) or [admin@travelfocusgroup.com](mailto:admin@travelfocusgroup.com) to  
have any questions answered or to receive a  
booking form, comprehensive itinerary and terms  
and conditions. Visit [www.travelfocusgroup.com](http://www.travelfocusgroup.com) or  
[www.guideposttours.com.au](http://www.guideposttours.com.au) for company detail.



### Day 1 • Monday 20 July: Arrival Jakarta (D)

Travel to Jakarta, Indonesia. Our hotel has 23 acres of tropical gardens and extensive recreational facilities. Why not arrive a day or two earlier to relax before the tour?

### Day 2 • Tuesday 21 July: Jakarta (B,L)

Today we visit the National Museum of Indonesia, featuring a collection of more than 140,000 items spreading from a wide range of subjects, visit Batavia Train Station (Jakarta Kota), the Taman Prasasti Museum, and Fatahillah Square, with its paved cobblestones. Walk along the historical Kali Besar Barat, lined with Dutch architecture and explore the Wayang Kulit, or Shadow Puppet Museum. Our 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, a working port for Buginese Pinisi Schooners.

### Day 3 • Wednesday 22 July: Jakarta - Bandung (B,L)

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. We also view the Indonesian Museum of Transportation with a large collection of steam locos and other vehicles. After lunch, we travel by train from Gambir Train Station to Bandung.

### Day 4 • Thursday 23 July: Bandung – Tangkuban Perahu - Bandung (B,L)

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. Lunch is at a local restaurant. Drive back to Bandung, stopping along the way 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.

### Day 5 • Friday 24 July: Bandung – Yogyakarta (B,L)

Today we travel by train in "executif" class from Bandung to Yogyakarta. This is a 7 hour journey so lunch is served on board the train.

### Day 6 • Saturday 25 July: Yogyakarta (B,L,D)

This morning we set out to explore the city. Visit the Sultan's Palace (Kraton), built between 1756 and 1790, a fine example of traditional Javanese sultanate architecture where we 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. Visit a small "home-factory" where Java's iconic Wayang Kulit leather puppets are made and the entire process is explained, followed by a short performance. Afterwards we'll visit the nearby Batik (home-factory) where we'll see the local women make these colourful textiles. After lunch we visit the Sonobudoyo Museum and a stroll along Jl. Malioboro, the main street of Yogyakarta, which is full of shops and local street vendors. This evening we enjoy dinner and a Ramayana Ballet performance.

### Day 7 • Sunday 26 July: Yogyakarta - Prambanan – Yogyakarta (B,L)

Today explore 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. Next we visit the 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 tea and some local snacks. Call in at the house of the Jamu maker and see how the colourful bottles of herbal medicines are concocted. Try playing the gamelan, a traditional Indonesian instrument, together with the ladies of the village. Tonight we enjoy a special dinner and the spectacular Ramayana Ballet performance in an open air theatre with Prambanan Temple as the backdrop.

### Day 8 • Monday 27 July: Yogyakarta – Borobudur - Losari – Magelang (B,L)

This morning we drive to Borobudur. Explore this famous Buddhist Temple, a UNESCO world heritage site comprised of thousands of volcanic and river stone blocks. There is ample time to explore and photograph this ancient 8th century temple, the largest Buddhist temple in world. Lunch in a local restaurant. Visit to Candi Mendut and Candi Pawon, both incredible temples nearby Borobudur.

### Day 9 • Tuesday 28 July: Magelang - Ambarawa – Magelang (B,L)

This morning we visit Ambarawa Railway Museum. This museum has a collection of steam locomotives dating from early 20th century, some of them 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'll take a trip by steam from Ambarawa to Tuntang and return, travelling along

beautiful Lake Rawa Pening, a source of power, irrigation, and flood control, and is used for fishing and recreational activities. Lunch in a local restaurant then back to our resort. The rest of the day is at leisure.

### Day 10 • Wednesday 29 July: Magelang – Solo (B,L)

Join a guided walking tour of the MesaStila coffee plantation. Here we'll learn about the organic and delicious Robusta coffee grown on the property. At the coffee shed you'll witness traditional techniques of roasting and grinding the beans. You will also see the organic vegetables and tropical fruits grown on site. Afterwards we will travel to Solo city. We visit the batik Museum of Danar Hadi, the biggest in Indonesia.

### Day 11 • Thursday 30 July: Solo - Madiun (B,L)

Today explore Surakarta city with a special steam "trem" journey. Trundling through the heart of the city, the Jaladara steam train was built in Germany in 1896 and is a fun morning excursion in carriages with Victorian-style wood fittings. Travel to Madiun and enjoy a free evening.

### Day 12 • Friday 31 July: Madiun (B)

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. As of the mid-1970s steam locomotives were no longer used in Indonesia so the defunct workshop was converted into a railway rolling stock manufacturing workshop.

### Day 13 • Saturday 1 August: Madiun – Malang (B,L)

We travel to the train station for our half-day journey to Malang. Enjoy the views of this rich agricultural region as you savour lunch on the train. In Malang we stay in the Tugu Hotel 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, is now the owner of the biggest collection of fine Indonesian art and cultural antiquities in Indonesia.

### Day 14 • Sunday 2 August: Malang - Bromo (B,L)

This morning we take a walking 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 walk through the local markets (bird and flower) and the small Brawijaya Museum with displays of the military history of East Java from the mid-20th century, before finishing at the city Cathedral. Afterwards we continue the drive towards Mt Bromo, with a stop at the Singosari Hindu temple, dating from the 13th century.

### Day 15 • Monday 3 August: Mt Bromo – Jember (B,L)

OPTIONAL: Early this morning 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 where we walk or ride on horses to the crater and take stairs which lead to the rim of the still-active Bromo Volcano. Return for a late breakfast. Drive through spectacular country via Probolinggo to Jember.

### Day 16 • Tuesday 4 August: Jember - Kalibaru – Banyuwangi (B,L)

This morning we travel to Kalibaru. Our highlight today is a lorry (rail trike) 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. This afternoon travel by coach to Banyuwangi at the eastern tip of Java.

### Day 17 • Wednesday 5 August: Banyuwangi – Gilimanuk - Ubud (B,L,D)

After breakfast we drive to Ketapang Harbour and catch the vehicular ferry across the Bali Strait. We will then continue by road to Ubud. We stop at Brahma Vihara Arama, an impressive mini replica of Borobudur located on a mountain, presenting 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

### Day 18: Thursday 6 August: Ubud (B)

Enjoy breakfast at the resort and a morning at leisure before transferring 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.

