

Twilight Tours Indonesia Eclipse Itinerary – March 3rd – 10th, 2016

DAY 01 : ARRIVAL AT JAKARTA - HOTEL SHERATON NEAR THE AIRPORT

Individual arrival at Jakarta airport, after which you are transferred to hotel Sheraton Bandara, 5 star hotel close to Jakarta airport. Tonight, you will overnight in a Garden View category room.

DAY 02 : JAKARTA - JOGJAKARTA (B,D)

Early this morning, transfer to the airport while assisted by the staff of the hotel, and then fly to Jogjakarta at 07.00 - 08.00. Jogjakarta is the center of the art and culture of the Javanese people. Our 1st destination will be Java's most interesting Hindu shrine. Built by the Sanjaya dynasty in the 9th century, it is regarded as one of the most beautiful Hindu temples in the world --- it is locally known as the Loro Jonggrang --- the temple of the "Slender Virgin". There are actually three temples, representing the Hindu trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. Its parapets are adorned with a bas - relief depicting the famous Ramayana story. Next, drive through rice paddy fields and sugarcane plantation to the two storey Buddhist temple at Plaosan. Candi Plaosan, also known as the 'Plaosan Complex', is one of the Buddhist temples located in Bugisan village, in the Prambanan district, Central Java, Indonesia, about a kilometer to the northwest of Prambanan Temple. We proceed to Kalasan temple, which is located in Kalibening village, Tirtamani, Sleman Regency. The Kalasan inscription mentions that this temple is also known as Kalibening temple, referring to the place where the temple is situated. Another temple called Sari temple is situated not far from Kalasan temple. Both of the temples have similarities in the magnificence of the buildings and the smooth carvings. Other unique characteristics that are found only in the two temples are the presence of vajralepa (bajralepa) to coat the sculptures, and reliefs on the outer side of the walls. We then move to downtown to visit Keraton (The King Palace), Bird Market, Water Palace, from there to the traditional Batik and silver production factories. Tonight, you will overnight at Hotel Puri Arta, a 3 star property in Jogjakarta. We will have dinner tonight as a group at a local restaurant.

DAY 03 : JOGJAKARTA - DIENG - BOROBUDUIR TOUR (B,D)

Very early in the morning, we depart to the Dieng temple complex. The temple complex in the Dieng highlands is site of the oldest known temples that have been preserved. Dieng was not a capital or a major settlement. Its location, at a high altitude in a poorly accessible, damp and wet mountain vale, is ill suited for human habitation. In Indian tradition, the Gods live on the mountains, so that the location is likely explained by that tradition..... Even today, this place at a high altitude feels mystical, enshrouded in clouds and surrounded by colored lakes. The Dieng complex is dedicated to the goddess Siva. After the visit to this serene temples complex, we move to Borobudur.

This huge Buddhist pyramid is a Buddhism's largest shrine in Indonesia, built in the 9th century. Located North West of Jogjakarta, Borobudur was completed in the second half of the ninth century. Borobudur was unknown and neglected for almost a thousand years, remaining covered under thick layers of

volcanic ash. From afar, Borobudur looks like a huge but ordinary stone construction. But from nearby, we can see that it consists of hundreds of wonderfully detailed statues and sculptures, representing Buddhist teachings mixed with images of Javanese life of a thousand years ago. We will also visit the Mendut Temple, 2.9 km east of Borobudur, and discovered in 1834. You will have time to stroll along the town, comprehend the local life, ride the 3 wheeled cart, and have lunch, all at your personal option. Tonight, we will overnight at the Puri Arta hotel. We will have a group dinner at a local restaurant, following our day long tour.

DAY 04 : JOGJAKARTA - BALI TRANSFER AND TOUR (B)

We fly by morning flight to Bali. Following check-in at our hotel you will have time to relax/rest. At about 14.00, we begin our sightseeing in Bali. First, we visit to Alas Kedaton (Monkey Forest) which is famous for its 'holy monkeys,' where you will be able to watch and feed the monkeys in their native habitat. The tour will end with a visit to the iconic Tanah lot Temple, located at Tanah Lot Beach. Tonight, you will stay in a superior room in the Risata Bali Resort, a 3 star hotel in the Kuta Area.

DAY 05 : KINTAMANI - BESAKIH TOUR (B,D)

We start the tour today by seeing a Barong (Lion) Dance which is followed by a visit to Celuk to observe the gold and silver works, in Mas Village to see the traditional local wooden carver, Bedulu with its rock carving at Elephant Cave. Personal Lunch at a local restaurant in Kintamani where you can enjoy the marvelous of the still active Mt. Batur and the beautiful blue Lake Batur. in Kintamani, we visit the Pura Puncak Penulisan, about 1,7456 m above sea level, 3 km north of Kintamani. Then drive up to Balinese biggest and holiest temple at Besakih, majestically situated on the slope of Mt. Agung. Overnight again tonight at the Risata Bali Resort Hotel. This evening, we will have a group dinner at a local restaurant in Kuta.

DAY 06 : BALI - BANGKA ISLAND (VIA JAKARTA) (B)

Today we fly from Bali – via Jakarta – to PangkalPinang on Bangka Island. Upon our arrival at Bangka Island, we transfer to hotel Aston Soll Marina Hotel. Overnight tonight in a superior room.

DAY 07 : AT BANGKA ISLAND – ECLIPSE DAY!! (B,D)

A very early start is needed this morning, to drive south of PangkalPinang, to arrive well in advance of the start of the partial phases of the eclipse this morning. A 25 passenger mini bus and local guide will be accompanying the group. We will return to the hotel, following 4th contact/end of the eclipse in the late morning. Tonight, a celebration dinner will be provided at your hotel. Again, we overnight at the Aston Soll Marina Hotel.

DAY 08 : TRANSFER FROM BANGKA ISLAND - JAKARTA (B)

At the appropriate time, transfer to the airport, then fly back Jakarta. Connect with your onward flight back to your home destinations.