The paths of the gods: Bali differently



Days: 13

Price: 1150 EUR

International flight not

included

Comfort: ★★★☆☆

Difficult: ★★★☆☆

▶ Trekking Culture

It's hard to think of a word other than 'heavenly' to describe this jewel of Indonesia, the island of **Bali**. Everything here is reminiscent of Eden: landscapes worthy of the greatest impressionist masters, with their giant stepped rice paddies, volcanoes towering above the clouds, dense tropical jungle, fine sandy beaches stretching to infinity and a sea so blue...

As you hike along the paths of the **island of the gods**, you'll realise that Bali is more than just a natural wonder. Festivals, ceremonies, dances, temple processions and other daily events add to its divine atmosphere. Spirituality is indeed an integral part of the cultural life of its inhabitants, whose natural grace underlines this idyllic side only too well. Centuries of extremely moderate outside intervention have preserved a unique Hindu cult, and a special social organisation in which everyone, from an early age, has a role to play.

We invite you to discover **the most beautiful facets of Bali in 13 days**, on a journey to the heart of Balinese culture that combines cultural discoveries with superb hikes.

Highlights:

- A tour combining culture and nature: discover Balinese culture through hiking
- · Climb Mount Batur and enjoy breathtaking views of the caldera
- Encounters with the Balinese people during privileged moments in local people's homes

Day 1. Welcome to Bali



Denpasar airport ♥
♣ 40km - ② 1h 20m
Ubud ♥

- Pick-up from Denpasar airport and transfer to Ubud, a hilltop town north of Denpasar, set in a rolling
 landscape of green rice paddies and ravines. Ubud is famous for its painting school. Despite the exponential
 growth in tourism in recent years, the town has managed to preserve its tranquillity and beauty.
- During the welcome dinner, you will have the opportunity to get to know your accompanying team.

T Dinner

Welcoming dinner

★ Accommodation

Greenfield Resort

Day 2. Bali's cultural capital



Ubud **♀**

- A day exploring Ubud and the surrounding area. In Ubud, elegant temples and palaces with sculpted facades
 line the streets. During your stroll through the city, you'll discover Puri Saren and the detail of its wooden
 doors, Pura Saraswati and the finesse of its ornamentation, Pura Puseh and its splendid sculptures, as well
 as many other museums and galleries.
- Another of Ubud's tourist attractions, slightly set back from the town centre, is the "Monkey Forest" temple.
 In the afternoon, you can take a lovely walk outside Ubud, taking in breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside, so unspoilt is the rural landscape.

■ Breakfast	Greenfield Resort		
★ Accommodation	Greenfield Resort		

Day 3. Meet a family of artists



• A family of Balinese artists will welcome you to their traditional home and offer you a meal, no less typical, accompanied by Balinese dances.

• Return to Ubud in the afternoon via the temples of Tirta Empul and Gunung Kawi.

• This morning, you set off on a walk through superb rice fields towards Tampaksiring.

Ubud ♥
♣ 14km - ② 40m
Tampaksiring ♥
♣ 14km - ② 40m
Ubud ♥

■ Breakfast Greenfield Resort

¶Lunch Included

★ Accommodation Greenfield Resort

Day 4. Ocean of rice fields



In the morning, transfer to **Belimbing**, a small village surrounded by superb rice fields. On the way, you pass
through some of Bali's most extraordinary rice terraces. In the afternoon, you embark on a superb walk to
discover the surrounding nature.

Breakfast

Greenfield Resort

★ Accommodation

Kebun Villas

Day 5. From green to blue

Ubud **♀** 52km - **②** 2h Belimbing **♀**



Belimbing ♥ ♣ 80km - ② 2h
Pemuteran ♥

Morning transfer to Pemuteran, a small seaside resort on Bali's north-west coast, far from the tourist crowds.
The rest of the day is free to enjoy the fine sandy beach. A veritable polychrome aquarium awaits you in these coral reefs! You can hire a boat to observe the underwater world around the island of Menjangan, where Bali's richest fauna seems to have gathered. It is here, for example, that the rare Bali starling has found refuge.

Breakfast

Kebun Villas

★ Accommodation

Taman Sari Resort

Day 6. On the heights



- Short transfer to Munduk, located in a region of Bali steeped in history and considered to be the cradle of Balinese culture. Former Dutch colonists used to enjoy holidaying here from the old colonial capital of **Singaraja** (on the north coast).
- In the early afternoon, take a stroll around the village to discover the beauty of the surrounding nature. The area around Munduk is indeed picturesque, with coffee and clove plantations next to forests and waterfalls.

★ Accommodation

Meme Surung Homestay

Day 7. The lakes area



Munduk **◊**- **②** 5h
Lake Bratan **◊ ♣** - **②** 5m
Bedugul **◊**

- Today's trek takes you to Candi Kuning, along the Tamblingan and Buyan volcanic lakes. These two lakes
 were once a single body of water until the huge landslide of 1818 permanently separated them. This
 magnificent hike is an opportunity to discover the local agricultural and cultural life, as you walk along and
 through the island's beautiful tropical forests.
- You will visit the superb Hindu-Buddhist temple of Ulun Danau. This is an enchanting place, with its huge banyan tree at the entrance and its superb gardens. One of the temples is entrenched on a small island, and its 11-storey roof is elegantly reflected in the waters of the lake.
- In the afternoon, you can take the pulse of Bedugul's picturesque market before returning to your nearby hotel

Breakfast

Meme Surung Homestay

★ Accommodation

Strawberry Hill Hotel

Day 8. High altitude plantations



Bedugul **♀**- **②** 1h 30m
Toyabungkah **♀**

- This morning, you take the road to the caldera of Mt Batur (1,725m), through a region renowned for its coffee plantations. From Penelokan, you have an exceptional view of the caldera, which is 14km long. This imposing size bears witness to the volcano's tumultuous past, and to the fact that it must once have been larger than today's Agung. At your feet, you'll discover the cone of Mount Batur in the middle of an immense caldera, half of which is occupied by Bali's largest lake and the other half by plantations and lava fields left over from the eruptions of 1917 and 1926.
- You then descend into the caldera to get up close to the lava flows. Near the lake, where you can rest in anticipation of waking up early the next morning, you can enjoy the pleasant **hot springs**.

Breakfast

Strawberry Hill Hotel

Accommodation

Sunrise Hill Camp

Day 9. Batur volcano



- Toyabungkah ♥
 ② 5h
 Mt Batur ♥
- 🚗 🧿 1h
- Kehen Temple ♥ ② 2h
 - Tirtagangga ♥

- At the end of the night, you begin your ascent of Mount Batur. Just before sunrise, you first reach the summit
 of the oldest crater, then begin your descent, skirting the adjacent craters and pausing near (but at a safe
 distance from) the newest and most active crater.
- The day continues with a visit to the Pura Kehen temple in Bangli. This temple is one of the most revered in Bali. Its plant garden and eleven-meru temple make it a place full of spirituality and tradition.
- Transfer to the royal baths of Tirtagangga (whose exact translation means "The waters of the Ganges"), on
 the south-eastern slopes of Agung. Officially known as Tirta Ayu, this complex of freshwater pools was one of
 several water palaces built by a Karangasem king. Surrounded by magnificent rice terraces, it's the perfect
 place to relax after hours of walking.

Breakfast

Sunrise Hill Camp

Day 10. The original Bali



Tirtagangga ♥
- ② 4h
Tenganan ♥
- ③ 1h
Sidemen ♥

- The morning is devoted to a Balinese walk through fields and rice paddies to the Bali Aga village of Tenganan, which has preserved the Balinese culture that predates the Javanese influence of the Hindu Majapahit dynasty. To protect their village from the harmful effects of intrusion by those uninitiated in the cult of Batara Indra, all visitors are welcomed from midday until nightfall, after which they are asked to continue on their way. There was a time when the villagers of Tenganan would even sweep away the footprints of their visitors to completely erase their presence.
- Transfer then to Sidemen, one of Bali's most beautiful valleys (with its many rice fields, salak plantations and weaving workshops for the famous ikats...).

■ Breakfast Tirta Ayu Hotel

¶Lunch Included

Accommodation Villa Karma Loka

Day 11. Authentic Bali



Sidemen ♥

40km - ② 1h 40m

Sanur ♥

- The final drive through Bali is a real highlight, as it takes you to the hillsides in the south-east of the island, offering superb views of both the Agung volcano and the Indian Ocean.
- You continue on to Sanur, arriving there in the late afternoon.

■ Breakfast Villa Karma Loka

★ Accommodation Peneeda View Hotel

Day 12. Rest



- A free day in Sanur, one of Bali's oldest seaside resorts, but one that has retained its charm and refinement.
 Sanur's beaches stretch for several kilometres, ideal for a stroll along the water's edge. Sanur's main street is a goldmine of small shops and good restaurants.
- Take advantage of your free time as a couple or with the family to swim in the pool or lagoon, discover Balinese massages, stroll along the beach or in the centre... In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner by the sea.

Sanur 🗣

■ Breakfast Peneeda View Hotel

▼ Dinner Included

Accommodation Peneeda View Hotel

Day 13. See you soon in Indonesia



- Free morning until transfer to the airport.
- Breakfast Peneeda View Hotel

Itinerary map



Individual price per person

2-2	3-3	4-5	6-7	8-8	ss
1975 EUR	1775 EUR	1475 EUR	1275 EUR	1150 EUR	550 EUR

Included

- English-speaking guide
- Ground transfers in private air-conditioned vehicle
- Accommodation in B&Bs
- · Meals as indicated in the itinerary above
- Entrance to sites
- Donations
- Mineral water and energy supplements on walking days

Not included

- International air
- Insurance & assistance
- Visas & airport taxes
- · Meals not mentioned in the itinerary above
- Drinks, personal expenses & tips
- Anything not mentioned in "Inclusions".