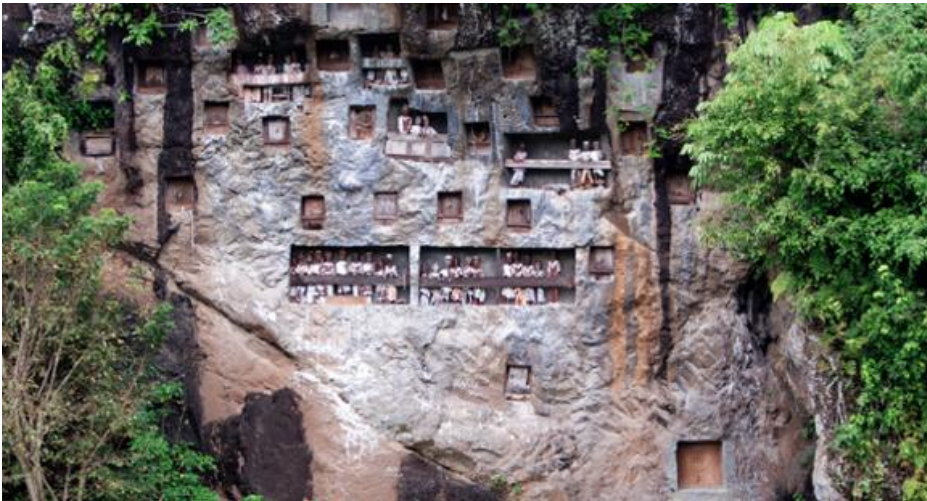


# Toraja funeral rites & the majestic volcanoes of Java



Days:

15

Price:

1975 EUR  
International flight not included

Comfort:

★★★★★

Difficult:

★★★★☆

🗺 Culture

👤 Ethnic minority

👁 Must see

👣 Trekking

👤 Off the beaten track

This tour allows you to discover all the cultural riches of the Toraja people, nicknamed "The Mountain People", as well as climbing Java's not-to-be-missed volcanoes.

In **Sulawesi**, it is the originality of their culture and their impressive funeral ceremonies that have made the Toraja famous. The distinctive architecture of their boat-shaped houses and the fantastic landscapes of rice paddies will show you just what a land of encounters, sacred rites and beauty the Toraja are...

In **Java**, you will first step back in time in the footsteps of Hindu-Buddhist Java, with visits to the famous Borobudur and Prambanan temples (listed as Unesco World Heritage sites), close to the royal city of Yogyakarta. Then, off the beaten track, you'll climb Mount Bromo and its spectacular caldera, as well as the famous Kawah Ijen and its sulphur "convicts". An experience that leaves no one indifferent.

## Day 1. Welcome to Sulawesi



Makassar airport 📍  
🚗 20km - ⌚ 40m  
Makassar 📍

- Welcome at Makassar airport and transfer to hotel.
- Makassar is the capital of the province of South Sulawesi on the Makassar Strait. In the middle of the afternoon, depending on your time of arrival in Makassar, visit the fish market, an essential meeting place, as fish is an important food in the culinary culture of the Indonesians. Transfer to the port of Paotere to admire the magnificent wooden schooners.
- The tour ends with a visit to Fort Rotterdam, built in 1545 by Raja Tunipalangga: originally, it was nothing more than an earthen rampart known as a "makassar". It was not until 1634 that these were reinforced with stone walls, at the request of Sultan Alaudin. The fort was later (in 1667) conquered by the Dutch and renamed "Rotterdam" (Speelman's birthplace). Today, the fort has been fully restored and even houses a small museum tracing its history.
- Evening welcome dinner. An opportunity to get to know your accompanying team.

🍽 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	M-Regency Hotel

## Day 2. To Toraja Country



Makassar 📍  
🚗 320km - ⌚ 8h  
Rantepao 📍

- Morning transfer to the Maros region (once discovered by Alfred Wallace), renowned for its rice fields and karst peaks. Take a short walk in the surrounding area and explore a cave dating back nearly 39,000 years, with its many cave paintings. Your guide will also take you on a dugout canoe trip on a river near which many species of birds live. Meet the local population, who live in houses built on stilts. At the end of the morning, transfer to the seaside town of Pare Pare, then head up the Sa'Dan river towards the mountains, through some magnificent scenery. The plain landscape is quickly replaced by thick coconut forest. Stop en route at Bambapuang, where you can enjoy a view of a so-called "erotic" mountain. Arrive in Rantepao (the capital of Toraja country) in the early evening.

☕ Breakfast	M-Regency Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Toraja Misiliana Hotel

## Day 3. Funerary Art



Rantepao 📍  
🚗 - ⌚ 40m  
Lemo 📍  
🚗 - ⌚ 40m  
Kete Kusu 📍  
Rantepao 📍

- Today's programme begins with a visit to the Lemo burial site. This is a rock face into which balconies have been carved, housing numerous figurines known as Tau Tau. Transfer then to the royal tombs of Suaya and continue on foot to another interesting site: Tampangg'alo. In the afternoon, visit the Londa caves at the foot of a large cliff, home to coffins and scattered bones. Easy hike to Kete Kusu village (famous for its wood carvings and rice granaries), through rice fields, villages & bamboo forest. You'll also discover troglodytic tombs and other, older, suspended tombs.
- Transfer then to the royal tombs of Suaya and continue on foot to another interesting site: Tampangg'alo. In the afternoon, visit the Londa caves at the foot of a large cliff, home to coffins and scattered bones.
- Easy hike to Kete Kusu village (famous for its wood carvings and rice granaries), through rice fields, villages & bamboo forest. You'll also discover troglodytic tombs and other, older, suspended tombs.
- *Note: the course of the three-day programme exploring Toraja country may be adapted if a funeral festival is taking place in the region at this time. Your guide will take you to attend this ceremony and introduce you to the family of the deceased. For your information, no rituals are organised in Toraja country for tourists: everything is absolutely authentic.*

☕ Breakfast	Toraja Misiliana Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Toraja Misiliana Hotel

## Day 4. Meeting



Rantepao 📍

- In the morning, visit the village of **Bori**, famous for its megaliths carved in the shape of tombs, then **Palawa** (the largest in the region), and finally **Sa'dan**, renowned for its traditional textiles.
- Transfer to the wild north of the Toraja region, offering magnificent panoramic views at 1,400 m altitude. Easy walk around **Batutumonga** through rice fields, traditional villages and bamboo forest.
- Later, hike from Lokomata (where the tombs are carved out of a giant rock) to Mariri, where you will have the chance to meet children on their way home from school and stop off at some of the cutlery-making workshops.

☕ Breakfast	Toraja Misiliana Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included

🍴 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Toraja Misiliana Hotel

## Day 5. Rantepao



Rantepao 📍

- Visit the colourful Rantepao market, where many buffaloes and pigs are on sale. Then it's time to attend a funeral ceremony (see "Note" above). In the afternoon, transfer to Pemancar, where you begin a lovely walk towards Salu, through rice fields and plantations (mainly coffee and cocoa).

🍳 Breakfast	Toraja Misiliana Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍴 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Toraja Misiliana Hotel

## Day 6. To Sengkang



Rantepao 📍  
🚗 210km - ⌚ 5h  
Sengkang 📍

- In the morning, we travel to the charming little town of Sengkang, which stretches along the banks of the Walanae river. In the afternoon, visit the traditional silk weaving workshops.

🍳 Breakfast	Toraja Misiliana Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍴 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	BBC Hotel

## Day 7. On the waters of Lake Tempe



Sengkang 📍

- In the early morning, transfer to the shores of Lake Tempe and board motorised canoes for an extraordinary discovery of this marshy lake, home to numerous species of birds and an astonishing lakeside village. This is your chance to immerse yourself in the habits and customs of the villagers, for whom time seems to have no hold.

🍳 Breakfast	BBC Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍴 Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	BBC Hotel

## Day 8. See you soon in Sulawesi



Sengkang 📍  
🚗 - ⌚ 4h 20m  
Makassar airport 📍  
✈️ - ⌚ 1h 50m  
Yogyakarta International Airport 📍  
Yogyakarta 📍

- Transfer to Makassar airport and flight to Yogyakarta.
- **Lion Air / Makassar – Yogyakarta / 1810-1910** Meet at Yogyakarta airport by your guide and transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is free. In the evening, welcome dinner, an opportunity to get to know your accompanying team.

🍳 Breakfast	BBC Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍽️ Dinner	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Gallery Pawirotaman Hotel or The Phoenix Hotel

## Day 9. Yogyakarta, Cultural Capital



Yogyakarta 📍  
🚗 16km - ⌚ 30m  
Prambanan Temple 📍  
🚗 16km - ⌚ 30m  
Yogyakarta 📍

- The morning is devoted to visiting Yogyakarta, the cultural capital of Java, and in particular the area around the Sultan's Palace, built in 1756, where life is good. Your city walk will take you to Taman Sari, known in the days of the Dutch colonial empire as the "Water Palace", and then to the puppet and batik workshops. At the end of the morning, you head for the Ratu Boko temple, perched on the Gunung Kidul hills overlooking the Prambanan plain.
- You then begin a short hike to the Hindu temple of Prambanan, through forest, traditional villages and rice fields. You then visit the Prambanan temple complex, and in particular Loro Jonggrang, a sumptuous 47-metre-high temple dedicated to the goddess Siva. It is considered to be the most elegant and breathtaking Hindu temple on the island of Java. Possibility (optional) of attending the Ramayana show.
- Return to the hotel in the early or mid-evening.

🍳 Breakfast	Gallery Pawirotaman Hotel or The Phoenix Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Gallery Pawirotaman Hotel or The Phoenix Hotel

## Day 10. Rice fields of Java and the temple of Borobudur



Yogyakarta 📍  
🚗 16km - ⌚ 30m  
Prambanan Temple 📍  
🚗 16km - ⌚ 30m  
Yogyakarta 📍

- In the early morning, transfer to the banks of the Kulon Progo river, where you will enjoy a pleasant countryside start in a small Javanese village, from where you will discover the surrounding countryside by bicycle (Dutch). You'll have a gentle introduction to the Javanese countryside, and will make a few stops in the surrounding villages, where you'll have the chance to observe the local handicrafts. In the middle of the afternoon, transfer to the temple of Borobudur. Return to the hotel in the early evening.

🍳 Breakfast	Gallery Pawirotaman Hotel or The Phoenix Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Gallery Pawirotaman Hotel or The Phoenix Hotel

## Day 11. The last bastion of Hinduism





Yogyakarta 📍  
12km - 🕒 4h  
Tawangmangu 📍  
🚗 290km - 🕒 7h  
Tumpang 📍

- Morning transfer to the Suku temple, the last bastion of Hinduism in Central Java in the face of the spread of Islam. The temple's original iconography, including phallic figures and large turtle-shaped tables, suggests the existence of initiation and even orgiastic rituals. You then set off on a walk towards the village of Tawangmangu, on the slopes of the Lawu volcano. This walk is an opportunity to discover some of the plant species found in this region, as well as admiring superb panoramic views of the surrounding pine forest and high-altitude plantations. You finish your walk by crossing the Tawangmangu park, which leads you to a superb waterfall (Grojogan Sewu) in the middle of a tropical forest inhabited by a large community of monkeys. In the afternoon, transfer to Tumpang, near Malang, at the western foot of the Bromo-Tengger-Semeru massif.

🍽️ Breakfast	Gallery Pawirotaman Hotel or The Phoenix Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Rani Homestay or The Shalimar
🏠 Accommodation	Rani Homestay or The Shalimar

## Day 12. Magnificent landscapes



Tumpang 📍  
🚗 - 🕒 2h  
Tumpak Sewu 📍  
🚗 - 🕒 2h  
Tumpang 📍

- Morning departure for the Lumajang region, skirting the southern flanks of the majestic Semeru volcano. You will then reach the **Tumpak Sewu** waterfall ("Thousand Waterfalls" in Javanese). As you descend into the gorge (on a slippery and sometimes steep path), you will feel the force of the hundreds of streams as they "plunge" over 100m. Seen from above, the beauty of this waterfall seems ephemeral as the fine mist soaks everything in its path. No wonder, then, that a photo of Tumpak Sewu with Mt Semeru in the background won the award for "best aerial shot" in 2019. And, if you're also taking your camera equipment with you, remember to protect it from moisture. Return to Tumpang in the late afternoon.

🍽️ Breakfast	Rani Homestay or The Shalimar
🍴 Lunch	Included
🍷 Dinner	Rani Homestay or The Shalimar
🏠 Accommodation	Rani Homestay or The Shalimar

## Day 13. Spectacular Mt Bromo caldera



Tumpang 📍  
🚗 35km - 🕒 2h  
Cemorolawang 📍

- In the early morning, 4x4 vehicles will take you to the Tengger region, where the famous Mt Bromo (2329 m) spits out its volutes and the surrounding caldera forms a gigantic sea of sand. On this journey, you pass through the stunning forest of the Tengger-Bromo-Semeru National Park, skirting part of the crest of the Bromo volcano caldera, before descending to the sea of sand to reach the village of Cemorolawang (located on one of the opposite crests). Mt Bromo is the most revered of the Tengger Hindu people who live in the region. Climb the Bromo volcano in the early afternoon. You'll be able to admire its crater resembling a steaming cauldron. It's easy to understand why the Javanese once considered this place to be the entrance to purgatory.
- You then make your way to the summit of Mount Pananjakan (2,775m) to witness a fabulous spectacle. You will watch the world set against a lunar backdrop, with a breathtaking view of Mount Bromo, its sea of sand, and the Semeru volcano, both of which emit thick fumaroles. Unique! Return to the hotel in the early evening.

🍽️ Breakfast	Rani Homestay or The Shalimar
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Lava View Lodges or Jiwa Jawa Hotel

## Day 14. East of Java



Cemorolawang   
🚗 - ⌚ 7h  
Ketapang

- Early morning transfer to the outskirts of Kawah Ijen. After settling into your hotel, your guide will take you to some superb rice terraces, from where you will begin a pleasant walk through traditional villages and other plantations (fruit, spices, etc.). Return to the hotel in the late afternoon.

🍳 Breakfast	Lava View Lodges or Jiwa Jawa Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included
🏠 Accommodation	Teras Ijen Hotel

## Day 15. Green Crater

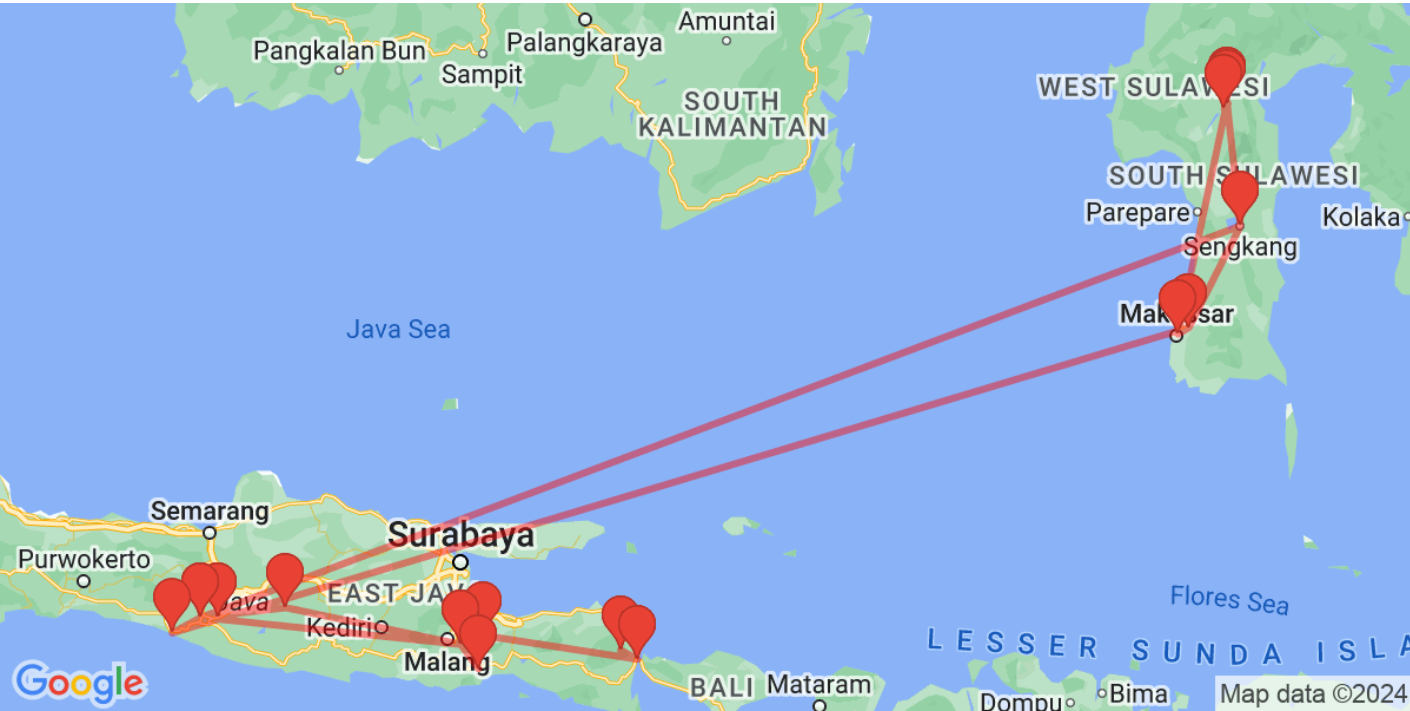


Ketapang   
🚗 - ⌚ 1h 30m  
Kawah Ijen   
🚗 - ⌚ 1h 30m  
Ketapang   
Departure

- In the early morning, you set off again in a 4x4 towards the slopes of Kawah Ijen ("green crater" in old Javanese), which you can easily climb in the company of the men who extract sulphur every day from the edge of the largest acid lake in the world.
- These real "convicts" carry around 80 kg of ore on their backs for around 15 km to the processing plant! You then witness the weighing and the various employment contracts. A very powerful and striking image of your journey.
- In the late morning, transfer to Ketapang port or Banyuwangi airport.

🍳 Breakfast	Teras Ijen Hotel
🍴 Lunch	Included

## Itinerary map



## Individual price per person

2-2	3-3	4-5	6-7	8-8	SS
2895 EUR	2525 EUR	2195 EUR	2050 EUR	1975 EUR	525 EUR

### Included

- English-speaking guide
- Domestic flight Makassar - Yogyakarta (with 20 kg hold luggage)
- Ground transfers in private air-conditioned vehicle
- Sea and lake transfers
- Full-board accommodation in Sulawesi
- B&B accommodation in Java
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary above
- Site entrance fees, trekking permits and 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".