



# Kuta & Seminyak

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## Best Places to Sleep

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## Why Go?

Crowded and hectic, the swathe of south Bali hugging the amazing ribbon of beach that runs north almost from the airport is the place many travellers begin and end their visit to the island.

In Seminyak and Kerobokan there is a bounty of restaurants, cafes, designer boutiques, spas and the like that rivals anywhere in the world, while Kuta and Legian are the choice for rollicking all-night clubbing, cheap singlets and carefree family holidays. North around Canggu is Bali's most exciting region, where great beaches vie with enticing cafes and compelling nightlife.

Renowned shopping, all-night clubs, fabulous dining, cheap beer, sunsets that dazzle and relentless hustle and bustle are all part of the experience. But just when you wonder what any of this has to do with Bali – the island supposedly all about spirituality and serenity – a religious procession appears and shuts everything down. And then you know the answer.

## When to Go

➤ Bali's ever-increasing popularity means that the best time to visit Kuta, Seminyak and their neighbours is outside high season (July, August and the weeks around Christmas and New Year). Holidays in other parts of the world mean that visitor numbers spike and it can require actual effort to organise tables in the best restaurants, navigate trendy shops and get a room with a view.

➤ Many prefer April to June and September, when the weather is drier and slightly cooler, and the crowds manageable.

➤ To surf this side of Bali, or just revel in the surf culture, visit during Bali's west coast surfing season: April to September.



## Kuta & Seminyak Highlights

**1 Kuta Beach** (p52) Lolling around on Bali's original tourist magnet.

**2 Kuta Nightlife** (p52) Raving through the night in the manic clubs and legendary nightlife scene of Kuta.

**3 Seminyak** (p75) Ignoring your resolve while shopping

in the myriad boutiques and designer outlets.

**4 Seminyak Sunsets** (p85) Revelling in a technicolour sunset with a beer.

**5 Kerobokan** (p88) Savouring a meal at one of the many fabulous and world-class restaurants.

**6 Batu Bolong Beach** (p96) Joining the hip beach and surf scene, while debating where to have a refreshment.

**7 Canggu** (p96) Making a delightful discovery, be it food, drink or commerce, amid rice fields and villas on the twisting and confounding lanes.