



# Nusa Tenggara

POP 8.3 MILLION

## Includes »

Lombok.....	300
Senggigi.....	307
Gili Islands.....	311
Gunung Rinjani.....	327
Sumbawa.....	336
Komodo & Rinca Islands.....	345
Flores.....	348
Labuanbajo.....	350
Kelimutu.....	365
Alor Archipelago.....	371
West Timor.....	374
Kupang.....	375
Rote.....	384
Sumba.....	387
Waikabubak.....	393

## Why Go?

If you've ever been into white sand, azure bays, frothing hot springs and hidden traditional villages, Nusa Tenggara is your wonderland. Here's an arc of islands that is lush and jungle-green in the north, more arid savannah in the south and in-between has some of the world's best diving, limitless surf breaks, and Technicolor volcanic lakes. It's a land of pink-sand beaches, schooling sharks and rays, and swagging dragons. You'll also find a cultural diversity that is unmatched in Indonesia. Animist rituals and tribal traditions still thrive alongside the countless minarets, temples, convents and chapels, and though Bahasa Indonesia is a unifying tongue, each main island has at least one native language, which is often subdivided into dialects. Whether your wish is to drop into the easy, tourist-ready life of a car-less Gili, or you crave something, somewhere less comfortable, more challenging and a shade deeper, you're exactly where you're supposed to be.

## Best Places to Eat

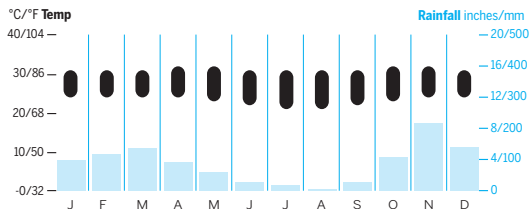
- » Restaurant Laryss (p367)
- » Blu da Mare (p324)
- » Cantik Homestay (p373)
- » Rumah Makan Murah Muriah (p362)

## » Best Places to Stay

- » Malole Surf House (p385)
- » La Petite Kepa (p372)
- » Amanwana (p341)
- » Oro Beach Houses & Restaurant (p400)

## When To Go

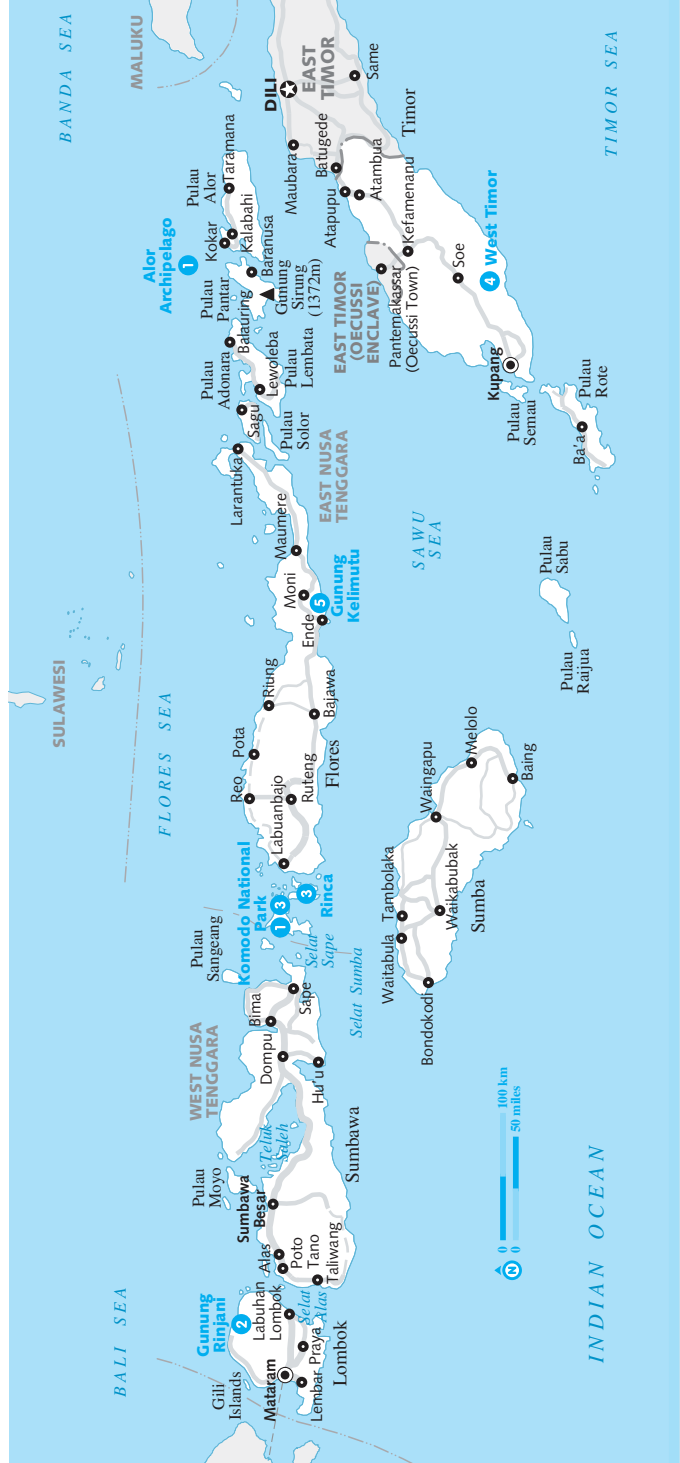
### Mataram



**Apr–Sep** Divers descend during the dry season when visibility clarifies throughout the province.

**May & Oct** These months often see epic waves and thin crowds in Rote and Sumbawa.

**Oct–Mar** Sumba's Pasola festival, in February, is reason enough to brave Nusa Tenggara in the wet.



## Nusa Tenggara Highlights

- 1 Snorkelling or diving in coral reefs teeming with marine life around the **Komodo National Park** (p348) and the **Alor archipelago** (p371)
- 2 Trekking up the lush slopes of **Gunung Rinjani** (p327), the sacred volcano that dominates northern Lombok
- 3 Coming face-to-face with the mother of all lizards in **Komodo** or **Rinca** (p346)
- 4 Exploring the remote villages of **West Timor** (p374), characterised by their beehive-shaped clan houses, and experiencing the island's unique tribal culture, markets and textiles
- 5 Gazing at the lunar-like landscape atop **Gunung Kelimutu** (p365), with its three astonishing crater lakes