

On the Road





Java

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Why Go?

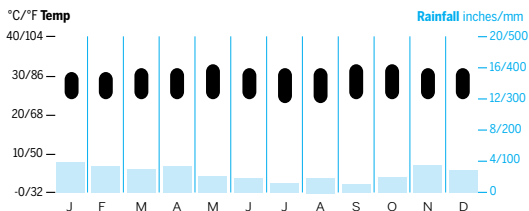
The heart of the nation, Java is an island of megacities, mesmerising natural beauty, magical archaeological sites and profound traditions in art, music and dance.

Boasting a dazzling array of bewitching landscapes – iridescent rice paddies, smoking volcanoes, rainforest and savannah, not to mention virgin beaches – most journeys here are defined by scenic excesses. The island is at its most excessive in the cities: crowded, polluted, concrete labyrinths that buzz and roar. Dive into Jakarta's addictive mayhem, soak up Yogyakarta's soul and stroll through Solo's batik laneways en route to the island's all-natural wonders.

Home to 140 million people and the most populated island on earth, Java travel can be slow going, particularly in the west. However, the rail network is generally reliable and efficient, and flights are inexpensive. Your endurance will be rewarded with fascinating insights into Indonesia's most complex and culturally compelling island.

When to Go

Jakarta



May Spectacular Waisak processions to mark the birth of Buddha in Borobudur.

Jun Perhaps the perfect month for travel, with clear skies and few crowds.

Oct The climax of the bull-racing season in Madura.