

Selamat Datang Di Indonesia! Welcome To Indonesia

The LEAD International Training Session will be held in **Jakarta** and **Bandung**, located on the west side of Java Island, Indonesia. In this guide, we would like to introduce you to Indonesia and to the places that you are going to visit during the session.

INDONESIA AT A GLANCE

The **Republic of Indonesia** is situated Southeast Asia. It is strategically located along major sea lanes between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Oceans. Comprising 17,508 islands, it is the world's largest archipelagic state. With a population of over 234 million people, it is the world's fourth most populous country and the most populous Muslim-majority nation (the vast majority are Muslims at 88%), although officially it is not an Islamic state. As a republic, Indonesia has an elected parliament and president. The nation's capital city is Jakarta. The bordering countries are Papua New Guinea, East Timor, Malaysia and Singapore.

In Indonesia, more than 400 languages are spoken, however Bahasa Indonesia (a variant of Malay), is the national language. There are 27 provinces and special territories. Much of the population still make a living via agriculture. The main agricultural crop is rice. The unit of currency is the rupiah, which trades at approximately 9,500 to US\$1 (July, 2007).

The country's variations in culture have been shaped – although not specifically determined – by centuries of complex interactions with the physical environment.

The tropical climate varies from area to area. The eastern monsoon brings the driest weather (June to September), while the western monsoon brings the main rains (December to March). Rainstorms occur all year. The higher regions are cooler.

FACTS ABOUT INDONESIA

Total Area: 1,919,440 sq km (land: 1,826,440 sq km / water: 93,000 sq km)

Slightly less than three times the size of Texas

Coastline: 54,716 km

Climate: tropical; hot, humid; more moderate in highlands

Terrain: mostly coastal lowlands, larger islands have interior mountains

Elevation extremes:

lowest point: Indian Ocean 0 m

highest point: Puncak Jaya 5,030 m

Natural resources: petroleum, tin, natural gas, nickel, timber, bauxite, copper, fertile soils, coal, gold, silver

Land use:

arable land: 10%

permanent crops: 7%

permanent pastures: 7%

forests and woodland: 62%

other: 14% (1993 est.)

Irrigated land: 45,970 sq km (1993 est.)

Natural hazards: occasional floods, severe droughts, tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes

Environment—current issues: deforestation, water pollution from industrial wastes, sewage, air pollution in urban areas, smoke and haze from forest fires

Environment—international agreements:

Party to international agreements on: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Desertification, Endangered Species, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Nuclear Test Ban, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Tropical Timber 83, Tropical Timber 94, Wetlands

Signed, but not ratified: Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Marine Life Conservation

Ethnic groups: Javanese 45%, Sundanese 14%, Madurese 7.5%, coastal Malays 7.5%, other 26%

Religion: Muslim 88%, Protestant 5%, Roman Catholic 3%, Hindu 2%, Buddhist 1%, other 1% (1998)

Languages: Bahasa Indonesia (official, modified form of Malay), English, Dutch, local dialects (the most widely spoken of which is Javanese)

MAP OF INDONESIA



CUISINE

Cooking varies greatly by region and combines many different influences, and reflects Indonesia's complex cultural history. However, most Indonesian food shares the nearly universal food trinity of fish, coconut and chilli.

Most meals are built around a cone-shaped pile of the long-grain, highly polished rice that Indonesians prefer. A meal may include a soup, salad, and another main dish. Whatever the meal, it is accompanied by at least one, and often several sambals (spice relishes) that are mixed with the food. A light meal might consist of rice, some dried fish and a chilli sambal.

THE ISLAND OF SUPERLATIVES: JAVA

Jakarta and **Bandung** are located on Java island, Indonesia's Island of Eden, it is commonly called because of its incredible beauty, with a patchwork of verdant rice fields interspersed by village settlements, palm groves and stands of rubber, teak and sugar cane. From the air, the bright green vegetation is contrasted with a landscape of rich, red-brown soils, molded by volcanoes—the very essence of Java.

Java is the most fertile, the most productive, and also the most densely populated island in the world. With over 115 million people living in an area the size of England or New York state, the average population density is an amazing 850 persons per square kilometer. Java constitutes just 7 percent of Indonesia's total land mass, yet supports over 60 percent of the nation's huge population.

Many have described Java not only as the most habitable but also the most hospitable place in all of Asia—a veritable tropical paradise where all manner of flora and fauna flourish in abundance, and where people seem to have a natural knack for making you feel welcome.

Java actually has one of the longest records of human habitation of any place on earth. It was here that million-year-old remains of one of man's earliest ancestors were first discovered a century ago—the infamous "Java Man" (*Homo erectus*) fossils that provided the first, controversial evidence of Darwin's "missing link."

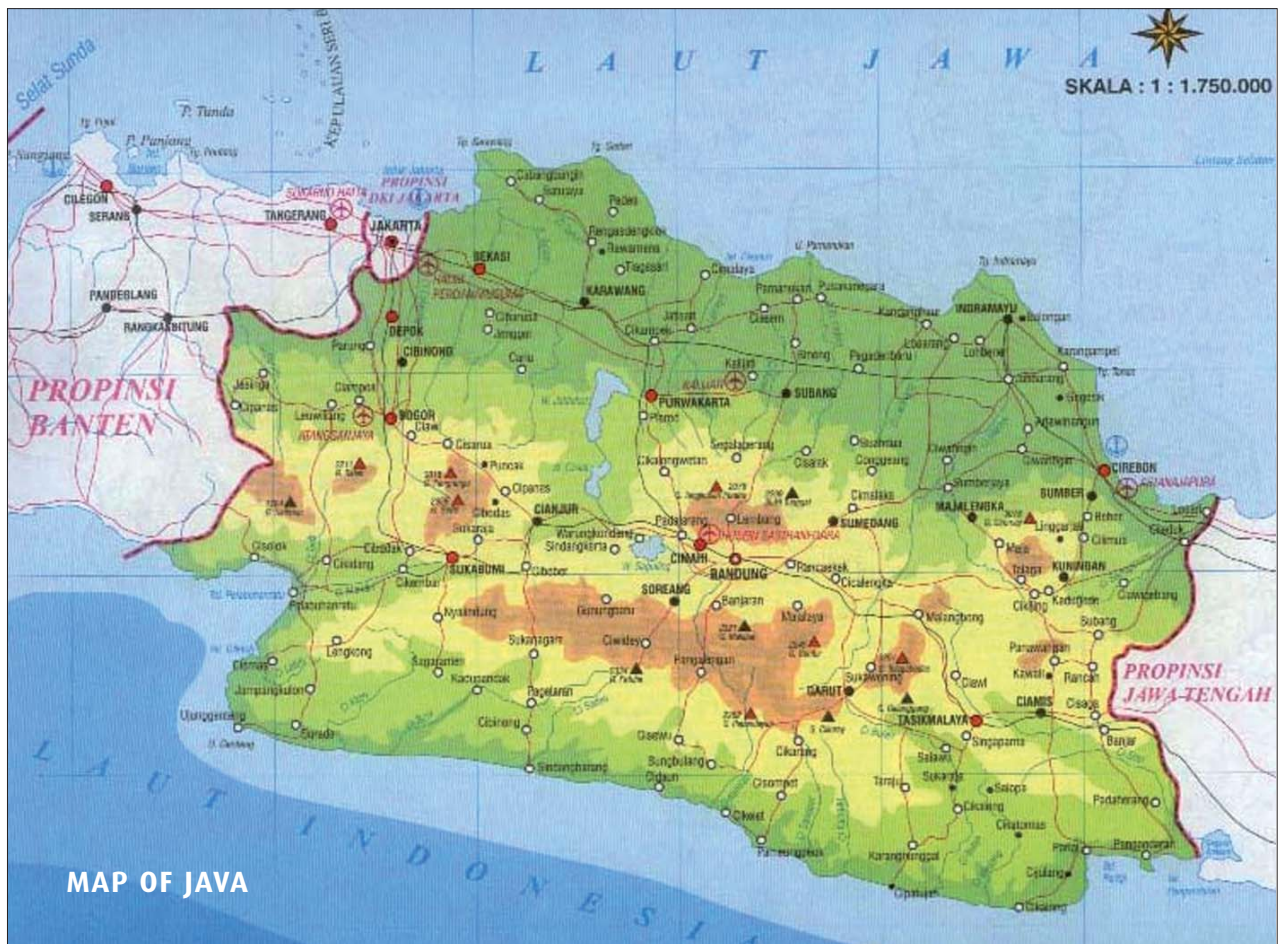
Jakarta

The city of Jakarta is a vibrant commercial center drawing together peoples from all over the vast Indonesian archipelago. It is the sprawling and rapidly growing capital of the world's fifth largest nation—a crowded metropolis of more than 9 million inhabitants, with a dynamic economy and a fast-paced lifestyle.

The climate in Jakarta is hot and humid, with only minor seasonal variations. The maximum temperature is about 34 celcius on a sunny day, and 27 celcius on a cloudy day.

LOCATION OF SITE VISITS: WEST JAVA

With more than 39 million inhabitants and covering roughly the western third of the island, West Java is not only Indonesia's most populous province, but also its most productive—yielding more agricultural products and manufactured goods than any other part of the country. More than half of all electricity produced in Indonesia is consumed here, and Indonesia's only aircraft factory and atomic reactor



are both found in the provincial capital of Bandung, along with a prestigious engineering institute (ITB).

West Java is the homeland of the proud and staunchly Islamic Sundanese people. More than three-fourths of West Java's inhabitants are Sundanese, with their specific Sunda language.

West Java—stretching from Bogor in the west through Cianjur and Bandung to Ciamis in the east—is noticeably more mountainous than the rest of the island. The volcanic peaks of the region here are tightly packed, producing fragmented series of narrow upland valleys and plateaus that are difficult to access.

Bandung

The most “European” of Java’s cities.

Bandung, is the administrative and commercial capital of West Java, with a population of over 2 million - Indonesia’s third-largest metropolis. Fondly called “Parahyangan” meaning Land of the Gods, this valley city has both metropolitan and homey atmosphere at the same time. Full

of eateries, factory outlets, and malls, many people find going on a trip to Bandung both enjoyable and memorable. Bandung was designed in 1920 by Dutch urban planners as the first “modern” city in the Indies, and remains today the most “European” of all Indonesian towns. Bandung was once billed by locals as the “Parijs van Java” on account of its gracious, tree-lined boulevards and fashionable shops and houses. In 1955, the Asia-Africa Conference was hosted here by President Sukarno and attended by such Third World luminaries as Nehru, Nassar, U Nu, Chou En-Lai and Ho Chi Minh, giving the city a fleeting moment in the international limelight.

The climate in Bandung is mild to cool. Bandung is surrounded by mountains, Tangkuban Perahu, Burangrang and others. Therefore the climate is cool all year round. At night, the temperature can be as low as 16 degrees celcius, and during the day rise to around 20-22 degrees Celcius.

SOUVENIR TIPS

Bandung is not only famous for its volcanic craters, Tangkuban Perahu, Papandayan, and Kawah Putih but also for its factory outlets. They are scattered surrounding the main Dago area. Bandung mainly offers food products and drinks

as souvenirs. Visit these stores to grab the famous keripik tempeh (soybean cake), keripik oncom (fermented soybean), sale pisang (fried banana), dodol (chewy sweets), and the recently popular brownies. These and other delicacies can be eaten in Raos and Karya Umbi, located in Jalan Cihampelas, and Kartika Sari in Jalan Juanda/Dago.

Cuisine of West Java

The people of West Java consume vegetables as a significant part of their diet. They eat raw vegetables (called lalap or lalapan) for example, cucumber, tomato, coriander leaves, eggplant, cabbage, lettuce. Lalapan is usually accompanied by sambal dadak (chilli and other ingredients ground together). Another popular dish - sour vegetable soup (sayur asam) is accompanied by nasi timbel.

Nasi timbel is probably one of the most well known dishes among the Sundanese. It consists of lalapan (raw vegetables), sambal dadak (roasted or fried chicken), fried beancurd, fried tempeh, and a slice of jambal (salted fish). If you wish, you may add gepuk (slices of beef, mixed in traditional herbs, then fried) and pepes (fish, chicken, mushroom, etc. mixed with crushed herbs, folded into a banana leaf, then steamed until they're ready to eat) or sauteed greens. Batagor baso tahu goreng (fried meatballs & beancurd) is another well sought after specialty.

ETIQUETTE/DRESS CODE

Dress is informal in Indonesia but try to wear unrevealing clothes at all times as a mark of respect to the country's predominantly Muslim values. Beach attire is tolerated around the resort areas but outside these regions bearing flesh is considered immodest.

Public displays of affection are frowned upon and it is considered impolite to point. Avoid patting children on the head and do not use your left hand when giving or receiving. As with most Asian countries, it is best to try not to lose your temper. Confrontation is not appreciated and will only worsen rather than resolve any situation.

Sources:

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5. my-indonesia.info
6. www.pintunet.com

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*If you are undertaking independent travel in Indonesia before or after the ITS, you can of course still contact the LEAD Indonesia office for help in an emergency.