

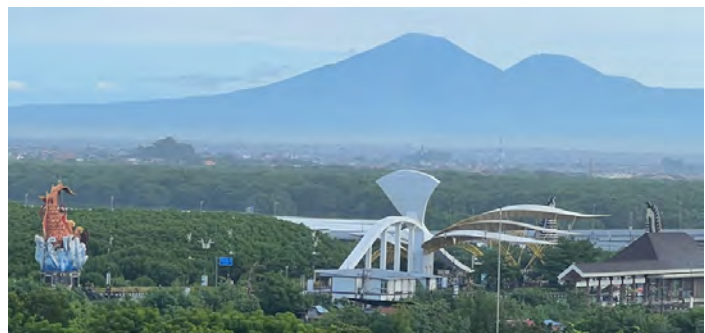
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Benoa (Bali) Indonesia



The island of Bali is renowned for its unspoiled coastline and heavenly hinterland marked by emerald green rice fields terrance. Located in the heart of Bali, the town of Ubud has established itself as a key cultural artistic, and holistic centre. On our MSC excursions we visited terraced rice paddies, ancient Hindu sites, and lush vegetation. Later we wandered among charming shops and stalls at the local market, where we appreciated Bali's outstanding artisan craftsmanship. On the fringes of Ubud we visited the hidden sanctuary of the sacred Monkey Forest, home to hordes (1,200) of playful long-tail macaques. Hundreds of temples, stone carvers, wood carvers and jewelry designers on both sides of the road to and from the Monkey Forest.



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Tonights
Entertainment
Local Folk Show
Traditional
Balinese
Performance
The group
performed a fusion
of Balinese
Traditional Dances
accompanied by
short theatrical
stories, symbol of
salvation and
blessing from the
roots of Balinese
Culture.



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Coral Triangle

Sitting right in the middle of the World's richest waters for corals, considered the "Amazon of the Seas" for its marine biodiversity. Not just its 600-odd species of coral, but turtles, and more than 2000 species of fish, including tuna - a major food source for millions of local communities. Bali celebrates Neypi day a day on which the whole island is closed which means no work, no travel, not even electricity, basically no noise. People spend this day meditating and self-reflecting. Neypi day is actually their New Year, in a way it is Bali's private Earth Hour.