

Bandung

West Java · Indonesia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Bandung is the capital of West Java and a cool highland city, about 145 km southeast of Jakarta. It sits in a basin ringed by volcanoes, so evenings are fresher than in most Javanese cities. Dutch planners built it as a resort town in the early 1900s, and it still has a good set of colonial and Art Deco buildings.

Today Bandung is a student city with a strong food, coffee, fashion and design scene. Many Jakarta residents come for weekends to eat, shop and visit the volcanoes, tea plantations and gardens in the hills north and south of the city. It suits a trip of two to four nights, with the city on one or two days and the highlands on the rest. In 1955 the city hosted the Asian-African Conference, which is why its main street is named Jalan Asia Afrika.

When to visit

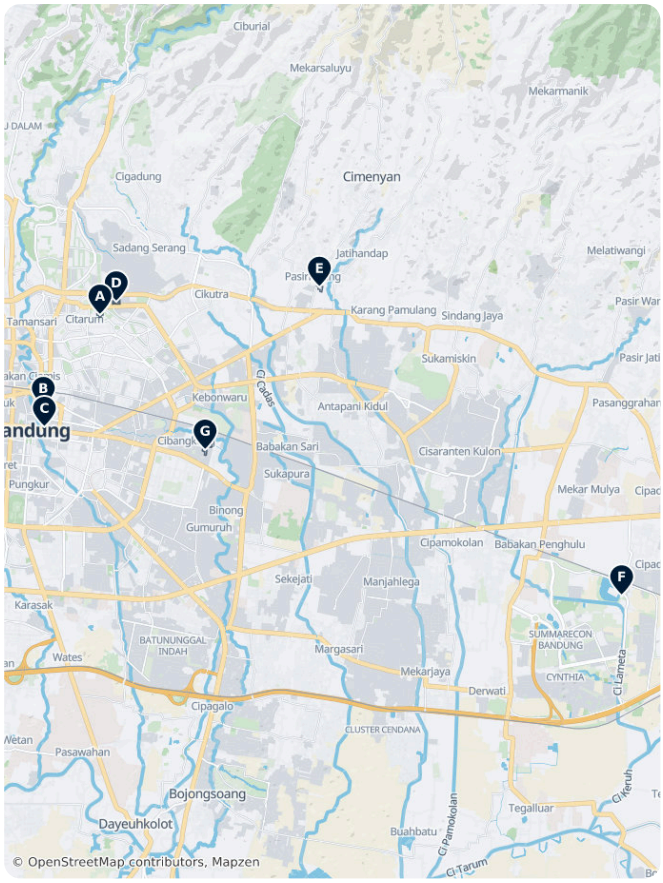
The dry season from about June to September is the best time for the volcanoes, the tea plantations and walks outdoors. July and August are the driest months. The rainy season runs from about October to May, with the heaviest rain from November to March. Rain usually comes in the afternoon, so plan outdoor trips for the morning. Weekends and school holidays bring heavy traffic from Jakarta, so weekdays are easier.

Each April the city marks the anniversary of the 1955 Asian-African Conference, with events around Jalan Asia Afrika.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	26° / 29°	20° / 19°	28 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	26° / 29°	20° / 19°	26 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	27° / 28°	21° / 19°	29 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
April	Poor Poor for sightseeing	27° / 29° Feels like 30°	21° / 19°	26 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
May	Poor Poor for sightseeing	27° / 29° Feels like 31°	21° / 18°	23 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
June	Fair Fair for sightseeing	27° / 28°	20° / 17°	17 rainy days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds
July	Good Good for sightseeing	27° / 28°	19° / 16°	12 rainy days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
August	Good Good for sightseeing	27° / 29°	18° / 16°	Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
September	Good Good for sightseeing	28° / 30°	19° / 17°	13 rainy days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
October	Poor Poor for sightseeing	29° / 31°	20° / 18°	21 rainy days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	28° / 31° Feels like 31°	21° / 19°	26 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	27° / 29°	21° / 19°	28 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



- A Gedung Sate is the city's best-known building. It was finished in the 1920s and is named for the "satay" skewer shape on its roof. It now houses the West Java government, and its museum and the park opposite are open to visitors.
- B Jalan Braga is the old colonial shopping street. Art Deco facades now hold cafés and galleries. Come in the late afternoon and stay for dinner.
- C Museum Konferensi Asia-Afrika is in the building where 29 Asian and African countries met in 1955. Its exhibits explain how the conference shaped the non-aligned movement. It is a short walk from Braga.
- D Bandung Geological Museum is a good rainy-day stop near Gedung Sate. It has fossils, rocks and models that explain Java's volcanoes and earthquakes.
- E Saung Angklung Udjo is the best place to see the *angklung*, a Sundanese bamboo instrument. Children play it in daily shows, and visitors can join a short workshop.
- F Masjid Raya Al Jabbar is the large modern mosque complex in the east of the city, on a lake. Go late in the day, and dress modestly.
- G Trans Studio Bandung is an indoor theme park in the east of the city. It is mainly a choice for families with children.

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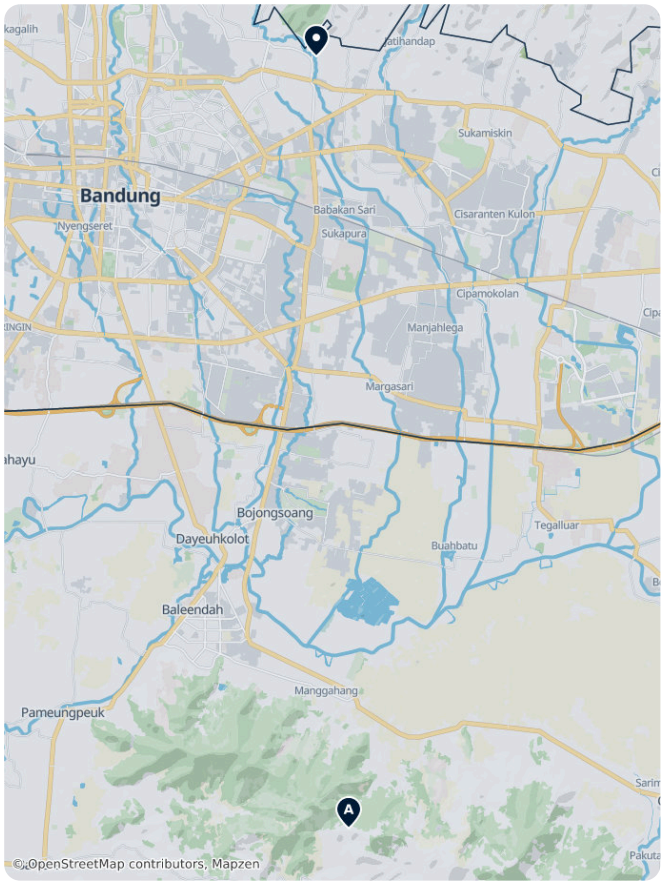
What to experience

- Watch an angklung show: Saung Angklung Udjo holds daily performances where children play bamboo instruments. Visitors are given an instrument and play a song together at the end.
- Join Sunday Car Free Day: on Sunday mornings, part of the Dago road closes to traffic. Locals walk, jog, cycle and eat street snacks there.
- Ride the Bandros bus: the open-top tourist bus is a relaxed way to see the colonial center on a first morning.
- Shop at factory outlets: Bandung is known for clothes, jeans and shoes sold directly from the makers. Outlet streets such as Jalan Riau, Jalan Cihampelas and the shoe streets of Cibaduyut are popular on weekends.
- Walk through a tea estate: in the hills south of the city, you can walk between the tea bushes in the cool morning air.

Day trips

The best day trips are in the hills north and south of the city. Roads are slow at weekends, so start early and allow for traffic.



- Lembang, north of the city: this is the main highland area, with a cooler climate. Bosscha Observatory is a historic observatory. Dusun Bambu is a garden restaurant in the hills. Curug Cimahi Rainbow Waterfalls is a waterfall with a short walk.
- Tangkuban Perahu: an active volcano north of Lembang. You can walk along the rim of the main crater, Kawah Ratu, and smell the sulfur. Access can close when volcanic activity rises, so check before you go.
- Ciwidey and the tea plantations, south of the city: this is a full-day trip. Kawah Putih is a pale turquoise crater lake. The tea estates nearby have walking paths and views. Both are in A Bandung Regency.
- Ir. H. Juanda Grand Forest Park: a forest park on the northern edge of the city, with short trails, caves from the Dutch and Japanese periods, and a waterfall.

Where to explore

- South of Bandung: Bandung Regency covers Ciwidey, Kawah Putih and the tea plantations.
- West: Jakarta is the usual arrival point for most international visitors.
- Cities on Java's north and west side: Bogor has the large botanical garden, and Cirebon is a coastal sultanate city to the east.

Getting there

- By air: Husein Sastranegara (BDO) is a small airport close to the center. It reopened to commercial jets in August 2026 with flights to Denpasar and other Indonesian cities, and routes are still being added. Kertajati (KJT) is a newer airport far to the east of the city and has little service. Most international visitors fly to Jakarta (CGK) and continue by land.
- By high-speed train: the Whoosh line links Halim station in Jakarta to Tegalluar on the east side of Bandung. It stops at Karawang and Padalarang. The ride takes well under an hour. Padalarang has a feeder train to Bandung station in the center. Tegalluar is far from the center, so plan a transfer by road.
- By regular train: the Parahyangan (before 2025 called Argo Parahyangan) runs between Gambir in Jakarta and Bandung station in about three hours. Book on the official KAI site or app. KAI (Indonesian Railways)
- By road: shared shuttle vans and buses run between Jakarta and Bandung on the Cipularang toll road. Travel time depends heavily on traffic, especially on Friday evenings and Sundays.

Getting around

- Public transport: Trans Metro Bandung buses cover the main roads. Shared minibuses called *angkot* run on fixed routes and are cheap, but they are slow and crowded. Commuter trains serve towns around Bandung, and are not useful for city sightseeing. The main long-distance station is Bandung station.
- Taxi and ride-hailing: motorbike and car rides booked by app are the easiest way to cross the city.
- Tour bus: the city's Bandros open-top bus runs sightseeing loops through the center.
- On foot: the center around Braga, Asia Afrika and Gedung Sate is walkable. Sidewalks are uneven, and crossing busy roads needs care. Distances between districts are long, so use a ride for the rest.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The center around Braga, Jalan Asia Afrika and Gedung Sate is walkable, but sidewalks are uneven and traffic is heavy.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Cycling is not practical on busy roads and steep hills. Sunday Car Free Day is the exception.

Driving

- Is a car worth it? In the city, no. Traffic is heavy and parking is limited. A car with a driver is a good choice for a day in the hills, where public transport is poor.
- Parking: most malls, hotels and attractions have paid parking. In the center, street parking is informal and charged by local attendants.
- Traffic: weekends and school holidays are the worst. Roads to Lembang and Ciwidey can be very slow on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Tolls: the toll roads to and from Jakarta need an electronic toll card. Rental companies usually provide one.

Food & drink

Bandung food is Sundanese, with many snacks. Look for *batagor* and *siomay* (fried or steamed fish dumplings with peanut sauce), *mie kocok* (beef noodle soup), *surabi* (rice pancakes) and *cireng* (fried tapioca). Fresh vegetables, fried chicken and sambal with rice are the standard lunch.

Good eating clusters in a few areas. Jalan Braga and the streets around it have cafés and restaurants. Lengkong Night Street Food is a night food street near the old center. The Dago area has many coffee shops and restaurants with views. Bandung also has a strong specialty coffee scene.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Gado-Gado · gado-gado
A vegetable salad with tofu and tempeh, dressed in peanut sauce.

Padang rice · nasi padang
A dozen or more small dishes brought to the table at once; you pay only for what you eat.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Krupuk · kerupuk
Deep-fried prawn or fish crackers, a common side at nearly every meal.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Martabak · martabak manis
A thick, folded pancake filled with chocolate, cheese, or nuts, sold from street carts in the evening.

DRINKS

Kopi Tubruk · kopi tubruk
Coarsely ground coffee steeped directly in the cup, Indonesia's everyday way of drinking coffee.

SIGNATURE DISHES

Nasi Goreng · nasi goreng
Indonesia's everyday fried rice, usually with egg, chicken, and a fried cracker on the side.

Satay · sate
Skewered, grilled meat served with a peanut or sweet soy sauce.

Rendang · rendang
Slow-cooked beef in coconut milk and spices, originally from West Sumatra.

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Safety & health

Bandung is generally safe for visitors. The main risks are petty theft, such as phone snatching from motorbikes, and overcharging at tourist sites. Keep your phone away from the road edge and use app-based rides at night.

Tap water is not safe to drink, so use bottled or filtered water. Traffic is the biggest daily danger, so cross roads carefully. Earthquakes happen in West Java and the hills around Bandung have active volcanoes. Follow local advice if a crater or trail is closed. Rain can cause landslides on hill roads in the wet season.

History

The Dutch founded Bandung as a highland town in the 1800s and built a rail link to Batavia, now Jakarta, in 1884. They planned it as a cool garden city, and it was nicknamed the "Paris of Java". Many Art Deco buildings from the 1920s and 1930s survive on Jalan Braga and around Jalan Asia Afrika. Gedung Sate is one of the best examples of that period.

In 1955 the city hosted the Asian-African Conference. Leaders from 29 countries met here, and the meeting is seen as an early step toward the non-aligned movement. You can learn more at Museum Konferensi Asia-Afrika. The city is also home to the Bandung Institute of Technology, founded in 1920, and the Bosscha Observatory in the hills to the north.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Indonesia at a glance:

CURRENCY
IDR Rp

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY

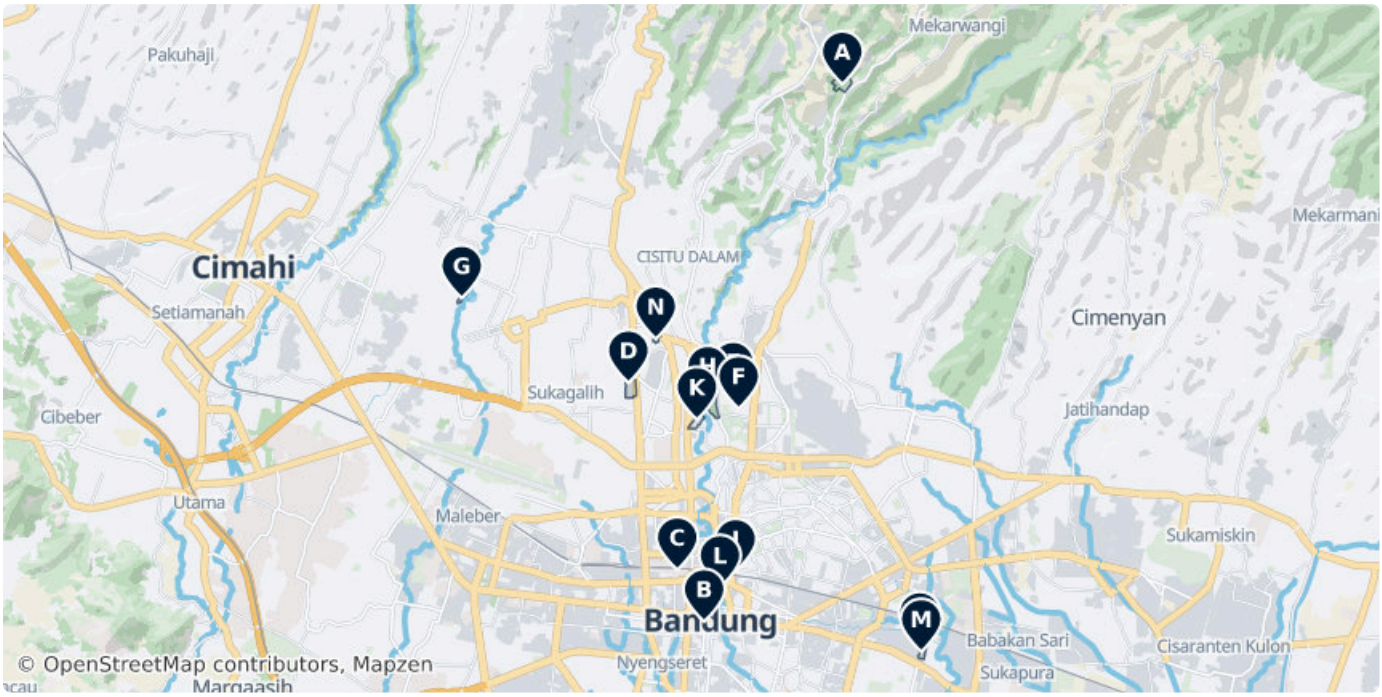
Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Indonesian

TAP WATER
Not safe to drink

Kota Bandung's Unmissable Highlights

Bandung, the capital of West Java, is defined by its Dutch colonial heritage and high-altitude surroundings. This selection spans the city's architectural landmarks, such as the Neo-Gothic St. Peter’s Cathedral and the 1920s campus of the Bandung Institute of Technology. Modern commerce is represented through open-air malls like Paris Van Java and the historic Jalan Braga, while recreation options include the NuArt Sculpture Park and Trans Studio, one of the largest indoor theme parks in Southeast Asia.



A Dago Dreampark

Adventure park in the Dago highlands featuring pine forests and various outdoor activities, including zip-lining and specialized photography spots.

Jalan Dago Giri, 40791, Indonesia (-6.84769, 107.62547)

Mo–Su	08:00–18:00



B Grand Mosque of Bandung

The Grand Mosque of Bandung, previously known as the Great Mosque of Bandung, is a mosque in Bandung, the a provincial capital of West Java...

(-6.92173, 107.60629)

Mo–Sa	09:00–17:00
Su	09:00–14:00

bandungtourism.com, +62 22 420 66 44

C Stasiun Bandung

The city's primary railway hub, featuring a mix of Art Deco and contemporary architecture. It serves as a major link for trains traveling across Java.

(-6.91460, 107.60255)



D Paris Van Java

An open-air shopping complex featuring Mediterranean-style architecture, a rooftop garden, a bird park, and an ice skating rink.

(Unnamed Road), Sukajadi 40162, Indonesia
(-6.88884, 107.59576)

Mo–Su 09:00–24:00



E Bandung Institute of Technology

Established in 1920, this is Indonesia's oldest technology-oriented university. The campus is noted for its blend of traditional Indonesian and Dutch colonial architectural styles.

(-6.89041, 107.61032)

F Aula Timur

A historic hall located within the Bandung Institute of Technology, recognized for its distinctive tiered wooden roof and colonial-era heritage.

(Unnamed Road), Coblong 40132, Indonesia
(-6.89239, 107.61107)



G NuArt

A gallery and sculpture park showcasing the works of Nyoman Nuarta. The space includes a workshop, exhibition halls, and various outdoor installations.

(Unnamed Road), Cimahi Utara 40513, Indonesia
(-6.87718, 107.57263)

H Kebun Binatang Bandung

Located adjacent to the ITB campus, this zoo was established in 1933 and houses various Indonesian and international species in a central urban setting.

Jalan Taman Sari 6 (-6.89099, 107.60676)

Mo–Su 08:00–16:00

bandung-zoo.com

I Trans Studio Bandung

One of the largest indoor theme parks in the world, featuring numerous rides and shows divided into several themed zones.

Bandung (-6.92489, 107.63621)

transentertainment.com/transstudio/bandung

J Gereja Katedral

Also known as St. Peter's Cathedral, this Neo-Gothic church was designed by architect C.P. Wolff Schoemaker and consecrated in 1922.

(-6.91483, 107.61067)

K Cihampelas Walk (CiWalk)

An outdoor shopping mall designed with a green concept, featuring pedestrian walkways integrated with natural trees and gardens.

Jalan Cihampelas 160, 40131 Bandung
(-6.89390, 107.60528)

Sa–Su 11:00–22:00

ciwalk.com

L Braga Citywalk

A shopping and entertainment complex located on historic Braga Street, maintaining the colonial-era aesthetic of the surrounding neighborhood.

Jalan Braga 99-101, 40111 Bandung (-6.91705, 107.60848)

bragacitywalk.co.id, +62 212-2545456

M Trans Studio Mall

A modern shopping mall integrated with the Trans Studio theme park, offering a wide range of international fashion brands and dining options.

Jalan Gatot Subroto #289, 40273 Bandung
(-6.92585, 107.63642)

Mo–Su 10:00–22:00

N Rumah Mode

A prominent factory outlet known for its extensive garden setting and wide selection of designer clothing and local fashion.

Bandung (-6.88277, 107.59957)

Mo–Su 08:00–22:00

DATA SOURCES

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