

Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park

East Java · Indonesia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park is in East Java. It is a high volcanic landscape with a wide caldera, grey sand plains and several cones. Active Mount Bromo is the main draw. Java's highest peak, Semeru, rises to the south.

Most visitors come for one or two nights. The usual plan is a pre-dawn jeep ride to a viewpoint, then a walk across the sand to the Bromo crater rim. The area is also home to the Tengger people, who follow a Hindu tradition and farm the steep slopes. The park also suits hikers and photographers who want more time at altitude.

When to visit

The dry season, from about June to October, gives the clearest sunrises. Days are mild and nights are cold. From November to March it rains often and the cones are often hidden by cloud. Weekends and school holidays are crowded, so go on a weekday if you can.

The biggest event is Yadnya Kasada. The date follows the Tengger calendar and falls between late May and July. Tourist access to Bromo closes for about four days around it. The Tengger people carry offerings up to the Bromo crater rim and throw them in. It is a religious ceremony, so keep a respectful distance and expect large crowds.

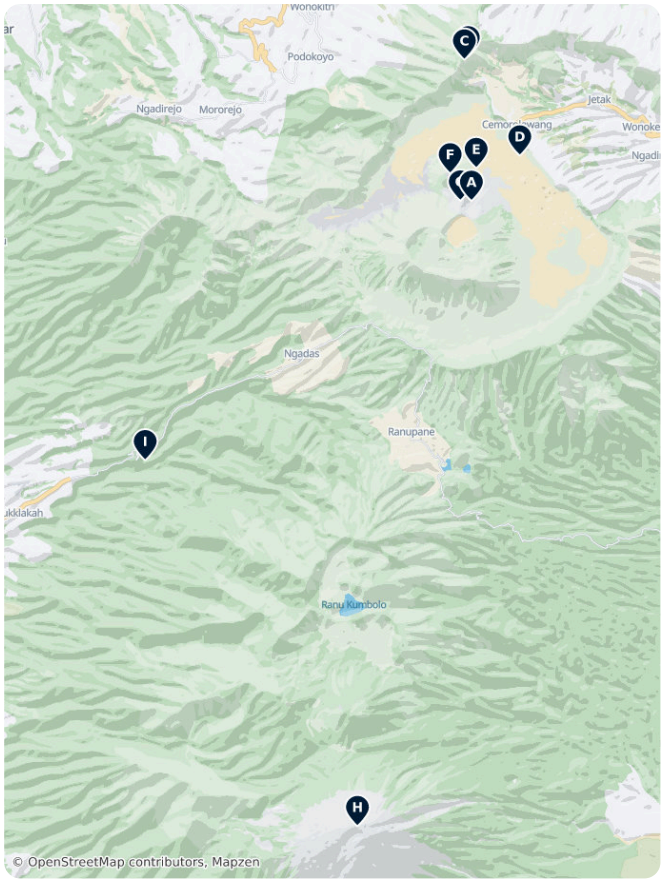
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Fair Fair for sightseeing	18° / 21°	13° / 12°	27 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
February	Fair Fair for sightseeing	18° / 20°	13° / 12°	26 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 12 (Extreme)
March	Fair Fair for sightseeing	18° / 20°	14° / 12°	26 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 12 (Extreme)
April	Fair Fair for sightseeing	19° / 20°	13° / 12°	22 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
May	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 20°	13° / 10°	Dry air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
June	Great Great for sightseeing	19° / 21°	12° / 10°	Dry air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
July	Great Great for hiking	19° / 21°	11° / 9°	Dry air · UV 9 (Very high)
August	Great Great for hiking	20° / 22°	11° / 9°	23 sunny days · Dry air · UV 10 (Very high)
September	Great Great for sightseeing	22° / 24°	12° / 10°	21 sunny days · Dry air · UV 11 (Extreme)
October	Great Great for sightseeing	23° / 26°	13° / 12°	Dry air · UV 11 (Extreme)
November	Good Good for sightseeing	21° / 25°	14° / 13°	19 rainy days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
December	Fair Fair for sightseeing	19° / 22°	14° / 12°	26 rainy days · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)

Best months: June, July, August, September, October

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

Top sights

- A Mount Bromo is the symbol of the park. It is an active volcano with a smoking crater, about 2,300 m high. A steep stairway leads from the base to the rim.
- B Penanjakan is the classic sunrise viewpoint. You see Bromo, Batok and Semeru together above the morning mist. Go by jeep before dawn and dress warmly.
- C Sunrise Point 1 is another lookout on the same ridge. It is used when the main viewpoint is full.
- D The Sea Of Sand is the flat volcanic sand plain around the base of Bromo. You cross it on foot, by horse or by jeep.
- E Pura Luhur Poten is the Hindu temple at the foot of Bromo. It is the setting for the Kasada ceremony. Dress modestly.
- F Gunung Batok is the neat, ridged cone next to Bromo. It is not the usual hike, but it adds shape to every photo.
- G Tengger Caldera is the large caldera that holds the sand plain and the cones. Its rim has many viewpoints.
- H Gunung Semeru is the highest mountain on Java, at 3,676 m. It erupts often. You see it as a smoking cone from the Bromo viewpoints. Climbing it needs a permit and is often closed, so check with the park first.
- I Coban Pelangi is a waterfall on the western side of the park, away from the sunrise crowds.



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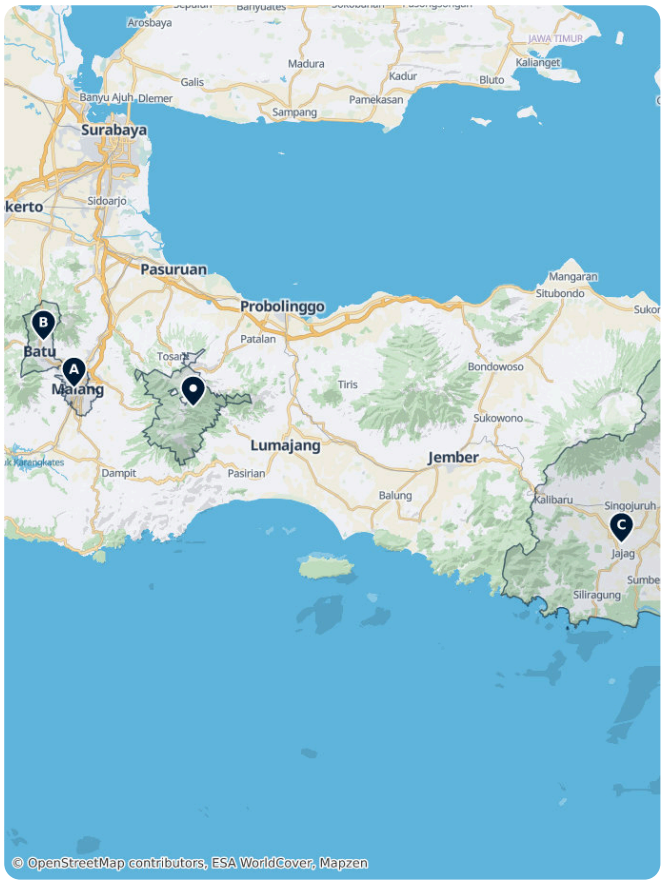
What to experience

- Take a pre-dawn jeep to the Penanjakan viewpoint. Leave around 3:00 to 3:30 am to get a place before sunrise.
- Walk across the Sea of Sand to Bromo and climb the stairway to the crater rim. Go early, before the sand heats and the crowds arrive.
- Visit a Tengger village homestay and see how people farm cabbage and potatoes on the steep slopes.
- Join the Yadnya Kasada ceremony as a quiet observer. It takes place at Pura Luhur Poten and on the crater rim.
- Hike to Ranu Kumbolo, the lake on the Semeru trail, if the trail is open and you have a permit. It is a long, cold overnight trip.

Day trips

Most visitors use Bromo as a stop between larger cities. These places fit a day out or a stop on the way.

- Madakaripura: about 1.5 to 2 hours by car from Cemoro Lawang. The path follows a narrow gorge to a tall waterfall. You will get wet.
- **Ranu Grati lake**: about 1.5 hours by car, near Pasuruan. A quiet crater lake.
- Ⓐ Malang: about 2.5 to 3 hours by car. A university city with colonial streets, cafes and colorful hillside villages.
- Ⓑ Kota Batu: about 3 hours by car. A cool hill town with farms and parks.
- **Tumpak Sewu waterfall**: about 3 hours by car, south of Malang. A wide curtain of falls in a deep valley. It is better as an overnight stop on the way to or from Malang.
- **Ijen crater**: far to the east, about 6 to 7 hours by road. It has a blue-flame night hike and an acid crater lake. It is best as part of a longer route to Ⓒ Banyuwangi.



Where to explore

- **Nearest cities**: Malang and Kota Batu to the southwest. Surabaya is the main gateway to the north.
- **Further east**: Banyuwangi is the base for Ijen and the ferry to Bali.
- **Other national parks**: Taman Nasional Baluran has savanna and wildlife. Taman Nasional Meru Betiri has forest and quiet beaches.
- **Nearby reserve**: Mount Baung Nature Recreation Park is a small nature recreation park near Pasuruan.

Getting there

- **By air**: the main gateway is Surabaya Juanda Airport (SUB). It has the most flights. Malang's Abdul Rachman Saleh Airport (MLG) has a smaller number of domestic flights. Banyuwangi Airport (BWX) is better for a route from Bali or from the east.
- **By train**: take a train to Probolinggo station on the north coast line. From there, minibuses and shared vehicles climb to Cemoro Lawang, the village on the caldera rim. The ride takes about 1.5 hours. From Malang, take a car or a local minibus to Tumpang, the southern entrance route. There is no train to Tumpang.
- **By road**: from Surabaya, the drive to Cemoro Lawang takes about 3.5 to 4 hours. There are also entrances at Tumpang (from Malang) and Wonokitri (from Pasuruan). Most visitors arrive on an organized trip that includes a jeep.
- **Entry**: a park ticket is required and is sold online, with a daily visitor limit. Foreign visitors pay a higher rate than Indonesians, roughly Rp 255,000. Book ahead in busy periods. See the park's official site Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park for booking and current rules.

Getting around

- **Jeeps**: shared 4x4 jeeps are the standard way to reach the viewpoints and the sand plain. Prices per jeep are set by local jeep groups. Agree on the route and stops before you leave.
- **On foot**: from Cemoro Lawang you can walk down the steps and across the Sea of Sand to the Bromo stairway in 45 to 60 minutes. The path is flat. The surface is soft sand and dust.
- **Horses**: local riders offer horse rides across the sand plain. Agree on the price first.
- **Between villages**: motorbike taxis (ojek) and minibuses link the caldera villages and Probolinggo.
- **Cash**: carry rupiah for jeeps, horses, village meals and small shops. Cash is still the norm in the caldera villages.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

Villages are small and walkable, but the main sights are 3 to 10 km apart at 2,000 m altitude. Most visitors use jeeps.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Steep, high-altitude roads and few bike services make cycling impractical for most visitors.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: a car and driver is the easiest way to reach the park from Surabaya or Malang. Inside the caldera, use a jeep. Most hotels and guesthouses sit in or near Cemoro Lawang.
- **Driving side**: traffic drives on the left.
- **Roads**: mountain roads are steep, narrow and often foggy at night. Drive slowly and avoid driving in the dark.
- **Parking**: park in the village car parks near Cemoro Lawang or at your accommodation.

Food & drink

Food here is simple. Village warung (small family restaurants) serve rice, noodles, fried tempeh and hot tea. A hot ginger drink is welcome on a cold morning. The Tengger farms grow vegetables such as cabbage, potatoes and onions, so they appear in most meals.

Eat in the caldera villages, such as Cemoro Lawang, or in the towns on the way, such as Probolinggo and Malang. Malang is known for its meatball soup (bakso). Many guesthouses include breakfast and a hot drink.

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

The area is safe for travelers. The main risks are natural.

- **Volcano**: Bromo and Semeru are active. Check the current alert level and any closures with the park before you go. Follow rangers' instructions.
- **Crater fumes**: the air at the Bromo rim can contain sulfur gas and ash. Bring a mask or a scarf.
- **Cold and altitude**: nights at the rim are cold, with temperatures near 10 degrees C. Wear a jacket, a hat and gloves for the sunrise.
- **Scams**: agree on the price of jeeps, horses and photo stops first. Book a jeep through your accommodation if you are unsure.
- **Fire**: open flames, flares and cigarette butts are not allowed. Grass fires in 2023 and 2026 closed the park for weeks. Check that the park is open before you travel.
- **Drones**: drones are restricted and need park permission. They are banned on the Semeru trail.

History

The Tengger people live on the caldera rim and slopes. They descend from the last Hindu-Javanese people of the Majapahit kingdom, who moved to the mountains. They keep their own Hindu tradition and festivals. The name Tengger is linked to the legend of Roro Anteng and Joko Seger, who gave the people their name.

The legend also explains Yadnya Kasada. A couple had many children and promised to give their youngest son to the volcano, Bromo. Each year the Tengger people give offerings of rice, vegetables and animals to the crater. The ceremony is held at Pura Luhur Poten and on the rim of Mount Bromo.

In the Tengger belief, Gunung Semeru is the home of the gods. The Javanese call the summit Mahameru, after the sacred mountain of Hindu tradition.

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

Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park Essentials

Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park encompasses a massive volcanic complex in East Java, centered around the 10-kilometer-wide Tengger Caldera. The landscape is defined by the Sea of Sand, a vast volcanic plain surrounding the active Mount Bromo and the dormant Mount Batok. To the south lies Mount Semeru, Java's highest peak. The park is the ancestral home of the Tenggerese people and contains Pura Luhur Poten, a temple used for the annual Yadnya Kasada ceremony where offerings are cast into the crater.



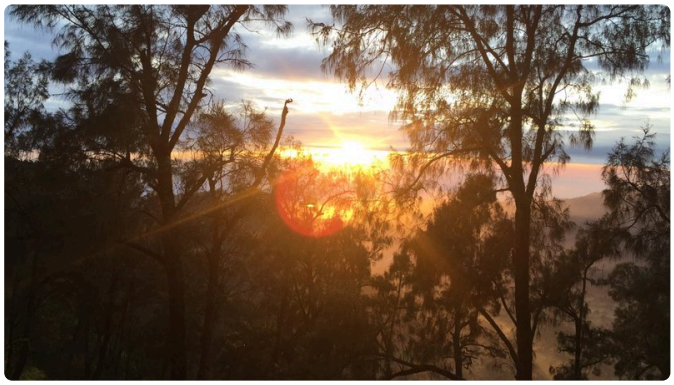


A Mount Bromo

2329 meters tall, this volcano ranks amongst the most active ones and also the most visited mountains in the country.

67254, Indonesia (-7.94207, 112.95298)

bromo-tour-package.blogspot.com



B Sunrise Point 1

The highest vehicle-accessible observation deck on the rim of the Tengger Caldera, offering a panoramic view of Mount Bromo, Mount Batok, and Mount Semeru.

Jalan Pananjakan, 67177, Indonesia (-7.90458, 112.95109)



C Pura Luhur Poten

The Bromo, or Mount Bromo is an active somma volcano, a Hindu pilgrimage site, and part of the Tengger mountains, in East Java, Indonesia.

67254, Indonesia (-7.93337, 112.95424)

D The Sea Of Sand

A 10-square-kilometer volcanic plain of fine grey ash and sand situated at the base of the Bromo and Batok peaks within the caldera floor.

Midangan, Cemorolawang 67254, East Java, Indonesia (-7.93004, 112.96590)



E Mount Semeru

Mahameru may refer to:

65183, Indonesia (-8.10784, 112.92248)

F Bromo crater lake

A steaming, sulfurous vent located at the bottom of the active volcanic crater, accessible via a flight of 253 concrete steps.

67254, Indonesia (-7.94253, 112.95296)

G Mount Batok

An inactive cinder cone volcano standing 2,440 meters tall. Unlike neighboring Bromo, its slopes are covered in sparse vegetation and feature distinct vertical furrows.

67177, Indonesia (-7.93477, 112.94729)

H Tengger Caldera

A massive ancient volcanic depression measuring approximately 10 kilometers across, containing the Sea of Sand and several younger volcanic cones.

(-7.94200, 112.95000)

I Seruni Sunrise Viewpoint 2

A secondary viewpoint accessible via a staircase from Cemorolawang, providing a closer perspective of the Bromo crater and the temple below.

(-7.91082, 112.95142)

J Rainbow Waterfall

A 110-meter-high cascade located in the park's lush highland forest. The mist from the falls frequently creates rainbows when illuminated by morning sunlight.

(-8.01085, 112.86572)

DATA SOURCES

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