

Malang

East Java · Indonesia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Malang is the second-largest city in East Java, after Surabaya. It sits on a high plain at about 500 m, so the air is cooler than on the coast. The Dutch built it as a planned residential city in the colonial era, and some of that layout and architecture remains. Today it is also a university city with a young, relaxed feel.

Most visitors come for a short stay of one or two nights. Malang is a good base for the nearby highlands, including Batu and Mount Bromo. In and around the city, you can see colorful riverside villages, colonial buildings, an old Hindu temple and a few small museums.

When to visit

The dry season, from about June to September, is the best time to visit. Skies are clearer and rain is rare, which also suits trips to Bromo and the waterfalls. The wet season brings heavy rain on most days from about November to April, with the most rain from December to February. October can be hot before the rains start.

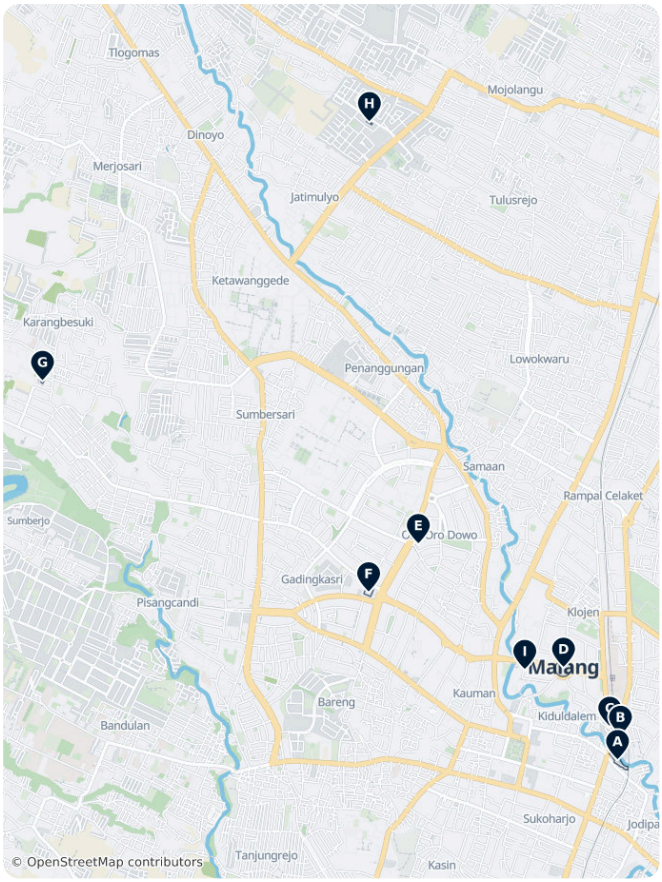
Malang sometimes holds a heritage street festival on Jalan Ijen, where people dress in colonial-era style. It is not held every year, so check local listings.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	27° / 30° Feels like 30°	22° / 21°	28 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	27° / 29° Feels like 30°	22° / 21°	26 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	27° / 29° Feels like 31°	22° / 21°	26 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
April	Poor Poor for sightseeing	28° / 29° Feels like 31°	22° / 21°	22 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
May	Fair Fair for sightseeing	28° / 29°	22° / 19°	15 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
June	Good Good for sightseeing	28° / 30°	21° / 18°	Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 8 (Very high)
July	Great Great for sightseeing	28° / 31°	20° / 17°	Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
August	Great Great for sightseeing	30° / 32°	20° / 18°	Muggy, humid air · UV 10 (Very high)
September	Good Good for sightseeing	32° / 34°	21° / 19°	Muggy, humid air · UV 11 (Extreme)
October	Fair Fair for sightseeing	32° / 35°	22° / 20°	Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	30° / 35°	23° / 22°	21 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	28° / 32° Feels like 31°	22° / 21°	27 rainy days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)

Best months: July, August

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

Top sights



- A Kampung Warna Warni Jodipan is a riverside village in Malang that was once a poor neighborhood. Its houses are now painted in bright colors, and it is the city's best-known photo stop.
- B Kampung Tridi is next door, linked to Jodipan by a glass bridge over the river. You can visit both villages in one short walk.
- C Kampung Biru Arema is a third nearby village, painted blue in the colors of the local football club.
- D Alun-Alun Tugu is the round square in front of the city hall. It dates from Dutch times and has a monument and a pond in the middle.
- E Ijen Cathedral is a Gothic-style Catholic church on the tree-lined Jalan Ijen, in the old colonial district.
- F Museum Brawijaya is a military history museum on Jalan Ijen, close to the cathedral and the city hall.
- G Candi Badut is a small Hindu temple from about 760 CE. It is among the oldest temples in East Java and lies about 5 km west of the center.
- H Museum Mpu Purwa is a small museum about the ancient history of the Malang area.
- I Malang Flower Market sells flowers in the old center, which fits the city's nickname, "Flower City".

Malang – Plan Your Trip

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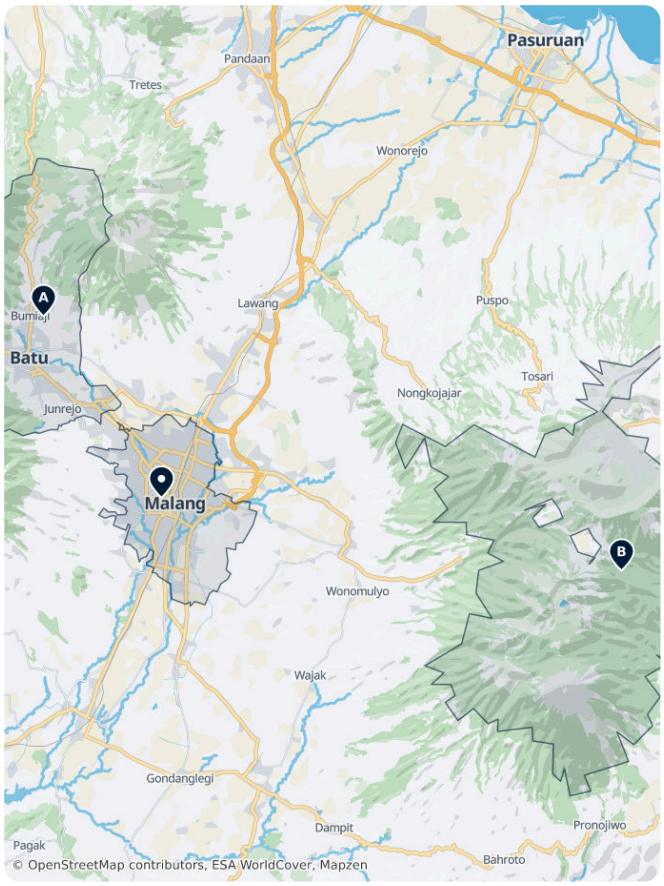
What to experience

- Cross the glass bridge between the Jodipan and Tridi villages and take photos over the river.
- Have ice cream in a colonial-style parlor. Toko Oen has served it since 1930.
- Browse the flower stalls at Malang Flower Market, then visit the nearby bird market.
- Walk along the tree-lined Jalan Ijen and see the colonial-era houses.
- Take a pre-dawn jeep tour from Tumpang to watch the sunrise at Bromo.

Day trips

Malang is a good base for a day out. The closest trips are in the cooler hills around the city.

- A Batu is a hill town about 20 km north-west of Malang. It has orchards, farm stays, parks and family attractions. Allow extra time on weekends, when traffic is heavy.
- Singosari temples, north of the city. Candi Singosari and other temples remain from the 13th-century Singhasari kingdom. They are a short drive and good for a half day.
- B Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park is the main reason many people come to Malang. Most visitors join a jeep tour from Tumpang, a town east of Malang. The sunrise tour starts in the middle of the night.
- Tumpak Sewu waterfall is in the south-east, near the border with Lumajang. It is a long day, so most visitors go with a driver or a tour.
- The south coast has beaches such as Balekambang and Tiga Warna. The roads are slow, so this also needs a full day.



Where to explore

- Nearby: Batu is a separate city in the hills, close to Malang.
- To the east: Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park has the famous volcano landscape.
- To the north: Surabaya is East Java's capital and the main gateway to Malang.

Getting there

- By air: Abdul Rachman Saleh Airport (MLG) is about 10 km from the center. It has flights to Jakarta. Most international travelers fly to Juanda Airport (SUB) near Surabaya, about 100 km away. From Juanda, a shared shuttle or a taxi takes about 2 hours.
- By train: Malang station (Stasiun Malang, also called Kota Baru) has trains from Surabaya, Jakarta and Bandung. The fastest Surabaya train takes about 2 hours. Book on the official rail site, KAI.
- By bus: Arjosari is the main intercity bus terminal, in the north of the city. Buses from Surabaya's Purabaya terminal take about 2 hours.
- By car: The Pandaan–Malang toll road is the quickest way from Surabaya, about 1.5 hours without traffic. Add time at rush hour.

Getting around

- Angkot: Shared minibuses (angkot) run on set routes and are the main public transport. Fares are low. Pay the driver in cash when you get off, and tell them your stop.
- Taxi and ride-hailing: Taxis are easy to find for longer trips. Motorbike taxis are the fastest way to cross town in traffic.
- On foot: The central area around the square, Jalan Ijen and the old Kayutangan street is walkable. Sidewalks can be narrow, and traffic is heavy.
- There is no tram or metro. The old tram line is closed.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

Moderate

The center around the square, Jalan Ijen and Kayutangan is walkable, but sidewalks are narrow and traffic is heavy.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Cycling is not common. Traffic is heavy and there are few bike lanes.

Driving

- Car: Not for the city. Angkots and motorbike taxis are easier. A car with a driver is useful for the hills and waterfalls.
- Rules: Traffic drives on the **left**. Roads are busy, and weekends can be slow on the road to Batu.
- Tolls: The Pandaan–Malang toll road needs a prepaid e-toll card, not cash.

Food & drink

Malang is known for bakso, meatballs in broth, which locals eat at any time of day. Try also cwie mie, a noodle dish, and tahu telur, fried tofu and egg. Old-style sweets such as putu and cenil are sold at street stalls and at festivals.

For a distinctive stop, go to Toko Oen. It is a colonial-era ice cream parlor that opened in 1930. For everyday meals, try the warungs near the universities and the markets in the old center. Warung meals are cheap, and street stalls are busiest in the evening.

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

Malang is generally safe for visitors. The main risks are petty theft in markets and crowded places, and busy traffic. Keep your phone and bag close when you are in a crowd. Agree a price before you take a motorbike taxi if the app is not used.

Tap water is not safe to drink. Use bottled or filtered water. Indonesia is an earthquake and volcano country. If you plan a Bromo trip, check the volcano status before you go.

History

The Dinoyo inscription gives the early date for Malang as 760 CE, in the time of King Gajayana. Candi Badut comes from the same period. The area later formed part of the Singhasari kingdom in the 13th century.

The Dutch made Malang a municipality in 1914. They liked its mild climate and planned a residential city for European families. You can still see this in the wide, tree-lined Jalan Ijen with Ijen Cathedral, and around Alun-Alun Tugu. Museum Brawijaya covers the later military history.

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

Malang Essentials

Malang’s heritage is defined by its Dutch colonial architecture, specialized traditional markets, and community-led art projects. This selection highlights the city's cultural depth, featuring the transformed riverside houses of Jodipan and the archaeological treasures of the Singhasari and Majapahit eras at Museum Mpu Purwa. The list covers essential landmarks from the historic Kotalama railway station to modern creative hubs and unique natural history collections.





A Jodipan colorful village

A former riverside slum transformed into a vibrant art installation. The neighborhood features houses painted in bright hues and is connected to the neighboring Tridi Village by a glass bridge spanning the Brantas River.

(-7.98336, 112.63773)

B Malang Kotalama

A historic railway station established in 1879 during the Dutch colonial period. It remains a primary transit point for the city, retaining elements of early 20th-century Indonesian rail infrastructure.

(-7.99479, 112.63251)

C Malang Flower Market

Locally known as Pasar Bunga Splendid, this market specializes in tropical plants, orchids, and ornamental seeds. It is situated in a central valley near the Brantas River.

(-7.97727, 112.63142)

D Birds Market

Adjacent to the flower market, this traditional bazaar features a wide variety of exotic birds, songbirds, and handcrafted wooden cages.

(-7.97836, 112.63097)

E Museum Mpu Purwa

An archaeological repository housing a collection of statues, inscriptions, and artifacts from ancient East Javanese kingdoms, including Singhasari and Majapahit.

Jalan Soekarno-Hatta Perumahan Griya Santa No. 210, 65141 Malang (-7.94032, 112.62086)

Tu–Su 08:30–15:00

mpupurwamalang.org

F Hawai Waterpark

A large-scale aquatic park featuring themed attractions, including the Waikiki Beach wave pool, Jet Coaster slides, and a lazy river.

(-7.92366, 112.65766)

home.hawaigroup.id

G Malang Creative Center

A multi-story creative hub designed for local industries. It contains exhibition halls, co-working spaces, a library, and facilities for film, fashion, and digital arts.

Jalan Jenderal Achmad Yani 53 (-7.94079, 112.64202)

mcc.malangkota.go.id

H Monumen Pesawat Terbang

A public monument featuring a MiG-17 Fresco fighter jet, serving as a landmark at the intersection of Jalan Soekarno-Hatta to honor Indonesia's aviation history.

(-7.93696, 112.62633)

I Gajayana Art Center

A cultural venue dedicated to the preservation of Javanese heritage through traditional dance performances, wayang kulit shows, and local art exhibitions.

Jalan Nusa Kambangan, 65117 Malang (-7.98848, 112.62664)

J Museum Zoologi Frater Vianney

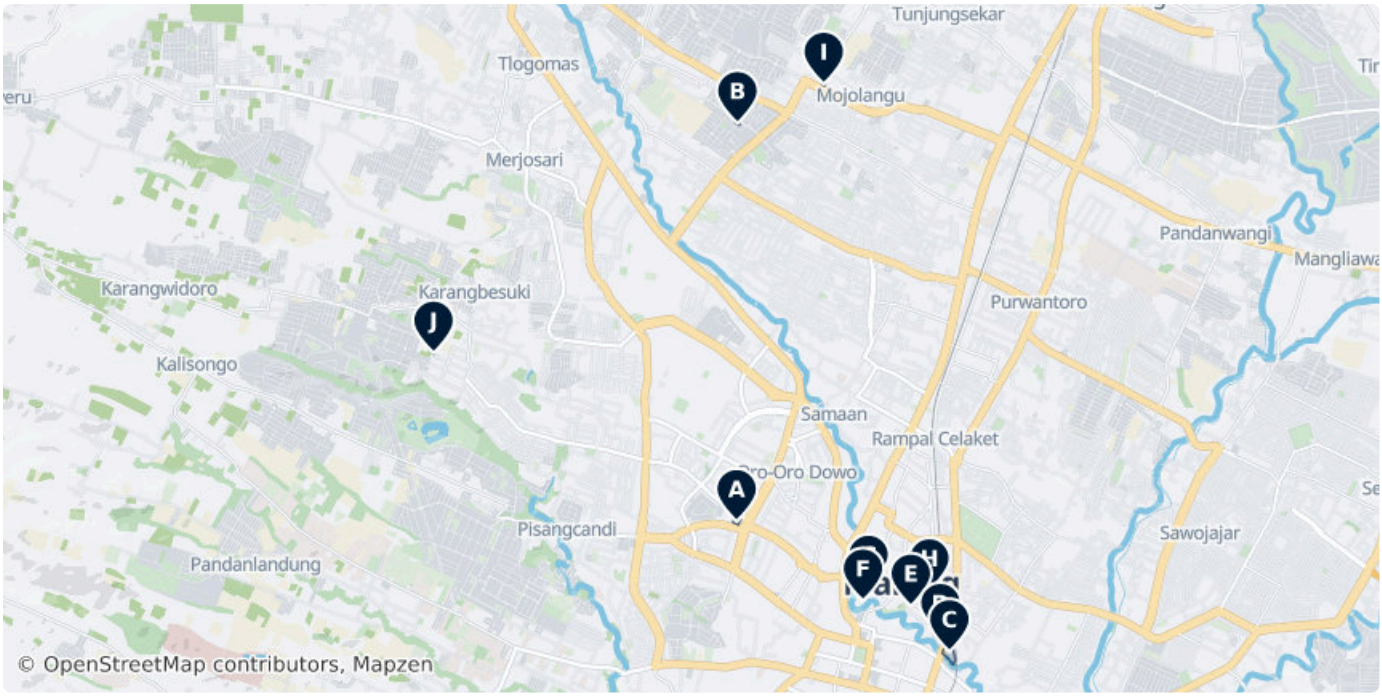
A specialized natural history museum containing thousands of preserved animal specimens, with a significant collection of mollusks and reptiles curated by the Frater Vianney foundation.

Jalan Mahameru Ve 7 Jl. Mahameru VE 7 Tidar No.10, Doro, Karangwidoro, Kec. Dau, 65146 Malang (-7.95861, 112.59639)

Mon-Sat 07.00-14.00

Malang's Must-See Attractions

Malang’s history and culture are showcased through a mix of colonial-era heritage and modern community transformations. This selection features military archives at Museum Brawijaya, ancient Singhasari artifacts at Museum Mpu Purwa, and the cinematic history of Indonesia. The list highlights the vibrant urban art of Kampung Tridi and the blue-washed houses of Kampung Biru Arema, alongside traditional specialty markets for birds and flowers and the Monumen Juang relief commemorating the struggle for independence.



A Museum Brawijaya

Military history museum housing the Gerbong Maut death carriage, tanks, and weapons used during the Indonesian War of Independence.

Jalan Besar Ijen;Jl. Besar Ijen 25A, 65115 Malang (-7.97204, 112.62080)

Mo–Su 08:00–14:00

B Museum Mpu Purwa

Archaeological museum displaying stone statues and inscriptions from the Kanjuruhan, Singhasari, and Majapahit eras.

Jalan Soekarno-Hatta Perumahan Griya Santa No. 210, 65141 Malang (-7.94032, 112.62086)

Tu–Su 08:30–15:00

mpupurwamalang.org

C Kampung Tridi

A riverside neighborhood transformed by 3D murals and colorful street art, connected to the Jodipan area by a glass bridge.

(-7.98241, 112.63793)

D Kampung Biru Arema

A residential area where every building is painted blue as a tribute to the local football team, Arema FC.

(-7.98111, 112.63720)

E Museum Inggil

A cultural space showcasing Malang's heritage through traditional masks, vintage puppets, and historical photographs.

(-7.97878, 112.63483)

F Birds Market

A traditional market specializing in local and exotic birds, ornate cages, and pet supplies.

(-7.97836, 112.63097)

G Malang Flower Market

Also known as Pasar Bunga Splendid, this market offers a wide variety of tropical plants, orchids, and gardening tools.

(-7.97727, 112.63142)

H Monumen Juang

A massive bronze relief located near the train station, depicting the Indonesian people's struggle against Dutch colonial forces.

(-7.97754, 112.63632)

I Indonesian Old Cinema Museum

Features a collection of antique film projectors, classic movie posters, and memorabilia from the early days of Indonesian filmmaking.

Jalan Soekarno-Hatta Jl. Soekarno Hatta No.45, Mojolangu, Kec. Lowokwaru, Kota Malang, Jawa Timur, 65142 Malang
(-7.93719, 112.62781)

Mo–Su 08:00–22:00

J Museum Zoologi Frater Vianney

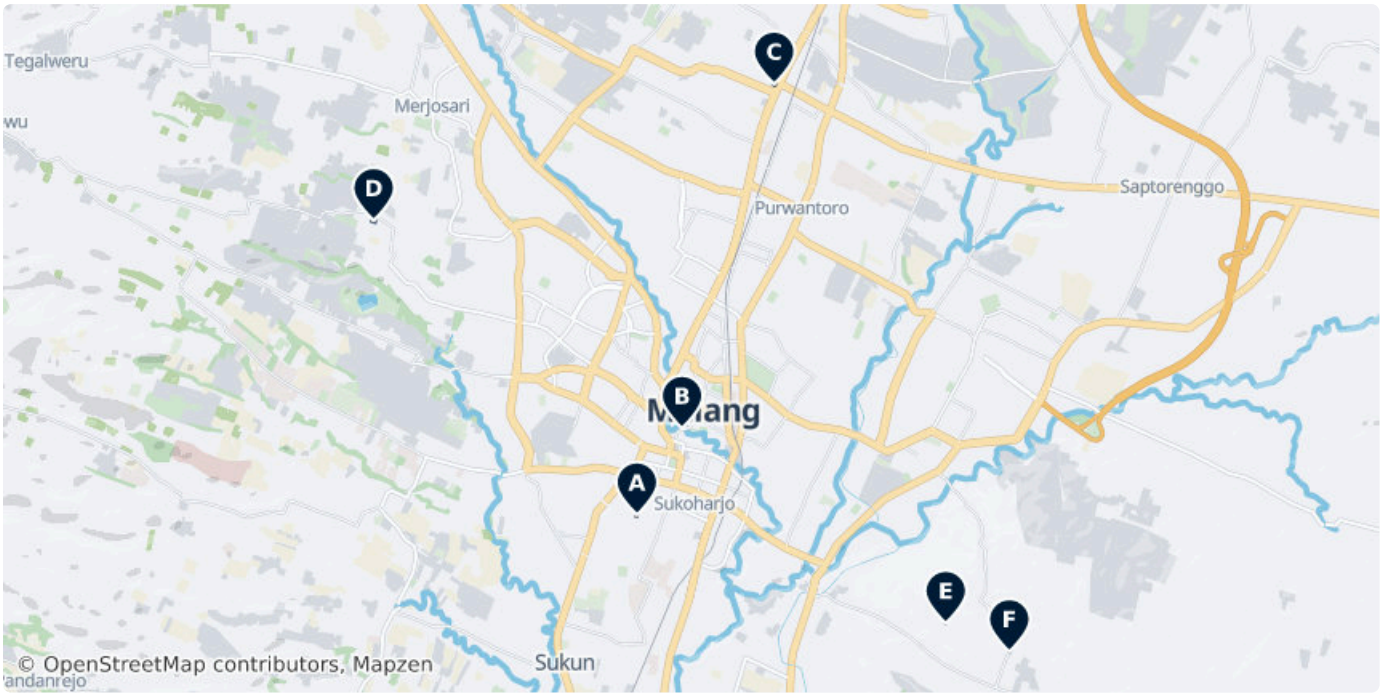
A natural history museum housing thousands of preserved biological specimens, including reptiles, shells, and fossils.

Jalan Mahameru Ve 7 Jl. Mahameru VE 7 Tidar No.10, Doro, Karangwidoro, Kec. Dau, 65146 Malang
(-7.95861, 112.59639)

Mon-Sat 07.00-14.00

Malang's Creative Gems

Malang’s creative landscape spans from traditional performance venues to modern industrial hubs. The city hosts established institutions like the Gajayana Art Center and the Dewan Kesenian Malang, which preserve Javanese performing arts and contemporary exhibitions. The Malang Creative Center serves as a multi-story incubator for digital and visual arts. Beyond the urban core, the Hi PAM Maur Rahmah sites demonstrate functional heritage through local water mill technology used for community irrigation.



A Gajayana Art Center

A cultural venue hosting traditional Javanese performances, including Wayang Orang theater and dance recitals. It serves as a central hub for preserving regional performing arts.

Jalan Nusa Kambangan, 65117 Malang
(-7.98848, 112.62664)

B Art Center Arts Council Malang

The headquarters of the Dewan Kesenian Malang (DKM). This facility provides space for local art exhibitions, cultural discussions, and workshops for the city's creative community.

Jalan Majapahit 3, 65119 Malang (-7.97891, 112.63171)

C Malang Creative Center

A modern eight-story facility supporting various creative sub-sectors. It includes a cinema, recording studios, animation labs, and exhibition areas for local designers and entrepreneurs.

Jalan Jenderal Achmad Yani 53 (-7.94079, 112.64202)

mcc.malangkota.go.id

D Peter Wongso Auditorium

A large-capacity performance hall located within the Southeast Asia Bible Seminary (SAAT) campus, primarily used for concerts and academic ceremonies.

(-7.95589, 112.59719)

E Hi PAM Maur Rahmah 2

A local water management facility utilizing water mill technology for irrigation and community water distribution.

65136, Indonesia (-8.00051, 112.66122)

F Hi PAM Maur Rahmah 1

A community-managed water mill system designed for sustainable irrigation and local water supply.

(Unnamed Road), 65156, Indonesia (-8.00364, 112.66833)

DATA SOURCES

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IMAGE CREDITS

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