

Helloooooo girlfriends!

Thank you for looking to this Girlfriends Guide for tips, tricks, and hidden places you might not know about in Jakarta. Unfortunately, this book is a bit dated since I left Jakarta in 2015, so please bear that in mind. I highly recommend you to call first or double-check locations, before you spend 3 hours in Jakarta *macet*, trying to find a place I've recommended.

I know that living in Jakarta is not easy – the traffic, the pollution, the poverty, and the need to wash every fruit and vegetable before eating it – but Jakarta has so many amazing things to offer the world, including it's kind and beautiful people. My family had an amazing 4 years living there and I hope you are enjoying your time there as well. My one word of advice, even beyond all the fun things to see, do, and eat in this guidebook, is to use the wonderful resources that Jakarta has to offer to help you find some girlfriends. Girlfriends are the people who will give you the best insight and advice, help you get through the lows, and will be there to celebrate the highs. Girlfriends are what will truly help your time in Jakarta to be some of the best years of your life!

So, even though some of this Girlfriends Guide may be a little bit outdated, always remember that true girlfriends are like diamonds: bright, beautiful, valuable, always in STYLE!!

Best wishes for you to have a magical Jakarta experience . . .

In love and girlfriend friendship,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victoria". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

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The Girlfriends Guide to Jakarta*

Updated: January 2015**

By Victoria Botvin***

*This name bears no relationship to, and is in no way affiliated with *The Girlfriends' Guide to Pregnancy*, a book by Vicki Iovine. Nor do I have any good pregnancy advice to provide. ☺ And, this guide is certainly not limited for just women to use. "Manfriends" are welcome to it as well. The name is simply a handy shorthand that is intended to describe the casual tone and relaxed spirit behind this list of all my favorite "go to" spots in Jakarta (and some recommendations from other helpful contributors). It is nothing too formal, nothing too organized, and nothing held back . . . just like two girlfriends talking. ☺ I hope you find this Guide useful and that it will help to make your experience in Jakarta just a little bit brighter!

Cheers, Victoria (VLBhome@yahoo.com)

** Please forgive that some of the phone numbers, prices, or businesses may have changed or closed. Ventures in Jakarta seem to pop-up and close down overnight, so this list is continually being updated.

***Sorry for all the disclaimers. I'm a lawyer; what do you expect?

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Sales or Services by People Who Will Come to Your House

(Otherwise known as the “I got a guy (or a gal) list”)

Beauty Services:

Ibu Margi – will come to your house and give you a mani/pedi. Speaks great English and uses quality products too. Rp. 250,000 for mani/pedi. Call or SMS to 0818-125-212

Sahaha Sky - Makeup Artist

Mobile:081212438491, Email: janet.diekmann@hotmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/sahana.sky.makeup?ref=ts&fref=ts>

Pak Danoe - haircuts, blow-dry/blow-out and makeup.

Very good, speaks excellent English, and does men and women’s hair. Also, very good for kids haircuts.

Handphone: 0812-1388-8343

Ibu Lilis – Call her for a wonderful mani/pedi (cost is Rp. 300,000 for a regular pedi and a gel mani which can last up to 2 weeks).

Handphone: 0816-140-7601. Speaks great English and uses quality products. She’s my go-to woman for a great home-manicure! Please tell her Victoria sent you!

Ibu Ina - eyelash/eyebrow tinting

Handphone: 0817-683-1173

ZAP – permanent body hair removal “zapping” for underarms, legs, or bikini/Brazilian, etc. Does not hurt and works very well, but needs to be “refreshed” every year or two. Several outlet locations in Jakarta and they will come to your home for a fee, but be warned that their big, bright, sign-labeled car means that you won’t be hiding anything from your neighbors, or your staff! I know someone who invited several girlfriends to her house to do one-at-a-time “Zapping,” and she made a party of it! Group discount, maybe? Jl. Woltermongisidi No.14E, Kebayoran Baru - (021)-71500007 (021)-7206333. Home Service: 08 7878 927927. <http://zap.co.id/home>

Family Health Massage - clean, wholesome massage therapists who come to your house for massage or reflexy. The person answering the phone and SMS messages speaks good English, but the therapists speak very little English, so if you don't speak Bahasa Indonesia be prepared to use sign language, broken communication, or plan to have someone around to translate. Reservations: 0857-1407-0770. Price is Rp. 135,000 for 1.5 hours and Rp. 180,000 for 2 hrs.

Food:

Janice – The Cinnamon Roll Lady

Yummy cinnamon rolls to eat or freeze for parties. She will work out delivery (for a large order) or you can pick-up - sometimes at the AWA House, at a local bazaar, or at her house. jakartabu@gmail.com.

Pak Stephan - Stephan Mauger - Livraison de la rentrée - delivery service for a variety of French cheese, seafood, sausage and meats. Email to: walakaboats@yahoo.fr.

The “Cheese Lady.” Order Cheddar, Mozzarella, or Parmesan delivered to your house. For more info, contact Susan for and updated product list and info on how. Her numbers are: +62 852 88196665 (cell phone) or +62 21 54367567 (office) or email at adrisusan@hotmail.co.id.

Another “Cheese Lady” - Rosalie Cheese. Mozzarella, Greek and feta cheeses available. They do gift baskets of wine and cheese too. Contact Ayu Linggih (0812 9481 9129) for a Brochure & Pricelist. You can find their stock at: Jl. Benda Raya No.8B1, Kemang - Jakarta Selatan or simply place your order and we will deliver it to you (No minimum order & delivery fee for South Jakarta).

The Sandwich Lady – hatchbar@pacific.net.id does kebabs for a party, outside or in the garden ... she sets up the grill and shaves the meat to make little pita pockets. Also does sandwiches, lasagna, lots of things – fantastic to deal with – good quality food – 100 kebabs is about 2 million all-inclusive with staff, plates, food, setup, etc.
Contact Nur 0818 061 96 996

Fiore Bakery and Dried Flowers – Ibu Shri

This store does beautiful individually-wrapped cookies in many different designs that are beautiful (and delicious!) for party favors. Also does dried flower and fresh flower arrangements, gift hampers and cupcakes too. Contact Ibu Shri at Order@fioredriedflowers.com or check out the website at: <http://www.fioredriedflowers.com>. You can order items through the website or email and have them delivered to your house and never once have to sit in traffic!

Country Style Donut and Fresh Food Ideas

Delivery of donuts, bakery items, and I think pretzels too. Tel: 021 5871029. They are somewhere near Blok M but deliver for Rp. 30,000.

Bagel Bagel - bagels for delivery or take-away. They claim they are “NY style bagels” but anyone who really *knows* NYC bagels will know that this is far from the truth. But they’ll do in a pinch. And, they deliver. I actually prefer Kem Chicks for bagels, but it’s all a matter of preference. Bagel Bagel – many locations including JL. Benda Raya #14D, Kemang Everyday 7AM-8PM ☎ 021-7818769 / 021-7806218

Paris Surcre – Bakery. If you are looking for yummy fresh baguette, croissant, etc. I can recommend Paris Surcre. Order by phone or WHATSAPP and they will deliver. Their menu is on their FB site. Very reliable, quality products and friendly staff. Email: contact@paris-sucres.com +62 812 8860 1814

Catering:

The Royal Kitchen - Bellagio Boutique Mall, G – 16, Mega Kuningan, Jakarta

Deepak is the owner and Yenny assists him. Both of them speak good English. This is a great and reasonable place to cater for authentic North Indian fare. They will come and set up a barbeque, grill fresh 'tandoor style' for your parties if that's what you like. They also have a restaurant however their catering is considered better. They are good value if you are considering a largish get together. Their contact numbers: [0813 1520 9191](tel:081315209191) or [021 300 299 75](tel:02130029975).

The American Club Catering

The American Club offers a wide variety of American cuisine, zesty Mexican food, and Indonesian food. The quality is very good and the assortment of foods is vast. They also have great selection of delectable desserts. The Club's international kitchen boasts that the Club's chef has been “perfecting the preparation of American-style food for 17-years.” Many of the ingredients used are imported from America and it is very good quality. Contact catering@aecra-club.org for more info.

Upper Crust Catering and Listserve

Upper Crust is another option for catered American cuisine brought right to your door. They boast in their emails: “Whatever the occasion, The Upper Crust is ready to help you with your special event! We can bring the party! That means that we can provide the food, tables and chairs, waiters, bartenders, everything you need to make your party memorable. Our professional party planner will be glad to meet with you to discuss your needs. Then you can relax and enjoy being a gracious host while we do all the work! We hope you will give us a try! Your satisfaction is guaranteed! Contact us at 021-765 6082 or kitchenmaw@uppercrustjakarta.com.”

Upper Crust food is very similar to the American Club and is in the same general price category. Some people prefer one option much more than the other, but I find their cuisine quite comparable. I might give a slight edge in quality to the American Club, but honestly there is not much difference.

In addition to the catering, Upper Crust also has a list serve of Classified Ads, which they proudly advertize:

This free service is provided to assist expats if you have items to sell or if you are looking for things to buy. Maybe you are leaving Indonesia and would like to find jobs for your household help. Send your information to mary.a.wiley@uppercrustjakarta.com.

Delicious Dishes Catering – Haven’t used them myself, but heard they are much cheaper and better than Upper Crust.

Jl Sawo II No. 69 Cipete Utara Kebayoran Baru Jakarta Selatan. Telephone: 0812 1063 0016/0856 9597 5080; (agus) 0815 1311 9633 (sukadi).
BB Pin 229dd9fc. Email : ddeliciousdishes@gmail.com

2 Cups Sugar caters not only desserts (which you might expect from the name) but also tasty savoury dishes. Their kebabs, samosas, roasts, salads and pastas have seen countless repeat orders! 2 Cups Sugar is exceptionally busy during the festive seasons and you will need to place your orders early for Christmas. The Christmas Bake Sale is an open house event to indulge your fancy on the many traditional delights. If you are looking for good, wholesome, delicious home cooked food and desserts, give them a call at 08111635507 (Veena) and 0811931219 (Poonam). As they say, “We take pride in serving our foods, from the irresistible savoury to sweet endings!”

Organic, Health Food Products, etc:

Fresh Almond/Hazlenut Milk and Almond Butter:

For order email at zuzu.zaza.online@gmail.com or call (021) 72780645 <http://www.zuzuzaza.com>

The milk is very good. However, if you want to be more cost effective and make your own milk and butter, just follow these recipes.

<http://www.ohnuts.com/blog/how-to-make-almond-milk-recipe/>

<http://www.mahalo.com/how-to-make-almond-butter/>

Eat Clean - mail to: eatcleanat24hours@gmail.com. Sells all different kinds of nuts, berries, seeds, dried fruits, grains, and other products in bulk amounts and at wholesale prices that are much better than the local stores. Send them an email and they will send you their product and price list.

Helene's Organic Products – You can buy almond butter, coconut flakes.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Helenes-Organics/514105388637302>

To order, send Helene a Whatsapp message. +6593670745

Club Sehat – a place to order dried fruits, berries, cereals, beans, frozen foods, pasta, and many organic products. They deliver but they also have a stand-alone store in Jakarta where you can order by phone and pick up. Just ask a good Bahasa speaker to call and place the order as their English is limited. Check it out at:

<http://www.clubsehat.com/cart/index.php?route=common/home>.

Club Sehat is very far from South Jakarta. But one option may be to send your driver and tells him what to get. Or, you can place your order by text, and have it ready for pick-up - 0878 7760 0507. I heard their online ordering doesn't work, but maybe that's changed.

Zuzu Zaza – sells almond milk, hazelnut milk and almond butter.
Phone: +6288210474340, bb : 7559030F, IG : zuzuzazaid,
twitter : @zuzuzazaID, zuzu.zaza.online@gmail.com

Organic produce – organic produce delivered to your door. For Rp. 100,000 you get a box of whatever produce is fresh and in season (including herbs). Email Christine by Sunday to place your order. Christine’s Handphone +6285691878584.

Yum! Organic produce - Order your fresh organic vegetables, delivered straight from the farm to your home! Email them for more details:
YUM Organic Farm - organicfarm@yumindonesia.org

Beyond Treats – Specializing in baked goods that are: Nutritious, Organic, Guilt Free, Egg Free, Dairy Free, Gluten Free, Soy Free, Nut Free, Diabetic Friendly, and Allergy Friendly. Phone: +62 21 450 0201, Mobile: +62 819 3200 6277, e-mail: order@beyondtreats.com, Website: beyondtreats.com

Booze (i.e., alcohol)

The Margarita Man – The owner is John (Australian guy with a local staff). This group comes to your home and sets up all the equipment, supplies, and glasses needed for free-flow margaritas. Allows the option of lemon-lime (normal) or strawberry margaritas. They are DELISH and the hit of any party!! I’ve even had them come to parties with children and I just give the kids fruit juice and then the adults can have “mommy/daddy juice” (wink, wink). Handphone: 0818-718924 (John) or his more responsive wife Karin, 0813 8032 4270. Price for the first 100 glasses is 3 million, then Rp 30,000 per glass after that.

Daiquiri Factory - jab@cbn.net Party hire with choice of 2 flavors of 70 liters each with 50 cocktail glasses and straws, 1 attendant to serve for 4 hours, the machine with 2 bowls for 2 million rupiah. Delivery fee 200,000 and overtime for after midnight.

Farid Effendy - Wine Guy who delivers. Contact him directly for a list of their supplies and prices. 34/36/38 Senoko Drive Singapore 758221
Telephone: +65 6755 0330, Email: farid@indoguna.com.sg,
Website: www.indoguna.com

Danny (Wine guy – can do short-notice wine and liquor delivery) –

For a minimum order of 12 bottles, you can order (mixed) cases of wine from mywinesupplier@gmail.com (or BBM Pin 29DC51A6 or BB Pin 28D4499C). They sell a variety of wine from various countries.

Duty Free shops – there are several Duty Free shops in Kemang for buying discount wine and liquor, but the prices are a little better from the guys above. Nonetheless, in a pinch, you can go to:

Kemang Duty Free (in Kemang just North of McDonalds and across from the Swiss Hotel- Address: Jalan Kedoya Duri Raya No.8A, Phone:+62 21 71791253. Bring your passport for ID, but if you don't have it, they might let you buy anyway.

Miscellaneous:

Ibu Safrina – Linen Inspirations. Ibu Safrina will come to your house with her samples and she makes beautiful tailor-made sheets for your beds. She's not the best at getting back to you fast, nor is her work speedy but her sheets (make sure you get the 100% cotton) are very nice . . . and well-priced! Handphone: 0816 190 2005

Pak Sukmo - his company does beautiful beach towels with names woven into the fabric and they can do fabric printing on most anything, or personalized names for party favors on items such as water bottles, bags, etc. Handphone: 0818-688-610

Ibu Leli is the Batik Lady – She will come to your house with batik fabrics. She has great prices on the fabric. You will be very happy. Handphone: +62 878 88794355 (best to have someone call who speaks Bahasa).

Balloon World – Email Lani at balloon@cbn.net.id for very elaborate balloon creations – She does balloons in the shape of X-mas trees and pool floaters. Expensive but great stuff. Easy to deal with.

Print Koos Digital – Have custom t-shirts made with your digital design, for very inexpensive prices. Take your design on a thumb/key drive and they can put it on a shirt. Jalan H. Abdul Majid No. 14A. Cipete Utara, Jakarta Selatan. GSM: 0856-777-9332. Email: Restintees@gmail.com. BB: 28376ECA.

Ibu Josephine - makes beautiful Batik pillows of any size or shape and specializes in pillows, cosmetic bags, wine bags, table runners, etc. I found that her items make great gifts to take back to the US. People love the Batik wine bags and at Christmas time she makes Batik stockings that are perfect for light-weight, little gifts to take home. Use fabric paint to put a child's name on it for a cute touch. Ibu Josephine is a very sweet woman who helps employ women who are struggling. She has a huge heart and I love to help her out. She has a stand at most of the big women's bazaars, or will come to your house for a larger order. Please tell her Victoria sent you. Handphone: 0878-7808-9848

Islam Carpets – hand knotted wool & silk carpets

Showroom is at Jl. Terogong Raya No. 30 Cilandak, near JIS.

Contact Atta at Handphone: 0813 1678 9415

Atta will work very hard to find the perfect carpet for you, and will give you a very good price. He'll bring carpets to your home, and will leave them for you, if you want time to think about it.

Fine Carpets – Interior - Duvet

Showroom is at Kemang Raya 36 (near the back entrance to Lippo Mall).

Beautiful wool, silk carpets at great prices. They also do washing and repairing of carpets too.

Contact Hayat Khalid at Handphone: 0812 9678 1971

Or 0858 1029 1809

Email: carpetrugs73@yahoo.com

Please tell them Victoria sent you.

Pak Eko – adorable personalized small notepads of paper, like post-its but without the sticky stuff. Minimum order is 30 boxes at Rp. 40,000 each, so you may want to order with several friends. They have a cute orange bajai design that is nice to give as a gift to a teacher, friend, co-worker, or someone leaving Jakarta. Handphone: 0878-8254-0010

Pak Aming - plumber

Handphone: 0811-868-830

Pak Hery – electrician

Handphone: 0816 113 4875

Ceria Kid's Party and Toys Rental – Inflatable Slides

70836001 or 70155725 or the best# is Mobile: 08161661390

Current cost of an inflatable slide (Sept 2013) is Rp 1.2 plus Rp 200,000 if it gets wet (like near a pool). You may want to give a tip of Rp 200,000 for the staff. Usually it's 2-3 guys who come to set up and monitor it. They do more than just bouncy slides – lots of other toy rental options and games, plus food vendors like cotton candy or popcorn, etc. Check them out at: www.ceriaparty.com or Email to Pak Agus for a price list or questions at ceriaparty@hotmail.com. He speaks very good English.

Josh - an Illusionist. He's not your typical trick based magic man. Much better and much more entertaining. www.JoshTheMagicMan.com, Mobile: +62 813 8192 2444

Chemonque Mery - Party Magician – he's great and does tricks that will baffle and entertain both kids AND adults! Phone: +62 8521 627 4431

Tom's Collection- Sandals – www.sandalnamatoms.web.id

Tom makes adorable personalized towels, totes and thong/sandals/flip-flops with cool designs and colors. The sandals are not designed for super-high comfort, but they are cute, cheap and make a nice party favor for kids parties. Kids can pick out their own design, colors, and style of sandal and have their name cut into the base of the shoe. Supriyadi Tom, Email: Sandals_tom@yahoo.com.

Pak Hendra - Help with computers. (see also Techie Section). He's in Kemang and has a little office/shop in the Plaza Kemang 88 building on Kemang Raya. He speaks great English and is very nice. His HP is 0815 881 9377, and he is on WhatsApp too.

Other People/Places to Know Around Town

Pak Bram – very good tour guide for Jakarta tourist destinations.
0813-8877-4333.

Pak Made Purnama – gorgeous, colorful beaded baskets from Bali that sell in the U.S. and around the world for far more than you will spend here. (urban legend is that a tall basket once sold in the Neiman Marcus Christmas catalogue for \$2000 USD and it sells for about 4-5 million Rups here). Pak Made sells baskets in many sizes priced from about Rp 350,000 to 5-6 million rups. It's a beautiful Indonesian craft for your home. They come to Jakarta once a month. Get on his mailing list by sending an email to: manacika68@yahoo.com. Or, his handphone: 0812-3850-2065.

Ibu Ayu at Strawberry Patch. – Great hanging felt-letter banners for birthdays or holiday parties. They can be in any style you'd like. Just show her the link to something you like and she can recreate it - she is a bit expensive, but the quality is really very good and you can store the banners and use for years. A 14-letter banner cost Rp. 250,000. Turn around of about 2-3 days. Her contact info: Ayu HUSODO- ayu@strawberrypatch.biz or +62.819.3138.5555. Or, her store here has handmade gifts & family products from around the globe <http://www.strawberrypatch.biz/>.

Handmade Snakeskin Bags and Shoes – Looking for a gorgeous snakeskin handbag or a custom-made pair of shoes? Look no further than this small shop that makes top quality, gorgeous snakeskin products for reasonable prices. You can show them a design you want them to copy, or look in their store for some sample products. Then, choose the color and design and presto, a few weeks later you will have your beautiful handbag! The store is located just north of Pacific Place Mall and west of Plaza Semanggi, behind CEO Suite - Wisma GKBI. Call for directions. **Usala Cipta**, Jalan Taman Hidayah, No. 19, Jakarta Pusat 10210, Phone: 5738484.

Beauty/Salon Services:

Essy – very good for haircut and coloring and well-regarded among expats. Her shampoo guy does an amazing creambath – he's got magic hands!!
Mitra Hadiprana, Kemang Raya no. 28-30.
Salon is called Ama2gee on the top floor. Phone: 0818-601-229

Mil & Matt – old-fashioned salon for haircut/color, mani/pedi, and a wonderful creambath! This place looks like a 1950's American beauty salon, with women sitting around one great big room and gabbing like hens in a hen house, but despite it's dated look, the services are usually very good, especially the nail services. 33 Kemang Raya, just down the street from Laser Tag and North of McDonalds. Call 0816-112-5408 or 0217-198-030

Mi Casa – Salon for haircut/style/blowdry, mani/pedi, or regular and foot massage. For massage (1 hour = Rp. 190,000) and also has very good cream bath/scalp, head and shoulder massage. According to one girlfriend: "Herman is a great stylist who knows how to work with curly/wavy hair and Erri is the go-to man for a cream bath." Phone: 0217-806-222. Jalan Benda, Kemang

Alfens Salon – Roberto. Very well known in the expat community. He's from Europe and speaks 5 languages or more. Go to him especially if you want someone to tell you how you should wear your hair. He's got opinions! He tends to delegate his work and flutter around the room to help everyone at the same time, so expect to get his advice and his expert scissor work, but then have his minions do most of the other work. Also, if you have time, get a vitamin hair treatment (like a cream bath) from Ibu Meyy. She's very good! Phone: 0217237280, Jalan Panglima Polim 9, No 1

Feliz Salon and Spa - nice salon for hair and nails - good to take children or birthday parties. Also, they do a wonderful cream bath/scalp massage. Divine! Phone: 0217-656-525
Jalan Cilandak Tengah 3 No 3, Cilandak, near Citos in Cilandak.

Zen Family Massage and Reflexy – very nice, clean, cool, and modern-looking spa with a fresh feel and nice treatments.
Jl. Gunawarman 43, Senopati
Kebayoran Baru, Jaksel 12180
Telephone: 62-21-7262375, Email: zen.jkt@gmail.com

Nikki's Salon - Scottish hair stylist Nikki and her professional team are well-regarded among expats. Services include - cutting, colouring, styling, creambath, reflexology, manicure/pedicure, waxing, threading, eyelash/brow tint, facials.
Jalan Kemang Raya No.47 A (across from Ranch Market - next to JPG Photography), Kemang, Jakarta Selatan Tel: 021 719 2917

Sonate Classic's (Beauty Clinic) for facial.

Jl. Tegal Rotan Raya No. 99. Pondok Aren- Bintaro

Tel. 021 7452132

Email: Classicsbintaro99@gmail.com

Puri Santi Spa - beautiful salon located in a lovely Balinese style home and great for massages, cream bath, and other body treatments, but not as great for mani/pedi. A little more pricy than the average massage in the area, but it's very pretty, relaxed, clean, has private rooms. It's a great place to take out-of-towners after a long flight to introduce them to the luxuries of Jakarta! Phone is: 021-766-2423, or email is reservation@purisanti.com, reservations can be done on-line and they will respond within 24 hours. Located in Cipite, near SOS clinic and about 100 meters off of Jalan Antisari.

Jamu Spa – lovely salon and great for mani/pedi and massages. This spa is equally well-known as Puri Santi (at least among JIS parents) and most spa aficionados in town have their favorite between the two. (I personally prefer Puri Santi for the more quiet private rooms, but Jamu does have much better manicures). Phone: 021-765-9691
Jalan Cipite VII/94B, Cipite (located just south of Cipite Raya).

Poetrespa

Puri Mutiara - Jakarta Selatan

Jl. Puri Mutiara Raya No. 6, Phone (021) 98271953

Boutique spa in South Jakarta (near Cipite Raya and Antisari) – good and inexpensive too! Massage and creambath cost about Rp. 200,000.

<http://poetrespa.com/aboutus/aboutus.php>

Food (non-delivery):

Natasha's Cakes

Amazingly beautiful, creative, detailed, and delicious, moist cakes. Just tell them the design or theme that you want, e-mail them pictures of what you want, and they can do it. So far they have done a doggie cake for my daughter, a tennis-themed cake for my husband, an Argentina-themed for a friend, and an extraordinarily detailed scuba-diving cake that I think should have won some sort of award! Please tell them Victoria sent you. ☺
Check out the website for samples:

<http://www.natashacakes.com>, Telephone: (021) 765 4246, Handphone:

0811 1772 044 (sms Only), Jl. Sekolah Duta Raya No. 83
Pondok Indah, Jakarta Selatan 12310

Mini Love Bites – Fantastic, pretty, (but not ornate) cupcakes and cakes! And, they're not just pretty (like most cakes in Jakarta), these also taste great!! Light fluffy cake and yummy frosting but not too waxy, like most frostings in Jakarta.

<http://www.minilovebites.com/menu.html>

Jalan Gunawarman No.32 - Located next door to Turkuaz Resto
Jakarta Selatan, South Jakarta City, Jakarta 12180
+62 811-9409-109

Dapur Cokelat – go to this place to buy everything and ANYTHING in chocolate; gorgeous cakes, cookies, candy, “pebbles” and chocolate fountains with all the fixins’ can all be found here, ordered, and delivered. Not cheap, but good quality. Dapur Cokelat - Ahmad Dahlan
Jl. K.H. Ahmad Dahlan No. 12 Jakarta Selatan T. (+62 21) 726-6727 email :
dc_ahmaddahlan@dapurcokelat.com. <http://www.dapurcokelat.com/home>

Cronuts – Many people believe this is the latest, trendiest and yummiest craze to hit Jakarta. Without a doubt, this combo of donut and croissant is delish! Of course you can find them at JCo donut shop, or go to **Publico** for their Valrhona marsbar cronut with Valrhona cream filling, salted caramel sauce and topped with crispy Valrhona crumble. They also have a peanut butter cream cheese flavor! Make sure you pre-order your batch. Public, Jl. Senopati Raya No.65, Kebayoran Baru, p. +62 21 5296 4960.

Tailors: so many great ones to choose from, but here are a few . . .

Mega Fashion (Textile) Tailor

Jl. Tebah III No. C-D (Mayestik), Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia 12120

Very good tailor for having men's or women's suits made. They do a lot of work for U.S. Embassy staff. Women's suits, depending upon on material, cost 1 million Rp. or much less for cheaper fabric. If you have a suit you like, take it with you and they can copy it in the fabric you choose. +021 7279 4038

0811 909 680 (Mr. Gope's HP)

Ibu Ria – the famous seamstress

Kemang Seletan 1C, House 3A – right near Hero Market in Kemang, on a tiny side-street with a small sign outside her shop. Fantastic tailor in Kemang area who does great costumes and can copy most pictures (or a clothing item) you give her to make dresses, pants, shirts etc. If you catch her around Halloween or before the ANZA, BWA, or Latin Ball she's likely to be *very* busy, as many women in town know about this wonderful resource. But, her prices are fantastic, she works very hard (sometimes all night!) and she does excellent work! So, any extra tip you would like to give her would be well-deserved and appreciated! My one insider recommendation is that you tell her you need to pick up your finished product about 3 days before you actually need it. Sometimes she does not plan ahead very well and cuts things very close with timing, so if you give her an advanced deadline, you will still have your outfit ready in time.☺ If you go, please tell her Victoria sent you! Call 021 719 0226, or 021 8369 5293, or 0857 2485 5820, Email: Ria_modeste@yahoo.co.id (not checked regularly though).

Lina Jolly – Makes beautiful dresses for women including wedding dresses, ball gowns, and short casual silk dresses. Many of her designs are very sophisticated, yet sexy!! Her Instagram address is: <http://instagram.com/linajolly>, where you can see pics of her clothes. Call her at: 0816 1996 6471.

Custom-Made Wood Furniture:**Karya Agung – Furniture & Interior Design**

Jl. Ir. H. Juanda No. 6, Situ Gintung – Ciputat
Jakarta Selatan, phone: 021 7401510 or 021 7442819. The prices are very reasonable and they have furniture made or you can make to order. Unlike most places, if something goes wrong, they will send someone out to fix the furniture.

Eppy Rooseboom Batavia 3 Furniture, HL Asem Dua No 8E

Cipete 0813.1550.0156, Email: ehrooseboom@yahoo.com

She is a great lady, right near Executive Paradise in Cilandak. Excellent quality custom made furniture. Not really cheap, but her stuff will last. The U.S. Embassy staff use her often.

Kemang Furniture – they did a good job for us on custom made furniture and it took about 4-5 weeks but they were big items, like a dresser and

night stands. The furniture is beautiful and we love it, but some of it did crack, so I must give this warning: Make sure to have them use properly treated/dried wood, or it will crack in the A/C. Much of their wood is not treated properly, which is why the prices are much lower, but if you use A/C or will take the furniture to a cold climate, make sure it has been properly dried and treated. You could also ask them for a written guarantee that they will fix it, if it cracks. Their email address is kemang_furniture@yahoo.com and they are on Jalan Kemang Timur Raya.

Robert Furniture (teak wood) Jalan Wijaya Kusuma No. D.4, Jakarta 1243 Tel. 021-7512223. Roberts Furniture is excellent, and can turn around custom requests in about 1 month.

Frida Gaya (teak wood) She can come to your place and give you some example by photos or you can visit her shop in JL. Wr. Supratman no. 24 Kampung - Utan, Ciputat. frida_gaya@hotmail.com - 0811970861

CV Jaya Rattan Kemang Raya no. 78A Jakarta 12730, Indonesia Tel: (+62 21) 719 2878 Fax: (+62 21) 719 2877 <http://www.cvjayarattan.com/>

LIO Furniture Gallery: Address: Jl. Kemang Timur No. 50 Bangka Mampang Prapatan Jakarta Selatan DKI Jakarta, 12730 Phone: (0)21 71794409

TIPS: Walk or drive along Jalan Kemang Timur and you see all kinds of wood furniture shops there.

Costumes:

Without trying too hard, and if you want it, Jakarta can provide you with a plethora of different dress-up opportunities for you and your family. In addition to the obvious celebrations at Halloween, there are Marti Gras parties, UN Day, book day at school, Cinco de Mayo parties, Oktoberfest, and more. Below are a few good costume go-to spots that provide a great selection of costumes and/or wigs at very reasonable rental prices.

Splendor Costumes - Costume Rental. They have racks and racks of every kind of costume imaginable and the prices for rental of costumes or wigs are very reasonable. From about Rp. 150,000 to Rp. 400,000 for a 3-day rental. Book early for peak seasons. Limited collection of kids'

costumes for rent. Splendor Costumes, Jl.Kemang Raya no.31, 2nd floor (above Otaru Baumkuchen), p. +62 21 71794442, p. +62 21 6889 1008.

Flex Point Costumes – costume rental

Great costume shop with hats, some wigs and costumes nicely organized by 60's, 70's, 80's, etc. Located on Fatmawati, after Home Décor, just next to a shop with a big sign for Elite Marmer. Address is: Jl. Fatmawati 15L Blok A Kebayoran Baru Jakarta Selatan

Glamour Costume Shop – costume rental

Jl. Mahakam, on top of 7-11 convenience store. Good selection of costumes for rent. Their phone number is 021 263 3711 or 0813 8919 9273.

Budi Mulia - for colored hair spray – Have a dress-up day for the kids at school? Looking for colored hair spray for an upcoming costume party? Colored hair products (at least the temporary kind) are very hard to find in Jakarta, but there is one store that sells them. Budi Mulia, located at Plaza Mayestik, Semi Basement, Blok A, No. 60, Kebeyoran Baru. Tel. 021-2939-5535

English-Speaking Theater:

There are so few opportunities for live, English-speaking theater in this town that I applaud the efforts of, and do my best to support the following three theater groups:

The Jakarta Players - The Jakarta Players is a non-profit, multi-national community theatre group that provides English language entertainment (mostly dramatic plays) for Jakarta's theatre-loving community. They donate all their profits to charities that benefit Indonesian families, so supporting this group and going to their plays can be good for your mind and soul. Past plays include: 12 Angry Men, Godspell, The Inspector Calls, and Into the Woods. Email contacts are:

General Information - jakarta.players@yahoo.com

Ticketing - jakartaplayers.tickets@gmail.com

Or, check out their website at: <http://www.jakartaplayers.org>

The Jakarta Performing Arts Community – This is another non-profit, multi-national community theater group that I am told is an off-shoot from the Jakarta Players. They focus more broadly on performing and supporting any and all manner of arts including drama, music, dance, improv, and community events. They often have open mic nights, sponsor

sing-alongs, and do musical theater productions that are very high quality. Past shows include: The Nightmare Before Christmas, which was excellent and fun for the whole family. They will also be performing Seussical the Musical in 2015. Anyone, of any theater-experience level can try out for a show and they also appreciate your support in volunteering, helping backstage, and especially in buying tickets to see their shows! Contact them at:
Email: jakartapac@gmail.com
Facebook: Jakarta Performing Arts Community, Twitter: @JakartaPAC
Address: Kompleks PWI Jl. Redaksi K 167
Cipinang MuaraJakarta 13420, Phone: (021) 888 – 88888
http://www.jakartapac.com

Jakarta Comedy Club – presents monthly comedy shows with comedians from around the world. It varies in quality sometimes, but it's usually very good and makes for a fun evening out with friends. Phone: 0821-1194-3084. Website: www.Jakarta@thecomedyclub.com

Jakarta Airport Meet and Greet:

Pak Rachmat - Airport Customs Helper - This guy can help your guests be guided through customs quickly and easily. Only costs Rp. 300,000 and provides great piece of mind for you and your guests.

Handphone: 0818-955-480

Or . . . **Thaibur Rais - Airport Meet & Greet**

Call him at: 0812 937 4511.

Groceries and Food Shopping:

Grand Lucky - Good produce and reasonable prices - good deal on cereal, but cheese is pricy. If you like a large selection of imported products for (comparably) reasonable prices, I think it's the best in the city. There are 2 locations. The one I go to (and love) is right off Jalan Sudirman just south of Pacific Place mall and across from the Energy Building. The address is:

Kawasan Niaga Terpadu

Jl. Jend Sudirman Kav 52-53

+62 21 5153833

There is also a smaller one at:

Jalan Radio Dalam

Raya No 9, Kebayoran Baru, South Jakarta

Ranch Market – Sort of like the Indonesian version of Central Market or Whole Foods, but on a much less organic scale.

Several locations –

-Jl. Kemang Raya No. 19A

-Dharmawangsa Square: Jl. Dharmawangsa VI Melawai

-Jl. Sultan Iskandar Muda No 21.

Hero Market – Very popular with expats, but I personally think the fish counter smells, the fruit and veges go bad quickly and they don't have much selection. But, it's a good stand-by go to spot to buy the basics at fairly good prices.

Several locations: Jl. Kemang Selatan No. 1 OR Pasaraya Grande, Jl.

Sultan Iskandarsyah 2 2Blok M, OR, Pondok Indah Mall 1 (PIM1).

Lotte Mart – A low to mid-level grocery and home store. They sell some massive, bulk items, very inexpensive, reminds me of a low-class Walmart, if there is such a thing. -Ratu Plaza, Jl. Jenderal Sudirman

Carrefour – it's a French Chain, similar to Lotte Mart, but maybe a little better - Somewhere between Lotte Mart and Grand Lucky.

Block M Square, Jl. Melawai Raya Melawai

Kem Chicks - Great frozen food - mediocre fresh fruit/veg section. People love the meat here - I prefer Ranch Market even though it's more expensive, both are good. ...post script: you can ask for additional cuts from behind the counter - the brisket is really high quality. This is probably the grocery store with the highest quality food in the city, but it's also the priciest. My nickname for this store is "Pay Checks" because buying all your food there will take your whole pay check. There are 2 South Jakarta locations - one on Jl. Kemang Raya and one in Pacific Place mall, basement level.

Pappya - Fresh Japanese Sashimi / Sushi also very good French Baker in store is Japanese Market called Pappya in Blok M. Saturday mornings around 11 often have fresh fish, clams, etc air freighted in overnight from Tokyo, good prices.

Blok M - 021.72793777

Bumimas 021.75818388

Meat Me - Excellent meat and you can even have cuts of meat or sausages specially made and packaged for you - super ridiculous price! Find Meat Me at Lippo Mall, Kemang, Avenue of the Stars. Their restaurant is also very good and some say they serve the best hamburger in Jakarta!

Indoguna – go here to buy fresh quality meats at prices that are a little cheaper than the grocery stores. Located at Jl Cipaku 1 No 1 Kebayoran Baru. Phone: +6228610550 or Email: sales@ptindoguna.com

Mediterranean Foods

Pasar Festival UG-40 HR. Rasuna Said Jakarta. Tel: 021-5263125.

Rumah Sehat Intiyana (RSI). RSI is a one stop market & restaurant for Organic local produce. Jl. Terogong Raya No. 11, Pondok Indah Jaksel

Titan – Baking supplies. Where great baking begins. . . .

Buy flour, kitchen accessories, cheeses, and many many other foods and cooking supplies here. Call first to see if they have what you need. Jl. RS Fatmawati no 22A Cilandak Barat Jakarta Selatan 12430 Telp: +6221-7692329 Faks: +6221-7668137

Hours Open, M-F, 08.00 - 19.30 WIB, Sat. 08.00 - 16.00 WIB

Maharati Indian Grocery - on Jalan Kemang Raya in Kemang

Provides a good selection of Indian groceries, including lentils, sauces, flours, uncooked breads, etc. The store is not very widely used, so they do not offer the freshest ingredients in town, but if you don't have time to go to the main importers in Ancol, or you are in South Jakarta and need one item very quickly, this place is a good option. The location of the store is on Kemang Raya, just north of the back (one way) entrance to Lippo Mall. The store is upstairs, right next to a carpet shop. Best to phone first for directions or to check supplies: 021 4429-1693.

More Miscellaneous Stuff:

Adorama Photo Store - any photo prints, canvas, photobooks, ext. Take a flash drive with a .jpg of a photo and have it made into a box frame on canvas for just Rp. 200,000 or Rp. 300,000.

0217-192-002

Adorama Building, Jalan Kemang Raya No.17, Jakarta

Hilly Dental Salon - very good, modern dentist; good with children. We do all our dental visits there. Office: 021-719-1343 or 021-719-1345 or 021-719-1346. Or, if all those numbers fail, here is a mobile phone number for one of the dentists: 0816-133-3308.

Jawa Jawi Java - music and dance performances/lessons/cultural instruction. Phone: 0217-658-229, LI BDN 2 No. 49, Cilandak

Asmat Frame Store – in Kemang, off Jalan Kemang Timor - turn right at the Jakarta Animal Aid facility. Good selection of frames and a bit pricey, but well done. Asmat Frame - Jl. Kecapi No. 5 Kemang Timur , Jakarta Selatan 12730 : +62 21 719 5901/7590 0526 : +62 21 719 5901

Jakarta Frame and Doxa Gallery: Jl. Benda 60, Jakarta Selatan, p: 021-781 1208. Great framing with a quality frame selection and very well done. Not the cheapest in town, but still very well-priced compared to the Western world and the quality is very good. They have a nice back room where they sell artifacts from all over Indonesia.

Pesona Frame - great service and wonderful quality framing
Jalan Lebak Bulus Raya No. 37, Cipete, Jakarta Selatan
Ph: 081315055583

Artland – Great place to buy arts and crafts supplies for the kiddies!
Poins Square Jalan Ra Kartini Ni 1a (Lt.3a 15-25)
Jakarta Selatan, DKI Jakarta 15000

Jakarta International Community Center (JICC)
0217-1793-035, Location has moved from Kemang, please call to find out location. Web: www.jicconline.com. Sport, craft, dance, cultural and cooking, classes for children, adults, and staff, winter and summer day camps for kids good resource/library of information.

Jakarta Animal Clinic - Kemang
0217-199-917

Jakarta Post Newspaper
0811-815-152

Print + ("Print plus")

Digital Printing LARGE FORMAT

Products are usually x-banner, roll banner, poster, photo, canvas, sticker and so forth. For big parties, buy a large 2 meter x 3 meter sign and it will cost only Rp. 160,000. Or, get a big sign that says, “Happy Birthday, [name]!” and you can re-use it every year!

Jl. Kemang Raya Selatan, (right next to Anatolia Turkish Resto)

Jakarta Selatan No. 110

Email: info@printplus.co.id, Telephone: 021 71791418

Or, email: printplus.kemang@gmail.com

Poins Square – near JIS Simatupong gate. This is truly a down-scale shopping mall, meant for middle and lower-income Indonesians, not bule', which is what makes it great and cheap prices. Downstairs on the lower levels you can find inexpensive batik clothing, other clothing, and DVDs galore. Upstairs are any electronics, camera equipment, laptop, phones and other items you might need. On the highest level floors there is an athletic supply store and arts and crafts supply store that are very well priced. Jalan Ra Kartini Ni 1a, Jakarta Selatan, DKI Jakarta 15000

Block M Square (Jl. Iskandar Muda Building) and **Ratu Plaza Mall**, Building, and Electronics Store in Jakarta Pusat (Jalan Jenderal Sudirman Kav. 9), both are similar to Poins Square described above, but in other parts of Jakarta Selatan. Ratu Plaza doesn't have the clothing stalls though. Just DVDs and electronics. One good electronics store for computer accessories is Dunia Mas Computer in Ratu Plaza. Here you can find all kinds of wires, electric power cords and adaptors for Mac Laptops. Dunia Mas is on LT G No. 25, Phone 021-57-10875/021-7235574

Bintang Car Rental

Mobile: 081282782171

Email : ceasarsyah@yahoo.com or bintang_rent@yahoo.com

They say: "We are specialized in car rental for helping you with your activities. We are low cost, reliable and safe.

Bintang Rent has experienced drivers, dynamic drivers and safe drivers, who can assist you. Our car is Toyota Avanza, Daihatsu Xenia, Toyota Kijang Innova and Suzuki APV 2010, can hold up to 6 till 7 peoples We do daily leases, monthly leases, and do airport drop offs and pick ups."

English-Speaking Travel Agent

A friend used a travel agent based in Kemang for a couple of our trips this year (Cambodia and Komodo) and they were really happy with everything the woman did for them. They never went to the agency or even spoken to her, everything was done via email. Her contact details are: Mrs Cuny Schuurmans at Mentari Travel Services, and they are open M-F 9-4.30 [schuurmans@centrin.net.id; or the general Mentari email address: tulip@centrin.net.id]. Get yourself on the mailing list if you want to be notified about great domestic travel packages and cheap deals to the US

and Europe. *Mentari Travel Services*, Jalan Benda 8B/3, Kemang, 021-7814778.

Jewelry Repair - Go to Melawai Plaza in Blok M and go up the escalator to the first floor. Off on the left as you go up you will see Toko Queens down on the end. One girlfriend says, “we have used them for many years and we highly recommend them.”

Website Design by Infotech: for website design and development services, contact Poonam Sagar Phone: 08161840950. www.infotech.co.id

Life Coach and Corporate Coach - Moves can be stressful. And moving countries, jobs, roles even more so. Harmeet is a life coach and a corporate coach. She coaches working professionals and previously working and now non-working professionals who are navigating through transitions and are looking to find their internal compass once again. Her coaching tools, insights and assessments are invaluable in achieving whatever goals you set for yourself in this new place. She herself has been in Jakarta for several years and knows the lay of the land and is familiar with the cultural nuances here. She has been a corporate trainer and a coach to many senior / middle managers across South East Asia. She offers life coaching to expats at very nominal rates. You can be coached face-to-face or by phone. Reachable via skype at harmeet.anand23 or phone 08111338170. View her profile and referrals check out <http://www.noomii.com/users/harmeet-anand>

Restaurants

Seribu Rasa, near to Hotel Indonesia roundabout, (<http://www.seriburasa.com/index.php/restaurant>) is very highly regarded city-wide for upmarket Indonesian food.

Hazara – Indian cuisine located in the same building as Face Bar and La Na Thai cuisine, five minutes by foot from Plaza Indonesia. They are all part of the Face group, which owns a few other venues in Asia (Bangkok, Shanghai, Beijing, Pudong), each with a distinctive "ethnic" atmosphere. Hazara is very popular among expats, travelers and locals. Its excellent reputation comes from both the quality of the food served and from its stylish design/decoration.

Lan Na Thai

<http://www.facebars.com/en/jakarta/restaurant/>

A delicious Thai restaurant in the FaceBar location mentioned below.

Hazara/FaceBar/LaNaThai: Jalan Kusuma Atmaja, Imam Bonjol, no.85, Jakarta Indonesia Phone number: +62-21 31925037
<http://www.facebars.com/en/jakarta/restaurant>

Negev Art Gallery and Bar (owned by the same man who owns Harvest cakes). Delicious international food, artfully prepared and presented, and served in a gorgeous art gallery setting. This is not on the menu, but ask if Chef Ivan (who is from Catalan, Spain) can do his special artistic dessert that he prepares at/on your table. If he is available to do it, you will be very pleasantly surprised! For dinner, the paella is especially good! Negev is located at: City Plaza Building, Ground Floor, Jl. Gatot Subroto, No. 42, Phone: 021.5297.1333. <http://www.negevresto.com>

Amber – a new restaurant by the same restaurant group as Negev. This restaurant combines three unique levels in one (and, they say, 3 distinctive nuances in 1 marvelous spot). The 1st floor is an elegant pastry shop with delectable cakes and desserts. Then the 2nd floor is a casual restaurant filled with books upon books, used as decorations. They offer a full Western menu, which has a wide-variety and is very good. The 4th floor is a beautiful bar that has a small, but very nice sky lounge with a 360 degree panoramic view. The desserts and the sky lounge are really the reason to go to this restaurant. Many of the desserts are ahhhhmazing (try the salted

caramel chocolate dessert or the cheesecake).

Location: Jl. Senopati Raya No. 61. Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta Selatan 12930. Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/jQx5m>

Cafe Batavia – Great old-time restaurant (mostly Western food) in Batavia Square area. Reminds you of Ernest Hemmingway and has interesting old photographs all over the walls. Also, the 2nd floor has a nice view of all the activity on the square. The food is good (nothing amazing, but definitely good), and it's the best place around to eat (and safest) if you'll be in the North Jakarta area. Good place to take tourists.

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g294229-d1182757-Reviews-Cafe_Batavia-Jakarta_Java.html

Skye Bar & Restaurant

56th Floor, Menara BCA | Jl. M.H. Thamrin no. 1, Jakarta, Indonesia +62-21 2358 6996 Must see: The view from **Skye Bar** in the BCA tower near Grand Indonesia mall!! Great to go there on a clear night! Delicious steaks and fabulous cocktails! A bit overpriced for the food alone, but when you consider that you're also paying for the view, it's worth it. They have a somewhat uptight dress code about no sneakers and collared shirts, so be sure to check on it if you think you might not pass. Also, if you're going there for dinner, be sure to go out to the pool and bar side of the restaurant and see the non-glass-protected view from there. Take your camera for excellent pictures.

Potato Head Garage – very good food, beautiful place, great atmosphere (although a bit loud). Sometimes the service is lacking, but the steaks and cocktails are very good and the humongous room that the restaurant is in, is beautiful. The hamburger with crispy fried onions on top is especially good! Don't confuse this location with the one in Pacific Place mall. This is Potato Head *Garage* and much better than the sister-location in PP. SCBD Lot 14 (ex Bengkel Café). Jl. Jend Sudirman Kav 52-53, T. 021 5797 3330

Kunstkring Paleis in Menteng – a gorgeous, grand-scale restaurant with a lot of upmarket atmosphere! They also have private rooms for groups. It is beautiful and elegant, and has antiques from the palace in Yogyakarta, and a trendy Saigon-style bar, all with fabulous over-the-top furnishing.

Quieter function rooms round the back, or else eat in the big dining hall.

Jalan Teuku Umar 1, Menteng, Jakarta 10350, Indonesia
+(62)213900899

Lara Djonggrang, in Mentang

(<http://www.tuguhotels.com/laradjonggrang/>). It is a well-known restaurant for Indonesian food in atmospheric surroundings. Great Javanese food, gorgeous, comfortable atmosphere and traditional Indonesian decor. A nice place to take guests.

Jl. Teuku Cik Di Tiro 4 Menteng • Jakarta Pusat • Indonesia

Tel. +62 21 315 3252, 316 0288

Bunga Rampai: also Menteng. Dutch colonial / Javanese. Very elegant and upmarket, and fancy dress up would not be out of place, although not required. With advance notice, they can arrange string quartets / harpists etc.

Altitude: At The Plaza (part of Plaza Indonesia). There are three restaurants at the top - Italian, grill and Japanese. Fantastic view of Jakarta on a clear night, but I wouldn't rave about the food.

Nip & Dram –Nip & Dram is a fantastic spot for drinks, dancing and hanging out with friends. The bar has subdued lighting with sensuous jazz sounds playing in the background, and it has hip-looking wood and iron stools and a 1920's New York style bar, which makes the whole place look pretty sexy. They call it a “whisky bar,” but has any alcohol you want (but a very limited food menu). Finding the entrance to Nip & Dram is quite a challenge, being located on the ground floor of the Landmark building, the entry is hidden from sight. If you ask the security officers, you can find the big wooden door with the Nip/Dram logo on it. Knock and say ‘open sesame’ – and it slides open. The Landmark Building is off Sudirman, just down from the Shangra-La hotel. According to many, they have the best band in the city, and it is perfect for a Girls Night Out! **Nip & Dram** The Landmark Centre II – Ground Floor Jl. Jend. Sudirman No. 1 Jakarta Tel: +62 21 5790 3991.

Letter D - Cuisine & Bar - a newest restaurant and bar by the famous Chef Degan Master Chef Indonesia, and it just opened in Jan 2015. Their cuisine is a mix of Western, Asian, Italian and Indonesian. One girlfriend described it as “Excellent foods and a great ambience! The Sangria just superb!” Jalan KH Ahmad Dahlan no 16, Jakarta, Indonesia, Phone: (021) 72786111 <https://www.facebook.com/pages/LetterD/330337493817958> LETTER D – Cuisine & Bar 021-72785111, Jl. Ahmad Dahlan No.16, Gandaria, South Jakarta

Oasis: in Menteng. A very grand old Dutch colonial building with Javanese/Batavian décor. Long lines of Javanese-attired girls serve the food, on dragon boats etc. they also have private dining rooms for groups. There is a traditional way of dining called **Rijstafel** (originally from the Dutch), which involve a multi-course meal where each course is ceremoniously brought in procession to your table. Oasis restaurant does this very well! They also have a 5-piece roving band who sings Indonesian and English songs by request, including some fun Western favorites. This place is a beautiful treasure and a fun atmosphere and many VIPs (including Bill Clinton and Margaret Thatcher) have dined there. It's a great place to take visitors to Jakarta for a fun and festive evening!
(<http://www.oasis-restaurant.co.id/about.html>)

Turquaz – Turkish Restaurant - Great food, good service, and wonderful ambience! A perfect place to go for date night out, or with a group of friends. Very reasonable prices, but no alcohol license for wine or spirits, so you can bring your own and pay a very reasonable corkage fee (roughly Rp. 80,000 for wine). They do sell beer.
Jalan Gunawarman 32 | Kebayoran Baru, Jakarta, Indonesia
+62 21 7279 5846. <http://turkuazrst.com/about-us/the-restaurant/>

Kinara – Indian Restaurant. Fabulous Indian food, with a beautiful, dine-in setting, or delivery option. This is my go-to Indian restaurant, and I think it has the best Indian food in Jakarta. You may find your own favorite, of course, but everyone I talk to agrees that Kinara has excellent quality food! Jl. Kemang Raya No. 78-B. For delivery call: 021-719 2677 --
<http://www.kinara.co.id>

Mamma Rosy's – Great food in a casual Italian restaurant setting made by a real, live Italian family!! ☺ Jl. Kemang Raya 58 (Just 1-2 doors North of Ranch Market, same side of the street)
12730 South Jakarta
Tel. +62 (0) 21-71791592
<http://www.mammarosy.com>

C's Steak and Seafood Restaurant

Jl MH Thamrin Kav 28-30 | Grand Hyatt 4 th floor, Jakarta 10350, Indonesia
+62 21 29921234
<http://jakarta.grand.hyatt.com/en/hotel/dining/CsSteakandSeafoodRestaurant.html>. As you can guess, this place has excellent steaks, wonderful

sauces, and delicious seafood. The vege side dishes are excellent as well. Very pricey though.

PepeNero – good Italian food – pizza, pasta, fish, and BBQ ribs in a very casual setting - relaxed enough to take the family, yet nice enough to go with friends. Locations throughout Jakarta including Kemang, Pondok Indah, Senayan, etc. <http://www.pepenerobali.com/locations>

Pipitin Choco – coffee shop, dessert spot, and restaurant

Calling all chocolate lovers, this place is for YOU! This restaurant makes their own chocolate bars, desserts, and chocolate-infused savory items for snacks. Phone: 021-2555-7300. The owner, Irvan Helmi, is a great guy and really loves and appreciates fine chocolate. So, if you're a chocolate lover, go support him! Located on Jalan Barito 2, No 5, Kebayoran Baru.

Café Gitane (they deliver!) - Order your roasted chicken with a choice of 5 sides and get free delivery to areas near Kemang. Call 0217805671 to Order or Email your order and address to: cafegitanejkt@gmail.com. Or go to the restaurant. Kids love the super-tender rotisserie chicken! Jalan Benda Raya Number 14 A Kemang, Jakarta Seletan.

Baconaire – missing the taste of bacon and other pork products? This can be your go-to spot for an incredible bacon- hamburger. The bacon is not sitting on TOP of the burger, but is mixed-in with the hamburger meat, to create a delicious bacon-laden tasting burger! They have country ham too and the menu also includes chicken apple sausages and Southwestern smoked chicken for non-pork eaters. Their baked goods are quite good as well and they have a full coffee bar and open early. Their brunch menu that includes Pastrami hash that is supposed to be very good. Jl. Benda Raya No. 1C, Kemang, Jakarta. Phone: 021 78838291

Brunch Spots:

The Mulia Hotel and Dharmawangsa Hotel: Both hotels have brunches to die for. The **Dharmawangsa** has a very large assortment of foods – sushi, pasta, salads, meats, noodles, dumplings, cheeses, a smorgasboard of desserts, etc. In fact, the **Mulia Hotel** and **Dharmawangsa Hotel** both have similarly fabulous brunches and the Mulia (Il Mare, specifically) is known throughout the city for their brunch.

For a non-hotel based brunch, read on . . .

Monolog Quality Coffee Co. Plaza Senayan, Palm Gate entrance, Jl. Asia Afrika No. 8, South Jakarta Breakfast lovers who like to sleep in will appreciate Monolog's trading hours as it is open from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. and serves up breakfast all-day long. Diners can try something light, such as the Bircher muesli or a pastry. Or tuck into Monolog's delicious pancakes, omelettes or crepes.

Nanny's Pavillon Level 4, Pacific Place, Jl. Jend. Sudirman Kav. 52-53, South Jakarta Lovers of pancakes and waffles will be able to find a wide selection of sweet and savory options at Nanny's Pavillon, which specializes in these tasty treats.

Koi, Jl. Kemang Raya 72, Kemang. There's a mix of Asian and Western breakfast options for brunch at Koi in Kemang. Whether you want to dive into a cheese souffle or eggs florentine with smoked salmon or sample a traditional coconut rice served with an omelette, chicken or shrimp balls for breakfast, the restaurant has a variety of choices to suit everyone. There's an early-bird special between 8 and 10 a.m. each day, during which you can get tea or coffee with a waffle or fruit salad for Rp 35,000.

The Goods Diner - Fairgrounds Lot 14, Jl. Jend. Sudirman Kav. 52-53 SCBD, South Jakarta. The Goods Cafe, is a casual restaurant that offers a wide selection of western breakfast items. The star dishes on the menu are the pancakes, French toast and steak and eggs. Fans of the classic biscuit-and-gravy combo will be able to find that here. Breakfast lovers beware, the Goods Diner only offers its brunch menu on weekends from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. So, if you're looking for an all-day breakfast venue, check this out.

Social House - Hotel Indonesia Kempinski Jakarta, Central Jakarta. Portion sizes are generous here with some items easily shared between two, such as the eggs Benedict or the convicts breakfast, which comes with eggs, beef brisket, bacon and tomatoes. Or try the fruit salad, Italian doughnuts or a Nutella milkshake. Try SoHo's Croque Monsieur with ham and cheese topped with chorizo, or Foie Gras on toast with salted plum caramel sauce. Bring the whole fam along – kids' playground available every Sunday.
Social House, Grand Indonesia, East Mall, 1st Floor, p. +622123581818.

G48 Pop Up Brunch - This brunch is one of a kind; you have to belong to a secret society to know when the next one takes place. But, here's the scoop on that, with contact details below. The G48 chefs puts a new twist on the

ol' brunch menu and their current venue is the Cookshop, but plans for a new location is in the works. They change their menu every month. More reason to keep coming back – but don't forget to book beforehand. Good For Eats (G48), The Cookshop, Jl. Hang Lekir I No. 15, p. +62878 32988338. Brunch 10am-3pm on 1st & 3rd weekends.

Spanky's Ribs and Martinis - I hear Spanky's has a free-flow Sangria brunch. Wonderful eggs Benedict – done 5 ways (choose between chorizo pork, Kahlua pork and truffle mushrooms, or have all three!) Also great is their Sunday Morning Pancakes: a satisfying stack of cinnamon and banana chocolate chip buttermilk pancakes topped with warm fruit compote. Or, if you're craving Mexican, their breakfast burrito will be perfect for you. Spanky's Ribs and Martinis, Jl. Kemang Raya No. 24a, p. +6221 7182876. Brunch 10am-2pm on weekends.

Colonial - For a nice bunch, head to Colonial for a three-course brunch with optional wine pairing. Using only the freshest ingredients and cutting-edge French cooking technology, Colonial has wooed many with their grilled vegetables with goats cheese, Australian rib eye and their wonderful coconut mousse. Colonial, Lippo Mall Kemang, Kemang Village, Upper Ground OD-11, Jl. Pangeran Antasari No. 36, p. +6221 29056891/92. Brunch 10am-4pm on Sundays.

Harum Manis - Harum Manis offers Sunday Brunch buffet with local Indonesian food. They have live-cooking at the satay bar and their desserts are great: cendol (traditional dessert made from shaved ice, coconut milk, green noodles and palm sugar) and cincau (black jelly); they really know how to make our Sundays sweeter! And by all means bring the hungry kiddie-kiddies; kids under 10 eat for free. Harum Manis, Apartment Pavilion Retail Arcade, Jl. KH Mas Mansyur Kav. 24, p. +6221 57941727. Brunch 11am-2.30pm on Sundays.

Publico - With a vintage 1930s feel, Publico can take you around the world in one Sunday! The menu offers a journey through 13 different countries. Your little one will love coloring and running around in the kids' area, while gobbling down their complimentary cereal. Publico, Jl. Senopati Raya No. 65, Kebayoran Baru, p. +6221 52964960. Brunch 10am-4pm on Sundays.

Sushi:

Takarajima - 021 7191047 – nothing amazing, but good, solid sushi in Kemang, to satisfy your cravings.

Location: Takarajima Kemang, Jakarta, Indonesia address
Plaza Adorama, Lantai 2, Jl. Kemang Raya No. 17, Kemang, Jakarta

Shabu Nobu – has a pretty varied menu of sushi options, and they can do sushi trays for a party.

Address: Jalan Kemang, Colony Building, Indonesia
Phone: +62 21 29529922

Sushi Mise

Address: Jalan Kemang Raya No.6,
Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia

Phone: +62 21 7183423

Sake + - this is an excellent Japanese restaurant in the Senopati area, across the street from the French restaurant, Emile. The ground floor has many refrigerators filled with various kinds of imported sake priced from very reasonable to wow-that's-expensive. The interior is nice, and they also have a semi-outdoor seating area in the back. The Hyuri Sake+ was particularly impressive and has a freshening effect, given that it is drunk out of a cucumber "glass". The sushi and sashimi are excellent, but expect to pay for the high quality of the food. Address: Jl. Senopati No. 54, Senopati, Jakarta

Phone: 021 7250002

VISITORS GUIDE OF THINGS TO DO IN JAKARTA **and SIGHTSEEING FOR THE FAMILY**

China Town (Glodok). Glodok is a good bit of walking but he could trim it up a bit perhaps to only hit the wet market and maybe even arrange a bajai (small orange 3-wheeled scooter) to take visitors from the Wet Market to a temple or two. If you want, you can do a fascinating tour with temples, markets, and an apothecary (python blood anyone?) amongst other things.

Monas / Mosque / Cathedral tour is also a good bit of walking but not if taken separately I guess. I know a guide who does an outstanding tour of Monas where he goes through the whole history of Indonesia but the problem with the monument is the amount of stairs. You may want to check it out ahead of time. It is an elevator to the top of course but if you've not been yet ... underneath the monument are about 30 dioramas that are very well done and detail the history of Indonesia ... this is the area that could be problematic. The Mosque and Cathedral are right across the street from one another (you may have already been), and likely very interesting for visitors. This guide (Heben is his name) ... does a wonderful tour of these together...but I am sure could take them as separate events / days to minimize the walking.

If your visitors are **Obama supporters** you can take them by the school that Barack Obama attended as a young boy in Jakarta. There is a statue there . . . and very nearby there is the museum (house) where the original declaration of Independence was signed for Indonesia, it is called Museum Proklamasi. It is interesting but would benefit from having a guide to explain things. The Obama statue, proklamasi museum go well with the restaurant Lan Na Thai for lunch or dinner. Website:
<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/lifeandtimes/a-trip-into-indonesias-past-in-central-jakarta/459447>

Another museum that is extremely interesting is the **Harry Darsono**. It requires specially arranged tours and I am sure someone at the Indonesia Heritage Society could explain how to make an appointment. Visits require a minimum number of people, as Harry himself leads the tour. The description of the place does not do it justice quite frankly; it is fascinating. If you believe all the stories Harry tells, he is a genius and a visionary. However, some people are more skeptical. Regardless, his house/museum tour is amazing.

Taman Safari – This is a ***MUST DO*** while you're in Jakarta, including for tourists. Animals walk up to your car and you feed them from the car. Amazing place! Not like any zoo in the US. A must see. Nosy zebras and deer will eat carrots straight out of your hand while you're seated in your car.

I recommend you start very early in the day to go there – 6:00 or 7:00 am and bring some extra plastic bags in the car. Then, when you get close, buy bananas and carrots at the vendors outside the park. You'll see them for about 1km as you drive toward the park. (You can use the bags to help keep it clean, cause they get very messy.) Then, use the bananas and carrots to feed the animals inside. Just be careful of kids hands, as you do not want anyone to get bitten. I also recommend food, water, wet wipes (for animal slobber), tissues (for the bathrooms), and umbrellas, just in case you get caught in the rain.

Also, the drive through the animal portion of the park is quite long, so I highly recommend you stop for bathrooms at the front gate before going in.

The restaurant near the elephant show (after the drive-through park) is pretty good. Nice smoothies. And, you can sit and eat while you watch the show. There are also a few swimming areas of the park, so if you want to swim, bring swimsuits and towels - really it's like 3 parks in one - there's a drive through safari, then there is an elephant show and animal parks to walk through (birds, hold the orangutan, sit with a cheetah, etc), and then there is a huge are at the end that has a water park, an amusement park rides, and even a dolphin show (you can even swim with the dolphins!) and a cowboy western show (which gets a bit loud with faux-gunfire).

I highly recommend leaving the park to come home by 3:00 pm at the latest, or you will get caught in wicked-bad traffic coming home.

But, be sure to time the trip well with traffic, as sometimes they close the roads going up the mountain, or down (the Safari is in the middle of the mountain, which is single-lane both ways, but far enough that traffic can be an issue) and I don't recommend you go here on a weekend. If you can, try to go during the week. This place is very do-able for a day trip, but some people like to stay at the lodge in the park overnight, and then go back for a second day of fun.

Taman Safari, Jl. Raya Puncak 601, Cisarua – Bogor, p. +62 21 765 4744.

Taman Mini - This is a HUGE park that has several different places within it. The main park contains a replica area for each of the main islands in Indonesia, and each one has traditional housing, clothing, etc. brought here from that area. Very interesting to see how varied in style and culture the Indonesian islands are. You really need a car to go to all of the areas, unless you have a bike, or hearty walkers. We stopped near the entrance and asked where to find an English speaking guide. It took a while to arrange, but it was really worth it because there are very few signs, almost nothing in English, and it's very hard to understand what you're seeing without a guide. The guide will go in the car with you all over the park.

At the end, there is also a bird aviary, which is interesting, and a reptile center, and some other unique buildings to tour. There is also an IMAX movie near the end of the drive, which showed some beautiful photos of Indonesia and it's a great spot with AC to rest for a while, but the movie we saw was entirely in Bahasa. Maybe you can ask about an English speaking version, but we did not see one. There is also a hotel and resto on site and the restaurant (Indonesian food menu) is okay to eat lunch.

I suggest the gondola ride at the end. The cars are old and they have no AC, but it's a great way to view the whole park from up high. And, there is a lake with a HUGE map of Indonesia made out of shrubs, which you can only appreciate from high up. Taman Mini is definitely a go-to spot for Jakarta visitors, especially since there is so little that you can do with visitors in Jakarta that does not involve a shopping mall!

Plan your time so as not to miss the cultural performances and when you need a cool down, visit the Snow Bay Waterpark area.

<http://tamanmini.com/english/>

Taman Mini, Jl. Taman Mini I, Jakarta, p. +62 21 840 1687.

Pasaraya at Blok M - for shopping (if you haven't been, there is a lot of great cultural things ranging from batiks to handmade bowls/plates, wood carvings. It is several floors up. A bit overpriced on many of the crafts and batiks, but, if you want one-stop-souvenir shopping, seriously, ONE stop for everything made in Indonesia, it is here.

Also, for **souvenirs**, you could go to the **Red Feather store** near Fatmawati and Simatupong, where they make the casserole carriers, aprons, bags, napkins, etc out of batik.

Sunda Kelapa harbor tour including the maritime museum. - A visit to Sunda Kelapa, the old port of Jakarta, is a step back in time. Dating back to the 13th century, the port was strategic in the international spice trade. Now a minor port for domestic freight, the traditional Indonesian wooden cargo ships are still in use and the dock is a busy scene. Dusty? Yes. Requiring a nose peg at times? Yes. But the line-up of sailing vessels, or *pinisi* as they say, is a truly majestic sight and shouldn't be missed. Located on the coast north of Kota, Old Batavia.

Cafe Batavia - Cafe Batavia overlooks the busy old town square of Kota known as Taman Fatahillah. A short drive from Sunda Kelapa, it is a great place to rest your weary legs and soak up the atmosphere of Dutch colonial Jakarta. Take note of the beautiful, well-trodden floors as you grab an upstairs window seat and contemplate the amazing scenes that have unfolded outside this historic place.
Café Batavia Jl. Pintu Kecil No.14, Jakarta Barat, p.+62 21 6915973.

The National Museum – Many people really enjoy this museum, but it's not very sleek or modern compared to European or Western museums. Make sure to call the Indonesian Heritage Society before you go and arrange for a FREE English speaking tour of the museum. It's a must, as the museum is hard to digest without some guidance and much of the literature and plaques are in Bahasa.

Textiles Museum especially the batik workshop where you get to make your own small batik piece.

Widayanto Ceramics in Depok, outside Jakarta

Rumah Jawa Tour - the home of Linda & Leks Santoso. They're the couple who run Remote Destinations, but they also have an amazing home which Leks had built to his own specification, and they have both filled it with an incredible collection of Indonesian art, artefacts, musical instruments, and more. Leks is the self-proclaimed 'most widely travelled Indonesian within his own country' - he is in effect a passionate anthropologist. You would need to arrange ahead and either link in with another group visit, or round up enough people to make a group visit (they have a minimum number required to run a tour). FYI one can also rent out their dining room for events (think grass skirts, spears and human bone jewelery!). Call them to work out a plan: +62 817 116378/ +62 2175913558. It's well worth

coinciding with Leks being available to run the tour if possible. There are a fair number of steps and your parents would need to watch their footing - it also means being on foot for at least a couple of hours.

Also quite fun - **Jawa Jawi Java** - a cultural/teaching institute. They get you to have a go at batik-making (you take your little piece home with you) and playing Indonesian musical instruments!! It means sitting on the floor or crouching on low stools though, so might not be ideal for some people. Indonesian people are exceptionally creative. Get amongst it in this neighborhood cultural centre that provides tuition in traditional Javanese dancing, batik creation, and gamelan playing. [Jawa Jawi Java](#) strives to preserve Javanese art and culture. Classes are available in both English and bahasa Indonesia. Again, call ahead as it's a group visit.

[Jawa Jawi Java](#), Jl. BDN II. No.9, Cilandak, Jakarta Selatan 12430, p. +62 21 99794949, address JL Bank Dagang Negara (BDN) 2, No 49, Cilandak.

If you want a bite-sized museum-type trip (30 mins or so), there's always **Gedung Dua8** in Kemang - art & cultural items from different parts of east Indonesia. The information was written in Bahasa, but the lady there spoke English well and was able to guide and answer questions. Jl Kemang Utara No 28, tel: +622171702049, www.gedungdua8.com.

@America in Pacific Place mall. This is an outreach facility run by the U.S. Embassy to teach Indonesians about America. The programs educate Indonesians about American culture, cuisine, music, colleges, business, etc. Some visitors might like to see what Indonesians are learning about America. My family loved this place and were very impressed! They have an incredible variety of programs. Check it out: www.atamerica.or.id

Arrange a visit to the **Bead Lady**, where you can pick out your own beads – many of them hand made - and have them created into a necklace for you. The woman lives in a beautiful house that was (literally) moved here from East Java. Handphone: 0811101789.

Jalan Surabaya - This open-air street market in the district of [Menteng](#) is full of treasures representing the melting pot of cultures that make up Indonesia. Chinese rice boxes, Dutch ceramics, Javanese stone carvings, Portuguese maps, barnacle-encrusted items salvaged from ship-wrecks, antique diving helmets, and middle eastern-style lanterns. Whether it's genuine or fake, you wont find this stuff in the malls. Open every day. Bargain hard.

Mesjid Istiqlal - Jakarta's principal mosque was 17 years in construction, has a dome spanning 45m and can accommodate over 120,000 people. This is a sight to behold. Mesjid Istiqlal is open every day but best viewed at Friday prayer time. Arrive at 11:15am and seek out an English-speaking guide in the visitors area within the mosque. Dress conservatively.

[Mesjid Istiqlal](#), North-East Merdeka Square, Jakarta.

Museum Wayang - Nothing represents Indonesia better than the wayang. The three-dimensional wooden puppets (Wayang Golek) and two-dimensional leather shadow puppets (Wayang Kulit) are one of the best preserved and longest-cherished art forms in the country. The puppeteer re-enacts stories dating back to Hindu times but many of the themes remain relevant to modern Indonesian life. The collection here is extensive. Take in a free performance any Sunday at 10am. [Museum Wayang](#) Jl. Pintu Besar Utara No.27, Jakarta Barat, p. +62 21 62929560. Open 9am-3pm.

Schmutzinger Primate Centre

Another symbol of Indonesia and sadly more endangered is the Orangutan. The Schmutzinger Primate Centre provides a city option for getting up close with the men-of-the-forest. Schmutzer Primate Center is an artificial habitat of primates like gorilla, chimpanzee, orang utan and other kinds of primate. It's is located at [Ragunan Zoological Park](#) area and you can observe the behavior of the primates from a sky cross that was built over the area where the primates live. **Address:** Jl. Harsono RM. No.1, Ragunan, Pasar Minggu, Jakarta Selatan, DKI Jakarta 12550, Indonesia

Phone:+62 21 78847114 or p. +62 21 789 0615 or +62 21 780 6975

For more ideas, check out:

Indonesian Heritage Society -The Indonesian Heritage Society is a non-profit organization that seeks to promote interest in and knowledge of Indonesian culture. Once you join the Heritage Society (the fee is Rp 550,000 individual, or Rp 650,000 family), you can use their extensive library, attend lectures, or sign up for an Explorers tour group with other international expats (or create your own group). The Explorer groups can use the Heritage Society's vast resources and reviews to plan cultural events with your group. People are grouped according to the amount and days of tours they want to do, such as 1 tour a month, 1 tour a week, weekend groups, etc. As the group says, "These tours Heritage Society tours aim to show the rich artistic, historical and cultural traditions of

Indonesia for the international community of Jakarta.” This is also a great way to meet people and get introduced to Indonesian culture in a fun and community-oriented way. The Heritage Society is located on the 17th Floor, Sentral Senayan 1 Jl Asia-Afrika 8 (adjacent to Plaza Senayan) Phone: (+62) 21 572-5870. Email: info@heritagejkt.org

Trip Advisor also has reviews of some restaurants and tourist attractions too that are worth checking out.

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Tourism-g294229-Jakarta_Java-Vacations.html

Things To Do With The Kiddie-Kiddies

Lollipops Playland & Cafe - A great place to entertain your kiddies from 1-10 yrs. A large, multi-level indoor adventure playground. Ball blaster with 8 canons. Ball pools. Bungee trampolines. Giant inflatable slide. Velocity. Special toddler area for young children. Nintendo Wii & Fit screens. Separate party room. Cafe serving a wide range from cappuccinos to light meals. Don't forget your socks! The closest locations to South Jakarta are:

Senayan City 6th floor # 602, Jl. Asia Afrika lot.19, South Jakarta Tel: 021 7278 1639 Fax: 021 7278 1649
<http://www.indonesia.lollipopsplayland.com/>

AND

Gandaria City Shopping Mall - Jl. KH. M. Syafi'i Hadzami No. 8 Gandaria, Kebayoran Lama, Jakarta Selatan 12240

Kidzania - An educational miniature town, Kidzania is a kid-size replica of a city with buildings, streets, and cars running around the city. Here your kids will perform role playing games and learn the complexities of the adult world. They will have to work to earn a salary and be cautious about what they're spending. Here kids can be firefighters, pilots, race car drivers, doctors, etc. And kids are really thrilled to be in this adult world! The city even has ATM installed all around for the kids to withdraw their Kidzania money (kidzos). Weekdays can be busy because of school groups. You can check their website for the numbers of people are coming in on the day you're planning to go. Weekends are frantic! Check out their informative website for ticket prices and further info. They will host birthday parties.

6th floor Pacific Place Shopping Mall, Jl. Jend. Sudirman Kav 52-53, SCBD Complex, Jakarta 12910 Tel: 021 5154 888 Fax : 021 5154 777

Email : info@kidzania.co.id www.kidzania.co.id

<http://www.kidzania.co.id/index.php>

Wowzonia – Located on the top floor of Lippo Mall, this place is a huge play area with slides, a ball pit, jungle play, climbing space, and even 3D miniature golf. There is also a café for mom or dad to get some coffee while the kids play. Fees vary according to age, but are about Rp. 165,000 for most kids for unlimited play. Probably best suited for the under 10 year old set. Contact them at +62 21 29528420 between 10am and 10pm 7 days per week or email info@wowzonia.com.

Horseback Riding – Jakarta Perkumpulan Equestrian Center

Sentul. Just 45 minutes outside the city is a lovely little equestrian center and a great place to get away from it all and go horseback riding. They have ponies for the kids and big horses for the adults and each horse is led by a trainer on a 30-40 minute walk around an area of rolling hills, a lake, some beautiful homes and evergreen trees (who ever thought you would see evergreen trees in Indonesia!!). The ride is mostly along a paved road, so it is not exactly back-country horseback riding, but it's a wonderful way to get out of the city for a morning, and the kids will love it. Kids pony ride + helmet = Rp. 120,000 (adults are a little more).

I also recommend the small café behind the reservations desk. Ibu Rose will take good care of you with both Western and Indonesian choices on the menu. Good quality food at inexpensive prices! Also, you can buy carrots from her to feed the horses, if you'd like. Please tell Ibu Rose that Victoria sent you! Horses are fed and rested from 11-12:00, so I highly recommend a morning ride at 9:00 or 10:00 am before it gets too hot. Reservations are essential. So is sunscreen, bug spray and water!

Call 62-21-8796-1569 for reservations and directions.

Email: jpecsentul@centrin.net.id

Bowling Alley - Spin City - A modern 22-lane bowling alley that offers at least 5 bumper lanes. Also located on the premises, is a large billiard parlor with 17 Brunswick tables. It is always recommended that you call before you go in case there is a birthday party. Bring socks. Plaza Indonesia Entertainment X'nter (EX) Jl. M.H. Thamrin Kav 28-30 Tel: 021 315 7227 • 10:00-23:00 Sun-Thurs • Mon-Thurs Rp 29,000/Game • 10:00-24:00 Fri-Sat • Fri-Sun Rp 35,000/Game • Nominal fee for shoe rental, bring socks

Bricks 4 Kids, Jl. Benda No. 5, Jakarta, Indonesia 12560

(021) 7802766. Bricks 4 Kids is a great little place geared toward younger kids, but offering programs from age 5 to 13 years old. It's a US company that has over 400 franchisees worldwide including several in Asia (Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand). Recently it was awarded the #1 Children's Enrichment Franchise by Entrepreneur Magazine. Their programs focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) allowing kids to build unique creations, play games, and have fun using **LEGO® bricks**. And what kid doesn't love Lego, right?? The activities are designed to trigger young children's lively imaginations and build their self-confidence. They offer classes that I've heard the kids really enjoy.

<https://id.bricks4kidz.com/index.php?action=location&location=1>

Mikrobots – More Lego Play!

The Mikrobot Experience Centre is a place where everyone who loves LEGO can come and have some exciting experience while playing series of activities, and at the same time encouraging creative thinking, problem solving, and interpersonal skills. The Centre offers two kinds of activities: in-house and outside activities. The in-house activities include walk-in courses, field trips, workshops (for ages 9 to 18), school holiday programs, and even birthday parties! For the outside activities, there's after school programs and holiday camps. Perfect for kids aged 6 years and above. *Open play is ONLY open on Saturday* from 11:00 – 12:30 and 14:00 to 15:30. Price is 150,000 IDR and they suggest reservations. +62 - 21 2933 9331, +62 - 21 2933 9341. Website: www.mikrobot.com.
APL Office Tower, 39th floor, T-8, Central Park, Jl. Let.Jend.S.Parman Kav.28, Jakarta 11470, Indonesia
(located beside the central park mall near Taman Anggrek)

Hadiprana Art Centre – Kemang.

Mitra Hadiprana Boutique Mall Lt. 2
Jl. Kemang Raya No. 30 - Jakarta Selatan
Telp. (021) 7196354. email : hackemang@yahoo.com
An artist showroom and classroom for artistic classes. The website describes their mission as follows: Mission: That through art there is a positive motivation, healing, creativity and brain synergy. That character is the foundation for all knowledge, as through art there is a constructive learning process.

Movies!! - This is a great activity to do in Jakarta because the theaters are very nice, clean, air-conditioned, and incredibly cheap compared to the U.S., Sydney, London, Tokyo and more. It's especially fun if you can see a movie in the Premiere theater, with big Lazy-Boy reclining chairs and a blanket and waiter service. The waffles with caramel sauce are to die for and that, with a big tub of popcorn is true heaven! If you like, ask for the popcorn as mixed salty and sweet, for a mix of butter and caramel popcorn. Check out local listings here for Cineplex XXI theaters (which make up the bulk of the theaters in South Jakarta): <http://www.21cineplex.com>
The Blitzmegaplex theaters (further North) also offer "velvet class" movies, which actually allow you to lay down in a 2-person BED to watch your movie! Check out their schedule at:
<http://www.blitzmegaplex.com/en/index.php>.

The Escape Hunt Experience – The Escape Hunt is an indoor detective game adventure. The setting is 100 years ago, and each person plays the role of a famous London detective trying to solve a criminal case within one hour period. It's a fun way to spend your quality time with friends or family. There are 3 stories to choose from: Kidnapping in the Study, Murder in the Bedroom and Explosion in the Kitchen! Book your game now through the website, or call for details. +62 21 97857828

<http://jakarta.escapehunt.com>

Ruko 2nd Floor, Jl. Kemang Raya 15, Jakarta 12730, Indonesia

Karaoke Spots:

(I mean nice, clean places that are not seedy, skanky, or disgusting. ☺)

First thing to know, depending on what you want in a karaoke spot, I'd recommend one that is considered a "family karaoke" because it won't be dirty or allow prostitution. The first two spots below are both places that are very nice and clean. The one at the top is near Senayan Plaza, in Arcadia, and it's a bit pricey, but very nice. The second one below is in the FX building on Sudirman, and it's MUCH cheaper, but slightly less fancy (that said, I took a group of women there for my birthday and we had a blast). The bottom one (Called T-Rex) is in Gandaria City mall and I think it's the best of the three – very nice, clean and well maintained with a good music selection, but not too pricey.

The Boutique KTV - Plaza Senayan Arcadia Lantai 2 Unit X 205-207

Address : Jl. New Delhi Pintu I Senayan

Tanah Abang, Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia 10270

Phone : +62 21 57901283

Sing! - FX Lifestyle X'nter Lantai f3

Address : Jl. Jendral Sudirman Pintu Satu Senayan

Tanah Abang, Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia 10270

Phone : +62 21 25554227, +62 21 25554228

T-REX Family Karaoke - Gandaria City

JL. Terusan Gandaria No. 8, Kebayoran Baru -

South Jakarta Mall Gandaria City

Ground Floor M-G 45, Phone: 021-29053081

INDONESIAN CRAFTS, GIFTS, SOUVENIRS **AND OTHER SHOPPING**

Here are some ideas for buying souvenirs or Indonesian gifts. These places have beautiful Indonesian crafts for your own home decor, souvenir-shopping for out-of-town guests, or the perfect item when you need to buy a gift to take back home:

Pasaraya - For souvenirs and “regular” items (see below), your one-stop-shopping place for all Indonesian crafts of ANY kind (seriously, I mean that) is Pasaraya at Block M. This is a department store with several floors of cultural arts and crafts ranging from batiks to handmade bowls and plates, wood-carvings, puppets, scarves, jewelry, paintings, etc. etc. There are crafts there from all over Indonesia and it has the best selection I've ever seen. The downside, of course, is that you will pay a little more for that amazing convenience. Still cheaper than you would find in a store back home, and definitely something there for every budget, but most things there are tourist prices. But, if time is of the essence and you really need to go one place and have all your shopping done, then this is a great choice!

Every time I go to Pasaraya, I feel like I have found the Mothership. In addition to Indo crafts, this place has everything else (“regular items”) as well. Looking for clothes, shoes, or handbags? Go here. Need winter jackets/ski gear? You’ve found it. Looking for luggage? This is your place. Want a new bicycle or some sports gear? This place has sporting good supplies for almost any sport on the planet. Seriously, there is SO much!

Once at Pasaraya take the escalators up to at least the 3rd or 4th floor and you will see the Batiks first, then more and more crafts as you go to the upper floors. Sporting goods/bikes/winter gear are near the top floor, in a hidden back area. The floors are very expansive with some hidden areas, so be sure to cover everything on each floor. And be sure to ask for anything you cannot find. Here's some more detailed information about Pasaraya: <http://www.jakartaexpat.com/shoppings/pasaraya-blok-m.html>

Galleria Jakarta - If you want better prices, but a much smaller selection, I suggest the batik and handicraft store in Cilandak Town Square, Jalan Simatupong, basement near the parking area. The store is called Galleria Jakarta. They have a good selection of batik shirts, clothes, bags, as well as many different kinds of crafts.

Batik Keris - Also, for convenience sake, you could always go to Batik Keris, which can be found in Pacific Place, PIM II, and many of the other big shopping malls. They are overpriced too and have a much smaller selection than PasaRaya or Galleria Jakarta, but their items are generally very good quality. Here's their website: <http://www.batikkeris-indonesia.com>.

AlunAlun Indonesia – Many people speak very highly of AlunAlun Indonesia, near Plaza Indonesia, and when you go, you can see why. Their prices are still more expensive than traditional markets and places like Jogja, but they are within reason and their selection is incredible. They sell many unique items that you won't be able to find anywhere else. I swoon every time I step foot in there. It's not all traditional handicrafts, either-- they've got lots of stuff made by modern Indonesian craftspeople and artisans that are unique and not mass-produced. It's a must-see for anyone in the market for Indonesian goods." Here's the website of the store: <http://www.alunalunindonesia.com/corporate.asp?menuid=7>

Nina Heyer Bags – If you're in the market to buy a new purse/handbag, there is a woman who lives in Executive Paradise, Cilandak who makes gorgeous genuine leather handbags, totes, wallets, etc. These are truly quality products. The leather is buttery soft and the colors are vibrant and beautiful. Check out the photos on her FB page, email her at NHDleather@gmail.com, or call her at +081222211680. <https://www.facebook.com/ninaheyerbags/photos>

Poins Square – near JIS Simatupong gate. This is truly a down-scale shopping mall, meant for middle and lower-income Indonesians, not bule, which is what makes it great and cheap prices. Downstairs on the lower levels you can find inexpensive batik clothing, other clothing, and DVDs galore. Upstairs are any electronics, camera equipment, laptop, phones and other items you might need. On the highest level floors there is an athletic supply store and arts and crafts supply store that are very well priced. Jalan Ra Kartini Ni 1a, Jakarta Selatan, DKI Jakarta 15000

Block M Square (Jl. Iskandar Muda Building) and **Ratu Plaza Mall**, Building, and Electronics Store in Jakarta Pusat (Jalan Jenderal Sudirman Kav. 9). Both are similar to Poins Square described above, but in other parts of Jakarta Selatan. Ratu Plaza doesn't have the clothing stalls though. Just DVDs and electronics.

D'Brasco - Jl. TB. Simatupang No. 18 (Cilandak), Jakarta Selatan
Big yellow building next door to Citos (Cilandak) in south Jakarta.
This is a nice factory outlet with good pricing and a Gymboree toddler pre-school on the 3rd floor. There's also a salon and reflexy next to the Gymboree, to do while you wait for the kiddies. Pick up a Lacoste Shirt for Rp 150000 and Burberry shirts for around Rp 200,000. They have famous "designer" handbags and also sell LOTS of sports brands, Adidas, Nike, Lamborghini, and Hugo Boss, and soccer/futbol team shirts and other big brands. It's very hard to tell if the top designer items in this store (Burberrys, Hugo Boss) are real, or fakes . . . but if it's that good and you like the designs, you might not care! For what it's worth, many people think the Burberrys clothes they sell are the real deal and are just old styles or rejected for some reason.

Mangga Dua - This is not everyone's idea of fun shopping but to some it is shopping heaven. There's nothing sophisticated about it at all. This is a trade centre for locals mainly, and not a retail haven. Wear cool clothing, comfy shoes and have a zipped up handbag for a bit of extra security. You will probably want to go with someone, so maybe tag up with someone who's been before. This will add to the enjoyment of the Mangga Dua shopping experience! Mangga Dua has three huge shopping centres. Looking from the street, there's one on the left called **Pasar Pagi Mangga Du, JITC** (Jakarta International Trade Centre), is on the right. Linked with walkways over the street is the **Mal Mangga Dua**, which is situated behind you. See descriptions of each below.

Pasar Pagi Mangga Dua is the oldest building and isn't air-conditioned. The aisles are narrow and so getting around is at a slower pace and can feel very crowded. Don't be put off but you do have to be in the mood for rummaging around the many, many stores here that sell everything from stationery to clothes and shoes.

The **JITC shopping complex** is famous for its huge selection of fake designer handbags, watches, pens etc. It also has the most amazing range of cheap toys and gifts that are ideal as Christmas stocking fillers, presents and party favors. Amongst all of this, there are a few shops that have a full range of baby supplies, clothing and toys.

Take cash with you or use the Citibank ATM on the left hand side of the JITC as you enter the lobby. Bargaining is a must for everything you buy.

The best way to haggle is to offer half of their first price, then work from there. Best time to travel: Leave from Kemang after the rush hour at 09:00, to get there around 45 minutes to one hour later. All of the shops open at 10:00. The food court is on Level 7. There is a McDonald's on the lower floor, just follow the signs.

Mall Mangga Dua has mainly computer software and accessories. It's also a great place to source children's computer games such as Playstation 2, Gameboy advance and for the younger kids, PC/Mac educational games. DVD's are also sold here.

Blossom Outlet Store

Blossom Boutique Outlet, Jl Jend Sudirman Kav 52-55 Lot #6
Jakarta Selatan SCBD 021 515 5771

This is a decent outlet store, probably best for kids clothes with labels like The Gap, Old Navy, The Children's Place, and some Target brands. The selection varies quite a bit depending on when you go, so if you don't see anything you like, maybe try again in a few months. Around the corner is another outlet (Fashion Warehouse) below, where there are mostly women's and men's clothes, so you can hit two outlets without traveling very far.

Fashion Warehouse Outlet Store

Kawasan Niaga Terpadu (SCBD) Lot 8
Jl. Jendral Surdirman Kav 52-53
Jakarta Selatan 021-514 01149

Rempoa Factory Outlet

Jl. Rempoa Veteran near Bintaro, west of Pondok Indah. Factory Outlet store that has a huge selection of kids clothes, women's and men's too. The prices are very good and they have many well-known brands. Not nearly as good as going to Bandung, but for Jakarta, it is better than most outlet stores, with a good selection of famous name brand clothes.

Pasar Asemka – also known by expats as “**Under the Bridge**” because it is literally a local, Indonesian market that is under a bridge! **Asemka market**, or Pasar Pagi Lama or known by expats as “under the Bridge” is said as the biggest wholesaler market in Jakarta. A wide range of accessories, dolls, wedding gift, stationery, party decorations, inflatable pool toys, and children knick-knacks are easy to find in this market. Lively atmosphere and always look good on weekdays and holidays. You can find many children toys – particularly small toys that you might find in a goodie

bag, or at a carnival or fair. Prices are certainly cheaper than at the Shopping Mall, and you must bargain for the best price. For the toys, Asemka Market is arguably a paradise. Just don't expect super-high quality. You may find local made toys or even imported toys with a wide range of price starting from Rp 1,000, – to the toys that cost millions of rupiah. Great place to go when prepping for a large children's party or anything that you need to buy large quantities of toys.

There is a building right next to Pasar Asemka where there are several good go-to stores, including a place to buy baby supplies, and a party store that has tons of party decorations, balloons, goodie bags, present bags, tinsel decorations, several dress-up wigs, confetti poppers, hanging decorations and a few small "Christmas" or party lights or pinatas. Overall, "Under the Bridge" is not high on quality, but it is an excellent place to go stock up on "cachkies" (or trinkets) for a party, kids birthday, or a festival.

Flags - If you need flags for UN day or anything else, this store will come to your rescue! It's located at Pasar Asemka (above) and sells decent quality fabric flags for 30 different countries. They only sell 2 sizes - small size, which is about 20cm x 10cm large (Roughly Rp. 10,000 each), and a larger size, maybe 1 meter large (Rp 80,000 each). The flags are really a bargain and this place is a great find, but they don't have a sign on the shop, and really it is just a small corner store next to the bridge. Go to Pasar Asemka and have someone who speaks good Bahasa Indonesia start asking around for the "bandara" (flag) store. Here is a starting point - it is not the address, but is a good place to begin, as the "bandara" store is somewhere nearby: Jalan Asemka-Petongkangan, Pasar Pagi, Jakarta Barat, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta, Indonesia

The Famous Dish Store – This store for ceramic dishes is famous among a select group of expat women who LOVE to shop for dishes. This store has many different sized dishes in many different colors, but their specialty among expats seems to be their holiday- themed dishes for Christmas. And, they have great prices too! The store is open 9-5 on weekdays, 9-12 on Saturday and it's closed on Sunday. It's located in North Jakarta, North of Monas, so be sure to plan your time to get there accordingly. (Hint: It's more fun to take that long drive and shop with a group of girlfriends!) Note: This store has porcelain *toilets* in the front window, but don't let that deter you. It is near something called Sun City. PT Sango Ceramics Indonesia, PT INAX International. JL. Hayam Wuruk No. 99, Jakarta 11160, Phone: 021-629-7147

Some GO-TO Jakarta Websites

Family Guide to Jakarta

<http://www.familyguidetojakarta.web.id/index.html>

Jakarta Expats Website

<http://www.expat.or.id/info/info.html>

Honeycombers – Jakarta – outstanding resources for Jakarta travel, sightseeing, family, and other expat-oriented information.

<http://www.thehoneycombers.com/jakarta/>

Bars - The website address says it all.

<http://www.jakarta100bars.com>

The Jakarta Post

<http://www.thejakartapost.com>

The Jakarta Globe

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com>

Jakarta Recycling Project – just call them and they will come and pick up your recycleables, which you have to separate into paper, plastic and cans/glass bottles. Just buy 3 large plastic trash cans from Ace, keep them in your kitchen, and label them in your native language, if you want, and Bahasa for pick-up. It's easy-peasy and a great way to help a city that really needs some support on recycling projects. They sometimes take a while to get started on pick-ups, but once they do it's typically very regular and reliable. To make it easier, ask some neighbors to get involved so the Recycling Project will have even more reason to make the trip to your neighborhood. <http://jakartagreenproject.com/>

Jakarta Youth Programs – great team programs for Soccer, Baseball and Basketball. I'll never understand why baseball (outside) takes place during rainy season and basketball (inside) is during dry season, but otherwise, the programs offered are a great opportunity for the little rugrats to get involved in community sports teams.

<http://www.yscj.com/?q=sport/jysa>

@America – programs and events to learn about or experience American Culture. <http://www.atamerica.or.id>

Helpful “Techie” Websites and Computer Stuff

This is a link to a VPN to help you “unblock” your computer from all the programs that are normally blocked in Indonesia – Netflix, TV shows, videos, etc. Go to <http://unblock-us.com>. Their website has lots of walk-throughs on how to set up your router so that your whole house benefits from the service.

There is another great website that allows you to join a Virtual Private Network (VPN) to encrypt your Internet connection and make it anonymous. Like Unblock-us.com, this allows you to watch programming from anywhere in the world, without being blocked by local servers. The name of the website is rather crude, but given that fact that this company helps you circumvent the normal routes of communication, it makes sense that the company name is a bit edgy. As far as I can tell, there is nothing illegal about the use of this practice to modify your VPN number. Of course, you have not engaged me as your lawyer, so this does not constitute legal advice. ☺ <https://www.hidemyass.com>.

Also, great for international calls is: **Viber**: <http://viber.com>. It is similar to WhatsApp but allows you to also make free voice calls to anyone else who has a Viber account. Call back home while using your mobile, for free, to anyone else who has Viber! Also used in this region frequently is KakaoTalk which, like Viber, also allows you to do free local and international phone calls, texts, pictures, videos, etc.
<http://www.kakao.com/talk>.

Computer Geek - Help!

Computer Geek - Need to find a tech savvy person (i.e., a computer geek) to come to the house to help you with your computers?

One guy many expats have used is Pak Hendra. He's in Kemang and has a little office/shop in the Plaza Kemang 88 building on Kemang Raya. He speaks great English and is very nice. His HP is 0815 881 9377, and he is on WhatsApp too.

Computer Repair Services - Mahesa Total Solusindo, PT - Ratu Plaza, Jalan Jend. Sudirman Kav. 9, Jakarta 10270. Tel: (021) 532 0275.

Computer Supplies, Accessories & Services - This is a great computer and computer parts supply store in Ratu plaza, so if you need a new

computer adaptor, battery, extension cord, etc., you can buy it there for reasonable prices, rather than the hiked-up prices in the shopping malls. It is particularly good for Mac electric supply cords. For instance, if you have a Mac cord that is fitted for a US electrical outlet, you can easily change the AC adaptor part for an Indonesian style outlet, and the cost is only Rp. 65,000 for that part. Dunia Mas Computer – Personal Computer Supplier, Accessories & Services, Jalan Jend. Sudirman, Kav 9, Ratu Plaza, LT.G, No. 25, Phone: 021 571 0875 or 021 7179 5701.

Social Groups

The British Womens Assocation - BWA – The BWA Jakarta has been offering friendship and support for women living in Jakarta since 1970 and has members from all over the UK and many other nations too (you don't have to be British to join). <http://www.bwajakarta.org>. The BWA Ball/Fashion Show held every year is always a great time, and if you've been in Jakarta for a while, you will usually recognize some of the "fashion models" as people you know!

Australia New Zealand Association - ANZA - ANZA is a friendly, inclusive club with members from Australia, New Zealand and all over the world. They have a very lively Charity Ball every year with a fun theme. <http://www.anzajakarta.net>

Ibero-American Women's Association (otherwise known as the Spanish-speaking Women's Association or the Latin-American Women's Association). This is a non profit group of women from Spanish-speaking countries all over the world who share an desire to learn, practice, and share their cultures. It was founded in 1978 by Spanish speaking and Indonesian ladies who saw the need and advantages of having a Spanish-speaking community group. This group holds a very fun Latin Fashion Show, usually in early October, followed by the Charity Latin Ball for people who enjoy a fun party and want an opportunity to salsa and merengue all night long! <http://www.aiayakarta.org>

American Women's Association - AWA – Since it started in the 1950's, the American Women's Association of Indonesia has grown into an exciting organization that connects more than 200 women with a supportive network of fellow expatriates, cultural integration, charitable works and plenty of fun activities! This is a great group of gals! The AWA welcomes newcomers of every nationality. <https://awajakarta.wildapricot.org>

IndoIndians.com. This is the portal site that leads to many other organizations, women's associations, etc., for all things relating to Indians in Indonesia. <http://www.indoindians.com>

Working Girls Group is a social dinner club that meets once a month on a Wednesday. The original emphasis was on having an opportunity for working women to network, but now the group includes many non-working women and you don't have to be working to join. To join this fun group

send an email to Poonam Sagar at poonam@infotech.coid or call 08161840950. After contacting Poonam you may join this forum at <http://workinggirlsjkt.wordpress.com> by completing the contact form. You can also join our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PWAJakarta/>

The Legal Beagles (expat woman lawyers) - This is a group started by MOI (that means me . . . Victoria). It is a social club I formed by piecing together any expat lawyers that I could find through word of mouth and a lot of digging around. There are about 25 members, and we encompass many different practice areas, ages, nationalities, and experience. About half of us are working, some are looking for work, and some have stopped practicing law years ago. We offer a nice support system for practicing lawyers, newbies, or just people who like to get together with like-minded women! No admission fee, forms, obligations or requirements. It's just a casual dinner once a month. To join, please contact Victoria at VLBhome@yahoo.com.

Bali Bound?

Bali is AHHmazing. Truly it is. Some of us Jakarta expats go there so often that we get really jaded, thinking to ourselves, “Oh no, sadly we are **only** going to Bali for this vacation!” But, as soon as you start to think that way, please slap yourself and realize that you are one of the lucky ones! Bali is a place that most people in the world only dream about visiting, and you are lucky enough to live right nearby and maybe even luckier if you get to go there often! Truly, Bali is a very special place - with spectacular beaches and sunsets, fascinating culture and crafts, great food, wonderful shopping, and lots to see and do. What more could you want? This list of resources for Bali/Ubud is just the tip of the iceberg and there are many, many more that I need to add. But, you have to start somewhere, and so this is the start of my list, to be supplemented much more later on.

Hotels

Where should you stay with kids? Well, if you’re looking for a nice, clean, Western-style hotel with all the amenities, including a buffet breakfast, beach activities, and kids club, then check out the **Westin - Nusa Dua**, **Intercontinental Hotel – Jimboran Bay**, or the **Hard Rock Café - Kuta**. All three are top-notch big, family hotels that will impress you, take good care of you, and possibly amaze you. You might even think you’ve found paradise!

Of course, if you don’t like big hotels (The Intercon is admittedly huge!), then definitely opt for the smaller, more boutique hotels or villas scattered throughout Bali. Two of the boutique hotels in Ubud are mentioned below. Also, ask around for recommendations from friends or check out reviews of smaller villas on Tripadvisor.com.

Tips for Ubud:

Greenfield Ubud Hotel and Restaurant

This is an adorable boutique hotel in Ubud, just outside of the noise and chaos of the city, but close enough to walk into town, or take a quick shuttle bus. The hotel is beautiful and overlooks the vast rice paddies. There is also a salt-water infinity pool that faces the rice fields and is quite nice. There is also a SPA to enjoy a traditional Balinese massage, reflexology and all kinds of body treatments. Get a room on the top floor for the best view. Rooms are very large and clean and well-kept and a

continental breakfast of fruits and breads/jams comes with the room. Prices are very reasonable, from Rp. 350,000 per night (a steal!) to 2.3 million per night. <http://greenfieldubud.com/home>
http://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Hotel_Review-g297701-d675777-Reviews-Green_Field_Hotel_and_Bungalows-Ubud_Bali.html

Villa Agung Khalia – another excellent small villa that is owned by Americans and has very high standards of customer care, cleanliness, and food prep. Rooms come with breakfast and you can order food in advance and they bring it to your room for breakfast. Wonderful, relaxing atmosphere located outside of the madness of downtown Ubud, but with an easy shuttle bus into town.

<http://www.agungkhalia.com>

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g297701-d1162874-Reviews-Villa_Agung_Khalia-Ubud_Bali.html

agungkhalia@gmail.com

If you stay at Villa Agung Khalia the hotel driver (Pak Made) and car 300,000 1/2 day, 450,000 full day (I think). We spent about 3 hours but you can spend more time and book a ticket that includes more personal time with the elephants. This place is only elephants. You can also stay in a hotel on site. Pake Made is excellent and has fairly good English skills. Nyoman (driver) is ok for pick up drop offs - but his English is minimal so he could not understand too much English. Also remember to ask Guru for a rice padi walk... Our kids loved it.

Elephant Rides:

http://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Hotel_Review-g297701-d1174492-Reviews-Elephant_Safari_Park_Lodge-Ubud_Bali.html

To go to this Elephant safari, you can book cheaper tickets including buffet lunch with Adventure Tours...

We didn't know that when we went, but it was fine as the driver took us to Rice terraces afterward and we ate lunch here: **Teras Padi Cafe**

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Restaurant_Review-g608497-d2419611-Reviews-Teras_Padi_Cafe-Tegalalang_Bali.html

Afterwards, you can hiked the rice terraces. The food was simple and good and the view stunning- opt for a Bali hut on the lowest level for the best view. The hike was fun and also beautiful.

Afterward you can shop at any number of cool shops along the road back to Ubud . . . if you're not too exhausted from the day!

Another Safari is the **Bali Safari and Marine Park**.

<http://www.balisafarimarinepark.com>

This park has a variety of Safari animals, elephant rides and a night safari. You can stay on-site as well and your kids will probably beg you to, as it looks like a lot of fun.

You can take a **pottery classes** with a Swiss lady (although now an Indonesian citizen) at her house/studio called Sari Api. It is 500,000 per person for 2-3 pieces (about 3 hours . . . Learning different styles- using the wheel too). sariapi@indo.net.id

You can also **make silver jewelry** here: <http://www.studioperak.com>

Food. Lots of places are very good. One is particularly good... **Taco Casa...** Simple but surprisingly good Mexican (not like Amigos... Which is OK). A great place for a lunch stop. Another spot famous for eating crispy duck is **The Dirty Duck** (can't remember the Bahasa name). But, it gets mixed reviews. **Sari Organik**, located in the Rice Padis is beautiful with good Organik food. But, be prepared for a long walk to get to the restaurant.

If the weather is right and you're adventurous, you can book **river or cave rafting** through Adventure tours.

Monkey Forest is a fun way to break up the day if you're a little adventurous and not afraid to have animals come close to you – or on top of you (that happens infrequently). The monkeys are very forward (read: aggressive), so don't bring ANY food or drink into the forest unless it's well hidden. If you don't encourage them, they will likely stay away from you (unless you have food), so you can walk through without having them touch you, but still you should be forewarned that it could happen. For young children, or ones who are very scared of animals, be sure to watch them carefully inside the forest, or have them wait outside with an adult.

Jakarta Bucket List*

20 Things to Do Before You Leave Jakarta

(disclaimer below)

- 1. Sunday Sudirman Walk** – they close part of the street so everyone can walk, run, ride bicycles. You can walk from “pizza man” (the statue that looks like a man holding a pizza) to Monas – about 5 km. Such a great way to start the day, and a great picture taking opportunity and way to talk to the locals. There aren’t many bule’s doing it, and the locals all come up to talk to you.
- 2. Medjid Itstiqal** - Friday 12 noon - They offer a tour and you make a donation to the mosque and tip the tour guide Rp. 50,000. They will give you something to cover up if you aren’t covered. Women and men allowed. They take you to a viewing balcony. It’s fantastic. You get an English speaking guide and can ask any questions you like. In total, you need about 1 hour.
<http://jakarta-tourism.go.id/wisatadkiapp/content/en/134/istiqlal-mosque>
- 3. The Thousand Islands** – not easy to access, and you have to spend 30 minutes in a boat before you even escape the muddy waters of Jakarta, but once you’re past that it is difficult to believe that such beauty lies just one hour boat ride from Jakarta.
- 4. Tugu Hotel Malang** - the hotel is one of my favorite in the world and the food is to die for. <http://www.tuguhotels.com/malang/index.html>
- 5. Oasis Restaurant** - Jl Raden Saleh 47 - interesting and fun
http://www.restodb.com/indonesia/dki_jakarta/jakarta_pusat/cikini/oasis_restaurant/
- 6. Menteng Pulo** war cemetery and church - Jl Menteng Pulo near Park Lane Hotel.
- 7. Presidential Palace** - Sat or Sunday morn. Be there by 9am and line up to be the first allowed in. It's free and takes about half an hour but apparently worth a look. They take everyone's picture on the steps of the palace and sell to you for Rp. 10,000.
- 8. Harry Darsono private museum** – must be booked in advance. Rp.185,000 donation per person. Minimum of 12 people. Must wear plain colors so you don’t clash with the collection!! (see longer description earlier in this guide)
- 9. Immanuel Church** – spectacular
<http://jakarta-tourism.go.id/wisatadkiapp/content/en/133/immanuel-church>

10. Lara Djonggrang restaurant (see reference in the restaurant section above)
<http://www.tuguhotels.com/laradjonggrang/index.html>

11. Chocolate origins taste and learn session (2 hours) at Creole in the FX Mall.
Contact Joy.

12. Crab dinner at the street warungs at Ben Hill - drink enough beer and you'll be fine I'm sure! Santiga Seafood Jl Ben Hill. Sit amongst the locals on your tiny plastic stools in the heat and feast on piping hot black pepper or spicy sweet and sour crabs, prawns, fish, calamari etc. there's a line up, so be there by 7pm. Once they run out, they close, and there's a line up for a seat. About Rp. 100,000 each.

13. Museum Wayang (puppet Museum) - Jl Pintu Besar Utara 27. Open Sun, Tues, Wed, Thurs 9-3pm and Fri 9-2pm but best to go Sunday as they have a show at 10am and if you can time to be there for that, it's better. For tour, call Pak Katimo 692 9560

14. Sunday brunch at Il Mare or Orient 8 at Mulia hotel – beautiful food and free flow wine, beer and cocktails for about Rp. 400,000 per person – a Jakarta institution
<http://www.hotelmulia.com/dining/orient8.htm>
<http://www.hotelmulia.com/dining/ilmare.htm>

15. Have a pair of tailor made shoes made at Ben and Sons Kemang 021 7179 0753

16. Mangga Dua – it's an experience, a hard, hot and chaotic experience, but you haven't been to Jakarta without it. Be there 930am Sat morning and get what you need so you can be out by 11am.

17. Unless you are staying in a high rise hotel in the middle of the city, a trip up to the top of **Monas** on a reasonably clear day is very interesting.

18. Taman Safari – go on a week day. They bring the baby animals out to meet you at around 10am. Leave Jakarta at 7am and be there when they open and you can do it in half a day. Highly recommended. [See additional recommendations about Taman Safari elsewhere in this guidebook.]
<http://www.tamansafari.com/agp/>

19. Jl Surabaya Street Market. You need to bargain hard, but some fun things here.

20. Have a cup of Kopi Luwak, the most expensive coffee in the world, from Kopi Luwak in Pac Place outside of Kemchicks. **Kopi Luwak** (pronounced ['kopi 'luwa?]) or **Civet coffee** is coffee made from coffee berries which have been eaten by and passed through the digestive tract of the Asian Palm Civet. The civets eat the berries, but the beans inside pass through their system undigested. This process takes place on the islands of Sumatra, Java, Bali and Sulawesi in the Indonesian Archipelago, in the Philippines (where the product is called *Motit Coffee* in the Cordillera, or *Kape Alamid* in Tagalog areas) and in East Timor (locally called *kafé-laku*).

***Disclaimer:** This bucket list is not my creation, and the person who created it has long-since left Jakarta, but I can vouch for many of the activities on this list.