

Geographic and Economic Bali.

Bali is an island found within central Indonesia just to the east of the main island of Java. Bali is only just south of the equator and so is very warm all year round at about 32 to 35 degrees Celsius. Bali is also about 153 km long and 112 km wide with an area of 5,633 km² or about 3 times bigger than the city of Sydney. It is dramatically mountainous especially in the central region which is dominated by a number of volcanic mountains.

The highest point of the island is Mount Agung which is found in the east. It is an active volcano that last erupted in March 1963. It stands at 3,142 m high (almost 3 times higher than the Blue Mountains).

The largest city is the capital, Denpasar, near the southern coast. The second largest city is the northern port of Singaraja. The town of Ubud (north of Denpasar), with its art market, museums and galleries, is regarded as the cultural center of Bali.

Its population of over 3 million is less than the Sydney population of 4 ½ million. Most of the population follow the Hindu religion.

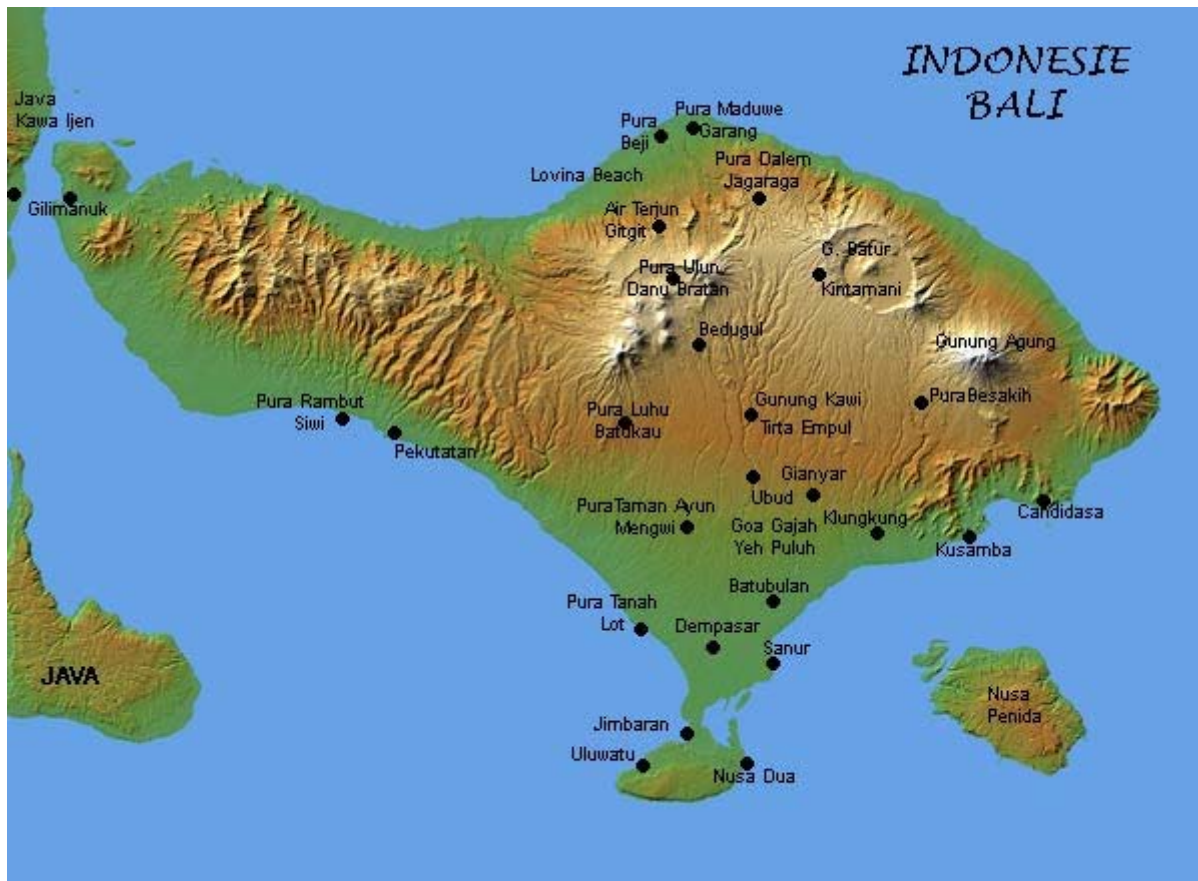
The main tourist locations are the town of Kuta (along with its accompanying beach), Sanur, Jimbaran, Seminyak and the newer development of Nusa Dua. The Ngurah Rai International Airport is located near Jimbaran, on the narrow land joining the southernmost part of the island to the main part of the island.

The island is surrounded by coral reefs. Beaches in the south tend to have white sand while those in the north and west tend to have black sand.

Bali is a popular travel destination with Australian tourists and more than 200,000 Australians visit Bali each year on their holidays. Many people are employed in the tourist industry working in hotels, travel and the restaurant businesses with also many Balinese artisans producing batik and ikat cloth and clothing, wooden carvings, stone carvings and silverware for tourists.

Most of the Balinese people however are involved in agriculture, primarily that of rice cultivation which is the main food. The rice terraces cover much of the land area of Bali, especially north and south of the central mountains. Crops such as fruits, vegetables and other cash crops are also grown including corn, coffee, tea, tobacco, cocoa, vanilla, soy beans and chillies, although in

smaller amounts. A significant number of Balinese are also fishermen.



Exercise : On your group map of Bali, label and draw the different places of interest and present your finished poster to the class. You may wish to include on your map places such as the capital Denpasar; the port city of Singaraja; the tourist town and beach of Kuta, Ubud, the cultural centre of Bali; the mountainous regions including Mount Agung; the Ngurah Rai International airport; the coral reefs and fish around the sides of the island; and the rice paddies north and south of the central mountainous region. Also, make sure you fill in the correct values for the compass, distance scale, the western neighbouring island, the population and area of Bali and the number of Australian tourists per year that come to Bali. Make sure you assign different roles to each of your group members such as researchers, drawers, labellers and speakers/presenters.

Resources : 6 worksheets. Poster with map of Bali. Coloured textas. Ruler.