

Pacific Horticulture Society and Sterling Tours present

Singapore & Bali

September 2-14, 2016

Escorted by Josh Schechtel
Tour Manager Cheryl Nichols

Limited to 20 guests

Join us and explore the allure of tropical gardens. Singapore is a contrast of ultra-modern urban design and traditional cultures. Visits include Gardens by the Bay and Singapore Botanic Gardens -- a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our Balinese adventure includes private gardens, villas, music, dance, and visual arts, with stays in the village of Ubud and the beach-side town of Sanur. We include colorful markets, ancient temples, palaces, and workshops of Balinese artisans working in silver, stone, wood and cloth.



Friday/Saturday, September 2/3: USA/Canada to Singapore. Independent departure flights to Singapore, losing a day as you cross the international dateline on the way. Upon arrival, make your way to the [Goodwood Park Hotel](#), where our first included night is **September 3rd**. The gracious, old, colonial style hotel has all the modern amenities with a choice of restaurants, from casual to gourmet.

Sunday, September 4: Singapore. After breakfast at the hotel we have a full day of visits to gardens in the city of Singapore. We include the [Singapore Botanic Garden](#) and National Orchid Garden, housing the largest collection of rare and award winning orchids in Singapore. There are more than 700 species and 3,000 hybrids from tropical regions around the globe. After lunch we will enjoy a guided tour of HortPark. The park's themed exhibits include over 40 outdoor display gardens, a collection of silver, grey, and white plants; a lush, tropical Balinese garden; Herb and Spice garden and a Rooftop garden. Tonight we gather at the hotel for welcome drinks and dinner.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Monday, September 5: Singapore. After breakfast at the hotel, we spend the day exploring



the magnificent new *Gardens by the Bay*. Spanning 250 acres, Gardens by the Bay comprises three waterfront gardens: Bay South, Bay East and Bay Central. A showcase of horticulture and garden artistry, the Gardens bring the world of plants to Singapore and present Singapore to the World. We'll see a diversity of plant species from around the world in the iconic cooled conservatories, marvel at the vertical gardens, and discover the intricacies of plant life at the themed garden. In this horticultural oasis nestled in the heart of the city, there is much to explore! Its design includes two huge glass houses containing plants and trees from across the globe; iconic Supertrees: 16 stories tall, made of metal and concrete covered with thousands of living epiphytic plants; heritage gardens, and aerial walkways. *Breakfast*

Tuesday, September 6: Bali, Ubud. After breakfast, we transfer to the airport for the 2 1/2-hour flight to Bali. Upon arrival, we'll meet our guide and transfer to Ubud where our accommodations for five nights are at [Taman Bebek Resort & Spa](#), a luxury compound of cottages and gardens designed by Made Wijaya, nestled in a beautiful location high above the Ayung River.



We will be guests for a special dinner and lecture hosted by Mr. Wijaya. He traveled to Bali in 1973 and moved in with a Brahman family, working various jobs teaching English and acting as a tour guide, until he was asked to design the gardens of the legendary Bali Oberoi. More than 600 gardens later, Wijaya is a world renowned tropical garden designer whose company has a 500-strong team of artisans and garden “commandos” as he calls them. He has published 5 books and is a recognized authority on tropical gardens and South East Asian

architecture. *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Wednesday, September 7:

Today we will visit Nadya, who has been living and designing in Bali for many years. Her beautiful clothes are designed and produced on the island, using fabrics and trims that are collected from throughout Indonesia. Nadya designs using batik, painted fabrics, ikat and other woven fabrics, combining patterns and colors for one-of-a-kind garments that are beautifully fitted and have to be seen to be believed. Her home and studio includes a tropical garden that uses exotic tiles and other finishes to compliment the plantings. Both her home and garden are filled with art and crafts from Indonesia, creating a magical environment that lets her creativity blossom.



Our lunch will be at the Hanging Garden's River Café. The café is surrounded by tropical flowers, overlooking picturesque steep jungle cliffs and thatched roof bungalows high above the Petanu River. The Cafe offers health conscious dishes made with fresh organic vegetables and

sustainable produce.

This afternoon we will visit a private garden in the Ubud area. Evening free to sample the restaurants and shops in Ubud. Early evening is the best time for strolling and most of the shops stay open until around 9pm. The cool air is often filled with *gamelan* music from local cultural performances. Every night at 7:30pm there are traditional dances at Puri Saren, Ubud's royal palace. *Breakfast, Lunch*



Thursday, September 8: Morning visit to the fascinating bamboo factory and design workshop where the architecture of the Green School was conceptualized and constructed. The tour continues to Green Village, where we'll experience a community of one-of-a-kind custom bamboo homes built by master Balinese craftsmen. These unconventional homes are clustered along the slopes of the beautiful Ayung River. They are built entirely by hand at the Bamboo



Factory of locally sourced bamboo, without nails, some rising up to six floors. Lunch is included.



Later we will see another of Made Wijaya's gardens at the Villa Keliki. The lush property overlooks the River Valley and rice terraces. There are multiple varieties of palms, and tropical plants including bromeliads, crinum lilies, and ferns. *Breakfast, Lunch*

Friday, September 9: Today is free for exploring Ubud, the craft capital of Bali. Almost everywhere in Ubud one is conscious of the town's artistic traditions. Possible visits include Museum Puri Lukisan housing a fine collection of Balinese art. Pasar Ubud, a morning produce market with crafts and food throughout the day. Monkey Forest Road is lined with galleries and restaurants. Lempad House is the family home of Bali's most celebrated artist.



Or consider a walk in the Ubud countryside through the rice fields. There are many varieties of colorful butterflies, possible sighting of the iridescent blue Java Kingfisher, a large banyan tree, and an artists' settlement. *Breakfast*

Saturday, September 10:

Today we will learn more about batik, Bali's famous traditional handwoven textiles. We have been invited to the studio of Tjok Agung Pemayun, Bali's leading indigo wizard. He has studied the plants and indigo dyeing techniques intensively. Tjok produces hand-blocked and hand-drawn batiks using natural brown and indigo dyes. After a bit more sightseeing we will be treated to a very special experience. We'll begin with a slow walk through a village and rice fields with hats and umbrellas. Upon arrival at a Sanctuary we'll enjoy a foot washing flower bath by the river followed by a tented picnic lunch on a deep gorge above a mountain stream. Our entertainment will be dancing by local children.



Later we'll meet David Mendoza in a lovely garden setting for an informative talk and cool drink. David designs clothing for men and women in cotton, silk and linen. He has been working with natural dyes for many years. He creates contemporary pieces using batik stamps that date

back to the 1920's, as well as more modern stamps. We will see some of David's designs and he will speak to us about the art of batik design. *Breakfast, Lunch*

Sunday, September 11: Bali, Sanur. Today after breakfast we transfer to Sanur, on the southeastern side of Bali. On the way we will explore the village of Jatiluwih to learn about local Hindu culture and to experience the daily life of rural Balinese. We will have



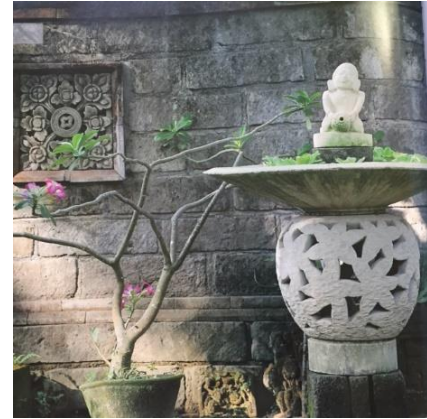
a chance to visit local artists and craftsmen. In Sanur we will be staying at [Sudamala Suites & Villas](#), an artistically stunning resort that offers brightly colored, intricately carved doors, lush gardens, fine and casual dining, and a short walk to a private white sand beach. Some of the attractions in the neighborhood include the Le Mayeur Art Museum, night markets, and a pillar known as the Prasasti Blanjong established by the first king of the Balinese

Warmadewa dynasty. Sanur has a quiet charm and an old Balinese community. There is good shopping for handcrafts from Bali and elsewhere in Indonesia. *Breakfast, Dinner*

Monday, September 12:

Today is free for individual activities. For those who wish to scuba dive or snorkel the warm tropical waters are teeming with brilliantly colored reef fish. The town offers craft shops, good restaurants, a fine temple and art museum. Other options include relaxing at the hotel spa, day trips, biking, water sports and boat rides. *Breakfast,*

Tuesday, September 13: After breakfast, we depart for Villa Bebek, Made Wijaya's home and studio designed in "New Balinese" style. Made calls it his "oasis of calm and museum of Balinese garden artistry." The garden is lush and tightly planted with exotic plants. There are multiple ponds, pavilions, statues, pool, and fountains. Later we'll take a beautiful drive to the Bukit Peninsula once the hunting grounds of the Balinese royal family. Our destination is the lovely Bulgari hotel perched on a promontory with gorgeous views of the Indian sea. We'll have time to stroll through the gardens and enjoy a delicious farewell lunch in the hotel restaurant.



Late afternoon and evening free for last minute shopping. *Breakfast, Lunch*

Wednesday, September 14: Our adventure ends today when we say *Selamat tinggal* (goodbye) to Bali. Transfers provided to the airport. Safe travels! *Breakfast*

Hotels - Our first hotel is **Goodwood Park** in Singapore, a distinguished heritage hotel in a uniquely designed building dating back to 1900. This 5-star hotel has been faithfully restored with the Grand Tower gazette designated a national monument in 1989. It is located close to shopping, transportation and many places of interest. Amenities include a minibar, complimentary wireless, cable and satellite TV and a personal safe.

Our hotels in Bali are the **Taman Bebek** and the **Sanur Sudamala Suites and Villas**. Taman Bebek Resort & Spa is an idyllic self-conditioned retreat with bungalows nestled in a lush garden setting. Amenities include phones, ceiling fans, and kitchenettes. The Sudamala Suites and Villas are set in the calm and relaxing setting of Sanur where centuries of Balinese art and cultural history have been nurtured. Amenities include premium bedding, plasma TV, and furnished balconies with beautiful garden views.

Flights - where to meet the tour: The tour includes hotel accommodations in Singapore starting with the night of September 3 (check-in any time after 3pm). Because of the long flight time, no group activities are scheduled until breakfast the following morning, September 4th. Due to the wide choice of flights to Singapore's Changi airport, arrival transfers are not included, but guidance on getting from your arrival airport to the hotel will be provided with your final itinerary. Our tour ends on the island of Bali following breakfast September 14th, transfers to Denpasar airport will be provided.

Airlines offering flights to Singapore (SIN) and from Denpasar, Bali (DPS) include:
Singapore Airlines: LAX or SFO direct to Singapore. Bali to LAX/SFO via Singapore.
EVA Air: LAX, SFO, Seattle, Vancouver to Singapore via Taipei. Return from Bali via Taipei.

China Airlines: LAX, SFO, Vancouver to Singapore via Taipei. Return from Bali via Taipei.

Korean or Asiana: LAX, SFO, Seattle, Vancouver to Singapore via Seoul. Return from Bali via Seoul.

Cathay Pacific: LAX, SFO, Vancouver to Singapore via Hong Kong. Return from Bali via Hong Kong.

Other carriers with service to Singapore but scheduling issues on the return from Bali include United, Delta, American, China Southern, Japan Airlines, Air Canada, ANA. We suggest contacting Leslie Garber of Cadence Travel for assistance booking flights. Be sure to ask about business class as there can be attractive sale fares. Leslie charges a fee for her service, but guests find her service to be of value.

Travel Documents - A passport valid for at least 6 months beyond the end of the tour is required for travel to and from Singapore and Indonesia (Bali). US and Canadian passport holders do not require a visa to enter either country for a limited tourist visit.

Special Notice - Guests are encouraged to review country specific information for [Singapore](#) and [Indonesia](#) on the US State Dept website. In addition, Bali is home to Mt Rinjani, a volcano known to erupt now and then, causing occasional closures of the airport in Bali due to ash clouds.

Physical Capabilities - This tour include a GREAT DEAL OF WALKING, sometimes on uneven or unpaved pathways and/or cobblestones, and regular use of stairs. Some of the places we will be visiting can only be seen on foot with no other access possible. While Singapore is a modern, bustling city-state, Bali is definitely still in the third world, without modern accessibility conveniences we are accustomed to in North America. If you regularly use a cane or a walker or have trouble climbing multiple flights of stairs without tiring, this is not the tour for you. For this reason, guests with limited mobility MUST consult with Sterling prior to tour registration.

Important Note about Bali - This itinerary is subject to revision because the schedule for several included events had not been finalized when the itinerary was released. When you are in Bali, you will come to appreciate the casual and easy pace of life. The easy-going attitude can make it somewhat challenging to pin down itinerary details well in advance. We do not anticipate major schedule revisions, but do want all guests to understand that revisions may be possible. A flexible outlook, especially for the Bali portion of the itinerary, will ensure a pleasant and memorable experience.

Travel Insurance - As your deposit and final payment are both non-refundable, we wish to make you aware that individual travel insurance is available to protect you against cancellation penalties as well as provide coverage should an incident occur during the trip. We will send an email with your deposit confirmation containing information about how to get a free quote and/or secure your coverage online or by phone. We strongly encourage you to purchase insurance at the time of deposit, as then most pre-existing conditions can often be covered. Group travel insurance is not available for this tour.

Tour Land Cost - \$3695 per person for members of Pacific Horticulture Society, \$3795 for non-members,* based on 2 persons sharing a room. Supplement for single

occupancy is \$1095. A non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person is required to reserve a place on this tour with balance due 60 days before departure. A minimum of 10 guests are required to operate this tour. *Membership in Pacific Horticulture Society starts at \$28 per year, so we suggest joining before you register for the tour. You can join online by going to and signing up [here](#).

Cost Includes:

- 11 nights' accommodations
- Hotels taxes and service charges
- Breakfast daily
- 5 lunches, 3 dinners
- Ground transportation as specified in the itinerary
- Entrances and sightseeing as per the itinerary
- One way flight from Singapore to Bali, economy class
- Transfers to the airport in Singapore for the flight to Bali and upon arrival Bali
- Transfer to the airport in Bali for the return flight
- Tips to local guides and drivers
- Escorted by Josh Schechtel
- Donation of \$250 to Pacific Horticulture Society

Cost does not include:

- Transpacific airfare
- Travel Insurance
- Arrival transfer in Singapore
- Items or services not specifically mentioned on the itinerary

For reservations and information, please contact:

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