



# *Indonesia*

ENVISION HANDBOOK





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# *Introduction*

## **ABOUT THE SITE**

Indonesia is an archipelago located in Southeast Asia, just north of Australia. It is made up of 17,500 islands. With a population of roughly 240 million people, it is the fourth most populous nation in the world. Out of those 240 million people, 160 million are of the majority religion, making Indonesia the country with the largest population of such in the world. 145 million of these people live on the island of Java, making it the most populous island on the face of the planet! The Envision site is located on this island in the city of Bandung (with a population of five million people).

God has been at work in Indonesia well before we arrived, and He will continue His work well after our time here is complete. As international workers in Indonesia, we do not start from scratch but rather join the momentum, the vision, and the history of God's master plan here.



# *General Information*

## **TEAM COSTS**

The in-country costs per person cover ministry expenses, meals, lodging, laundry, in-city transportation, and travel assistance. Airfare is not included. Please refer to Envision's website for current costs.

## **INTERN COSTS**

The in-country cost covers ministry expenses, meals, lodging, laundry and in-city transportation. Travel insurance and airfare are not included, but can be reimbursed with extra funds in one's support account. Travel insurance must be purchased prior to launch and is chose by the intern. Please refer to Envision's website for current costs.

## **HOUSING AND FOOD**

Most teams and interns will stay at the Green Gate complex in Bandung. There is a washer/ dryer, so pack lightly. Meals for teams will be provided either at Green Gate or at local restaurants. For interns, breakfasts and lunches will be provided at Green Gate, but you will often be on your own for supper—the costs will be covered by your raised funds. Street vendors are very inexpensive or you can purchase items at the local grocery store. If you have food restrictions or dietary needs, please communicate that WELL ahead of time as those will be difficult to accommodate—severe issues may preclude you from coming to this site.





## **MONEY**

You may wish to bring some spending money, depending on how many gifts you plan to buy. We would recommend bringing a few hundred dollars for gifts and snacks.

The currency in Indonesia is the Indonesian rupiah.

ATM access is available, so you can use your U.S.-based credit/debit cards, but we suggest you look into any foreign transaction fees that might be incurred. Crisp \$100 bills are best for money changers.

## **AIRPORT AND ARRIVAL INFORMATION**

One of our Envision team members will pick you up from the airport in Jakarta (PLEASE do not purchase tickets until you get approval from the office AND run your possible itinerary by the site personnel).

You will get information on airport procedures closer to the time of your arrival as this changes frequently. Once you get outside the airport, if for some reason one of us is not there, just stand to the side of the well-trafficked area and wait. We will be there soon.

## **VISAS**

Visa processes are also changing frequently. You might apply online ahead of time for your visa or you might get it at the airport upon arrival. We might apply on your behalf and ask you to supply many documents in order to do so. Much depends on the length of your stay and when you arrive. Rest assured, we will be in touch ahead of time about these concerns.

## COMMUNICATION

There is Wi-Fi at Green Gate and many other places. There will be enough access to upload photos and keeping in touch with people back home. Be mindful what you are posting. Guidelines will be discussed during your orientation. We do encourage you to unplug as much as possible while you are here to fully engage in your mission. Depending on the length of your stay, you might be required to obtain a local SIM card. This will necessitate having an unlocked/international phone. If you are here for a shorter time, e-sims are available, such as Airalo.

The general Envision policy is that you refrain from using words such as “missions,” “church,” “evangelism,” “Jesus,” “missionary,” and “Bible.” This goes for you, the intern or team member, and for your friends and family remaining back home.

Indonesia’s voltage is 220V 50 hertz. The outlets are not the same as the U.S., so we will supply you with adapters once you arrive in Indonesia.

## HEALTH AND VACCINATIONS

No shots are required for Indonesia. We recommend that you take a worm treatment back to the U.S. with you and take that after your return. It is not required, but it won’t hurt you to take it, and it could help.

Dengue fever is prevalent here. The incubation period can be as long as two weeks, so be aware as you return to your home. If you have prolonged fevers or any kind of rash on your hands/feet/body, be sure to drink lots of water and rest. If fever persists for longer than three days, it would be best to see a doctor and mention that you have been to a dengue area of the world.

## TRANSPORTATION

Please be aware that much of the time you will be using public transportation. Teams will likely be using non-airconditioned vans with open windows/doors with sideways seating and no seatbelts. Interns will often use rideshare, which is handled through various apps on your phone. This will mean riding on the back of a motorcycle being driven by a local. You will be provided with a helmet to use during your time here, and we will help participants reach a level of comfort before doing such. Please try your best to acclimate yourself to riding on the back of a motorcycle if you have no previous experience.





# *Packing List*

We recommend packing in bags with wheels that roll in all directions so you can easily maneuver them. We also recommend making sure your bags are a weight that you can easily carry. Keep in mind that laundry will be done most days, so pack lightly:

- Casual, comfortable clothes that adhere to the dress code
- Jacket or warm sweatshirt for evenings
- Shoes—for hiking/exercise, for rain, for church
- Flip flops (shower shoes)
- Pajamas or modest sleeping clothes as you may be sharing rooms
- Small umbrella and complete rain suit (can be easily purchased locally)
- Toiletries—basics are available for purchase here unless you only use a specific brand
- One small sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Hand sanitizer

## **SUGGESTED ITEMS**

- Prescription meds
- Preferred meds for pain, allergy, digestion, nausea, colds/flu
- Feminine products
- Toiletries—only brands you are attached to as others can be purchased locally
- Small appliances such as hairdryers, electric razors, straighteners, etc.
- Small pillow for the plane
- Small backpack for day trips and/or crossbody bag or purse
- A couple small packs of tissues to use for toilet paper
- Computer
- Unlocked cell phone
- Headphones
- Sunscreen—just a small bit
- Sunglasses
- Small non-perishable snacks for on the go (granola bars, trail mix, dried fruit, etc.)
- Pocket charger
- Hat
- Camera
- Water bottle
- Bible, journal, pen
- Spending money in USD. Make sure to tell your credit card companies and bank you are traveling outside the country. You can easily take out money from an ATM (recommended over changing dollars). Many banks will charge a fee for using overseas ATMs. You can also bring cash to be exchanged. Old torn bills will not be accepted by money changers.

# *How to Dress*

Please be aware that the people are much more conservative than we are in the West. To be effective in ministry, we must respect our Indonesian brothers and sisters while in their country. We must set aside our dress and customs and adopt those of the country in which we are serving. We take this seriously and will ask team members to change if they are not dressed appropriately. Understand that we are not trying to be legalistic or deprive you of your individuality, it's just that particular appearances don't say the same thing in Indonesia as they do in your home countries.

## **GUIDELINES**

Females must never wear sleeveless tops of any kind. Short sleeves may be worn around Green Gate, but to be respectful of the culture, long sleeves or three-quarter length sleeves must be worn to language classes, sightseeing, church, and other outings. We suggest you invest in lightweight, loose, cool materials with long sleeves to be comfortable. None of these tops should have revealing or low necklines. If it is even questionable, leave it behind. Ladies need to avoid wearing shorts except around the inside of Green Gate, and even those must be almost knee length. If females wear leggings, they should be paired with a top long enough to cover their backside. Men should expect to wear long pants when sightseeing, going to church, or going to meetings. Otherwise, cargo/knee length shorts are acceptable.







# *Ministry*

Ministries are still developing, but here is what you can expect if you come to serve:

## **Local Church Partnership**

We partner with the local Alliance church to help them reach goals they cannot attain on their own. This means that if, during your stay, there are projects requested by the local church, we will do our best to support and help if our assistance is requested! For example, a church may be running a VBS program, and having additional support would be a huge blessing for them! Expect to attend a local C&MA church and occasionally attend various events.

## **Soccer**

Youth frequently come to the ministry center to take part in soccer matches. We use this time to play, build relationships, and get to know the youth in the neighborhood.

## **At-Risk Women Ministry**

The team at Green Gate is connected to women who are coming out of prostitution. Opportunities to serve with them, build relationships, and offer job training and education will also be developing. We work with pregnant teenage moms and their babies. We also support women in the prison system as well as women coming out of sex trafficking and abuse.

## **English Ministries**

Possibilities for teaching and engaging in English conversations abound. People can expect to get involved in informal relational conversations and also teach and interact in more formal educational-type settings—such as conversation café and kids' club.

## **English Village**

This is an intensive English immersion camp for adult English learners, which happens during the summer break for universities (late June-beginning of August). Plan on a full 14 days on the ground.

## **Organic Farming Opportunities**

Be prepared to get dirty. Participants have been involved in weeding, aquaponics, composting, and planting. This is done alongside farmers of the majority religion.

## **Orphanage Ministries**

This will involve holding, feeding, and playing with babies and young children.

## **River Clean-Up**

This involves joining with an international nonprofit to keep Indonesia's rivers clean. Again, prepare to get messy.

As a rule, these ministries are still in development, so please be flexible and understand that we will put your team to use in the best way possible given the needs on the ground and various projects during your trip. Thanks in advance for your understanding and flexibility! It will be helpful to keep in mind that everything we do is relationship-based. That is the bottom line for every interaction you will be involved in.

## TEAMS

Suggested schedule for 10-day trips:

- **Day 1:** Arrive at Jakarta airport and travel to Bandung
- **Day 2:** Orientation and settling in—includes changing money, etc.
- **Days 3–8:** Ministry involvement
- **Day 9:** Cultural excursion/souvenir shopping
- **Day 10:** Travel back to Jakarta and depart

\* If you want more days to sightsee, add to your time on the ground.

\*\*NO trips during Ramadan/Eid el Fitri and annual Field Forum—ask site staff for the dates as they change year-to-year.

## INTERNS

Expect to be flexible. Seek the Lord daily and ask Him to use you in whatever setting you find yourself. It is likely that no two days will be the same. Just roll with the punches, take each experience as it comes, and embrace the new adventure.

You can expect to get involved in a homestay with a local Indonesian family at some point during your stay in Indonesia. In terms of ministry, there will be a variety of opportunities ranging from teaching English, leading kids' programs, language learning, assisting with hosting short-term teams and other Green Gate guests, developing relationships with local, non-believing young people, and helping serve IWs however needed. You will also be expected to practice rhythms of sabbath rest and other spiritual disciplines during your time in Bandung.

You will be studying the Indonesian language while you are here. We recommend you get started with a few basic phrases by using the Duolingo app or checking out these websites:

[linguanaut.com/learn\\_indonesian.html](http://linguanaut.com/learn_indonesian.html)

[io1languages.net/indonesian/](http://io1languages.net/indonesian/)

[expat.or.id/info/learnbahasaindonesia.html](http://expat.or.id/info/learnbahasaindonesia.html)







# *Cultural Sensitivity*

## **A BIT ABOUT INDONESIA**

Like any culture, there are basic dos and don'ts.

You will be much more respected and effective in what you say and share if you are careful to abide by these cultural guidelines.

Informality and general friendliness are characteristics in relationships of all ages, economic statuses, and social groups. People are tolerant of almost all kinds of behavior and never expect foreigners to understand the intricacies of social customs, but by following a few simple rules for conduct and adopting a few Indonesian ways, you can quickly and easily gain respect from the people in Indonesia. Because of assumptions made about foreigners by locals, there will be a curfew during your time in Indonesia. This will help alleviate assumptions about your morals and behavior.

## **DOS AND DON'TS**

Public displays of opposite-sex affection are not acceptable, even between married and engaged couples.

Modest dress and a clean, neat appearance will create a very good impression.

Do not use your left hand to give/receive items from another person. If you are left-handed, it would be prudent to begin practicing using your right hand for a variety of activities, prior to launching your trip to Indonesia.

Assume everyone understands more English than you expect them to. Be mindful of what you are saying about people, culture, and country in front of others.

Smile. Smiling is a universal language. Love is accepted by everyone. Be friendly and welcoming.

There will be NO consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or pork in any form for the duration of your stay in Indonesia. This includes not hanging out with friends in bars.





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