

Cultural Immersion

Balinese Performing Arts Experience



Gamelan Workshop & Sessions

Be immersed in the shimmering sounds of vibrant gamelan music as expert practitioners explain and demonstrate numerous ensembles and even once-extinct instruments now revived at the centre.



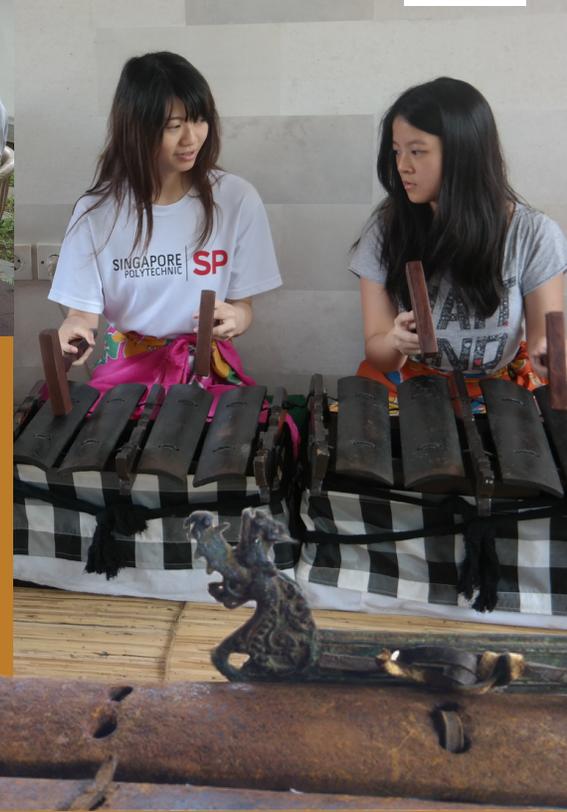
Immerse yourself in Balinese performing arts and culture at Mekar Bhuana, a warm-welcoming family based centre with 10 years' experience creating custom-made programs for individuals and groups from around the world.

You will learn how Balinese live by a concept of harmony, caring for nature and the environment as well as human relationships and their connection to the universe through ritual, devotion and artistic creativity.



Learn to play on a full bronze orchestra hands-on in a group, making exciting, dynamic music in the community way.

Try other Mekar Bhuana ensembles that have iron or bamboo keys, with different instrumentation, tunings and techniques



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Dance Workshop & Sessions

Witness demonstrations by local dance experts who explain the significance of dance art-forms through movement and expression.



Engage with your inner self through the core strengthening, balance and posture of Balinese dance, as you prepare yourself to perform in front of an audience.



Mask Workshop

Be entranced by the skill and humorous improvisations of an expert mask dancer, then watch a mask being made from scratch in front of your eyes, and even get to paint one with a personal touch.



Puppetry Workshop

Find out about what it takes to be a puppeteer in Bali, try your hand at the complex music, see puppets being carved and even paint one for yourself to take home.



Decoration Making

Learn how to make traditional ornamentation, dance headdresses and dance props from colourful organic materials to decorate the space where you will perform.





Performances

Witness stunning performances by Mekar Bhuana's professional gamelan and dance troupes nightly. Taken from different periods of Balinese cultural history, they feature music and dance that is extremely rare or even once lost in time but now lovingly reconstructed by our team of researchers and performing artists.

Set outdoors with traditional lighting and natural amplification, your senses will be transported back to ancient Bali.



Additional Activities

Balinese Home Cooking

Learn to prepare and cook spicy Balinese food and colourful ceremonial cakes in the traditional way with local family chefs.



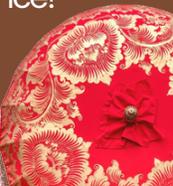
Balinese Aksara Script

Try your hand at learning how to write a language with entirely different rules from the English language and find out how your name is written and pronounced in Balinese.



Final Performance

Dress up in elaborate traditional dance costumes and make-up to wow your local audience with your newly found talents in Balinese music and dance!



Off-the-beaten-track Cultural Tours

Visit impressive cultural museums, artisans and home industries specializing in performing arts.

Discover historic Hindu temples and ancient archaeological sites off the tourist trail, illustrated passionately by our culture aficionado.



Lunch & Dinner

Savour exquisite Indonesian meals, snacks and drinks in between your study, both energizing and teaching you about the culture through its wonderful and varied cuisine.



Complimentaries

Enjoy mouth-watering homemade Balinese snacks every study session. Take home traditional environment-conscious gifts that will create lasting, tangible memories.

Giving Back to Balinese Communities

Through donation and entertainment, contribute to charities that are doing wonderful work to save Bali's fragile island environment as well as empower the disadvantaged and disenfranchised. Since 2014, Mekar Bhuana has been supporting a local environment community that educates about single-use plastic waste called Trash Hero Kertalangu and Puspadi Bali that provides quality rehabilitation, education, training and advocacy programs for people with disabilities.

