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Why should I have my pets microchipped?
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Is there a tracking device in it?
Although the microchip is not a GPS device and cannot track your animal if it gets lost, the microchip and its certificate can prove you as the pet's owner when another person claimed your pet.

How is a microchip implanted into a pet?
It is injected under the skin using a hypodermic needle. It is no more painful than a typical injection. A vet could implant the microchip during a routine veterinary office visit without surgery or anesthesia.

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Your pets will need to be implanted with a microchip before they will be allowed into that country. But that's not the only thing you need to know: countries differ widely on their importation rules, including different regulations about required vaccinations and quarantine periods once the animal enters that country.

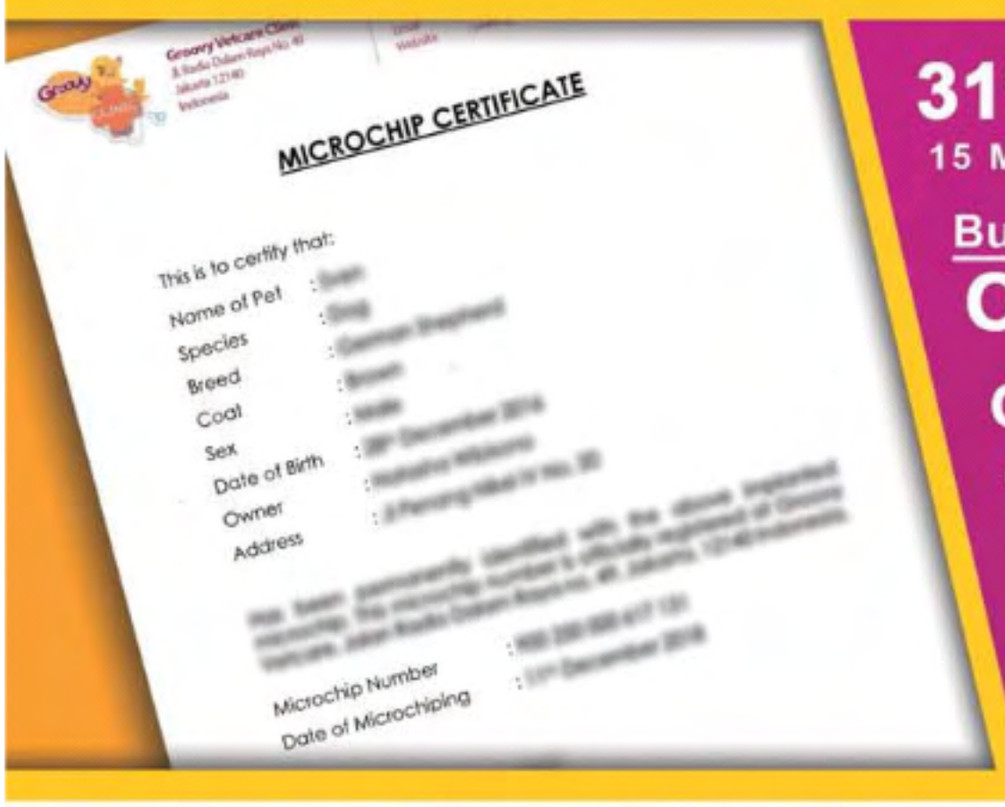
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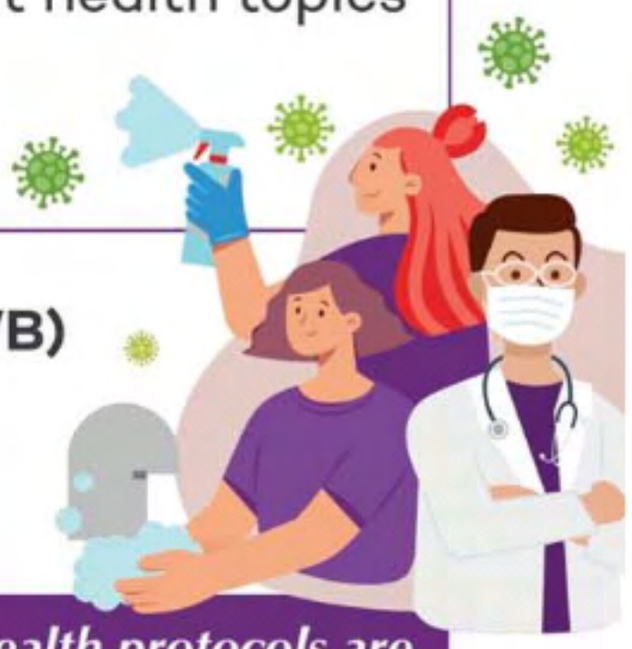
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Dear Readers,



What makes your house a "home"?

More than ever, homes nowadays are work and study places, considering schools and universities are still closed and companies adhering to 50 percent work from home orders. This mixture of atmospheres can sometimes be conflicting. Not all of us can set up designated spaces for working and/or studying.

Nonetheless, being at home more often makes one realise that certain areas are in much need of a makeover. With this Property issue, Indonesia Expat has gathered enticing and helpful stories all about property, interior design, and architecture. Are you looking for a new rental space? Searching for ways to revamp your space? Are you interested to invest in Indonesia but don't know where to start? Do you admire historical buildings? We've got it – and much more!

Don't forget to check out our daily news updates at indonesiaexpat.id. Follow our Instagram @indonesiaexpat and Facebook @indonesia.expat to stay updated on the daily COVID-19 case numbers and news, as well as attractive promotions from your favourite hotels, restaurants, and schools across the country.

Happy reading!

Edo Frese



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Let's Meet Brice: Former Long-course Triathlete, Current Managing Director of Goodwood Interiors



Brice van der Post may be new to the world of business, but he has a strong mindset that stems from his days as a competitive athlete. As the Managing Director of Goodwood Interiors, Brice challenges himself to bring big things forward.

Hi Brice! Please tell us about yourself. Also, let us know your nationality and the reason behind your move to Indonesia.

Well, I'm 21-years-old, I run my parent's seven-figure per year B2B furniture manufacturing and export company, in which I manage close to 200 employees in two manufacturing plants. I'm also a former competitive long-course triathlete, a serious investor in the financial markets, and an avid reader. I think the best way to describe me is that I have a very obsessive personality, at least that's what I've been told.

I'm someone you'd label as a "third culture kid" — essentially meaning that the culture from which my parents originated differs from the one they brought me up. Originally, however, I'm half-French and half-Dutch. My mother is French, whilst my father is Dutch. Along with my younger brother, we lived most of our lives in Indonesia, between Jepara and Bali.

Let me briefly explain it all from the very beginning — where it all started, in a bleak Dutch hospital in the summer of '99. During that time, my parents had already lived in Indonesia for around four years, so right after I was born, I was shuttled on a plane to my new home, Jepara. Being six weeks old when I moved to Indonesia — as corny as it sounds — I've always felt really connected with the culture here, and I think I always will. My brother and I lived our early childhood in Jepara, but we all moved to Bali in 2005. This is was largely to do with the better schooling options Bali had at the time.

You grew up in Indonesia since you were 6 weeks old. What was it like, both the good and the bad?

Growing up here from a very early age was a true blessing, and I actually didn't realise this until much later. I moved to Europe when I was 15 and I remember just having this extreme culture shock. However, it was seeing that European lifestyle and meeting new friends there that made me truly realise how much of a privileged upbringing I had in Indonesia.

> **"What got me those podium finishes was my ability to suffer more than my competitors, to go into certain dark places mentally in a race, and beat them.**

Nevertheless, moving to Europe was a good thing, more so necessary. Being a teenager growing up in Bali definitely had its downsides, this was the case for me at least. Don't get me wrong, it's probably every teenagers' dream; surfing before school, great weather all year, weekend bonfires, beautiful girls, amazing beaches, it's paradise — summer vacation all year, every year. What was worrying were the restrictions; we had next to none. For some, it was a bit too easy to slip into that going out culture and be a little reckless. For me, however, it definitely took a turn for the worst and ended up taking a bit of a toll on my life, only realising it much later.

You're a former competitive athlete, having raced triathlons, IRONMAN races, and even the world championships. Take us on that whirlwind journey.

It started with a thought when I was 18, which was quitting smoking. I had smoked cigarettes since I was 12, and not a little either. I had tried quitting a few times but never resisted my temptations for more than a few weeks. So, my masterplan was to sign up for a half-marathon a month ahead and quit smoking effectively immediately.

I remember the excitement I had on the day I bought the entry ticket online; I threw all my cigarettes out and bolted out the door with my ripped jeans and over-worn skate shoes to go for a "jog". Needless to say, I didn't make it past the first block before coughing my lungs out. Back to the drawing board. Walking home slightly frustrated—coughing heavily, I pulled out my laptop and began to research training methodologies.

A month later, I crossed the finish line with this uncanny euphoria. Quickly after the race, over-fuelled with excitement, I pulled out my laptop once again and began scouring the internet for my next race.

At some point, I had randomly stumbled across this website, IRONMAN.com. I read a few pages and looked at a few races and the distances, but quickly moved on. For days, however, I simply couldn't stop thinking about it; it was constantly on my mind. I spoke about it with my friends, all of whom thought that I had completely lost the plot. Nevertheless, my stubborn self pulled out the laptop once again and just did it. Without owning a bike or a pair of swim goggles, I signed up for IRONMAN Malaysia. A race which consists of a 3.8km swim, followed by a 180km bike and a full marathon, a 42km run. I had eight months to prepare.

After training as a true junkie for all those months, I found myself on the start line with shaved arms and legs, ready to put an end to this ridiculous journey of "quitting smoking". I wouldn't recommend long-course triathlons to most sane people in this world – it's categorically one of the most brutal journeys one can put themselves through. The race is difficult, but the training is where it really hurts, they're unforgiving.

I loved it, however. There was something sadistically satisfying about physically and mentally torturing myself for months with 20-hour training weeks and sacrifices, to then go on and suffer one last time on race day — ultimately to feel this euphoric sensation for a whole 15 seconds after crossing the finish line.

Coming from a "background" of instant gratification, this was almost the complete inverse. But it's how triathlon really shaped me to become the person I am, teaching me a high degree of self-discipline, perseverance, and most importantly, focus.

I crossed IRONMAN Malaysia in third place, about nine months after quitting smoking, and eight months after I learned how to properly swim and ride a bike. Achieving something this crazy made me realise something which was, at the time, beyond my understanding; I realised that if we really set our minds to something—whatever that may be—we can end up really surprising ourselves.

I went on to win many more races after IRONMAN Malaysia, as well as qualifying for the World Championships a year later.

Goodwood Interiors is your family's business based in Jepara. Can you tell us more about it?

The next chapter of my life begins with interning at my family's business, a B2B furniture manufacturing company my father founded in 1995. After my father passed away in 2015, my mother took over the company whilst miraculously bringing the company to stable conditions, consistently regulating a solid influx of revenue and cash flow to sustain operations for all those years — all with little knowledge on how to run a company. An impressive feat, to say the very least.

I started working at Goodwood exactly two years ago. I was 19 years old, a little naïve, but strongly determined. Goodwood, at the time, had less than 100 employees and a medium-sized manufacturing plant. I had no idea what I was doing, but I thought, how hard can it be? I adopted the approach I used in triathlon; simply reading books and articles, and applying the ideas. I became obsessed; slept little, studied a lot, worked 80-hour weeks and read four business books a month. I became fascinated by this new world. It wasn't long until my weekly triathlon training hours began to diminish and work began to take over. Eventually, I put a halt to triathlon to fully focus myself on growing the company.

After about 12 months working as head of operations at Goodwood, I took over the company and became managing director. In Goodwood's first year under my management, we netted more than a 300 percent increase in net earnings, with a 25 percent increase in revenue. Today, the team has more than doubled in size with over 200 employees and we're on track to potentially more than tripling our revenue in 2021.

My focus on operational excellence and improving process design, as well as a high degree of technical implementation of SOPs, and lean manufacturing principles, are ultimately what led to these improvements.

Just 21 and you're now the Managing Director. Were you ever reluctant to take on this role?

I think I've always suffered from some sort of imposter syndrome. I might be 21, but I look 16 which doesn't make matters easier. It's always a bit difficult at times, especially dealing with big, corporate clients. I remember having to fill in a partnership agreement with a 10-figure corporate retailer, only having their legal team come back to me noting "Please revise DOB as it states 1999. Advise ASAP."

There will always be instances where I find myself in a situation whereby it's difficult to be taken seriously. For example, a classic issue I've always encountered was after communicating with a client via email for some time, then hopping on a video call with them, only to see them shocked that they were talking with a "kid" all along. "How old are you? I could've sworn I thought you were at least in your 30s!" I think it's always a bit funny, it hasn't affected business negatively at all, but it can be frustrating at times — not only from clients but generally, in the whole context of running the company.

Dealing with employees, sub-contractors, and suppliers can be tough at times. I might be 21 years old, but I do demand respect from everyone who works for me and I don't tolerate anything less than my expectations, I don't take any shit. When I hold a meeting at 1:15pm, it's 1:15pm, not 1:16pm. I can be quite cold when it comes to my role at the office at times. I feel that I have to be though, I can't have people being too comfortable with me or mediocrity. It's a very stressful job and it eats me inside out but I can't imagine doing anything else.

Do you have any tips for young people?

I don't think I'm anywhere near a position to advise anyone on matters I'm vastly inexperienced in. But, from my experience thus far, three things really made a difference in my life and achievements.

First and foremost, I always say "don't listen to what everyone has to say" – I lived my life doing the exact opposite of what I have been told to do. Even from respectable businessmen, very successful people, teachers, etc. Take this one with a grain of salt, but knowing that not everyone may have the right answer is somewhat comforting. I've always trusted my intuition more than others' advice.

Second is to read, a lot. All the answers I've found were in books and on the internet. "You are one Google search from anything you want to become", as Mel Robbins said. All the answers are at the tip of your fingers, it's all just a matter of execution. I've found myself Googling the most trivial of things to find answers which have changed my life. As for books, the only reason the company is doing so well is that I'm simply applying the things I get from books — it's really not rocket science. The answers are all there.

Lastly, and this is one of the philosophies I live by; "It's not about how bad you want it, it's about how bad you're willing to suffer for it." Many of us want to achieve big goals in our lives, whatever they may be, but only very few people are willing to sacrifice, put in the hours — suffer — for those goals. Getting comfortable with suffering, something that I learnt from two years of triathlon training, is what I believe to be my most valuable trait. During my racing days, it was never my speed or endurance that got me podium finishes, I was never the fastest, everyone I was racing against were hitting better numbers in training and had many years of racing under their belt. What got me those podium finishes was my ability to suffer more than my competitors, to go into certain dark places mentally in a race, and take the lead. This is not all too healthy, I've finished races passed out, IV drips, and so on.

With work, it's the same thing. Working 12 to 14 hours a day, accumulating all this stress whilst imprisoning oneself from all social interactions and distractions isn't healthy at all. We've got to live. But I believe that, sometimes, if you really want something, you've just got to get it. I've said this often; you can be smarter than I am, better looking than I am, faster than I am, you can be many things I am not, however, there's one thing I know for certain: I'm either going to beat you, or die trying. I was very competitive growing up, and that's something I'm never going to lose.

What's next for you and Goodwood Interiors?

There are a few projects I'm currently working on in Goodwood with my team of engineers, not much I can discuss at the moment, but to keep it short, big things are coming. For myself, there are a few side projects I'm working on beside Goodwood. I've also applied to a few universities which have accepted me, but I'm still doubtful whether to go down that path. That's another story, however. I think, for now, it's just full-throttle on Goodwood's future, as well as my own.

How can readers get in touch with you and order some furniture?

People can find me on Instagram through @bricevdp and my full name on LinkedIn, Brice van der Post. Goodwood is to be found through www.goodwoodinteriors.com. We're not retailers, unfortunately, but if you're looking to order a container or a large volume of furniture, that's us. I always love personal emails so feel free to contact me via brice@goodwoodinteriors.com.

Brice, thank you for your time. Stay healthy and safe!

Thanks for having me! ■





Transform Office Spaces Together with Tim Spanjaart, CEO of AVIP

BY MIRELLA PANDJAITAN



"To transform every workplace in Indonesia into a welcoming, sustainable, and inspiring environment" is the vision followed by AVIP (previously known as AVIP Interiors). Over 25 years have passed and AVIP continues to provide office design and build experience focusing on contemporary design, sustainable builds, and the latest technology for better workspace functionality.

Frans Spanjaart founded this family-owned business. He had led and trail blazed the company to where it is today. Unfortunately, sad news came bearing to the Spanjaart family when Frans lost his battle against cancer. This tragedy has made Frans' son, Tim Spanjaart, to take over his father's position as the CEO of AVIP.

"It has been about 2,5 years since his passing and it hasn't been an easy time. I have learned a lot from him and he was a great businessman for sure," conveyed Tim.

As the newest CEO, Tim was still overseeing the day-to-day operations at the factory. He had to find a suitable replacement before he could move to AVIP and take on a new role there. The search for a replacement turned out to be quite a challenge, taking him almost one year.

First starting as COO at AVIP in October 2019, he took responsibility for the projects and the financial side. He didn't want to step up as the CEO right away, he spent around one and half year preparing himself because he believes "every company needs a leader and it is a big responsibility."

Now Tim feels as ready as he'll ever be to take lead and show that he got what it takes to elevate AVIP to the next level. "My focus as CEO will be on providing leadership for our amazing team, maintaining motivation and engagement and ensuring AVIP keeps on innovating and remains a key player in the interior design and build business," he pointed out.

Tim realises having no prior experience as CEO is a personal big challenge. "But I am a firm believer that you learn most by doing. I am fully committed to give my best and keep the reputation of AVIP high and with knowing that my father is proud of me for following in his footsteps – this will drive me to make it happen," he explained.

This pandemic has brought difficult times to the company, like many other businesses. AVIP's main focus has always mostly been on commercial office fit-outs and this had been very challenging the past year, especially because most offices have been forced to start working from home – possibly working out quite well for a lot of business and this results in less need for office space.

Many existing clients have approached in need of reinstating parts of their current offices. AVIP believes this trend will continue. According to Tim, people, especially in Jakarta, are fed up with facing the horrible traffic jams which have significantly reduced during this pandemic. Although it seems to be slowly getting back to normal lately.

"Companies need to rethink the purpose of the office space and make it attractive for their employees to come to. We have been fortunate to have been working with quite a few of the big tech start-up companies who had this strategy already in mind, like Dana, Tokopedia, and OVO," said Tim.

Employees at those companies, as suggested by Indonesia's demographic is toward a younger population, consist of mostly generations Y and Z, who have different demands for office spaces than the older generations. But how can the return to offices be ensured? The new office spaces contain the following characteristics: comfortable, professional, modern, creative, and playful. AVIP understand this and have proven to turn these characteristics into exciting workspace designs. This doesn't mean every company is the same, however.

Lots of exciting new ideas are underway. AVIP is focussing on innovative developments as well as exploring and expanding the business into other business segments besides commercial office space, like food and beverage. The diverse team of experienced and creative designers will lead this together with the amazing project team. "We did our first design and build project for the JS Luwansa hotel last year. A big part of the hotel's lobby was renovated. I believe we did a great job there. This shows we're more than capable of doing merely commercial office spaces," he mentioned.

Exploring partnerships with other design and/or project management firms to strengthen AVIP's position in the market, as well as looking at options to fully utilise AVIP's available office space to possibly be a design co-working space are on the agenda too. As Tim pointed out, "if this sounds interesting to you, let's connect on LinkedIn and discuss the possibilities!"

Back then, Tim lived in the Netherlands and studied IT. He realised he didn't want to stay there and therefore decided to join AVIP almost nine years ago. Along the lines of having no prior experience in the interior build and design business, he had several positions ranging from quality assurance to site manager before settling in the production side of the business.

"We started with a small workshop beside my father's house of about 400 to 500m^2. Soon, we got so busy that the neighbourhood started to complain and forced to look for another location. After quite the search we ended up in Tangerang and found a location with 5,500m^2," illustrated Tim.

Moving there, a production facility with new German-made woodworking machinery was set up and ready to operate from in early 2016. "I have been in charge there ever since," said Tim. And in late 2019, Tim joined AVIP to support operational side. "That has led me to where we are today," he said.

Tim's days are lately busy with mostly work. Regardless, he makes sure to spend enough quality time with his wife and daughters. Whenever there's a chance, they enjoy exploring Indonesia with all the beautiful places out there. As someone who spends his free time taking care of himself through regular exercises, Tim jogs 6km every morning, goes to the gym three times a week and goes cycling on the weekend whenever the time is in his favour. He enjoys reading books and take courses to expand his knowledge as well.

"AVIP has been around in Indonesia for well over 25 years and we have a proven track record of many transformed interiors. People spend most of their lives in a working environment and to be able to have an impact on that is what drives us at AVIP," as Tim delivers his message.

"We strive to deliver an interior fit-out that is perfectly in line with the needs and wishes of our clients, which stimulates the performance of their employees. We always aim to deliver the highest quality possible with the available budget of our clients."

Check out the recently launched new website on http://www.avip.com and on Instagram and LinkedIn to see the latest updates and the upcoming innovative developments. ■







Are You Looking for a New Home in Jakarta? Let Esti McMillan Help You Find the Perfect Place

Let's face it: Jakarta is not exactly the easiest city to live in. The COVID-19 pandemic covered up two of the city's most urgent problems: horrendous traffic and air pollution. But both will for sure bounce back once we enter more normal times again.

Living in an exhausting city like Jakarta, one thing becomes very important: the place where you live! This should be the place where you and your family feel well and can relax - your individual home far away from home.

Esti and her colleagues at EMC Relocations are there to help you find your perfect home in Jakarta.



Esti, you describe EMC Relocations as a boutique relocations company. What does this mean?

Esti: We never follow a one-fits-all approach. We treat every client according to their individual needs and expectations. That's why we usually start by asking a lot of questions in the beginning – we want to get to know our clients. We would never show an overwhelming number of houses. We show the ones that fit, sometimes even only one or two.

Does it make sense to look for a new house or apartment during this time of the pandemic?

Esti: The last year has been difficult for the whole market. Many people who were supposed to move to Indonesia from other countries couldn't enter the country. And many families left for good. This development had of course an effect on the prices. We currently advise many clients whose lease ends soon and who are looking to upscale their housing.

Do you also support clients who are looking to buy a property?

Esti: The regulations for buying high standards apartments for foreigners have eased a bit last year. We are more than happy to consult clients who are considering buying property (houses or apartments) in Jakarta as well as in Bali.

You are kind of a local property guru and you have countless happy clients. What is your secret?

Esti: I was born in Indonesia but have spent many years abroad. When I returned here, I came as an expat myself – so I know first-hand what it is like to uproot your family and move to another country. I know both perspectives, I guess that's why I can understand our clients' needs. Besides that, we have managed to establish good connections with many landlords especially in South Jakarta.

About Esti McMillan and EMC Relocations:

EMC Relocations is a boutique relocations company based in Jakarta, Indonesia. The company provides any support needed to get settled in Jakarta and the whole of Indonesia with home search, school search, house auditing to cross-cultural training. Esti founded EMC Relocations in 2003. Today the team consists of a female team of four: Esti McMillan (real estate specialist with a focus on houses), Lyubov Averiyanova (real estate specialist with a focus on high standard apartments), Tenny Afrianti (Account Executive) and Putri Alviata (Coordinator and Digital Marketing expert).

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HOUSEQUAKE

BY SIMON PITCHFORTH



When I first moved to Indonesia more years ago now than I care to remember, finding a pad to live in proved to be an arduous task on more than one occasion. As a young, fresh-faced, shaver snapper, I was on a limited budget and there were few resources at my disposal to consult. Indeed, I didn't even browse the web for the first time until a couple of years later, which rather gives the game away vis-a-vis my superannuated old fart-dom circa 2021.

Securing a house was often a word-of-mouth process between friends and work colleagues. Another technique that yielded mixed results was simply trawling the streets by motor scooter keeping an eye out for those ubiquitous "untuk sewa" (for rent) signs. It was ultimately through the former method that I ended up securing my first-ever Batavian pied-a-terre (it was more like a pomme de terre in fact), a tiny, two-bedroom flat in a government housing project in the not so highly desirable district of Tanah Abang, an area in which the rats demand money with menaces and the dangdut music rattles the fillings in your teeth.

In the intervening years, there have been humble flats and shared houses, one of which even had a swimming pool (living the dream folks). This brings us right up to the present day and a recent text message from my landlady apologetically informing me that she has sold my flatlet and indeed the entire building that it occupies to a buyer who is set to demolish the place in two months.

Now I love my little pad, but seeing as I've already started to have nightmares in which I'm reading Facebook on the toilet when a wrecking ball comes plunging through the wall, it is clearly time to find a new place.

Thankfully, the interwebz have made this process much, much easier in recent years and there are simply squillions of websites and mobile apps that you can use in order to find a suitable pad to relocate your wine cellar and etchings collection to.

The following list represents only a partial sampling of the available online resources that you should find useful in your quest for a roof over your head.

- rumah.com
- rumah123.com
- OLX.co.id
- rumahdijual.com
- rumahku.com
- jendela360.com
- 99.co.id
- sewaapartmen.net
- all-jakarta-apartments.com
- jakartaapartment.net
- kostjakarta.com
- mamikos.com
- sewakost.com
- cari-kos.com
- roomme.id

Many of these listed sites feature drop-down menus through which one can select rent or buy, rental duration, price range and locations in varying degrees of specificity. Most will also have their own messaging systems and the WhatsApp details of the relevant landlords or ladies.

Social media can also generate some useful leads. One Facebook group I tried had the catchy name "Rent House Apartment for Expats in Jakarta (Official)" and seemed reasonably civil and not full of bitcoin promoting trolls and people using colourfully offensive sobriquets. When you go and see a place though, just apply a little common sense and check off a few items on your mental accommodation checklist. You should probably start with the following:

- How is the commute? Is the traffic between your putative pad and the office, school, or shops infernal? Are there any public-transport options available?
- What charges do you have to pay in your neighbourhood or house for rubbish or security services every month?
- What's an average monthly electricity bill and what's the property's electrical capacity?
- Does the area flood at all?
- Is the water supply sourced from a free Artesian well (and alas contributing to Jakarta sinking into the surrounding marshland) or is it a paid metered supply (less likely)?
- Is the local mosque in close proximity and likely to wake you up at 4am every morning?
- How far is the nearest minimart/supermarket (and can you buy a cheeky ale/bottle of vino there)?
- How long will it take you to get to the airport and to reach local toll roads in order to drive out of town?
- How are the neighbours? Are you the only non-Indonesian within a 10-mile radius?
- Does the landlord or landlady seem personable and amenable to fixing the inevitable breakages or leaks? Many are lovely people, many are not.
- Is the place furnished, unfurnished or partially furnished?
- If it's a house that you're looking at, is it located in a secure housing complex or "cluster" with security or is it on its own on a normal urban street?
- How hot is it inside and how much will you thus rely on power-sapping ACs?

In terms of the house itself, you may be renting but if it's decent you may find yourself renting longer term. Look out for all of the usual little niggles and any tell-tale brown patches on the ceiling that suggest leaks.

Of course, perhaps the most shocking part of renting a house or flat for any non-foreign citizens to get their heads around in Indonesia is the fact that you will usually have to stump up a year's rent upfront. And while it may be possible in some cases to negotiate a six-month deal, this part of the process means that doing your homework is especially important, as you won't be able to move out the following month if your house leaks like a barge and is under three feet of water during heavy rains.

If you're looking for a shorter rental period, then Airbnb may prove useful. In terms of actual prices, a little negotiation is often possible as it is with so many areas of life in Indonesia. Try to get at least 10 percent shaved off the price if you can. You may find using an agent more convenient but it'll come at a price. And finally, once your landlord or lady has been paid, then they will likely be much more reluctant to change anything. Good luck out there house hunters, it's an urban jungle, and make no mistake. ■

Now I love my little pad, but seeing as I've already started to have nightmares in which I'm reading Facebook on the toilet when a wrecking ball comes plunging through the wall, it is clearly time to find a new place.





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Quality Costs – and Endures

BY DUNCAN GRAHAM


Family Welfare Message


Graha


Malang Town Hall


Scrap Metal Standard



Among the terms aligned with good urban design, like heritage preservation, planning and taste, there's one that sits awkwardly: Money.

When a developer's sole intent is to build big, brash and cheap, and authorities don't care, we're left with kitsch – and that's not a good look to start anyone's day. For the streetscape belongs to all – not just those with rolls of Rupiah.

Fortunately, some regional governments recognise that reality. Malang is one, though like the curate's egg it's only good in parts.

Past administrations have swung between extremes on street furniture. Quality design is either a waste of funds (lamps made of bent water pipe), or a necessary expense (elegant roadsigns including old names) to set the tone for tourists. Scrap metal statuary representing mythological figures is replacing the crumbling concrete clowns promoting family welfare values.

It's easy to slander the Dutch for the way they managed "their" East Indies colony, but let's recognise their creativity in architecture. Sadly, it started late. Hilltown Malang was once a retreat for Europeans keen to escape the humid coast. The quality of their surviving homes, schools, churches, hospitals and public buildings suggests an age of affluence.

Engineer Herman Thomas Karsten was a town planning consultant between 1930 and 35 and responsible for the layout of Jalan Ijen, Malang's version of LA's Sunset Boulevard, plus scores of public and private buildings.

The accommodating avenue is flanked by thick-walled, high ceiling houses to cope with the heat. The peak rooves are a nod to the traditional joglo design. Karsten married an Indonesian and identified with Java. He saw himself as a social engineer conscious of the environment, trying to incorporate local values rather than transplanting Amsterdam's gabled canal houses to the tropics.

His work doesn't offend – it blends.

Karsten was lucky to be working when the Art Deco movement was underway. He was also emboldened to embrace the indigenous after Queen Wilhelmina belatedly declared her colonial subjects should be treated with the decency enjoyed by Netherlanders. This was a substantial shift from the drive to exploit and plunder. Known as the "ethical policy", it was reflected in the second of Malang's two *alun-alun* (town squares).

The grand plan almost came to ruins. In late July 1947, the KNIL – Royal Netherlands East Indies Army – launched *Operation Product* assault on the city during the four-year War of Liberation.

> **When a developer's sole intent is to build big, brash and cheap, and authorities don't care, we're left with kitsch – and that's not a good look to start anyone's day.**

Partisans responded with their "Ocean of Fire" campaign torching scores of buildings to stop the invaders from occupying key sites. Some, like the austere Cor Jesu Catholic High School on the road from Surabaya, were eventually repaired. Others were demolished.

One of the arsonists' targets was the Malang City Hall (Balaikota) which lost part of its roof to the flames. It was built in 1929 with the motto *Voor de burgers van Malang* (for the residents of Malang), a democratic statement for a monarchy. The building dominates the Tugu alun-alun though it's not in any way confrontational.

As the first square in the heart of the city turned into a cluttered commercial hub, the need to give the government some dignity led to a new *alun-alun* though this time developed as a circle around a pool and gardens.

The effect is marred by the use of artificial flowers, a mockery of the spectacular variety of blooms that thrive naturally. They weren't planted (if that's what the tasteless do with plastics), on the generous centrespread dual carriageway. This leads from the railway station and makes a grand entry statement.

It's wide and squat with the repaired layered central roof resembling ancient mosques before Saudi-style domes became popular. It doesn't press itself on pedestrians in the way more recent and taller offices with plate glass and flat concrete, seemingly to intimidate: Beware – we're the bosses dispensing permits; you're just the grovelling supplicants.

Alongside is the *Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat* (People's Representative Council), maintaining the elegance and profile of its neighbour. It looks historic, yet it was completed seven years ago in the style of the adjacent Balaikota, proof that not all administrators are Neanderthals.

The up-market Tugu Hotel dominates a corner together with the Splendid Inn, which would deserve the title if given a makeover. That's happened with the next building heading down to the twisting Brantas River which has cut its way through the volcanic topsoils deep down to bedrock.

Wisma Tumapel was built as a hotel in 1928, named Splendit, then used by the Japanese military between 1942 and 45. It was firebombed by the revolutionaries in 1947, repaired, named Graha as a guest house for visiting academics and then abandoned to the ghosts who are always seeking free accommodation.

Another example of owners with taste putting aesthetics ahead of avarice is the Shalimar Hotel, formerly a social centre where the colonialists feasted, danced, and celebrated a life that was soon to crash with the Japanese invasion.

After the war, it became the State radio station, then a hotel. In the last few years, it has been refurbished. Set in the suburbs it's unbothered by the clamour of the city.

Away from the civic centre and the ancient kampungs, Malang has sprawled like a toddler in a toy shop, bashing and building with no apparent plan. The new suburbs have mock English monikers – Royal, Gardens, Heights, Majestic... though few warrant the titles.

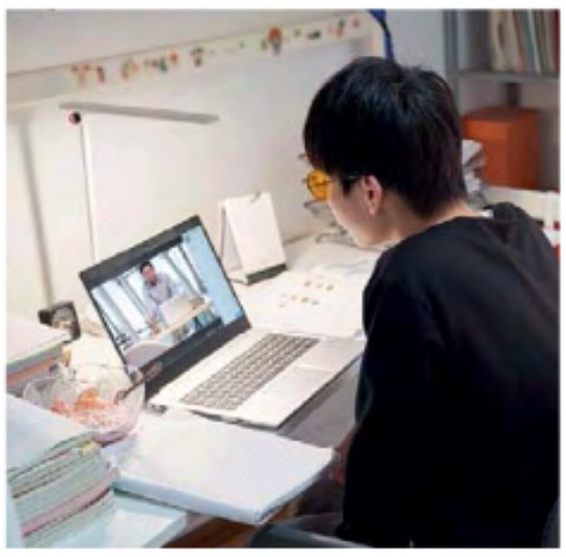
To see design deserving such names check the legacy of Karsten and his colleagues who tried – and largely succeeded – to trump cupidity with sensitivity. ■

Study Space Tips for Maximum Productivity

BY ERNITA TANUDJAJA

The COVID-19 global pandemic has taken a toll on everyone, from the oldest to the youngest in our communities. It has affected businesses big and small, along with affecting education systems around the world. In this time, many educational institutions have been forced to implement online schooling, using web conferencing software such as Zoom and Google Meet. Not only has this caused much difficulty for teachers, but it has also altered the lifestyle of many students.

Although there are plenty of students who enjoy virtual classes and find themselves better focussed at home, there are countless others who have struggled to adapt, finding their grades declining over time and desperate for a way out. A huge factor that causes lower levels of productivity is the unavailability of an adequate study space, where students can feel comfortable and focussed. Thus, here are some of the best ways to set up a study space for students, be it scholars or pupils.



Firstly, it is important to have a desk dedicated to your studies. Hence, it would be beneficial for students to invest in a study table. It doesn't need to be big, but there should be sufficient space for school supplies and ample room for writing. This allows students to have all their necessities in one place, allowing for more convenience and focus. It would also be advantageous if the desk were used only for study purposes, enhancing concentration since the brain will enter "study mode" upon settling at the desk, allowing for higher levels of productivity.

Secondly, the study area should have good lighting. Insufficient lighting can lead to students feeling sleepy, affecting their focus and resulting in less work being accomplished. Additionally, research has shown that poor lighting causes eyestrain. Over time, this could damage the eyes and cause vision problems. It is highly recommended to have a study area with natural lighting, usually somewhere by a window. This should help to increase productivity levels for students. Further, natural lighting creates a more welcoming atmosphere, giving more motivation to work. Having a lamp is still essential; most students tend to study late into the night when natural lighting is not available.

Next, it is important to consider the environment before allocating a study space. It is extremely important that students feel comfortable in their study area and that they are able to concentrate. Consequently, this place should have minimal distractions and there shouldn't be much noise. One effective way to achieve this is by having the study space as far from any televisions and screens as possible. More often than not, students are tempted to watch their favourite show on TV, creating distractions. Having a study place away from the television helps to enhance an individual's focus as well as remove any potential temptations. A quiet environment encourages students to pay more attention to the task at hand, allowing for higher output within a given time.

Lastly, study spaces should be kept clean and tidy so as to provide a more welcoming atmosphere and help to better motivate individuals in their studies. This can be achieved by developing a habit of cleaning and decluttering on a set day; for instance, Sundays when students tend to be less busy. Seeing a less cluttered environment would better incentivise students to start studying and to finish their assignments.

The tips above will work for every student, regardless of whether they are taking online classes or not. These tips will better encourage students to accomplish their tasks and revise for upcoming exams, allowing for increased motivation and productivity. ■



KAWISARI CAFÉ & EATERY

Beyond a Coffee Shop in Central Jakarta

BY MIRELLA PANDJAITAN



Perhaps it's just me, but I'm craving to sit at a new café with a picturesque ambience while losing myself in a decadent meal. Regardless of whether I'm alone or with company, I wish to have a meal anywhere but home.

Not exactly new, Kawisari Café & Eatery fulfilled my craving on a rare sunny Friday afternoon. Since January 22, 2020, Kawisari has been serving residents of Central Jakarta and its surrounding areas with coffee beverages from one of the oldest plantations in East Java, the luscious 850 hectares of emerald-green slopes of Kawisari Coffee Plantation in Wlingi, Blitar. Legend says that Javanese state authorities and the Prince of Blitar from the Lembu Suro kingdom used this plantation area as a holy place before embarking on a mission to reach the peak of Mount Kawi for purification purposes. The Dutch Colonial Government in 1870 later founded and managed this plantation, which has been producing the finest Java Robusta coffee for over a century, as well as some more recent Arabica coffee and the famed wild civet cat Luwak coffee.

Locals have been manually picking only the ripest red coffee fruits in the most traditional way to obtain a specific aroma during the modern roasting process using a full-washed method, then dividing into dry and wet coffees. Immature coffee beans will float and be combined with green coffee and processed dry.

Travelling to Blitar might not be up to your pace, but this East Java-inspired eatery has managed to bring traditional, contemporary food and beverage recipes driven by centuries-old Javanese culture and a love for simple and unpretentious good food from the villagers of Kawisari to metropolitan Jakarta. It's all thanks to Tugu Hotels & Restaurants' desire to revive the atmosphere of fertile lands with its forests, waterfalls and crystal-clear rivers at its fifth outlet in Indonesia.

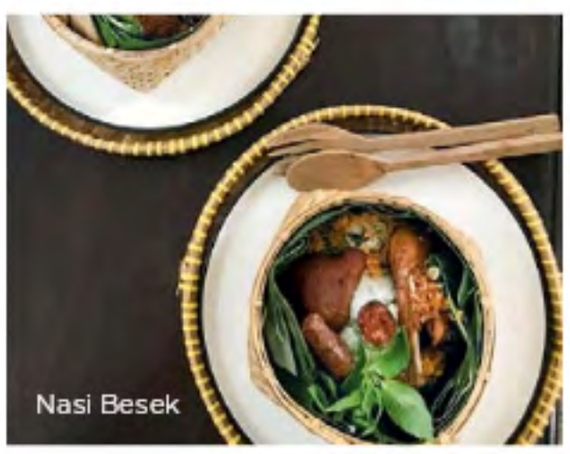
Kawisari Café & Eatery is in a white two-storey, preserved Dutch colonial building situated amongst government offices and other prominent restaurants on Jl. Kebon Sirih. Accents of the Kawisari coffee plantation in Blitar are personified through the wooden chairs layered with pastel cushions, rustic wooden tables, and giant paintings narrating the life of Kawasari's coffee farmers. The light, open-air dining space is completely different from common cafés in the capital – a sought out ambience during COVID-19.



Affogato Coffee



Ayam Goreng Kremes Kawisari



Nasi Besek

Nearby the Thamrin area, 80 people can fit both the lower and top floors of Kawisari. Two private rooms, Mahesa for 15 people and Tigris for 30 people, accommodate any purpose of meetings. Diners spotted here include government officials, business executives to cyclists having a snack with a cup of coffee mostly on weekdays. Weekends still oversee diners for a pick-me-up.

Interestingly, the menu is written in Indonesian, English, and Javanese. A mini-dictionary section in the menu teaches basic Javanese terms as well.

Coffee advocates are in for a treat. Kawisari offers mild and strong coffee beans whipped into ice-cold, hot, or blended variants with ice cream, milk, and even alcohol. Classic coffee and hyped coffee drinks such as affogato; iced coffee plantation madu, produced when the bees pollinate the flowers of the coffee trees; kopi doger, an Indonesian dessert; kopi klepon, another dessert; and more.

Kawisari's coffee won the "Coffees Locally Roasted in the Country" award at the AVPA International Gourmet 2019 for their finest Javanese Robusta coffee in the categories strong, powerful, and bitter. Indeed, Indonesian coffees are worth global attention. Diners can purchase coffee beans and powdered coffee from the café, all Tugu Hotels & Restaurants properties, and via e-commerce platforms.

> **"Kawisari offers mild and strong coffee beans whipped into ice-cold, hot, or blended variants with ice cream, milk, and even alcohol.**

The simple practice inspired by the plantation workers in the Dutch colonial era has been adopted. They enjoyed a cup of coffee alongside traditional Javanese snacks. Hence, serabi mak-mak or Javanese pancakes, lapis jongkong which is a traditional green and black layer cake from "burnt" padi stalk, and pohong merekah made from fried or steamed cassava, are some snacks worth a try during your coffee break. The lapis jongkong isn't too sweet – perfectly paired with sweet coffee variants, and the fried pohong merekah is crispy on the outside yet velvety on the inside.

Coffee is a centuries-old humble Javanese culture, with deep roots like Kawisari's oldest coffee trees. It's a way of showing love and celebrating life, and a daily reminder of how life is a gift.

Kawisari isn't merely a coffee shop. Coffee might cause harm to some people's digestive systems. Special concoctions of teas, ice-blended drinks, cocktails, mocktails, beer, and wine are available to your liking. Cascara tea, for instance, is highly recommended. This beverage uses dried skins of coffee fruits, brewed into a type of herbal tea. All parts of coffee beans are processed into drinks, suitable for coffee and tea connoisseurs alike.

Javanese cuisine has a burst of bona fide flavours like other regional Indonesian cuisines do. Nasi tompoh jagung – Indonesian corn rice – uses a bamboo handcrafted container as a plate. Inside, corn rice is accompanied by urapan sayur which is vegetables with shredded coconut; ayam goreng khas Kawisari or Javanese fried chicken; ikan asin bulu ayam, otherwise called salty fish, and sambal tempe; with a side of sayur lodeh campur, or vegetable curry, in a banana leaf-shaped like a small bowl. Sounds a lot but the corn rice helps to rest easy. Besides, you can get six different flavours: sweet, bitter, salty, savoury, meaty, and spicy within a meal!

Other sought out mains include bebek goreng lengkuas which is deep-fried duck with dried galangal; ayam goreng goela merah, or Blitar-style of crispy sweet chicken; and the speciality ayam goreng kremes Kawisari which is crunchy Javanese style fried chicken. It's not exactly like your typical fried chicken, what makes the ayam goreng kremes special is due to the 12-hour long cooking process, done in such a way that the chicken meat's texture is softer.

You can opt for the chef's favourite, the newly included kepala salmon garang asem or sweet and sour fish-head soup cooked with tamarind and blimbing woeloeh. This is a different take to the typical garang asem dish served with beef. Moreover, plant-based eaters are recommended to try the pecel Blitar, an authentic salad containing wild organic vegetables such as kecipir, papaya leaves, kembang turi, perkedel telo, and peanut peyek.

Eat like a Kawisari villager by spending Rp25,000^{++} to Rp108,000^{++} on foods and Rp28,000^{++} to Rp550,000^{++} on beverages. If you're up for an adventure, Tugu Kawisari Coffee Plantation Eco Tour from Hotel Tugu Blitar is the perfect opportunity to gather your family or friends to learn more about the coffee plantation and the process within it, accompanied by home-cooked local delights.

The Kawisari way of life inspired by the Kawisari Plantation and the villagers' very authentic Javanese kindness awaits you. ■

KAWISARI CAFÉ & EATERY
Jl. Kebon Sirih No. 77, Kebon Sirih, Menteng, Central Jakarta
Instagram: @tugukawisaricafe
Website: www.kawisaricafe.com

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Home Décor Tricks for Livelier Sanctuary

BY MIRELLA PANDJAITAN

I was watching YouTuber Rachel Nguyen's loft tour; surprisingly, I'm taking an interest in home décor nowadays. From furniture and bedsheets to photographs or paintings on the wall, I love how a mood is established based on the items selected and paired together within a room.

Rachel's philosophy is along the lines of - taking care of your home is as important as taking care of your physical appearance because, ultimately, your home is a reflection of your inner self. Touché.

I thought I needed to move somewhere more spacious but frankly, I've gotten comfortable. It's a matter of creating my space, enriched with who I am, and it's still progressing.

To ring in the new year, I decided to redecorate my space. I wanted to have a cosier ambience and open up the small area I call my bedroom-living room-mini pantry rental space. Furniture was rearranged and taken out. I even added an unused couch and coffee table from my parents' home! I tried bringing more life, so I purchased dried flowers and small wall art (under Rp10,000 on Tokopedia). I plan on purchasing neon lights, but that's for later. Little tweaks like these simply add another notch to having a cosy nuance, no matter how tiny or spacious my home is.

How can you get your home cosier, enough to call it a sanctuary?

First and foremost – select a style and plan for your home interior. It could be casual, contemporary, modern, traditional, etc. Establish a plan to determine the kind of ambience which makes you feel comfortable. One easy way to add warmth and character is by using wooden accessories and furniture.

Then, choose a focal point within each room by setting it apart with its scale, colour, or texture. Using contrast and variety adds visual interest to a room. Do keep in mind to repeat elements such as colour, texture, and pattern.

Speaking of colour, pay attention to colour combinations. Monochrome shades help to set a less chaotic ambience because a lack of contrasting colours means less tension. Naturally, it feels less busy. If you need some colour, choose a different style and colour scheme in each room while always falling back on complementing and coordinating with one another.

Dakota Johnson's kitchen is perhaps one of my favourite kitchens that I've stumbled upon. It's green, but this beautiful vibrant shade of deep green. The actress talked about her desire to have the perfect green shade in her kitchen, which she failed to achieve whilst living in New York. This green is absolutely perfect! To me, the kitchen looks like a retro-inspired curative space, which, in a way, it is. Whoever loves to cook needs functionality as well as engaging appeal in their kitchen.


Disco Ball


Dakota Johnson's Kitchen


Kendall Jenner's Neon


Simple Couch

Home décor can go over your budget, but you should still invest in furniture. A couch and a bed are important to have first – and now I know why. It gives a separate set of tones to the room. In my case, the couch enables me to have a sense of living room where I can do work, have socially distanced gatherings, or simply relax. Luckily, I could take these pieces of furniture from my parents.

When it comes to artwork, a rule of thumb is to set wall decor at eye-level. Disco balls and neon lights are items to hang on the wall to further elevate your space. You can get customised neon light words hung on the wall as model Kendall Jenner did. A 3D wall elevates a room without a focal point.

Ever wondered how home inspiration photographs look visually appealing? The art of display differentiates practical storage and a beautiful feature. The key is to not overcrowd the space, choose accessories in the same colour, and group items together in odd numbers. Use books, accessories and plants, foliage or flowers too.

Make sure to plan thoroughfares. Fight the urge to fill every wall and shelf, otherwise, you're in danger of cluttering the scheme. Cramming too much furniture into an area without leaving enough room for people to walk around comfortably is a big no-no. Leave a few areas free to create a better sense of space.

> **Taking into account that not all of us living in Indonesia own properties, these simple home décor ideas allow your room, apartment, or house to feel like your sanctuary.**

Something often overlooked in home décor is having good lighting. Include a good mix of overhead lighting, task lighting, mood lighting, and accent lighting. Using the right colour and brightness of light bulbs for the right tasks will make your room look and perform at its best.

In case you have an open-plan room, use rugs to break up the same flooring throughout the space and divide accordingly to give an impression of distinct sitting and dining areas. You could do this to set apart a special area for work. The concept of working from home will run smoothly if we have the right bedroom atmosphere. I don't think anyone imagined stay at home orders would last this long.

Staying inside for the majority of the past year had interestingly become a source of transforming homes with creativity and personalisation to some. What about creating video-conferencing nooks? Zoom calls are not disappearing anytime soon. Show how your space represents who you are. A slice of your personality is represented within your surroundings – like what Rachel said in her loft tour.

Taking into account that not all of us living in Indonesia own properties, these simple home décor ideas allow your room, apartment, or house to feel like your sanctuary. Just because it's not permanent doesn't mean you can't create memories and seek comfort.

Well, I'm planning to get neon lights above my bed soon. How about you? ■

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Reducing the Stress with Your Property Investments

BY ANDY BARSKI (SEVEN STONES INDONESIA)


© Sanders Smeekes

"It's not stress that kills us, it's our reaction to it." This was the conclusion Hans Selye, a Hungarian-Canadian scientist came to when he first identified "stress as being linked to illness.

And buying a home is a major stress point, right up there with divorce and a new job!

The home buying process in Bali has all the potential to push all the wrong buttons in all the wrong places and turn everything ugly. Most of the horror stories occur because rules aren't followed, corners are cut, laws ignored, and regulations misunderstood. But it doesn't have to be.

These are some property investment insights from our experience in the business that we hope will help you better understand the process of buying a home in Bali... and make the experience more memorable, hopefully even enjoyable and ultimately minimize the stress!

Make a Plan and Do Your Research

At Seven Stones Indonesia, we're very keen on talking to our real estate clients about *Investment Road Maps* because it's important you're clear about what you want and that will change how you can do it.

For example, do you plan to retire? Do you want to start a business? Do you want a holiday-rental home or a private place to escape to? Whatever it is, if you have a road map, you're more likely to be able to navigate your way around and be in a better position to deal with anything that might not go exactly according to plan.

Research is always important and we encourage you to find out as much as you can about the regulations around buying property in Bali as well as the agents or agencies offering their services. Google and Facebook Groups are likely to give you the best spread of information but it's important to note that many of the agencies and groups market the same listings.

Take Notes!

It might seem a little "old school" but we're big believers in taking notes. Writing things down helps us to gain clarity, compare areas and prices, and if you're using agencies, compare services. You can even compare their social media posts to get a feeling about what's important to them. This will give you a better feel for what, and importantly, who you're dealing with.

Find an Agent You Can Trust

If you decide to buy a property through an agent, it really helps to choose one that's not only professional in the way they do business, but is also one you like, or at least you feel you can trust.

That's not such an easy thing to do really because how do you trust someone you've only just met? The easiest answer to this is to ask them questions. As many as you can!

After all, it's your money on the line and you have every right to feel comfortable you're making the right choices. It's also a good idea to ask your friends, networks, and connections for recommendations and experiences with an agent or agency. Word of mouth is still the best form of advertising, and that can be good or bad.

It's worth noting that most vendors in Bali do not have exclusive listing agreements with just one agency, so if you see something you like it's worth asking your agent if they can help put a deal together for you. The best will be more than happy to work together with other agents or agencies to ensure your home buying journey is easier and you get what you want.

> **"Good negotiations make the buyer feel they've got a good deal and make the vendor feel they've got a good price.**

Plan Site Inspections

When you've found a few properties and an agent you like, it's time to go on inspections. This is where using an agent is useful because they'll have direct contact with vendors and can save you the hassle of trying to organize this yourself. Some people do try though, and for some, it works, but in general, it can be more trouble than it's worth.

It's worth planning these inspections in advance. You don't want to leave them to the last minute just in case the villa you want to see is occupied or under renovation or unavailable for whatever reason. If you can, plan a couple of days ahead of time and be flexible.

Negotiate and Make a Formal Letter of Offer

Don't feel pressurised to make a rushed decision. Remember, it's your money!

When you find a property that ticks most (maybe all) of your boxes, it's time to negotiate. Again, working with an agent makes this part of the process easier and takes away unnecessary stress. And stress is what we don't need right?

Any offer you make should be based on a sound understanding of the property's market value. Your agent should be able to provide you with the prices of comparable properties and recent transactions in the same area. This is key to being able to negotiate properly.

Good negotiations make the buyer feel they've got a good deal and make the vendor feel they've got a good price. Good negotiations are usually win-win scenarios!

One of the best ways to negotiate effectively is to work with your agent and submit a formal written offer. It shows you're serious and that gives you an advantage in any negotiation.

Bear in mind there are taxes to pay! Freehold properties are subject to 5 percent purchase tax while the vendor's income tax is 2.5 percent on the value determined by the government. Leasehold properties are subject to 10 percent income tax for the vendor.

Down Payments and Deposits

In Bali, it's normal to release 10 percent of the purchase price as a deposit for a property. It's also normal for this to be held in escrow by the notary of your choice. It is definitely NOT normal for your agent or agency to hold onto your money!

The notary will then carry out Due Diligence to make sure all of the documents and taxes are in order. If Due Diligence uncovers something seriously wrong that can't be fixed you can get your deposit back. But, if you should choose to pull out of the deal at this stage because you've had a change of heart, your deposit is not normally refunded.

Due Diligence by Notary/ PPAT

Due Diligence can take between one week and one month to complete, depending on the property in question. It's a very necessary part of the legal process undertaken by a notary or a lawyer to ensure the vendor has the right to sell, all paperwork is in order and there are no disputes to resolve.

Deed of Sale and Purchase

After Due Diligence has been done and everything has been declared "clean", it's time to sign a Deed of Sale and Purchase (AJB).

It's at this point in the process that full payments have to be made to the notary.

The AJB is the transfer of legal rights of the property for a price you have both agreed upon. Once this is done, you can open the champagne and celebrate owning your new or second home in Bali! And best of all you've managed to do that with minimal stress!

If you'd like to discuss property investments, please feel free to get in touch! ■

---

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THAT TOGETHER
WE CAN CREATE
A BRIGHTER FUTURE
FOR BALI

Bali Support

DO NOT PASS GO

BY DANIEL POPE

The well-known board game Monopoly was released by Parker Brothers in 1935. In the game, players roll two six-sided dice to move around the board, buying and trading properties, and developing them with houses and hotels.

This gives players the opportunity to be greedy landlords as they shove a Battleship, Boot, Iron, Race Car, Scottie Dog, Thimble, Top Hat or Wheelbarrow around the mean streets depicted on the board, while experiencing the thrill of collecting rent, the exultation of placing a gleaming red hotel on an upmarket street, and the hands-rubbing pleasure of bankrupting opponents.

The original version of Monopoly was based on the streets of Atlantic City, New Jersey, as any trivia buff can tell you. Since then, there have been countless editions and spin-offs, some simply to reflect the cities and cultures of other countries. Some don't go far enough. In the Myanmar edition of the game, for instance, all players should be able to simultaneously receive the same Chance card that reads: "There has been a military coup – return to Go and await further instructions."

There are also novelty themed versions, like those based on Star Wars and Godzilla, or set on a cruise ship (beware of mabuk laut). There is even a cryptocurrency version, and an official Socialist one, where there are no properties to buy, only community building projects to undertake. Doesn't that sound fun? There might well be a galactic version of Monopoly, where players buy planets and stars and get sucked into black holes.

The version I'm interested in is, of course, the Indonesian version, or versions, for there are many of them (even one in which you buy countries instead of streets). They all have one thing in common, and that's their terrible quality. They are cheap. The boards feel like something you would wipe up a spill with, the Chance and Community Chest cards are scattered by the slightest draught, while the player pieces, or "tokens", made of pewter in standard editions, might as well be replaced by different shaped clusters of uncooked rice.

While Jakarta seems the natural city to base the Indonesian game on, with the leafy streets of Menteng found on the upper end of the board and the clogged streets of Tanah Abang on the lower, and with its many railway stations and large utility companies, there's no reason why any other city shouldn't be used (the one provision is that is has a minimum of twenty-two streets of ascending desirability).

How about Banda Aceh? This version could be given an Islamic twist, with mosques instead of railway stations, and the haram dog token replaced by a halal goat. "Chance" could be ironically renamed Insyaallah, and all players would be required to cry Allahu Akbar when throwing the dice. Community Chests cards might include "You have won second prize in a Koran reciting contest - collect $10", or "Go directly to paradise – if you pass go, collect 200 virgins."

What I'd really like to play is an Indonesian version of Monopoly set in sunny Bali, with beaches instead of streets, let's say Nusa Dua occupying the blue high-end neighbourhood of the board, and Kuta slumming it down with the UK version's Old Kent Road. While the hotels could stay, the houses should be renamed villas (has anyone ever used the word 'house' in relation to Bali)?

> **The Indonesian version would require other changes, like replacing the race car with a bajaj, the wheelbarrow with a kaki-lima, the boot with a flip-flop, and the iron with a sambal sauce bottle.**

The Indonesian version would require other changes, like replacing the race car with a bajaj, the wheelbarrow with a kaki-lima, the boot with a flip-flop, and the iron with a sambal sauce bottle. There's no such thing as free parking in Indonesia (doubtlessly not in any other country either these days), so that square perhaps should be renamed "Kiri!-kanan!-terus! Parking" or just "parkir parking". The command to "Go to Jail" might be too harsh as well, since you wouldn't wish Indonesian prison conditions on a rat. Prisons like Jakarta's Cipinang or Bali's Kerobokan are hellholes where inmates live several to a cell without furniture, sleep on rattan mats, and pass the time playing makeshift Monopoly (you never know), where the card directing a player to "Go to Jail" always gets a sardonic laugh.

The ultimate Indonesian version of Monopoly would, in my frequently tipsy view, be based on Bintang beer, perhaps called "Bintangopoly" (there's already a Piss-Opoly available, but it's more of a live drinking game). In my version, there would be bars instead of streets and breweries instead of railway stations. The tokens would be a miniature Booze-Cruise Boat, Barrel, Tankard, Ice Cube, Ashtray, Bar Stool, Bottle Opener or Sack Truck, and the Go to Jail card would read: "Go to jail, do not pass Jalan Jaksa, do not pick up a crate of Bintang". Players would be compelled to cry "Cheers" when throwing the dice and to clink together their pewter tokens.

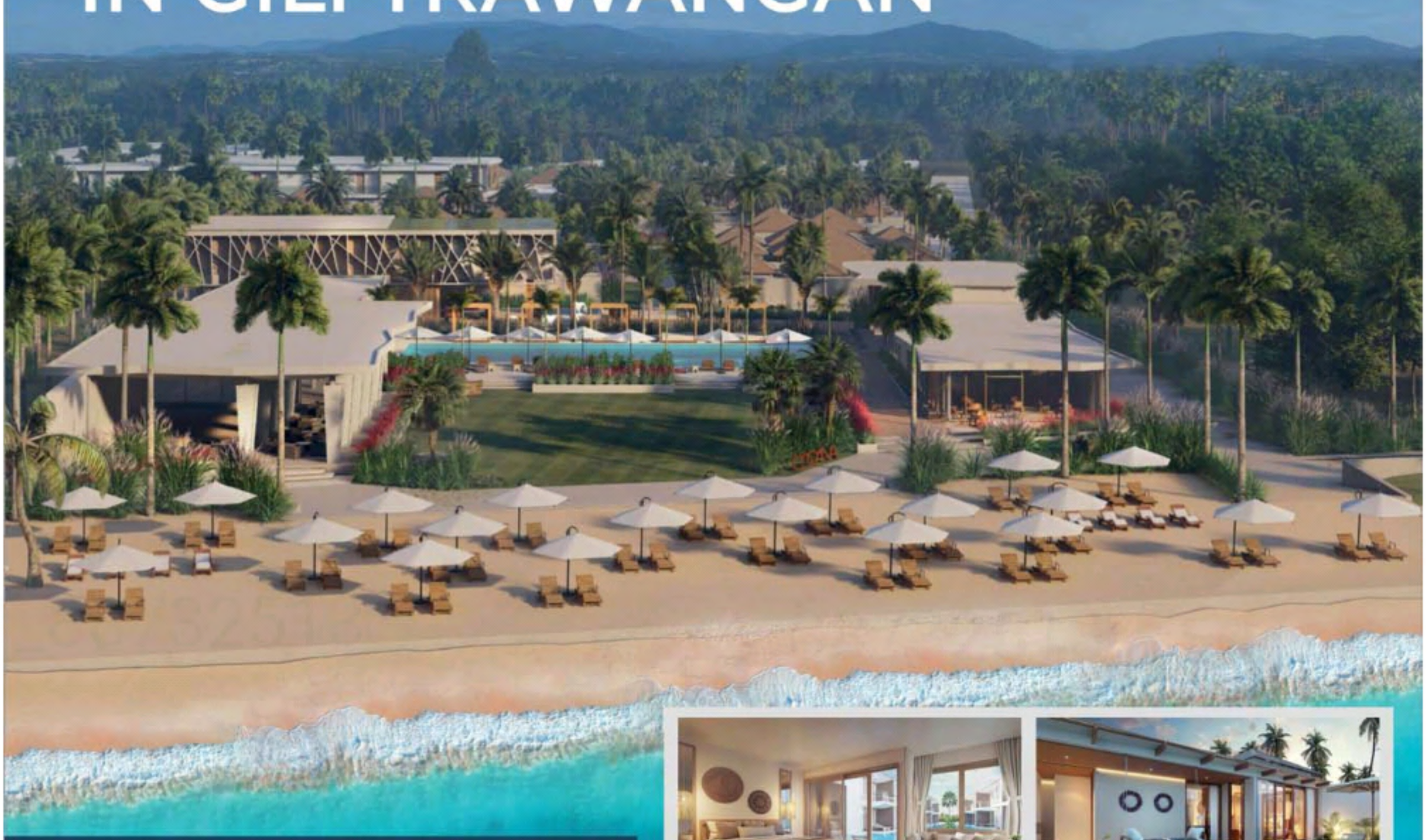
Lastly, I'd like to consider what a COVID-19 version of Monopoly ('Covipoly' or 'Pandopoly') might be like, not necessarily an Indonesian one, for that would involve some sky-high numbers, for nearly every square to be a hospital, and every hotel a quarantine centre. Best played during the lockdown, in general the game would include a giant board in order to keep players socially distanced, separate pairs of dice for each player, and collapsible Perspex dividers provided in the box. Warehouses containing the four different types of COVID-19 vaccine would replace the railway stations (Whole Virus, Protein Subunit, Viral Vector, and Nucleic Acid), and Community Chest cards would say things like "You have mutated – collect $50 from each player" or "PCR test error in your favour – collect $200". ■



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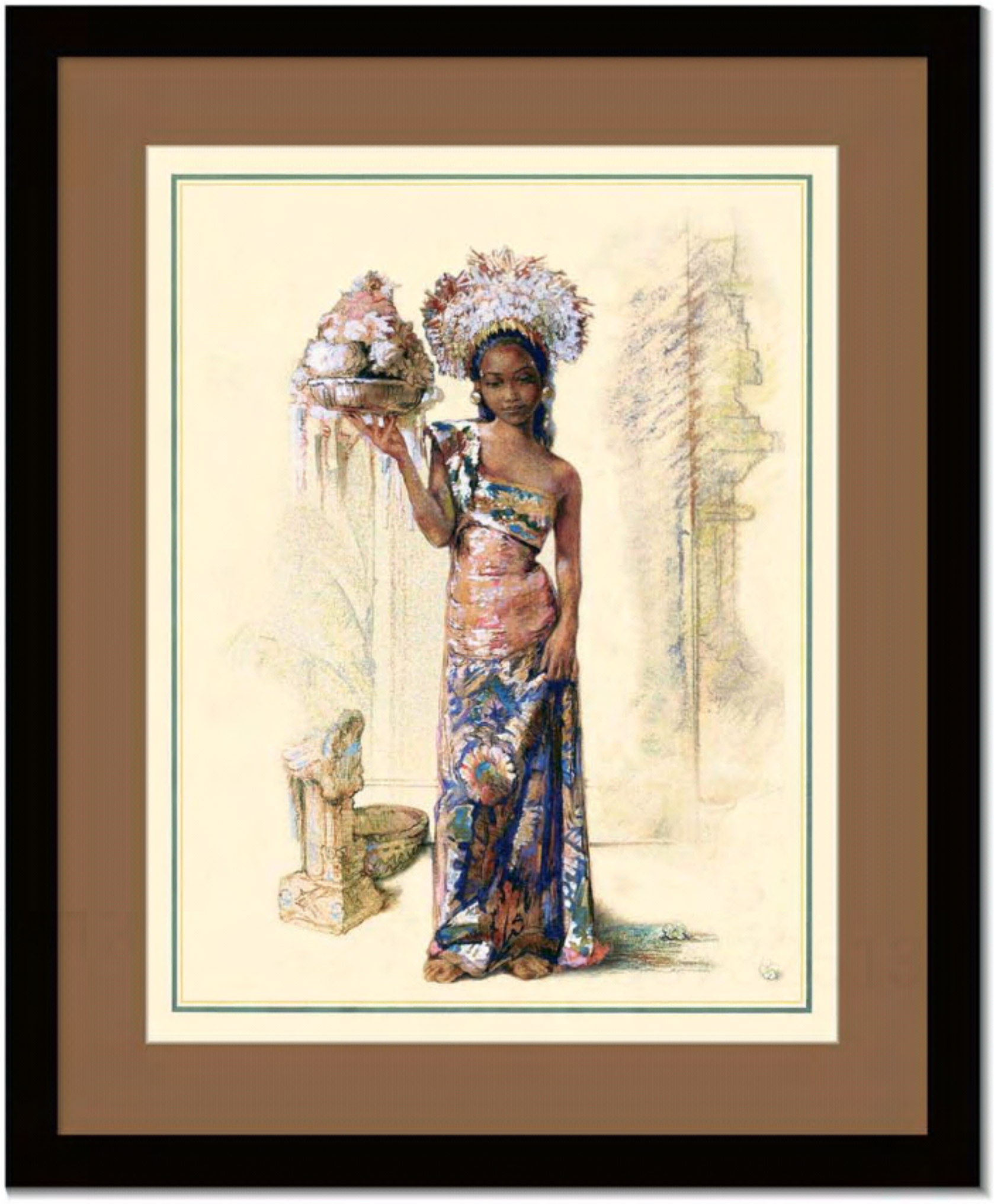
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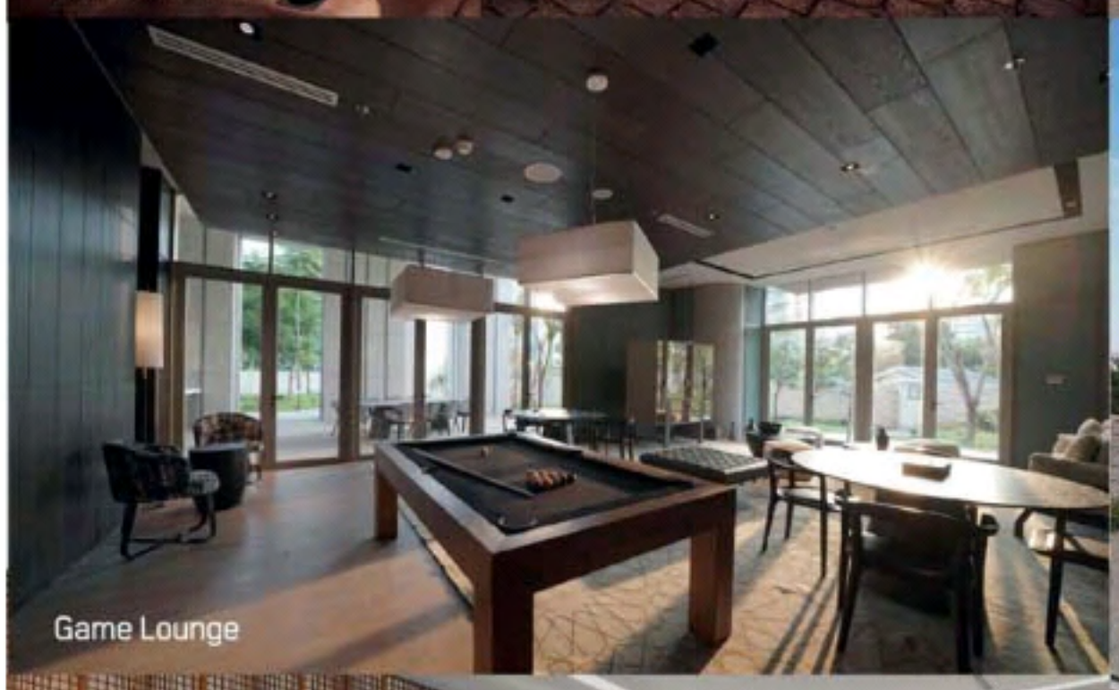
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Announcement

BALI

"Bali in Your Hands" Help Local Brands and MSMEs

Bali's economic condition has experienced a significant decline with a decrease in the number of foreign and local tourists visiting. Apart from the hospitality industry and tourist attractions, many local brands and MSMEs in Bali have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Women For Bali community, initiated by three women entrepreneurs Ami Zijta, Myrna Soeryo, and Nidya Gustianingsih, took the initiative to help Bali's local brands and MSMEs in the fashion, crafts and culinary industries through the event, "Bali In Your Hands" on August 2021.

This aims to increase the enthusiasm of foreign and domestic consumers to buy products and handicrafts from Balinese MSMEs through digital platforms.

"We hope that the digital Bali in Your Hands event can help accelerate the recovery of economic conditions in Bali. Exhibitions and activation activities both through digital platforms and social media are done," said Myrna Soeryo.

Apart from displaying fashion, crafts, culinary and tourism products through digital platforms, four other main events are organised, namely, Bali in Your Hands Talks, Bali in Your Hands Virtual Fashion Show, Bali in Your Hands Talkshow, and Bali in Your Hands Masterclass.

JAKARTA

ASTON Priority Simatupang Hotel & Conference Center Routinely Conducts Antigen Swabs

ASTON Priority Simatupang Hotel & Conference Center, as one of the trusted hotels to provide convenience for business travellers during the pandemic, has received the CHSE Certificate (Cleanliness, Healthy, Safety, Environment) and continues to perform health protocol updates. Additionally, regular antigen swab tests are conducted every two weeks for all employees, aside from adhering to the 5M health protocols – wearing a mask, washing hands with soap, keeping distance, avoiding crowds, and limit mobilisation.

"To maintain the comfort and trust of guests, as well as for the common good, we always perform routine antigen swab tests. Not only that, to maintain the health of our employees, we also provide vitamins to increase the body's immunity, as well as providing service facilities health that our guests can use," said General Manager, S. Aulia Masjhoerdin.

This four-star hotel implements health protocols for guests who wish to organize business meetings and events by maintaining physical distancing and limiting to 50 percent of capacity room too.

Contact +62217883877 or email SimatupangInfo@astonhotelsinternational.com for more information and reservations. The latest information about promotions and activities are available on Instagram @ASTONsimatupang and Facebook Aston Priority Simatupang Hotel & Conference Center.

JAKARTA

Shu Cuisine and Bar Re-open Its Door for the Love of Sichuan

Serving authentic Sichuan cuisine and refreshment, Shu Cuisine and Bar is a modern evolution to the traditional approach. Using exceptional ingredients and served at its maximum flavour, it's a perfect texture with a twist of the Shu Signature Cocktails Pairing.

From dining experience, the Sichuan style is as versatile as it is delicious. Every dish has its own unique tastes. Some people prefer to have the spicy taste of mala with special main ingredients.

Shu Cuisine and Bar is a restaurant and bar dedicated to serving authentic Sichuan mala style food since 2019, with the original Mala oil that is made with selected Sichuan pepper and high-quality spices. The richness of flavour will surely tantalise taste-buds. It's an inviting place with a modern Chinese-style ambience to give you an unforgettable, extraordinary culinary experience for everyone.

How to Cope with COVID-19? Can I Still See My Doctor? COVID-19 Testing? Health Certificates?

A lot of information is available on COVID-19. For those of us who are living in Jakarta or elsewhere in Indonesia it is important to stay as healthy as possible. GOOD PRACTICE provides information on COVID-19 on line. We have organised health talks and webinars for international schools and embassies. Send us an email if you want to know more.

GOOD PRACTICE PROVIDES NON-INFECTIOUS STERILE CONSULTATION HOURS.



Are your vaccinations still up to date? Did you get a flu vaccination? How are your other conditions controlled? If you are suffering from hypertension or diabetes for instance, you have to make sure those conditions are managed well. Please make sure you have your regular check-ups and that your supply of medication is sufficient. You can even consider an immune boost, which we can also provide at GOOD PRACTICE.

Identify a clinic that you can turn too with your concerns. A clinic that can advise you about your symptoms. Now it is especially important that the communication between your good self and a trusted medical practitioner is well understood.

What to do if you have any symptoms? Talk to a trusted medical practitioner. Also, if you consider that you need COVID-19 testing, you should talk to a medical practitioner. Please note that we offer both PCR swabs and Rapid COVID-19 tests and serological antibody testing.

GOOD PRACTICE is open as usual. We provide house calls and we also provide COVID-19 testing (we can also come to your house for testing). HEALTH CERTIFICATES can be provided by GOOD PRACTICE.

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Best of all is that you now can have a consultation with anyone of our medical team from whatever location. We have introduced **TELECONSULTATIONS**. Via an app, GP Now, you can connect with us directly.

Just send GOOD PRACTICE a simple email to **info@goodpractice.co.id** and we will send you the link.

Basically, you let us know what time you would like to consult a doctor and we will appear on line at the desired time. If any medication needs to be provided, we will arrange this to be sent out to you.

GOOD PRACTICE can help you with all the above. We now also provide you with direct contact to our medical practitioners from any location in this world!

It is important that you identify a clinic that you are comfortable with. GOOD PRACTICE has patients from 71 countries (Jamaica and Namibia have been added to our list). Our all English speaking team implements international guidelines. We provide highly personalised care. Try us!



Dr Steven Graaff, MD, MRCGP, the founder of Good Practice Clinic is a graduate of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Before completing his formal training in General Practice in the UK, he worked in several hospitals, occupational health and general practice in the Netherlands and the UK. As a medical professional with international experience, Steven decided to start his own clinic – Good Practice, in Jakarta

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Honda CR-V 2013 Black, Type 2.0i - VTEC Petrol, Automatic Tax paid till September 2021 Mileage 103,000km, new battery and complete paperwork. Plat Ganjil, good condition and expat owned. Complete service record. Excellent used car. A must nowadays with new normal. Price: Rp210 million or US$ 14,500. Contact via WhatsApp: +628129900018 for photos and other details.

2020 Toyota Innova Venturer 2.4 A/T Diesel for sale. Automatic transmission. Black colour. Diesel engine, less than 4,000km mileage. First-hand owner, almost brand new. Price: US$27,000 (o.b.o). For photos and information, please contact Susan at sl146@yahoo.com or WhatsApp +6281113507943.



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Bina Bangsa School hires teachers for all subjects:.For more info, pleasve visit: https://zone.binabangsaschool.com/binabangsa/career

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Services

Bonjour, I offer private French classes in Jakarta. Beginner or advanced level. I'm a French native with a college background that includes 3 years of Modern Literature (Paris X University Nanterre) and a Master's in International Relations. If interested, please feel free to contact me by private message. A bientôt - Philippe - +6281380085031.

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We just needed to say goodbye to our very nice and hard-working helper Ibu Eti. She was working for us part-time, three times per week. She cleans great and cooks nice Indonesian meals. Her English is limited, but it was never an issue. She is very sweet and good with kids. We needed someone full time that's why we decided to change. I recommend her with all my heart. Please contact me +6281293030687 or Ibu Eti directly +62 857 81235513.

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BALI

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