# Bali introduces new regulations for tourists to ensure respectful behaviour



Bali, a popular holiday destination for British tourists, has introduced a comprehensive set of regulations aimed at managing tourist behaviour on the island. With over 300,000 British visitors annually, the local government, led by Governor Wayan Koster, is emphasising the enforcement of these rules to ensure that tourism remains respectful and sustainable while aligning with local cultural values.

The regulations were announced on March 24, shortly before Nyepi, a significant day of silence observed in Bali, during which all individuals, including tourists, are required to stay indoors. This measure aims to promote a culture of respect and understanding among visitors to the island, known for its Hindu traditions, important temples, and scenic natural beauty.

Governor Koster specified the need for these rules, stating, "We issued a similar regulation before, but as things change, we need to adapt. This ensures that Bali's tourism remains respectful, sustainable, and in harmony with our local values." Additionally, the governor highlighted plans to deploy a special team to conduct operations to manage tourist behaviour, warning that those who exhibit "naughty" conduct would face firm consequences.

Bali's reputation as a vibrant party destination has attracted a wave of young backpackers, sometimes leading to incidents that have sparked local outrage. Notably, in 2023, a Russian tourist was arrested and deported for posing naked beside a sacred tree, while in 2022, a Canadian actor faced similar backlash after filming himself naked next to a sacred mountain. In both situations, authorities emphasised that inappropriate behaviour would result in serious legal repercussions.

To help tourists navigate the expectations for their visit, Bali officials have laid out a “dos and don'ts” list. Highlights from the dos include dressing modestly, behaving respectfully, and respecting sacred sites and cultural practices. Tourists are also reminded to pay a tourist levy of approximately £7, which is used to protect the local culture and environment, and can be settled through the official Love Bali website. Other requirements include only using licenced tour guides and legal transportation services.

Conversely, the don'ts list outlines prohibited behaviours, such as entering sacred temple areas without appropriate dress, littering, and using single-use plastics. Tourists are warned against showing aggressive or disrespectful behaviour, working illegally without a visa, and engaging in any illicit activities.

Authorities have reinforced that Bali’s police force will actively monitor adherence to these guidelines, with Governor Koster affirming, "Bali is a beautiful, sacred island, and we expect our guests to show the same respect that we extend to them."

As Bali continues to navigate the challenges associated with tourism, these regulatory measures reflect the island's commitment to preserving its natural and cultural heritage while ensuring a positive experience for visitors.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.timeout.com/asia/news/bali-just-issued-strict-new-rules-for-tourists-heres-all-you-need-to-know-before-visiting-032725> - Supports the introduction of new regulations for tourists in Bali to respect the local culture, pay a tourist levy, and follow specific guidelines for behavior.
* <https://lovebali.baliprov.go.id/article/detail/1742819770564/bali-cracks-down-on-unruly-tourists--governor-koster-issues-new-regulations> - Corroborates the Circular Letter issued by Governor Wayan Koster, emphasizing the need for tourists to respect local customs and comply with new regulations.
* <https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/economics/article/3303821/bali-indonesia-crack-down-naughty-foreigners-new-rules-and-tourism-levy> - Reports on Bali's updated guidelines for international tourists, including respecting religious customs and facing strict action for misconduct.
* <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/492eca/siteassets/publications/benchbooks/evidence/evidbb.pdf> - The Michigan Judicial Institute's Evidence Benchbook, while unrelated to Bali's regulations, offers insights into legal frameworks and the importance of evidence in regulatory enforcement.
* <https://www.mass.gov/guide-to-evidence/article-xi-miscellaneous> - Although not directly related to Bali's regulations, it discusses legal aspects and evidence handling in administrative proceedings, which can provide context for enforcement mechanisms.