

Belawan, North Sumatra, Indonesia

Medan's gateway port opens the door to royal Malay palaces, the vast caldera of Lake Toba, and jungle treks to spot wild orangutans — but plan ahead, the city is a 45-minute drive away.

Docked (cruise terminal) Typical call: 8-10 hrs Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) Indonesian / Malay Tropical — expect heat and humidity

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ships berth at Belawan International Cruise Terminal — no tendering required

Best For: Culture, history, wildlife (orangutans), and North Sumatran cuisine

Distance to Medan: ~25 km; 45–60 min by taxi or tour bus (traffic can be heavy)

Don't Miss: Maimun Palace and the Great Mosque of Medan — both within 1 km of each other

Getting around: **Taxi** IDR 100,000–200,000 (~\$6–13 USD) · **Rideshare** Grab

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Medan City Highlights: Maimun Palace & Great Mosque** — The 1888 Maimun Palace of the Sultans of Deli dazzles with Malay-Moorish architecture, and the ornate Great Mosque of Medan (Masjid Raya Al-Mashun)...
- **Lake Toba & Samosir Island** — The world's largest volcanic lake — formed by a supervolcanic eruption 74,000 years ago — sits in cool highlands 3 hours south of Belawan.
- **Orangutan Trek at Bukit Lawang** — The Bohorok River village of Bukit Lawang is the gateway to Gunung Leuser National Park, where semi-wild Sumatran orangutans swing through the jungle...
- **Tjong A Fie Mansion** — Built in 1900 by a wealthy Chinese merchant, this beautifully preserved mansion in central Medan blends Chinese, Malay, and Art Deco styles.
- **Berastagi Highlands & Sipiso-Piso Waterfall** — The cool hill town of Berastagi sits 1,300 m above sea level among active volcanoes.

BEST WALKS

- **Medan Heritage Walk: Palaces, Mosque & Mansion** ~3 km · 1.5 hrs · Easy · Central Medan — Start at Maimun Palace, walk north to the Great Mosque of Medan, then east along Jalan Ahmad Yani to the Tjong A Fie Mansion.
- **Kesawan Square Stroll** ~1 km · 30 min · Easy · Historic district — The old Kesawan district along Jalan Ahmad Yani retains colonial Dutch-era shophouses and the landmark London Sumatra Building.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:19AM–6:31PM · Jun 6:15AM–6:35PM · Aug 6:22AM–6:36PM · Sep 6:16AM–6:24PM · Oct 6:10AM–6:11PM	
Apr	86°	76°	26d		
Jun	87°	76°	23d		
Aug	86°	75°	25d		
Sep	86°	75°	27d		
Oct	85°	75°	29d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Book Lake Toba tours through your ship or a reputable agent. It's 3 hours each way — independent taxis for this journey are risky on timing and sail-away is non-negotiable.
- Carry Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) in small bills. ATMs are available in Medan city centre; card acceptance is limited outside major hotels and malls.
- Dress for heat and humidity. Belawan sits near sea level in the tropics — lightweight, breathable clothing is essential. Carry water.
- Respect the dress code at mosques. Women should carry a scarf for entry to the Great Mosque of Medan; modest dress is appreciated at Maimun Palace too.
- Agree fares before entering any taxi. There are no meters on many vehicles; fix the price firmly before you get in. IDR 200,000–250,000 for the terminal-to-Medan run is normal.
- Use insect repellent for jungle excursions. Bukit Lawang and any mangrove or forest walks warrant DEET-based protection.

Belawan, North Sumatra, Indonesia — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- 1** Al-Osmani Mosque
Belawan's historic yellow mosque, a beautiful religious landmark.

- P** Cruise port / terminal