

Kupang, West Timor, Indonesia

The dry, savanna-clad capital of East Nusa Tenggara blends Dutch colonial history, a Captain Bligh footnote, a cave hiding a crystalline swimming pool, and a local food scene built around wood-smoked pork.

Pier (Tenau Port — 10 km from center)

Typical call: 7–9 hrs

Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) — cash essential

Bahasa Indonesia / Kupang Malay

Hot & dry — bring sunscreen and water

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier at Tenau Port, ~10 km west of city center

Walk to center: Not walkable — 10 km industrial road; take ship shuttle or taxi

Best For: History buffs, cave swimming, authentic local culture, foodie adventurers

Don't Miss: Crystal Cave swim, Sasando harp village, Se'i smoked pork lunch

Getting around: **Taxi** IDR 80,000–150,000 · **Rideshare** Grab, Gojek, Maxim

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Crystal Cave Swim (Gua Kristal)** — Descend into a limestone cave hiding a stunning deep-blue pool of crystal-clear brackish water.
- Sasando Harp Village — Oebelo** — Watch master craftsmen hand-build the Sasando, a unique bamboo-and-lontar-palm harp native to nearby Rote Island and a cultural symbol of the Kupang...
- Oenesu Waterfall (Air Terjun Oenesu)** — A multi-tiered waterfall in shady forest, about 35 minutes west of Tenau Port in West Kupang district, with natural limestone barriers forming scenic...
- Kupang City & Captain Bligh Walk** — Explore Fort Concordia (exterior — built by the Dutch VOC in 1653 as their main base against the Portuguese on Timor), the old colonial waterfront...
- Lasiana Beach & Lontar Palms** — Kupang's most famous beach is lined with thousands of towering lontar palms.

BEST WALKS

- Old Town & Waterfront Stroll** 2–3 km • Mostly flat • 45–60 min — From Taman Nostalgia, walk south to the old Dutch colonial waterfront, past weathered trade warehouses.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		87°	76°	11d
Jun		86°	75°	2d
Aug		88°	73°	1d
Sep		90°	73°	2d
Oct		91°	75°	8d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:49AM–5:41PM · Jun 6:00AM–5:31PM · Aug 5:57AM–5:43PM · Sep 5:39AM–5:41PM · Oct 5:22AM–5:40PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Rupiah cash is essential. Card acceptance is very limited outside major hotels. Get IDR on the ship or find a BNI or Mandiri ATM in the city center on arrival.
- Kupang is seriously hot and dry. Bring high-SPF sunscreen, a hat, and at least 1.5L of bottled water. Only drink bottled water — tap water is not safe.
- Pre-book a driver for a combo day. Crystal Cave + Oenesu Waterfall or Crystal Cave + Sasando Village makes a full day for ~\$50–60 USD with a private driver.
- Try Se'i Babi — the wood-smoked pork is unique to Timor and one of the best things you'll eat on an Indonesia itinerary. Head to Depot Bambu Kuning in the city center.
- Dress modestly in town and villages. Cover shoulders and knees when not at the beach or caves — locals are conservative (mostly Catholic/Protestant) and appreciate the respect.
- Ride a bemo if you're game. Kupang's neon-lit, music-blasting minibuses are a cultural experience in themselves — cheap, chaotic fun for a short city hop.

Kupang, West Timor, Indonesia — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



1 Ketapang Satu Beach

A scenic beach with white sand and clear waters.

3 NTT Regional Museum

Displays East Nusa Tenggara's history, culture, and natural heritage.

P Cruise port / terminal

2 Gong Perdamaian

A large peace monument gong in Kupang city.

4 Goa Tourism Monkey

A natural cave inhabited by wild monkeys.