

Bali Digital Nomad Guide: Ultimate Guide to Living, Working, and Thriving

Bali has become a global hotspot for digital nomads due to its affordable cost of living, vibrant community, and stunning surroundings. Whether you're looking to work remotely, explore the island, or immerse yourself in Bali's culture, this guide will cover everything you need to know to thrive as a **digital nomad in Bali**.

1. Where to Live as a Digital Nomad in Bali

Bali offers a variety of regions catering to digital nomads, each with its own vibe. Here are the top areas:



- Vibe: Peaceful, spiritual, creative.
- Best for: Wellness-focused nomads, yoga lovers, artists, and writers.
- Pros:
 - o Surrounded by rice paddies and nature.
 - Yoga retreats, wellness spas, and organic cafes.
 - Strong community of freelancers and creatives.
- Cons:
 - o Limited nightlife.
 - o Traffic can be heavy, especially during peak hours.
- Where to Stay:
 - o **Ubud Village Hotel** ♣ A great blend of modern comfort and Balinese charm.
 - o **The Yoga Barn** ♣ If you're a yoga enthusiast, it's a peaceful retreat with accommodation options.

Canggu 🕝

- **Vibe:** Chill, hip, surf-oriented.
- Best for: Digital nomads who enjoy beaches, surfing, and socializing.
- Pros:
 - o A hub for young, international nomads.
 - o Plenty of coworking spaces, trendy cafes, and beach clubs.
 - o Strong expat community.
- Cons:

- Overcrowded during peak seasons.
- o Can be expensive compared to other areas of Bali.
- Where to Stay:
 - o The Farm Hostel ➡ Great for meeting fellow nomads and socializing.
 - **Finns Beach Club** 🧖 For those who want beachfront luxury.

Seminyak 🔬

- Vibe: Upscale, trendy, and cosmopolitan.
- **Best for:** Digital nomads who want a balance between work and leisure.
- Pros:
 - o Luxury villas, high-end restaurants, and cafes.
 - Strong expat community with a good work-life balance.
- Cons:
 - Busy and more expensive.
 - Limited nature and greenery compared to Ubud and Canggu.
- Where to Stay:

2. Best Coworking Spaces in Bali

Bali is known for its exceptional coworking spaces, offering fast internet, coffee, and a strong community vibe. Here are some of the best places to work:

Dojo Bali (Canggu) 👨 💻

- Vibe: Social, collaborative, creative.
- **Facilities:** High-speed internet, private offices, meeting rooms, and a large community of entrepreneurs.
- Perks:
 - o Strong community events like workshops, meetups, and networking.
 - Free tea and coffee.
- **Price:** Starting from around IDR 150,000 (\$10) per day, with monthly plans available.

Hubud (Ubud) 🖳

- Vibe: Laid-back, creative, wellness-focused.
- **Facilities:** Air-conditioning, fast internet, private offices, yoga space, and even a communal kitchen.
- Perks:
 - o Great for wellness-focused workers looking to balance work with personal growth.
 - o Regular community events.
- **Price:** Starting at IDR 200,000 (\$13) per day.

Bali Bustle (Seminyak) 🗳

- Vibe: Urban, modern, social.
- Facilities: Meeting rooms, high-speed Wi-Fi, and a collaborative environment.
- Perks:
 - o Plenty of collaboration opportunities with Bali's professional network.
 - o Ideal for solo entrepreneurs and startups.
- **Price:** Around IDR 180,000 (\$12) per day.

3. Best Cafes for Digital Nomads in Bali

Coffee is a huge part of Bali's culture, and it's also a perfect spot to work while soaking in the local vibe. Here are some favorite cafes for digital nomads:

Coffee & Coconuts (Seminyak)

- Vibe: Stylish, cozy, and spacious.
- Facilities: Free Wi-Fi, delicious coffee, and fresh food options.
- Why it's great: It's a comfortable environment for long work sessions, with ample seating.

Crate Cafe (Canggu) 🤡

- Vibe: Social and modern.
- Facilities: Free Wi-Fi, creative space, and healthy food.
- Why it's great: A favorite spot for breakfast or brunch and a great place to meet other nomads.

Seniman Coffee (Ubud)

- Vibe: Relaxed, local, and community-oriented.
- Facilities: Free Wi-Fi, various coffee blends, and healthy snacks.
- Why it's great: Famous for its freshly roasted coffee and artsy ambiance.

4. The Cost of Living in Bali

Accommodation 🏠

- Budget Accommodation:
 - o Dormitory-style rooms in hostels: IDR 150,000 (\$10) per night.
 - o Guesthouses or homestays: IDR 1.5M–3M (\$100–200) per month.
- Mid-Range Accommodation:
 - o Private villas with a pool or apartments: IDR 5M-10M (\$300-700) per month.
- Luxury Accommodation:
 - o Upscale villas: IDR 15M-30M (\$1,000-2,000) per month.

Food 🚱

ACCOUNTANT

- Street Food:
 - o A meal at a local warung (small restaurant): IDR 30,000–50,000 (\$2–3).
- Mid-Range Restaurants:
 - o A meal for two at a nice restaurant: IDR 200,000–500,000 (\$15–35).
- Groceries:
 - o Monthly groceries for one person: IDR 1.5M-2.5M (\$100-170).

Transportation 🕭

- Scooter Rental: IDR 2M–3M (\$130–200) per month.
- Taxis or Grab (ride-sharing): IDR 20,000–60,000 (\$1.50–4) for short trips.
- Car Rental: IDR 6M-10M (\$400-650) per month.

Miscellaneous ?

- Coworking Spaces: IDR 1M–3M (\$70–200) per month.
- **Gym Membership:** IDR 500,000–1M (\$35–70) per month.

5. Internet & Connectivity

- Wi-Fi Availability: Bali generally has reliable Wi-Fi in most cafes and coworking spaces. In Ubud and Canggu, speeds can reach up to 100 Mbps.
- SIM Cards & Data:
 - o Telkomsel and XL offer strong coverage, especially in popular tourist areas.
 - o **SIM cards** can be purchased for as little as IDR 100,000 (\$7), with data packages starting at IDR 50,000 (\$3).

6. Health & Wellness

Bali is a **wellness paradise**, with numerous yoga retreats, spas, and health-focused experiences:

- Yoga & Meditation:
 - The Yoga Barn (Ubud) offers classes, workshops, and wellness retreats.
 - o Radiantly Alive (Ubud) has great classes for all levels.
- Spa and Wellness:
 - o Karma Spa (Seminyak) A luxurious spa offering massages, facials, and more
 - Ubud Bodyworks Centre (Ubud) Affordable and professional massage therapy.

7. Socializing & Networking

- Meetups & Events:
 - Bali Digital Nomads (Canggu) A community group for meetups, networking, and workshops.
 - Nomad Coffee Club (Canggu) Regular meetups for freelancers and digital entrepreneurs.
 - o **Bali Startup Community (Ubud)** A great place for networking with other remote workers.
- Nightlife & Social Activities:
 - o La Brisa (Canggu) Beachfront bar offering live music and a cool vibe.

o **Potato Head (Seminyak)** – A famous beach club with a lively atmosphere.

8. Things to Do on Your Days Off

- Nature & Adventure:
 - Mount Batur Go for a sunrise hike to see the amazing views of Bali's volcano.
 - o **Tegallalang Rice Terrace (Ubud)** Explore the stunning terraced fields.
- Cultural Activities:
 - o **Pura Tanah Lot** A beautiful sea temple located on a rock formation.
 - Sacred Monkey Forest Sanctuary (Ubud) Visit the jungle temple with hundreds of monkeys.
- Relaxation & Leisure:
 - Nusa Penida A gorgeous island perfect for beaches and nature.
 - o **Beaches of Bali** Explore **Padang Padang** or **Dreamland Beach** for swimming, surfing, or just relaxing.

Final Tips for Digital Nomads in Bali

- Visa Requirements: The Tourist Visa allows for stays of up to 60 days with the option to extend. There are also options for a Social Visa or Business Visa for longer stays.
- Avoid the Rainy Season: The rainy season is from November to March, and it can affect work and travel plans. The dry season (April to October) is the best time to visit.
- Balinese Etiquette:
 - o Respect the local culture—dress modestly when visiting temples.
 - o Always remove your shoes before entering homes or temples.

Bali offers a unique combination of **affordable living**, **stunning nature**, and **modern amenities**, making it an ideal base for digital nomads. Whether you're seeking a peaceful retreat in Ubud or a lively atmosphere in Canggu, Bali has something for every remote worker.

Would you like help finding a coworking space or accommodation for your Bali trip?

Tax Saving Tips for Digital Nomads in Bali

As a **digital nomad in Bali**, managing your taxes efficiently can help you save money and avoid legal headaches. While Indonesia has specific tax laws, many digital nomads come to Bali for the lifestyle, and it's important to understand the tax system to keep your finances in check.

Here's a detailed breakdown of tax saving tips for digital nomads in Bali:

1. Understanding Indonesian Tax Residency

Before you think about tax-saving strategies, it's important to understand **your tax status** in Indonesia.

Who is a Tax Resident in Indonesia?

- You are considered a tax resident if you stay in Indonesia for more than 183 days in a 12-month period or have the intention to reside in the country.
- Non-residents who stay in Indonesia for less than 183 days are generally taxed only on Indonesian-source income.

Key Point:

If you're **not a tax resident**, you will only pay tax on income earned within Indonesia. If you're a tax resident, you must declare worldwide income and potentially pay taxes on that income in Indonesia.

2. Opt for the Bali Visa Options that Minimize Tax Exposure

There are various **visa types** that can impact your tax status, and choosing the right one can help you avoid unnecessary taxes.

Tourist Visa (30 Days + 30 Day Extension)

- Best for: Digital nomads who stay for shorter periods, typically less than 183 days.
- Tax Benefits:



- o Non-resident tax status—you won't be taxed on your foreign income.
- Visa Extension: You can extend the tourist visa twice, allowing a total stay of up to 60 days.

Social Visa (6-12 Months)

- **Best for:** Those who plan to stay longer but not exceed 183 days.
- Tax Benefits:
 - o If you stay under 183 days, you are considered a **non-resident**, so you only pay tax on income earned **within Indonesia**.
 - o As a social visa holder, you're exempt from declaring worldwide income.

B211A Business Visa

- **Best for:** Digital nomads running their own online businesses, freelancers, or remote workers.
- Tax Benefits:
 - Often, if you work remotely and earn income outside Indonesia, you're still classified as a **non-resident** and **not subject to Indonesia's full tax rates**.

KITAS (Temporary Stay Permit Visa) 🛂

- Best for: Long-term nomads looking to stay for over a year.
- Tax Benefits:
 - o **Tax resident status** (after 183 days), which means you will need to declare worldwide income.
 - o The **KITAS** visa can also make you eligible for certain business incentives or tax deductions if you set up a legal business in Bali.

3. Claiming Deductions: Business Expenses in Bali

If you are a **tax resident** (living in Bali for more than 183 days), you can deduct certain business-related expenses that reduce your taxable income. Here are some tax-deductible expenses for digital nomads:

Common Business Deductions in Bali 💸



- Coworking Space Fees: If you use a coworking space (like **Dojo Bali** or **Hubud**), the membership and fees are deductible as a business expense.
- **Internet & Mobile Phone Bills:** Costs related to running your business (internet, phone, software subscriptions) are deductible.
- Accommodation Expenses: If you can justify that a part of your accommodation is used for business (i.e., working from your villa or hotel), a portion of rent may be deductible.
- Transportation Costs: Scooter rentals or public transport for business-related activities can be deducted.
- **Professional Services:** Hiring freelancers, accountants, or marketing experts is tax-deductible.
- **Business Travel:** Travel expenses for business-related trips within or outside Bali can be deducted (flights, transport, etc.).
- **Meals & Entertainment:** Business meals are deductible, but these must be documented as work-related.

Tip: Keep detailed records of all expenses and receipts, especially if you are planning to claim deductions. Using tools like Expensify or Wave can help track and categorize your expenses automatically.

4. Utilizing Tax Treaties Between Countries

Bali is a popular destination for **digital nomads** from countries like the **United States**, **Australia**, and **the UK**, and some of these countries have **tax treaties** with Indonesia that can help reduce tax liabilities.

Examples of Tax Treaties:

- United States & Indonesia: The U.S. has a tax treaty with Indonesia that prevents double taxation on income earned in Indonesia. U.S. citizens can use the Foreign Earned Income Exclusion (FEIE) to exclude a certain amount of their income from U.S. taxes if they meet specific requirements.
- Australia & Indonesia: Australian tax residents can claim a tax credit for Indonesian taxes paid on income earned in Indonesia.
- UK & Indonesia: UK citizens can avoid double taxation under the Double Taxation Agreement (DTA) and can often claim tax deductions.



Tip: If you are a tax resident of your home country, make sure to consult with a tax professional about any double taxation treaties to ensure you're not paying tax in both countries on the same income.

5. Set Up a Legal Business in Bali

Setting up a **local business entity** (such as a **PT PMA – a Foreign-Owned Company**) in Bali may help you optimize your tax situation. A **PT PMA** allows you to be treated as a separate entity, and profits generated through the business may be taxed at a different rate than personal income.

Key Benefits of Setting Up a PT PMA:

- **Tax Optimization:** You can split your personal and business finances, potentially reducing your personal tax liabilities.
- **Business Deductions:** Expenses related to business operations (including coworking space, software subscriptions, etc.) can be deducted from the company's taxable income.
- International Expansion: If you plan to expand your business beyond Bali or Indonesia, setting up a PT PMA may help with international operations.

Costs and Considerations:

• Setting up a PT PMA in Bali can be costly (IDR 10M–20M or more, depending on the type of business), but it's worth exploring if you want long-term benefits and plan on earning substantial income from clients or customers.

6. Use Offshore Bank Accounts & Digital Payment Services

Digital nomads in Bali often receive payments from international clients, and it's possible to reduce transaction fees and even mitigate certain tax liabilities by using **offshore bank accounts** or **digital payment services** (e.g., **Wise** or **Payoneer**).

• Offshore Accounts: If your income is from outside Indonesia, using an offshore bank account could potentially reduce local tax exposure.



• **Digital Wallets:** Services like **PayPal**, **Stripe**, or **Wise** can help you manage international payments efficiently and sometimes with lower fees than traditional bank transfers.

Tip: Ensure that all income is properly reported to avoid any future issues with tax authorities. While offshore accounts can provide some advantages, tax transparency is essential to avoid legal trouble.

7. Track All Income and Expenses: Use Apps & Tools

Tax deductions and accurate reporting require **organization**. Use **accounting software** to track all your income and expenses.

Recommended Tools for Digital Nomads:

- QuickBooks Tracks income and expenses for freelancers and small business owners
- Expensify Helps you organize receipts and track business-related expenses.
- Wave A free accounting software that can also be used for invoicing and managing cash flow.

Tip: At the end of the year, ensure that your income statements are sorted by category, such as business income, personal income, and non-taxable earnings, so you can maximize deductions and minimize taxes.

Conclusion: Efficient Tax Management for Bali Digital Nomads

Bali offers an incredible lifestyle for digital nomads, but understanding **tax residency**, managing your **business expenses**, and leveraging **tax treaties** with your home country can all help reduce your tax liability.

To make sure you're optimizing your taxes while staying on the right side of Indonesian laws, consult with a local **tax advisor** or **accountant** familiar with the tax laws for foreigners.



Disclaimer:

The information provided is for informational purposes only and does not constitute financial, tax, or investment advice. Always consult with a qualified financial advisor or tax professional before making any financial decisions. The use of any tools, products, or services mentioned is at your own risk, and the accuracy of any external resources is not guaranteed.

Buy Nomad Ledger Financial Toolkit

WWW.AWARAGLOBAL.COM







Enjoy Your Trip!

Powered by Awara Global - Next Level Adventures

🎇 Top Travel & Finance Deals You Can't Miss! 🎇

Accommodation Deals

- Booking.com Best hotel rates worldwide
- Agoda Asia hotel discounts
- Hostelworld Budget hostels & stays

Car Rentals & Transport

- <u>DiscoverCars</u> Compare & save on car hire
- RentalCars Trusted global rentals
- 12Go Book ferries, buses & trains in Asia

Tours & Activities

- GetYourGuide Skip-the-line tickets & tours
- <u>Viator</u> Local experiences & day trips
- <u>Klook</u> Best deals on activities

Flights & Packages

• Expedia — Flights, hotels & bundles

Travel Insurance

- <u>VisitorsCoverage</u> Medical plans worldwide <u>SafetyWing</u> Nomad-friendly insurance

NPN & Privacy

- Surfshark VPN Secure your connection
- <u>Incogni Privacy Tool</u> Protect your data

Finance & Crypto

- Revolut Global spending made easy
- Coinspot Aussie crypto exchange
- <u>Swyftx</u> Easy crypto trading
- Crypto.com Crypto wallet & cashback
- Sharesies Start investing with small amounts
- Wise Cheap international transfers

💬 💻 Website & Hosting

• <u>Hostinger</u> — Affordable website hosting

Currency Converter

• <u>XE Currency App</u> — Track currency rates easily

🖺 Subscribe for Travel Inspiration

<u>Family Awara YouTube</u> — Family travel adventures

####