

A full-page photograph of a tropical landscape. In the foreground, there is a traditional pavilion with a thatched roof and a low stone wall. The middle ground is filled with dense green trees and a thick layer of mist or fog. In the background, a large, rocky mountain peak rises above the clouds. The sky is a soft, hazy blue.

ĀMAN

AMANJIWO



Framed by emerald-green rice plains and the peaks of the Menoreh Hills in rural Central Java, Amanjiwo lies within view of the mystical stupas of Borobudur, a Unesco World Heritage Site. The Buddhist monument directly informs the design of Amanjiwo, a temple-like hideaway with a towering domed roof, colonnades and walls built of local blush-beige paras stone. Intersperse days of sightseeing – at serene Borobudur, bustling Yogyakarta or any number of vibrant villages – with spells of relaxation at Amanjiwo’s spa, 40-metre pool and romantic open-air restaurant.

Location

- The second-largest island of the Indonesian archipelago, Java lies in between Sumatra and Bali, with the Java Sea to the north, and the Indian Ocean to the south. The lush landscape surrounding Amanjiwo is volcanic and ruggedly beautiful, and the area, scattered with temples and ruins, is considered Indonesia’s cultural heartland.

Getting There

- Amanjiwo is a 75-minute drive from Yogyakarta airport, and two hours from Solo airport. Both airports serve flights to Bali, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.
- The complimentary airport concierge service includes customs clearance assistance and car transfers.



Accommodation

Decorated with sungkai-wood screens, coconut-wood and rattan furniture, antique batik cushions and Javanese glass artworks, the 36 freestanding suites radiate in two crescents from Amanjiwo's central rotunda. All feature terrazzo floors, high ceilings, domed roofs and garden terraces with a thatched *bale* for outdoor lounging.

10	Garden Suite	243 m ²	2,615 ft ²
7	Borobudur Suite	243 m ²	2,615 ft ²
7	Garden Pool Suite	243 m ²	2,615 ft ²
7	Borobudur Pool Suite	243 m ²	2,615 ft ²
1	Dalem Jiwo Suite	1,200 m ²	12,917 ft ²

Borobudur Suite/Borobudur Pool Suite

- Views of Borobudur and rice paddies
- Borobudur Pool Suite features a private eight-metre pool

Dalem Jiwo Suite

- Private compound with its own entrance and driveway
- Central rotunda for dining and lounging, overlooking a private 15-metre pool
- Wraparound terrace, two outdoor lounging *bales*
- Two separate bedroom pavilions with sunken outdoor tubs

Garden Suite/Garden Pool Suite

- Views of terraced farmland and the Menoreh Hills
- Garden Pool Suite features a private eight-metre pool



Dining

The Restaurant, Bar and Terrace

Capacity: 90

- Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Arresting views unfold from rice fields to the stupas of Borobudur and mystical volcanic peaks
- Indonesian and Western cuisines served alongside a daily changing degustation menu
- Most of the ingredients come from the chef's garden and local farms

Pool Club

Capacity: 40

- Serving breakfast, light lunches, drinks and snacks from a raised, colonnaded deck
- Overlooks the green-tiled 40-metre infinity pool, surrounded by rice paddies and banyan trees



Relaxation and Fitness

Art and crafts

- Amanjiwo's art room hosts regular exhibitions of work by renowned artists and photographers
- Sketching mornings in the surrounding countryside are overseen by an artist-in-residence
- A box of watercolours is available in every suite for capturing the inspiring views

Spa

- Spa treatments can be enjoyed at the spa suite, with its twin massage tables and outdoor relaxation *bale*, or in the privacy of guests' suites
- Ancient Javanese rituals are incorporated into the menu of facials, massages and cream baths

Gym, tennis and yoga

- Amanjiwo's gym suite provides treadmills, cross trainers and other fitness equipment, along with personal training
- The tennis court is sheltered by the Menoreh Hills, with a thatched-roof *bale* on hand for providing refreshments
- Yoga is practised at the Pool Club terrace

Other Facilities

Library

- A large, light-filled space with two double daybeds
- Offers a range of books in several languages, along with CDs and games
- Used as a venue for visiting speakers, with expert lectures topics from temple preservation to Javanese art and culture

Boutique

- Sells a selection of Javanese art, textiles, crafts and antiques
- Traditional items include gamelan instruments, shadow puppets, ceremonial baskets and jewellery
- A selection of *loro blonyo* figures are also available – painted statues, found in most Indonesian homes, depicting the deity Dewi Sri and her male companion Raden Sadono

Activities & Excursions

With ancient temples, volcanic mountains, traditional villages and bustling cultural hubs nearby, opportunities for trekking and sightseeing around Amanjiwo are endless; below are just a few possibilities.

Borobudur

- A pleasant 25-minute walk or cycle ride from Amanjiwo, the Unesco World Heritage Site of Borobudur is one of the world's best preserved ancient monuments
- A dawn visit is highly recommended for witnessing the sun rise over the 9th-century Buddhas and enjoying sweeping views of the volcanic landscape

Temples

- Legend has it that 2,000 temples once graced the plains beyond Amanjiwo; those still standing near Amanjiwo include Pawon, considered the jewel of Javanese architecture, and Mendut, constructed around 800 AD
- Southeast of Amanjiwo, near Yogyakarta, are the ancient Hindu temple complex of Prambanan, and Ratu Boko, which incorporates two hamlets with panoramic views
- Further afield, Sukuh, considered one of Indonesia's most striking temples, and Ceto on the slopes of Mt Lawu, lie east of Solo
- Northwest, the Dieng Plateau is an area of great natural beauty, home to ancient Hindu temples and Java's earliest standing stone structures

Trekking

- Volcanic Mt Merapi rewards both serious and casual hikers, rising to 3,000 metres; experienced climbers can attempt the summit at sunrise with an Amanjiwo guide

- The nearby Menoreh Hills offer a pleasant 2.5-hour hike, which can be combined with a drive to view the sunset at Suroloyo
- Further afield, the summits of Mt Sindoro (3,153m) and Mt Sumbing (3,371m) can also be attempted

Yogyakarta and Solo

- An hour from Amanjiwo, Yogyakarta is Java's cultural capital
- Yogyakarta houses the Sultan's Palace, a royal compound akin to the Vatican
- Two hours from Amanjiwo, Solo has been an artisanal centre since the 18th century with a proud legacy of silverwork, music, art, dancing and painting

Shopping

- Yogyakarta offers excellent shopping, from exquisite *wayang kulit* shadow puppets to gamelan instruments, gold-threaded batik wedding sarongs and antique furniture
- The craft centre at Borobudur showcases sculpture, jewellery and textiles
- Discover the busy, terracotta-roofed markets of rural Java, selling everything from volcanic stone ornaments to street snacks

Golf

- Tee off at an altitude of 1,000m at Mt Merapi's 18-hole course
- The 18-hole Borobudur Golf and Country Club is 35 minutes from Amanjiwo

Village festivities

- Celebrations in rural Java involve dozens of gamelan and dance performances, games of chance and country fare

Amanjiwo

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