

edition 2025

# Lombok



[The *Unwritten*]

Where waves speak *Sasak*

The Beginner's Surf Guide to Lombok & A Collection of Lombok Surf Secrets



This *Lombok Surf Guide* is our most heartfelt way to invite you to connect with and celebrate Lombok while you're here to Surf.

With much Love.  
*Marshmellow Surf Team*

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[Above *the water*]

## ***BOTH THE OCEANS WE LOVE***

This might not be the introduction you expected in a surf guide — but it's one that matters. Before the surf, before the sunsets, before the rituals of the island settle into your rhythm, there's something we all need to acknowledge: Lombok, like much of the world, is struggling with plastic.



[Underwater]





## [Oceans Don't Want Plastic: A Quiet Warning From the Shore]

It's easy to admire the turquoise bays, empty beaches, and unspoiled reefs—but after the rain, plastic appears: tangled in driftwood, caught on rocks, floating beside waves. It's a global issue, threatening marine life, livelihoods, and the future of surfing. The causes are complex, but local, ground-up solutions are taking root.

In Merendeng, Kuta Lombok, our village is taking small but vital steps. Led by Kadus (village chief) **Mr. Supriadi**, the community now separates plastic from organic waste and supports respectful disposal through weekly collection—thanks to strong local leadership.

The challenge is massive, but people and organizations here are responding—with creativity, persistence, and growing impact.

### **Honest Made – Community-Driven Recycling**

[geotrashmanagement.com](http://geotrashmanagement.com)

A pioneer in Kuta Beach, turning collected plastic into usable goods. Their all-in-one recycling hub works with the local community to shift mindsets and inspire sustainable habits.

### **Lombok Plastic Free – Grassroots Power**

[lombokplasticfree.com](http://lombokplasticfree.com)

Lombok Plastic Free tackles plastic waste through cleanups, school programs, and village waste systems—building grassroots change where government action falls short.

### **PT Geo Trash Management (GTM) – Recycling at Scale**

[greenrinjani.com](http://greenrinjani.com)

PT Geo Trash Management runs large-scale recycling plants across Lombok, turning up to 30 tons of plastic daily into reusable materials to reduce landfill use and add value to waste.

### **Conplas – Turning Waste into Building Materials**

[undp.org](http://undp.org)

Rooted in community and science, Conplas transforms non-recyclable plastic into eco-blocks and grease. Led by Mataram University's Sudirman, they also pay villagers for sorted waste, supporting over 15 freelance waste workers.

### **Plastik Kembali – Art with Purpose**

<https://www.plastikkembali.com>

Operating in Selong Belanak, Plastik Kembali turns plastic waste into art and homeware. Led by Elissa Gjertson, the team reuses thousands of plastic bags, supports cleanups, and builds local waste systems.

### **Gili Eco Trust – Island Inspiration**

<https://www.giliecotrust.com>

Gili Eco Trust, based in the Gilis, runs cleanups, recycling, and education across Lombok. They install compost systems, protect reefs, and clear trash from coasts and seafloors.

This isn't about perfection. It's about attention — and responsibility. Honor the island that's welcoming you. Because the reefs remember everything — and the waves don't want plastic.



LOMBOK

# SURF GUIDE

TIPS FOR SURF TRAVELERS

Written with the Ocean, for the  
Ocean. Shaped by real  
experiences: a quiet conversation  
and a discovery of the island's  
most hidden truths .

*www.marshmellowsurf.com*  
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# [INDONESIA SURF CULTURE]

- ✓ Over 17,000 islands...some are still being explored.
- ✓ Peak surf season: April to October.
- ✓ Surf is possible year-round – daily, less crowded, and in warm tropical water.
- ✓ Revealed to the World in 1971 via the movie 'Morning of the Earth' with Gerry Lopez ⚡
- ✓ Most iconic and authentic planet's surf culture.
- ✓ World's first Surf Camp in 1974: *Home of G-Land - Grajagan, East Java.*



## *Surfing in Bali*

Indonesia is a vast surf frontier of 17,000+ islands catching swell from all sides. Bali made it global—home to Uluwatu's legendary break, board-laden motorbikes, and sacred ceremonies that still bless each ride.

### **Did you know?**

*Uluwatu's iconic cave entrance wasn't even known to locals until surfers crawled through it in the '70s.*

## *Surfing in Lombok*

Lombok is Indonesia's quieter, wilder sibling—where waves come by boat, and locals read the swell from swaying palms. Beginners share bays with village kids, and the reefs here are shaped by years of quiet, uncrowded surfing. It's a rhythm that began long before you paddled out.

### **Did you know?**

*Desert Point was kept a secret for over a decade — just whispered coordinates and surf karma.*

# [LOMBOK BALI]

## A Quick Guide for Beginner Surfers Looking for the Right Wave.

Planning a surf trip to Indonesia? Bali gets the spotlight — but for slower pace, smaller crowds, and beginner-friendly waves, Lombok is a perfect match.

*Why is Lombok a surf gem ?*

### Lombok *Ease into the swell !*

- ✓ Fewer crowds.
- ✓ Affordable, laid-back living.
- ✓ No traffic.
- ✓ While Bali's beaches buzz with scooters, surf schools, and packed lineups, Lombok still offers quiet bays where you might share the waves with just a handful of others — or none at all.
- ✓ South Lombok has several protected spots that are ideal for learning, with soft takeoffs and sandy-bottom channels.
- ✓ No competitive crowds, no pressure.
- ✓ Gentle Beginner Waves.
- ✓ For those with more experience, Lombok delivers clean, powerful waves and uncrowded line-ups.
- ✓ Raw, untouched nature.
- ✓ Think rolling green hills, empty beaches, and wild cliffs — no beach clubs or techno sunsets, just you and the horizon.
- ✓ Authentic island culture.
- ✓ Lombok's Sasak traditions are alive in everyday life. You'll see fishermen launch their boats by hand, families offering rice to the sea, and local kids learning to surf barefoot after school.
- ✓ Everything moves slower here — except the waves. From food to accommodation, it's easier to stretch your budget and your breath.



# [SURF MAP]

KEY INFO: The scores provided are general references based on typical conditions.

Swell size, wind direction, and tides can all shift a wave's character — even at familiar spots. Some breaks feature multiple peaks, each with different shapes and levels of difficulty. Take time to observe, and when in doubt, ask someone experienced — local surfers, boat captains, or your surf coach.

Check the forecast, know your limits, and read the ocean before every session.

*Surf wisely. Surf safely.*



Spot	~ Kuta	Off by	Break
KUTA REEF	0.0		
SEGER	5.2		
TANJUNG AAN	8.5	both	
MUSHROOMS	8.5		
ARE GULING	9.2	both	

Spot	~ Kuta	Off by	Break
GERUPUK	9.6		
SELONG BELANAK	19		
MAWI	19.8		
EKAS	17.5		
SERANGAN	23.3	both	



# [SURF SEASONS]

Lombok offers surfable conditions year-round, with shifts in swell direction and wind patterns. The waves don't stop – they just change direction. For those with flexibility, Lombok offers great surf opportunities, every month of the year.

## Dry Season



+++



-



+++



S-SW



E-SE

## Lombok's Playgrounds

- ✓ Consistent long period groundswells
- ✓ Ideal for all levels
- ✓ Offshore winds on most south-facing breaks
- ✓ Lively surf scene
- ! More people
- ! Trade winds late in the morning
- ! Clean morning and midday sessions

### WHY WE LOVE IT ?

*Steady swells.  
Clear skies.  
Peak - season energy.*

## Wet Season



++



++



+



S-SE



W-NW

## Lombok's Playgrounds

- ✓ Early morning glassy conditions
- ✓ Ideal for Beginners and Intermediates
- ✓ Fewer surfers in the water
- ✓ Warm water, lush scenery
- ! Fewer crowds – easier wave access
- ! Afternoon rain showers (usually short)
- ! Variable wind patterns – check daily

### WHY WE LOVE IT ?

*Lush nature.  
Less crowded line-ups.  
Sunshine mixed with fresh  
scattered showers.*



**DC Surfboards**  
Custom Made in Bali



**Xeno Fit**  
Gym



**OceanDrift**  
Drone Shooting



**Ashtari**  
Yoga Shala

“

*“I’ll take you where the waves fit you best —  
safe, fun, and just the right push to grow.  
That’s how we do it here in Lombok.”*



**Mong**  
Marshmellow Surf Head Coach

**marsh  
mellow**  
SURF & WELLNESS





## [KUTA LOMBOK]

*Hidden Kitchens, Chats & Shops*LOMBOK TRAVEL  
GUIDE*Wish you were  
here!  
xoxo Marshmellow Surf Team***Sonya Seafood***Our second home, for local dishes & fish bbq.***Ombak***Great reward for post-surf meals.***Lamina***Pure local pleasures.***Salt Water***Daily fresh COD, straight from the sea.***Al Dente***We love Pasta !***Bite Box***New generation of Indo food.***Mushroom Cafe'***The cafe at the corner of your street.***Jelajah Coffee***These guys know how to brew it.***Piccolo***Cute hidden cafe, delicious meals.***Somm***Simply our favorite in Gerupuk.***The Sk8 Cafe'***A skate bowl and coffee shop. By the ocean.**not only waves ...***Macaroni***Local surf crews gather here at dusk.***Captikus***Speakeasy Cocktail Bar.***Ryan Cafe'***Best sunset spot in Kuta Lombok.***DC Surf Shop***Kuta's surf institution, built for these waves.***OceanDrift***Our expert drone video maker.***Lombok Silver***Learn to make your own jewellery.*

## [THINGS TO DO IN 7 DAYS]



SEE THIS ITINERARY

*Inland adventure**Coastal beauty**Surf Camp 4n*

## Day 1



Arrival

Tetebatu Monkey Forest

## Day 2



Tete Batu Waterfall

Mt. Rinjani view at Sunset

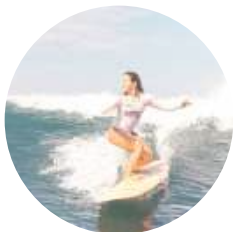
## Day 3



Senggigi

Batu Bolong

## Day 4-7



Surf Camp 4n

All-Inclusive



WE HAVE SAVED A SPOT FOR YOU





# [THINGS TO DO IN 14 DAYS]



SEE THIS ITINERARY



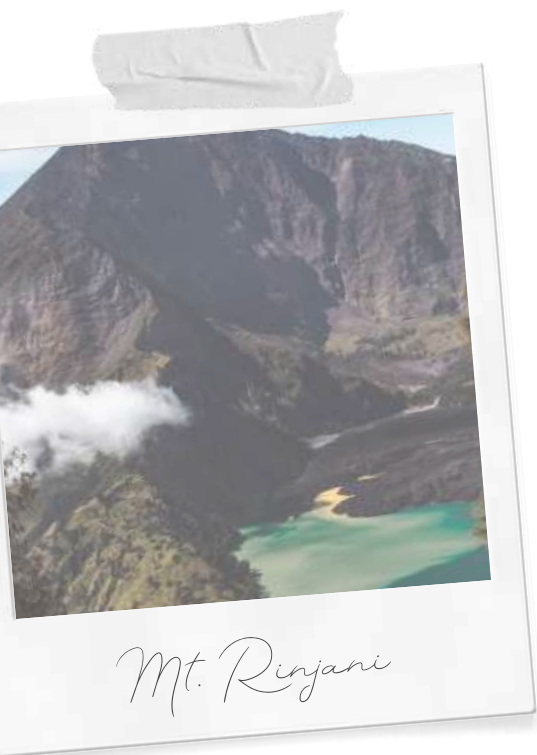
Coral gardens



Volcano &amp; Nature



Surf Camp 7n



## Day 1



Arrival  
Sengigi  
Batu Bolong

## Day 2-3



Gili Islands:  
Snorkeling, Diving  
Sunsets

## Day 4-6



Benang Kelambu Waterfall  
Tete Batu Rice Fields  
Mt. Rinjani

## Day 7-14



Surf Camp 7n  
All-Inclusive

[SURF CAMP AVAILABILITIES & PRICES](#)

rooms &amp; lounge

surf &amp; community

pool &amp; wellness



# Marshmellow

## [SURF & WELLNESS CAMP]

STAY

BKF &amp; LUNCH

SURF

YOGA

ICE BATH

PILATES

GYM

SURF SKATE

VIDEO ANALYSIS

SURF THEORY



2025

10/



SEE THE VIBES

# OPEN ALL-YEAR ROUND

**SURF & WELLNESS CAMP**  
LOMBOK INDONESIA



WHATSAPP WITH US



MAKING MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME



DUSUN MERENDENG  
PUJUT, KEC. KUTA, LOMBOK  
whatsapp +62-853-3829-6984

# [ESSENTIALS & SURFBOARDS]

What you will find at *Marshmellow Surf Camp* that you don't need to bring with you - if you don't want to ;)

*Available at our Surf Camp*

**Surfboard Wax**

**Rash Guard**

**Zinc Sunscreen**

**Surf Hats**

**Yoga Mat**

**Mindful Books**

**In-house MacBook**

**Water Tumbler**

**Dry Bag**

**Tote Beach Bag**

**Towels**

**Toiletries**



## BYO ?

If your board travels with you, it will have its place – safely stored inside the camp, on a guest-only rack, away from outside reach. No one but you can touch it.



## LIST OF SURFBOARDS

Prefer to travel light or don't have your own surfboard? At our camp we have boards of all kind:

- ✓ **Soft tops** – for absolute beginners
- ✓ **Hard tops** (8'4 to 6'6") – beginner to intermediate
- ✓ **Single fins** (9'4 to 9'0") – beginner to intermediate
- ✓ **Shortboards & Fish tails** (6'4 to 5'9") – intermediate



## OUR PACKING LIST

- ☒ Journal
- ☒ Power bank
- ☒ Film photocamera & ISO 400 films
- ☒ Yoga wear
- ☒ Electroyte powder
- ☒ Travel insurance



*marshmellow*





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# SURF STORIES

THE UNWRITTEN COLLECTION OF SURF SECRETS

A trail of rides, risks and ocean-born truths: held by the waves, anchored in the local culture.

[www.marshmellowsurf.com](http://www.marshmellowsurf.com)  
[info@marshmellowsurf.com](mailto:info@marshmellowsurf.com)  
[@marshmellowsurf](https://www.instagram.com/marshmellowsurf)



[Lombok Polaroids: *historical archive*]

1900 - 2000 | a vintage Instagram feed





TX 5063

TX 5063

TX 5063



1990s - The Sydney Morning Herald



2000s - Respect the locals, and their habits



1957 - Wedding

▶ 32A

33

▶ 33A

34

▶ 34A

35

TX 5063

5063

TX 5063



1986 - Somewhere around Lombok



1996 - Market in Kuta

Sade (Sah-deh)  
living museum of Sasak culture

▶ 36A

37

▶ 37A

38

▶ 38A

39

FILM KJI88 PLUS

040812

FILM KJI88 PLUS

#marshmellow  
Historical Archive

1980 - Gili Air





[Myth, history & truths]  
how everything started



## 70 – 80

### The First Footsteps

- First foreign surfers arrived, mostly from Bali
- Rumors of empty waves led to remote explorations
- Desert Point and Ekas were unknown

## 80–90

### The Discovery of Desert Point

- Long, hollow barrels discovered by a handful of surfers. It gained mythical status
- Harsh access, zero crowds — total secrecy
- Other breaks like Mawi and Are Guling began to enter quiet conversations

# Chronicles

## 90–2k

### From Secret to Cult

- Surf films and blurry magazine photos leaked Desert's perfection
- Kuta was still a tiny village
- Locals began surfing with borrowed or broken boards

## 2k–2010

### Infrastructure & Local Rise

- Bali's crowd pushed surfers east
- Surf schools, rentals, and boat access emerged
- Gerupuk became a hub for beginners and instructors

## Modern era

### Surf Culture Solidifies

- Lombok became a retreat from Bali's rush
- Eco-minded surf camps and longer stays rose
- Locals and travelers now share a more balanced, soulful surf scene

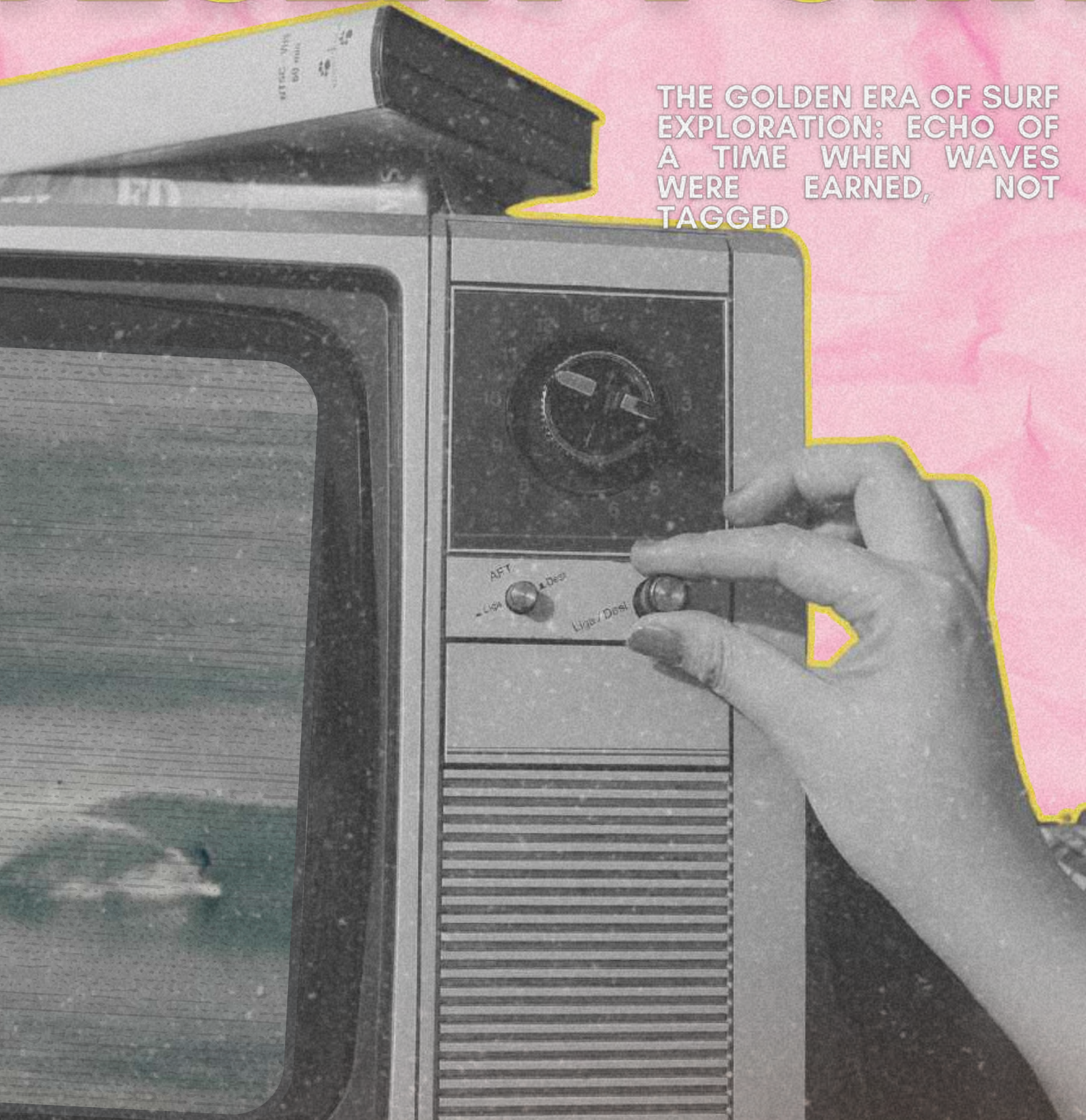


BILL HEICK

JIMMY BANKS

# DESERT POINT

THE GOLDEN ERA OF SURF  
EXPLORATION: ECHO OF  
A TIME WHEN WAVES  
WERE EARNED, NOT  
TAGGED



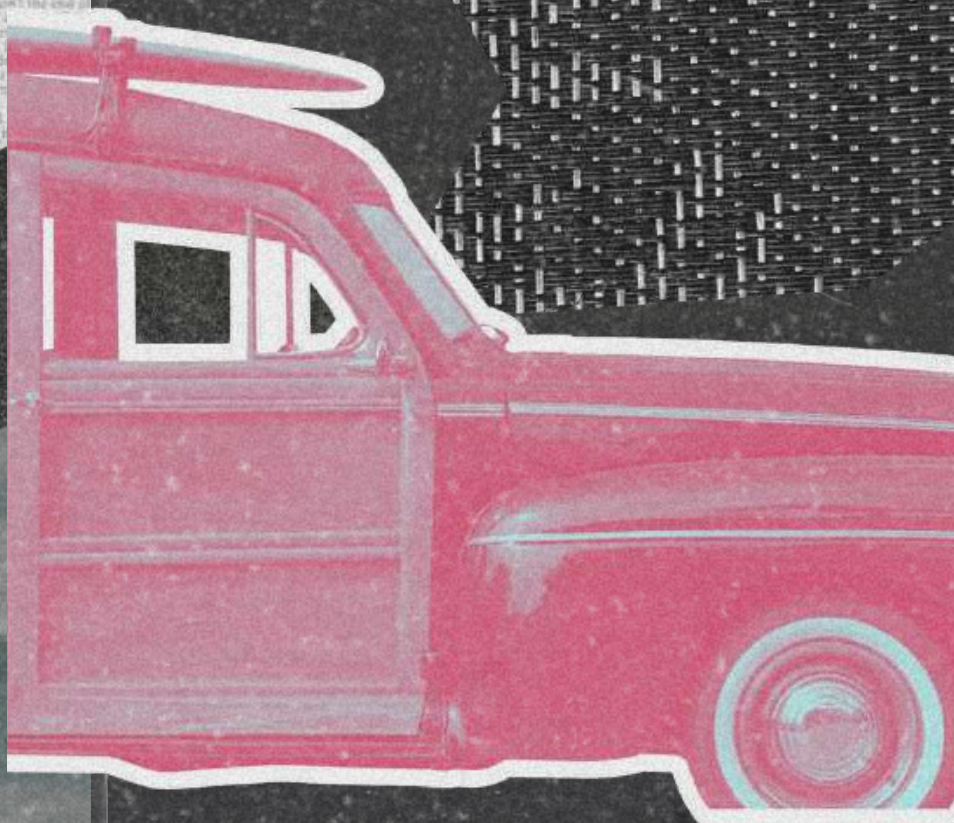


In his documentary *Secrets of Desert Point*, Bill Heick recounts surfing this legendary wave in the early 1980s:

*"No talk, no maps, no photos... we became really good liars."*

He and his crew "The Golden Beards" lived aboard leaky boats, camping rough and safeguarding Desert Point from the surf media for nearly a decade.

# a MYTH TURNED Legend



1980s - Newspaper & Original Photography - Lombok, Desert Point



Pablo Miller,

15th July 1990

123 Wave St.

Lombok ID 83570



In The Surfer's Journal, humble surfer Pablo Miller reflects on his life in Lombok in 1981-1983 era saying: "You don't wanna interview me, man. I'm pretty boring..."



He spent quarters of the year living on remote Lombok reefs, balancing the serenity of perfect tubes with the real dangers of reef, pirates, and harsh conditions. A Legend around the Island.

Jimmy Banks,

Australian Jim Banks appeared in interviews with The Surfer's Journal and Surflife, sharing his early-'80s breakthrough:

"My **whole** concept of riding the barrel changed in Lombok... I was the only person in the water." He recalls sitting alone in heavy, perfect sets (**20-waves-to-a-set!**), describing it as the peak surfing experience.

1980 Gili Air,

First recorded surf on Gili Air (1980)

A surf blog cites the earliest documented waves on Gili Air in 1980:

"Mike & Tim McHugh ... did the channel crossing ... I caught the first wave and got ~~smashed~~ hammered on the reef."

These images capture the dawn of surf tourism on the Gilis — an untouched archipelago at the time.



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2025

# FOLLOWING THE REAL LEGENDS

## First Surfboard in Lombok: Myth or Memory?

Who rode the first wave in Lombok? No one really knows. Some say it was traveling Aussies in the '70s. Others whisper about local fishermen experimenting with wooden planks even earlier. What's clear is this: the surfboards came, and everything changed. From bamboo rafts to soft tops, the tools evolved — but the sea stayed the same. In a place without a fixed starting point, your first wave becomes part of the ongoing myth.

## Desert Point was first ridden on single fins

Desert Point was surfed in the early 1980s by traveling surfers using single fins and early thrusters. The initial wave-riders, often Australian, brought whatever boards they had — and at that time, many were still riding single fins. The wave's structure also naturally favors a clean, down-the-line style suited to single fins.

## "Signs You're Surfing in Indonesia"

The Warung auntie knows your board better than your friends. Tropical rain feels warmer than your shower. And you will start craving rice at 9am.

*Waves Speak Sasak: Surfing Through Local Eyes.* To the Sasak people, the sea isn't a playground — it's a provider, a presence. Surfing here, you're entering their space. Listen closely: waves don't just break, they communicate. They speak of patience, strength, unpredictability. A good surf session isn't just about standing up — it's about understanding what the water is trying to tell you. In Lombok, surfing is a form of listening





There's an Unnamed Break That Locals Call "Training Ground" — But It's Not on Any Map

Just east of Gerupuk, there's a small reef with a clean shoulder and forgiving drop that surf instructors use to train future local surf guides — but they rarely take tourists there. It's protected, quiet, and breaks best when the tide is doing "nothing," which most people would write off. If you're ever invited, it's a silent compliment — you're being let in on the next generation's classroom.

# LOMBOK WHERE SPEAK WAVES SASAK

Desert Point Was Kept Secret for Over a Decade. One of the best left-hand barrels in the world — Desert Point (Bangko-Bangko) — was surfed in near-total secrecy during the 1980s. Those who discovered it camped in the dust, shared no photos, and swore each other to silence, keeping it off the radar until the '90s. Even today, it's still considered a pilgrimage spot for advanced surfers.





# LOMBOK SURF SLANG (DON'T) LEARN AT YOUR RISK

## BAGUS SEKALI

Literal meaning: Very good!

Surf usage: When someone gets a good ride — "Bagus sekali, brother!"

## GROM / GROMMET

Young local surfers — often seen ripping - cheer up one another. Used by both locals and foreigners.

## SET DATANG

Meaning: The set is coming!

Local instructors or boat drivers shout this to warn or hype up students when a solid set approaches.

## SANTAI AJA, BRO

Translation: Just relax, bro.

This is a Lombok surf philosophy — go slow, follow the rhythm, don't rush the wave. Often used when people get anxious or aggressive in the lineup.

## BOAT DROP

Refers to the common practice in Lombok where surfers get dropped directly into the lineup by boat.

## REEF CUT BADGE

Joking term for injuries caused by the reef — a rite of passage. If someone shows up with bandaged feet or legs, locals might say: "Ah, first reef cut badge, ya?"

## NASI CAMPUR RECOVERY

Surf slang for the post-session meal — a cheap, delicious mixed rice plate (nasi campur). It's a daily ritual for many surfers in Kuta.

## GERUPUK INSIDE EXPRESS

Teasing name for the fast boat ride to Gerupuk Inside. Known for beginners flying over chop, wide-eyed, holding onto foamies.

## TUBE OR TOMB

Common phrase around Desert Point. Ride the barrel clean — or get destroyed. It's used jokingly, but everyone knows it's true.

JUMAT,  
25 AUGUSTUS 9 - 12 PM MARSHALL OM



*Thank you.*

[Enjoy Lombok Consciously]

**marsh  
mellow**

SURF & WELLNESS

[www.marshmellowsurf.com](http://www.marshmellowsurf.com)  
[instagram.com/marshmellowsurf](https://www.instagram.com/marshmellowsurf)