

Essential Checklist for Families Moving to Bali

Checklist only (from Tipi Estate article). Print-friendly.

1. Define Your Setup and Budget

- Define family needs, work situation, and location preferences
- Download budgeting tool and create realistic monthly expense plan
- Decide on timeline (trial year vs. long-term commitment)

Estimated Budget: \$0 (planning phase)

2. Visa Requirements

- Choose between B211A (trial) or KITAS (long-term) based on commitment level
- Start visa applications 2-3 months before departure
- Arrange legal agency support through Tipi Estate referrals

Estimated Budget: \$150-250 per person (B211A) or \$500-1,500 per person (KITAS setup)

3. Housing

- Research and visit preferred neighborhoods (Canggu, Ubud, Sanur, or Uluwatu)
- Decide rent vs. buy based on commitment timeline
- Schedule property tours with Tipi Estate for personalized guidance

Estimated Budget: \$800-2,500/month (rental) or \$150,000-500,000+ (purchase)

4. Insurance Coverage

- Secure comprehensive health insurance with \$500K+ coverage and evacuation
- Arrange property insurance if purchasing real estate
- Get vehicle insurance for any motorbikes or cars

Estimated Budget: \$2,000-6,000/year (health) + \$200-500/year (property) + \$50-800/year (vehicles)

5. Transportation

- Obtain International Driving Permit from home country before departure
- Decide vehicle needs (motorbike, car, or driver service)
- Budget for purchase or monthly rental based on timeline

Estimated Budget: \$50-500/month (rental) or \$600-20,000 (purchase) + \$20-50 (IDP)

6. Education

- Research and visit international schools matching your curriculum preferences
- Submit applications 6-12 months before intended start date
- Factor school location into housing decisions for commute times

Estimated Budget: \$5,000-25,000+ per child per year (international schools)

7. Employment and Income

- Secure remote work arrangement or sufficient savings before moving
- Research business setup requirements if planning entrepreneurial venture
- Network within expat community for employment connections if needed

Estimated Budget: \$0 (remote work) or \$3,000-10,000+ (business setup costs)

8. Bringing Pets

- Start pet import paperwork process 3-4 months before move
- Secure required microchip, vaccinations, and health certificates
- Consider specialized pet relocation service for stress-free transport

Estimated Budget: \$500-2,000 (documentation, transport, and relocation services)

9. Daily Essentials

- Set up Indonesian SIM card and home internet upon arrival
- Keep home bank account active and set up Wise for transfers
- Join key Facebook and WhatsApp community groups for support

Estimated Budget: \$20-50/month (mobile and internet)

10. The Test Year Approach - ESTATE -

- Arrange sabbatical or flexible work arrangement for trial year
- Commit to renting and using flexible visa for first 12 months
- Evaluate experience thoroughly before making permanent commitments

Estimated Budget: Minimal upfront commitment; evaluate total costs during trial year