



## Tour in Mid Bali



**PURA TAMAN AYUN** literally translates as 'beautiful garden' and is generally regarded as one of the most attractive temples of Bali. Taman Ayun is a Unesco protected site and situated in a beautiful park with trees and ponds, near the village of Mengwi in the south of Bali, southwest of Ubud and 18 km northwest of Denpasar. Pura Taman Ayun was built in 1634 by the Raja of Mengwi, I Gusti Agung Putu. It is a so called 'Pura Kawiten' or family temple, a special temple where the deified ancestors of the Raja Dynasty of Mengwi and important gods of other temples are honored.

Idea for lunch: "Pacung Indah" on the big road to Bedugul.

### **GUNUNG BATUKARU**

sometimes spelled **Batukau**, is Bali's second-highest mountain at 2,276 m. It is the highest peak in the [Bedugul](#) volcanic area, but is dormant.

Batukaru is worshipped by the Balinese, and has a temple, [Pura Luhur Batukaru](#), devoted to it. Batukaru has a large crater, the largest on Bali, but this crater is open at the southern end, allowing the river [Mawa](#) to escape. It is this that gives it the name "Batukaru", which means "coconut shell" in Balinese.



Once you enter the **JATILUWIH** area you have to pay a small entrance fee and continue to drive to see what looks like a painting... Verdant rice terraces as far as the eye can see. Some call these rice terraces the most beautiful in Bali. It's hard to imagine that these rice fields are made by hand. They were created in this way because land became scarce and the Balinese were urged to divide land into several patches of land leading into a close organization among the farmers called the "[subak](#)".

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