



BADAN PROMOSI PARIWISATA NUSA TENGGARA BARAT

Jalan Puring No. 18 Mataram Lombok Nusa Tenggara Barat

NTB Muslim-Friendly Travel Guide

**A Practical Guide to Exploring Lombok & Sumbawa with
Comfort and Confidence**

**Made by:
Tourism Promotion Board of West Nusa Tenggara
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Overview

Travel with ease. Stay true to your values.

West Nusa Tenggara, or **NTB**, is one of Indonesia's destinations that places strong emphasis on the needs and comfort of Muslim travellers.

Across Lombok and Sumbawa, travellers can enjoy beautiful beaches, mountains, villages, culinary experiences, cultural heritage, adventure and world-class events while continuing to observe their daily prayers and enjoy halal food.

However, **Muslim-Friendly Tourism does not mean that every destination or tourism business provides exactly the same facilities.**

The availability of mosques, prayer rooms, halal food, ablution facilities, qibla information, sanitation and hotel services can vary from one location to another.

That is why this guide is designed to help you **plan and enjoy your journey through NTB with greater ease and confidence.**



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1. What Does Muslim-Friendly Tourism Mean?

Muslim-Friendly Tourism is a tourism approach that considers the needs and preferences of Muslim travellers throughout their journey.

These needs may include:

- Halal food
- Mosques and prayer rooms
- Ablution facilities
- Qibla direction information
- Convenient access to prayer
- Clean and hygienic facilities
- Muslim-friendly accommodation
- Clear information about Muslim-friendly services
- A welcoming and inclusive travel environment

Importantly, **Muslim-Friendly Tourism does not mean tourism exclusively for Muslims.**

It is an inclusive approach designed to make travel more comfortable for Muslim visitors while welcoming travellers of all backgrounds.

Indonesia Travel describes Muslim-friendly destinations as places that consider Muslim travellers' needs, including prayer facilities, halal food, ablution facilities and qibla information. ([Indonesia Travel](#))



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2. Why Is NTB Muslim-Friendly?

Lombok and Sumbawa have a strong connection with Muslim culture and everyday Islamic life.

Mosques and prayer facilities are an integral part of many communities, towns and villages throughout the province.

The Government of West Nusa Tenggara has also developed a broader Muslim-friendly tourism ecosystem through tourism policies, infrastructure development, destination management, human-resource development and collaboration with tourism businesses and local communities.

NTB's commitment has received national recognition through the **Indonesia Muslim Travel Index (IMTI)**.

In 2025, NTB was among Indonesia's five leading Muslim-friendly tourism destinations and received the **Special Recognition Award for Setting a Global Benchmark in Muslim Friendly Tourism and Sport**.

This reflects an ongoing effort to make Muslim-friendly tourism part of the province's wider tourism development.



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3. Before You Travel: Plan Ahead

A comfortable journey begins before you arrive.

Find nearby mosques and prayer rooms

Before visiting a destination, check where you can pray.

Digital maps can be very useful. Search for:

Mosque / Masjid / Musholla / Prayer Room

For remote destinations, it is especially important to check in advance.

Keep prayer times in mind

When planning your itinerary, don't only ask:

“What time will we arrive?”

Also ask:

“Where can we pray when we are there?”

A little planning can make a big difference.

Pack a few essentials

For outdoor activities, consider bringing:

- Travel prayer mat
- Prayer clothing
- Sarong
- Waterproof bag
- Water bottle
- Prayer-time app
- Qibla app or compass

Compact travel prayer equipment can be especially useful when exploring beaches, islands and mountain areas.



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4. Halal Food in NTB

Food is one of the best ways to experience Lombok and Sumbawa.

For Muslim travellers, halal food is an important part of the journey.

The good news is that halal culinary traditions are deeply connected to the local culture of NTB.

From traditional warungs to restaurants and hotels, visitors can discover a wide variety of local dishes.

Local specialties to try



Sate Rembiga

A famous Lombok beef satay seasoned with a rich combination of spices, offering a savoury and distinctly spicy flavour.



Ayam Rarang

Chicken cooked with Lombok's signature fiery chilli and spice blend.



Sate Bulayak

Grilled meat served with *bulayak*, a traditional rice-based food wrapped in young palm leaves.



Singang

A traditional Sumbawa fish dish prepared with a fragrant and richly spiced broth.



Ayam Taliwang

One of Lombok's most famous culinary icons.

How Can You Check Whether Food Is Halal?

Don't rely solely on the name of a dish.

When visiting an unfamiliar restaurant:

1. Look for halal certification

If available, check for an official halal certification mark.



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2. Ask the restaurant

You can simply say:

“Is this restaurant halal?”

or:

“Is this food halal?”

3. Ask about ingredients

If you have specific dietary requirements, ask about the ingredients and preparation process.

4. Choose recommended establishments

Your hotel, tour guide or local tourism provider may be able to recommend suitable places to eat.

Halal products and certification are among the aspects considered in the development and assessment of Muslim-friendly tourism in NTB.



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5. Praying While Travelling

You do not need to stop exploring simply because it is prayer time.

Mosques are an important part of everyday life across Lombok and Sumbawa, and many communities have easy access to local prayer facilities.

However, facilities can be more limited in remote natural attractions and small islands.

So remember:

Before leaving

Check where the nearest mosque or prayer room is located.

When planning your itinerary

Allow sufficient time for prayer.

During long journeys

Plan a suitable stop where prayer facilities are available.

When joining a tour

Let your guide or tour operator know that prayer times are important to you.

A simple conversation can make your itinerary much more comfortable.



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6. Muslim-Friendly Places to Explore

Several destinations in NTB have been part of the province's Muslim-friendly tourism development and assessment programs.

You can explore the NTB's Muslim-Friendly Travel Destination in the link:

<https://visitntb.com/destination-type/muslim-friendly/>

Some of NTB's Muslim Friendly Travel Destination:

Islamic Center NTB — Mataram

One of the most recognizable Muslim landmarks in West Nusa Tenggara.

The Islamic Center is an important religious, cultural and architectural landmark in Mataram.

Its distinctive architecture and **Asmaul Husna Tower** have made it one of the city's most recognizable attractions.

It is also an excellent place to experience another dimension of Lombok — its spiritual and cultural identity.

The Islamic Center was among the locations visited during the 2025 IMTI assessment.

Mandalika

Mandalika offers an exciting combination of:

- Beaches
- Resorts
- Culinary experiences
- Local culture
- Motorsport
- International events

The area is home to **Masjid Nurul Bilad**, an important prayer facility within the Mandalika tourism area.

During the 2025 IMTI site visit, the assessment team reviewed Muslim-friendly facilities in Mandalika, including the mosque and its supporting facilities.



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You can spend the morning on the beach, enjoy local food for lunch, explore the coastline in the afternoon and watch the sunset — while still making time for prayer.

Bilebante Green Tourism Village

Bilebante provides a fascinating example of how Muslim-friendly tourism can work together with **community-based tourism**.

Visitors can experience:

- Village life
- Agriculture
- Local cuisine
- Herbal gardens
- Cycling
- Wellness experiences
- Local products
- Community activities

Bilebante has been highlighted as a pilot Muslim-friendly tourism village and was included among the destinations assessed during the 2025 IMTI program.

It offers an opportunity to experience Lombok beyond its famous beaches.

Bayan

Bayan offers a different perspective on Lombok.

Here, visitors can discover the history, traditions and cultural heritage of the Sasak people.

One of the area's most important landmarks is **Bayan Beleq Mosque**, a historic mosque and an important part of Lombok's cultural heritage.

Bayan demonstrates how Islamic history, local traditions and community life have evolved together over generations.

When visiting cultural and religious sites, always respect local customs and the people who use these places for worship.



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7. Choosing Muslim-Friendly Accommodation

When booking accommodation, don't only consider price, location and views.

Consider the facilities that are important to you.

Before booking, you may want to ask:

Does the hotel serve halal food?

Is there a mosque or prayer room nearby?

Is the qibla direction indicated in the room?

Are ablution facilities available?

Does the hotel's restaurant have halal certification?

Can the hotel assist with Muslim-friendly requirements?

Different travellers have different needs.

Choosing accommodation that understands Muslim travellers can make your holiday significantly easier.



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8. Enjoying NTB's Beaches

NTB is famous for its spectacular beaches.

From Senggigi and Mandalika to Tanjung Aan, Selong Belanak and countless beaches across Lombok and Sumbawa, there is no shortage of places to enjoy the sea.

For Muslim travellers:

Dress appropriately

Choose beachwear that suits your personal preferences while respecting local customs and the environment.

Check available facilities

Not every beach has the same level of facilities.

Plan prayer times

If you are spending an entire day at the beach, identify the nearest mosque or prayer facility beforehand.

Keep the beach clean

Take your rubbish with you and help protect NTB's coastline.



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9. Island Hopping & Marine Adventures

NTB is a paradise for ocean lovers.

Snorkelling, diving, island hopping, fishing and other marine activities are available across Lombok and Sumbawa.

For Muslim travellers, a little extra preparation can make boat trips easier.

Practical tips:

Bring a travel prayer mat.

Keep your prayer equipment in a waterproof bag.

Ask your boat operator about the total journey time.

Plan prayer times before departure.

For longer journeys, ask whether the itinerary includes a stop on an island or mainland area with prayer facilities.

When travelling to smaller islands, never assume that a mosque or prayer room will be available.

Plan ahead.



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10. Hiking & Adventure

NTB is also an extraordinary destination for adventure.

The province is home to **Mount Rinjani**, one of Indonesia's most iconic mountains, as well as Mount Tambora in Sumbawa.

For activities such as trekking and multi-day hiking, Muslim-friendly facilities may be more limited than in urban areas.

Before beginning your adventure:

- Check the complete itinerary
- Identify overnight or camping locations
- Ask about water availability
- Consider prayer times
- Bring suitable prayer equipment
- Inform your guide about your needs

For multi-day trekking, discuss your prayer and food requirements with your tour operator before departure.



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11. Visiting NTB During Ramadan

Ramadan offers a unique way to experience Lombok and Sumbawa.

Daily life takes on a different rhythm, and visitors may encounter:

- Ramadan markets
- Traditional iftar food
- Local takjil
- Tarawih prayers
- Community activities
- Religious traditions
- Special Ramadan experiences

Community-based destinations such as Bilebante have developed Ramadan experiences combining village activities, local food, nature, breaking the fast and spiritual experiences.

Tips for travelling during Ramadan

If you visit NTB during Ramadan:

- Respect people who are fasting
- Check restaurant opening hours
- Plan your iftar
- Expect some businesses to have different daytime hours
- Consider visiting attractions before sunset
- Reserve popular iftar restaurants in advance

Travelling during Ramadan can become one of the most memorable ways to experience the local culture.



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12. Dress & Respect Local Culture

Lombok and Sumbawa have rich cultural traditions.

Visitors are warmly welcomed, but respecting local customs is important.

When visiting:

- Mosques
- Traditional villages
- Cultural sites
- Residential communities
- Religious events

dress respectfully and follow local guidelines.

When entering a mosque, follow the rules regarding clothing, footwear and areas accessible to visitors.

If you are unsure:

Ask your guide or a local resident.

A respectful traveller is always a welcome traveller.



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13. Visiting Mosques & Religious Sites

Mosques in NTB are not simply tourist attractions.

Many are living places of:

- Worship
- History
- Architecture
- Culture
- Education
- Community life

Examples include the Islamic Center NTB and Bayan Beleq Mosque.

When visiting religious sites:

Respect people who are praying.

Avoid speaking loudly.

Do not photograph people praying without permission.

Follow the rules of the site.

Dress appropriately.

Remember that you are visiting a place of worship, not simply an attraction.



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14. Useful Questions for Muslim Travellers

Don't hesitate to ask.

Here are some simple phrases that may be useful during your journey.

At a restaurant

"Is this food halal?"

"Does this restaurant have halal certification?"

At a hotel

"Is there a prayer room nearby?"

"Is the qibla direction indicated in the room?"

Asking a guide

"Where is the nearest mosque?"

"Can we stop for prayer?"

"Is there a halal restaurant nearby?"

Most tourism professionals will understand these simple requests.



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15. Muslim-Friendly Travel Checklist

Before Leaving Your Hotel

- ☐ Check prayer times
- ☐ Locate a mosque or prayer room at your destination
- ☐ Bring your travel prayer mat
- ☐ Check food options
- ☐ Keep your prayer equipment easily accessible
- ☐ Review your itinerary

Before Outdoor Activities

- ☐ Ask how long the activity will take
 - ☐ Check toilet and water facilities
 - ☐ Inform your guide about prayer requirements
 - ☐ Prepare suitable prayer equipment
 - ☐ Confirm the food and beverages provided
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16. Planning Your Muslim-Friendly Journey

Here are some examples of how you can structure a Muslim-friendly trip in NTB.

One Day in Mataram

Morning

Islamic Center NTB



Explore Mataram



Lunch

Enjoy local Lombok cuisine



Prayer



Afternoon

Explore local shops and creative products



Evening

Enjoy Lombok cuisine and the atmosphere of Mataram

One Day in Mandalika

Morning

Beach and marine activities



Lunch

Local culinary experience



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Prayer



Explore Mandalika



Afternoon

Tanjung Aan / Merese Hill



Sunset



Evening

Dinner

Village & Culture Experience

Morning

Bilebante Green Tourism Village



Village activities



Local culinary experience



Midday

Prayer



Explore local culture and community businesses



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Afternoon

Enjoy the rural landscape



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17. Muslim-Friendly Does Not Mean You Have to Stay Only in “Halal Places”

Muslim-Friendly Tourism is about **making travel easier** — not limiting your experience.

You can still:

- Surf
- Dive
- Snorkel
- Hike
- Cycle
- Ride
- Explore villages
- Relax on beaches
- Attend motorsport events
- Shop
- Experience local culture
- Enjoy nature

The key is simply to plan your journey so that your essential needs can still be met.

That is what makes Muslim-Friendly Tourism different.

It is about enabling travel — not restricting it.



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18. Be a Responsible Muslim Traveller

Being a good Muslim traveller also means being a responsible traveller.

While visiting NTB:

Keep it clean

Do not leave rubbish on beaches, mountains, villages or tourist sites.

Respect local culture

Not every local tradition will be the same as your own.

Take the time to understand and appreciate cultural differences.

Respect local communities

Ask permission before photographing people, especially in private or religious settings.

Support local businesses

Buy local products, eat local food and support community-based tourism.

Protect the environment

Use water responsibly and reduce single-use plastic whenever possible.

Respect places of worship

Remember that mosques and religious sites are living places of worship, not simply tourist attractions.



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19. One Important Thing to Remember

Muslim-friendly facilities can vary from one destination to another.

Urban areas, major hotels, airports, shopping centres and established tourism destinations generally offer easier access to facilities.

Remote natural attractions, small islands, rural villages and trekking routes may have more limited facilities.

So always remember:

Check. Plan. Ask. Enjoy.

Check the facilities before you go.

Plan around your needs.

Ask your guide, hotel or tourism provider.

Then simply:

Enjoy your journey.

NTB Muslim-Friendly Travel at a Glance

Your Need	What You Can Expect
Prayer	Mosques and prayer facilities are widely available in many areas
Halal Food	A strong local halal culinary tradition and growing availability of certified halal products
Qibla	Available in some hotels and accommodation facilities
Ablution	Available at mosques and selected facilities
Accommodation	A wide range of hotels, resorts, villas and homestays



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Your Need	What You Can Expect
Destinations	Beaches, mountains, villages, cultural sites, islands and adventure
Culture	Strong Muslim cultural identity and welcoming local communities
Local Cuisine	Ayam Taliwang, Sate Rembiga, Sate Bulayak, Ayam Rarang, Singang and more
Ramadan	Special Ramadan experiences, markets, iftar and community activities
Hospitality	Tourism businesses and communities increasingly embracing Muslim-friendly services

Your Journey. Your Faith. Your NTB.

You don't have to choose between **travelling freely** and **staying comfortable with your faith**.

In West Nusa Tenggara, you can experience spectacular beaches, mountains, culture, cuisine, adventure and local hospitality while continuing to observe your daily religious needs.

From Mataram to Mandalika.

From Senggigi to Bayan.

From Rinjani to Sumbawa.

From the beaches to traditional villages.

NTB welcomes you.



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Explore freely.

Travel comfortably.

Stay true to your values.

Welcome to West Nusa Tenggara.

Your Muslim-Friendly Destination in Indonesia.

Useful Resources

For more information about Muslim-friendly destinations and tourism services in NTB, visitors can refer to the official **Muslim-Friendly Tourism** information provided by the West Nusa Tenggara Tourism and Creative Economy Office.

Tourism Promotion Board of West Nusa Tenggara Official Website:

<https://visitntb.com/>

<https://visitntb.com/muslim-friendly-tourism-in-ntb/>

<https://visitntb.com/destination-type/muslim-friendly/>

NTB Tourism & Creative Economy Office — Muslim-Friendly Tourism

<https://lomboksumbawatourism.ntbprov.go.id/wisata-ramah-muslim/>

For general information about Muslim-friendly travel in Indonesia, visitors can also explore the official **Indonesia Travel** resources.

Indonesia Travel — Muslim-Friendly Travel

<https://www.indonesia.travel/id/id/muslim-friendly-travel/attraction>