

Besakih Temple

Location: Indonesia

Besakih Temple, also known as Pura Besakih, is the largest and most important Hindu temple complex in Bali, Indonesia. It is located on the slopes of Mount Agung, the highest volcano in Bali, and consists of more than 80 individual temples. The history of Besakih Temple dates back to the 8th century when the first Hindu priest arrived in Bali from Java. The temple complex was built over the centuries by successive Balinese kingdoms, with the most significant expansions occurring during the 14th century when the Majapahit Empire conquered Bali. The complex was damaged by several earthquakes in the 20th century, including a major eruption of Mount Agung in 1963 that destroyed several temples and damaged others. However, the complex was gradually restored and expanded, and today it remains an important center of Hindu worship and pilgrimage. Besakih Temple is considered to be the mother temple of Bali and is regarded as one of the most sacred places on the island. It is dedicated to the Hindu trinity of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva, as well as the deified ancestors of the Balinese people. The temple complex is organized around a series of courtyards and

terraces, with the main temple located at the highest point of the complex. The architecture of the temple is a blend of Balinese and Javanese styles, with distinctive pagoda-like towers and multi-tiered roofs. Visitors to Besakih Temple can explore the various temples and shrines within the complex, as well as take in panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.