

## Komodo Island

### **Location: Indonesia**

Komodo Island is part of the Lesser Sunda chain of islands in Indonesia and is known for being the natural habitat of the Komodo dragon, the world's largest lizard. The island has a fascinating history dating back thousands of years, with evidence of human habitation and cultural influences from different groups. The earliest evidence of human activity on Komodo Island dates back to around 4,000 years ago, with archaeological finds indicating that the island was once inhabited by ancient maritime societies. The island is also believed to have been an important trading center in the region due to its strategic location. In the 14th century, Komodo Island and the surrounding islands were part of the Majapahit Empire, a powerful Hindu-Buddhist kingdom that dominated much of Indonesia. Later, the island came under the control of the Sultanate of Bima and the Kingdom of Sumbawa. During the Dutch colonial period, Komodo Island was part of the Dutch East Indies. The Dutch conducted research and expeditions to the island, including the famous Komodo Expedition in 1910, which led to the discovery and naming of the Komodo dragon. Today, Komodo Island is part of the

Komodo National Park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which was established in 1980 to protect the unique flora and fauna of the island. The island remains a popular destination for visitors who want to see the Komodo dragon and explore the island's natural beauty and rich cultural heritage.

