

= Kampoeng Rawa =

Kampoeng Rawa (alternatively Kampung Rawa , both Indonesian for " Swamp Hamlet ") is a tourist attraction in Ambarawa , Central Java , located within the green belt around Lake Rawa Pening . Opened in August 2012 , it is owned and operated by twelve groups of farmers and fishermen who were funded by the Artha Prima Credit Union . It is intended to improve the welfare of local farmers and fishermen while promoting an understanding of the lake 's ecology . Facilities include a floating restaurant , pendopo , crafts centre , fishing area , and docks . During holidays the site may be visited by several thousand people . It has been challenged for its lack of permission to build in the green belt and the possible ecological impact .

= = Location and facilities = =

Kampoeng Rawa is located at Kilometer 3 of the South Ring Road in Ambarawa , Semarang , Central Java , a road used for travel between Yogyakarta and Semarang that was opened in 2012 . Administratively , the complex is part of the Bejalen Hamlet . The complex is situated in the middle of many rice paddies and borders Lake Rawa Pening . From the site visitors have a view of Mount Merbabu and Mount Telomoyo , both to the south .

The 300 @-@ seat restaurant at Kampoeng Rawa floats in a small lake and serves Indonesian dishes using locally produced ingredients , including catfish , gourami , and tilapia . Dishes included nasi goreng and mie goreng . Customers can sit in the main hall or one of the floating gazebos . All are floated by plastic drums , and to reach the main hall customers must use covered boats which are guided by a rope .

In the center of the complex is an open stage , a craft center , and a pendopo for special events . This has included weddings , colouring contests , training sessions , and seminars . A variety of activities and facilities are available onsite , including ATVs , flying fox , jet skis , and fishing . Boats leave from a dock and travel through a canal to Lake Rawa Pening .

= = History = =

The concept for Kampoeng Rawa emerged in 2004 , when a group of farmers and fishermen from the Rawa Pening area received a billion rupiah grant from the Artha Prima Credit Union . They decided to establish a tourist attraction through which they could sell their wares (later extended to include arts and crafts) while raising awareness of and protecting the Rawa Pening ecosystem . In preparation for the 2013 Visit Jateng campaign , in 2011 they began planning a complex which would include culinary tourism and water activities . Artha Prima trained some locals as wait staff , cashiers , and security guards .

Twelve groups of farmers and fishermen , a total of 325 individuals , banded together in the Kampoeng Rawa Association on 4 August 2012 . This group was tasked with managing the new tourist site , which opened , despite construction being incomplete , shortly before Eid al @-@ Fitr (18 ? 19 August) . The site was quickly popular , receiving an average of 2 @,@ 000 visitors a day during the Eid holidays , and became a common location for events held by the local government . In late August 2012 , the cost of entry was Rp . 2 @,@ 500 per person , with an additional parking fee of Rp . 5 @,@ 000 per car , although various activities were extra . During the four @-@ day Eid al @-@ Fitr holiday in 2013 , the attraction received over 14 @,@ 000 visitors .

Controversy over Kampoeng Rawa had developed by late 2012 , when the Water Resource Management Agency declared that the site was illegally located in the green belt around Lake Rawa Pening . In 2013 , the ecologist Sudharto of Diponegoro University stated that the area around Rawa Pening had to be clear of all buildings , otherwise the water flow and ecosystem would be disturbed . It was also found that the permits for the establishment had not been obtained . However , the Regent of Semarang , Sudharto , was supportive of Kampoeng Rawa , stating that the complex not only improved the welfare of the farmers and fishermen , but stopped feuds over the use of rice paddies in the area .

In early 2014 , as part of an incentive to close unlicensed buildings in the regency , police posted notification that the Kampoeng Rawa site was unlicensed . The manager of Kampoeng Rawa , Agus Sumarno , stated that they had tried to gain permission for their buildings , but both the provincial and regional governments had stated that they were unable to issue it . When the police banner later disappeared , there were reports that the site 's management had taken it down , although the management stated that it had fallen under a hard wind . The head of the Semarang Regency Council , Bambang Kusriyanto , stated that he had confirmed Kampoeng Rawa 's management had applied for permission and called for the government to process the request expediently .