Borobudur Temple Compounds

**Borobudur Temple Compounds** is a term used by the [World Heritage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage) designation of the area of three Buddhist temples in [Central Java](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Java), [Indonesia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indonesia). It comprises [Borobudur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borobudur), [Mendut](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendut" \o "Mendut), and [Pawon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pawon" \o "Pawon). These three temples are located in a straight line, and have been considered as being built during the [Shailendra dynasty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shailendra_dynasty" \o "Shailendra dynasty) circa 8th–9th centuries.

Approximately 40 kilometres (25 mi) northwest of [Yogyakarta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yogyakarta_(city)), Borobudur is located in an elevated area between two twin volcanoes, [Sundoro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Sundoro" \o "Mount Sundoro)-[Sumbing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Sumbing) and [Merbabu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Merbabu" \o "Mount Merbabu)-[Merapi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Merapi), and two rivers, the Progo and the Elo. According to local myth, the area known as [Kedu Plain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kedu_Plain" \o "Kedu Plain) is a Javanese ['sacred' place](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Sacred_Places_in_Java) and has been dubbed 'the garden of Java' due to its high [agricultural fertility](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soil_fertility).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borobudur_Temple_Compounds#cite_note-p1-1)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Borobudur_Map_en.svg)

The location of three Buddhist temples - Borobudur, Pawon and Mendut - in one straight line

During the restoration in the early 20th century, it was discovered that three Buddhist temples in the region, Borobudur, [Pawon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pawon" \o "Pawon) and [Mendut](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendut" \o "Mendut), are positioned along a straight line.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borobudur_Temple_Compounds#cite_note-krom-2) It might be accidental, but the temples' alignment is in conjunction with a native [folk tale](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folklore) that a long time ago, there was a brick-paved road from Borobudur to Mendut with walls on both sides. The three temples (Borobudur–Pawon–Mendut) have similar architecture and ornamentation derived from the same time period, which suggests that ritual relationship between the three temples, in order to have formed a sacred unity, must have existed, although exact ritual process is yet unknown.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borobudur_Temple_Compounds#cite_note-moens-3)

## **Museums[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Borobudur_Temple_Compounds&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Museums)]**

There are two museums located within Borobudur Temple Compounds, [Karmawibhangga Museum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karmawibhangga_Museum" \o "Karmawibhangga Museum) and [Samudra Raksa Museum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samudra_Raksa_Museum" \o "Samudra Raksa Museum).

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| * [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/2/22/Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111338.jpg/300px-Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111338.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111338.jpg)   Borobudur Temple     * [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/c7/Mendut_Temple_Afternoon.jpg/342px-Mendut_Temple_Afternoon.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Mendut_Temple_Afternoon.jpg)   Mendut Temple     * [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/8e/Pawon.jpg/283px-Pawon.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pawon.jpg)   Pawon Temple   * [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/44/Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111340.jpg/300px-Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111340.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111340.jpg)   Detail on wall |

## **Other archaeological sites[**[**edit**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Borobudur_Temple_Compounds&action=edit&section=2)**]**

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111359.jpg)

View of Borobudur Temple Compounds

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Borobudur_Temple_Compounds-111336.jpg)

Borobudur Temple Compounds

Besides these three temples, there are other [Buddhist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhist_temple) and [Hindu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindu_temple) temples scattered in the area. The earliest is [Gunung Wukir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunung_Wukir" \o "Gunung Wukir) or Canggal Hindu temple dated 732 CE, according to [Canggal inscription](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canggal_inscription" \o "Canggal inscription) discovered in the temple complex, the Shivaite King [Sanjaya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sri_Sanjaya" \o "Sri Sanjaya) commissioned a [Shivalinga](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shivalinga" \o "Shivalinga) sanctuary to be built on the Wukir hill, only 10 km (6.2 mi) east of Borobudur.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borobudur_Temple_Compounds#cite_note-holing-4) [Ngawen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ngawen" \o "Ngawen) temple located east of Mendut temple. The ruin of Banon temple, a Hindu temple located several hundred meters north of Pawon temple. The ruin of Banon temple is unreconstructable because many stones were missing, however several stone statues of Hindu gods were discovered in good condition in this area. Today the Banon statues of Vishnu, Brahma, Shiva and Ganesha were displayed in [National Museum of Indonesia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Museum_of_Indonesia), [Jakarta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jakarta).