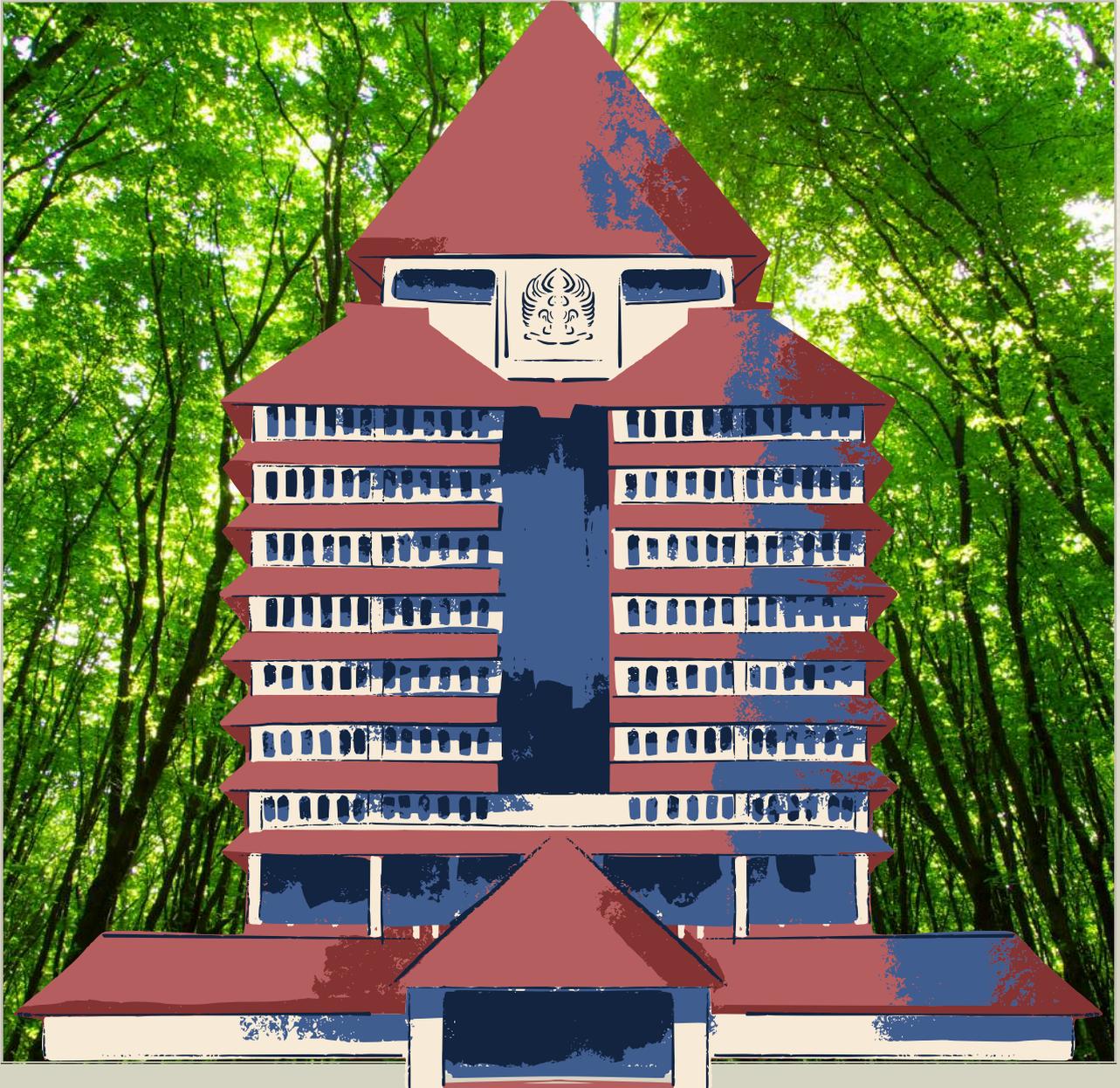


WELCOME TO INDONESIA

FOOD • CULTURE



YELLOW JACKET • UI



BUDDY? *Hello* WHO AND WHAT



WELCOME

Hi, and welcome to this guidebook! I'm so happy you're here 🤍

My name is Nayla Marinlee Auramadina, but you can just call me Marin. Yes, I know it's a long name 😊. I'll be your guide throughout this book, together with my little ducks 🦆 who will help point things out along the way.

I was an UI Buddy in 2024, and my first buddies were Andreas and Dennis. Through that experience, I learned a lot about how exciting (and sometimes confusing!) it can be to start life in a new country. That's why I made this guide: to help make your time at Universitas Indonesia feel a little easier, warmer, and more welcoming.

I'm a Javanese Literature student, so if you're ever curious about Indonesian or Javanese culture; traditions, meanings, etiquette, or everyday life, that's something I genuinely love talking about. Outside of academics, I enjoy many things such as culinary adventures, cosplay, watching movies, playing games, listening to music, theatre, and discovering new experiences in general.

This guidebook was created based on real experiences from exchange students, especially the UDE batch of 2025, and from my time helping international students adapt to life in Indonesia. Think of it as a friendly companion: not too formal, not too complicated, just honest and helpful.

I hope this guide helps you feel more prepared, more comfortable, and maybe even a little excited about your journey here. And who knows, maybe we'll get the chance to be friends too!

Alright, let's get started ✨



FAST *Facts* & ESSENTIALS



LOCATION

Indonesia, officially the Republic of Indonesia, is a country in Southeast Asia and Oceania.



LANGUAGE

Bahasa Indonesia. Has many regional languages such as Javanese, Balinese, and Sundanese.



INTERNET

Free Wi-Fi is common. SIM cards from Telkomsel, XL, EM3.



TRANSPORTATION

Use Ride-hailing apps (car/motorbike)



TIME ZONE

Western Indonesia Time
Time zone in Jakarta (GMT+7)



CURRENCY

The rupiah (symbol: Rp; currency code: IDR) is the official currency of Indonesia.



ELECTRICITY

uses 230V at 50Hz, typically with Type C/F sockets.



VISA

ASEAN: visa-free 30 days max.
Others: apply e-visa online.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN JAKARTA & DEPOK

COMMUTER LINE (KRL)

The Commuter Line (KRL) is the most commonly used public transportation by students in Jakarta and Depok. It is a fast, affordable, and reliable way to travel between cities, especially for daily activities such as going to campus, malls, or central Jakarta.

UI Station

- Universitas Indonesia (UI) Station is located right next to the campus
- From the station, you can walk directly into the UI area
- This makes KRL the easiest option for students living near Depok or Jakarta Selatan

Routes & Coverage

The KRL network connects many important areas, including:

- Depok
- Manggarai (main transit station)
- Sudirman
- Jakarta Kota

You may need to transit at Manggarai Station depending on your destination. Transit is common and safe, but can be crowded during busy hours.



Payment System

To use the Commuter Line, you need:

- e-money card (e.g. Mandiri e-money, BCA Flazz, BRI Brizzi), or
- QRIS-compatible e-wallet (depending on station facilities)

Cards can be purchased and topped up at:

- Train stations
- Convenience stores (Indomaret, Alfamart)
- Banks

 Tip: Always keep some balance on your card before entering the station.

Peak Hours (Rush Hour)

The Commuter Line gets very crowded during:

- Morning: 06.00 – 09.00
- Evening: 16.30 – 19.00

During these times:

- Trains are full
- Standing is common
- Personal space is limited

If possible, try to:

- travel outside peak hours
- use online transport (Gojek/Grab) instead

Despite the crowds, the Commuter Line is an important part of daily life in Jakarta and Depok, and many students rely on it regularly.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN JAKARTA & DEPOK

GOJEK & ONLINE TRANSPORTATION

What Is Gojek?

Gojek is an all-in-one mobile application that allows you to:

- order motorcycle or car rides
- order food
- send packages
- pay digitally
- navigate daily life easily

It is safe, affordable, and widely used across Jakarta and Depok.

Transportation Services in Gojek

GoRide

- Motorcycle taxi
- Faster in traffic
- Cheaper than cars
- Best for short or medium distances

 You will be given a helmet by the driver.

GoCar

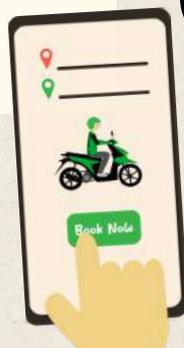
- Car taxi
- More comfortable
- Suitable if you carry luggage or travel in a group
- More expensive than GoRide

How to Order a Ride (Step by Step)

- Download the Gojek app from App Store or Google Play
- Register using your phone number
- Choose a service (GoRide or GoCar)
- Enter your pick-up location
- Enter your destination
- Confirm the order
- Wait for the driver to arrive
- You can chat with the driver inside the app if needed.

WATCH THE TUTORIAL HERE

SCAN HERE



DANA & QRIS (DIGITAL PAYMENTS)

What is QRIS?

QRIS = national QR payment system in Indonesia

Used almost everywhere: cafés, malls, small shops

Recommended e-wallets:

- DANA
- GoPay
- ShopeePay

How to use:

1. Top up via bank or minimarket
2. Scan QR
3. Enter amount
4. Pay



STUDENT NOTE:

“MANY PLACES DON’T ACCEPT CARDS, SO QRIS IS ESSENTIAL.”



Top HOUSING OPTIONS FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

LIPPO PARK VIEW (AT DETOS)



- Popular with international students
- Near malls & food
- Easy Gojek access
- Studio-type apartments

Pros:

- Strategic
- Has many facilities; Pool, Basketball court, and library.
- Can walk to campus

Cons:

- Can be noisy
- Is literally in a mall

SOUTHGATE APARTMENT

- More modern
- At South Jakarta
- Quieter environment
- Good facilities

Pros:

- Comfortable
- Has facilities; Grocery shop, swimming pool, and bus station.

Cons:

- Higher rent
- Slightly farther from campus (has to take a KRL train or Gojek)





TOP MALLS TO HANGOUT IN THE AREA

1.



Margo City
• Hangout place for students

2.



Depok Town Square (DETOS)
• Daily needs

3.



AEON Tanjung Barat
• Japanese-style mall

4.



Grand Indonesia
• Grand Mall in the middle of Jakarta

5.



Central Park
• Famous Mall in Jakarta

FAVE *Food* & RECOMMENDATIONS

Before we start, yes guys we do have Doner Kebab but IT IS NOT THE SAME AS IN GERMANY HAHHAHAH. Germany will always win with their Doner so here are some popular and easy food options you'll often find in malls around UI (Margo, Detos, AEON)

MUST-TRY DISHES

SOLARIA

An Indonesian restaurant that's very popular with students. Recommended: Nasi Goreng



MIXUE

Known for affordable drinks and soft serve. You'll see it everywhere!



STEAK 21

Affordable, filling, and good for casual meals with friends.



PEPPER LUNCH

An international favorite among exchange students.

REDDOG

A tasty Korean-style snack place. Great for quick bites like corndogs and street-style snacks.



SHABUHACHI

An all-you-can-eat restaurant with good-quality ingredients. Great choice if you want to eat together with friends or celebrate something.





LOCAL EATING TIPS & HYGIENE



01 Choose busy spots — fresher food, faster turnover.

02 Avoid raw vegetables if you have a sensitive stomach.



03 Use hand sanitizer before eating.

04 Check the cleanliness of utensils and the dining area.

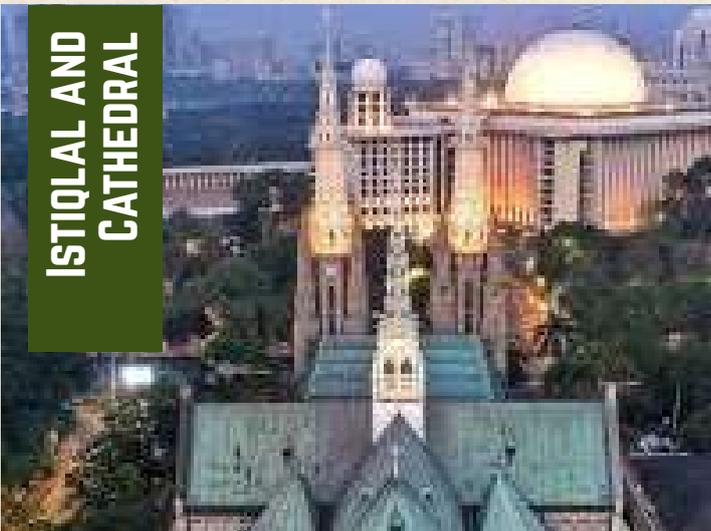


05 Prefer food cooked fresh in front of you or food in malls.

CULTURAL & HISTORICAL *Experiences*

Beyond its bustling streets and bright lights, Jakarta and Depok holds stories of struggle, spirit, and tradition. From mosques that whisper prayers to museums that echo with history, this is where you connect with the city's deeper layers.

ISTIQLAL AND CATHEDRAL



ISTIQLAL MOSQUE

Istiqlal Mosque in Jakarta, Indonesia is the largest mosque in Southeast Asia and the ninth largest mosque in the world in terms of worshipper capacity. The Jakarta Cathedral is located in Central Jakarta near Merdeka Square and Merdeka Palace. The Istiqlal Mosque is located next to the cathedral.

MONAS NATIONAL MONUMENT

The National Monument is a 132 m obelisk in the center of Merdeka Square, Central Jakarta. It is the national monument of the Republic of Indonesia, built to commemorate the struggle for Indonesian independence.

MONAS NATIONAL MONUMENT



KOTA TUA



KOTA TUA

Jakarta's old town, Kota Tua centers on Fatahillah Square, a lively plaza with regular traditional dance shows. The Jakarta History Museum is a Dutch-era building with paintings and antiques, while the Wayang Museum displays Javanese wooden puppets. Glodok village, or Chinatown, is popular for street food like dumplings and fried noodles.

TAMAN MINI INDONESIA INDAH

Taman Mini Indonesia Indah is a culture-based recreational area located in East Jakarta, Indonesia. Since July 2021, it is operated by InJourney Destination Management, a subsidiary of the state-owned tourism holding company InJourney.

TAMAN MINI INDONESIA INDAH



SUDIRMAN CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT



SCBD

SCBD, or Sudirman Central Business District, in Jakarta is a prestigious, modern, mixed-use urban hub in South Jakarta, known as the heart of Indonesia's business and finance, featuring skyscrapers with offices for multinational companies, luxury residences, upscale malls (like Pacific Place), hotels, and vibrant entertainment/nightlife, offering a blend of work, luxury, and lifestyle in the city's Golden Triangle.

BASIC *Bahasa* *Indonesia*

Learn some basic phrases!

BEFORE YOU GO

GREETINGS & POLITENESS

- Hello/Hi: Halo / Hai
- How are you?: Apa kabar?
- I'm fine, thank you: Baik-baik saja, terima kasih
- Thank you: Terima kasih (or Makasih informally)
- You're welcome: Sama-sama
- Please: Tolong (when asking for help) / Silakan (offering something)
- Sorry/Excuse me: Maaf / Permisi

GREETINGS & POLITENESS

- What: Apa
- Where: Di mana
- Who: Siapa
- When: Kapan
- Why: Kenapa or Mengapa
- How: Bagaimana

BASIC QUESTIONS & NEEDS

- What's your name?: Siapa nama kamu/anda?
- My name is...: Nama saya...
- Yes: Ya / Iya
- No: Tidak
- I don't understand: Saya tidak mengerti
- Where is the toilet?: Di mana toilet/kamar mandi?
- How much?: Berapa?



SAFE *Travels* - AND SEE YOU ON YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE!

BUDDY'S GALLERY





SAMPAI KETEMU!

