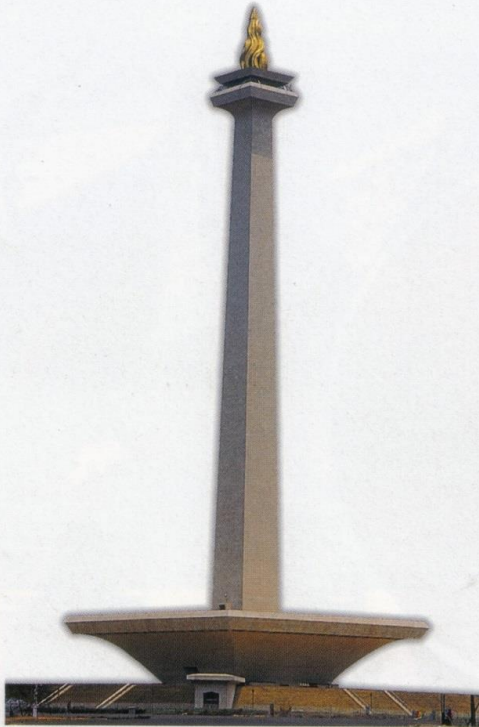
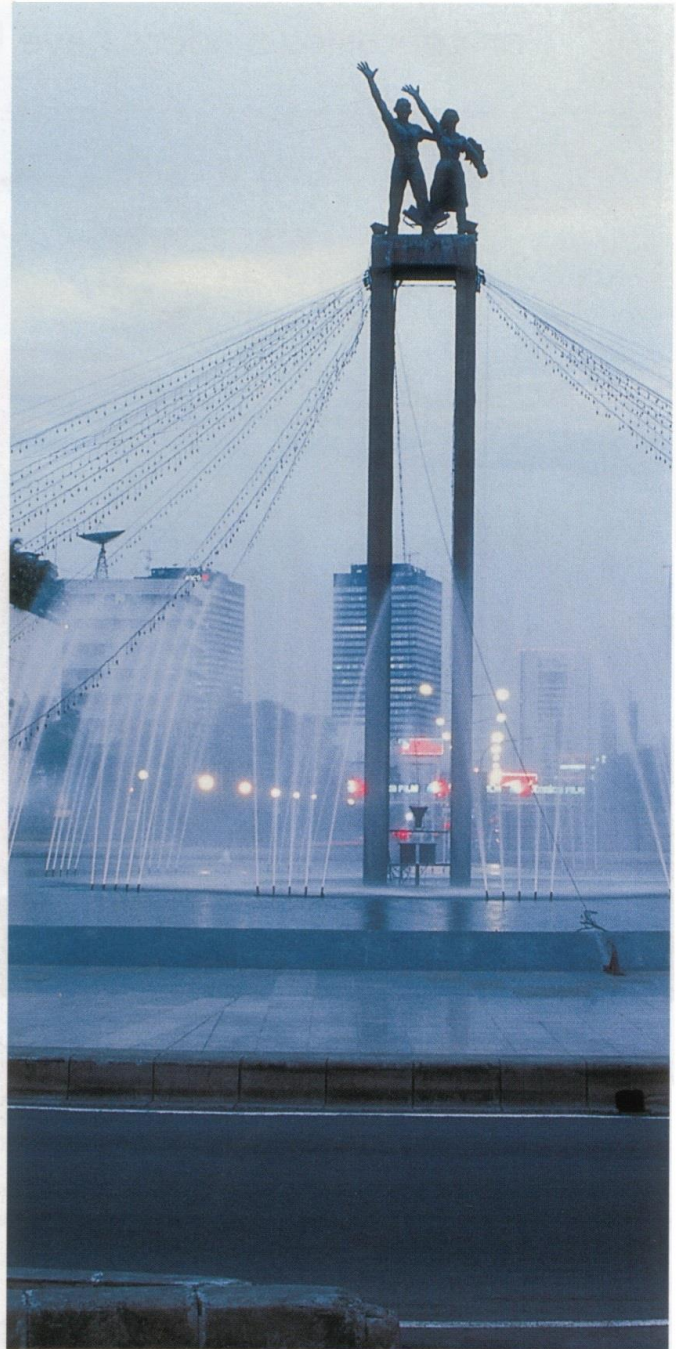


# Jakarta



Jakarta is not just the political and economic capital of Indonesia, although that makes it exciting in itself. It is also the country's shopping hub, by far the best place to dine out, home to a legendary night life scene, and has a people, atmosphere, culture and history all of its own.

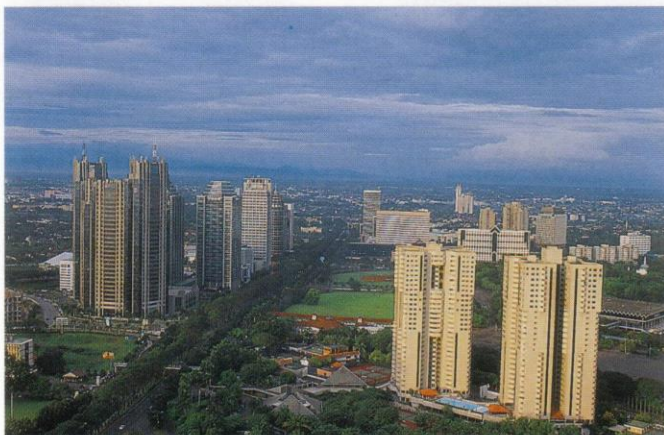
It is home to over nine million people spread over a huge area - the city is bordered by the sea in the north and the cool hills of the Puncak to the south. It is a very busy modern city which also boasts excellent conference facilities and magnificent golf courses, not to mention the wonderful Thousand Islands. For those more interested in the city's colourful past, there are a host of museums, temples and mosques including Istiqlal, the largest place of Muslim worship in South East Asia.



The city was officially founded in 1527 when the harbour town of Sunda Kelapa was renamed Jayakarta (meaning great victory) by the conquering Prince Fatahillah. Less than 100 years later the Dutch East Indies Company captured the town and renamed it Batavia. At the end of World War II, with Indonesia's declaration of independence on 17 August 1945, the city's name was finally changed to Jakarta.

Today, Jakarta is a cosmopolitan city where the best of both the traditional and modern worlds can be found. Whether you are in the city for business or pleasure, there is no shortage of things to do in this





bustling 24-hour Asian metropolis.

Jakarta's most well known landmark, the National Monument (Monas) is located in Merdeka (Freedom) Square in the heart of the city. View the city from the observation deck or visit the base of the monument where a series of dioramas tells the story of Indonesia's history.

North of Monas is the Presidential Palace (Istana Merdeka). Built in 1879 as the residence of Batavia's Dutch Governor General, today it is the official residence of the President. East of Merdeka Square stand three of Jakarta's most prominent religious structures: Istiqlal Mosque, the 19th century Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral and the Dutch Protestant Immanuel Church built between 1835 and 1839.

The most popular sights of historical interest are situated in Kota, the centre of government during Dutch times. Here visitors can learn about the city's history in a number of museums, most in beautiful colonial buildings. The starting point for any trip around Kota has to be the old town square Taman Fatahillah, the site of the old town hall which now houses the Jakarta History Museum.

Opposite stands the beautifully restored Café Batavia, a magnificent structure open all hours and one of the city's more upmarket watering holes. Nearby you can visit the National Museum, the Wayang Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts and Ceramics. Further north on the way to the ancient port of Sunda Kelapa, stop in at the Maritime Museum for a fascinating look at nautical equipment from the colonial period.



Exploring Sunda Kelapa is definitely taking a stroll back through time. Located at the northern end of Jakarta where the Ciliwung River meets the sea, this is the perfect place to set your imagination free as you drink in the sights and sounds of one of the world's last commercial sailing fleets. History reaches out to touch you as you pass by the majestic hand-built Buginese Makassar schooners, swaying gently in the slow moving waters of this ancient harbour. The design of these graceful vessels is centuries old and their proud captains continue to navigate by the stars, following age-old trade routes.

Modern port facilities are absent at Sunda Kelapa. Boats are maneuvered into position by their own crews and the three tons of cargo carried by each ship are loaded and unloaded without the aid of forklifts or cranes. Stevedores, shoulders

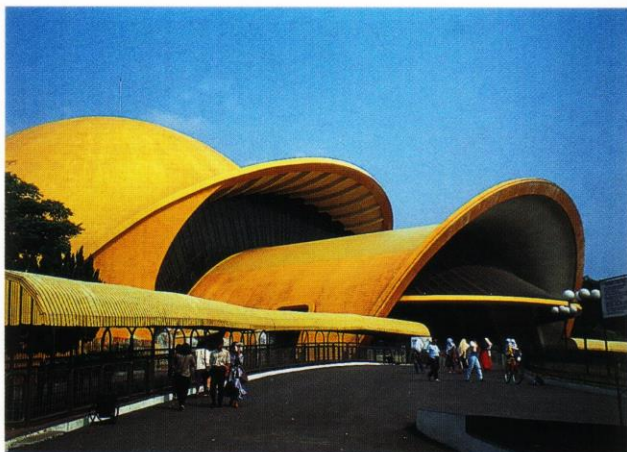




bowed under long lengths of timber, scramble up and down narrow planks in sun and rain carrying the goods off and onboard. Repairmen in small boats float alongside to carry out running repairs as the ships are quickly unloaded and then reloaded, ready to set sail again.

For the epicure in search of delectable delights, the advice is simple; head south. The Kemang area is now established as the fine dining centre of town with the highest density of restaurants representing almost every corner of the globe. From local to Mexican, European, American, Oriental, sports bars, night-clubs, discos and a selection of live music venues to boot, a visit to this part of the city is strongly recommended; head for the Kemang Raya 'boulevard'.

For those in search of something more unique, head for the street



cafés known as 'café tenda' which have sprung up in various places around town. In the CBD area near Semanggi and the Bengkel night park, are a lively cluster of cafés interestingly housed in old double-decker buses and other similarly funky and unique structures; the food is varied and delicious and it's definitely worth trying for an unforgettable local dining experience.

The area around Blok M offers an exciting range of shopping and entertainment options. With several shopping malls, restaurants, and world class hotels, Blok M's the place for dining and entertainment. Night life options also abound with a bunch of lively karaoke bars in the area around Pasar Raya and several western-style bars on Jalan Falatehan, such as the Sportsman's Bar and Oscars.

Just north of Jakarta lie the stunning coral-rich Thousand Islands (Pulau Seribu) easily accessible daily by ferry or boat charters from Ancol Marina. The islands range from wildlife reserves to fully-equipped resorts offering a range of facilities to suit everyone's taste.

#### Places of interest

##### MUSEUMS

**NATIONAL MUSEUM** A large museum with an excellent collection, including a treasure room, ceramics and the skull of Java Man. Established 1778.

**JAKARTA HISTORY MUSEUM** Housed in the old Batavia Town Hall, the museum charts Jakarta's history and features a rich collection of Colonial artifacts.

**MARITIME MUSEUM** Colonial-period nautical equipment and models of sea-going vessels from all over Indonesia on display.

**WAYANG MUSEUM** Features an extensive collection of





hand-crafted wooden and leather wayang puppets from all over Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS AND CERAMICS Exhibits 19th century and contemporary paintings as well as rare ceramics and porcelains.

ABRI SATRIA MANDALA MUSEUM Traces the history of the Indonesian Armed Forces and displays weapons, war planes and other military paraphernalia.

TEXTILE MUSEUM (MAIN MAP) Has a stunning collection of over 320 kinds of textiles from every corner of the country including cotton and silk batik and intricately woven ikat.

### Sights

SUNDA KELAPA Historic port and home to the colourful Bugis schooners.

PASAR IKAN (FISH MARKET) Old harbour-side bazaar (selling more than just fish).

RAGUNAN ZOO Birds, reptiles and beasts from across the country (and world).

JALAN SURABAYA Stall after stall of antiques and other goodies.

TAMAN MINI INDONESIA INDAH Indonesia in miniature theme park. A must see.

PASAR BURUNG (BIRD MARKET) Bright and colourful tropical birds on show.

PASAR BARU A great area for browsing is Pasar Baru. It's one of Jakarta's oldest shopping centres and also now a modern shopping precinct.

Here one can buy almost anything from shoes to umbrellas and from Sony Walkmans to typewriters. There are no vehicles and a good pedestrian pavement runs the entire length of the main thoroughfare.



The wide variety of shops means that virtually anything one needs is available in this area. There are large department stores, small boutiques, fine restaurants and a large supermarket besides the hundreds of smaller shops many of which are highly specialised.

Pasar Baru is the only shopping centre in Jakarta to have a large number of camera shops where the intense competition means plenty of bargains in equipment both new and secondhand.

For clothing, Pasar Baru is just incredible. It caters to everyone, young or old. The large number of high quality tailors have gained Pasar Baru an international reputation both for the excellent workmanship and the fine locally made materials. batiks are popular with Indonesians and foreign visitors, and many unique designs can be found here.





The tree-lined boulevard is a pleasant place to relax and window watch. It is also used to stage free entertainment and special promotions.

Besides regular shops there are hundreds of street vendors selling toys, clothes and trinkets. Prices are pre-set in the large stores but smaller shops and street vendors pursue the art of negotiation.

Haggling for a mutually good price is half the fun of shopping.

Many fine old Dutch colonial buildings are still to be found in the area and one of the most charming is the arts centre which also underwent complete renovation recently. Classical music concerts are held regularly besides other cultural and artistic events. Local newspapers provide information on up and coming performances. Close by is the recently restored old central post office, another example of Dutch colonial architecture.

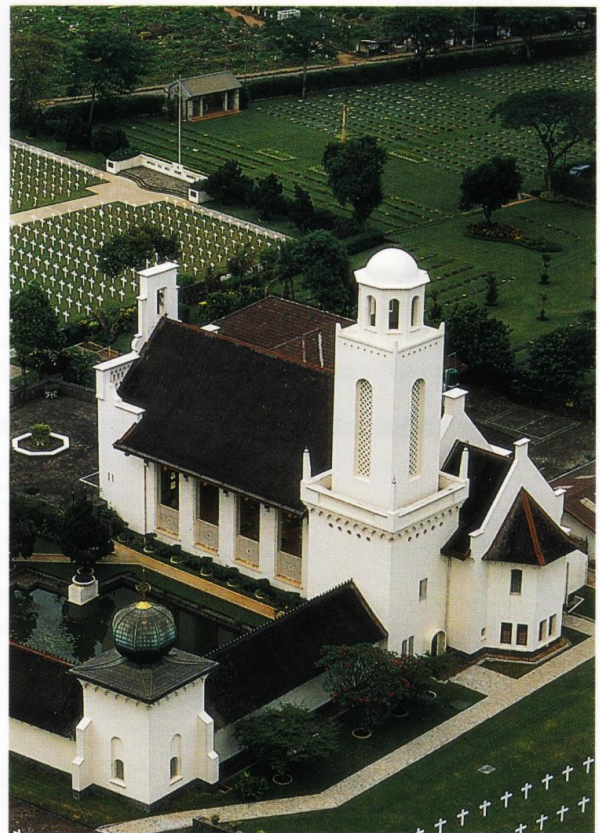
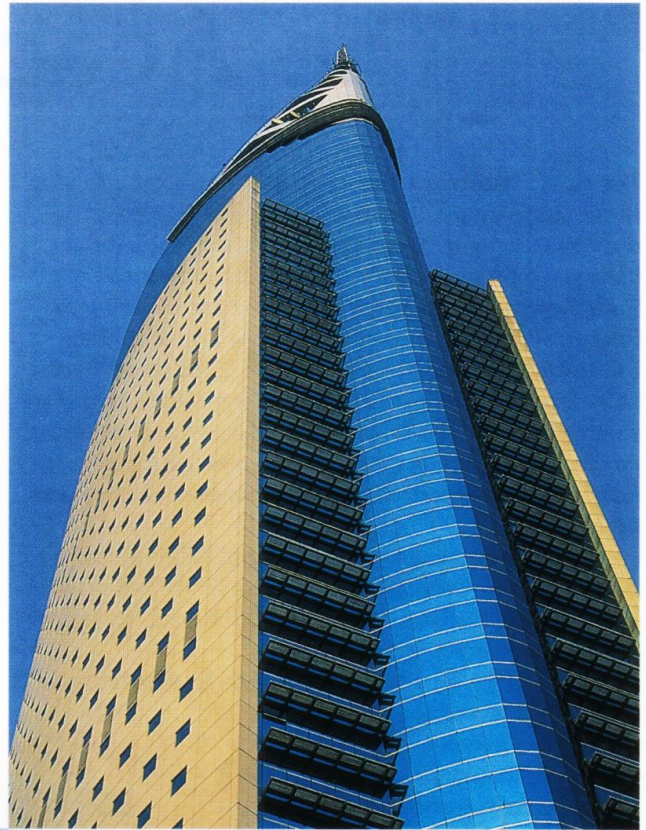
Whatever your pleasure Pasar Baru is a good place to start with its easy accessibility and wide range of shops, air-conditioned department stores and restaurants.

### Jakarta's island get aways

Jakarta is blessed with a fabulous archipelago, Pulau Seribu, the Thousand Islands. They are a very short boat ride away from the Ancol Marina but blissfully light years away in pace and atmosphere.

The islands range in size and development from air-conditioned resorts to thatched-roof bungalows or camping under the stars.

Water-sports enthusiasts in Jakarta leave the city crowds behind and head for the coral reefs, white sand beaches and adventures that abound in Pulau Seribu. Diving and snorkelling are probably the most popular attraction at the islands, followed by lounging around





on the beach with a refreshing drink in hand, of course.

Diving and snorkelling are best done during the dry season (May through October) as the water is at its clearest.

From Ancol Marina it's only a two hour ride to an aquatic fantasy world. The types of boats available to the islands differ from sleek streamlined speedsters to rather slower fishing boats.

Arrangements can be made through any Jakarta travel agent but make sure you get on one of the quicker boats otherwise your transport time might double and, if you only have a day or so, you want to spend every minute you can on the beach.

Your travel agent can also help you select the right resort for you as well. You may prefer to be surrounded in luxury, tropical greenery or adventure in the rough 'n ready style of Robinson Crusoe, camping on the beach. Some of the islands offer karaoke and discos while some only offer 17th century historic colonial remains from the Dutch East Indies Company era. Here's a brief look at some of the bigger resorts and smaller alternatives:

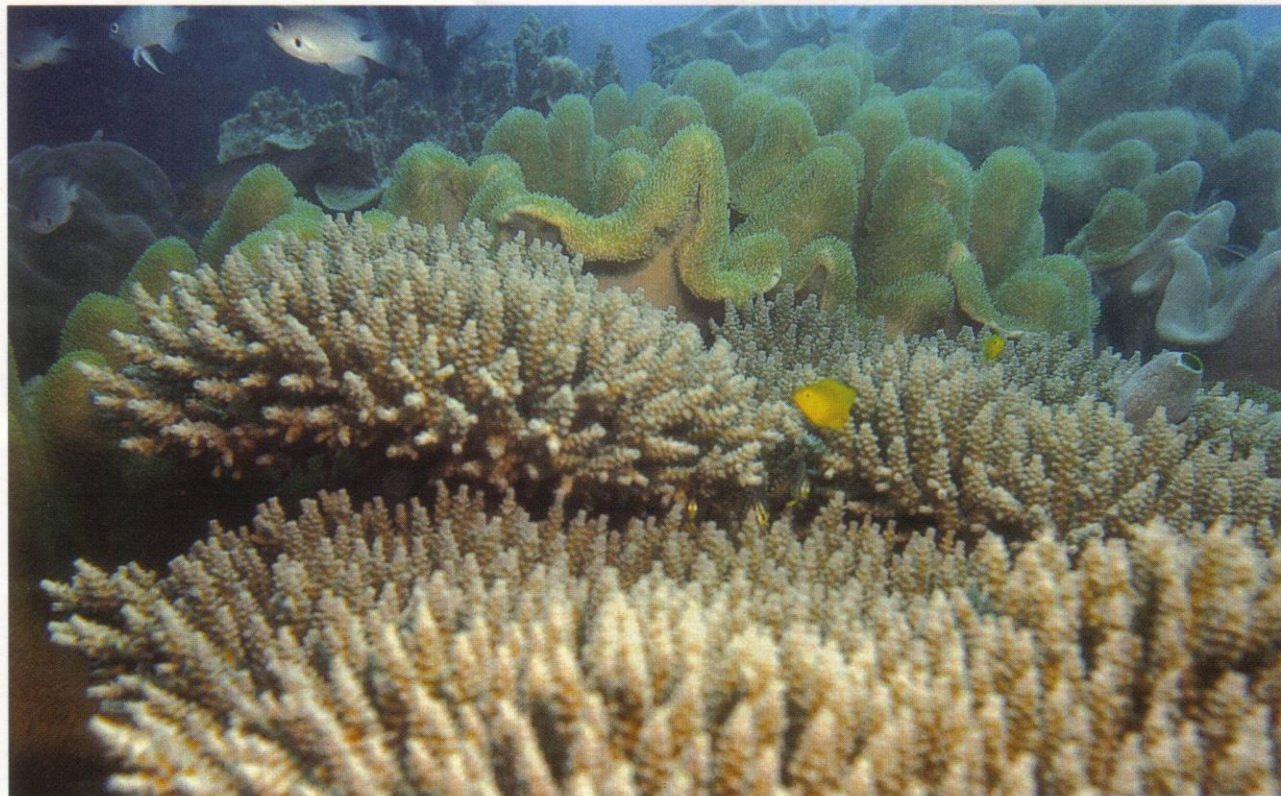
**AYER RESORT HOTEL** One of the closest resorts to Jakarta, only 40 minutes by motorboat from the Ancol Marina, Ayer Island is also one of the more developed locations in Pulau Seribu. A full range of water-sports are available including jet skiing and fishing.

**BIDADARI ISLAND RESORT** Bidadari Island lies just 15 kms and 45 minutes by speedboat from Jakarta and yet is still quite unspoilt. Facilities include floating cottages, tours of nearby islands, a disco and various water-sports.

**BURUNG INDAH RESORT** Burung Indah is halfway up the Pulau Seribu chain and offers different packages from day-trips to long weekends. The cottages are set among coconut palms with a touch of traditional architecture.

**KOTOK ISLAND RESORT** One of the more underdeveloped resorts in Pulau Seribu, Kotok Island prides itself in being a simple resort, but one that offers all you need in the way of recreation facilities especially good snorkelling and diving.

**LAKI ISLAND RESORT** One of the newer resorts, Laki Island is one of the closest to Jakarta and yet is still covered in thick jungle







flora that comes right to the beach, perfect for a pleasant stroll around the island. Clear lagoons and white sands make for a superb setting for snorkelling, windsurfing and other sports.

**PUTRI AND PELANGI RESORT** One of the more well-known resorts in the Pulau Seribu island chain, Putri and Pelangi have modern facilities and accommodation. A dive shop there offers instruction and equipment. Boats can be hired for fishing, diving or just island hopping. Flights are also available from Jakarta's Halim airport.

**PAPA THEO ISLAND RESORT** Set like a native village, the simple accommodations at Papa Theo enhance the peaceful atmosphere. Scuba diving, fishing, wind surfing and snorkelling are all available.

**PULAU SERIBU MARINE RESORT** Designed to let nature show its beauty, Pulau Seribu Marine Resort is a full accommodation resort with facilities for a variety of marine sports, tennis and a large white sand beach front. A disco provides the night life.

### Shopping

Though traditional goods are still the best buys in Indonesia, the amount and variety of every type of product now available in Jakarta is enough to cater of any type of shopping need. For example, there are some excellent plazas.

**PLAZA INDONESIA** is favoured for quality goods, Plaza Senayan is also good for allround quality and taste.

**TAMAN ANGGREK** on Jl S Parman is a huge, impressive and competitively priced mall. Nearby Mall Ciputra is even cheaper.

**BLOK M PLAZA** has four film theatres and sells everything





from designer clothes to music and jewellery. Pondok Indah Mall is an all-in-one shopping, entertainment, sport and leisure complex in South Jakarta.

There are also department stores at Pasaraya near Blok M, Sarinah on Jl Thamrin (both good for batik and handicrafts, Galeri Keris in Menteng, Sogo in Plaza Indonesia and Plaza Senayan, and Metro in Pondok Indah Mall and Plaza Senaya.

The major markets are Pasar Baru (see previous article), Pasar Cikini, Pasar Minggu, Pasar Benihill, Blok A, Pasar Tanah Abang, Pasar Baru, Glodok, Pasar Mayestik, Kebayoran Lama (the biggest night market) and Pasar Seni at Ancol Dreamland.

There are several factory outlets around the city. For example, Le Ciel on the first floor, Supermal Karawaci, or Millennia between the Stock Exchange and Tenda Semanggi.

For arts, crafts, treasures, fascinating memorabilia and so-called antiques where there are stalls and stalls of the stuff. If an item has every existed in Indonesia you can be sure one of the accommodating sellers in Jl Surabaya will get it for you.

### The meeting capital of Indonesia

As the economic and political hub of Indonesia Jakarta offers meeting, incentives and conference and exhibition facilities which rival the best in South East Asia.

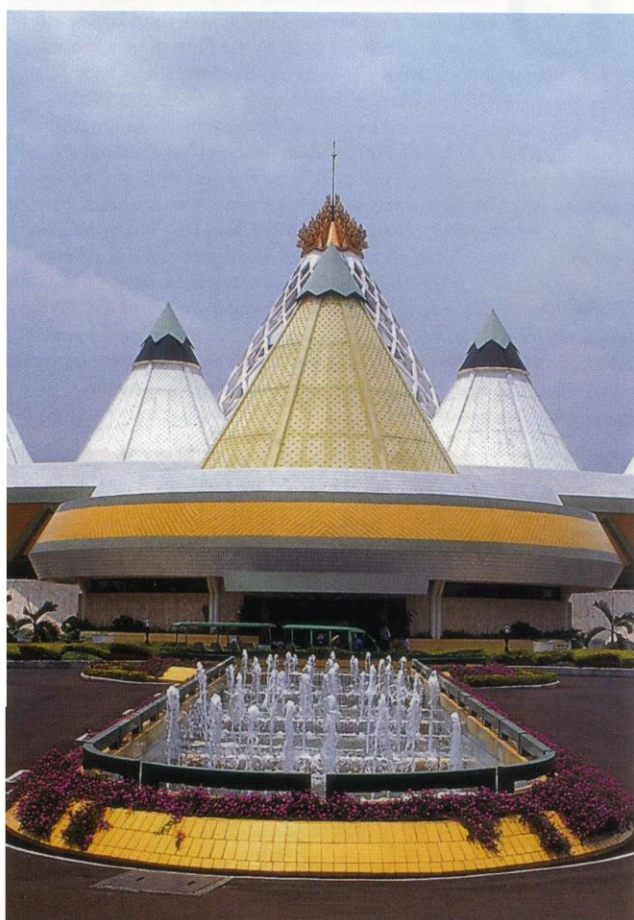
Two of the country's largest venues are the Jakarta Convention Centre in Senayan and the Jakarta Fairgrounds Kemayoran.

Jakarta Convention Centre especially has been the host a myriad of top class meetings and conventions and offers the highest quality meeting facilities available in the country in a convenient central location surrounded by top class hotels.

Many hotels also offer excellent MICE facilities. These include the Shangri La, Crowne Plaza, Sahid Jaya, Gran Melia, Kempinski and - if time is of the essence - the Sheraton Bandara near the airport. In fact, more than 70 hotels, including many 5-star properties, provide upwards of 20,000 rooms to meet the needs of the city's business travel industry.







## REDTOP HOTEL

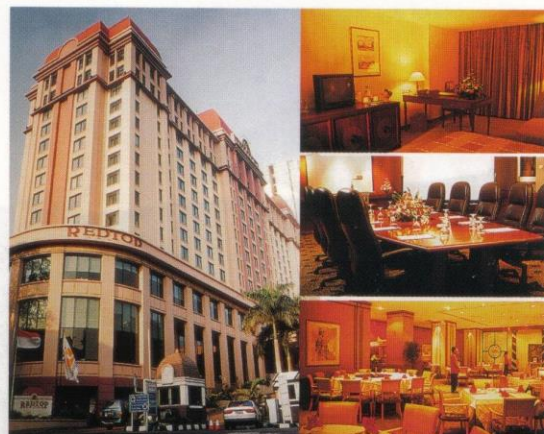
(formerly as Radisson Hotel Jakarta)

**Convenience is our obsession**

Strategically located in the centre of Jakarta's commercial business district.

A first class international standard four star Hotel with 390 spacious and well appointed guest rooms.

Facilities: Gallery Coffee Shop, Wang Palace Chinese Restaurant, Lobby Lounge, Exclusive Plaza Club Lounge, Business Centre, Swimming Pool, Fitness Centre, Spa, Conference, Meeting and Banqueting



For reservation & information please contact: Tel. (62-21) 3500077  
Fax. (62-21) 3500055 Jl. Pecenongan No.72 Jakarta 10120 Indonesia  
E-mail: [reservation@redtophotel.com](mailto:reservation@redtophotel.com), Website: [www.redtophotel.com](http://www.redtophotel.com)