



acicis

School Tours

Information for Teachers, Parents & Students

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What is Acicis?

Acicis (pronounced Ah-chee-chis, as an Indonesian would say it) is a global organisation who provide study abroad experiences to Indonesia. We run study abroad programs across a wide range of disciplines including science, business, law, international relations, health and more.

We are a leading non-profit consortium, partnering with 18 members from Australia, and 1 member from the Netherlands to help bring these extraordinary experiences to the world. We were established in 1994 in Perth, Western Australia and are the longest-running provider of study abroad experiences in Indonesia. We play a pivotal role in enabling our participants to gain invaluable insights and forge deeper connections with Indonesia.

Notably, Acicis has undergone significant growth and transformation from 2014, achieved largely due to the generous funding support from the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan. Today, Acicis programs are the primary mechanism through which Australian students study for credit in Indonesian universities. There are more than 5,000 alumni of Acicis programs, many of whom now hold significant positions in government, academia, and private enterprise. Acicis alumni contribute to the Australia-Indonesia bilateral relationship in a myriad of ways, in a wide diversity of fields, well beyond their formative encounters with Indonesia as university students.



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Acicis School Tours

The school tours build upon Acicis' extensive experience as a provider of quality in-country study abroad programs. Our tours are delivered by our highly experienced in-country staff and are flexible enough to accommodate the varied needs of school groups.

Each tour includes the following four components:

- Language classes at Lembaga Bahasa at Universitas Sanata Dharma (we say 'USD').
- Tutorials offered to allow one-on-one time with tutors to enhance language skills.
- Field trips for groups to see a wide range of activities, including historical landmarks and cultural workshops. School visits where students can connect with local students and gain firsthand insight into the experience of school life in Indonesia can also be arranged.

Our tours have been designed by Indonesian language teachers for school students learning Indonesian with an emphasis on learning through immersion in Indonesian everyday life.

Tour packages are offered for durations of 5, 7, 12, and 14 days and bespoke itineraries can be arranged to meet the needs of your school.





Location

All tours are based in Yogyakarta, Central Java.

Yogyakarta is one of Indonesia's largest educational hubs and a popular destination for domestic and international visitors. It has a young population and is a very student-friendly city.

Yogyakarta offers easy access to a diverse range of captivating sites in the surrounding region. Students can explore iconic World Heritage-listed temples like Borobudur and Prambanan, both of which offer a glimpse into Indonesia's ancient history and culture. Just a short distance away, the dramatic, smoking crater of the active Mount Merapi provides a thrilling experience for those interested in nature and geology.

Yogya's living history is evident at every turn. The stately Kraton (Sultan's Palace) and the enchanting Taman Sari (Water Castle) allow students to step into the royal past of Java, while traditional batik and gamelan workshops showcase the region's renowned craftsmanship. For a deeper dive into royal Javanese culture, the Ullen Sentalu Museum offers a rich collection of art and history that brings the region's artistic heritage to life.

Back in the heart of the city, the bustling Jalan Malioboro is a sensory feast, offering vibrant markets, delicious street food, and an exciting atmosphere. This lively street is the perfect place for students to experience the vibrant culture of Yogyakarta, making it an unforgettable part of any school tour.

Accommodation

For all school tours, Acicis recommends that groups stay in a guesthouse, but a hotel is also available. The most important thing is that the accommodation is walking distance from USD.

Guesthouses offer students insight into the local neighbourhood life and some common Indonesian domestic conventions (no shoes in the house, the sound of sweeping at 6am). Facilities include a furnished twin-share room with a private bathroom, wifi, hot water, common room TV and daily breakfasts. Dinner and laundry services can also be provided upon request.

Hotels are also a great option for students to relax during their tour. Similar furnished twin-share rooms with private bathrooms are available, with wifi and hot water, and a swimming pool. A hotel can be a little more expensive, so we ask that schools let us know your preferences so that we can consider this in the tour fee.



Costs

In order to book an Acicis school tour, you will need to pay a deposit. This deposit will ensure your dates are confirmed and locked-in.

Six weeks prior to the commencement of your tour, you will be required to confirm your student numbers and we will invoice your school for the balance of the fees.

What's included in the tour?

- Tour leader and a full time staff assisting the group;
- Arrival airport transfer;
- Minibus transport for the whole program;
- Accommodation;
- Entrance fee for field trips;
- Some meals;
- Visa

What expenses are not included?

International flights, airport departure taxes, insurance, other meals, any optional activities during free time (not in the schedule), tips and personal expenses.

Cancellation policy

The deposit that is required to lock-in dates for tours is non-refundable. The balance is due one month prior to the tour start dates. You must notify Acicis of finalised student numbers before the balance is due, as we will be confirming places at USD for the language classes. The balance of the fees is also non-refundable.

Teacher costs

Teacher costs are for basic expenses only. Teachers are accommodated alongside their students, but are provided with individual rooms.



Tour Components

Language classes

Language classes are a core component of all tours. Class hours are set at a minimum of 10 hours per week (5x two-hour classes). All teachers are native speakers and have extensive experience in delivering courses from complete beginners to advanced students. The language classes are held at Lembaga Bahasa (we say 'LB') at USD. LB have been providing Indonesian language teaching services since 1992.

Acicis has found that these classes are popular with both students and teachers. They provide a firm structure around which other activities can be scheduled. At the end of the tour, students will receive a numeric grade and an official certificate of completion.

Tutorials

All students are provided with at least 3 hours per week of one-on-one tutoring. This allows students to work on specific language topics covered in class and discuss questions they might have in relation to the Indonesian language and culture.

Field trips

Acicis has a list of field trips that cover a range of activities such as music, cooking, cultural sites, art workshops, and more. We divided the field visits into three categories depending on the duration and location of each activity. You can find the full list below. Acicis is happy to work with your school to include a mix of activities that match your school's interests, but Acicis can also provide advice on what might work best.

Field Trips

Category A

Borobudur

Students visit the world's largest Buddhist temple.

Ramayana Ballet

Students will see a traditional performance of the story of Rama and Shinta with the Prambanan Temple in the background. This activity is best combined with a visit to Prambanan Temple.

Silver Workshop

Create silver jewellery using fine ornamental filigree pieces with the guidance of a professional. This workshop can be combined with the Kota Gede walking tour.

Trekking - Gunung Purba

Students will trek to the peak of this dormant volcano and see the mesmerising view from the top.

Solo Tour - Train, palace and markets

Students can take a one-hour train ride to Solo, visit a traditional market, the Sultan's palace and explore the city.

Tembi Tour - Cooking class, Gamelan and/or traditional dance

This is an all-day tour, allowing students to experience these three art forms in Indonesia.

Category B

Prambanan Temple

Students visit the biggest Hindu temple in Indonesia.

Kota Gede

Students explore this suburb of Yogyakarta through a walking tour to see the beautiful buildings which show the mixture of Dutch and Javanese architecture.

Cooking Class

Students will shop for their own ingredients at a local market and cook an amazing Indonesian meal for lunch.

Kebon Agung Village Tour - Rice planting, Batik and pottery making

Students can plant paddy in a traditional way, make Batik and try their hand at pottery in this village just outside of the city.

NGO Visit

Students have the chance to visit a local NGO to learn more about their effort and work for the community.

Imogiri Royal Cemetery

Students visit this stunning location, have the opportunity to dress-up in traditional Javanese clothing and tour the cemetery grounds.

Field Trips

Category C

Ullen Sentalu

Students will learn the history of the different kingdoms in Yogyakarta and Central Java.

School Visit

This activity is often enjoyed by the students as they get to see what an Indonesian classroom looks like and meet their Indonesian peers. If your school has a sister-school in Yogyakarta, we can assist with this visit, or we can find a school that would be willing to host your students for half a day.

Gamelan Workshop

Students will have the opportunity to learn about Gamelan music and have a go at playing the different instruments.

Batik Workshop

Students will learn the process of making batik and create one to bring home.

Wayang Painting

Students will use their creativity to colour a show puppet while learning about their characteristics.

Keraton

Students can have a glimpse of the Sultan's residence and the history of the Sultanate of Ngayogyakarta Hadiningrat.

Taman Sari

Students can go back in time and visit the former royal garden of the Sultanate of Yogyakarta.

Jamu Workshop

Students will learn the benefit of Indonesia's traditional herbal drinks while trying to make their own.



Sample Itinerary

All tours are customisable and Acicis will work with you to fine-tune your preferences and provide advise on any issues that may impact the itinerary. As mentioned, we offer tours for 5, 7, 12, and 14 days. We have created a guideline for each tour duration to help schools decide which field visits to choose to create the ideal itinerary. Below is the guideline and an example of what a seven-day tour might look like:

Tour Duration	Inclusions	Category A	Category B	Category C
5 Days	8 hours language, 3 hours tutorial, 6 field trips	1	2	3
7 Days	10 hours language, 3 hours tutorial, 6 field trips	1	2	3
10 Days	14 hours language, 6 hours tutorial, 7 field trips	1	3	3
14 Days	20 hours language, 6 hours tutorial, 9 field trips	2	3	4

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Morning Breakfast included daily	Participants arrive and check in	Opening Ceremony Language Class 1	Batik Workshop	Language Class 2 Tutorial 1	Language Class 3 Tutorial 2	Language Class 5 Tutorial 3 Final Test and Presentation	Participants depart
Lunch		Included	Included	Included	Included	Included	
Afternoon		Prambanan Temple	Gamelan Workshop	Taman Sari	Language Class 4 Kote Gede Tour	Closing Ceremony	
Evening	Welcome Dinner by Acicis	Ramayana Ballet (Dinner Included)	Dinner not included	Dinner not included	Dinner not included	Farewell Dinner by Acicis	



Security and Safety

Acicis regards the safety and security of our students in Indonesia as our first priority. There are several factors which make Acicis confident about the security of in-country participants:

- Acicis has a comprehensive risk management plan for Yogyakarta that is regularly updated. Acicis staff are available 24/7 to manage any emergency and/or health-related issues whilst tours are in progress.
- Acicis will cooperate with schools who wish to design a separate risk management plan for their group. Schools are encouraged to discuss any aspects of risk management with Acicis prior to departure.
- Acicis has offices in Yogyakarta and Perth with staff who are available at any time in case of an emergency.
- Acicis has 30 years of experience in hosting students in Indonesia.
- The Acicis Resident Director is in contact with the Australian Embassy and receives up to date security advice.
- Each tour group will have its own dedicated English-speaking, in-country Acicis staff member who will be with them each day for the whole tour.
- All participants are required to have appropriate travel insurance.
- All participants need to carefully consider health matters before departure. Acicis does not offer specific advice but rather offers a general summary of health matters, and what to watch out for.

How to book a school tour

1. Review the information on our website.
2. Email us at enquiries@acicis.edu.au to tell us what kind of tour you are looking for.
3. Acicis will draft an itinerary and provide a cost estimate based on your tour requirements.
4. To lock in your dates, arrange the payment of your deposit and we will work with you to finalise your itinerary.
5. We will send you a welcome pack with the timeline about the pre-departure process and important information about the visa application process. ***IMPORTANT*** Passports need to have a 7 month validity beyond the tour start date.
6. Pre-departure emails will be shared with you during the lead up to your program.
7. Flights and travel insurance needs to be organised and details need to be shared with Acicis.
8. Schools need to confirm the tour itinerary and the participant numbers 6 weeks prior to the tour commencement.
9. The balance of the fee is due 4 weeks prior to the start of the tour.
10. Enjoy your tour! and thank you for choosing Acicis.





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