

## G-Land Surf Spots

G-Land located at Plengkung - Blambangan National Park in East Java, is renowned as one of the best left handers in the world. Surrounded by dense jungle, it is ten kilometers from the nearest road and thirty kilometers from Grajagan Village, a fishing village on the other side of the bay.

From March till October, deep ocean swells peel faultlessly across this half kilometer stretch of coral reef to produce some of the longest most consistent waves and most perfect tubes anyone is likely to see in their lifetime. You have to see it to believe it.

Waves tend to be bigger and better at high tide, so it's best to plan a surf trip for the week following a full or new moon, since this is when the tide is high during the middle of the day.

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The south coast of Java faces the Indian Ocean, so it is exposed to large swells generated by low pressure systems circling Antarctica, many thousands of kilometers to the south. G-Land is situated on the eastern side of the Bay of Grajagan, so it has a westerly aspect; i.e. at rightangles to the predominant swell direction. As a result, swell wraps around the point and into the eastern side of the bay, producing long, walling left-handers, which peel at a rapid rate along a half kilometer stretch of shallow coral reef, forming perfectly hollow tubes that remain open the whole way. The wind at G-Land blows offshore between the months of April and September, which also happens to be when the swells are at their largest and most consistent. Since the swells are generated by low pressure systems circling Antarctica, their regularity coincides with the passage of these lows. So, the swell arrive in pulses, each lasting for a couple of days, with a couple of days between each swell.

G-Land offers 3 distinct sections, depending on tide and swell patterns. Kong's: The outside reef, an open faced wave with a high pocket, surfable at low tide up to the limits of your courage. Only connects with Moneytrees on huge swells. At low tide, the section between Kongs and Moneytrees produces an intense barrel known as the Ledge. Moneytrees: A down-the-line wall that barrels is the prime take off point, From the Moneytrees section the wave lifts at an inside peak called Launching Pads, then reaches top speed and it's climax on an inside wedge and long-running section that has appropriately been named Speedies, a cylinder that peels mechanically across shallow reef. It is the shallow Speedies section that has produced some of the most insane adrenaline-pumping barrel rides yet.

Other breaks: There are a couple of other novelty breaks at G-Land namely Chickens, 20/20's & a nice right hander nicknamed Tiger Trails which is quite popular with the natural footers and makes a nice change at times to the sometimes intimidating main break.

The trip to G-Land departs from Bali, where you are collected from your hotel. Comfortable air conditioned buses then take you to Gilimanuk, a three hour drive. The ferry to Java takes about half an hour, and from there a one hour drive takes you through Banyuwangi to Choko Bay resort, just outside Grajagan village. At day break, we make for the river mouth to board a boat which takes twenty minutes to reach the resort/camp. The tour packages are for 4 days (3 nights), 7 days (6 nights), 10 days (9 nights) or longer if requested.