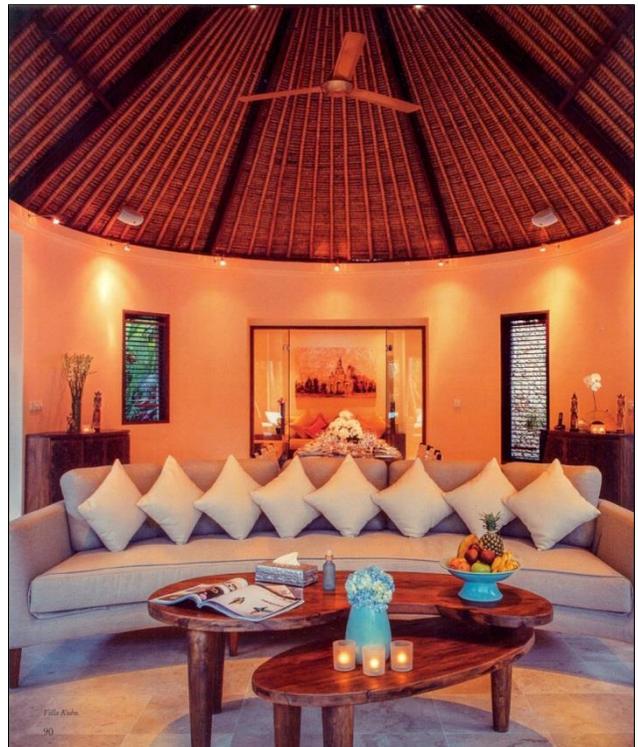
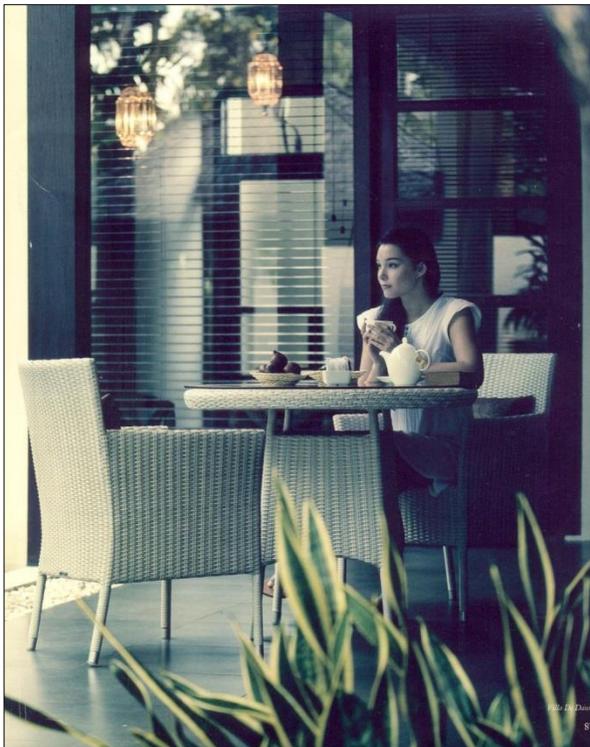
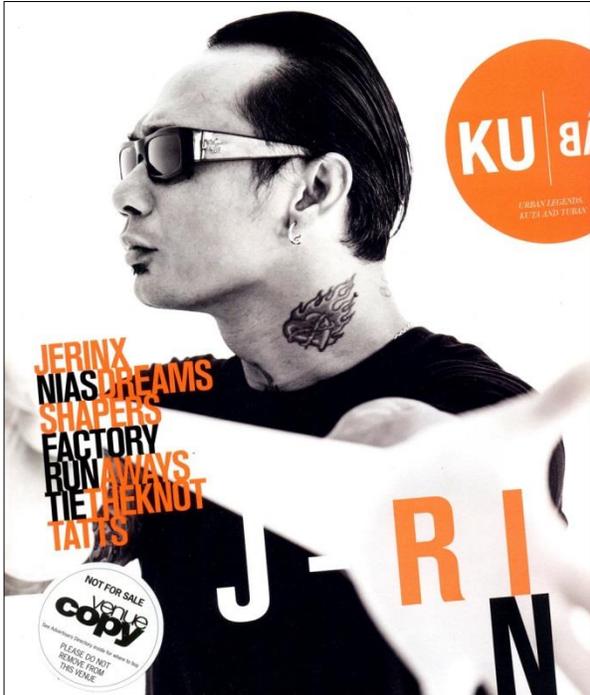


KUBAN – KUBU

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Discovery Kemula Plaza Hotel Bali



Bali Discovery Resort



Bali Hibiscus Kuta Villa



Villa Kubu

tropical shrubs and flanked by frangipani trees.

Facing west, the terrace offers glorious Indian Ocean and sunset views.

Villa rates (from US\$309+/-/night) are inclusive of breakfast, Wi-Fi Internet and ten mini-bar items daily. The villa also doubles as a private events venue.

www.balilynamity.com

VILLA KUBU

Hipville Seminyak is replete with villas, but Villa Kubu stands out from the crowd.

Established in 1999 with just one villa, Australian-owned Villa Kubu has organically grown villa by villa, expanding to 17 individual pool villas in a private walled compound. Not only is each spacious villa unique, they reflect the island's ever-changing tastes and trends — from traditional Balinese to lavish Mediterranean. Hidden away from the main drags, Villa Kubu provides a private retreat, removed from, yet with access to, central Seminyak.

"Kubu" translates as "home from home" — an apt name for all of these private residences, surrounded by high walls. Hearty breakfasts cooked to order by personal butlers in fully equipped kitchens; luxurious king-size beds and soft furnishings; and comfy daybeds are just a taste of homely comforts.

Kubu's relaxed island living style, with open-air dining/living areas, in-room dining service, ample pool with thatched bale and in-house entertainment centre (pre-programmed iPods, flat-screen TVs, etc), encourage private entertaining and spending some quality family-time.

A Kubu signature are the lavishly tended, Bali-style, gardens — resplendent with lotus ponds, weathered statues and rock gardens, mature palms and exotic blooms, plus strong environmental and wellness commitment.

One-bedroom villas are the ultimate romantic retreat, while two-bedroom villas accommodate four guests. Larger groups or families should book palatial three-bedroom villas, or limited side-by-side connecting villas, forming two to four-bedroom options. A recently built one- and two-bedroom villa also join up for a spacious three-bedroom option.

Alternatively, Villa Latalana, Villa Kubu's latest creation 300 metres from Seminyak Beach, offers a magnificent two-bedroom and five-bedroom luxury pool villa complex within tree-studded

grounds, dazzling with contemporary architecture inspired by Indonesian vernacular design. Book these separate villas to form a palatial seven-bedroom option: the ultimate in villa escapism, yet still with Kubu's renowned personal service.

Villa rates (from US\$245+) include daily housekeeping, Wi-Fi Internet and 24-hour security.

www.villakubu.com
www.kutavillanews.com

BEST WESTERN KUTA VILLA

One of four Bali hotels from the Best Western chain, 122-room Best Western Kuta Villa (BWKV) is a surprisingly calm sanctuary in the depths of South Kuta-Tuban.

Open since 2012, BWKV may be relatively new, but this white-stone-walled hotel keeps in traditional Balinese style, with island warm welcome, service and architectural design.

The theme is carried through to the 29 villas, all of which encircle the resort pool, a little palm tree-edged oasis. Similar in facilities, style and size (24sqm), each one-bedroom villa is surrounded by high stone walls for maximum privacy, and are accessed by a charming traditional wooden door. Very much suited to couples and honeymooners, these sweet mini-villas provide a private plunge pool and sunbed in a small front courtyard. Step inside, and a beautifully decorated bed on raised wooden platform, and *chaise longue* set the romantic tone. En-suite bathrooms provide a bathtub and bathroom amenities, and lead to an outdoor tropical shower.

The villa supplies sea/coffee-making facilities, LCD flat-screen satellite TV, mini-bar, safety box, work desk, hairdryer and komonos. Wi-Fi Internet and daily breakfast buffet are included in the daily rate (from IDR 1.1 million).

If you can tear yourself away from your low-nest, BWKV provides complimentary shuttle buses to key points in Kuta, such as Discovery Mall and Beachwalk.

Stay tuned for BWKV's new villa development — seven duplex suites in a new wing; again in traditional villa style, but with ground-floor private pool, dining area and bedroom, living area, kitchenette and balcony above — scheduled for January 2014. ☘

www.kutavillanews.com

Staying Power

It's not just Seminyak that has the monopoly on villas and the villa lifestyle: there are surprising villa finds where you wouldn't expect in downtown Kuta and Tuban.

By Katie Truman.

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www.villakubu.com

www.latalianavillas.com