

Padang

INDONESIA



POPULATION
1,015,000

Padang, the capital of Indonesia's West Sumatra province, lies on Sumatra's west coast. Padang is widely known for its Minangkabau culture, cuisine, and sunset beaches.

The area around Padang, especially to the north of the city (Bukit Tinggi) is known for its beauty, ethnic traditions and for world renowned Sumatran coffee. Situated along the line of the Barrier Mountain Range, the city of Padang also experiences frequent tremors and earthquakes.

Padang is a fairly modern city as far as amenities. Malls, fast food, Universities and government offices are all part of the story in the city.

The city is a common transit point for surfers travelling to the Batu and Mentawai Islands, and for tourists visiting the West Sumatran highlands.

Language

Bahasa Indonesia is the official language in West Sumatra. Minangkabau is the native language of the Minangkabau people of West Sumatra. There are approximately 5.5 million speakers of the language.

Religion

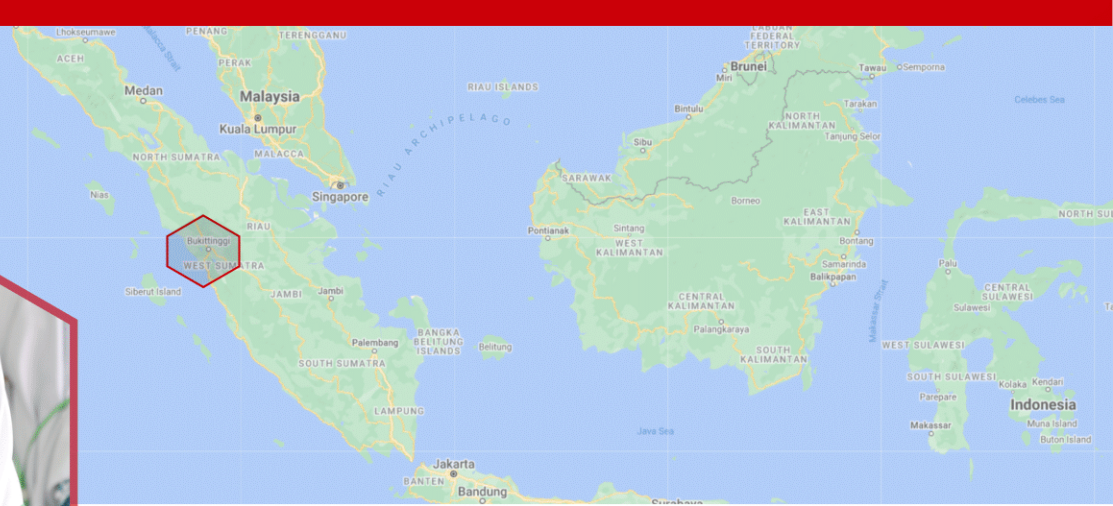
Islam (Sunni) is the dominant religion, with the Minangkabau being the majority ethnic group. Much of Islam around Padang is quite conservative.

Sometimes called the Padang people, they are known to be brave, proud and fierce fighters. They travel all over the country for school, business, and many have become top leaders in the Indonesian Military.

Economy

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy, with rice, corn (maize), cassava, tea, coffee, and rubber being the main produce. There is also a significant manufacturing industry around processed foods and beverages, cement, textiles, and rubber products.





Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

[Galatians 6:9]

Is God calling you to Padang?

Business and student visas are possible for people moving to West Sumatra. Most people learn Bahasa Indonesian in another location before moving to Padang.

Business: many products are exported from this area and having a visa in business would allow you to develop relations with local producers.

Study: newcomers to Padang can study at one of the universities in the city to learn language and culture.

Tourism: there are opportunities to develop adventure tours to the highlands or surfing trips to the Batu and Mentawai Islands.

The Minangkabau are the largest matrilineal society in the world, with property, family name and land passing down from mother to daughter. Religious and political affairs are usually the responsibility of men, although some women also play important roles in these areas.

- Pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal Christ to the Minangkabau through dreams and visions.
- Ask the Lord to raise up intercessors for the Minangkabau and muslims of Padang city who will 'soften the soil'.
- Pray for an openness and freedom in the city to talk about faith and the significance of Jesus.
- Ask God to raise up more workers to live amongst the Muslims of Padang City and share the love of Jesus.
- Pray that the universities are a place where students learn about the Father heart of God, and accept his love for them.

