BALI DRUM CAMP



16-26TH MAY

2027

AFRICAN DRUMMING

CAMP OVERVIEW

KEY INFO

DATES	16 - 26 May 2027
RATES	$1950 - $2550 AUD
LOCATION	Candidasa, Bali



THIS 9-DAY TROPICAL DRUM INTENSIVE FOR BEGINNER, INTERMEDIATE, UPPER INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED LEVEL DJEMBE WILL DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WEST AFRICAN MUSIC.

Directed by Simon Fraser, this highly enjoyable intensive is backed by Simon's 30+ years of experience in teaching and running Tours. Simon welcomes students from all over the world and is dedicated to providing an enriching learning experience and exceptional Balinese hospitality.

The study programme caters to students of all levels with Beginner, Intermediate, Upper Intermediate and Advanced classes. Sessions focus on groove, dexterity, repetition and technique. Expect up to four hours of tuition a day in traditional and contemporary West African rhythms in classes supported by local dununfolas. The Camp will accelerate your confidence, fluidity, feel and skill.

The Camp is held in Candidasa, in the Karangasem region of Eastern Bali, providing a stunning environment in which you can really relax and dedicate yourself to the djembe. As well as tuition, you'll have the chance to indulge in all the quintessential tropical experiences like sightseeing, snorkelling, hiking, yoga, massage and relaxing under the palms.

2027 marks our 14th Bali Drum Camp and over 20 years of Global Touring. We can't wait to get to Bali again. We hope you join us on this amazing Camp!



YOUR TEACHERS

BOUBACAR GAYE

FROM SENEGAL



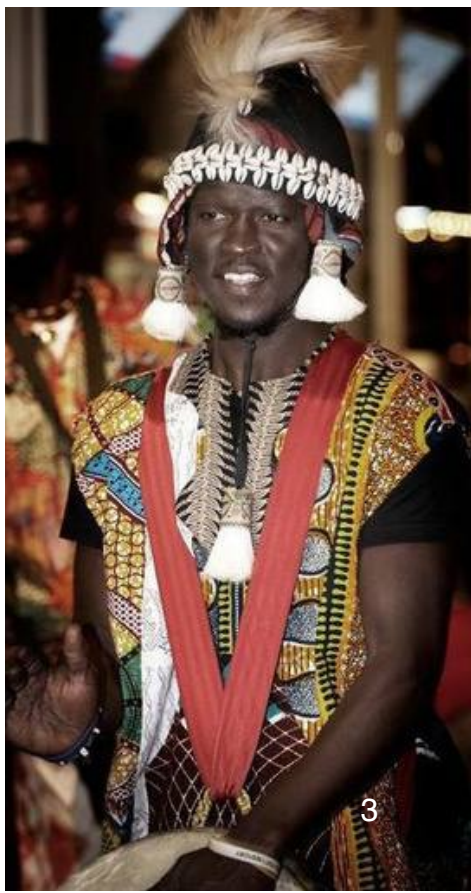
Bouba first laid his hands on a drum in Senegal at the budding age of 14.

Inspired by the musical mentors around him he became a member of the prominent Mama Afrika. Bouba's skills and passion grew quickly and soon he was also a member of the renowned Foret Sacre Ballet. In 1997 Bouba ventured to Europe and then on to Japan where he established himself as a leading African percussionist.

Bouba is now a regular and respected figure on the Melbourne performance and teaching circuit. His band Ausecuma is so hot right now and gigging everywhere (don't miss them!). With an energy and peace of mind that resonates from deep within, Bouba speaks a thousand words with his drum.







YOUR TEACHERS

BASSIDI KONE

FROM MALI



Bassidi Koné is of Bwa ethnicity and was born into a Griot family in central Mali. His earliest memories are of growing up beside his father's primary instrument, the balafon which instilled in him his forefathers' traditional village songs and rhythms passed down through many generations.

After moving to Bamako and playing alongside master djembe player Koninba Bagayogo, the young Bassidi quickly extended his knowledge and skill. Bassidi's clear resolve and unmatched determination to reach his full potential as a djembe player caught Mali's attention. He distinguished himself through his innovative solo lead playing and technical virtuosity. Bassidi founded his family-based percussion troupe, Bwazan (Bobo children), in 2005.

Today, Bwazan is recognised as one of Mali's leading percussion groups. Ambassadors of their musical heritage, they promote a message of peace and solidarity throughout the world. Bassidi now tours the world teaching and performing at workshops and camps where his deep knowledge and infectious smile make him a favourite of drumming aficionados.







YOUR TEACHERS

SIMON FRASER

FROM MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA
DIRECTOR OF AFRICAN DRUMMING

Simon has been drumming his heart out all his life! Starting with pots and pans before graduating to a drum kit, he finally found his passion in West African percussion.

Founder of Melbourne-based African Drumming, Simon has been studying, performing, recording and teaching throughout West Africa, Europe and Australia since the 1990s. His experiences with The Senegalese Ballet, Percussion de Guinea, Mali Ballet, and Ghana's Kusun Ensemble and Wala have opened his heart to the subtleties and intensities of West African music.

Simon's percussive skills and knowledge of all forms of traditional West African music are highly respected, while his education programs have brought drumming to thousands of people from all walks of life. His passion and knowledge translate to his teaching where he focuses on dexterity, groove, honouring tradition and having fun. You will definitely be challenged and encouraged in his classes!





DAVE HICKEY

Davey has been studying and performing West African percussion for over 15 years across multiple continents, including Africa.

He performs regularly in Australia and Ireland, incorporating his love of African beats into a myriad of genres of music.

Davey always brings his Irish charm, warmth, and sense of humour to his classes, whilst still respecting the traditions and history of the music.





YOUR TEACHERS

CATUR HARIWIJAYA

We're honoured to be supported by an amazing team of local musicians. Catur Hariwijaya will join us again for his third headline year as part of our djembe teaching team.

Catur has been sharing music with communities as far back as his memory goes, and is adept on more than twenty instruments.

An epic trip from Bali to Mali in 2017 realised a lifelong dream and inspired Catur to delve even deeper into the rich musical culture of West Africa.

He is passionate about uniting ethnic music styles, regularly composing and performing works that draw upon traditions of indigenous music from Indonesia and beyond.





NEO, MANGUN & PELE

All your classes will be supported by the bass rumble of the duns!

We can't wait to meet up with our locally based dun players - Neo, Mangun and Pele.









STUDY PROGRAMME

CLASS LEVELS

Our Camp caters to Beginner, Intermediate, Upper Intermediate and Advanced level students. All classes are supported by local dunun players. We will work with you to find your right level.

Learning at the edge of your capacity is the best way to really accelerate and get the most out of your time in Bali. If you're unsure about your level, have a chat to Simon before the camp or as early as possible on camp. Here is a guide:

BEGINNER

Those with zero or minimal experience. Just starting your journey on the drum and ready to learn or hone your technique and develop stamina and groove.

INTERMEDIATE

Those who have had at least a term or more of formal tuition in West African drumming. You'll need to know all the musical arrangement terms like call, signal, break etc.

UPPER INTERMEDIATE

Those who have been studying and playing for a good few years. Clear distinction in tones and slaps a must. Need to be able to execute a good slap on both hands and be adept in 12/8 rhythms and timing.

ADVANCED

By invitation or Video submission only. Stamina, technique, in depth knowledge of 12/8 soloing are all required. If that's a stretch, you'll find your place in Upper Intermediate.

Please Note: For the sake of class sizes and general teaching flow we are quite strict with levels.

SCHEDULE

Every day is split into AM and PM sessions, each running for two hours. The first four days are solid study to push your stamina and challenge you as a player.

Midway through the Camp, we break up the drumming action with a day off and afternoon group excursion. You are welcome to join our morning beach jam or practice your drumming if you'd prefer!

The Camp culminates in an awesome final concert which brings us all together right in the middle of town for a HUGE fun night of music and performance.

DATE	DAY	DETAILS	AM SESSION 10 AM - 12 PM	PM SESSION 3 PM - 5 PM
16	Sun	Arrival, Group Dinner and Jam		
17	Mon		Standard	Standard
18	Tue		Standard	Standard
19	Wed	Communal Dinner	Standard	Standard
20	Thur		Standard	Standard
21	Fri	Morning Jam, Excursion	Excursion	Excursion
22	Sat	Communal Dinner and Jam night	Standard	Drum and Dance
23	Sun		Standard	Standard
24	Mon		Standard	Standard
25	Tue	6pm Final Concert	Rehearsal	Rehearsal
26	Wed	Camp concludes in morning, everyone departs		

DRUMS & GEAR

DRUMS

You'll need a djembe or set of duns for the Camp. We provide drums to hire or purchase, or you can bring your own.



HIRE

Rate	$100	We'll provide a djembe or duns of your choice for the duration of the Camp. Let us know your preferred size when you sign up.

BUY

12"	$300	We offer big discounts on our Primo Series djembes to our Camp students. Modelled on the classic Guinea style, these drums are sourced from sustainable mahogany plantations and are skinned with a natural hide. They play beautifully. We can even make it to your specifications, with tailored height and diameter - just let us know!
13"	$325	
14"	$350	

BRINGING YOUR OWN DRUM

Bringing your own djembe from Australia may be problematic when you return due to strict Australian Quarantine regulations. The drums we offer on tour come with paperwork and are super clean (no hair etc) to almost guarantee satisfying quarantine regulations. Alternatively, we can ship your djembe back for you in our container for a flat rate of $100. The container will arrive in Melbourne in September.







DRUMS & GEAR

BAGS



PRIMO SERIES

TO FIT $70

Canvas, water resistant, back pack straps.

Comes in Black, Red, Green, Rasta or Camo



MASTER SERIES

TO FIT $90

Canvas, water resistant, double pocket, hard protective insert for top and bottom.

Comes in Patchwork, Rasta Stripe, or plain Black.



SIGNATURE SERIES

TO FIT $110

Super tough Cordura, double pocket, hard protective insert for top and bottom.

Comes in Patchwork, Rasta Stripe or plain Black.

ACCESSORIES



ROVING STRAP

STANDARD $20



WAIST STRAP

STANDARD $20



EXTRAS

If you have any special requests, please ask!

Waist straps will be available at the camp. All other accessories must be pre-ordered.

ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

We stay in a few great hotels: Dasa Wana Jungle Resort, Bayshore Villas and Bali Palms. Each has a bar, restaurant, and pool. Set within the peaceful township of Candidasa, these lovely venues become the home of West African music for your 10-night stay. Accommodation is included in the Camp Rate.

INFO

Your room type determines the final rate of the Camp. First in best dressed for choice of rooms. Please choose your first and second preferences.

RATES

Standard Double / Twin Share $1950

For couples or friends sharing the same room and ensuite. Rooms have either one double bed or two separate singles (twin).

Standard Single $2200

Private self-contained Bungalow

Deluxe Double / Twin Share $2100

For couples or friends sharing the same room and ensuite. Rooms have either one double bed or two separate singles (twin).

Deluxe Single Share $2300

Like a two bedroom, two bathroom apartment. Each room comes with private ensuite and shared communal living space / kitchenette.

Deluxe Single $2550

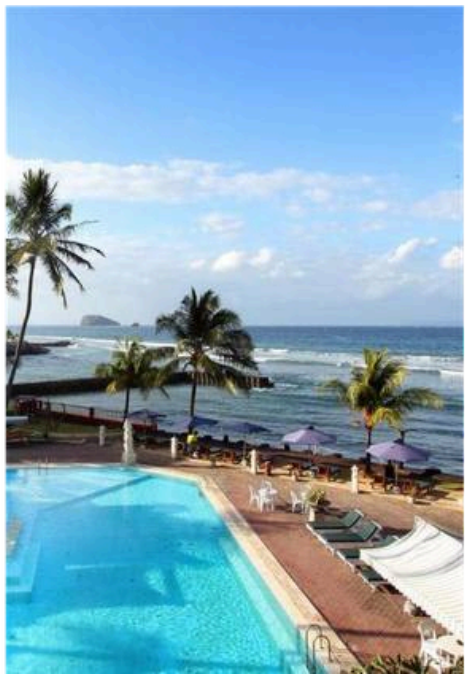
Private self-contained Bungalow

Please Note:
All rates are per person (not per room) in $AUD.
Deluxe rooms are higher quality and have better amenities than the standard rooms.
All rooms at Dasa Wana Jungle Resort are Deluxe.
All rooms at Bayshore Villas are Deluxe.
Standard Rooms are available at Bali Palms.
Twin share accommodation is very limited. Deluxe share is the next option.
For those organising their own accommodation, the rate is $1500. If you need to add a transfer to Candidasa at the start of the Camp the cost is $60.
Additional nights pre or post tour are $60 for standard accommodation and $80 for Deluxe per person per night.

OTHER GUESTS

You are very welcome to invite family and friends. Please contact us to discuss how we can accommodate everyone and give you an idea of prices. The rates for a non-drummer sharing a double / twin room with a drummer are:
$600 for Standard Rooms (Drummer pays $1950)
$800 for Deluxe Rooms (Drummer pays $2100)









LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

THE AREA

The Karangasem region of Eastern Bali offers a stunning environment where you can really relax while dedicating yourself to the djembe. In May, the average temperature is a lovely 28°C.



LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

- Sight-seeing
- Massage
- Chocolate factory
- Fishing trips
- Great restaurants
- Swimming, snorkelling and diving
- Yoga and meditation at the local Ashram
- Prasi Beach: white sand beach, perfect for swimming
- Stunning hiking throughout the surrounding rice paddies and villages
- Ancient weaving Village of Tenganan

Midway through the Camp we take a day out to enjoy the local sights - after a morning jam of course! Our excursion options include a trip to the stunning Water Palace of Karangasem royalty, cooking classes, rice paddy walks, and a trip to Village of Tenganan.







CAMP RATES

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Transport from airport on Sunday 16th (details page 13)
- Tuition (minimum of 4 hours every day, often 5!)
- Daily breakfast (10 days)

The rates are not inclusive of airfares, lunches, dinners, drums, or the return transfer from the hotel to airport at the end of the camp.

DEPOSIT & PAYMENT

- A deposit of $500 is required as soon as possible. Rooms are allocated in the order deposits are received, so we recommend paying early to secure your preferred room.
- The balance of the Camp must be paid by 1st April 2027.

BANK PAYMENTS

African Drumming Pty Ltd
Westpac Bank
108 Acland St, St Kilda
BSB (Branch): 033082
Account Number: 315567
Swift code (BIC): WPACAU2S

CASH OR MONEY ORDER

At the Post Office:
Made out to: Simon Fraser
252 St Kilda Road
St Kilda VIC 3182

PACKAGE OPTIONS

INFO

$1950	Standard Double / Twin Share
$2200	Standard Single
$2100	Deluxe Double / Twin Share
$2300	Deluxe Single Share
$2550	Deluxe Single

* See page 10 for more info on Accommodation.
Rates are in $AUD.
We offer 10% off for cash payment.

CANCELLATION POLICY

We understand things can pop up unexpectedly. Please find our cancellation policy below:

More than **3 months** before retreat departure date:	Full refund minus **$250** cancellation fee.
3 months or less before departure date:	Minus **$300** cancellation fee
2 months or less before departure date:	Minus **$400** cancellation fee
1 month or less before departure date:	Minus **$500** cancellation fee



LOGISTICS

OVERVIEW

We welcome participants from all over the world.

Bali has direct flights from many capital cities and at just 3-6 hours from Australia, is an easy place to travel to.

If you have any questions, you're very welcome to contact Simon for advice.



GETTING TO BALI & THE CAMP

FLIGHTS TO BALI

Flights are not included in the Camp rate. We recommend making your travel arrangements early so you can get the best deal. JetStar, Garuda, Qantas, Singapore Airlines, Virgin, and Air Asia all fly to Bali.

BALI AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Group transfer from the airport to your hotel in Candidasa is available free of charge for those arriving on Sunday 16th May. We organise several group taxis over the course of the day.

If you are arriving on a different day and require a transfer, a private taxi will be arranged for you for the cost of $60 AUD. The return transfer at the end of the camp is not covered in your camp rate. A comfortable taxi (up to 4 people) is approximately $50 to hire and is easily organised for either leg; it's easy to get around!

CUSTOMS

You will be required to obtain a Visa On Arrival for entry to Bali at a cost of around 500,000IDR ($50AUD). Processing and payment is made at the airport on arrival in Bali.

Everyone is also required to fill in a Customs declaration form. We recommend doing this in advance here.

TRAVEL & MEDICAL INSURANCE

You must have your own insurance. We do not cover personal insurance. Medicine, vaccines and the like should be discussed in consultation with a travel doctor. We do not give advice on which medications to take, although a medical kit is always a good idea.

Check out the Australian Government website, Smart Traveller or the relevant travel advisory website in your home country for the latest information and advice.

FAQS

WHAT TO PACK

- Beach towel and swimming gear
- Sun hat, sunglasses, sunscreen
- Light clothes (t-shirts, singlets, shorts)
- Sandals / Slippers for inside and out
- Small backpack for day trips
- A power adaptor (AU > Bali, 2 pronged)
- Your Bank Card for cash from the local ATM. You can also change $AUD or your home currency into local currency
- Hankies / Small towel (you'll be sweating!)
- Basic medical kit
- Acoustic ear buds for sensitive ears



POPULAR QUESTIONS

WILL I GET PICKED UP AT THE AIRPORT?

Yes. If you arrive on Sunday, your airport transfer to Candidasa is included - we run several group taxis (for drum students) across the day. We'll be at the arrivals hall holding a Bali Drum Camp sign with your name on it, so please send us your flight itinerary ASAP so we can organise your pick-up.

If you arrive on a different day, or you've booked your own accommodation, we can still arrange a private transfer for you at a cost of $60 AUD.

DO AUSTRALIAN PHONES WORK IN BALI?

International data/roaming plans with your Australian carrier are reasonable value these days. Local SIM cards are also available at the airport which are good value.

SHOULD I BRING TRAVELLER'S CHEQUES, CREDIT CARD OR CASH?

Cash is best and a Visa card is handy. There are money changers and ATMs in Candidasa, and you can pay with Visa at many local restaurants. We recommend exchanging your home currency into local currency in Bali for the best rates. There are many exchange outlets in Candidasa, Kuta, Ubud, etc - avoid the bad rates at the airport.

DO I NEED TO BUY A DRUM ON THE CAMP?

No, it's not mandatory. You can bring your own (see page 8) but it is easier to hire or purchase a drum from us. If you are planning on taking a drum home allow for an extra 10-12kg with your baggage.

WHAT OTHER EXPENSES ARE THERE ON THE CAMP?

We're covering breakfast, but you'll need to budget for lunches and dinners. Bali is cheap, so you could happily get by on $30 a day. Allow a few dollars a day for bottled water and drinks, plus the same again for extra snacks like fresh fruit. Massage is around $10 for an hour. A load of laundry is about $5. Scooters can be hired for $8 a day.

IS THERE INTERNET ACCESS?

Yes! Our hotels have WiFi but connection may vary depending on room location.

SIGN UP

MORE INFORMATION

Simon and our team are very happy to answer questions and enquiries.

EMAIL info@africandrumming.com.au
PHONE +61 3 9525 3073
WEB africandrumming.com.au

THE SIGN UP FORM

To join the Bali Drum Camp 2027 please download the form here and submit with your details.

DEPOSIT & PAYMENT

- A deposit of $500 is required as soon as possible.
- Rooms are allocated in the order deposits are received, so we recommend paying early to secure your preferred room. (Options are listed on page 12).
- The balance of the Camp must be paid by 1st April 2027.



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DRUMMING