

Excite takes agents on an Indonesian Adventure

ON 15 Mar, Excite Holidays and Wonderful Indonesia treated 13 agents to an intimate six-day tour of this tropical paradise, showcasing that there is more to Indonesia than Bintang singlets and board shorts.

Agents kicked off the trip with sunset drinks at OMNIA - one of the island's most glamorous day clubs - on the south-western tip of the Bukit Peninsula in Uluwatu, before settling into their accommodation at Sudamala in sleepy Sanur village.

While the temptation to spend a week luxuriating in these traditional Balinese villas in the cultural heart of Indonesia would have been strong, those who ventured from the venue were showcased a secret side of the island.

Among the most eye-opening of these adventures were trips to Kintamani's Trunyan, an isolated island where a macabre collection of skulls and bones symbolises the practice of Balinese Hindus laying their dead out in bamboo cages to decompose; the Jatiluwih rice terraces, where over 600 hectares of rice fields follow the flowing hillside topography of the Batukaru mountain range; Ubud's Penglipuran village, a traditional countryside with winding panoramic roads and a unique social & cultural life & Tabanan with the mild mountain town of Bedugul.

But it was off the beaten Bali path that agents were truly able to experience the untouched icons of Indonesia. While Komodo Island was particularly memorable - with its local lizards (the largest on earth) and pink sands, an honourable mention was also extended to nearby Padar - which offered untouched beaches and stunning views of the cluster of islands that surrounded it.

The group then spent the final few nights of accommodation at the recently opened Ayana Komodo Resort. The first and only five-star resort on Labuan Bajo's Waecicu Beach, the property features a yoga deck, private 250-metre jetty and ocean views from every room. Agents concluded their trip by making the most of a real opportunity to relax prior to the flight home.



THE group at Komodo Island.



TAKING a dip at Pink Salt Beach.



TAKING on the steps at Padar Island.



CELEBRATING reaching the top at Padar Island.



ENJOYING their private cabana at OMNIA.

SUNSET at Plataran Komodo Beach Resort.

SUNSET at Ayana Komodo Resort.

