



M A N D U N A R E S O R T

SURF GUIDE

Rote sits at the end of the Indonesian archipelago, straight in the path of the Indian Ocean swell — and the waves in front of the resort are still, by Indonesian standards, empty.

This guide shows you where the breaks are, what each one asks of you, and how we get you out there.

OUR SURF MAP

Manduna sits on the west end of the Nemberala coast. From the resort, the breaks run east towards the harbour and beyond – most of them a few minutes away by boat.



The breaks along our coast, from Boa in the west to Suckies Mamma in the east.

Between the resort and T-Land there are three more breaks that few people outside Rote know by name: **Lifulada**, **Micks Place** and **Petrol Bombs**. They are the closest waves to us — **Lifulada** and **Petrol Bombs** are on the next two pages, and our team will tell you when Micks Place is working.



THE BREAKS

BREAK	WAVE	LEVEL	BEST TIDE	GETTING THERE
T-Land	Left, reef	Intermediate to advanced	Low to mid	Boat from the resort INCLUDED
Squilers	Soft peaks	Beginner to intermediate	Mid to high	Boat from the resort INCLUDED
Suckies Mamma	Right, reef	Advanced	Mid to high	About 10 minutes by boat
Boa	A-frame, reef	Advanced at low tide	All tides	15 minutes south, by motorbike or car
Boomies	Right, deep reef	Advanced	Low, on bigger swell	By boat, near the harbour
Do'o	Right, shallow reef	Advanced	Mid	About 20 minutes by boat
N'Dao	Left and right, reef	Advanced	Varies	Boat trip, full day
N'Dana	Left and right, reef	Advanced	Varies	Boat trip, full day — the furthest out

T-Land THE ONE YOU CAME FOR

One of the longest lefts in Indonesia, peeling over the reef in front of Nemberala through four sections: **Point**, **Mountain**, **Pyramid** and **Bananas** at the end. It handles anything from waist high to well overhead, and — unlike most reef waves — it gets **easier** as it gets bigger, with a longer, more open wall. Best from low to mid tide; on a full high tide it goes slow and fat.

Squilers WHERE EVERYONE STARTS

Softer, friendlier peaks close to the beach, best from mid tide up. This is where beginners take their first waves and where intermediates go when T-Land is too big.

Suckies Mamma FOR THE EXPERIENCED

A short, intense right-hander with real barrel sections over shallow reef, about ten minutes away by boat. Strong current on the inside. We usually run it as a group trip.

Boa HEAVY AT LOW TIDE

An A-frame reef 15 minutes south of us. Slabby and hollow on a low tide, more forgiving as the tide fills in. We go there overland, by motorbike or car, rather than by boat.





Lifulada — the one on our doorstep

Minutes from the resort, Lifulada breaks in the shadow of the cliff, between Manduna and Boa. It is one of the waves that almost nobody outside Rote knows by name, and on the right day there is nobody on it. Ask our team — they know exactly when it turns on.



PETROL BOMBS

The second of our neighbours, between Micks Place and T-Land. Petrol Bombs breaks out on the reef in front of us — close enough that you can watch it from the shore and decide over breakfast whether today is the day. It is short, it stands up fast, and when the tide drops the reef comes right up underneath it.



Watching it break from the shore — that turquoise strip is the reef it stands up on.



Low tide, reef out of the water, and one set wave down the line.

Another one to ask about. Petrol Bombs comes and goes with the tide and the swell direction, so check with our team in the morning — they'll tell you whether it's worth the walk or the paddle.

T-LAND

The wave Rote is known for: a long left peeling over the reef in front of Nemberala, through four sections — **Point, Mountain, Pyramid** and **Bananas** at the end. On the right day the sections join up and the ride goes on far longer than your legs would like.



It gets easier as it gets bigger. Most reef waves get harder with size; T-Land does the opposite. With more swell the wall opens up and runs, which is why it suits confident intermediates as well as experts. Best from low to mid tide — on a full high tide it goes slow and fat.

Boat transfers are included and unlimited, from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Write in the surf WhatsApp group with the time you'd like to go and your boat will be waiting.



Lines, one after the other

T-Land on a clean dry-season swell, with the south-east trades holding the faces open. The reef runs for hundreds of metres, so the peak spreads the line-up out and you rarely feel crowded.

A WEEK AT T-LAND

Every tide and every swell gives you a different wave. These were all shot along the same stretch of reef, a few minutes from the resort.



From a clean head-high morning to the days when the outside sets show up — same reef, same boat ride.



SQUILERS

A few hundred metres from the beach, Squilers is the friendly one: soft, open peaks that give you time to stand up and a long, easy shoulder to ride. It is where most guests take their first waves in Rote, and where everyone else goes when T-Land is too big. Best from mid tide up – and the boat is included.



Waist to chest high and nobody around – a normal morning at Squilers.

Boards are on us. We keep a full quiver at the resort, from soft-tops to performance boards, and our team will pick one for the day. Private lessons are available too.

81 PALMS

Shallow, clear and gentle, 81 Palms is where the smallest waves of the day roll in – and where first-timers and children learn to surf. You can stand up in the water while you wait, which changes everything when it is your first session.



Lessons at 81 Palms – one instructor per child, feet on the sand.

Travelling with kids? Tell us before you arrive and we'll set up lessons for them. Boards, rash vests and instructors are arranged by our team, and parents can stand in waist-deep water the whole time.

SUCKIES MAMMA

Ten minutes by boat from the resort, Suckies Mamma is the best right-hander on the island: a short, heavy wall that stands up out of deep water and barrels over shallow reef. It wants a mid to high tide and an experienced surfer.



Suckies Mamma on a solid day — one surfer, one wall.

Want to surf it? Tell us and we'll put a session together — we usually run Suckies as a group trip, and we pick the day by the tide and the swell.

BOA

Fifteen minutes south of the resort, Boa is the wave people talk about when they talk about Rote's power. An A-frame reef that stands up out of deep water: slabby and hollow on a low tide, longer and more forgiving as the tide fills in. We go there overland, by motorbike or car — it is quicker and easier to reach by road than by sea.



Boa on a clean morning — the wall runs before the reef stands it up.



The inside section, where it gets hollow.

Going to Boa? Ask our team the night before and we'll organise the motorbikes or the car. Best early or late in the day, when the wind is light — and bring your reef boots.

THE OUTER ISLANDS

On the right swell, we run boat trips to the islands off Rote. These are remote, uncrowded waves over shallow reef, and they need a good forecast and a full day.



N'Dao and Do'o, with the peaks we surf marked in yellow.



N'Dana, off the southern tip — the southernmost point of Indonesia and of Asia.

Planning an island day? Talk to us the evening before. We pick the day by the swell and the tide, and these trips are arranged separately from your included boat transfers.

PULAU DO'O

An uninhabited island about twenty minutes off Rote, and the most serious wave we take guests to: a thick, perfectly round right-hander that stands up out of deep water and throws over shallow coral. When Do'o is on, it is as good as anything in Indonesia — and there is nobody there but your boat.



Four waves, one morning. Do'o breaks over shallow coral, so it is a wave for confident surfers.

Getting there. Do'o is a day trip arranged with our team, separate from your included transfers. We pick the day by the swell and the tide, so tell us early in your stay that you want to go and we'll watch the forecast for you.



Twenty minutes from the resort

You can see the reef through the water at Do'o. That is the appeal and the warning in the same picture: the wave is flawless, and it breaks in very little water. Reef boots, a board you trust, and a day our team has picked for you.

N'DAO

The island you see on the horizon from the resort. N'Dao has two peaks — a long left that runs down the reef, and a right on the other side of the same setup — so there is almost always a side that suits the wind. It is a full day out, and on the right swell you can have it to yourselves.



The left at N'Dao — open walls over reef, with room to run.



And the right, on the other side of the island.

Getting there. N'Dao is a boat trip arranged with our team, separate from your included transfers. Tell us the evening before and we'll pick the day by the swell, the tide and the wind.

N'DANA

The last island before the open ocean — and the southernmost point of Indonesia, and of Asia. N'Dana is uninhabited: a rock, a reef, thousands of seabirds, and a wave that runs off the edge of it with nobody watching. There is a left and a right here, so the wind rarely ruins the day.



Deep water to the last second, then it stands up over the reef.



The island itself, and the wave that runs off the edge of it.

The big day out. N'Dana is the furthest we go, so it needs a settled forecast and a full day. Mention it at the start of your stay and our team will keep an eye on the swell for you.



SURFING WITH US

- ◆ **Boat transfers to T-Land and Squilers are included and unlimited**, from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM.
- ◆ **Your surf WhatsApp group.** When you arrive we add you to a group with our boatmen. Whenever you want to go out, write in the group with the time and the break, and your boat will be ready.
- ◆ **Boards are free for guests.** We keep a full quiver at the resort — ask our team and we'll match a board to the day.
- ◆ **Never surfed before?** We run private lessons, and you can warm up on our surf simulator before you get in the water.
- ◆ **Suckies Mamma** is usually run as a group trip, especially when the resort is full — let us know you're keen and we'll put a session together.
- ◆ **Bringing your own boards?** Tell us before you travel. The planes to Rote are small, so we can send your boards over by ferry with one of our drivers.
- ◆ **Reef boots.** Worth packing. Most of our breaks are over coral, and the reef comes up at low tide.

Season. We're open March to November. The swell is most consistent from May to September, with south-east trade winds blowing offshore across the main breaks. Even in the smaller months there is usually something to surf.

Tides matter here. T-Land and Boomies prefer a lower tide, Squilers and Suckies Mamma prefer a higher one — so on most days of your stay, something is working at some point in the day.