

FRV TRAVEL – VILLA JOSS

EDITION 7.3 OCT – NOV 2010



The contemporary-styled Villa Joss offers an abundance of space, natural light and places to relax.

The Artistic Energy Of Villa Joss

By Rachel Love

The holiday rental villas that stand out in Bali are the ones that endeavour to be different, especially in the Seminyak area, where contemporary-styled, elegantly furnished villas continue to pop up like mushrooms in the rainy season. A sense of uniqueness, however, can be achieved in a variety of ways, such as specific theme or a celebration of art.

At home that has been furnished and decorated with love imparts a special energy, and as soon as guests walk into Villa Joss, they will see just how much love, thought and good taste the owner has put into the design. This includes dramatic touches such as the spectacular hanging garden of trailing green vines that heralds the entrance, complete with a koi pond, water cascade and serene welcome statue.

Situated less than five minute's walk from Batu Belig Beach, the newly-completed property embraces all the comforts of modern tropical living while also presenting a taste of the Balinese culture through the owner's remarkable collection of fine art.

The four bedrooms, stairwell, living spaces and garden of this delightful abode showcase some beautiful paintings and limited-edition linoprints, as well as two majestic stone carvings, one of which is a 500 kilogram reclining Buddha crafted in river stone and resting against a glistening wall of water and gold-streaked Indian slate.

The villa is comprised of four pavilions, including a two-storey sleeping pavilion, and a large open-sided 'bale' pavilion, complemented by spacious flat lawns, a swimming pool, outdoor jacuzzi, and a pool deck punctuated with big pots of flowering lotus.

BALI VILLA JOSS

As visitors explore the living and dining pavilion, the entertainment room and business centre, and the four comfortable bedrooms, they will be introduced not only to some of Indonesia's best known contemporary artists but also to the Hindu gods, quintessential ceremonies and rural landscapes that form the subjects of their work. In one of the master bedrooms, for example, hangs a painting entitled 'Elephant Dance', which illustrates the world of fantasy that Balinese artist Made Gunawan shares with his children. The owner commissioned the painting for his six-year-old daughter, after whom the villa is named. In another bedroom, 'Ndalan' captures a temple anniversary ceremony in which artist Arjeng has interestingly used oils to achieve a moving pastel image of a beautiful Balinese procession winding its way down the hills to the beach.

Indeed, the walls of Villa Joss abound with colourful art, but like many dwellings in Bali, the walls are limited due to our taste for open air living. In the spacious living & dining pavilion, an open plan feature kitchen rests against a slate-clad backplash, with concertina glass doors on the other three sides of the room, which can be opened to invite the garden indoors. This trend continues through upstairs balconies, terraces and indoor-outdoor barrooms with open-air showers and picture windows, to the large bale pavilion in the garden, which has been designed for both relaxing and alfresco dining.

It is in these spaces, that guests at Villa Joss might be inspired to dream up new projects, and maybe even create some artwork of their own.

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Facing page: One of four bedrooms, the pink-themed Joss Suite. The living & dining pavilion is characterised by a soaring timber-lined roof and operable glass doors.

This page: The bale, pool, barroom and pool deck, as seen from the inside of the living room.

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