

# SELONG BELANAK NEWS

## Discover South Lombok

*Selong Belanak Beach - The Jewel of Southern Lombok*



Welcome to the first ever edition of Selong Belanak News - a newsletter designed to provide updates and information on the Selong Belanak region.

As anyone who has visited Selong Belanak knows, this stunning beach in the South

of Lombok is truly one of Indonesia's best-kept secrets.

Major developments are starting to occur as investors realise the wonderful potential of the area. This newsletter aims to keep you up to date with those developments and any local news of note. Enjoy!

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Any editorial submissions, photographs and news developments are always welcome.  
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## Touring day trippers discover Selong Belanak

In the past few months there has been a noticeable increase in the number of surfers and day-trippers choosing to visit Selong Belanak Beach.

Kuta's local surf school regularly brings its beginners to the gentle

rolling surf break of SB where conditions are perfect for learning.

In response to the recent influx of tourists, enterprising locals at the nearby fishing village have begun to establish small stalls selling cold drinks and snacks, and one has even started hiring out surfboards.



## Tourism Indonesia Ministry earmarks Selong Belanak for future development.

Lalu Fathurrahman and Rox Harvey hosted the Director of Central Lombok Tourism – Lalu Zazuli Azhar, and other local officials and investors in late November 2010 at Sempiak Villas. Rox commented after the visit;

*“For a showing of Selong Belanak, it was very positive, the weather was perfect and Selong Belanak was looking its stunning best. There were approximately 18 guests - a mixed group with investors from Jakarta and Bali, the Director of Central Lombok Tourism and Top officials from the Destination Department of Indonesian Tourism and Culture Ministry.*

*Many of the investors already own Resorts all over Indonesia (about 10 between them). It is very exciting that*

*their sights are turning to Lombok.*

*Not only is there interest from Indonesian developers but this month a delegation including some of the guests mentioned above will be heading to Abu Dhabi to promote Selong Belanak and Central Lombok along with two other top scenic destinations in Indonesia.*

*I guess our beautiful Selong Belanak won't be a secret for long. The visitors were surprised at this area and asked us to keep it as up market as possible and protect the beauty and they would help where they can.*

*I told him we had friends/investors who in the main, were liked minded and looking at Boutique Villa Resort style development.*



*“The Minister for Tourism & Investment and team were surprised at this area and asked us to keep it as up-market as possible and protect the beauty and they would help where they can.”*

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## Laut Biru Café : Grand opening in early 2011!



*“The simple yet impressive two-storey design of the restaurant is in keeping with the local architecture and natural surrounds.”*

The exciting launch of the new Laut Biru Café – Selong Belanak's first ever beach café/restaurant, is anticipated to occur in early 2011.

Established by new permanent residents of Selong Belanak, New Zealanders Clive Harvey and Adam Parkinson of Sempiak Villas, the café will fulfill a very definite need for a quality eating-establishment in the SB region that is open to the public.

There is currently nowhere for people day-tripping from nearby areas to grab a bite to eat, which caters to tourists and is easily accessible from the beach, so the restaurant will be a welcome addition to the bay.

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“Laut Biru Café is set to serve an assortment of very fresh, vibrant and wonderfully tasty dishes.”

**Continued...**

The simple yet impressive two-storey design of the restaurant is in keeping with the local architecture and natural surrounds. The restaurant itself will be located on the ground floor of the building in the open pavilion-style area.

While the boys intend to source the freshest local ingredients wherever possible, the menu is destined to be something quite set apart from the usual local fare.

Both Clive and Adam have a long history of working in the hospitality and restaurant industry and if their current culinary undertakings at

Sempiak Villas are anything to go by the Laut Biru Café is set to serve an assortment of very fresh, vibrant and wonderfully tasty dishes.

In addition to the restaurant, an absolute beachfront beach-club (pictured right) is currently underway, providing a much-needed area for people to sit with a cold drink and enjoy the spectacular view of the beach.



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*Photos courtesy of Clive Harvey and Adam Parkinson of Sempiak Villas.*

**Tourism Indonesia Ministry earmarks Selong Belanak for future development.**

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*The Director is a keen diver and was a little disappointed no direct diving company here - any takers (?) - as I believe there are some excellent as yet not so well known diving sites. His thoughts were also that "wellness type environment" would be perfect here, meaning SB in general.*

*I think that about sums it up all in all a "great showing" of Selong Belanak and we have high hopes this attention will have great benefits to the future of this area."*

All this seems like promising news for the area in terms of regional tourism development in Selong Belanak and it is refreshing to see some interest being taken in the area by the Indonesian government.

The fact that the Minister seemed keen to develop Selong Belanak into an exclusive up-market region adds to the overall positive feeling of the visit and seems to be in keeping with current development projects in the area.

**Photos**

With such a beautiful view and spectacular scenery our camera is always at the ready whenever we visit Selong Belanak. For those of you who can't be there in person we therefore feel it only fair to share some of the wonderful sites with you.



*Photos courtesy of Andrew Corkery*

**COMMUNITY GROWTH**



**English School**

Being multi-lingual offers a huge employment advantage to local people living within tourism hotspots and opens a wealth of opportunities.

Thanks to Rox and Fathur at Sempiak Villas the local children of Selong Belanak and surrounding areas now have access to a free weekly English class, held each Sunday morning at a specially designated hall at Sempiak Villas.

Enthusiasm from the children has been overwhelming, with up to as many as 100 eager children cramming into the classes at any one time, many who have walked from as far as Serangan.

**Local Employment and Training**

The imminent increase in tourist accommodation and hospitality facilities in Selong Belanak is creating a huge opportunity for local employment.

So far, development in the region has already been estimated to have created up to 200 local jobs and provided invaluable training to local residents.

## Selong Belanak Development News

In each edition we plan to highlight a few developments in the Selong Belanak area (there are too many exciting things happening to be able to showcase them all at once), gathering together general updates and any other interesting tid-bits we manage to dig up.

### AVANTARA RESORT

#### Jabon Hills

Avantara is a joint resort and villa management business located in Jabon Hills with a spectacular view overlooking Selong Belanak beach. The resort is anticipated to be a chic 10 villa boutique modeled off resorts in Bali, Brazil and Mexico.

Developer Stewart Strong said the plan is to create a resort that is "funky, arty and health conscious - bringing a little bit of Ubud, mixing it with a touch of Seminyak, adding some distinctly Latin flavors".

Avantara is currently in the process of capital raising for their build out - anticipated for completion by the end of 2011. Infrastructure is forming the initial focus - access road completion, car-park, electricity generators, water drilling/storage.

"One of the things we're committed to are community projects and micro-financing local businesses. There's a long list of things to do that not only improve the lives of the local people but the feasibility the core business (ie the resort)" said Stewart.



*"One of the things we're committed to are community projects and micro-financing local businesses."*

Visit [www.avantara-residences.com](http://www.avantara-residences.com)

### LUXURY BEACHFRONT DEVELOPMENT

#### Selong Belanak Beach

Located on a 1.38ha plot of absolute prime beachfront land on Selong Belanak beach, Hong Kong & Singapore group JUB Ltd (in association with PT Mitra Alam), is currently well underway with plans for a luxury high-end development that will aim to cater to the upper end of the tourist market.

Bali-based architectural and project management firm PBM has been commissioned to manage the site plan, architecture and coordinate construction of the development.

Some of their previous projects include the 5-star Karma Kandara resort in Uluwatu Bali, and The Istana private villa (also 5-star).

Developers James Kibble and Andrew Corkery say they hope to begin construction as early as Q1 2011, and were recently spotted on site getting their hands dirty assisting with the initial site preparation works.

"We're determined to create a development that is both up-market and ecologically responsible, and which is sensitive to the rich local culture of the area" said Corkery. "Our architecture and site plan has been carefully considered to ensure that the entire



*"We're determined to create a development that is both up-market and ecologically responsible"*

development integrates well with the surrounding landscape and doesn't detract from the natural beauty of Selong Belanak" he said.

## Selong Belanak Development News (continued)

### South Lombok Stakeholders Association (SLSA): New Blog Launched



In order to keep landowners, developers and those with a general interest in South Lombok informed and connected, Andrew Corkery has established the South Lombok Stakeholders Association blog site [www.slsa.blog.com](http://www.slsa.blog.com)

Here members can hold discussions, post developments and updates and link to any noteworthy news or publicity pertaining to Lombok, in particular the southern region and Selong Belanak.

This should prove to be a valuable resource for all those with interests in the area, by providing an open forum for discussion and the sharing of information.

Please email Andrew ([andrew@ahcinvestments.com](mailto:andrew@ahcinvestments.com)) if you are not already a member and would like to be added.

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Happy holidays to all and see you in 2011.



*Photo courtesy Kay Baddeley*