Pseudoname: Ruud, Code: Interview 012, Category: International tourist, Sex: Male, Travel Group: Alone, Origin: Netherlands

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|  | Rama:  Yeah, as I mentioned to you, my research is about rural tourism travel, especially in Bali. First may I know your own definition of rural tourism.  012:  Sorry of?  Rama:  rural tourism  012:  Or should I understand that?  Rama:  I'm sorry. I lost you for a moment.  012:  Okay, So it's about the tourism in Bali. Is that correct?  Rama:  rural tourism, I can chat you the word.  012:  Rural tourism. I actually don't know what it exactly is to be honest. is it like?  Rama:  Yeah, rural is kind of like a natural area with locals in there, not a city or mass tourism  012:  So not in the touristic places, but more on the local places where not many tourists are. Okay then I understand it  Rama:  May I know your own definition of it. I mean your your own perspective.  012:  So For me, that means that you … they're not, you're going to the little villages and where local people live, instead of the places where all the tourists are, and where there is a lot of bars, and a lot of restaurants. So I think it's more, the original way of living, how people used to live in Bali before all the tourists came.  Rama:  Okay is there anything you want to add?  012:  And then, I guess that's what you … if you visit Bali, then you will see these places where the, where the more local people live.  Rama:  Yep, with those definitions, do you think that you have ever visit one of those places in Bali?  012:  Yes. Actually, because when I was in Bali, I rented a motorbike and I travelled from south to north and I went to the mountains and I visited also a little villages in between and sometimes the people there were very surprised to see me there and So then I knew this is not a place where normally a lot of tourists come. And yes it was nice for me to see like I personally like these places more to visit than the more touristic areas.  Rama:  Do you remember the name of this village Or this place?  012:  No, I think in the middle it was on Munduk.  I have to look it up. The second find that, that was more in the middle of Bali where there were like some mountains. And I remember that the place is started with the letter M. I can't really Remember. I can’t really remember the exactly name to the honest, no.  Rama:  That’s all right. Is there any other travel …  012:  Oh no, I know the name. It's Munduk. So M U N D U K. Okay, That's where I was.  Rama:  Okay, I’ll find this out later on but yeah, is there any other places like Munduk-like places other than this one?  012:  Not that I remember by name, no.  Rama:  Hmm, but you visited this kind of places, a lot of this kind of places, right?  012:  Yeah because I was on my own motorbike. So when I for example, drove to I was in the north in Lovina. So when I drove there, I saw many of these places.  And also, when I was in Munduk, I was also sometimes drive around with the motorbike in the area because I stayed in Munduk for a few days. And then I also discovered like little villages. And I remember there was a little place somewhere where they had a little hobbit village, they made a Hobbit village.  So yeah, it was for me, it was nice to discover all these little places in Bali.  Rama:  Was this in the in your 2015 or 2019 travel?  012:  This was in 2019.  Rama:  2019 okay it's fairly recent, right.  012:  Yeah. But I remember that in 2015 I was also driving around on the motorbike. So I did it actually two times.  Rama:  Okay, that I'll move on to the next questions. May I know why did you travel to Bali? I mean you even did it twice right.  012:  Yeah, The first time when I went there, I heard from many other people that they were in Bali and a lot of people liked it. And I wanted to go also there because I hear good stories about Bali.  And the second time I went to Bali, because my, my first experience in Bali was very good. I like the people and the food and the weather, and yeah, I just felt very nice on the island. And I decided that I wanted to go there again.  Rama:  Okay, Did you travel alone there?  012:  Yeah, both times I traveled alone.  Rama:  Wow. This is what I'm looking for. I'm looking for someone who travel alone, really. It’s so difficult to find one I got here. Okay then how long did you stay there in both travel?  012:  In the first time in 2015, I was there for three weeks. And then the second time I was there for four weeks. So, one month.  Rama:  How did you how did you travel to Bali?  012:  By airplane. So first time I went from, I flew from Netherlands. And the second time I flew from Thailand, I came from Thailand.  Rama:  Does it mean that in 2015, you travel from Netherlands directly to Bali?  012:  Yeah, yeah, exactly. No, I had a stop I think it was in Jakarta. But immediately I had another plane to Bali.  Rama:  Okay. And the second one, you flew from Netherlands to Thailand first, and then…  012:  Yeah, at that time I was traveling around the world. So, I was already traveling for a few months, India, Thailand, and then I went to Bali, and after Bali I went to Australia.  Rama:  Mm-hmm. I mean, Yeah, don't be offended, but what are you doing with that travel around the world? I mean, hoping from countries to countries  012:  When I was still studying, I only had like a few weeks holiday a year. And then every time when I was traveling and I had to go back after three weeks. I always thought it's so short, I want to travel more and longer. And once I was finished with my studies, then I decided that I wanted to travel for a long time.  So then I saved some money and then I wanted to go on an adventure to see a lot of countries and meet a lot of people all of the world and see cultures and then I went for one and a half years traveling.  Rama:  Wow, fantastic. Yeah, I would love to do so. But I don’t know  012:  maybe one day  Rama:  Yeah, I hope. But, during both of your travel, did you have a chance to move around in Bali or did you stay in one place?  012:  No, I moved around a lot, actually. The first time when I was there I had … both times I had a motorbike so I could go around from place to place and then most of the time I stayed somewhere like three or four days and then I went to the next place.  And both times that I was in Bali, I've been in Ubud and I've been in Canggu and in Munduk. And the first time when I was there also went all the way to the north to Lovina.  Rama:  And why did you do that? I mean, you could have only stay in one place and you can still move around, right?  012:  I wanted to see a lot of things and I wanted to see the island. And for me, I don't like to stay too long at the same place, especially if I'm someone new. Then I want to know what is around me, and I want to see what's on the island. And for me, I like it that I can then travel around and see a lot of things.  Rama:  Let me ask about your background in Netherlands. Do you hold driving license there?  012:  Yeah, I have a driver's license here. Yes. Yeah.  Rama:  I mean, previously in 2015.  012:  Yeah, I already had it then. Yeah,  Rama:  Okay. And what is your … I guess you're still, you're still a student right at that time. And what is your main transport modes in Netherlands?  012:  In 2015? I travelled … then I just had a bike like a bicycle.  Rama:  So it's also unused driving license if you do cycle a lot.  012:  No, I used to have a car before that time. So I drive a lot in the car. Yeah.  Rama:  Okay, Do you mind if I asked how old you were at that time in 2015?  012:  Yeah, and the first time when I was in Bali, so that's like seven years ago. So then I was like 29, thank you. And The second time when I was in Bali, I was 33.  Rama:  Yeah, let me explore about your travel in Bali. So, was that motorbike your main transport modes in Bali or do you ever have a chance to try another alternative?  012:  Only when I arrived on the airport I had a taxi and the rest of the time I was using the motorbike and I didn't try anything else.  Rama:  May I know why?  012:  For me it was because it was cheap. The cheapest way to travel around, but also I like the experience of driving on the motorbike. It was better and it was also easier because in the car the world a lot of traffic jams and with the motorbike you could easily go past the traffic.  So it was the main reasons were like saving money but also it was easier to travel around like that and I like the experience of driving on the motorbike.  Rama:  Um, Do you ride a motorbike in the Netherlands?  012:  No, I don't.  Rama:  So it's different experience.  012:  Yeah, I did have already some experience because in other countries like in Thailand, for example, I already drove on the motorbike but I never did it in the Netherlands.  Rama:  Did you required to have any license in Bali actually  012:  For the motorbike, right? No, I just had my international driver's license. Yeah.  Rama:  Yeah, you rent.This motorbike, right? Yeah, and the rentals didn't even ask you anything, right?  012:  No.No, they didn't  Rama:  Yeah It’s pretty easy then.  Do you know any other alternative transport modes other than those you've mentioned: taxi and motorbikes.  012:  Yeah, there's also … I can't remember the name anymore. Yeah, there was like a you could use an app and then somebody picks you up.  Rama:  Gojek, or Grab?  012:  I think so, yeah, one of the two I think Grab or something. And you could use that one too, that somebody will pick you up, and it's kind of the same as a taxi, but it's also on the motorbike,  Rama:  Have you used that in Bali?  012:  Yeah, when I was the second time there, I used it. When I arrived on the airports and then I had to go to the hostel, then I used that one but only one time.  Rama:  Use the motorbike taxi. Yeah, yeah. I guess because you travel around the world and you brought so much luggage. I mean did you bring many luggage at that time?  012:  No, no. I was traveling around only with a little bag. It was a hand luggage and I only had a few things with me the whole time when I was traveling. So only like maybe like two or three t-shirts, two pants. Like I traveled really minimalistic. So, it was always easy for me to go from place to place because I could always use the airplane, only the hand luggage.  Rama:  Yeah it's like backpacker, right. Backpacker travel.  Yeah. I'd like to ask a more philosophical thing. For you personally, is there any relationship between your holiday goals and your choice of transport mode?  I mean when you decided to pursue this, this goals in your travel and yeah and you've limited to this kind of transport options.  012:  Yeah. When, when I was traveling around, I always most of the time, I chose the, the cheapest option to travel around. So, in some countries, I walk. In some countries I had a motorbike. And in Australia, when I was there, I had, I bought my own car. So I was always looking what is the cheapest option for me to travel around.  Rama:  Have you have consider public transport in any kind?  012:  I did like … do you mean in Bali or in other countries?  Rama:  Bali and in other countries  012:  I did it, for example in India, because it was more common there. But in Bali I didn't, I didn’t consider that.  Rama:  Do you have any other reason why did you use public transport in India?  012:  Yeah, it was more easy to use it because everybody choose to their … all the local people use public transportation. And in Bali, everybody, I have the idea that everybody's driving by themselves and not by public transportation. So that's why in India it was easier for me to, to go by public transportation because it was better organised there.  Rama:  Okay, so you didn't find any public transport in Bali as well, right?  012:  No, I can remember that I also then really look for it to be honest, but I cannot remember that I have seen public transportation, no. (laugh)  Rama:  Even in 2019?  012:  Yeah. Even then I cannot remember to be honest, that I saw a bus. No, I cannot remember that.  Rama:  Okay, okay. Yeah. Research shown that people develop skill to travel. But for you, in your opinion, what is the skill that people need to travel, particularly in Bali?  012:  What kind of skills that I need? Yeah, if they travel from one place to the other place, do you mean that?  Rama:  Yeah, for example you've traveled to Lovina to Munduk. What do you think is needed?  012:  So you need to know how to drive there. So you need to know the way of driving. And also, if you driving by yourself, then you really need to be careful because it can be very chaotic on the road in Bali with a lot of motorbikes and people are coming from left and right.  So, you need to be careful and look, look good around you, and also be not to scared because then you may be waiting a long time somewhere. So, sometimes you have to just go but the rest and follow the rest.  And yeah, it's … The rules are sometimes also not very clear what the rules are exactly. But sometimes it goes as it goes, I guess.  Rama:  Did you ever stop by a policeman or someone from some authority?  012:  Yeah. Yeah, because I had somebody on the back and then one person didn't have a helmet and then the policeman stop those and then he said we had to … we got a bill like a fine. But I learned before that If somebody wants to give you a sign then you should offer yourself. “Okay, I will pay this and otherwise I go then you take me to the police station,” or something like that. So when he stopped me and I said I had to pay a lot of money and then I said, okay, no I'm paying only this (amount). Otherwise, you have to bring me to the police station and then he accepted that. (laugh)  Rama:  Do you still remember how much you pay that now?  012:  No I can’t remember, it wasn't that much. It wasn't that much. I cannot remember like no  Rama:  yeah, no problem. Your identity is anonymized, So … I just wondering how did you plan your travel? Did you did you plan your each and every day in Bali whether you want to go to this place or you just go?  012:  yeah, the first time when I was in Bali, I planned before because I had only like three weeks and then I wanted to see a few things. So, there was a little bit space of spontaneous things. But the most things I planned.  And the second time when I was in Bali, I didn't plan that much and I just thought, okay I'll just go there and there and see how it goes and where I want to stay longer.  Rama:  Mm-hmm. How about the place you stay? Did you plan that up one as well or you just go there and see whatever you can book?  012:  I planned a little bit. The only thing that was most spontaneous is when I was in 2019 in Bali and I went to Munduk, it was more spontaneous that I really liked it there and then I stayed longer.  Rama:  Probably is that because you've already know some knowledge about Bali, right then you have to plan everything.  012:  No. Exactly, yeah. Normally when I go somewhere, I do some research before; what I want to see, and where it's nice and …  Rama:  Yeah. But not Bali because you have experienced that before. Okay.  012:  Yeah, exactly.  Rama:  I will continue about your challenge. I mean, what do you feel? Is there any challenge in your travel around Bali, both in 2015 and 2019?  012:  A challenge? Like for me, personally, hmm yeah, because I was traveling alone and then sometimes problems show up and then you're all alone. So then you have to there are take care of yourself and yeah, make sure that you have a good time, but also that you are safe (laugh). And but yeah sometimes, you know, when you are alone you can maybe feel a little bit lonely. And then you have to go to other people to meet people. So, it's a challenge because then you have to go out of your comfort zone.  Yeah. That's, I think those are the most challenges.  Rama:  But you didn't have any, any challenges in, in the way you travel move around and using various kind of transport modes.  012:  And the traveling … you mean like on driving on the motorbike? Yeah, it could be sometimes a little bit chaotic on the road and messy, and it was sometimes a challenge to drive safe I think, and to find the road.  Rama:  Yeah, yeah. How you find the road, actually? How did you find it?  012:  Yeah, I had … I use my telephone and then I had like internet, like, with the SIM card, and I could use Internet. And then I could clip my phone on the motorbike so that I could drive but also look on the telephone again. And sometimes it was actually a challenge because then my battery was getting low and then I had to still drive a while. So, how to make sure that I was there before the battery was dead. (laugh)  Rama:  Are you using kind of application like Google Maps or something?  012:  Yeah, Google Maps. And the first time when I was there, I used … there is another app I think it's called Maps. So, I could … the first time when I was there, I downloaded an offline map and the second time when I was in Bali, I was using just the internet on the SIM card.  Rama:  Okay then yeah, the last sections, this is about the sustainable travel. The idea of sustainable travelers has now become really popular. And yeah, I'd like to know what is your view about sustainable tourism travel.  012:  Sustainable that means like good for the environment?  Rama:  Environment, social and economic.  012:  Yeah. Like my opinion is that people used too much airplanes, too much cars, too much motorbikes. And everybody is … a lot of people are driving alone and it's like, it's very bad for the nature, for the earth. So, I don't know exactly what is the solution, but maybe driving more electric, but then I hear that sometimes because you have also motorbikes that are driving electricity, but then you need a lot of electricity. So I don't know that is good for the earth, but …  With all the … there are so many like cars and motorbikes and trucks and buses and they all have a bad impact on the earth. So maybe I think to drive more like electric and people that drive more together instead of driving alone. And maybe sometimes when you don't have to go very far, you take a bicycle, or you even walk there.  Rama:  Yeah. Now about Bali. How do you think tourism travel in Bali can be made more sustainable? Because now it's recovering…  012:  Yeah. Yeah, it's actually a good question because it's like what I remember is that all the the roads on Bali always very busy. Because there are so many motorbikes and so many local people that also drive around  Yeah. So maybe it would be good if there would be buses. Or yeah, maybe like bigger cars, where more people can be together then go together and … or maybe electric motorbikes, something like that.  Rama:  If you have a chance to come back to Bali and these things you mention are available, like buses or electric motorbike, which one would you use?  012:  I think, because I like to, to drive around myself, I would choose them, the electric motorbike.  Rama:  All right. Yep. That's pretty much all the questions I need to ask you. But just one last thing, I have this travel pattern that I want to show you and maybe you can choose which one fit your travel pattern during your time in Bali.  012:  Okay, I have to … single destination.  Rama:  Home is therefore you home is Netherlands, of course. A probably your hotel or your place of stay and B, C, D or the this small circle are the attractions.  012:  And this is the way that I traveled around, right?  Rama:  Yeah, which one do you think fit you?  012:  And it's about the time that I traveled around the world, or in Bali.  Rama:  In Bali. Of course you've moved around places.  012:  Yeah, I think the first time when I was in Bali, it was more like the number five and the second time when I was in Bali, it was more like number three.  Rama:  So number five and number three?  Yeah, so you stay one in one place and …  012:  When I was the second time I was at one place and then I discovered the area more, yeah.  Rama:  Yeah, I think that's all the questions I need to, I want to ask you. Is there anything you want to ask me or is there anything you want to add?  012:  No, no, it was nice. I hope I helped you with the questions.  Rama:  Yeah, Of course, because I'm really looking for lone traveller and I'm looking for European traveller because based on my previous interviews, European travellers have different profile from the other tourists coming from, maybe another Asian or African countries. And, yeah, I just hope that you have a good memory to recall, not that one that probably make you remember bad feelings on negative feelings about this travel and so on.  012:  Yeah, no I had, I have good memories of Bali. And one day I want to go back there.  Rama:  Yeah, me too. Last time I was there in 2015 as well.  012:  Really, that's long time ago.  Rama:  And I'm working. I was not taking a vacation. I'm just waiting for the form, and you can do whenever you ready, you can just send me by email.  012:  Oh yeah. True. I will send that to later on today somewhere. Yep. Yep.  Rama:  No rush. Yes, and yeah. Lastly, thank you so much again for your time.  012:  Yeah, thank you, too.  Rama:  Then have a good day there in Netherland.  012:  Have a good day, too. All right. Thank you. Bye. |