

# Mahawu Volcano



Make the easy 1-hour trek to the edge of 1331-m-high Mahawu volcano where you can view the changing colors of the lake at the bottom of the 450-m-wide and 140 meter deep crater. Depending on the time of day, the lake exhibits green, blue, yellow and reddish tones. Observe the fumaroles, mudpots, and small geysers along the shore. Your trek will take you through tall savannah grass and past rare trees and wildflowers. Small-to-moderate explosive eruptions have been recorded at Mahawu volcano since the 18th century.



## Accessing Mahawu

Mahawu is  $\pm$  5 km from most hotels in the town of Tomohon. It is  $\pm$  25 km from the city of Manado in the province of North Sulawesi, Indonesia.

- *By car:* From most hotels in Tomohon, it is a 10-minute drive along paved road to the Mahawu site entrance.
- *By public transport:* From the city of Manado – you can take public transport to Tomohon. From the 'Karombasan' bus terminal (RP. 6000/person) you can catch a local 'mikrolet' to the site entrance (Rp. 2000/person)
- *On foot:* You can walk from Tomohon to the site.

## Activities to enhance your visit to the site

- *Walk around the crater* for an additional half an hour and enjoy the panoramic view of Tondano Lake and the cities of Tomohon, Bitung and Manado.
- *Enjoy a 2-hour interpretive guided trek*: Be picked up at your hotel by an experienced guide who will lead the trek and explain the history of the area, the rare plants, and interesting facts about the volcano. Your guide will drive you back to your hotel. (Rp. 50,000 – Rp.100,000 - return). Guides are provided by the hotels.
- *Local culture day trip*: Be picked up at your hotel by an knowledgeable guide who will lead you on the interpretive guided trek (above) in the morning. On the route back to Tomohon, you will stop for lunch at the Village of Rukukan where your guide will show you the traditional houses and local fresh vegetable market, and take you past terraced plantations. You will visit a local plantation and learn from the local people how they farm cabbages, carrot, chilly, tomatoes using terraces.

## How you can help us preserve this site and the surrounding community

- Be careful not to disturb the rare plants along the path to the volcano.
- Remove all of your garbage.
- Help the community to replant trees around the volcanic area.
- Donate to help with the site improvements - construction of a public toilet, a proper sign with rules at the entrance gate, garbage receptacles, and solar lighting along the road to the area.
- Purchase locally grown vegetables, fruit and handicrafts.
- Consider one of the investment opportunities in the area (see below).

## Places to stay

Tomohon has a variety of eco-friendly hotels:

- **Gardenia Hotel**  
phone: +62 431 351282  
email: reservation@gardeniacountryinn.com  
website: www.gardeniacountryinn.com
- **Lokon Boutique Resort**  
website: www.booking.com/hotel/id/lokon-boutique-resort.en.html
- **Onong's Palace**  
phone: +62 431 3157090  
email: info@tomohon-onong.com  
website: www.tomohon-onong.com
- **Tomohon Highland Resort**  
phone: +62 431 353333  
email: mail@highlandresort.info  
website: www.highlandresort.info

## Places to eat

- All of the above hotels have restaurants with healthy food choices using locally produced food.

## Safety and Tips

- Use caution around the edge of the volcano.
- Wear long sleeves /long pants to protect your skin from the sharp savannah grass.
- Wear a sun hat.
- Provide your own drinking water (available at stalls in downtown Tomohon).

## To learn more, contact:

- Tourism and Culture Agency of Tomohon  
Kompleks Kantor Walikota – Kakaskasen Tomohon  
c/p: Mr. Sartin , mobile: 081340600479
- HPI (Indonesian Guides Association) Tomohon  
Limbers Tour & travels – Talete I Tomohon  
c/p: Alex Maerah (Chairman) mob: 0852 40275757

## Investment opportunities:

The Government of Tomohon will facilitate and approve the private development of:

- *A small restaurant and souvenir shop at the site* that offers fresh meals unique to the area, and that are made from fish, chicken and vegetables grown by local farmers. The building must be a design that complements and protects the natural environment, and uses local materials and labor. Souvenirs that are sold must be made locally.
- *Plantation model farm* that will allow tourists, students and other visitors to plant, tend, and harvest vegetables for a range of different time periods. The facility must provide accommodation and meals made from locally grown food.
- *Multi-day packages* based in Tomohon, Rurukan, and Manado
- *Bio tour guide service* that provides knowledgeable information about local plants, farming and volcanoes.
- *Eco-lodge* based in or near Tomohon or Rurukan

## Additional local attractions

- Rurukan village—with its terraced vegetable plantations and traditional houses
- Tomohon traditional market

## More facts on Mahawu Volcano

The elongated Mahawu volcano, is the northernmost of a series of young volcanoes along a SSW-NNE line near the margin of the Quaternary Tondano caldera. Mahawu has two pyroclastic cones on its northern flank. Less active than its neighbor, Lokon-

Empung volcano, Mahawu's historical activity has been restricted to occasional small explosive eruptions recorded since 1789. The last recorded eruption was in 1977.

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|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>Summit Elevation:</b> | 1324 m    | 4,344 feet  |
| <b>Latitude:</b>         | 1.358°N   | 1°21'30"N   |
| <b>Longitude:</b>        | 124.858°E | 124°51'30"E |

### Related websites:

[www.volcanodiscovery.com/volcanoes/indonesia/sulawesi/mahawu/](http://www.volcanodiscovery.com/volcanoes/indonesia/sulawesi/mahawu/)

[www.volcano.si.edu/world/volcano.cfm?vnum=0606-11=](http://www.volcano.si.edu/world/volcano.cfm?vnum=0606-11)

<http://volcano.oregonstate.edu/mahawu>

[http://www.lembehresort.com/tours\\_excursions\\_mahawu\\_volcano\\_trek\\_t9.html](http://www.lembehresort.com/tours_excursions_mahawu_volcano_trek_t9.html)

[www.diverslodgelembbeh.com/mahawu\\_volcano\\_hiking.html](http://www.diverslodgelembbeh.com/mahawu_volcano_hiking.html)