



LEMBATA TEXTILE STUDY TRIP 2025 HELD WITH CARNIVAL LAMAHOTLOT

October 7 - 10, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Join Dr. Linda McIntosh, a Southeast Asian textile expert, and Mr. Tony Labuan, Deputy Director of Tourism in Lembata Regency, East Indonesia, for a Lembata textile study trip on Lembata Island, East Indonesia. This study trip is held in conjunction with Carnival Lamaholot, a festival dedicated to Lamaholot culture. This year's focus is on traditional textiles. Activities include exhibitions and demonstrations by weavers from different parts of Lembata and adjacent islands such as Flores, Solor, Adonara, and Ternate of Alor Regency.

The study trip will meet weavers in their home villages in Ile Api, Atadei, and Tapobali for dancing and textile production demonstrations. Participants have the rare opportunity to visit a traditional village of 77 clan houses. We will view some of their sacred heirlooms.



SCHEDULE



October 6

Arrive in Lewoleba, Lembata
Check-in at the hotel
Beachside welcome dinner



October 7

Visit the Lamaholot weavers of Ile
Api Volcano
Opening of Carnival Lamaholot -
dancing, exhibitions, and
demonstrations



October 8

Travel to Atadei region in
Southeast Lembata for
dancing and demonstrations



October 9

Visit the traditional village of
Lewohala



October 10

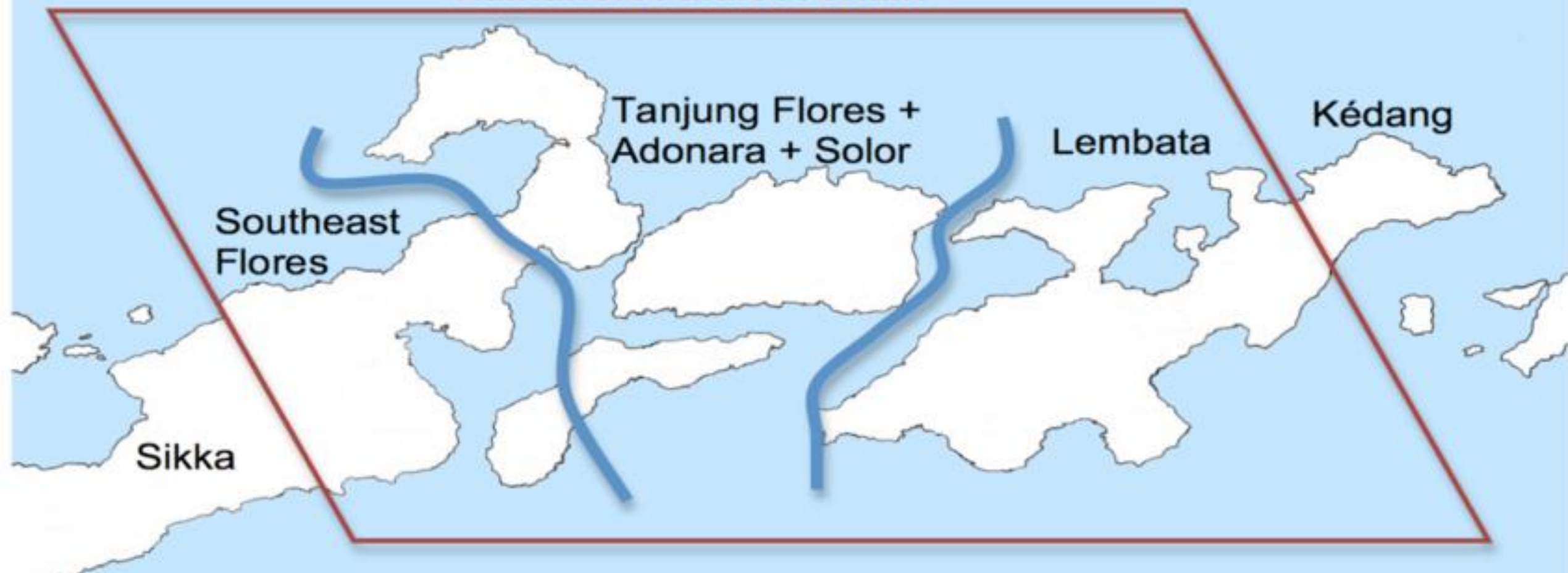
Seminar on Lamaholot Culture, am
Travel to Tapobali, Southwest
Lembata, for dancing and
demonstrations
Festival Lamaholot
Closing ceremony



October 11

Depart Lewoleba

Lamaholot dialect chain



WHO ARE THE LAMAHOT PEOPLE?

The Lamaholot people are the most populous group of East Flores, Adonara, Solor, and Lembata Islands. Alurung or Alorese is a related language. Lamaholot language belongs to the same ethnolinguistic family as Indonesian, but the languages are not mutually intelligible. Most Lamaholot people are farmers with traditional beliefs upholding the sun, moon, earth, and ancestors. Women are the primary producers of textiles, growing cotton and natural dyestuffs such as indigo, morinda, turmeric, and other plants. There are different types and grades of textiles depending on the locale.



6 OCT

Guests arrive in Lewoleba, the capital of
Lembata Island,

Hotel check-in

Brief introduction of the trip by Linda

Evening – Beachside dinner

7 OCT

We will drive to Ile Api Volcano to meet Lamaholot weavers from several Lamaholot villages on Ile Api or the Fire Volcano.





CARNIVAL LAMAHOLOT

A parade of Lembata's finest textiles



FESTIVAL LAMAHOT

7 OCT - AFTERNOON /EVENING

- Carnival Lamahot - people of the capital, Lewoleba, dress in their finest handwoven textiles for a procession through town.
- Textile and weaving exhibitions by groups of Lembata and neighboring islands.
- Traditional music and dance
- VIP Dinner

TEXTILE EXHIBITIONS AND WEAVING DEMONSTRATIONS



Sikka
Flores Island



Ngada
Flores Island



Lamaholot
Adornara Island



Lamaholot
Solor Island

TEXTILE EXHIBITIONS AND WEAVING DEMONSTRATIONS



Lamaholot
Tapobali, Lembata Island



Alurung or Alorese
Ternate Island, Alor Regency



Lamaholot
Ile Api, Lembata Island

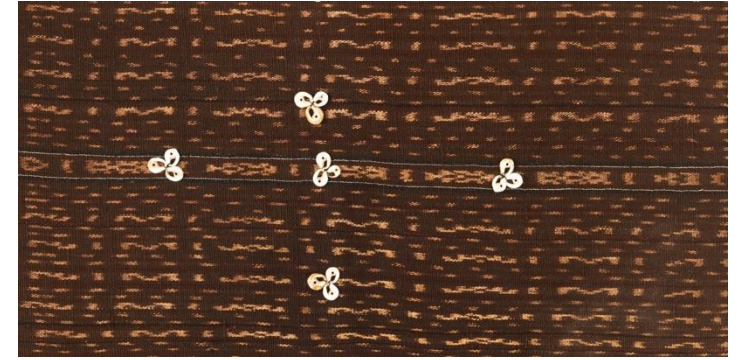


Lamaholot
Lamalera, Lembata Island

TEXTILE EXHIBITIONS AND WEAVING DEMONSTRATIONS



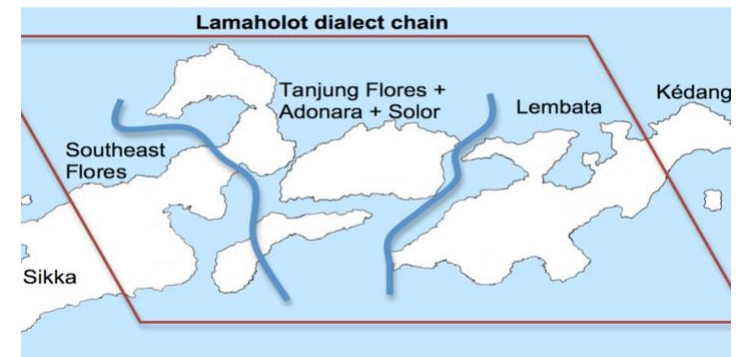
Produced by Lamaholot for Kedang
Kedang, Lembata Island



Lamaholot
East Flores Island



Lamaholot
Atadei, Lembata Island



Lamaholot cultural areas
3 dialects

OCT 8 ATADEI, SOUTHEAST LEMBATA

We return to the south end of the island but head southeast to the Atadei area. Several villages such as Brenai/Atawolo, Lerek, and Watuwawer continue to weave textiles decorated with warp ikat. Their naturally dyed, handspun cotton textiles are similar to those made in Lamalera, but there are differences in the shades of natural dyes.

We will have our lunch cooked in a traditional manner using geothermal heat. One of the traditional clan houses will allow us to view their sacred heirlooms including textiles.





9 OCT

LEWOHALA, NORTH LEMBATA

Lewohala is one of the largest traditional villages, consisting of 77 clan houses, on the slopes of the Ile Api volcano. The community now lives in eight villages on the coast but returns to the original village every October for the **Utan Wuun Lolon Festival**. This Thanksgiving festival occurs for 12 days around the full moon. The festival is sometimes called the bead or peanut festival since different types of beans and peanuts are served as food along with rice, banana, and dried fish. Children are the guests of honor of this feast. The community's sacred heirlooms will be on display, especially for us.

10 OCT TAPOBALI, SOUTH LEMBATA

Tapobali is not very well-known for their naturally dyed, handspun cotton textiles, but their textiles, especially the 3-paneled textiles that serve as bridewealth or sarungs, are strikingly beautiful. (Bridewealth textiles are distinguished by the presence of unwoven warp threads.) Other mandatory factors for a textile to be a bridewealth textile are the materials that compose it are handspun cotton and natural dyes. The Lamaholot weavers use materials purchased at the market such as chemical dyes and machine-spun threads for daily and special occasion clothing. Dandy Leduor, originally from Tapobali, is one of the few male weavers preserving the tradition of textile production using natural dyes and handspun cotton.





11 OCT - DEPART LEWOLEBA

The study trip concludes.



Other activities will be arranged – a surprise for our guests!

Also, if you are interested in a personalised workshop on ikating, cotton spinning, or weaving, don't hesitate to ask.

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Thank you for your interest!



HOW DO WE GET THERE?

ARRIVE

- Oct 5 - Fly to KUPANG
- Overnight in Kupang
- Oct 6 - Fly from Kupang to Larantuka and then fast ferry to Lewoleba

Or

- Ferry from Kupang to Lewoleba
- Oct 7 - Fly to Lewoleba

RETURN

- Oct 11 - fly to Kupang
- Wings Air IW-1994.
Transit to Bali or Jakarta
- or
- Ferry from Lewoleba to Kupang

PALM INDAH HOTEL, LEWOLEBA

[HTTPS://WWW.INSTAGRAM.COM/P/CYU11FVYQFE/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CYU11FVYQFE/)



Twin Beds
Palm Indah



Double Bed
Pal Indah



Dining area
Palm Indah



Lembata Island

RECOMMENDED READING

- Roy Hamilton, ed. (1994), *Gift of the Cotton Maiden: Textiles of Flores and the Solor Islands*.
 - Some chapters discuss textiles of the Lamaholot, Sikka, and Ngada ethnic groups which will be represented at the Lembata Tenun/Textile Festival.
- Ruth Barnes (1984), *The Ikat Textiles of Lamalera, Lembata Within the Context of Eastern Indonesian Fabric Traditions*.
- Petronela Kedan (2021), “Kewatek: Ikat Textiles from Adonara”
 - https://brill.com/view/journals/bki/177/1/article-p62_3.xml?language=en
- Linda S. McIntosh and Yulianti Peni (2021), “Alorese Textiles, specifically *Tenapi*, and their Production of Ternate Island, Alor Regency, NTT, Indonesia”
 - <https://journals.openedition.org/archipel/2667>