

Bebek Cottage – A Made Wijaya Heritage Hideaway



Welcome to Bebek Cottage.

Set in historic Sanur, Bebek Cottage was once home to Bali's own legendary Michael "Made Wijaya" White, an Australian-born architect, landscape designer, journalist, photographer and author. Today, this beautiful heritage home has been thoughtfully and lovingly restored into a unique, luxury accommodation, offering travellers a home for the night, an experience layered with a beautiful sense of nostalgia, history and personality.

Here, time slows down and history unfolds in lush detail - you can once again explore the magical and cultural allure of Bali through the eyes and words of Made Wijaya in the home of one of Bali's most celebrated and beloved legends.

History – The Villa

Designed and built in 1990, Villa Bebek is inspired by traditional Balinese palaces with a blend of colonial. In this lush enclave, there are 12 pavilions - once the private sanctum of Made Wijaya, they are now accommodations, a yoga shala, a library, a pool and an on-site restaurant, all connected to one another through intricate landscaping filled with exotic handcrafted statues, ornamental ponds and lush foliage.

History – Made Wijaya

The story of Michael "Made Wijaya" White began in Sydney, Australia in 1976 when the then 20 year old architecture student took a short break from his studies and sailed away on a ketch. According to legend, he dived overboard into raging waters during a tropical rainstorm and swam towards Balinese shores.

What was intended to be a study break from university became a permanent decision to stay. Michael White was informally adopted by a Brahman Balinese family, embraced the Balinese religion of Hinduism and took on the name Made Wijaya.

He spent his time teaching English and tennis to wealthy Balinese families and eventually started writing a column in The Sunday Bali Post, Stranger in Paradise: Diary of an Expatriate in 1979. He also enjoyed spending time in Balinese palaces and temples, participating in and observing their ceremonies and rituals.

He worked as a tourist guide and photojournalist before being asked to re-design the gardens of Bali Hyatt Hotel in Sanur, then the Oberoi in Seminyak by Australian Architect Peter Muller. Throughout his lifetime, Made Wijaya designed over 600 tropical gardens in South-East Asia and around the world including David Bowie's garden on the island of Mustique and the Naples Botanical Garden in Florida.

Dining

The Restaurant offers a gastronomic contemporary Asian Fusion dining experience in what used to be Made Wijaya's private kitchen. Dine indoors in the air-conditioning or outside on the newly added patio surrounded by beautiful landscaping and overlooking a stunning ornamental pond. Every dish is distinctive and piquant, bursting with flavours and made from scratch using only the freshest local ingredients.

Library

At any time you wish, Made Wijaya's personal collection of books, maps, newspaper cuttings, artwork and photographs collected throughout his glorious life in Bali from the 1970s onwards are available for guests to enjoy. The library is housed within what used to be his private studio. There is much to unravel - take your time and thumb through well-worn maps and leather-bound volumes where history comes alive through handwritten stories, personal photographs and paintings of Made Wijaya's Bali and his travels throughout the islands of Nusantara.

Garden

In honour of his passion for his lifelong work, the gardens here at Villa Bebek has been meticulously and lovingly kept in the original style first laid out by Made Wijaya himself. Built to mimic the lush grounds of Balinese palaces, guests can spend hours wandering through its maze of lush tropical plants and Balinese doorways, taking in the impeccably preserved hand-carved statues, stone fountains and koi ponds. Linger in quiet spots designed for quiet contemplation, take your afternoon tea in the breakfast nook overlooking the pool or just enjoy the warm rays of the sun on your skin.

2-bedroom Villa (Type A)

An atmospheric space brimming with old-world charm, Villa A was Made Wijaya's own private quarters. Lovingly restored by master craftsmen, it retains its original features including the tiled stone floors, vaulted alang-alang ceiling, classic custom-made furniture, original artwork and precious antiques.

Enter through an antique Javanese door and you'll find yourself in an inviting and intimate space; the living and dining area in which Made Wijaya himself had spent many a day in artistic contemplation. Overlooking its own private garden and koi pond, the space is surrounded by lush foliage and decorated with handcrafted stone statues from Bali, Java, Sumba and Sumbawa - a personal collection of Made Wijaya's.

When it's time for rest, you'll find the Master Bedroom in its own tranquil little nook with a walk-in closet and a spacious, bright and airy ensuite. The second bedroom is on the second floor, accessible via an antique metal staircase. A large loft-style hideaway with vaulted ceilings and glass windows all around, this unique space is filled with sunshine during the day and is perfect for star gazing at night. Privacy and convenience are assured with a large and beautiful bathroom with plenty of closet space.

Villa A is the only villa on-site with its own little kitchenette, perfect for those who wish to cook throughout their stay.

Amenities:

2 bedrooms each with King-sized beds, ensuites and wardrobes

Living Room

Dining Area

A Kitchenette

Private Garden with Koi Pond

Outdoor terrace

Flat Screen TV

WIFI

Air-Conditioning

-

2-bedroom Villa (Type B)

Located right next door to Villa A, Villa B is another slightly smaller yet equally romantic, charming and nostalgic space with 2 bedrooms, a living room and an outdoor terrace all located on the same floor. The master bedroom comes with a large ensuite, and the second bedroom has a tall canopy bed with a charming outdoor shower for a one-a-kind experience under the open sky.

A small yet cosy living area sits in the centre between both bedrooms and the outdoor terrace. Typical of Villa Bebek, Villa B is also charmingly decorated with antique artwork, painting and sculptures and retains its original tiled floors, antique furniture and vaulted along-alang ceiling.

Amenities:

2 bedrooms each with King-sized beds, ensuites and wardrobes

Living Room

Refrigerator

Outdoor terrace / Dining area

Flat Screen TV

WIFI

Air-Conditioning

1-bedroom Villa

Our beautiful and classically decorated 1-bedroom Villa gives you a chance to step back in time and immerse yourself in luxury and colonial charm. An exquisite and stunning hand-carved Javanese canopy bed takes centre stage under a vaulted ceiling in a room that is nothing short of breathtaking. A true taste of the old Bali, it is the definition of "old world charm" and thoughtfully appointed with classic Javanese and European style furniture including handpainted table lamps featuring the Wayang Kulit, decorative Chinese ornaments and carpet, original antique paintings and intricately handcrafted art pieces.

Three sets of French windows lead out to your own private outdoor terrace and its flower-covered pergolas. Relax here in the afternoon sun and enjoy views of the main pond and the villa's original classic Balinese water tower built by Made Wijaya in the 1970s.

The bathroom just off the main room is delightfully bright and airy, with an extra-large modern stone bathtub, a spacious sink area with cabinets and an expansive clear glass window that gives you a wonderful view of your own private garden and an outdoor shower.

Amenities:

King-sized bed

Ensuite bathroom with bathtub and an outdoor shower

Living area

Outdoor terrace

Flat Screen TV

WIFI

Air-Conditioning

Classic

Step back in time and immerse yourself in sweet nostalgia in our Classic rooms with their distinctly colonial designs that exude old-world elegance and a sense of history. Here amidst these vibrantly coloured walls, time slows down, allowing you to finally relax. Take in the beauty of the gardens around you as the day passes you by, curl up with a good book on your private terrace, or rest in the beautiful hand-carved antique bed. Original antique furniture paired with all of today's luxury amenities provides an exceptional experience. At night, the room takes on a soothing and cosy atmosphere; great ready for a great night's sleep!

Amenities:

King-sized bed

Ensuite bathroom with an indoor shower

Outdoor terrace

Flat Screen TV

WIFI

Air-Conditioning

Premier

A gorgeous blend of the old and the new, all of our Premier Rooms are subtly but distinctly different. What used to be rooms for Made Wijaya's personal group of friends and family has now been lovingly restored to house new modern furniture that blends well with a distinctly warm and vintage atmosphere.

The original flooring, fixtures and ceiling have all been refurbished and retained. Gorgeous antique paintings provide a glimpse of wondrous days gone by. Complete with all of today's must-have amenities and creature comforts, our Premier Room is a peaceful sanctuary for even the weariest traveller.

Amenities:

King-sized bed

Ensuite bathroom with an indoor shower

Outdoor terrace

Flat Screen TV

WIFI

Air-Conditioning