THE ASIA VILLA GUIDE – VILLA SEMARAPURA First Edition – 2011



PREMIUM COLLECTION

Semarapura Seseh, Bali, Indonesia

To start with a quote from that slightly waspish but unerringly spot-on guide to Bali produced by the sterling crew at Luxe: Semarapura is a 'sharp, contempo, Indo abode with fab rolling lawn down to the sands, and sublime sunsets.' Abbreviations aside, they've caught the villa's quicksilver essence, but there is really so much more to this splendiferous property. Some amplification is required.

First and foremost, it could have been designed as a textbook example for that enticing term 'beachfront'. The black sands of Cemagi, on the coast veering towards Tanah Lot, are just steps away at the bottom of a lawn (walled for privacy) that owes more than a little to Wimbledon. (Thinking laterally, there's a shared tennis court here). To paint the picture a bit more fully, Semarapura is laid out as a series of pavilions dotted around manicured gardens, with the pool as centerpiece and various water features acting as acolytes.

It's fair to say that any of the five bedrooms might well be more sizeable than some guests' entire homes. Timber floors, outdoor showers, walk-in cupboards - it's hard to resist the temptation to take a flying leap at the king-sized bed while letting out a triumphant whoop. Glass doors in the bedrooms as well as the elevated living and dining pavilions provide a constant injunction to take in the view, with sunsets in particular providing an earnest reminder of one of the main things that drew travelers to Bali in the first place.

Other aspects of Semarapura fall deftly into place. Take all the techno stuff - which can't really be described as accessories nowadays - as read, then add a pool table and cocktail bar, and the same goes for the staff (top class) and menus (ditto). Small wonder this villa is ranked as one of Bali's best.

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