
Victorian Members of Parliament Delegation to Indonesia

International Travel Report

28 June – 6 July 2025

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Type of travel; Electorate.

1. Statement of Objectives and Reasons for Travel

Between 28 June and 6 July 2025, I travelled to Indonesia as part of a Victorian parliamentary delegation, alongside Tom McIntosh MP, Member for Eastern Region Victoria, and Ella George MP, Member for Lara. The delegation visited Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, and Bandung, the capital of West Java Province.

The objectives of this visit were to:

- Deepen parliamentary and institutional relationships between Victoria and Indonesia;
- Identify opportunities for increased two-way trade and collaboration;
- Promote Victoria's food, fibre, and education sectors, in particular for the Eastern Region of Victoria electorate;
- Support existing community, cultural, and educational partnerships;
- Strengthen ties between Victoria and Indonesia at regional and city levels.

Indonesia is Victoria's sixth-largest goods export market, with two-way trade valued at AUD \$2.8 billion in 2021. Food and fibre exports alone were worth \$987 million, accounting for 24% of Australia's national total to Indonesia. Education is another key area of cooperation, with Victoria hosting the largest number of Indonesian students in Australia.

This visit sought to further these significant connections and explore avenues for future collaboration across government, business, education, and culture.

2. Summary of Key Meetings and Engagements

Saturday 28 June 2025 – Arrival in Jakarta

- Travel from Melbourne to Jakarta. Cost (return airfare); \$2499.59
- Accommodation and initial briefing.
- Accommodation;
 - The Langham Jakarta, cost total; \$796.85 AUD (8,688,172 IDR) for 4 nights.

Sunday 29 June 2025 – Jakarta

- **Site Visit: GrandLucky Superstore**

- Inspected Victorian products on display, including dairy, meat, baby formula, cereals, and health goods. Whilst there were quite a number of Victorian goods for sale, there were goods from other states as well, which presented opportunities to import competing goods from Victoria.
- Met with the Finance Director to understand Indonesia's import regulatory framework.
 - The regulatory framework, particularly for dairy goods, is quite long and complex and can sometimes take years for import permits to be given.
 - The opportunity for Victoria is to work with the Indonesian government to streamline processes and work on a shorter timeline. This will be attractive to Victorian exporters as the red tape burden can be off putting.
- Noted the potential for partnerships between Victorian producers and integrated Indonesian retailers/importers.
 - Grandlucky clientele tends to the middle class, and tends towards premium products, which would make Victorian agricultural produce, particularly Gippsland dairy which has a fantastic reputation, perfect as product to be imported.



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Monday 30 June 2025 – Jakarta

- **Meeting with Naila Mazzucco, Commissioner for Victoria to Southeast Asia**
 - Discussed Victoria's trade strategy and key opportunities in Indonesia. Having a Commissioner in the region is, in my opinion, key to understanding the markets and how best to work with the various countries for mutual benefit.
 - Focus on education, food and fibre exports, and navigating regulatory environments. The regulatory environment was a subject that was repeated through our visit as an area that could be streamlined to improve access to the market.
- **Official Visit to Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah (DKI Jakarta Regional House of Representatives)**
 - Constructive discussions with Jakarta MPs on trade, education, and cultural cooperation. I understood that it was rare for state members of parliament to travel to and visit Jakarta in an official capacity, and that the Jakarta MPs were pleased to see the delegation, particularly as two of the three Victorian MPs had a working knowledge of the local language. I feel that a more regular attendance by state level MPs would very much help in developing an even better relationship with the Jakarta Parliament.
 - Interest expressed in Melbourne Fashion Week and student exchanges.
- **Engagement with NasDem Party Members**
 - Strengthened political-to-political relationships. The delegation was welcomed by the Jakarta MPs and informal discussions were held, which amongst other subjects, covered a potential visit by some Jakarta MPs to Melbourne in the future.
 - Emphasized shared democratic values and future visit opportunities.
- **Meeting with PT Global Pratama Wijaya**
 - Learned about beef and lamb import operations from Victoria from an on the ground importer. There is an opportunity for Victoria to work with some of the local businesses to assist in improving local capacity for the importation of more

Victorian meat.

- Discussed import certification challenges and the value of strong importer-exporter relationships. This subject will be key, in my opinion, to strengthening future opportunities for increases in trade of meat from Australia to Indonesia.

- **Meeting with Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN)**

- Explored future opportunities in trade, including the upcoming visit of KADIN representatives to Melbourne for the World Chambers Congress.
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Tuesday 1 July 2025 – Jakarta

- We were given a thorough briefing by Kevin Evans, a local expat who explained to us, in detail, the way that the political system works in Indonesia, and the realities of the system as it is quite different to any Australian (Westminster) system. This briefing was to prove crucial to me as it gave me context on the interaction of politics and business in the local environment
 - Attended the Indonesia-Australia Business Council (IABC) Dinner.
 - Networked with business leaders and discussed market expansion for Victorian companies.
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Wednesday 2 July 2025 – Jakarta & Bandung

- **Meetings at the Australian Embassy**
 - With Rebecca Valentine, Counsellor of Climate and Infrastructure.
 - With the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia.
 - Discussions focused on regional cooperation, sustainability, and infrastructure priorities.

Travel via fast train (Whoosh train) to Bandung.

Arrival in Bandung

Pullman Bandung Grand Central, 2 Nights, Total cost;\$246.61

- **Visit to Deakin University Bandung Campus (Opening in September 2025)**
 - This was attended by Ms George and Mr McIntosh as I had health issues which precluded me from attending.

 - **Dinner with Mayor of Bandung and NasDem MPs**
 - This was attended by Ms George and Mr McIntosh as I had health issues which precluded me from attending.
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Thursday 3 July 2025 – Bandung

- **Meeting with Mr. Taufiq Firdaus Al Muzaky**, Head of International Cooperation, Government of West Java
 - Reviewed areas of cooperation under the 2022 Letter of Intent between Victoria and West Java.

 - **Visit to West Java Regional House of Representatives (DPRD Jawa Barat)**
 - Discussed strengthening legislative ties and potential future collaborations. Again, I was of the impression that state level MPs rarely visited and that our attendance was appreciated.
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Friday 4 July 2025 – Bandung to Jakarta

Accommodation; Grand Hyatt Jakarta, 2 nights, total cost \$246.61

- **Meeting on Dairy Trade**

- Focused on expanding Victorian dairy exports.
 - Addressed logistical and regulatory barriers. As previously mentioned, the regulatory environment presents many challenges to both local and Victorian concerns.
 - **Debrief with Naila Mazzucco**
 - Reviewed visit outcomes and discussed next steps for Victorian engagement in Indonesia.
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Saturday 5 July 2025 – Jakarta

- **Meeting with AFL Indonesia**
 - Explored opportunities for sports diplomacy and community engagement.
 - AFL is gaining popularity and provides a unique cultural bridge.
 - **Dinner with NasDem MPs**
 - Strengthened ties with a key Indonesian political party.
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Sunday 6 July 2025 – Departure

- Returned to Melbourne.
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3. Observations and Outcomes

- **Trade and Market Access**

Indonesia offers significant opportunities for Victorian producers, particularly in food, fibre, and premium goods. Strong local partnerships and awareness of regulatory frameworks are critical for success.

- **Education and Innovation**

Victoria is well-positioned to grow its education footprint in Indonesia, evidenced by the success of Monash University's Jakarta campus and the launch of Deakin University in Bandung.

- **Government and Cultural Relationships**

Meetings with MPs and regional leaders reinforced mutual interest in cooperation, particularly in education, culture, sustainability, and innovation.

- **Community Connections**

Engagement with the Indonesian community, including through sport and the arts, helps to foster long-term cross-cultural understanding and goodwill.

Notes;

I have no documents or publications that may be relevant or of interest.

I am not claiming any commercial transport, other than the return flights to Jakarta.

- Return flights \$2499.59 AUD (Qantas economy)
- The Langham Jakarta, cost total; \$796.70 AUD (8,688,172 IDR) for 4 nights,
- Pullman Bandung, total cost \$240 AUD, (2,623,536 IDR) for 2 nights
- Hyatt Jakarta, total cost \$398 AUD, (4,344,086 IDR) for 3 nights

4. Conclusion

This delegation strengthened the growing ties between Victoria and Indonesia and identified tangible opportunities for future cooperation. Continued engagement with Indonesian stakeholders—both governmental and commercial—will be essential for translating these opportunities into lasting outcomes for Victorian communities, industries, and institutions.
