

## Balinese New Year – Day of Silence “Nyepi”

March 22, 2023 marks the first day of the Balinese New Year called Nyepi Day. According to the Hindu belief, Nyepi is a day of complete silence without any noise, traffic, fire, internet and lights. It is a day of complete stillness in the physical and spiritual worlds. Guests are not permitted to leave the premises of the hotel on March 22, 2023.

On the eve of Nyepi, March 21, 2023, celebration are held with creating a fantastic monster or evil spirits or The Butha Kala made of bamboo, called Ogoh-Ogoh, which will be paraded on the road accompanied by gamelan music. These are then torched and, it is believed, that with the conflagration, any evil spirits that have brought disease and misery to the island during the past year will have also been banished.

This year, will be the very first time for The Samaya Seminyak to make Ogoh Ogoh and have it paraded around the resort accompanied by gamelan music on the eve of Nyepi. We're pleased to invite all of our guests to join the Ogoh-Ogoh parade, within below details:

Date	:	21 March 2023
Time	:	5.00 PM – 6.00 PM
Place	:	Start at the front lobby

As we are a boutique villa, the government permits us to service our guest but with activities that are limited with reduced lighting and minimal noise on our premises. During Nyepi Day, March 22, 2023, guests are eligible to join our Yoga Class for free, which will be held in the morning and during sunset hour. Another one, a must-do activity at The Samaya Seminyak during Nyepi Day is “Arakxiologist” which will be starting around 4.00 PM – 5.00 PM. This activity allows the guests to taste & learn about how to make a cocktail with Balinese liquor.

In order to respect the tradition, we kindly ask you to switch off all outdoor lights for the whole night of March 22, 2023, keep the window blinds closed and you not be permitted to go out from hotel premises during the Nyepi Day on March 22, 2023. Please be noted that most of TV channel will be not on service starting March 22, 2023 at 00.01 and will be back to normal broadcast after 10.00 am on March 23, 2023. However we had provided you with DVD's selection, please contact your butler/host for any request.

We hope this peaceful Nyepi Day will bring you an unforgettable experience on the Magical Island of Bali and in our resort.

Yours sincerely,

The Samaya Seminyak, Bali

## THE ACTIVITIES BY HINDUS IN BALI TO CELEBRATE THE NYEPI DAY

### MELASTI OR MEKIYIS OR MELIS (MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

Melasti is meant to clean the pratima or arca or pralingga (statue), with symbols that help to concentrate the mind in order to become closer to God. The ceremony is aimed to clean all nature and its content, and also to take the “Amerta” (the source for eternal life) from the ocean or other water sources. Three days before Nyepi, all the effigies of the Gods from all village temples are taken to the beach. There, they are bathed by the Neptune of Balinese Lord, The God Baruna , before being taken back home to their shrines.

### PENGERUPUKAN (MARCH 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 )

Exactly one day before Nyepi, all villages in Bali hold a large exorcism ceremony at the main village cross road, the meeting place of demons. They usually make Ogoh Ogoh (the fantastic monster or evil spirits or The Butha Kala made of bamboo) for carnival purposes. The carnivals themselves are held all over Bali following sunset.

### NYEPI DAY (MARCH 22<sup>nd</sup> , 2023)

This is a day of absolute silence observed throughout the island and a day of introspection for Hindus.

*We still provide our service as usual with limited activities, reduced lighting and minimal noise on our premises. In order to respect the tradition, we would switch off all outdoor lights for the whole night of March 22, 2023, keep the window blind closed, noise to be at lower level and request your kind understanding for not going out from hotel premises. During Nyepi day most of the television channel will be not on service starting March 22, 2023 at 00.01 and will back to normal broadcast on March 23, 2023 after 10.00am.*

### NGEMBAK GENI (MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023)

One day after the Nyepi day, the people awake from stillness to begin a new day. The government officials have their holiday and thus a time for forgiving each other. A new page of each life is really seen from a religious point of view and has been made by each individual.