

Bandung's Dago Tea House, delightful to the eye



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Picture 1. Dago Tea House, formerly called Dago Thee Villa, designed by A. F. Aalbers in 1936.



Picture 2. Dago Tea House Music Hall, October 2006: the author stands ready to burst into an aria.

The Dago Tea House brings a taste and a feel of Dutch East Indian culture based on Sundanese impressions. One can find there the Dago Music Hall, the Music Hall Restaurant as well as an Art Club (most impressive!!). The tea house is located in the upper north part of Bandung and is a must for tourists. It is situated in the hills and offers a splendid view of the city if weather gods, as well as dust and smog conditions, allow so. Normally they don't. As a consequence: formerly one could spot the Tangkuban Prahua Volcano, but this is impossible nowadays because of pollution. The tea house is a favourite among locals, but has not become popular among tourists because of ignorance and lack of interest in Dutch colonial culture. The restaurant spurs about fifteen bamboo eating huts. The author had a wonderful dinner there. It was difficult to rise from the table, because of the obligation to sit with crossed legs (such in combination with middle-aged personal circumstances, to tell the truth). Cultural performances are held in the open air theatre every Saturday, mostly Sundanese dances.

The Dago Tea House is to be found behind the Pajajaran University at the end of Jalan Juanda. It

was renovated in 1991. Go to Bandung! Don't miss the Dago Tea House. The admission fee is one euro only.

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Picture 3. The amphitheatre. The Dago Tea House is an example of Decorative Art, late Art Deco. The building structure gives an impression of lightness.



Picture 4. The Dago amphitheatre from a different perspective.

