

SHOPPING

Life in Solo changed several years ago with the opening of Solo Grand Mall, Solo Square (both located on Jl. Slamet Riyadi; the main street in Solo) and Hartono Mall in Solo Baru. The latest additions to a modern shopping experience are the recently opened Paragon Mall integrated with the Paragon Apartment and Hotel Building, and the brand new The Park Lifestyle Mall in Solo Baru (next to the Hartono Mall).

Nowadays **Hypermart**, **LotteMart**, **Super Indo** and **Carrefour** supermarkets can be found all over town. Although their selections and stocks vary greatly (do not expect stocks -especially of imported goods- to be replenished on a regular basis) you can get most foodstuffs needed for a good meal; including imported meats, beers (not in all Solo Baru locations), cheese and fresh organic vegetables; all Hypermarts have a special pork section for those hungering for pork bacon under their eggs or pork sausages and sliced meats.

Go-Jek : order&delivery mobile application for a lot of products and services. <https://www.go-jek.com>

SHOPPING MALLS AND MARKETS

Solo Grand Mall is by most standards not so grand but it is a mall and as such has become the focal point and favourite haunt of every Solonese teenager. It is anchored by a Hypermart supermarket in the basement a Matahari department store and numerous fast food stores such as KFC, Texas Chicken and Pizza Hut. Upstairs on the third floor is a reasonable food court and the smaller fourth floor houses the Grand21 cinema complex and a large billiard hall. There is also a Breadtalk bakery on the ground floor with good cakes and reasonable bread.

Solo Square is another popular mall, a bit more upmarket than Solo Grand Mall. There is also a Hypermart supermarket and some of the best Chinese food in town according to some of the expert expats.

Solo Paragon Mall hosts a 2-floor Carrefour with a food and a non-food section, an ACE Hardware store next to Informa (an Ikea-kind of interior decoration store; good stuff but pricey), the first official Apple Store in Solo, Starbucks, several restaurants and several more upmarket clothing stores. Not to mention the huge Centro department store where many fashion and cosmetic brands have their shop-in-shop. On the top floor you find the „Food Factory“, a kind of fancy food court version.

Latest addition to the Solo Mall landscape is the (for Solonese standards) upscale **The Park Lifestyle Mall** in Solo Baru with a big Lotte Mart, a Metro department store, a H&M store, and plenty of luxury chain shops. It also has a large outdoor terrace surrounded by (expensive and their prices are ++tax/service charge) restaurants.

The older **Hartono Lifestyle Mall** next door has a large Hypermart outlet, a huge 2-floor ACE Hardware store and many affordably priced shops and restaurants.



TRADITIONAL MARKETS

Pasar Triwindu in Jl. Diponegoro, newly renovated and relocated by Solo mayor Joko Widodo is famous for its "antiques" – bronzes, old batiks, glass jars, ceramics. Occasionally there really are some old things. It is open from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, 7 days a week and is a great way to spend a few hours. You are expected to bargain. On Saturday nights there is a night market just in front of Pasar Triwindu featuring mainly batik clothes and handmade decoration items.

The original **Pasar Klewer**, one of the biggest batik markets in Indonesia and therefore by extension the world unfortunately burned down in 2015. The reconstructed building at the same location unfortunately isn't really attractive for a relaxed shopping experience. So if you are in search of some batiks either head for **PGS (Pusat Grosir Solo)** at the end of Jl. Slamet Riyadi or stroll through one of the two traditional batik quarters in Solo, **Laweyan** or **Kauman** where you find many beautiful batik stores.

Pasar Gede is the best and bigger food market, where you can find fruits, vegetables, spices and a fresh meat and fish corner.

SPECIALIZED STORES

Gramedia Bookstore on Jl. Slamet Riyadi is by far the best source of books and office supplies. They often hold art exhibitions and performances in the foyer of the old entrance building. There is a second outlet at Solo Square.

Household Goods and Furniture: Quite complete and good priced local household goods can be found at **Toko Putra Manis**, Jl. RE Martadinata, across Pasar Gede. A little bit more to the east across the street is a quite interesting porcelain outlet shop where you can find nice plates, cups, bowls etc. Other big household stores are in Jl. Dr. Radjiman between Jl. Gatot Subroto and Jl. Paku Wojo (near Matahari Singosaren). Western standard imported household goods can be found at **INFORMA**, which has outlets at Solo Paragon and at Hartono Mall and **ACE Hardware**, at Solo Paragon, Solo Square and Hartono Mall.

Informa also has modern, western style furniture. For local wooden furniture the best is to ask around for tips in the expat community as many of the members are active in furniture production or may know some direct sources.

INTERESTING FASHION OUTLET STORES

As there is a lot of textile production going on in and around Solo, there are quite a few interesting fashion outlets. As textiles sold there where mostly intended for export, you have the chance to find bigger sizes and well known brands.

Blossom Family Outlet Jl. Bhayangkara, Laweyan, Solo Tel. 0271 - 713551

BateeQ Factory Outlet, Jl. Dr. Rajiman 470 Laweyan, Solo, Phone : 0271-739999

La Moda (next to La Moda del Gelato) Jl. MT Haryono No. 8 Solo.

Eses Factory Outlet Jl. Cendrawasih Blok H No. 12, Solo Baru

New Eses Men Fashion Store Jl. Ir. Soekarno, Langenharjo, Solo Baru, Tel. 0271 622 700

