

MV AMBAI

North Sulawesi - Togians

Bitung to Luwuk | North Sulawesi, Togian Islands and Pulau Dua

Sulawesi is famous for its muck diving and its walls, and the less visited east coast has both, plus impressive reef dives.

Close to Gorontalo the walls and slopes are very colourful, with a great variety of corals, and there is even a spot with resident whale sharks.

Around the volcanic island of Una-Una, some of the biggest sponges in Indonesia come in every shape and colour, and a huge school of barracudas gathers.

Further on, sea mounts, pinnacles, gorgonians and soft corals bring schools of surgeonfish, trevallies and reef sharks.

For macro lovers there are frogfish, ghost pipefish, mimic and blue-ringed octopus, flamboyant cuttlefish and pygmy seahorses.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
12 days / 11 nights	Bitung	Luwuk	Advanced Open Water, 30 dives







Your route

STOP 1

Leaving Bitung

The boat departs directly from Bitung, no dives are planned in the Lembeh Strait.

STOP 2

North Sulawesi, Bolsel and Gorontalo

A mix of rocky sea mounts, walls diving and critter dives.
Schools of barracudas and trevallies.
Bolsel is a very fishy area while close to Gorontalo the dive sites are very colorful walls and slopes with a great variety of corals and the famous “Dali Sponge”.
There is also a spot with some resident whale sharks.

STOP 3

Togians and Una-Una

Togians / Una-Una: In the Togean islands we essentially dive around the island of Una-Una.
This volcanic island that experienced its last eruption in 1984 offers fantastic diving.
The sponges, of all shape and colors, are among the biggest of Indonesia.
The fish life is very intense, with a huge school of barracudas on the famous dive site of Apollo.

STOP 4

Pulau Dua

This is where we did set up our dive resort, the Tompotika Dive Lodge: sea mounts, high voltage pinnacles, gorgonians, soft corals, and an intense fish life, combined with great critter dives make this area one of the finest diving area of Indonesia.



STOP 5

Pulau Dua, continued

A perfect blend between critters and reef dives including walls, pinnacles, and great soft corals bommies, schools of fishes and reef sharks.

STOP 6

Sailing to Luwuk

From Pulau Dua, the boat sails to Luwuk where the trip ends.

ROUTE MAP

Route map



THE DIVING

Diving and snorkelling

Sulawesi is well known for its muck dive in the Lembeh Strait and the walls of Bunaken. The east coast, less visited, also offers great muck diving and impressive reef dives.

North Sulawesi, Bolsel & Gorontalo: A mix of rocky sea mounts, walls diving and critter dives. Bolsel is a very fishy area, with schools of barracudas and trevallies, while close to Gorontalo the dive sites are very colorful walls and slopes with a great variety of corals and the famous “Dali Sponge”. There is also a spot with some resident whale sharks.

Togians / Una-Una: In the Togean islands we essentially dive around the island of Una-Una. This volcanic island that experienced its last eruption in 1984 offers fantastic diving. The sponges, of all shape and colors, are among the biggest of Indonesia. The fish life is very intense, with a huge school of barracudas on the famous dive site of Apollo.

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The fish life includes schools of surgeonfish, trevallies, barracudas, snappers, reef sharks and a spot with whale sharks. Among the critters we will find Frogfish, different kind of ghost pipe fish, many types of octopus including mimic and blue ring, flamboyant cuttlefish, Pygmy seahorses, and many more.

SNORKELLING

This trip is open to snorkelers, and we offer specific guidance. However on this itinerary some of the dive site configuration, as sea mounts, pinnacles, or muck dives, are not ideal for snorkelers.





ACTIVITIES

Activities

Besides the diving, this trip offers plenty of discoveries on land.

In Una-Una island we will have a walk through the main village and around.

In Pulau Dua we will also visit the village and stop on some beautiful beaches. For the more adventurous a small trek to the hills can be organized. The team of our foundation, the Tompotika foundation will present you our marine conservation efforts and community development actions.

We will also visit some other small villages on the islands. The guests are always welcome to use the dinghies (with a boatman) to go on shore at any time, as long as the schedule allows it.

Our four complementary kayaks are also available to go on shore or in the lagoons whenever the boat is anchored. All these activities are subject to weather conditions as well as the planned daily schedule and itinerary.





CONDITIONS

Weather, visibility, temperature and currents

Weather

The weather is variable, with some sunny days and a few showers. The sea is generally calm, with eventually a bit of wind under the showers. Temperatures are around 27-32 °C.

Visibility

Generally good on North Sulawesi, Bolsel and Gorontalo, excellent in the Togian islands, good to average in Pulau Dua.

Temperature

The sea water temperature is between 27° and 30°C (80°-84°F)

Currents

Some of the dives can have consistent currents. However the crew has a long experience diving these sites and we pay close attention to diving in the right places at the right time, to avoid difficult or dangerous currents. Before each dive, our guides conduct current checks so that our briefings will always inform you about the up-to-the-minute diving conditions. If the currents are too strong on a site, we wait or shift to an alternative dive site

