

MV AMBAI

Raja Ampat - Triton Bay

Sorong to Kaimana | Misool, Sabuda, Momon and Triton Bay

The soft corals of Triton Bay have little equivalent in the world, with large stands covering the rocks and bommies in the shallows to form a unique seascape.

Below them come black and tubastrea corals alive with sweetlips and snappers, and baitfish that can draw devil rays and other predators.

Whale sharks arrive at the night fishing platforms, and diving beneath them is one of the highlights.

First comes South Raja Ampat, excellent for mantas, massive schools of fish and colourful reefs of soft corals and huge gorgonians.

At dawn the dinghies slip into shallow lagoons between rainforest-covered quartz islets, loud with the song of thousands of birds.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
12 days / 11 nights	Sorong	Kaimana	Advanced Open Water, 30 logged dives







Your route

STOP 1

Misool

We spend the 4 first days of the trip in the South of Raja Ampat, around Misool and its satellite islets.
Excellent for wide-angle pictures, mantas, and massive schools of fish.

STOP 1

Misool (continued)

The underwater topography is dominantly rocky, with ridges and rock formations.
The very colorful reefs display an abundance of soft corals and huge gorgonians.
Macro subjects are abundant as well, with the four kinds of pygmy seahorses, tiny crabs, nudibranchs, and other rare photogenic life all over.
We need one night of navigation to reach the next island of Sabuda.

STOP 2

Sabuda and Momon

Halfway between Misool and the coast of Papua, Sabuda is a very scenic group of islands with beautiful lagoons and white sand beaches.
The diving is interesting with big schools of fish (surgeons, trevallies, barracudas) and eventually mantas rays.
Another night of navigation brings us to Momon, which has magnificent landscapes.
The mountainous coast is covered with primary forest and a river from the highlands ends up into the sea as a large glorious waterfall (we go to swim and play there).
We dive on a seamount outside the coast: huge schools of jacks, napoleon wrasse, maybe mantas, and even whale sharks.
A small islet has thousands of bats flying out at sunset, which is a good macro dive.
A third night of navigation is necessary to reach Triton bay.

STOP 3

Triton Bay

The development of soft corals there has little equivalent in the world.
On most of the dives we generally find the soft corals in the shallows (0-5m) on rock and bommies, then come the black and tubastrea corals with lot of sweetlips and snappers.
Below 12-15m the bottom is mostly sandy or rubble with interesting critters (nudibranchs, frogfish...).
Some spots can have a lot of baitfish, eventually attracting devil rays and other predators.
The “bagans” are platforms for baitfish fishing at night, eventually attracting the whale sharks.
We dive there in the morning, in small groups of 4 guests turning on 30 minutes shifts.

ROUTE MAP

Route map

The map shows the general cruise itinerary. It can slightly vary depending on weather conditions, currents, visibility, and tides. There are 4 overnight crossings on the trip, otherwise, we navigate between dives or in the early morning.



THE DIVING

Diving and snorkelling

The abundance of sea life, both fixed fauna such as corals and gorgonians along the lush reef, as well as the stunning quantity and diversity of fish swimming above is just astonishing. The dive sites' underwater topographies are also varied and interesting, filled with dramatic pinnacles, long ridges, walls, hidden caves, rock formations, azure lagoons, and much more.

The fauna ranges from the tiny Pygmy Seahorse to the oceanic manta ray. Raja Ampat's signature are the huge schools of fish: clouds of fusiliers that attract predators like tunas and trevallies, barracudas, schools of the inquisitive spadefish, schools of sweetlips, groups of bump head parrotfish, napoleon wrasses, etc...In triton Bay rocks are covered with large stands of soft corals forming an unique seascape.

Reef sharks are very much present on the reefs; the carpet shark or Wobbegong is ubiquitous, laying on a coral or under a rock behind a cloud of glass-fish. The walking shark (Epaulette shark) can often be seen during night dives. Mantas are often spotted on different dive sites, and in Triton Bay, you will experience diving with whale sharks under the fishing platforms The Wallacea typical "Sorong-Kaimana" 13-day trip covers the south of the Raja Ampat area with all the famous sites of Misool, the Triton Bay area, and epic dive sites in between. We then choose the dive sites according to the prevailing conditions during the trip.

A minimum of 33 dives (3 dives per day) is offered during the trip, including at least 6 night dives.

SNORKELLING

Our trips are open to snorkelers. Most of the dive sites offer great snorkeling opportunities with a lot to see in shallow waters, and we offer specific guidance for snorkelers.





ACTIVITIES

Activities

Besides the diving, we offer some activities along the trip according to weather conditions and the final trip itinerary.

In Triton bay, we propose a ride with the dinghies into the lagoons at dawn. The bay offers a labyrinth of shallow lagoons between quartz islets covered with rainforest, where inhabits thousands of birds. Turn of the boat engine and listening to the bird songs in the early morning is a truly moving experience. In the channel between Namarote island and the mainland is a cliff which was probably, a long time ago, a cave that is now open and reveal ancient art rocks painting. We stop there and look at them from the boat.

In Momong, on the coast of Papua, we take the time for a short afternoon trek in the rain forest where, if we are (very) lucky, we may sight some tree-kangaroos. In Misool, we will visit the ranger's station and snorkel in front of their beach in a natural shark nursery where small black tips are swimming around in one meter of crystal clear water. A short hike to the viewpoint of the "love lagoon" (a lagoon in the shape of a heart!) is also scheduled.

Guests are welcome to ask a boatman to bring you ashore at any time, as long as the schedule allows it. Our four complementary kayaks and paddles 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, even during the "dry" season, in this part of Indonesia, rain showers often happen. The sea is generally calm, with a few temporary storms. Temperatures are around 30 °C.

Visibility

Raja Ampat's waters are dense with life and visibility can be limited. It is typically in the range of 10-20m, depending on the local condition that can vary from one dive to another. In Sabuda and Momong the water is clear. In Triton Bay, the visibility is an average 10 meters and can be lower in case of heavy rainfalls.

Temperature

The ocean temperature all year long is between 28° and 30°C (82°-84°F)..

Currents

On this itinerary the currents are generally moderate on most of the dive sites, and there's always the possibility to do the dive in a current protected are. the crew has a long experience diving these dive sites and always pays attention to dive 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



DIVE ORGANISATION

How the diving is organised on Ambai

- Due to the large number of dives performed during the trip and the remoteness of the location, we urge divers to stay within no-deco limits, to not exceed a maximum depth of 35 meters, and to perform a safety stop at the end of every dive.
- Depending on the guests' dive experience, interests (photography, macro, etc), and use of Nitrox (free for certified divers), the Cruise Director will arrange the diving groups. These groups are made of up to four divers maximum and a dive guide. The dive guides are rotating on a daily basis. Each diver is given a dive tank (DIN & INT available, no need for adapters) and their own dive station for the duration of the cruise.
- A briefing will be conducted by the Cruise Director or one of the guides before each dive. It will describe the site topography, depths, currents, and potential hazards, as well as the marine life we expect to encounter.
- The staff carries your tank between the MV Ambai and the dinghies. Onboard the dinghies, the tanks are placed into slots and the guide will help you to gear up just before you back-roll into the water.
- Identification books of flora and local fauna are available on board, and the dive guides will always help you identify the animals you have seen during the dives.
- Some dive equipment are available for rent on board. However, all sizes are not necessarily available, so please book it prior to the cruise.
- Our cruises are open to divers with a Padi Advanced Open Water or equivalent with at least 30 logged dives. Less experienced divers can also participate with special supervision that needs to be arranged before the cruise.
- Insurance covering medical evacuation and diving accidents is highly recommended. Divers will be filling out a statement of medical fitness for dive activities onboard.

ON BOARD

Service and cuisine

SERVICE

Behind the MV Ambai's success, there is a professional, discreet, smiling, and very friendly crew. Our team will treat you with special attention, assist you with whatever you need, and of course carry your tank & gear. Most of our crew have been working with us for many years.

THE CUISINE

Mixing eastern and western specialties, our cuisine is a "fusion" of the best of both that will never let you go hungry.

Should you have specific requests, or a particular dietary need, (vegetarian or allergy, for example), our chefs will adapt the meals for your greatest pleasure.

THE TEAM AT YOUR SERVICE

- 1 cruise director / diving instructor
- 17 crew members including 4 dive guides

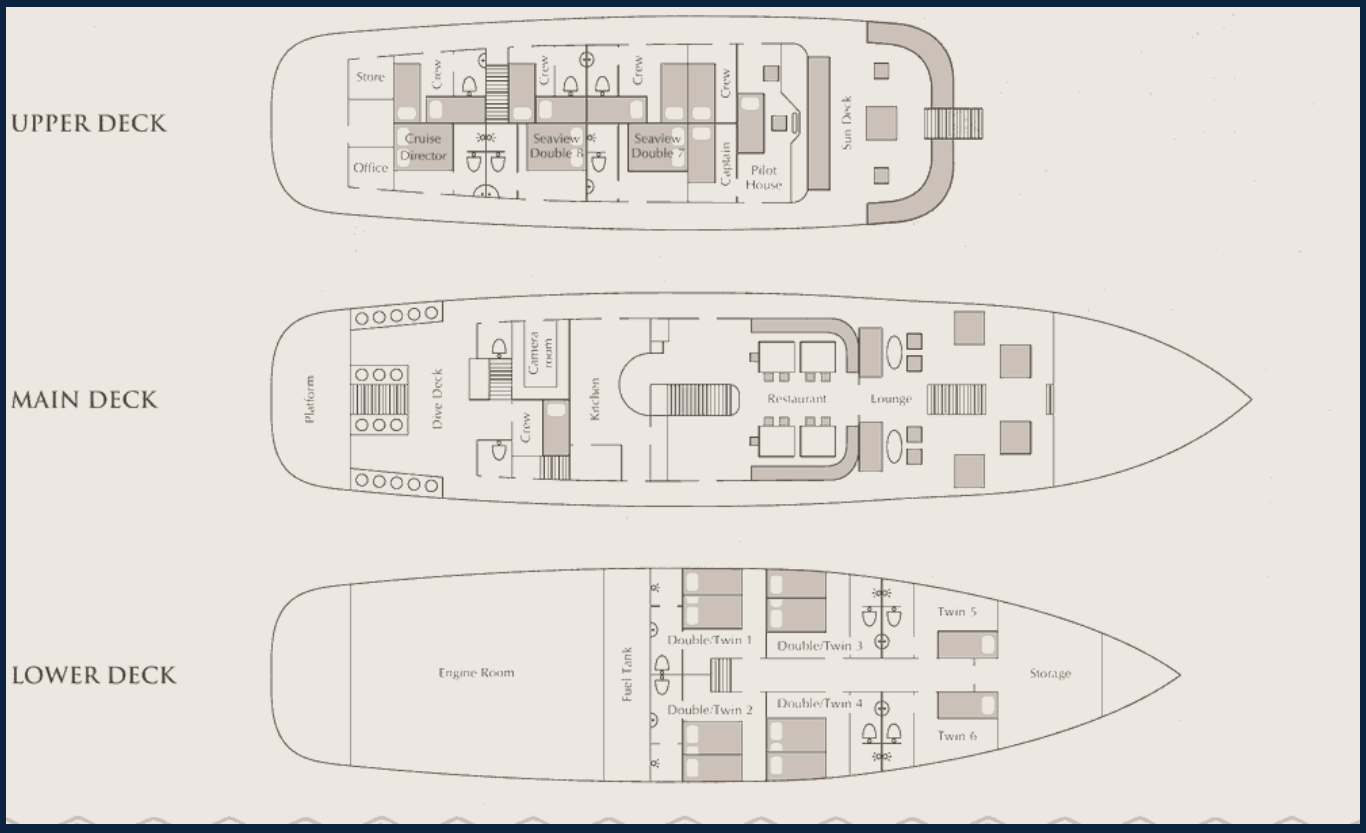






DECK PLANS

Deck plans



PAYMENTS

Payments on board

All payments on board are made in cash, as credit cards cannot be accepted. All major currencies are accepted (EUR, USD, AUD, CHF and IDR), and prepayment by wire transfer can be arranged.

The park and port fees and the fuel surcharge are mandatory and are paid on board.

Tips: tipping should reflect your level of satisfaction with the service on board. The usual amount in the industry is 10% or more of the cruise rate.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Transfers between the boat and the closest airport
- Accommodation in a shared twin or double bed cabin
- All meals & snacks, drinking water, soft drinks and hot drinks
- All guided dives (1 guide /4 divers maximum)
- Aluminium tank (12 liters), weights, and belts
- Free Nitrox

NOT INCLUDED

- Park & port fees, fuel surcharge
- International and domestic flights
- Alcoholic beverages (you can bring your own)
- Diving equipment rental, 100 cf (15 L) tank
- Crew gratuities
- Massages
- Laundry