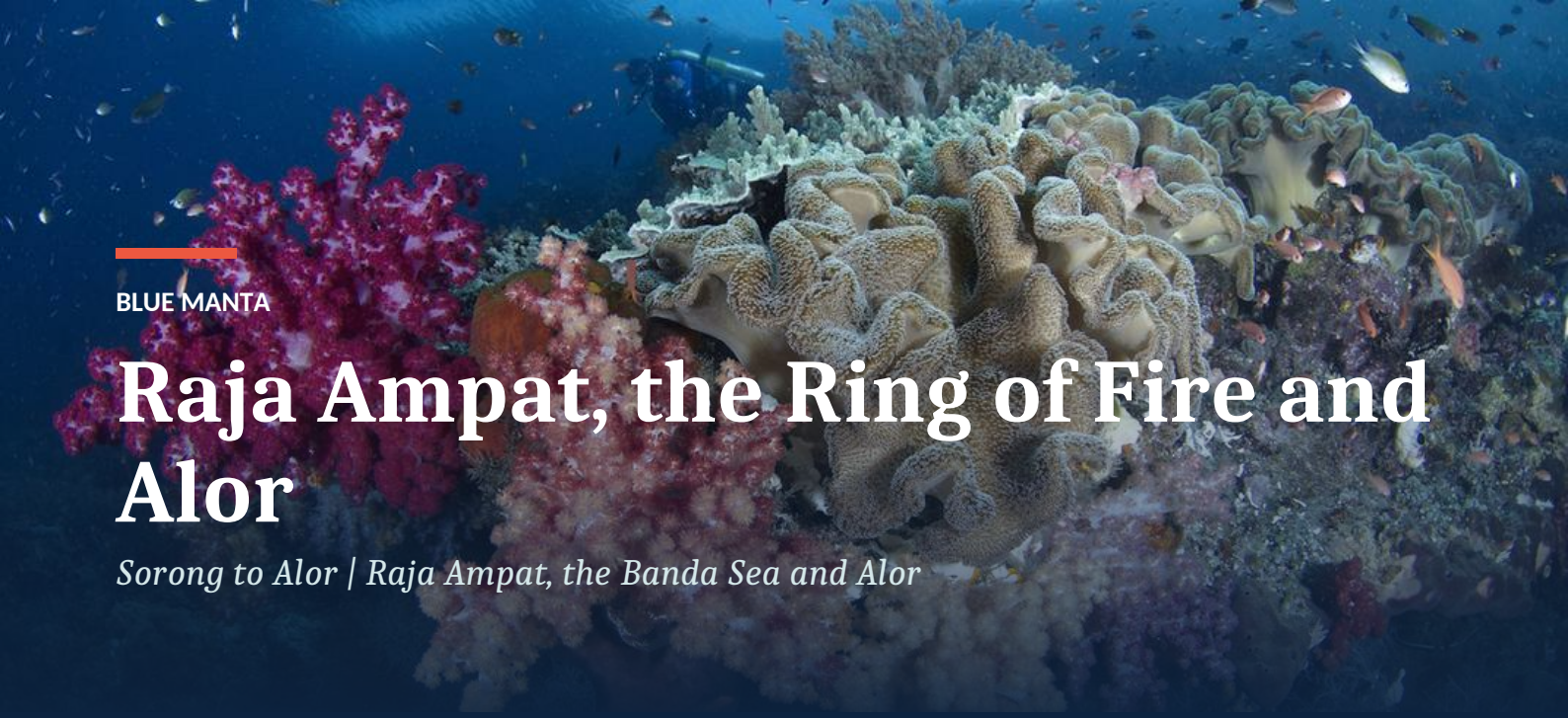


BLUE MANTA

Raja Ampat, the Ring of Fire and Alor

Sorong to Alor | Raja Ampat, the Banda Sea and Alor

South Raja Ampat and Misool start the trip with an amazing array of marine life and diving diversity.

The abundance carries on across the Banda Sea, with critters, sea snakes, manta rays and sharks.

The Ring of Fire is the high point, with volcanic islands and stunning seamounts, hammerheads, huge schools of fish, reef sharks, tunas and other pelagic superstars.

Wetar adds an excellent wall with pelagic life and fantastic drop-offs.

In the cooler waters of the south, mola mola and thresher sharks can turn up.

The finish is Alor, far from the crowds, with fantastic macro life.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 days / 10 nights	Sorong	Alor	Intermediate to advanced







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Day 1

0-1 dives

1pm trip departure day.
Our staff will meet you upon your arrival to Sorong Airport or local hotel and transfer you to the awaiting Blue Manta.

DAY 1

Day 1 (continued)

0-1 dives

Arrivals before midday are best so we can make check dive at Red Light District (Lampu Merah) just outside Sorong before we get underway by 3pm for overnight sail to Misool.

DAY 2

Days 2 and 3

3-4 dives a day

Misool: Wayil, Fiabacet and Boo area.
Then sail to Koon Island.

DAY 4

Day 4

3 dives

West Seram, Pulau Koon full days diving.
Wide angle diving with vibrant corals and a profusion of fish life.

DAY 5

Days 5 to 7

3 dives a day

Ring of Fire: diving around Volcanic Islands and stunning seamounts in search of hammerheads, encounter many sea snakes, huge schools of fish, reef sharks, tunas, and other pelagic superstars.

DAY 8

Day 8

3 dives

Wetar: excellent wall, pelagic life and fantastic drop-off, sail towards Pulau Alor

DAY 9

Day 9

4 dives

Alor and Pantar Strait (Islands of Kepa, Pura, Ternate, and Buaya between Pantar and Alor); nutrient-rich adventurous currents and a diversity of dive site formations, make for an abundance of coral and fish, both big and small.

DAY 10

Day 10

2 dives

Alor: diving around the best sites: Karl's Dream and Critters diving.
Beautiful reefs in (sometimes cold!) clear blue waters, great macro and fish life.
Maybe visit local village, then sail back to Alor, where you spend last night on Blue Manta in Kalabahi Port.
Plenty of time to wash and dry equipment, rest and relaxation, and if need be an early flight the next day.

DAY 11

Day 11

No diving

Check out (between 5am-10am) after light breakfast and farewells, we transfer to local hotel or airport in time for check-in and flight.
Take your pre-booked flight to Bali or Jakarta, via Kupang.

THE TRIP

Departure, return and timings

- Departure: 1pm, 1st day, Sorong, West Papua. Or earlier if everyone arrives before and all trip preparations have been completed. Free pickup upon arrival from Domine Edward Osok Airport, Sorong or from local hotel (10am) to Blue Manta on trip departure day (transfer time 20-30 mins).
- Return: 5am, last day - Alor, East Nusa Tenggara. After a light breakfast and fond farewells, we take you to local hotel or Mali Airport, Alor in time for check-in and flight or local hotel (transfer time around 1 hour). Note: Latest Blue Manta check-out at 10am, trip return day.
- Last dive ends: 12pm, penultimate day. Plenty of time for R&R while we sail back to Alor where we spend the last night on Blue Manta. This also allows for your minimum 18 hours' surface interval/ No Fly Time (as recommended by PADI) before flying the next day.







THE VOYAGE

About this trip

Let our experienced crew show you these remote and almost untouched locations with wonderful reefs and stunning drop-offs. Finishing in Alor, far from the crowds, this region has fantastic macro life, stunning coral reefs, an abundance of fish, and schooling pelagic providing amazing diving. Watch out for larger pelagic in the cooler waters of the South, including mola mola, thresher and hammerhead sharks. During the surface interval you may even have the chance to spot dolphins or pilot whales.

DIVING

Diving days and notes

- Note: All schedules are subject to changes according to weather, sea, diving, and local conditions.
- Diving days: 10 days (28 dives)
- Note: 3 dives are scheduled per diving day*. This is due to deeper dives and long distances covered between islands. Where possible a bonus night dive may be scheduled at the discretion of the Cruise Leader. *Except trip departure day and trip return day.





CONDITIONS

Dive site information

RAJA AMPAT

- Water Temp: 27-30 degrees Celsius
- Air Temp: 27-32 degrees Celsius
- Visibility: 15-30 metres
- Level: intermediate to advanced
- Best Time to Dive: October to April (less rain and much less wind: perfect)
- Currents: Mild - strong for diving)

BANDA-ALOR

- Water Temp: 26-28 degrees Celsius, however deep-water upwelling's and thermoclines especially in Sept-Nov can mean temps as low as 25C. Air Temp: 22-31 degrees Celsius
- Alor Water Temp: 22-26 degrees, it can be cold in the waters around Lembetta and Alor and we do recommend you bring extra exposure suit for this section of the cruise.
- Visibility: 20-30 metres
- Currents: medium to strong
- Level: intermediate to advanced.
- Best Time to Dive: March, April, and mid-September to early December





GETTING THERE

Getting to and from the boat

EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION

- Sorong (SOQ), West Papua / Alor (ARD), East Nusa Tenggara

HOW TO GET TO SORONG (SOQ), WEST PAPUA

- It is easiest to fly through to Sorong (SOQ) via Jakarta (CGK), Makassar (UPG Ujung Pandang), Bali (DPS, Denpasar), or Manado (MDC).
- From Jakarta: Overnight direct daily flights, with Batik Air / Garuda Indonesia, arriving to Sorong earlier morning. Lion Air and Sriwijaya Air have similar overnight flights but with a stopover in Makassar.

HOW TO GET FROM ALOR (ARD), EAST NUSA TENGGARA

- To Mali Airport, Alor. From boat to airport, estimated 1hr transfer time.
- From Alor (ARD): Early morning domestic flight from Alor to Kupang (KOE) with Lion Wings. Then connect onward flight to Bali (DPS) with Lion Wings or Jakarta (CGK) with Batik Air, Garuda Indonesia, or Lion Wings.







INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Land transfer from local hotel / airport from destination on trip start and end days (Sorong/ Alor) to boat
- All nights' accommodation on Blue Manta
- All meals (Western and Indonesian) snacks, hot beverages, coffee, tea, milo, soft drinks, towels, toiletries, cabin services
- FOC replacement if equipment breakdown
- 12-litre air tanks
- Weights and belt
- Warm towel and drink after every dive
- 6 dive guides (1x instructor, 5x dive master), 28 dives

NOT INCLUDED

- All flights, hotels
- Pickups outside the trip start and end dates (a fee applies per car)
- Marine park and harbour fee (paid in advance of the trip)
- Fuel surcharge (paid in advance of the trip)
- Dive and travel insurance
- Massage services
- Laundry services
- Nespresso coffee, alcohol: beer, wine, satellite wi-fi
- Diving equipment rental
- Nitrox (enriched air) fills