

Raja Ampat / Banda Sea / Forgotten Islands



Start your trip in Raja Ampat, center of marine biodiversity in the world. Dive in the incredibly rich waters and the area is typified by crystal clear water, deep walls and pinnacles, awesome overhangs and swim-throughs, beautiful pristine corals, huge barrel sponges and large schools of fish of the Forgotten Islands. Below will be the draft itinerary when you are onboard of Damai:

Day 1: Arrive into Sorong

Guests will arrive in Sorong and have time to get comfortable on the boat. Damai will travel west to Matan for a check out dive.

No. of 1
Dives:

Day 2: Farondi / Balbulol

No Contest and Love Potion No.9 near the island of Balbulol are a string of underwater ridges rich in current and therefore colourful soft corals and seafans. Spend your time looking in the blue for schooling pelagics and often the beautiful Mobula Rays.

To the east is the island of Farondi. Visit the unique underwater caves at Goa Farondi and hunt for cool pygmy seahorses on the different varieties of sea fans. Nearby in the channel are the current rich pinnacles of the Three Sisters. This area is teeming with life and there is a good chance of seeing a lot of fish action.

No. of 4
Dives:

Day 3: Wayibatatan

The Four Kings is a series of colorful underwater pinnacles which make an amazing dive with plenty of cool fish action. Moving later to a more sheltered spot we are in the vicinity of some great dive spots: drift along the channel at Neptune Fan Sea; explore wall at Wedding Cake or enjoy the fish action on the ridge at Barracuda Rock.

No. of 3 or 4
Dives:

Day 4: Boo & Fiabacet

This amazing string of small islands has a colourful array of great dives sites. The signature sites in the area include Boo Windows, Nudi Rock, Tank Rock and Whale Rock. The whole place is a delight for the eyes.

On a calm day you can visit the amazing seamount Magic Mountain and experience cruising sharks, schooling fish and mantas cleaning. A truly spectacular dive!

No. of 3
Dives:

Day 5: Koon

At the far eastern end of Seram there is the island of Koon. There is only a single dive site, but it is well worth diving it twice. Too Many Fish! is a sloping reef that drops off into the deep and there are plenty of pelagic hanging around here; giant trevally and large tunas come in to feed, schools of snapper and barracuda hang off the drop off. There are some cool coral heads in the shallows to explore at the end of the dive. After the second dive, we will move towards the center of the Spice Island trade: Banda

No. of 2 or 3
Dives:

Day 6: Bui

Just north of Kei we have the long line of Watubela islands with some great diving off the east side. We have two extensive seamounts, Ultima Frontera and Gunung Laut, to explore with schools of fish, excellent hard coral coverage, huge sponges, black spotted morays and passing pelagics.

No. of 3
Dives:

Day 7: Pulau Manuk

The island of the snakes is a smoking volcano in the middle of the Banda Sea. There is the opportunity to see both Olive Sea Snakes and the more common Banded Sea Krait which can lead to quite an exhilarating dive. There are a couple of Mobula Ray cleaning stations nestled in the black sand shallows and always the possibility of cruising sharks.

No. of 3
Dives:

Day 8: Nils Desperandum

The best place in Indonesia to have a chance to spot school of Hammerheads. An atoll with walls all around it, large pelagic patrol the reefs, and the ridges in the corners are timing with life, schooling fish, large barrel sponges and fans. Great diving experience.

No. of 4
Dives:

Day 9: Dai

Tertuti Wall is a beautiful wall carpeted in vibrant orange and yellow softcorals and huge seafans. There are schools of butterflyfish and anthias hanging just off the wall and larger schools further out. With plenty of ledges and overhangs to make the dive interesting, there is even an arch for photo opportunities.

No. of 4
Dives:

Day 10: Dawera

Some of the healthiest and balanced coral reef. Abundant life which consists of school of bigeye trevally, fusiliers, enormous Napoleon Wrasse, patrolling Dogtooth Tuna and a series of Sharks. A perfect way to complete the trip with the last 2 dives here to enjoy the beautiful reef and amazing fish life.

No. of 4
Dives:

Day 11: Tanimbar Exploration

It is always exciting to spend one day chartering new areas along the way. We will look at the charts and try places where deep waters might bring nutrients into shallower areas in the search for the next best dive.

No. of 2
Dives:

Day 12: Departure

Guests will be escorted to the airport in Saumlaki and assisted with check in procedures, no doubt full of talk about the wonders of the most popular dive destination in the world.

DISCLAIMERS

The trip will be weather dependent and there might be long crossing required throughout. We will, try to adjust the best we can to the conditions and fulfil all itinerary briefed when you're on the boat.

Due to the need to report to the local village, divers will need to be flexible with the start time of the first dive at some of the dive sites. We will ensure that you're given timely update on this during the trip, however your understanding on last minute changes would be appreciate. This is because divers are only allowed in the water once permission is granted by the local villages and officers.

Damai are flexible to change itinerary suggested based on customer's preference in the event that weather and time allow us to do so and if changes is agreeable by all participants on board