

# Raja Ampat, Indonesia

# 7 Nights and 10 Nights Itinerary

- Embarkation: Sorong Harbour, West Papua at 12:30pm\*
- **Disembarkation:** Sorong Harbour, West Papua no later than 10:00

Transfer from Sorong Airport, or a local hotel to Indo Siren on embarkation day, and from Indo Siren to Sorong Airport, or local hotel on disembarkation day are included in the itinerary price.

Guests staying in Sorong before their liveaboard will be picked up from their hotel at a time that will be confirmed by our local operations team the night before embarkation.

Guests arriving in Sorong on embarkation day will be welcomed by Indo Siren staff at Sorong Airport who will assist with your luggage and onward transfer. Depending on what time your flight into Sorong arrives, we can organise use of the day facilities at the Swiss-Belhotel until 12.00.

On disembarkation day, if your flight out of Sorong departs later than 10.00 am, we will transfer you to a cosy local restaurant near the airport where you can wait for your flight.

\*PLEASE NOTE: Domestic flights in Indonesia are often subject to delays, schedule changes and cancellations, which can result in missed connections and arriving after the designated embarkation time, or day. In such events, if your delayed arrival is after the vessel has departed, you may be charged for the cost of arranging a speedboat transfer or for additional fuel required for Indo Siren to return to port.

When flying into Sorong on embarkation day, we respectfully ask that all guests arrange flights to *arrive at Sorong Airport before 12:00 (midday)*.

Marine Park & Port Fees: (to be paid on board)\*

7 nights: 170 USD per person10 nights: 200 USD per person

\*Marine park fees are subject to change without notice. The applicable amount at the time of departure will be added to your onboard extras to be paid prior to disembarkation.

Marnie Park and Port fees not only cover the cost of Raja Ampat entry permits, but also other local fees and taxes for the areas we visit. If you already have a Raja Ampat entry card the cost may be deducted from the amount payable on board, if the period of validity covers the entire duration of the liveaboard itinerary.

You will need to send us a copy of the card no less than 4 days before the start of your liveaboard and also bring it with you for additional verification on board.

# Minimum dive certification and experience

Divers are required to have PADI Advanced Open Water\* or equivalent certification, with a minimum of 30 logged dives. Advanced Open Water courses can usually be completed on board although pre-booking is required. Please contact our reservations team for details.

Guests who do not fulfil the minimum certification and experience requirements may be denied participation in some or all dives.

It is a mandatory requirement for all divers to have insurance which covers scuba diving activities, including emergency evacuation and recompression chamber costs.

# **Itinerary Details**

Participation in this liveaboard itinerary is subject to acceptance of our Terms & Conditions as outlined here: <a href="https://www.masterliveaboards.com/terms-conditions">www.masterliveaboards.com/terms-conditions</a>.

#### Number of scheduled dives:

7 nights: up to 2210 nights: up to 32

Whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives we have scheduled is fulfilled, a number of factors can affect the vessel's ability to reach specific areas in good time and the number of dives possible.

#### Included land tours

There are several potential shore excursions which may be included on Raja Ampat itineraries; Generally there will be 2 land visits offered on each itinerary, one of which is the Penemu Viewpoint which is always offered and popular. The other may be one of the following, or an alternative, dependent on itinerary, environmental conditions and logistics.

- Arborek (village visit)
- Alyui (Pearl Farm)
- Sawinggrai (Bird Spotting charges apply)

## 10 night itineraries only

- Tomolol Caves (Misool)
- Lenmakana jellyfish lake (Misool)
- Daram Beach (Misool)

The following is an example of the day-to-day itinerary.



**Day 1:** Embarkation from 12:00-12:30 followed by introductions, boat and safety briefings and dinner. There is no diving scheduled on this day.

All safety and dive briefings are conducted in English. If you, or any of your group do not speak or understand English, please contact us.

Day 2: Breakfast followed by a check dive, and up to 3 subsequent dives, as outlined below.

**Days 3-6** (7 nights) / **Days 3-9** (10 nights)

Your Cruise Manager will schedule up to 4 dives per day; 3 day dives and either a sunset or a night dive. A typical diving day is scheduled as follows:

- Light Breakfast followed by a briefing & Dive 1
- Full Breakfast, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 2
- Lunch, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 3
- Snack
- Briefing for Sunset or Night dive
- Dinner

Day before disembarkation: For your last full day on board, we usually schedule 2 morning dives\* before the boat cruises back to Sorong, where it will remain at anchor in the harbour overnight.

**Disembarkation day:** Following breakfast on board, disembarkation and transfer to Sorong Airport no later than 10:00.

\*We kindly request that guests check their flight departure times to ensure that they leave a minimum of 24 hours between their final dive and their flight home.

While we wish to show you the very best diving possible, a number of factors determine which route the yacht takes and which dive sites we are able to visit. Weather, tides, currents, sea conditions and how many other vessels are in a particular location all play a part in the Cruise Manager's decision of which route the vessel takes and the sites that are chosen to dive.

Following is a sample of some of the dive sites which we may visit during your time aboard Indo Siren. Guests are welcome to suggest preferred dive sites to the Cruise Manager who will be happy to accommodate guests' wishes where possible and if the schedule allows for it.

The safety of our guests is paramount and we always do our best to offer diving at alternative locations, should we be unable to visit any of the sites listed below.

Dive sites we often visit include, but are not limited to:

# Mansuar Island & the Dampier Strait

Fast drift dives and big fish schools characterise the sites surrounding Mansuar and the Dampier Strait. Numerous dive sites are clustered together providing a variety of "Big Fish" dives with currents, and more relaxed dives where smaller creatures can be found and photographed. Your dive team will check currents and choose sites based on the optimum conditions each day.



# Manta Sandy

The two large bommies situated in the middle of a sandy bottom at just 18 metres (60ft) is a world-renowned cleaning station which attracts many reef manta rays of a variety of shades and sizes, including all–black mantas, distinctive to Raja Ampat. Divers can simply rest on the bottom and watch the show.

The reef itself has many smaller creatures with dragonets and various pipefishes as well as Bumphead parrotfish and Black-tip reef sharks. Therefore, in case the mantas are not performing, there is still plenty to look at and discover.

# Cape Kri

One of the best known sites in the Dampier Strait, the variety of reef fish is astounding. A world record setter with 374 species of fish seen during one dive, Scribbled filefish, Harlequin sweetlips, Bumphead parrotfish, Pinnate batfish, hawkfish and Napoleon wrasse are all commonly seen. In the blue, myriad Bignose unicornfish and Bluestreak fusiliers are closely watched by giant trevallies and dogtooth tuna, whilst black tip reef sharks, pickhandle barracuda, turtles and pipefish are all regularly spotted as well.

# Blue Magic

A long finger-shaped reef sloping down at the points from 8 metres to 30 metres (26ft - 98ft) with hard and soft corals, sea fans and black coral bushes; schools of jacks and barracuda hover close to the reef while grey reef sharks cruise in the blue and mantas sweep through the cleaning stations. For the keen eyed, wobbegong sharks and pontohi pygmy seahorses add to the appeal and wonders of this magical dive site.

## Sardine Reef

Swarms of fusiliers, snappers and sweetlips, schools of bumphead parrotfish and banner fish, barracuda and trevally that come to feast on the nutrients in the surrounding water all make this site a very fishy dive. Rock-mover wrasse, dragonets and jaw fish are amongst the smaller fish species seen here whilst white-tip and black-tip reef sharks can also be spotted.

#### Mioskon

A superb dive spot where we can see pygmy seahorses, flatworms, nudibranchs, scorpion fish and the occasional hunting shark. We can also see trevally hunting fusiliers, black-tip reef sharks and giant moray eels.

#### Mike's Point

As we approach the tiny island known as Mike's Point, eagles can be seen resting in the treetops. Underwater, the site offers varied topography with one side full of overhangs and crevices whilst the other has "steps" dropping down to the deep with a field of whip corals adorning the slope. With the right current this site is superb and the island can be circumnavigated in one dive seeing sweetlips, batfish, jacks, Spanish mackerel, grey reef sharks and wobbegong sharks.



#### Friwinbonda

Lionfish can be seen hunting glassfish schools that hover around the black coral bushes, tiny pipefish and the transparent skeleton shrimp are amongst the other interesting critters at this great night dive spot.

# Gam & Yangeffo Islands

The islands surrounding Waigeo, the third main island of the Four Kings, provide a range of dive sites for us to choose from including:

# Melissa's Garden

This site is home to some of the best hard coral gardens in Raja Ampat. Featuring a shallow flat reef with beautiful blue-tipped staghorn corals inhabited by myriads of damselfish, trevally, black tip reef sharks and wobbegong sharks, along with orangutan crabs and spiny lobsters are common sightings here.

# Mayhem

This dive spot is notorious for its strong currents, making for an exhilarating dive with lots of action. It is a superb site for larger fish sightings including Barracuda, Mackerel, Blue-fin trevally, Tuna, Napoleon wrasse and Bumphead parrotfish, as well as eagle rays and wobbegong sharks.

# Citrus Ridge

A stunning reef named after the carpet-like orange, pink, yellow and green soft corals that cover the entire area. Gorgonian fans shelter pygmy seahorses, jawfish bob out of their ground holes, wobbegong sharks rest lazily amongst table corals and harlequin sweetlips can be found tucked into the many bommies that are dotted over the reef. The up-current side offers sensational pelagic encounters such as roaming grey and blacktip reef sharks, schooling jacks and a vortex of blackfin barracuda.

#### Batanta Island

Batanta Island, one of the Four Kings, which we will visit during your liveaboard cruise, offers something truly exceptional. Known for its muck diving, there is really nothing that cannot be seen here along the dark sand slopes. Mimic octopus, wonderpus, snake eels, dragonets, cuttlefish, flasher wrasse, solar-powered nudibranchs and ornate and robust ghost pipefish to name just a few. Depending on the weather and tidal conditions we will choose from sites including: Algae Patch I and Algae Patch II and Happy Ending!

# Misool Islands (10 nights itinerary only)

Due to travel distances involved, 7 night itineraries will not visit Misool unless there are exceptional circumstances. If Misool is visited then some of the areas above will not be dived.

There are numerous small islands surrounding the second of the Four Kings, Misool, including Daram, Farondi, Boo, Wayilbatan, Kalig and Warakaraket to name just a few. Each offers some of the most dramatic underwater scenery of the region, from steep walls with huge gorgonian



fans to gentler slopes with abundant hard and soft corals. Diving on some of the sites listed here is dependent on sea and weather conditions.

# Candy Store

Situated at Daram Islands, is where we see colourful soft corals and yellow sponges, sea whips and black coral which hide creatures, such as ghost pipefish and coral shrimps. Schools of batfish, fusiliers, snapper, butterfly fish and bumphead parrotfish can all be seen here, as well as barramundi and Napoleon wrasse. There is so much to see, you truly will feel like 'a kid in a candy store'.

#### Andiamo

A diverse, exposed, two-island reef with walls, overhangs, pinnacles, ridges and a shallow plateau. With a wide variety of marine life, it is no wonder Andiamo is one of the most famous dive sites in Misool. Thick schools of sardines and fusiliers cruise over the colourful soft corals where we can often find wobbegong and epaulette sharks resting on the sand. Yellowtail and chevron barracuda form schools along the reef whilst reef octopus and numerous nudibranchs can be found.

#### **Boo Windows**

Comprised of two rocks that stick up from the eastern edge of Boo Island with a saddle formed between them, this dive site is a coral garden paradise. Prone to currents, diving can be quite thrilling as it attracts trevally, Spanish mackerel and dog tooth tuna, amongst others. Near the surface the tides and water have eroded window-like holes (hence the name) in the rocks creating swim-throughs and shallow rocky formations, blanketed by orange soft corals that make for great photography opportunities. Pickhandle barracuda, snapper, grouper, napoleon wrasse, turtles, batfish and rabbit fish are often seen in the waters surrounding the islands.

#### Whale Rock

This small island in the Fiabacet chain, derives its name from its distinctive shape which looks like a whale when viewed from the south. Due to its exposed location, most dives on this rocky islet are drift dives along a gently sloping reef from 6m - 20m (20ft - 66ft) which is covered with corals and sponges. It's a great spot to hunt for interesting critters including tiger cowries, fire gobies, hawkfish and mushroom coral shrimp.

## **Nudi Rock**

A nudibranch-shaped island and an iconic dive site, part of a 1.3km (0.8 mile) ridge with walls, pinnacles and sandy plateaus. Marine species vary from macro to large pelagics that can all be seen at this stunning site. Blacktips, whitetips, grey reef sharks, and schooling blackfin barracuda can be spotted cruising by, whilst hiding amongst the corals are crocodile fish, nudibranchs, porcelain crabs, and the elusive soft coral pipefishes.

# Kalig Potato Point

Also in the Fiabecet area, this is a superb night diving location and host to a wide variety of nudibranch species including nembrotha, chromodoris, hypselodoris, tambja and joruna.



# Gorgonian Passage

Also known as Neptune's Fans Sea, this passage is situated in the channel that runs between Wayilbatan and Wayil islands. It has huge sea fans along the walls in which a variety of pygmy seahorses can be found including Bargibanti and Denise's. Other attractions are the countless types of sweetlips and variety of smaller marine creatures, such as peacock mantis shrimp and juvenile convict fish on the shallow sandy bottom.

#### Barracuda Rock

This is another very fishy site with schools of Big-Eye Trevally and hundreds of Yellowtail and Chevron Barracudas. An overhang on the southeast side is a good place to find Sweetlips, moray eels and lionfish during the day. With its shallow reef top, it is also one of our favourite night diving spots at Wayilbatan with all manner of crustaceans hiding amongst the corals from decorator crabs and arrow crabs to Durban dancing shrimp and pink squat lobster, octopus, yellow margined morays and pygmy seahorses all seen here.

## Dunia Kecil

Also known as Small World, this tiny island with its steep walls, overhangs, slopes and beautiful shallow reef top is a delight of colours and fish variety. It is another superb site to spot pygmy seahorses, and 'ladybug' amphipods that are more commonly seen in Komodo National Park. Hawksbill turtles, schools of batfish, crocodile flathead, barramundi cod and juvenile cuttlefish are amongst the other marine creatures that can all be found here.

