

# Triton Bay and Raja Ampat, Indonesia

## 12 Nights

### Kaimana to Sorong itinerary

- **Embarkation:** Kaimana Harbour, West Papua. (time is dependent on flight schedules)\*
- **Disembarkation:** Sorong Harbour, West Papua no later than 10:00

For your convenience, a free transfer will be provided from your hotel in Kaimana, or Kaimana Airport, to the harbour on embarkation day, and from Sorong Harbour to Sorong Airport or local hotel on the day of disembarkation.

**\* IMPORTANT:** There is only one flight per day to Kaimana, which departs from Sorong and arrives at different times on alternating days. *We strongly recommend making arrangements to arrive in Kaimana the day before embarkation and arranging a hotel for the night.*

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.

### Sorong to Kaimana itinerary

- **Embarkation:** Sorong Harbour, West Papua at 12:30\*
- **Disembarkation:** Kaimana Harbour, West Papua at 10:00

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

\*Guests intending to fly into Sorong on embarkation day are respectfully asked to arrange flights to *arrive at Sorong Airport before 12:00 (midday)*. Depending on what time your flight into Sorong arrives on embarkation day, we can organise use of the day facilities at the Swiss-Belhotel until 12.00. However, we recommend arriving in Sorong the day before the start of your liveaboard itinerary.

**\*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.

**Marine Park & Port Fees:** 275 USD\* per person (to be paid on board)

*\*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.

Marine park and port fees for Raja Ampat and Triton Bay not only cover the cost of Raja Ampat entry permits but also other local fees and taxes for the areas visited during the liveboard itinerary.

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 time spent in Raja Ampat. You will need to send us a copy of the card no less than 4 days before the start of your liveboard 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 50 logged dives**.

\*Advanced Open Water courses can be completed on board (pre-booking is required).

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 liveboard itinerary is subject to acceptance of our Terms & Conditions as outlined here: [www.masterliveboards.com/terms-conditions](http://www.masterliveboards.com/terms-conditions).

**Number of scheduled dives:** Up to 37

This itinerary involves some long distance travel and, whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives we have scheduled is fulfilled, bad weather can hinder the vessel's ability to reach a specific dive site in good time.

### Included land tours

There are several potential shore excursions which may be included on Triton Bay & Raja Ampat itineraries; Generally there will be 2 land visits offered on each itinerary, one of which is Raja Ampat's Penemu Viewpoint which is always offered and popular. The other may be one of the following depending on the itinerary route, environmental conditions and logistics.

#### Triton Bay

- Sanggala Bay Waterfall
- Mauwera Lagoon

#### Raja Ampat

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

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

**Day 1:** Embarkation is followed by introductions and boat and safety briefings after which you can assemble your equipment with help from the friendly crew and relax before dinner.

***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 3-11:** Your Cruise Manager will schedule up to 4 dives per day; 3 day dives and, where possible, 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 12:** We usually schedule 2 morning dives\* before Indo Siren cruises back to port, where she will remain at anchor overnight.

**Disembarkation day:** Breakfast on board, followed by disembarkation and transfer to the local airport (or hotel) up to 10:00 am at the latest.

\*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 the exact route the yacht takes and which dive sites we are able to visit. *Weather, tides, currents and sea conditions all play a part in the Cruise Manager's decision of where the Indo Siren is heading to and which sites are chosen to dive.*

Following is a sample of 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 overall schedule allows for it.

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

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

## Dampier Strait

Located in the remote far east of the Indonesian archipelago, the Strait is a large passage of water between the islands of Gam & Waigeo in the north and Batanta in the south. This area offers some of the best diving in Raja Ampat, with its dense hard coral reefs and large fish schools that characterise the area. 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 are a world-renowned cleaning station which attracts many reef manta rays of a variety of shades and sizes. Divers can rest on the bottom and watch the action taking place around them. Even if the mantas are not performing their show, there is still a plethora of marine life to watch including Bumphead parrotfish and black-tip reef sharks. The reef itself has many smaller creatures such as dragonets and various kinds of pipefish.

### Cape Kri

One of the most well-known sites in the Dampier Strait and a world record setter, with 374 species of fish seen during one dive. The steep slope swept by nutrient rich currents attracts an amazing variety of fish, such as napoleon wrasse, bumphead parrotfish, and pinnate batfish. 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, and pipefish are all regular residents as well.

### Blue Magic

A must-dive in Raja Ampat, this long finger-shaped seamount starts at 8 metres and drops down to 30 metres. Everywhere you look, it teems with marine life, colour and movement. The top is covered with hard and soft corals, where schools of jacks and barracuda hang out. Oceanic & reef manta rays can be seen hovering above the cleaning stations, while grey reef sharks cruise in the blue. While waiting for some action, interesting camouflaged fish can be found such as the wobbegong sharks, and, for the keen-eyed, pontohi pygmy seahorses.

## Sardine Reef

This underwater hill is swarming with fusiliers, snappers and sweetlips, schools of bumphead parrot fish, banner fish, barracuda and trevally that feast on the nutrients in the water. Rock-mover wrasse, dragonets and jaw fish are amongst the smaller fish species seen here, whilst white-tip and black-tip reef sharks cruise around looking for prey. This is a perfect location to watch the food chain in action.

## Mike's Point

Approaching the tiny limestone 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 outstanding, and the island can be circumnavigated in one dive seeing sweetlips, batfish, jacks, spanish mackerel, grey reef sharks, and Wobbegong sharks.

## Penemu & Yangeffo Islands

Located west of Gam, these mushroom-shaped islands are surrounded by turquoise waters filled with corals. These islands 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. They come in a great variety of size and colour. In its shallow waters, vast fields of blue-tipped staghorn corals are inhabited by myriads of damselfish, whilst blacktip reef sharks patrol the area. On the slopes, trevallies, napoleon wrasse cohabit with schools of fusiliers, whilst on the sandy bottom you can almost always spot a mushroom coral pipefish.

## Mayhem

This dive spot is notorious for its strong currents, making for an exhilarating dive. The seamount, reaching up to 12 metres below the water, boasts big bommies that are home to glass fish and wobbegong sharks. The top of the reef is teeming with large shoals of fusiliers and surgeonfish that cluster together, whilst bluefin trevallies patrol the area. Divers will also be able to spot whitetip reef sharks, who prefer to live in the white sandy areas around the seamount.

## Citrus Ridge

A spectacular reef named after the orange, pink, yellow, and green soft corals that carpet the whole area. The up-current side offers sensational encounters such as roaming grey and blacktip reef sharks, schooling jacks and a vortex of blackfin barracuda. On the lee side, jawfish bob out of their ground holes, wobbegong sharks rest lazily beneath table corals, twinspace gobies graze on the sandy bottom, while crocodile fish calmly await their prey.

## Misool Islands

There are numerous small islands surrounding one of the four largest islands in Raja Ampat, 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 hard and soft corals.

### **Andiamo**

A diverse, exposed, two-island reef with walls, overhangs, pinnacles, ridges and a shallow plateau. With a high variety of marine life, it is no wonder this site is one of the most famous dive sites in Misool. Thick schools of fusiliers cruise over hard and soft corals, where we can find Wobbegong and epaulette sharks hiding. Pickhandle barracuda and blackfin batfish form large schools along the reef. Look for reef octopus hiding in the wall's crevices. The wall is adorned with giant gorgonian sea fans.

### **Boo Windows**

Comprised of two rocks that stick up from the eastern edge of the island of Boo, this dive site is a coral garden paradise. Prone to strong currents, diving here can be very thrilling as it attracts trevally, Spanish mackerel and dog tooth tuna amongst others. Near the surface the tides and water have eroded various holes 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.

### **Gorgonian Passage**

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

### **Karang Bayangan aka Magic Mountain**

Arguably one of the best dive sites in Indonesia, Magic Mountain is a dome-shaped seamount with a finger-shaped rocky outcrop densely covered with gorgonian fans and soft corals. You can witness enormous schools of fusiliers, surgeonfish and batfish circled by dogtooth tunas, giant trevallies, grey reef, and whitetip reef sharks. On top of these incredible encounters, a cleaning station for oceanic and reef mantas can make this dive one of your best ever. However, due to its exposed location, diving here is very much dependent on sea conditions.

### **Nudi Rock**

A nudibranch-shaped island and an iconic dive site, part of a 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 striking site. Blacktips, whitetips, grey reef sharks, and schooling blackfin barracuda can be spotted, whilst hiding amongst the corals are crocodile fish, nudibranchs, porcelain crabs, and the elusive soft coral pipefishes.

## Pisang Island

Located between the islands of Misool & Papua, Pisang Island is named after its Banana-like shape. This is part of a group of islands in the middle of Ceram Sea and lies south of Saboaeda Island and its long white sand beach.

### T-Bone Reef

A rocky outcrop covered with vibrant elephant ear sponges, gorgonian sea fans, and yellow soft corals. With the right current you can expect to see eagle rays cruising and hunting on the sandy bottom floor. Schools of barracudas and jacks also circle around its waters.

### The Dome

This is a massive seamount known for brown marbled grouper and giant grouper. The slopes are covered with cabbage corals with ringed pipefish hiding beneath and colourful soft corals in the deeper area. The shallows also host blacktip reef sharks and bumphead parrotfish.

## Sanggala Bay

Situated along the coast of the Fak Fak Province, Sanggala offers both great diving and breathtaking landscapes. Cool water from the Papuan's mountains flows through thick primary jungle to end up in the turquoise waters of the Ceram Sea. It is not uncommon to see local ships refilling their water tanks at the foot of the waterfall. If you walk about an hour upriver, a beautiful hidden turquoise lake lies in the heart of the forest, where Tree-Kangaroos occupy the trees.

There are two special dive sites to explore:

### Mike's Mount

Hundreds of metres long, this seamount attracts large pelagics such as oceanic manta rays, grey reef sharks, and big dogtooth tuna. Large shoals of fusiliers and surgeonfish drift above extensive hard corals fields, such as staghorn and cabbage corals, reaching down to 40 metres depth. Masses of anthias and damselfish inhabit these vibrant coral gardens.

### Mikado

Years ago during a storm, a ship transporting tree trunks had to release its cargo to avoid running aground the shallow seamount in the centre of the bay. As a result, dozens of these trunks are littered forming a huge "Mikado" structure on the grey sand. This area is a good place to look for twinspace gobies and upside-down jellyfishes between the trunks. The seamounts slopes are covered by hard corals where bumphead parrotfish & crocodile fish are among the usual suspects.

## South Aiduma & Dramai Islands

The strait between Aiduma and Papua is the heart of Triton Bay, where the nutrient rich current feeds some of the most diverse colourful soft coral reefs in all of Indonesia. Because of this, we usually experience a lower visibility, but it is worth it.

We will usually spend a full day diving these waters, although the sites that are dived on each trip may vary as many are dependent on sea conditions.

### 7th Heaven

Undoubtedly a well-earned name, as the walls are entirely covered with pastel and purple coloured soft corals. When there is a current flowing, the corals are pumped with water which releases a fantastic purple carpet cover on the rocks. We can also expect to see large schools of snapper, barracuda, and fusiliers cruising around.

### Batu Jeruk

The name of this site literally means 'orange rock' in Indonesian, which is not overstated. We will dive over a shallow rocky plateau and slope carpeted with orange soft corals where sweetlips, snappers, and fusiliers hover. The numerous rocks also create small overhangs where wobbegongs and giant groupers often rest.

### Tim's Rock

Expect to see an array of boulders decorated with green black coral, a resting spot for Sweetlips, snappers, and glassfish. The white sand in between hosts numerous species of gobies and jawfish. Rocky slopes are densely covered with vibrant gorgonian fans, fully grown colourful soft corals, and whip corals. There are even a few yellow gorgonians, in which the observant eye can find the elusive yellow bargibanti seahorse.

### La Ultima Frontera

Located on the outskirts of Triton Bay where the visibility is typically better, this small island is pierced by a large swim through near the surface. Regularly large schools of red snapper, surgeonfish, and fusiliers are seen, creating a real fish soup, where giant trevallies cruise eagerly. Boulder clusters are adorned with hanging soft corals, creating a playground for wobbegong sharks, giant and honeycomb moray eel.

### Saruenus Island

In the channel between Aiduma & Papua, this small island locally nicknamed 'Pintu Arus' or 'Pulau Arus', meaning current island, is best known for two specific dive sites: Little Komodo and Larry's Heaven (also known as The Aquarium). The area boasts a diverse topography, including walls, rocky and sandy slopes, plateaus and boulders. You can spot a huge diversity and density of soft corals of all colours and forms.

We will be diving in **Little Komodo**, known as the penultimate dive site of Triton Bay, which boasts shallow boulders that are covered in colourful large soft corals, a true photographer's paradise. Deeper on the slope, a large black coral forest with large gorgonian fans meets the sandy bottom. When the current hits the boulders, huge colonies of orange cup corals extend their polyps to feed on the nutrient carried by the current. On top of this fantastic array of colours and shapes, wobbegongs, spiny lobsters and pipefishes hide beneath large table corals.



## Mauwera & Pelican Bay

Triton Bay also offers spectacular sights above the surface that can be explored, including white sand beaches, turquoise lagoons, mangroves, mushroom shaped islands, and even some pelicans for patient eyes.

## Bitsyara Bay

Not far from Kaimana, this large shallow bay contains many Bagans (local fishing platforms). Whale sharks are often spotted around the area, as they are drawn by the smell of deceased fish from the fishing boats.