KING NEPTUNE

Banda Sea - Halmahera

Ambon to Ternate | Banda Sea and Halmahera



A one way cruise from the Banda Sea to the islands of Halmahera, through some of the most remote waters in Indonesia.

The Banda Islands bring lava flow reefs, steep walls and a visit to historic Banda Neira.

Out in the Banda Sea there are remote rocks with hammerheads, and a volcano island with hundreds of sea snakes.

The route continues through the Patinti Strait with drift dives and soft corals, then the Goraichi Islands with manta rays and reef sharks.

The last dives are at a reef with a huge swirling school of bigeye barracuda.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
12 days / 11 nights	Ambon	Ternate	Advanced Open Water, 20 dives







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Ambon

1 dive

Pick-up from Ambon airport and transfer to the yacht.
After the welcome briefing there is a check dive in Ambon Bay, known for muck diving with frogfish and rhinopias.
The yacht then cruises overnight to the Banda Islands.

DAY 2

Banda Islands

3 dives

Dives on the lava flow, where coral has grown back strongly since the 1988 eruption.
On land there is a visit to Banda Neira, with the Dutch Fort Belgica and local nutmeg plantations.

DAY 3

Banda Islands

3 dives

Steep walls known for schooling barracuda and trevally, and a chance of hammerhead sharks.



DAY 4

Pulau Suanggi

3 dives

Remote diving at a lonely rock in the middle of the Banda Sea, on a deep plateau where hammerheads often gather.

DAY 5

Manuk, the Island of Snakes

3 dives

A volcanic island famous for hundreds of Chinese and olive sea snakes.
Underwater vents release bubbles into the reef, attracting unusual marine life and large fish.

DAY 6

Koon Island, Eastern Seram

2 dives

A corner where currents collide, creating an explosion of fish life with giant groupers and massive schools of snapper.
The yacht then begins the journey north towards Halmahera.



DAY 7

Pulau Pisang

2 dives

A remote group of islands between the Banda Sea and Halmahera, with pristine coral gardens and ridges, high visibility, reef sharks and napoleon wrasse.

DAY 8

Patinti Strait, South Halmahera

3 dives (days 8 and 9)

Between Bacan and Halmahera, with action packed drift dives, vibrant orange soft corals, blacktip reef sharks and schools of jacks.

DAY 9

Patinti Strait, South Halmahera

A second day in the strait, with more channel and island dives.



DAY 10

Goraichi Islands

3 dives

A cluster of islands with white sandy beaches and dramatic pinnacles, good for manta rays and patrolling reef sharks.

DAY 11

Pulau Tifore, Molucca Sea

2 dives

A submerged reef in the open sea, with a huge permanent school of thousands of bigeye barracuda circling in a tornado.
The day ends with a farewell dinner on board.

DAY 12

Ternate

Breakfast and final packing, then a transfer to Ternate airport for your flight home.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Banda Neira

Banda Neira visit with the Dutch Fort Belgica and nutmeg plantations

Check in

The ideal check in is 10am, so please arrive before 12pm on the day of departure. The earliest check in is 6am and the latest is 12pm. The check dive is usually on the boarding day.

Check out

Check out is at 10am after breakfast. Diving ends at 12pm on the day before check out, with up to 2 dives. Free group airport transfers run on the embarkation and disembarkation days.

Ports

The ports and times for this route are confirmed with your booking.







INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Full board Indonesian and international cuisine, with tea, coffee, soft drinks and drinking water
- Cabin with ensuite bathroom, daily housekeeping and turndown service
- Free internet for messaging and calls, with an optional high-speed Starlink upgrade
- Up to 4 guided dives per day in groups of 4, with tanks, weights and a dive guide
- Nitrox refills
- Snorkelling gear
- Group airport transfers on the embarkation and disembarkation days
- VAT

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Mandatory park, port and environment fees, shown with each trip on our schedule
- Fuel surcharge, where applicable
- Diving equipment rental
- Alcoholic drinks
- Advanced and Nitrox courses
- Crew tips and personal expenses
- Travel and dive insurance (mandatory)

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card & logbook
- Dive computer & surface marker buoy (required)
- Reef-safe sunscreen
- Swimwear, hat, sunglasses
- Light clothing & comfortable footwear

AND ALSO

- Personal toiletries & medications
- Travel adaptor (220V, EU plug)
- Passport (minimum 6-month validity)
- Copy of travel and dive insurance

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Experience

Minimum Advanced Open Water certification with at least 20 logged dives is required

Insurance

Travel & dive insurance are mandatory

Flying

No diving allowed within 18-24 hours of flight time

Respect the reef

Do not touch or collect marine life - respect the reef

Special needs

Notify us in advance of any dietary restrictions or medical concerns

Good to know

The sample plan is a guide only, as the route follows the weather and sea conditions