MALAILLO

Banda Neira and Misool

Ambon to Sorong | Ambon, the Banda Sea and Misool

From the cultural heritage of Banda Neira to the biodiversity-rich waters of Misool, this is a journey of big contrasts.

In the Banda Sea there are schooling hammerhead sharks and a renowned aggregation site packed with giant trevally, barracuda, batfish, black snapper and bumphead parrotfish.

Misool is the heart of Raja Ampat's biodiversity, with pristine coral reefs, dramatic underwater topography and frequent pelagic activity.

One of Raja Ampat's most iconic manta cleaning stations draws both reef and oceanic mantas, while four spectacular pinnacles teem with life.

Ridges covered in vibrant soft corals and swim-through formations finish the trip.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 days / 10 nights	Ambon	Sorong	50+ dives suggested







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation, Ambon

Guests arrive in Ambon (AMQ) and board Malaillo before 14:00 for check-in, safety briefing, and dive orientation.
Depending on arrival time and sea conditions, a check dive will be conducted in Laha Bay, located inside Ambon Bay and famous for its exceptional muck diving and macro biodiversity.

DAY 2

Pulau Suanggi and Banda Neira

4 dives

Begin the expedition at Pulau Suanggi, one of the Banda Sea's premier sites for potential encounters with schooling hammerhead sharks.
The dives feature healthy coral reefs, strong pelagic influence, and abundant reef fish activity.
In the evening, enjoy a night dive in the waters surrounding Banda Neira, offering a unique nocturnal reef experience.

DAY 3

Banda Neira Exploration

3 dives + cultural excursion

Start the day with a guided visit to Fort Belgica, a historic Dutch fortress overlooking Banda Neira.
Continue diving at: Batu Kapal, a striking pinnacle and reef system with rich marine life Pohon Miring, a beautiful wall dive with swim-throughs and soft coral formations The day concludes with a night dive in the Banda Neira area.

DAY 4

Hatta Island to Pulau Koon

3 dives

Begin with a morning dive at Karang Hatta Atoll, followed by two dives around Hatta Island, known for its vibrant reefs and strong pelagic presence.
No night dive is scheduled as the vessel begins its overnight crossing toward Pulau Koon

DAY 5

Pulau Koon

2 dives

Explore Pulau Koon, a renowned aggregation site for schooling fish in the Banda Sea.
Expect impressive schools of: Giant trevally Barracuda Batfish Black snapper Bumphead parrotfish This site is known for strong currents and exceptional fish density.

DAY 6

Fiabacet Area (Misool)

4 dives

Enter the heart of Misool's biodiversity at the legendary Fiabacet area.
This region is known for its pristine coral reefs, dramatic underwater topography, and outstanding marine life.
Divers can expect vibrant soft corals, schooling reef fish, and frequent pelagic activity, followed by a night dive in the area.

DAY 7

Warakaraket Area (Magic Mountain and Boo Islands)

4 dives

Start at Magic Mountain, one of Raja Ampat's most iconic manta cleaning stations, where both reef and oceanic mantas are commonly encountered.
Continue to: Boo Windows, famous swim-through formations and coral-covered walls Boo East, rich reef ecosystems and excellent coral diversity End the day with a night dive in Misool waters.

DAY 8

Wayil

4 dives

Explore the dramatic seascape of Wayil, featuring some of Misool's most iconic dive sites: The Four Kings, four spectacular pinnacles teeming with life Orange Peel, ridge systems covered in vibrant soft corals Wedding Cake, colourful reef structures and excellent biodiversity The day concludes with a night dive.

DAY 9

Daram

4 dives

Dive the pristine reefs of Daram Island, known for its coral-covered pinnacles, healthy reef systems, and abundant fish life.
This area consistently offers excellent visibility and strong marine biodiversity.

DAY 10

Daram

2 dives

Spend a final morning diving around Daram, enjoying two relaxed dives to conclude the underwater portion of the expedition.
After diving, the vessel begins its final passage toward Sorong.

DAY 11

Disembarkation (Sorong)

Please note that the latest disembarkation from Malaillo is 11:00 AM.
Guests with later departing flights will be transferred directly to the Airport at 11:00 AM, while guests with confirmed transit hotel reservations will be transferred to their respective hotels following disembarkation.
No onboard stay is available after 11:00 AM.

THE TRIP

About this trip

From the cultural heritage of Banda Neira to the biodiversity-rich waters of Misool, this itinerary delivers an exceptional balance of pelagic encounters, reef exploration, and dramatic underwater landscapes.





FOOD AND SERVICE

Food and drink

Meals on Malaillo are served buffet style, with Asian and Mediterranean dishes and vegan and vegetarian options. Full board covers breakfast, lunch and dinner, with snacks and fruit through the day, and one barbecue night is included on every cruise.

Water, coffee, tea and juices are always available at no extra charge, and guests have fresh towels, hot water and help with transfers on arrival and departure days.





DIVING

How the diving is organised

Malaillo has a dedicated dive deck with a personal station for every guest, tank storage and refilling on board, and easy access to the tenders. Diving follows PADI standards, and the dive guides are professionally trained, with a maximum of four divers per guide.

Nitrox of around 32 percent is available free of charge to certified divers. Safety equipment on board includes a VHF radio, GPS, first aid and emergency oxygen kits and an AED, and the crew also look after spare gear on the dive deck.





GOOD TO KNOW

Worth knowing

- Flying After Diving: The last dive of the trip will take place on Day 10. Divers are strongly advised to observe a 24-hour surface interval before flying.
- This itinerary is a sample and may be adjusted due to weather conditions, sea conditions, local regulations, or other operational considerations. The final route, timing, dive sites, and activities remain at the discretion of the Captain and Cruise Director, who will always prioritize guest safety while striving to deliver the best possible experience.