



Manta Mae Charter

Ambon – Ambon 11 days /10 nights

Day 1. Ambon

Pick up at your hotel or at Ambon airport by our crew for a short transfer to Teluhu Bay where Mantamae awaits you. Once on board, welcome drink in hand, you will be introduced to the rest of the crew, shown around and immediately start to feel at home. We'll have a check muck dive at Teluhu Bay. The Intensity of marine life here is unrivalled; critters benefit from the nutrient-rich currents pushing into this bay but are still protected by sheltered waters in the many small coves. This unique combination creates conditions that nourish an incredible eco system, making it one of the richest and most interesting places to dive.

In the late afternoon we'll set sail for the Banda Islands.

Day 2. Banda Islands

The Banda area offers a good variety of dive sites. Volcanic rocks at Pulau Pisang create a deep swim-through which you can drift through and view the sponge-covered wall on the other side, perhaps spotting Moral eels at the top of the wall as well as schools of bump head parrotfish. We'll also dive at the black sand of Batu Kapal in Banda's harbour, a submerged pinnacle, breaking the surface of the water in the shape of a boat which offers muck diving with flying gurnards spreading their electric blue wings, sea moth, nudibranchs and the mandarin fish. Various types of fish are present here in vast numbers, along with huge gorgonian fans and some truly monumental sponges. We'll also have a wall dive at Tanjung Burung with strong current.

Day 3. Pulau Hatta

Once known as Rozengain, Pulau Hatta is a stunning flying-saucer-shaped island of jungle-swathed limestone trimmed with white sand. It offers some of the finest underwater panoramas and is considered one of the best snorkeling sites in the world. Long white beaches edged with swaying palms, unspoilt reefs and superb diving at the Hatta Arch, Takat Hatta Reef and Tj Buton make Hatta everyone's favorite destination.

Day 4. Pulau Run

Early morning we'll sail to Pulau Run to dive at Tanjung Noret, Tanjun Lokon and Pulau Nailaka, all great locations with white sandy slopes interspaced with large coral heads and healthy reefs. This region is full of unexplored dive sites, and the Banda Sea is the perfect location for the discovery of new underwater treasures.

This tiny island has a fascinating history too; in 1667, the English traded Run for New Amsterdam (now Manhattan), giving the Dutch full control of the Banda archipelago and the nutmeg trade.

Day 5. Pulau Ai

Very few divers witness the true nature of Pulau Ai's unspoilt reef – a secret in the middle of the Banda Sea reached by live-aboard only. This area acts as an oasis for pelagics that cruise by these pristine hard coral reefs cloaked in clouds of fish – Napoleon wrasse, green and hawksbill turtle, tuna, rainbow runner, huge schools of barracuda mixing with schools of bannerfish, redtooth triggers and fusiliers.

Batu Payung, Umbrella Rock, is named for the many overhangs along the island walls, which divers can drift along and enjoy the thousands of tiny reef fish darting in and out of the cracks and crevices. We'll have also night dive

at Mandarin City.

Day 6. Banda Island

Back at Banda Neira, you will have the chance to explore the historic and cultural legacies of the fabled islands, center of the former lucrative spice

trade. Wandering through the town, you'll observe the Dutch colonial architecture which remains to this day, as well as Fort Belgica with its incredible views overlooking the bay.

During the day, we'll dive around the Lighthouse Reef, one of the Lava Flow sites under the volcano, and we'll also have a night dive close the harbor at Mandarin City.

Day 7. Pulau Suanggi

Early morning, we cruise towards the northern island of Banda Neira, Pulau Suanggi, stopping on the way to dive at Pulau Pisang Barat. At Pulau Suanggi, we'll dive

at Tanjung Selatan and Tanjung Utara where it's possible to see schooling of hammerhead sharks. Late afternoon we'll sail to Nusa Laut.

Day 8. Nusa Laut – Pulau Molana

Early morning, we arrive at the beautiful Ahmet Reef in Nusa Laut. The locals here have introduced sustainable methods to protect their reef and their efforts have produced great results. We'll dive at Nildesperandum and at Karang Duisburg where white tips and reef sharks patrol the depths, playful turtles can be spotted, and In October and November there's the chance of diving with Hammerhead sharks.) We might choose to visit the fort and the waterfall here, or sail to Pulau Molana for one more wall dive. The shallow wall breaks in places and in the sandy slopes, ribbon eels, small pipefish and moray eels can be found. Above the reef, turtles are seen feeding in the beautiful coral garden.

Day 9. Ambon – departure day

We'll transfer you to your accommodation or to the airport to catch your next flight.



