

NEOMI

Banda Islands

Ambon to Ambon | Ambon, Pulau Suanggi, Banda Neira and Nusa Laut

The Banda Islands are the treasure of the Spice Islands, with hard coral reefs that usually end in walls covered with soft coral, sea fans and barrel sponges.

The main attraction at Pulau Suanggi is the chance to see a group of hammerhead sharks, over a reef full of trevallies, snappers and fusiliers.

Around Banda Neira, colonies of unicorn fish, fusiliers, jacks and rainbow runners gather with whitetip sharks almost two metres long, Napoleon wrasse, dogtooth tuna and turtles.

Nusa Laut has some stunning hard coral seascapes, with a myriad of reef fish and a few reef sharks.

Ashore, a land tour visits the old Dutch fort of Benteng Belgica.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
7 days / 6 nights	Ambon	Ambon	Open Water, 20 dives







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Ambon and Laha

1 dive

Ambon lies in the central part of the Moluccas (Spice Islands) and is connected by a narrow neck of land.
Underwater it offers large schools of small fish and juvenile batfish between columns covered with sponges, and on the sand you will find small critters like nudibranchs, moray eels and lionfish.

DAY 1

Ambon and Laha (continued)

1 dive

The check dive is in Laha.
Meals: lunch, dinner.
Visibility: usually 10 to 25 metres except in some muck sites.
Water temperature: 20 to 27 °C.

DAY 2

Pulau Suanggi

4 dives

Suanggi is located at the northern end of the outer reefs of Banda Neira.
The reef is full of fish such as trevallies, snappers, fusiliers, sweetlips, butterflyfish, cardinalfish, angelfish, groupers, damselfish, anthias, batfish, wrasse, parrotfish and surgeonfish.
The main attraction is the chance to see a group of hammerhead sharks.
Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.
Visibility: usually 15 to 25 metres in calm water.
Water temperature: 26 to 29 °C.

DAY 3-5

Banda Neira

11 dives + trekking

The islands visited are Pulau Banda, Pulau Hatta, Pulau Run, Pulau Ai and Pulau Naira.
They offer a number of beautiful coral dive sites, with hard coral reefs that usually end in a wall covered with soft coral, sea fans and barrel sponges.
Expect colonies of unicorn fish, fusiliers, jacks and rainbow runners, whitetip sharks measuring almost two metres, Napoleon wrasse, dogtooth tuna and turtles.
There is also a land tour to Benteng Belgica and to the old church, the Hollandische Kerk.
Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.
Visibility: usually 15 to 25 metres in calm water.
Water temperature: 26 to 29 °C.
Bring for the trek: sunscreen, hat, hiking shoes and a camera.

DAY 6

Nusa Laut

2 dives

Nusa Laut lies to the east of Ambon and offers some stunning hard coral seascapes.
Its reef is home to a myriad of reef fish, a few reef sharks and some pelagic visitors, with several species of triggerfish, butterflyfish and angelfish.
Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner.
Visibility: usually 15 to 25 metres in calm water.
Water temperature: 26 to 29 °C.

DAY 7

Ambon

The vessel reaches Ambon in the morning.
After breakfast, it is time to disembark.
Meals: breakfast.

THE TRIP

About this trip

Suanggi gives a chance to see a group of hammerhead sharks, and the Banda days include a land tour to Benteng Belgica and the old Hollandische Kerk.

FOOD AND SERVICE

Food, drink and service

Meals on Neomi are served buffet style, with Western and local dishes and vegan and vegetarian options. There are welcome cocktails, an espresso machine and a fully stocked bar.

The crew speak English and Indonesian, are trained in first aid and look after guests with daily housekeeping.







DIVING

How the diving is organised

Neomi has a spacious dive deck with individual gear storage, a shaded diving area and two aluminium tenders. A dedicated camera room has a camera station, charging points and a separate rinse for underwater cameras. Nitrox is available for certified divers, DIN adaptors are provided and sidemount diving is possible.

Kayaks, fishing and land excursions are included, and non-divers are welcome, with a snorkelling guide.







GOOD TO KNOW

Worth knowing

- The total number of dives and the dive areas are influenced by the weather and current conditions, and the captain and dive master have the right to change the dive area for safety reasons.

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Experience

Open Water divers with at least 20 logged dives in the past year can join the dives

Good to know

Divers without that experience need a private dive guide