RAJA AMPAT AGGRESSOR

Raja Ampat, Halmahera and Lembeh, 12 nights

Sorong and Bitung | Raja Ampat, Halmahera and Lembeh Strait

Two of Indonesia's best diving regions in one sweep, from the manta cleaning station and huge schools of fish of Raja Ampat to the macro muck diving of the Lembeh Strait.

Misool is renowned as the centre of pygmy seahorses and gorgonians, with vertical walls, caves and lagoons covered in hard and soft corals.

In between lies remote Halmahera, with pinnacles encircled by massive schools of barracuda, and current-cooled seamounts and walls with sharks and tuna.

Lembeh is a macro diver's dream, teeming with life from rare seahorses and flamboyant cuttlefish to intricate nudibranchs and elusive octopuses.

Graceful turtles glide through clear water over its reefs and walls.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
13 days / 12 nights	Sorong	Bitung, or Bitung to Sorong	Certified diver







Your route

STOP 1

Start: Sorong or Bitung

The trip starts in Sorong for Raja Ampat first, or in Bitung for Lembeh first, and the route is the same in the other direction.

STOP 2

Raja Ampat: Dampier Strait, Fam, Mansuar and Misool

The best sites of the Dampier Strait, Fam, Mansuar and Misool, with the manta cleaning station near Mansuar and the huge schools of fish near Farondi.

STOP 3

Halmahera: Crossing the Molucca Sea

The boat crosses to the remote island of Halmahera, with pinnacles encircled by schools of barracuda and current-cooled seamounts, walls and pinnacles.

STOP 4

Lembeh Strait: North Sulawesi

The trip ends, or begins, in the Lembeh Strait with its macro muck diving.

THE ROUTE

Route map

The map shows the route between Sorong and Bitung, through Raja Ampat, the Molucca Sea and Halmahera to the Lembeh Strait. The sample itineraries and maps are for illustration only. The exact route and sites visited depend on local regulations, guest experience, weather and logistics, and are at the Captain's discretion.



THE DIVING

Raja Ampat dive sites

The Raja Ampat itinerary combines the best dive sites of the Dampier Strait, Fam and Mansuar with the dive sites of Misool, the best diving area of Raja Ampat. Highlights include the manta cleaning station near Mansuar and the huge schools of fish near Farondi.

THE DAMPIER STRAIT

The Dampier Strait separates the Birds Head Peninsula from Waigeo and Mansuar. The name comes from the Dutch colonial period and refers to the shape of the peninsula on the map, but it is also a paradise for many rare bird species. Here the Pacific Ocean meets the Halmahera Sea, with an explosion of marine life as the result. With regular strong currents, big fish feel especially comfortable: manta rays, reef sharks, schools of mackerel, tuna and barracuda, dolphins and whales.

Night dives under the Arborek or Cape Mansuar jetty are a favourite, with peculiar creatures such as wobbegongs, epaulette sharks (walking sharks), nudibranchs, pipefish, seahorses, frogfish and scorpionfish.

MISOOL

Misool is the southeast of the four big islands of the Raja Ampat archipelago and at the same time one of the most biodiverse regions in the world. The reefs are rich and varied, with vertical walls, slopes, dry rocks, caves and lagoons, some covered with hard corals and others with brightly coloured soft corals. It is also renowned as the centre of pygmy seahorses and gorgonians, and everywhere you go you will be amazed by the profusion of marine life.

RAJA AMPAT DIVE SITES

- Manta Sandy
- West Mansuar
- Arborek Jetty
- My Reef
- Mioskon
- Sardines Reef
- Blue Magic
- Friwinbonda
- Nudis Rock
- The Passage
- Batu Lima
- Friwonda
- Cape Kri
- Chicken Reef
- Cape Mansuar
- North Batanta
- Algae Patch
- Melissa’s Garden
- Keruo Channel
- Magic Mountain

- Boo Windows
- Nudi Rock
- Barracuda Point
- Tank Rock
- Whale Rock
- Three Sisters
- Killer Cave
- Farondi Wall





HALMAHERA

The remote island of Halmahera lies between the Molucca Sea to the west and the Pacific Ocean to the east, with a unique geography of four peninsulas enclosing three great bays and three volcanoes. You find exciting dives with plenty of weird and wonderful creatures, and pinnacles encircled by massive schools of barracuda and other pelagic fish. There are warm, shallow reefs with colourful reef fish and exotic invertebrates, and in the deeper water current-cooled seamounts, walls and pinnacles with sharks and tuna.

LEMBEH STRAIT

Lembeh Strait is a diver's utopia, renowned for its breathtaking underwater world, with sandy slopes, volcanic outcrops and vibrant coral gardens. It is a macro diver's dream, teeming with life from rare seahorses and flamboyant cuttlefish to intricate nudibranchs and elusive octopuses. The area also has stunning reefs and walls with colourful corals, where graceful turtles glide through clear water.





CONDITIONS

Temperature and dive organisation

Temperature

The water temperature averages 28 to 30°C (82 to 86°F), and a 3 mm wetsuit is recommended.

Currents

Strong currents are regular where the Pacific Ocean meets the Halmahera Sea, and big fish feel at home in them.

Dive tenders

All dives are made from two dive tenders.

ON BOARD

Service and cuisine

THE CUISINE

The menu on board is varied and plentiful, with a variety of Indonesian feasts and local cuisine. You wake up to fresh fruit, hot entrees, cereals and juices, lunches feature delicious local cuisine, and dinners are served each evening with salads, vegetables, seafood, beef or chicken and a fresh homemade dessert. Please note any special dietary requirements on your guest information form and speak to the chef about them once on board, as some special dietary and beverage requests may not be available because of the remote location.

DRINKS

The beverage selection includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, iced tea and coffee, along with a limited selection of local beer and wine, all complimentary. Drinking and diving do not mix, and once you have a drink you are a sunbather until the next day.








INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Full board meals and snacks
- Juices, soft drinks, iced water, tea, coffee, local beer and wine
- Diving from two dive tenders
- Transfers on the charter start and end dates

NOT INCLUDED

- Park and port fee and fuel surcharge, paid on board at the end of the trip
- Spirits
- Equipment rental and courses
- Local currency for overweight baggage and incidentals
- Gratuities for the crew, which are optional
- Diving and travel insurance