RAJA AMPAT EXPLORER

Raja Ampat, Fam and Central

Sorong to Sorong | Dampier Strait, Fam and Central Raja Ampat

Raja Ampat lies in the heart of the Coral Triangle, and the Dampier Strait is where its fish life is at its densest.

Reef sharks, manta rays, jacks, barracuda and tuna are regular visitors, with the chance of an oceanic manta.

One reef is so thick with fish it can look like a school of sardines, with many sharks and three species of pygmy seahorse on the sea fans.

Fam has garden reefs where the corals fight for space, and Tanjung Putus is an aquarium, with thousands of glassfish in the soft corals.

Night dives under the jetties finish each day.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 days / 10 nights	Sorong	Sorong	Advanced Open Water, 50 dives







Your route

STOP 1

Embarkation in Sorong

Pick up at the airport and transfer to the harbour to board the boat, then sail to Waisai for clearance.

STOP 2

Dampier Strait, up to 4 dives

1st dive at Mioskon: as soon as leaving Waisai, we do check dive at the nearby island of Mioskon.
It offers a relatively easy dive condition with healthy reef and varieties of fishes.
Schools of Yellow Snapper, Napoleon Wrasse, big groupers and Wobbegong sharks can be found here.
Pygmy seahorses and different species of nudibranch can be seen as well.
2nd dive at Lao Lao: Lao Lao is a pretty deep dive, so don't expect to be down for too long.
The slope down is covered in clusters of pinnacles and coral bommies which you may find as respite from the current.
It's an impressive dive site on all levels, with interesting coral formations and a ton of schooling fish.
3rd dive at Blue Magic: at this dive site divers regularly see a large number of pelagic species, including reef sharks, manta rays, jacks, barracudas, and tuna.
It also frequently offers a chance to see the oceanic manta.
Night dive at Saporken: the village of Saporken is located on the island of Waigeo, close to the capital town of Waisai.
This site is typically dived at night, however day diving is good too.
Saporken is your typical sandy bottom muck dive site, which is a little grubby since its just off of the village jetty.

STOP 3

Dampier Strait, up to 4 dives

1st dive at Friwen Wall: This location is known for its wall diving decorated with colorful coral reefs, beautiful fish, and a variety of macro marine life, making it one of the world's underwater paradise.
2nd dive at Sardine's Reef: don't get wrong, there are no sardines on this site!
The name comes from the density of fish that can be found here which is sometimes comparable to a school of sardines : tuna, barracuda, jacks, wrasses, parrotfish bump, many sharks (gray, white tip and black carpet).
The sea fans here are great spots to see three species of pygmy seahorses (Denise, Bargibanti and Pontohi).
3rd dive at Chicken Reef: dotted with large coral bommies (which you could easily spend the majority of your dive exploring) as plenty of critters can be found hiding within the gorgonian fans, anemones and soft coral formations.
Night dive at RADL Jetty: drifting current of Mansuar northern coast has much contributed to the rich life emerged along the house reef at RADL (Raja Ampat Dive Lodge) where varieties of critters can be spotted during night dive.

STOP 4

Tanjung Putus, up to 4 dives

1st dive at Mayhem Reef: This site has a great variety of encounters, from large schools of fusiliers, snappers, jacks and batfish to wobbegongs and pygmy seahorses on the bottom.
The ideal dive on Mayhem involves dropping in along the edge of the pinnacle along the current side and watching the schools of fish parading in the current.

STOP 4

Tanjung Putus, up to 4 dives (continued)

As bottom time slips away, then it's time to swim along the plentiful large bommies leading toward the shallows.
2nd dive at Citrus Ridge: The reef is made up of a ridge that slopes down and it is one of the.
Dive at sites that are often called aquariums for the vast numbers of marine life that exist here:
There are many bommies littered on the sandy bottom.
The soft corals are home to literally thousands of glassfish that nest all over the dive site.
The sea fans are home to many different types of sea horse including pygmy seahorses.
There are also many different types of sweetlips and jaw fish.
3rd dive at Gam Channel.
Night dive at BJ's Reef.

STOP 5

FAM, 3 dives

1st dive at Melisa's Garden: you will start to encounter the amazing diversity of coral and fish life that this reef has to offer.
As you get closer to the top of the reef you will find that the corals fight with each other for space, making it one of the most spectacular garden reefs.
2nd dive at My Reef: This reef is more of a large pinnacle extending 30 meters beyond the island and has some super strong water currents sometimes.
The schools of big barracudas and snappers will greet you, and you will be at a loss at where to look and where not to.
3rd dive at Fam Wall.

STOP 6

Tanjung Putus, 4 dives

1st dive at Mayhem Reef.
2nd dive at Mambrayup Reef.
3rd dive at Citrus Ridge.
Night dive at Yanggefo Ridge.

STOP 7

Arborek, up to 4 dives

1st dive at Manta Sandy: one of the most dived site at northern raja ampat to see manta rays.
It's a sandy bottom playground at 20m where manta rays, both black and white, love to flock and play during cleaning season.
Butterfly fish and numerous cleaner wrasses can thus be seen at this site too.
2nd dive at Arborek Jetty: you can encounter huge schools of fish that take shelter beneath the jetty of Arborek village.
The large schools of fish spin like a tornado, especially between 3 PM and 6 PM, when there is a fish feeding frenzy!
Look out for giant clams sheltering beneath Arborek Jetty, and soft corals that camouflage their piles in colorful swathes.

STOP 7

Arborek, up to 4 dives (continued)

3rd dive at Sawandarek Jetty: for the turtle lovers you will encounter larger than usual green turtles, Giant clams and large schools of fusiliers and barracuda.
It also has a wide variety of macro life.
Night dive at Ransiwor.

STOP 8

Mansuar, up to 4 dives

1st dive at Yenbuba Jetty: is home to many wonderful fish, in all shapes and sizes.
The jetty offers pretty fans and soft corals, plus the village kids who love to dive-bomb in from the top.
2nd dive at Cape Kri: holds the world record for the site with the largest number of species referenced in one single dive!
The crossroads of different currents at the tip of the island of Kri has created an incredible variety of marine biodiversity – all kinds of sharks, many schools of fish, amazing coral diversity, specimens for macro fans.
3rd dive at Pulau Roti.
Night dive at Friwen Wall.

STOP 9

Dampier Strait

1st dive at Sardine's Reef.
2nd dive at Chicken Reef.
3rd dive at Lao – Lao.
Night dive at Mioskon.

STOP 10

Mansuar

1st dive at Cape Kri.
2nd dive at Yenbuba Jetty.
Sail back to Sorong.

STOP 11

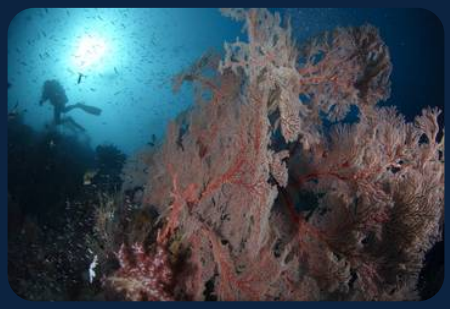
Disembarkation in Sorong

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your onward flight.

THE TRIP

About the trip

Raja Ampat lies off the northwestern tip of West Papua, in the heart of the Coral Triangle. It is an archipelago of over 1,500 small islands and reefs around the four main islands of Waigeo, Batanta and Salawati in the north and Misool in the south. The marine diversity is staggering and, quite literally, like nowhere else on earth, and Raja Ampat is reef diving perfection, with a promise of exploration and discovery.


DIVE EXPERIENCE

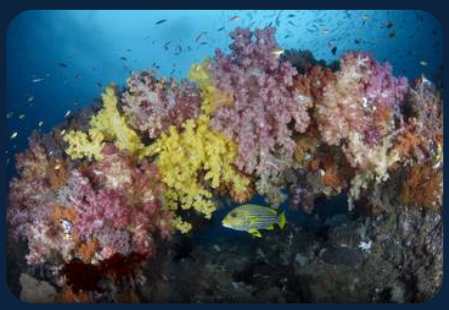
Diving experience

Divers need at least 50 logged dives and Advanced Open Water certification, or equivalent. Dive guides go with every dive, and the schedule is built around up to four dives a day including a night dive.

THE DIVING

Day by day

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.





ON BOARD

On board

Accommodation on board and full board meals are included, along with transfers from and to the airport and local hotels on boat arrival and departure days, the dive guides, weights and tanks, and island tours.





INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Accommodation on board
- Full board meals
- Transfers from and to the airport and local hotels on boat arrival and departure days
- Weight belt, weights and tanks
- Dive guides
- Island tours

NOT INCLUDED

- Conservation and harbour fees, the Raja Ampat retribution fee and national park fees
- Diving and travel insurance
- Domestic flights
- Alcoholic beverages and soft drinks
- Gratuities for the crew, which are optional