



## Cruise Itinerary Sorong – Sorong

No cruise on MV Samambaia is like the other. Every single trip is tailor-made to create a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The decision on the itinerary is made by the cruise director as we cruise along and is based on factors such as weather conditions, dive conditions, requests of guests, schedules of other liveaboards, which we are trying to stay away from.

There are however certain constants on every cruise which are:

- Three day dives of minimum 1 hour duration
- One sunset- or night dive (unless we have to cover a serious amount of miles over night)
- Activities during the surface intervals such as:
  - scenic rides through lagoons and coves in our tenders
  - trekking to breathtaking view points
  - visits of secluded perfect beaches
  - excursions to traditional villages
  - whale watching
  - water action such as wake boarding and water skiing

Based upon that, here is a potential itinerary for an 11 nights / 12 days cruise from Sorong to Sorong. This is just to give you a general idea and is subject to change due to weather- and other conditions. Popular dive sites are named. We do however have our secret spots as well, which you will learn about during the cruise.

For a cruise in Raja Ampat there is three potential scenarios:

- North only
- South only
- North and South combined

Itinerary below is an example for South only:

### *Day 1: Embarkation*

Arrival with plane to Sorong. You will be picked up by crew members at the airport.

Embarkation in the port of Sorong. A general orientation follows.

### *Day 2: Farondi*

After an initial general dive briefing, we will do our check dive with you at an easy and protected dive site. Check dive in the sense of you checking your gear and weights, making sure the camera housings are properly sealed and our guides checking your buoyancy. No skill demonstrations are required. Thereafter we will do two more dives around Wagnab and Farondi. We've got a wide array of sites to pick from. There are five dive sites commonly dived, add our secret spots and you get to ten.

You can expect an impressive soft coral growth, big sea fans, a huge swim through, a cavern and a superb macro life. For several months of the season, silversides are abundant and the mobulas come in to hunt.

### *Day 3: Balbulol / Sagof*

Just a few miles to the east of Farondi, you can expect similar diving on unspoilt lush reefs.

### *Day 4: Daram*

This island group is one of our favourite areas to dive in SE Misool. Since 2010 declared as the second no take zone in the area the marine life here is abundant and most colourful.

We will spend the whole day here and offer four world class dives.

### *Day 5: Yillet*

Besides the two popular sites at the island of Yillet, we prefer to dive the other two sites that hardly anyone knows about. Our favourite here is a pinnacle which is utmost fishy and home to resident grey reef sharks. Towards the end of that dive we get to a part of the reef where it is not uncommon to find ten different species of nudibranchs in just a few minutes.

In the afternoon our dive guides will show you a pristine wall. On top we often encountered Guitar Sharks in the past. During the dive our crew will prepare a paradise beach close by for tonight's beach BBQ.

### *Day 6: Wayil*

Barracuda Rock, Wedding Cake and Dunia Kecil are the dive sites which we will spend this day at.

In the afternoon we offer a two hour speedboat ride into hidden coves to let you enjoy the stunning topside of the limestone islands. At the end we will get to a pristine white sand beach where you can cool off with a little swim.

### *Day 7: Sel Pele*

Raja Ampat means 'Four Kings' and this is also the name of a dive site on the way to the island group of Sel Pele. Four pinnacles that are not only connected by their topography but also a fish soup surrounding them. After the morning dive here we will show you some of our secret spots.

### *Day 8: Fiabatjet*

Right in the heart of the No-Take-Zone. 'Tank Rock', 'Nudi Rock' & 'Whale Rock' are the famous and commonly dived sites here. There is five more dive sites in the very proximity which are as good, if not even better. We prefer to go a bit off the beaten track here.

The reefs are covered in soft coral in all colours you can imagine. Surrounded by most colourful reef fish. More Fusiliers than one could possibly count. Jacks, Trevallies, Barracudas, Sharks.

And if you happen to dive here on a day with bad visibility. Just face the reef. It's packed with macro life. Several species of Pygmy Seahorses, Nudibranchs, tiny Crustaceans - every niche in these reefs is filled with life.

### *Day 9: Fiabatjet*

This particular area of SE Misool is just too good to only spend one day here. And the dive sites we know of here are plenty to offer a great variety of world class diving.

### *Day 10: Boo / Warakaraket*

The swim through at 'Boo Windows' is one of the signature dive sites of SE Misool. The surrounding reef is covered in sea fans. Even bigger sea fans you will see at our second dive here at 'Hidung Boo'. We combine this impressive day of diving with at least one dive at 'Magic Mountain'. Being a cleaning station for Oceanic Mantas makes this place truly magic.

### *Day 11: South Batanta / Dampier Whale watching*

We cap this cruise with two black sand macro dives in the morning. You can expect all the unusual suspects of the critter kingdom. Before heading back to the port of Sorong we take a little detour through the Dampier Strait with the goal to create some close encounters with Whales and Dolphins.

### *Day 12: Disembarkation in Sorong*

Depending on your flight schedule, our crew will check your luggage in for you in advance so you can rest on board and let us shuttle you to the airport when your plane is ready to leave.



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