

SAMAMBAIA

Komodo National Park and around

Labuan Bajo to Labuan Bajo | Komodo National Park

Komodo National Park has coral reefs, seamounts and semi-enclosed bays, with over 1,000 fish species and 260 reef-building coral species.

Strong currents run through many sites, and sharks and other pelagics gather around the rocks and reefs where the water moves fastest.

In the south, plankton and upwelling in the dry season bring many invertebrates.

On land, giant lizards about 3 metres long live on Rinca, Nusa Kode and Komodo, in a volcanic landscape of savannah, blue lagoons and white, pink and red sand beaches.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	HIGHLIGHTS
12 days / 11 nights	Labuan Bajo	Labuan Bajo	Komodo, whale watching, trekking







Your route

STOP 1

Embarkation in Labuan Bajo

Arrival by plane in Labuan Bajo.
You are picked up by crew members at the airport and embark in the port of Labuan Bajo.
A general orientation follows.

STOP 2

Days 2 to 11

The Cruise Director plans the route day by day, and the stops and dive sites depend on the weather, the dive conditions, the requests of guests and the schedules of other liveaboards. The constants on every cruise are listed under How a Samambaia cruise works.

STOP 12

Disembarkation in Labuan Bajo

Depending on your flight schedule, the crew checks your luggage in for you in advance, so you can rest on board and be taken to the airport when your plane is ready to leave.

THE TRIP

How a Samambaia cruise works

No cruise on Samambaia is like the other, and every trip is tailor-made. The Cruise Director plans the route day by day for the eleven night cruise from Labuan Bajo to Labuan Bajo.

The decision on the itinerary is made by the Cruise Director as the boat cruises, and is based on the weather, the dive conditions, the requests of guests and the schedules of other liveaboards, which the boat tries to stay away from. There are some constants on every cruise:

- Three day dives of at least one hour each
- One sunset or night dive, unless the boat has a serious number of miles to cover overnight
- Scenic rides through lagoons and coves in the tenders
- Trekking to breathtaking viewpoints
- Visits to secluded beaches
- Excursions to traditional villages
- Whale watching
- Water action such as wake boarding and water skiing

THE DIVING

Diving and snorkelling

HOW THE DIVING WORKS

The Cruise Director leads the diving programme and four dive masters go with guests on the dives, usually with one guide to every four divers. All dives are no decompression dives within your certification level, and solo diving is not allowed. Nitrox is included.

Every diver carries a GPS marine rescue device for the whole trip, the dive staff are trained in Emergency First Response and oxygen is on board. Two tenders take the divers to the sites and the crew looks after the transfer of dive gear by speedboat.

THE AREA AND THE CONDITIONS

Komodo National Park was established in 1980, became a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and was named a World Heritage Site in 1991. It covers the two large islands of Komodo and Rinca and about 80 smaller islets, with coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, seamounts and semi-enclosed bays. There are over 1,000 fish species, 260 reef-building

coral species and 70 sponge species.

Komodo is best for experienced divers, with many sites that have strong and sometimes unpredictable currents. Sharks and other pelagics are most often found around rocks and reefs in the stronger currents. The water is often cooler than the 28 C typical elsewhere in Indonesia and can drop to about 21 C in the south, so a 5 mm wetsuit is recommended. In the south the visibility is generally better from December to April and lower in the dry season, when upwelling and plankton bring many invertebrates. The north generally has good visibility all year.

On land, giant lizards about 3 metres long live on Rinca, Nusa Kode and Komodo, in a volcanic landscape of savannah, some forest, blue lagoons and white, pink and red sand beaches.

WATER TEMPERATURE

Water temperature across Indonesia is typically 26 to 30 C all year. During the monsoon, from December to February, it is about 27 to 29 C. A 3 or 5 mm wetsuit is usually enough, and a hood helps to avoid ear problems.

SNORKELLING

Indonesia's warm waters suit snorkelling.







ON BOARD

Food, service and the team

CUISINE

Meals blend continental, Indonesian and Italian dishes, cooked with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Expect Indonesian favourites such as nasi goreng, satay and rendang alongside Italian pasta, pizza and tiramisu. The chef cooks for dietary needs, including vegan and gluten-free.

SERVICE AND THE TEAM

The Cruise Director and the instructors guide the diving, and the crew is made up of the captain, four dive masters, a chef engineer and a cook. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the boat, although the mobile signal depends on the itinerary. An inflatable kayak is included, and there is one free wakeboard trial.

DECK PLAN

The upper deck has the sun deck and the speedboat. On the main deck are the restaurant, the dive deck, the camera room and the wheelhouse.

INCLUDED

What is included

- Nitrox
- Weights and weight belts
- 12 litre tanks
- Inflatable kayak
- Beer, soft drinks, juices, Italian coffee, premium tea and snacks
- Transfers between the airport and the harbour in both directions
- Guided diving with the Cruise Director and dive masters

Not included are flights and hotels, wine and spirits, massages and laundry. The boat leaves before 1 pm on the first day, and on the last night it returns to the end harbour so guests can catch early domestic flights.





