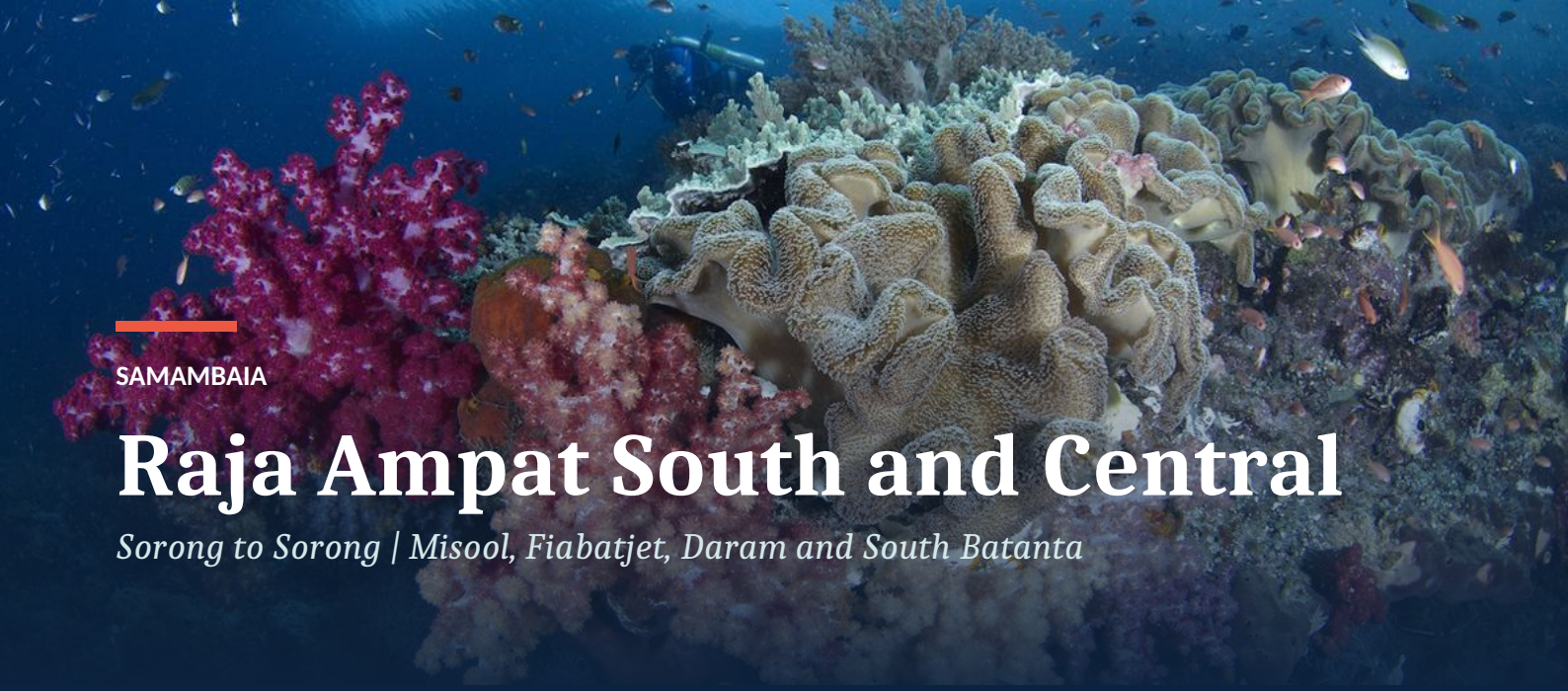


SAMAMBAIA

Raja Ampat South and Central

Sorong to Sorong | Misool, Fiabatjet, Daram and South Batanta

Southern Raja Ampat is Misool at its most colourful, in no-take zones where the marine life is abundant.

Around Farondi there are big sea fans and a huge swim through, and when the silversides arrive the mobulas come in to hunt.

A pinnacle at Yillet is home to resident grey reef sharks, and ten species of nudibranchs can turn up in just a few minutes.

Fiabatjet has soft coral in all colours, and a cleaning station for oceanic mantas makes Boo truly magic.

The trip closes with black sand macro dives and a detour to meet whales and dolphins.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	HIGHLIGHTS
12 days / 11 nights	Sorong	Sorong	Misool, mobulas, whale watching







Your route

STOP 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.

STOP 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 proper sealed and our guides checking your buoyancy.
No skill demonstrations are required.
Thereafter we will do two more dives around Wagmab and Farondi.
We've got a wide array of sites to pick from.
There is 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.

STOP 3

Balbulol / Sagof

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

STOP 4

Daram

This island group is one of our favourite area 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.

STOP 5

Yillet

Besides the two popular sites at the island of Yillet, we prefer to dive the other two sites the 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.

STOP 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 of with a little swim.

STOP 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.

STOP 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, Trevallys, 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.

STOP 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.

STOP 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.

STOP 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.

STOP 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.

THE TRIP

How a Samambaia cruise works

This is a sample itinerary for a eleven night cruise from Sorong to Sorong. It is just to give you a general idea and is subject to change with the weather and other conditions. Popular dive sites are named, and the crew has secret spots as well, which you learn about during the cruise.

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

Raja Ampat can be cruised in three ways: north only, south only, or north and south combined. This sample is for the south.

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

The best time to dive Raja Ampat is October to April, with near flat seas, warm sunny days and the occasional rain shower. The first dives are often around Wai island, about two hours by boat from Sorong. Some dives are timed for slack tide and the currents can occasionally be challenging, but the stronger currents bring better visibility, blooming corals and more fish activity.

Raja Ampat lies in the heart of the Coral Triangle and has over 1,400 fish species and almost 600 coral species, about three quarters of all the coral species known. Its name means Four Kings, after the four main islands of Waigeo, Batanta, Salawati and Misool, surrounded by more than a thousand smaller islands.

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, and the day by day notes point out the places where snorkelling is a good option.







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.





