

SCUBASPA ZEN

Banda Sea - Triton Bay

Ambon to Kaimana | Banda Sea, Koon Island and Triton Bay

Crystal clear water and sheer walls hung with soft corals, sea fans and sponges make the Banda Sea one of Indonesia's great dive regions.

Sloping coral walls are thick with fish and sea fans, and reef sharks patrol coral covered walls in incredible visibility.

At Koon Island, strong currents bring huge schools of fish, jacks, barracuda and sharks off sandbanks like the Maldives at low tide.

Then comes Triton Bay, the Fish Empire, with radiant soft corals, black coral forests, towering sea fans and wobbegong sharks, and whale sharks at the local fishing platforms.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 days / 10 nights	Ambon	Kaimana	Intermediate to advanced







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Arrive in Ambon

Guests are met at the airport or hotel by the crew and taken to the harbour to board.
After a short rest while the spa opens for information and bookings, the Cruise Managers introduce the crew and give the boat briefing, followed by a buffet welcome dinner in the al fresco restaurant.

DAY 2

Laha and Nusa Laut

Dives and snorkelling

The first dive is Laha, a top macro site three kilometres inside the bay on Ambon's northern coast, with frogfish, ghost pipefish and rhinopias.
The yacht then cruises to Nusa Laut for snorkelling and water sports, and on to Run Island before dinner, crossing the Banda Sea overnight.

DAY 3

Run and Ai islands

Dives

Beach yoga on Run Island, breakfast and a spa option, then a choice of water sports, snorkelling or diving at Run's reefs, where sloping coral walls are thick with fish and sea fans.
After lunch the yacht goes to nearby Ai Island for pelagic visitors and pristine reefs, with sunset yoga and dinner as it cruises east towards Banda Neira.

DAY 4

Banda Neira

Dives

Morning yoga or a stroll through the village in the shadow of the Banda Api volcano.
After breakfast a dive at Batu Kapal, with coral covered walls and reef sharks, then Pohon Miring, a top site with swim throughs, sea fans and incredible visibility.
A barbecue in the evening as the yacht sails northeast.

DAY 5

Banda Neira and the sail east

Dives

A second day in the Banda Islands with the same mix of morning yoga, a village stroll and dives, before the yacht sails northeast towards Koon Island.

DAY 6

Koon Island

Up to 3 dives

The yacht wakes beside the vast sandbanks of Koon Island, a Maldives like landscape at low tide. Between the Banda and Arafura Seas the strong currents bring rich fish and coral life, with huge schools of fish, jacks, barracuda and sharks.
A barbecue lunch is served between dives, and after the third dive the yacht crosses the Arafura Sea overnight.

DAY 7

Fak Fak or Papisoi

Excursion

Depending on the weather the yacht goes to Fak Fak or to the sheltered haven of Papisoi.
Fak Fak has a waterfall reached by tender, where calm seas allow a swim in the cool water, and adventurous guests can slip around to the left to find a hidden cave with a view of the falls.

DAY 8

Triton Bay

Dives

Soft corals, sea fans, black coral forests and vast schools of fish, with wobbegong sharks adding a thrill.

DAY 9

Triton Bay

Dives

A second day of diving among the radiant soft corals that set Triton Bay apart.

DAY 10

Triton Bay

Dives

Colourful soft corals, black coral forests and towering sea fans teeming with life.

DAY 11

Departure

After a final breakfast and farewells, guests are escorted to the airport for their departing flight in Kaimana.

TRITON BAY

The Fish Empire

Triton Bay lies in the Kaimana Marine Protected Area in West Papua and is Indonesia's diving frontier. New dive sites have been found since its first exploration in 2006, and it has been called the Fish Empire, the City of Dusk and the Lost Paradise. Researchers have counted 937 species of reef fish, including rare local species, and 492 types of coral, six of them found only here. Above water there are limestone cliffs, jungle covered islands and a waterfall that spills into the sea, and the village visits offer a glimpse of Papuan culture.

THE DIVING

How the diving is organised

The dive centre is a dedicated dive boat with plenty of room, well equipped dive stations, several entry points, a toilet and shower and a sun deck platform. Dives are tailored to each diver's level, with beginners and experienced divers both looked after, and up to four dives a day are possible. Courses run from introductory dives to advanced and Nitrox certification, with multilingual instructors.

Dives are limited to 40 metres. A dive computer is compulsory, diving alone and decompression dives are not allowed, and night dives and dives deeper than 18 metres are for advanced certified divers. Many sites have strong currents, so good buoyancy control is needed.





THE SPA

Treatments at the quiet end of the boat

The five star spa sits at the stern, the quietest part of the yacht, and welcomes couples as well as solo guests. The menu offers Balinese, Swedish, Shiatsu, sports, hot stone and Hawaiian Lomi Lomi massage, aromatherapy, foot reflexology, a back and shoulder massage, facials, body scrubs and masks, an after sun aloe vera treatment, a foot scrub, and a Dive Delight massage designed for after a dive.

The products are made exclusively in Bali for the boat, from organic ingredients, botanical extracts and essential oils. Yoga is held every morning on the sun deck.





ON THE TABLE

Food, drink and celebrations

Breakfast and lunch are buffets, and dinner is an à la carte menu served in the al fresco restaurant on the main deck. Live cooking evenings blend Asian, Mediterranean and Continental cuisine, and the chefs share the recipes so you can recreate them at home. Special diets are looked after.

The bar, next to the restaurant with views from the bow, serves wines, champagnes and handcrafted cocktails, with a happy hour every day. Beach barbecues are held on a deserted island, and the team plans birthdays, engagements and anniversaries, from a private dinner under the stars to sunset cocktails.





PACKAGES

Choose how you spend the cruise

Every guest chooses one of three packages. Dives cannot be swapped for spa treatments, and the dive package is for certified divers only.

Scuba

Up to 26 dives over the cruise, with spa treatments bookable on board for an extra charge when there is space.

Scuba and spa

14 dives and 7 spa treatments over the cruise.

Spa and active wellness

11 spa treatments and guided snorkelling. A Discover Scuba Diving course can be added if you would like to try diving.

CONDITIONS

Season, water and what to expect

The Banda Sea has crystal clear water and sheer walls hung with soft corals, sea fans and sponges, in dive sites that only a liveaboard can reach. Surface water is 26 to 29 degrees, but upwellings can bring cool water of 21 to 22 degrees, so a full 5 mm wetsuit is recommended. The season runs from March to April and from September to October, and October brings a chance of schooling hammerhead sharks.

Triton Bay in the far south of West Papua has soft coral gardens, black coral forests and towering sea fans. Researchers have counted over 950 species of reef fish and some 470 types of coral, and nutrient rich water draws whale sharks to the local fishing platforms, the bagans.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Suite accommodation with three meals a day
- Welcome drink, drinking water, coffee and tea
- Airport transfers at the start and end of the cruise
- Yoga classes every morning
- Snorkelling, with equipment included
- A barbecue on a deserted island and the excursions in the programme
- The diving or spa treatments of the package you choose
- Wi-Fi, with a 1 GB allowance per person

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Service and administration charge and the national park and port fees, shown on our trip listings
- Dive and travel insurance
- Dive equipment rental
- Drinks from the bar and extra spa treatments
- Crew gratuities, which are optional