SeaTrek With Papua's Whale Sharks And Birds Of Paradise (Sorong-Kaimana)

10 Days/9 Nights
Year Wise BOA Dp

Sorong To Kaimana
Pick Up/Drop

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

• How does gliding through a dreamy fairy tale landscape of karst limestone spires, mysterious caves, ancient rock paintings and endless secret coves filled with corals and fish of every colour and size?

• Or swimming with whale sharks at a local fisherman's Tagapi platform at dawn, as they come to feed on the many small baitfish that the fishermen catch and share with the sharks as an example of humans and animals living in harmony. If you are lucky, there will be schools of dolphins and flights of diving seabirds to add to the excitement.

• How about floating in body-temperature water watching endless species of fish swim below over the backdrop of kaleidoscope corals, or rolling over and floating on your back when you hear the screech of a sulphur-crested cockatoo flying past highlighted against the backdrop of a lush green landscape?

• Maybe the otherworldly experience of drifting among swarms of rare stingless jellyfish in an actual forest pool of evaluation?

• For a more terrestrial experience how about an early morning visit and misty forest walk to see the secret and seductive dancing of the iconic birds of paradise?

• Explore the wondrous landscapes and forests of Triton Bay and stand in the cold waters of a waterfall that origin from the rainforest and into the warm seawater below.

If this sounds like you then let us bring you into the wonder that is Raja Ampat.

SNORKELING WITH SEA TREK

Whether it's swimming with whale sharks & manta rays, or leisurely gliding along a stunning tropical reef surrounded by myriad fish and corals, something has at the very heart of what we do at SeaTrek. We do it well and we do it often – usually twice a day for an hour or more at a time. No matter if you are a novice or a seasoned pro, our sea leaders will ensure that you have everything you need to have some of the best underwater experiences of your life.

WANT TO ADD ON A WILDLIFE OR CULTURAL EXCURSION TO YOUR TRIP?

Our four-day snorgasbor programme that features in our Orangutans & Dragons itinerary can be worked of our SeaTrek cruises throughout the year, regardless of length or location, so just let us know if this is something you would like to do when visiting Indonesia and we will happily arrange it for you.

For textile-enthusiasts, we also have two five-day land tours which travels island to zone each year that focus on Ancient Villages, Textiles, Dragons, and Vibrant Coral Reefs tour, which will visit many traditional weaving villages and take you deep inside these unique cultures.

We are also a wealth of information on other great destinations and wildlife and cultural excursions in Indonesia that can be added on to your SeaTrek cruise.

The possibilities are endless so all you have to do is ask.

BE PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE

Our mission is to provide the best experience possible for our guests given the current conditions and when unexpected opportunities for adventure may present themselves along our cruise routes. Sometimes weather or local factors dictate that we need to vary from the published route, and at times there are special opportunities to explore and discover new locations, events and activities. These emphasisers will always be a definite enhancement to the published itinerary and will be undertaken after discussion and agreement among guests. Ultimately, the boat captains and your tour leaders will make decisions to maximize trip safety and your overall enjoyment, so please come prepared to be flexible!

THE MORE YOU KNOW THE MORE YOU SEE

Our tour leaders are a wealth of information on the regions we visit and will prepare you for each activity with on board talks and presentations to give you a greater understanding of the different experiences you will have each day. They will also act as your cross-cultural liaisons to all the people we meet along the way, so feel free to ask them to translate when talking to local Indonesian people on your travels.

ITINERARY

DAY 1

- You will be met at the airport or your hotel by our SeaTrek tour leaders and taken directly to the boat. Once settled into your cabin, we will weigh anchor and head out on our adventure.

- We will have lunch as we are under way and stop for some first snorkel and swim amongst the coral gardens in the afternoon.

- After sunset drinks we will sit down together for dinner and then meet the crew. It's an early start the next day, so an early night is recommended.

DAY 2

- Before dawn we will be levered to a local village, where local guides will take us on a trek through the jungle in the hope of finding the beautiful Birds Of Paradise perform in mating dance ritual in their jungle home. On our way back to the boat we will be accompanied by the sounds of the jungle coming to life and we will be sure to spot a number of bird species along the way.

- After a well-earned late breakfast, we will spend the remainder of the day enjoying snorkelling, swimming and exploring the reefs and islands of the local area by kayak and paddle board.

DAY 3

- Today is our second and final early morning walkie, as we head off to see the Red Bird of Paradise, this time high in the canopy of the rainforest. Extremely extroverted show off, these birds dance and squawk their way around the trees trying to impress the female of the species, making for an incredible show.

- After returning to the ship and breakfast is will be time for some snorkeling on some of Raja Ampat's most spectacular reefs in the Dampier Strait. If the sides are in our favour we might get to see some of the area's larger species of marine life, which are attracted by the currents in these narrow rich waters.

- We will end the day at a local inhabited island, where the village kids will show us around their beautiful village and then perform some local folk dances for us.

- We will weigh anchor before dinner, enjoying sunset cocktails on the back deck as we cruise south.

DAY 4

- Today we wake up in southern Raja Ampat at the island of Misool, a picturesque archipelago of lower-crystal limestone islets jam-teeming with coral reefs that has adventurers salivating on offer.

- We will swim through a massive and ancient sea cave, adorned with giant stalagtites and stalactites. We will then journey to a small, secret lake inhabited by thousands of stingless jellyfish, whose we will swim among them.

- After lunch we will explore the area by ship's tenders, going in and out of the many bays and islets, looking for birds, and also enjoying a set some prehistoric cave paintings said to be between 5,000 and 5,000 years old.

DAY 5

- Today we will have a relaxing day of snorkelling on the reefs, exploring the inlets and local areas by paddle board and kayak, or swimming and sunbathing from the white sand beaches of this beautiful piece of paradise.

- After a full day of fun and relaxation we will head east for our overnight cruise to our next destination.

DAY 6

- We will wake up off a small group of picturesque perfect islands, where we will spend the morning exploring the beaches and crystal clear waters and vibrant reefs with our snorkels.

- We will then cruise in the direction of the mainland of Papua, where we will visit a local village and meeting the tenders, who will welcome us into their village, sharing with us their way of life which continues to flourish and growing naturally.

- Back on the boat we will continue snorkeling overnight, enjoying dinner and sunset drinks along the way.

DAY 7

- We wake up off the coast of Papua to a more serene and primal scene of a jungle waterfall where a roaring river succumbed by virgin rainforest pours into the sea.

- Here we will swim and play in the waterfall and the sea as we take in this most tranquil tropical scenery.We will also have the choice or snorkel through the corals on a nearby reef.

- Later in the day we will continue our journey east, stopping off late afternoon for another swim and snorkel on our way to see the whale sharks at Triton Bay.

DAY 8

- Triton Bay is a place of unsurpassed natural splendour, where tiree and islets have shoed the limestone landscape into tall cliffs and numerous islands separated by lagoons and narrow channels. It is also home to fishermen who collect finfish and keep them in nets attached to specially built platforms, also known as 'bagans'. It is these and their fish that attract whale sharks.

- We will head out in the tenders to see if the sharks are around, and if we are lucky, we will spend a couple of hours in the water with these magnificent creatures.

- After lunch we will explore the bays and limestone outcrops aby tenders, kayak, and paddle board as well as swim and snorkel from the beautiful white-sand beaches.

- This evening we will have a beach BBQ with the crew, with singing and dancing late into the night.

DAY 9

- We will spend the morning cruising through the undiscovered coves, caves, and lagoons before heading north through the Namatote Passage where there is an impressive collection of ancient cave paintings high up on the cliffs.

- The afternoon will be filled with more snorkelling, swimming, kayaking and paddling as we relax amidst the beauty of the surrounding jungle covered islands.

- We will spend our final evening on the ship zoning at anchor and enjoying a farewell dinner with our captain and crew.

DAY 10

- In the morning we will find ourselves at anchor in the harbour of Kaimana, and after an early breakfast our vendors will take you ashore for your transfer to the airport for your onward travel.