

WHITE MANTA

# Ambon, Banda and Ambon

*Ambon to Ambon / Ambon and the Banda Sea*

Volcanic islands and stunning seamounts rise out of the Banda Sea on this voyage through the Ring of Fire. The water here is full of life, with huge schools of fish, reef sharks, tuna and other pelagic superstars, many sea snakes, and hammerheads in the blue.

Before that, the Banda Islands bring excellent visibility, fantastic coral coverage and tremendous numbers of fish, with a visit to one of the Spice Islands.

It all starts with muck diving in Ambon, where macro critters hide in the sand, and the crossing leads to remote and almost untouched reefs with stunning drop-offs.

**LENGTH**

9 days / 8 nights

**DEPARTURE PORT**

Ambon

**ARRIVAL PORT**

Ambon

**EXPERIENCE**

Intermediate to advanced



## Your itinerary

DAY  
1

### Day 1

0-2 dives

2pm.

Our staff will meet you upon your arrival to Pattimura Airport, Ambon or local hotel and transfer you to the awaiting White Manta.

DAY  
1

## Day 1 (continued)

0-2 dives

Arrivals before midday are best so we can make check dive(s) in Ambon Bay before we get underway by 2pm for overnight sail.

DAY  
2

## Days 2 and 3

3 dives a day

Diving around Banda Islands with excellent visibility, fantastic coral coverage, and tremendous numbers of fish along with potential Hammerhead sightings, plus a visit to one of the Spice Islands.

DAY  
4

## Days 4 to 7

3 dives a day

Ring of Fire: diving around Volcanic Islands and stunning seamounts in search of hammerheads, encounter many sea snakes, huge schools of fish, reef sharks, tunas, and other pelagic superstars.

DAY  
8

## Day 8

2 dives

Hukurila Cave and Molana.

Sail back to Ambon where you spend last night on board.

Plenty of time to wash and dry equipment, rest and relaxation, and if need be an early flight the next day.

DAY  
9

## Day 9

No diving

Check out (between 5am-10am) after light breakfast and farewells, we transfer to local hotel or airport.

Take your pre-booked flight to Ujung Pandang (aka Makassar), Jakarta, or Singapore

### THE TRIP

## Departure, return and timings

- Departure: 2pm, 1st day - Laha Bay, Ambon. Or earlier if everyone arrives before and if all trip preparations are completed. Free pickup upon arrival from Pattimura Airport, Ambon or local hotel\* (10am) to White Manta on trip departure day (transfer time 10 mins).
- Return: 5am, last day - Laha Bay, Ambon. After a light breakfast and fond farewells, we take you to local hotel or Pattimura Airport, Ambon in time for check-in and flight (transfer time 10 mins). Note: Latest White Manta check-out at 10am, trip return day.
- Last dive ends: 12pm, penultimate day. Plenty of time for R&R while we sail back to Ambon where we spend the last night on White Manta. This also allows for your minimum 18 hours' surface interval/ No Fly Time (as

recommended by PADI) before flying the next day.



#### THE VOYAGE

## About this trip

Marine life here is in abundance from macro critters, sea snakes and schooling fish to the 'big fish' favourites such as manta rays, reef sharks and even the chance to encounter Scalloped Hammerheads

#### DIVING

## Diving days and notes

- Note: All schedules are subject to changes according to weather, sea, diving, and local conditions.
- Diving days: 8 days (22 dives)
- Note: 3 dives are scheduled per diving day\*. This is due to deeper dives and long distances covered between islands. Where possible a bonus night dive may be scheduled at the discretion of the Cruise Leader. \*Except trip departure day and trip return day.



#### CONDITIONS

## Dive site information

#### AMBON-BANDA-RING OF FIRE

- Water Temp: 26-28 degrees Celsius, however deep-water upwelling's and thermoclines especially in Sept-Nov can mean temps as low as 25C. Air Temp: 22-31 degrees Celsius
- Visibility: 20-30 metres
- Currents: Medium to strong
- Level: Intermediate to advanced
- Best Time to Dive: March, April, and mid-September to early December

## GETTING THERE

# Getting to and from the boat

## EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION

- Ambon (AMQ) / Ambon (AMQ)

## HOW TO GET TO AMBON (AMQ)

- Lion Air daily flights from Bali via Makassar or Manado, Garuda Indonesia or Sriwijaya Air from Jakarta via Makassar, and Batik Air direct to Ambon (flight time around 3 hours).

## HOW TO GET FROM AMBON (AMQ)

- Lion Air daily flights from Ambon to Bali, or with Garuda Indonesia or Sriwijaya Air to Jakarta via Makassar or direct to Jakarta with Batik Air. Early morning flights should give you the best chance of making connecting international flights (flight time around 3 hours).



## INCLUDED

# What your trip covers

## INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

Land transfer from local hotel / airport from destination on trip start and end days (Ambon) to boat

All nights' accommodation on White Manta

All meals (Western and Indonesian) snacks, hot beverages, coffee, tea, milo, soft drinks, towels, toiletries, cabin services

FOC replacement if equipment breakdown

12-litre air tanks

Weights and belt

Warm towel and drink after every dive

6 dive guides (1x instructor, 5x dive master), 22 dives

## NOT INCLUDED

All flights, hotels

Pickups outside the trip start and end dates (a fee applies per car)

Marine park and harbour fee (paid in advance of the trip)

Fuel surcharge (paid in advance of the trip)

Dive and travel insurance

Massage services

Laundry services

Nespresso coffee, alcohol: beer, wine, satellite wi-fi

Diving equipment rental

Nitrox (enriched air) fills