WHITE MANTA

Lembeh, Halmahera and Raja Ampat

Manado to Sorong | Lembeh, Halmahera and Raja Ampat

Raja Ampat is truly at the epicentre of marine biodiversity, with 580 kinds of coral and 1,397 species of fish, and this trip arrives there after the critter heaven of Lembeh and the unspoiled reefs of Halmahera.

In Halmahera there are schools of jacks, snappers and a massive school of barracuda, reef sharks, strong currents and a manta cleaning station among pristine hard coral gardens.

Pulau Pisang has healthy, species rich reefs in aquarium-like conditions.

In Raja Ampat the diving runs from the mangroves to the Dampier Strait, with a muck night dive among the highlights.

On land there is a viewpoint hike and a visit to an island village.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 days / 10 nights	Manado	Sorong	Beginners to advanced

Your itinerary

DAY 1

Day 1

0-2 dives

1pm.
Our staff will meet you upon arrival to Manado Airport and transfer you to White Manta.
Depending on arrival time, we can do Check dive(s) plus night dive in Lembeh.
After critter dive(s) we sail overnight to Pulau Tifore.

DAY 2

Day 2

3 dives

Pulau Tifore: amazing divesite island in the Moluccan Sea equidistant from Goraichi and Lembeh, schools of jacks, snappers, and massive school of barracuda.
Sail to Halmahera.

DAY 3

Day 3

4 dives

Palau Tolimau and Goraichi: Manta cleaning station and fish packed reefs amongst pristine hard coral gardens.

DAY 4

Day 4

3-4 dives

Palau Kusu: strong currents and amazing action in the Patintie Strait.

DAY 5

Day 5

4 dives

Palau Bacan: shark point, reef sharks, schools of barracuda and jacks along a coral and sponge packed reef.

DAY 6

Day 6

3 dives

Pulau Pisang: healthy, species rich coral reefs, in aquarium like conditions.
Sail to Raja Ampat.

DAY 7

Day 7

3 dives

Pianemu area: including famous Melissa's Garden and stunning Viewpoint hike.

DAY 8

Day 8

4 dives

Yangeffo and Airborek areas to dive amongst the mangroves and visit an island village.

DAY 9

Day 9

4 dives

Dampier Strait: Sawandarek Jetty, Cape Kri, Sardine Run, and excellent muck night dive at Sapokren.

DAY 10

Day 10

2 dives

Misokon Island: Including Blue Magic and Yellow Fever.
Sail back to Pelabuhan Perikanan Sorong (harbour) where you spend your last night on board. Plenty of time to wash and dry equipment, rest and relaxation, and if needed an early flight the next day.

DAY 11

Day 11

No diving

Check out (between 5am-10am) after light breakfast and farewells, and transfer to local hotel or airport.
Departure from Sorong to Manado/ Makassar/ Jakarta/ Denpasar.

THE TRIP

Departure, return and timings

- Departure: 1pm, 1st day - Bitung Port, Manado, North Sulawesi. Or earlier if everyone arrives before and all trip preparations are completed. Free pickup upon arrival from Sam Ratulangi Airport, Manado (transfer time 1 hour) or local hotel* (10am) to White Manta on trip departure day.
- Return: 5am, last day, Sorong, West Papua. After a light breakfast and fond farewells, we take you to the local hotel or Domine Edward Osok Airport, Sorong in time for check-in and flight. Note: Latest White Manta check-out at 10am, trip return day.
- Last dive ends: 12pm (midday), penultimate day. Plenty of time for R&R while we sail back to Sorong 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

Crossing from Halmahera to Raja Ampat we conclude the cruise in some of the world's most bio-diverse waters. 580 kinds of coral, 1,397 species of fish including 23 endemics, are just a few of the numbers used to define this area, Raja Ampat is truly at the epicentre of marine biodiversity and should be on every scuba diver 'bucket list.'

DIVING

Diving days and notes

- Note: All schedules are subject to changes according to weather, sea, diving, and local conditions.
- Diving days: 10 days (28 dives)
- Note*: If staying in Manado, the included pickups are for local hotels in Bitung area or Sam Ratulangi Airport, Manado (transfer time 1 hour). Manado City hotels are NOT included in our free pickups. If NOT local, then OWN way from hotel to Manado Airport or Bitung Port.

CONDITIONS

Dive site information

LEMBEH

- Water Temp: 27-30 degrees Celsius
- Air Temp: 27-32 degrees Celsius
- Visibility: 20-30 metres
- Currents: Mild
- Level: Beginners to advanced.
- Best Time to Dive: September to April (less rain and much less wind: perfect for diving)

HALMAHERA-RAJA AMPAT

- Water Temp: 27-30 degrees Celsius
- Air Temp: 27-32 degrees Celsius
- Visibility: 15-30 metres
- Currents: Medium to strong
- Level: Intermediate to advanced
- Best Time to Dive: October to April (less rain and much less wind: perfect for diving

GETTING THERE

Getting to and from the boat

EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION

- Manado (MDC), North Sulawesi / Sorong (SOQ), West Papua

HOW TO GET TO MANADO (MDC), NORTH SULAWESI

- From Bali, direct flights with Lion Air daily flights, Citilink or Garuda Indonesia, via Jakarta/ Makassar/ Surabaya.
- From Jakarta, direct flights with Batik Air and Citilink, or with Lion Air, via Surabaya.
- International from Singapore, direct flights with Scoot if you arrive the day before trip departure day. Or fly to Jakarta, stay 1x night, and catch an early morning domestic flight to Manado.

HOW TO GET FROM SORONG (SOQ), WEST PAPUA

- It is easiest to fly through from Sorong (SOQ) via Jakarta (CGK), Makassar (UPG Ujung Pandang), Bali (DPS, Denpasar), or Manado (MDC).
- To Jakarta: Early morning direct daily flights, with Batik Air / Garuda Indonesia, arriving to Jakarta, which should allow enough time to schedule your international flight home. Lion Air also offer flights.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Land transfer from local hotel / airport from destination on trip start and end days (Manado/ Sorong) to boat
- All nights' accommodation on White Manta
- All meals (Western and Indonesian) snacks, hot beverages, coffee, tea, milo, soft drinks, towel, 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), 28 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