

Banda Sea and South Raja Ampat

AMBON TO SORONG

12 Days & 11 Night - Diving and Discovery Cruise





STANDOUT POINT

- | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----|---------------|------|-------------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Ambon | 3 | Pulau Suanggi | 6 | Pulau Koon | 12 | Central Komodo |
| 2 | Nusa Laut | 4-5 | Banda Island | 7-11 | Misool Area | | |

GENERAL PRESENTATION

Embark on an extraordinary voyage that weaves together **world-class diving** and **cultural exploration**. Your journey begins in **Ambon**, one of Indonesia's most iconic muck diving destinations—famous for its rare critters and underwater photography opportunities. From there, sail into the heart of the **Banda Sea**, where the remote and storied **Banda Islands** await, offering a rich mosaic of reefs, pelagic life, and history from the spice trade era.

Next, discover the vibrant marine life of **Pulau Koon**, located at the southeastern tip of Seram. Known for its biodiversity and nutrient-rich waters, Koon dazzles with lively reefs and abundant fish life.

Your final destination is **Misool**, a dreamscape of towering limestone islets, turquoise lagoons, and untouched coral gardens. Nestled within a **1,220 km² Marine Protected Area**, Misool is a global hotspot of marine biodiversity. Initiated by the Misool Eco Resort in collaboration with local communities, this sanctuary is home to majestic gorgonians, dazzling soft corals, and an overwhelming variety of reef fish. Above water, the scenery is equally mesmerizing—**lush mangroves, secret lagoons, and secluded beaches** offer a serene end to your voyage.



DAY 01

AMBON

We'll greet you upon arrival at Ambon Airport or your hotel, and transfer you to Jakare, anchored in Teluhu Bay. After a warm welcome and briefing on safety and itinerary, we'll set sail for Pulau Mamala for a check dive or snorkel. Alternatively, we can offer a fascinating muck dive in Ambon Bay—a photographer's dream.

As the sun sets, we head east and anchor overnight near Nusa Laut.

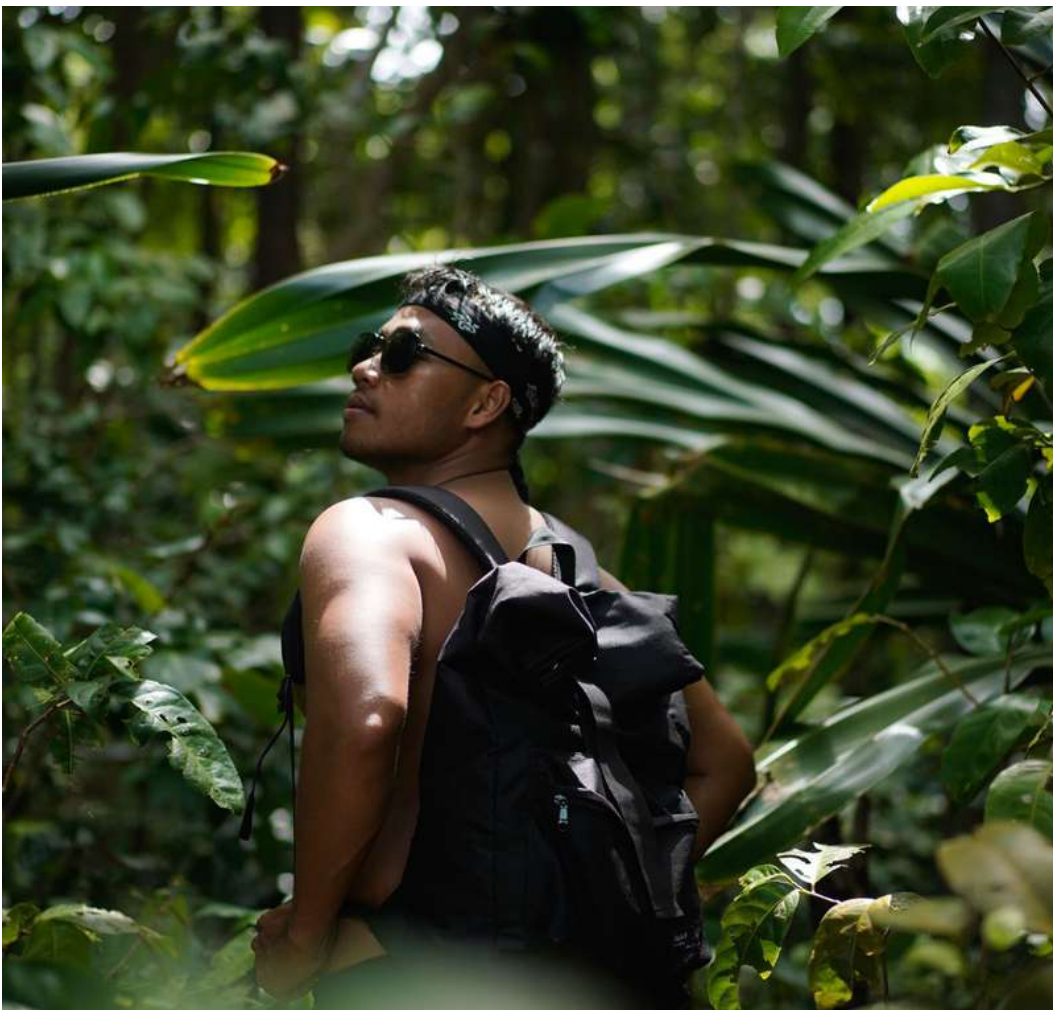
DAY 02

NUSA LAUT

Start your morning with 2 to 3 dives or snorkeling sessions over pristine reefs, featuring both walls and slopes teeming with life. Nusa Laut is a gem of the Maluku region, with colorful corals and reef fish in abundance.

After a full day in the water, we begin our overnight crossing toward Banda Island (80 NM south).





DAY 03

PULAU SUANGGI

Pulau Suanggi is a stunning sea mount famous for its lively bird colony, which gives the island its name. Here, you'll find Great Frigate birds, Red-footed and Brown Boobies, and other beautiful bird species soaring, singing, and adding a delightful touch to the island.

We'll arrive at Suanggi early in the morning and plan to dive three times on the western side. The slopes and pinnacles there offer a chance to spot Hammerhead sharks and other fascinating oceanic fish. The west side of Suanggi is especially unique, featuring a marvelous display of colorful hard coral hills. These corals indicate a healthy reef ecosystem, bustling with diverse marine life, including Giant Trevally, Bumphead Parrotfish, Napoleon Wrasse, various types of tuna, mackerel, and more.

The island is encircled by a wall and pinnacles that descend to a depth of 40 meters, while the continental shelf quickly plunges to 300 meters.

After our dives, we'll head towards Banda Neira and aim to arrive at the harbor by sunset. We'll anchor there for the night, enjoying the peaceful ambiance of Banda Neira. (16NM – 2.5h).

DAY 04 - 05

BANDA ISLANDS

You'll spend two days diving and exploring the Banda Archipelago, a region steeped in history and natural beauty.

Highlights:

- Dive iconic sites like **Lava Flow, Batu Kapal, Karang Hatta, and Tanjung Buton.**
- Encounter **Hammerhead sharks, mobula rays, dogtooth tuna**, and massive schools of fusiliers.
- Marvel at the **Mandarin fish** and critters in Banda's harbor.
- On land, stroll through **Banda Neira's markets**, visit **Fort Belgica**, and learn about the Dutch and Portuguese spice legacy.

On the evening of Day 5, weather permitting, we will sail overnight north easterly toward the south-eastern point of Seram island namely a small island called Pulau Koon (85NM).





DAY 06

KOON ISLAND

You'll arrive at Pulau Koon in the early morning, ready to explore one of the Banda Sea's richest underwater ecosystems. Nestled at the southeastern tip of Seram Island, Koon is known as a marine life crossroads, where nutrient-rich currents fuel an explosion of biodiversity.

Your dives and snorkeling sessions will be carefully timed with the tides and currents to make the most of this vibrant site. Here, the entire food chain plays out before your eyes—from bustling schools of fusiliers, surgeonfish, and reef dwellers to apex predators like giant trevallies, groupers, and reef sharks. With a bit of luck, you may even witness the elegant flight of manta or mobula rays gliding through the blue.

After three action-packed dives around this exceptional reef, Jakare will begin her overnight passage toward Misool (112 NM)—setting course for the grand finale of your journey



DAY 07-11

MISOOL

By midday, Jakare will reach the legendary Boo and Juliet Bay—your gateway into the heart of Misool, one of the planet's most biodiverse marine environments. Over the next five days, you'll explore a constellation of extraordinary dive sites across Misool's protected zones, both underwater and above, in coordination with local authorities and eco-resorts. Please note that the sequence of sites may vary depending on conditions and local arrangements.

MISOOL – BOO AREA

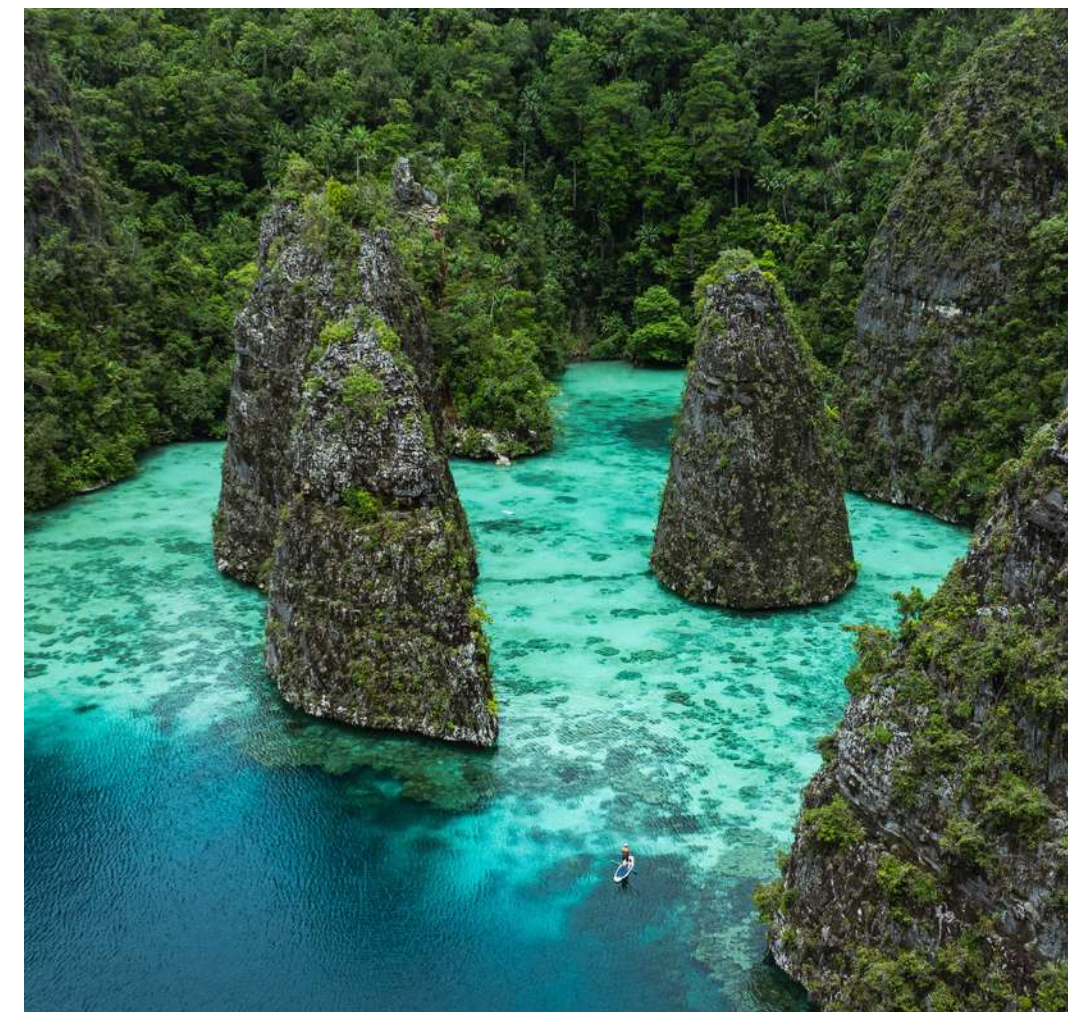
Your adventure begins with iconic sites like Boo Window, where natural tunnels pierce the rock from sea level down into the depths—a surreal and otherworldly landscape. You may also dive Boo West, Magic Mountain, and Yilliet Kecil, known for vast gorgonian sea fans, clouds of reef fish, elegant turtles, cruising reef sharks, and, if fortune smiles, even graceful manta rays.

MISOOL – FIABACET RIDGE

In the vibrant Fiabacet area, you'll dive the famous Fiabacet Ridge, a pelagic crossroads where turtles glide and oceanic life thrives. The underwater ridges connect Tank Rock and Nudi Rock, two sites teeming with colorful soft corals and rich macro life—keep your eyes open for pygmy seahorses like Barbiganti and Denise nestled in coral fans.

MISOOL – WAYIL AREA

Here, you'll dive into the awe-inspiring Neptune Fan Sea Channel, home to massive gorgonian forests that sway with the current. Other highlight sites include Four Kings, with its dramatic formation of four pinnacles and bustling marine traffic, as well as Barracuda Point, Wedding Cake, and Dunia Kecil, each offering a unique blend of coral life, structure, and current-swept drama.





MISOOL – PELE REGION

At Pele’s Playground, expect thrilling encounters with schooling anchovies and the larger predators they attract. Nearby, Kaleidoscope dazzles with a spectrum of soft corals, black corals, and stunning gorgonian fans. These nutrient-rich waters often host manta rays, and both shallow and deep zones thrive with healthy fish populations.

MISOOL – BALBULOL & FARONDI

As you explore the Balbulol and Farondi area, be prepared for magic both above and below water. Dramatic limestone formations, hidden lagoons, and mirror-like turquoise waters frame a spectacular setting. Dive sites such as Baby Rock, Balbulol Corner, and Balbulol Plateau reveal vertical drop-offs, winding canyons, and pinnacles bursting with coral and fish life.

Between dives, enjoy kayaking or stand-up paddling through the surreal seascape, or indulge in serene snorkeling sessions in this protected paradise.

In the afternoon of Day 11, Jakare will set sail for Sorong, cruising through the night (80 NM).

DAY 12

FAREWELL IN SORONG

Your final day is for reflection and farewells. After a relaxed morning, we’ll help you complete your dive logbooks, swap photos and memories, and share a final moment together with a small farewell ceremony on board Jakare. Disembarkation will be organized based on your flight or transfer schedule—by 10:00 AM at the latest.

NOTE

- 1 his itinerary may change depending on weather and sea conditions.
- 2 Daily schedules are confirmed each evening with your cruise director.
- 3 A 24-hour no-dive window will be observed before your flight.
- 4 More details can be found in our latest newsletter: [A Taste of the Banda Sea](#)



