AMBAI

# Raja Ampat

*Sorong to Sorong | Misool, Wayag and Dampier Strait*

The legendary Raja Ampat area has long been thought of as the last frontier.

A sense of peacefulness surrounds you when exploring the area: one of the last, rare untouched places on earth.

The sea life runs from the tiny pygmy seahorse to the oceanic manta ray, with clouds of fusiliers drawing tunas and trevallies, schools of barracudas and sweetlips, bumphead parrotfish and napoleon wrasses.

Misool has colourful reefs of soft corals and huge gorgonians, massive schools of fish and mantas, and walking sharks on night dives.

Kawe has regular manta encounters, and Aljui Bay offers some of the best macro diving.

Above the water, the iconic Wayag lagoons, hundreds of quartz limestone islets, are a marvel to paddle through.

| LENGTH | DEPARTURE PORT | ARRIVAL PORT | EXPERIENCE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10 nights | Sorong | Sorong | 30 dives, Advanced |







# Your route

STOP 1

## Misool

Misool is excellent for taking wide angle shots, encounters with mantas, and massive schools of fish.
The underwater topography is predominantly rocky with ridges and rock formations.
The colorful reefs display an abundance of soft corals and huge gorgonians.
Macro subjects are plenty as well: pygmy seahorses, tiny crabs, nudibranchs, and other rare photogenic life are everywhere.

STOP 2

## Fam - Penemu

We spend one day on these islands between the North and the South area.
The dives include the site “Melissa garden” which has the best coral garden of the Raja Ampat and “My reef” well known for its barracuda school and numerous Wobbegongs.

STOP 3

## The North

The iconic Wayag lagoons composed of hundreds of rocky quartz limestone islets, are a marvel to explore with dinghies or onboard kayaks.
We also recommend a short hike to a summit to admire the surrounding areas.
Mantas and black tip sharks are swimming around.
Kawe island has some of the finest diving in the area, with a good population of fish and regular manta encounters.
The Aljui bay, a 20 kilometres long indentation, provides some of the best Raja Ampat’s macro dive site locations.

STOP 4

## Dampier Strait

We usually spend one or two days there to visit its famous dive sites around Kri with their impressive amount of fish.







GOOD TO KNOW

# On land and on the way

## Ashore

In Misool you visit the ranger's station and snorkel in a natural shark nursery, where small blacktips swim in one metre of crystal clear water, and a short hike leads to the viewpoint of a lagoon in the shape of a heart. The dinghies wind through the hundreds of quartz islets of the Wayag lagoon, a short hike to the Pindito viewpoint looks over all of it, and in the Dampier Strait there are village visits and an early morning hike to a bird of paradise mating tree.

## Dive count

A minimum of 30 dives, which is 3 dives per day, is offered, including at least 4 night dives.

## How the diving works

Divers go in groups of up to four with a dive guide, with a briefing before every dive. Nitrox is free for certified divers, and divers are asked to stay within no deco limits, to a maximum depth of 35 metres.

## Snorkelling

The trip is open to snorkellers, with a lot to see in shallow water at most dive sites, and specific guidance for snorkellers.

## Visibility and water

Raja Ampat's waters are dense with life, so visibility is typically 10 to 20 metres and varies from one dive to another. The water is between 28 and 30°C all year.

## Currents

Raja Ampat is well known for its consistent currents, which bring incredible life. The guides check the current before each dive and brief you on the conditions, and the crew picks the right place at the right time.

## Check in

You are welcome on board in Sorong before 12 noon, and the boat leaves at 1 pm. Ambai can arrange pick up from the airport or your hotel.

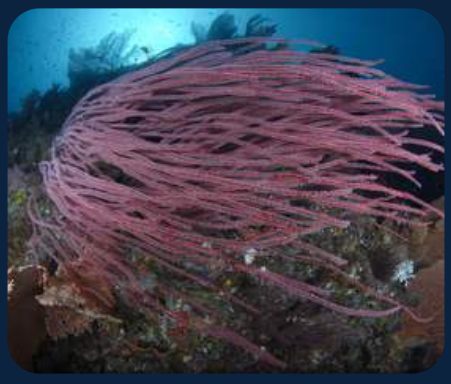
## Check out

The cruise ends in Sorong and you disembark before 12 noon. Ambai can arrange the drop off at the airport or your hotel. The last dive is at 8 am on the penultimate day.

## Airports

Sorong (SOQ) at the start and Sorong (SOQ) at the end of the trip.







INCLUDED

# What your trip covers

## INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Transfers between the boat and the closest airport
- Accommodation in a shared twin or double bed cabin
- All meals and snacks, drinking water, soft drinks and hot drinks
- All guided dives, with one guide for up to four divers
- Aluminium 12 litre tank, weights and belts
- Free nitrox for certified divers
- Four complimentary kayaks on board

## NOT INCLUDED

- Park and port fees and fuel surcharge, paid in cash on board
- International and domestic flights
- Alcoholic beverages, which you can bring yourself
- Diving equipment rental and 100 cf (15 litre) tank
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Massages and laundry

BEFORE YOU GO

# What to bring

## ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook (PADI Advanced Open Water or equivalent with at least 30 logged dives)
- Dive insurance covering medical evacuation and diving accidents, which is highly recommended

## AND ALSO

- Your own dive equipment, or rental booked before the cruise, as not all sizes are on board
- Cash for park and port fees, fuel surcharge, tips and extras, as credit cards are not accepted on board

WORTH KNOWING

# Key notes

### Good to know

The route can vary slightly with weather, currents, visibility and tides

### Good to know

Payments on board are in cash only, in euros, US dollars, Australian dollars, Swiss francs or Indonesian rupiah, and prepayment by wire transfer can be arranged

### Good to know

Divers with less experience can join with special supervision, arranged before the cruise

### Good to know

Prices and trip dates are shown on our trip listings