AMBAI

Raja Ampat and Triton Bay

Sorong to Kaimana | Misool, Sabuda, Momon and Triton Bay

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.

This trip combines the two diving hot spots of West Papua: the magic South Raja Ampat and the magnificent Triton Bay area.

Misool is excellent for wide-angle pictures, with mantas, massive schools of fish and reefs covered in soft corals and huge gorgonians.

Halfway across, a seamount off the Papua coast holds huge schools of jacks and napoleon wrasse, maybe mantas and even whale sharks.

Triton Bay has soft corals with little equivalent in the world, and fishing platforms that attract whale sharks at night, so the morning dives beneath them are the finale.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
12 nights	Sorong	Kaimana	30 dives, Advanced







Your route

STOP 1

Misool

We spend the 5 first days of the trip in the South of Raja Ampat, around Misool and its satellite islets.
Excellent for wide-angle pictures, mantas, and massive schools of fish.
The underwater topography is dominantly rocky, with ridges and rock formations.
The very colorful reefs display an abundance of soft corals and huge gorgonians.
Macro subjects are abundant as well, with the four kinds of pygmy seahorses, tiny crabs, nudibranchs, and other rare photogenic life all over.
We need one night of navigation to reach the next island of Sabuda.

STOP 2

Sabuda and Momon

Halfway between Misool and the coast of Papua, Sabuda is a very scenic group of islands with beautiful lagoons and white sand beaches.
The diving is interesting with big schools of fish (surgeons, trevallies, barracudas) and eventually mantas rays.
Another night of navigation brings us to Momon, which has magnificent landscapes.
The mountainous coast is covered with primary forest and a river from the highlands ends up into the sea as a large glorious waterfall (we go to swim and play there).
We dive on a seamount outside the coast: huge schools of jacks, napoleon wrasse, maybe mantas, and even whale sharks.
A small islet has thousands of bats flying out at sunset, which is a good macro dive.
A third night of navigation is necessary to reach Triton bay.

STOP 3

Triton Bay

The development of soft corals there has little equivalent in the world.
On most of the dives we generally find the soft corals in the shallows (0-5m) on rock and bommies, then come the black and tubastrea corals with lot of sweetlips and snappers.
Below 12-15m the bottom is mostly sandy or rubble with interesting critters (nudibranchs, frogfish).
Some spots can have a lot of baitfish, eventually attracting devil rays and other predators.
The “bagans” are platforms for baitfish fishing at night, eventually attracting the whale sharks.
We dive there in the morning, in small groups of 4 guests turning on 30 minutes shifts.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Ashore

In Triton Bay the dinghies ride into the lagoons at dawn, among quartz islets covered in rainforest and the songs of thousands of birds, and stop below a cliff with ancient rock paintings. At Momon there is a short afternoon trek in the rainforest, and in Misool you snorkel in a natural shark nursery and hike to the viewpoint of a lagoon in the shape of a heart.

Dive count

A minimum of 36 dives, which is 3 dives per day, is offered, including at least 6 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

Typically 10 to 20 metres in Raja Ampat, clear in Sabuda and Momon, and an average of 10 metres in Triton Bay, lower after heavy rain. The water is between 28 and 30°C all year.

Currents

Currents are generally moderate on most dive sites, and there is always the possibility of a dive in a current-protected area. 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 Kaimana 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 Kaimana (KNG) 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