AMIRA

Raja Ampat

Sorong to Sorong | Dampier Strait, Batanta and Misool

The heart of the Coral Triangle, reefs on steroids, the best diving in the world and the highest biodiversity in the world: these are just a few of the lines used to describe the diving in Raja Ampat.

In the Dampier Strait and around Batanta come wobbegong sharks, reef and oceanic mantas, pygmy seahorses in all their variations and an enormous amount of reef fish, with pelagics around the reefs.

South Batanta adds muck diving, a change from the reefs, with the small and unusual creatures found in sand and rubble.

The no-take zone of Misool has healthy coral, schools of fish, sharks and wobbegongs, and a study found shark and fish numbers had risen by 60 to 200 percent.

Dolphins and occasionally whales can be seen from the surface.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
10 nights	Sorong	Sorong	Certified divers







Your itinerary

This is the 11 night Raja Ampat itinerary; the 10 night trip has less time, so ask which stops are left out.

DAY 1

Boarding

No dives

The Amira crew pick you up from the airport or hotel.
After a welcome drink you check in to your cabin, then have breakfast or lunch, depending on the time you arrive.
Once everyone is on board, the cruise director gives a detailed boat and safety briefing, and in the afternoon a general diving briefing explains how the diving is organised.
Usually there are no dives on the first day.

DAY 2-5

Dampier Strait and Batanta

3 to 4 dives a day

The tour starts and ends in Sorong or Waisai, and the first dives are in the central part of Raja Ampat, around the Dampier Strait and Batanta.
This is the place for wobbegong sharks, reef and oceanic mantas, pygmy seahorses and an enormous amount of reef fish, with pelagics around the reefs.
You can also look for dolphins and occasionally whales from the sun deck.

DAY 6

Muck diving at south Batanta

3 to 4 dives

There is a muck diving spot in the south of Batanta, a change from the reefs, with the small and unusual creatures that divers look for in sand and rubble.



DAY 7-9

Misool

3 to 4 dives a day

Amira then cruises to the southern part of Misool, where the marine protected area has a no-take zone.
A study in 2008 found that shark and fish numbers had risen by 60 to 200 percent compared with ten years before.
Expect healthy coral, schools of fish, sharks and wobbegongs.

DAY 10

Back towards Sorong

2 to 3 dives

On the way back there are fewer dives, as crossings have a maximum of 2 to 3 dives a day.
There is time for the sun deck, a speedboat tour of the bays and channels or a sunset on a beach.

DAY 11

Last diving day

Up to 2 dives

The last diving day has a maximum of 2 dives, then the boat cruises to the disembarkation harbour.
Keep to the no-flying rule, pack your gear and settle your bill.

DAY 12

Check out

Check out and transfer to the airport or your hotel, accompanied by the crew.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Viewpoints and bays

Visits to viewpoints over the limestone islands and the famous bays and channels, by speedboat.

Beaches and sunsets

Secluded beaches where you can enjoy the sunset with your toes in the sand.

Snorkelling and kayaking

The trip also suits snorkellers, free divers and kayakers, and non-divers are welcome.

Wildlife

Dolphins and occasionally whales can be seen from the boat, and Raja Ampat has more than 1,700 species of fish and 600 species of coral.

Check in

The Amira crew pick you up from the airport or hotel, welcome you with a drink and show you to your cabin. Check in is possible early in the morning after the first flights arrive, and the latest check in is 11:30 am. If no flight arrives before noon, fly to the port the day before and stay in a hotel.

Check out

The boat arrives in the disembarkation port late the evening before, so check out is possible from midnight until 10:30 am at the latest. The crew take you to the airport or your hotel. If your flight is in the afternoon, they can drop you at a hotel and collect you in time for check in at the airport.

Last dive

The last dive is on the second to last day, with a maximum of 2 dives. Divers should wait at least 24 hours after their last dive before flying, so please keep to the no-flying rule when you book your flight home.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE	NOT INCLUDED
Full board, with five meals a day	Flights
Water, tea and coffee	15 litre tanks
Diving with up to 4 dives a day	Dive courses
Cylinders, weights and weight belts	Rental dive gear
Multilingual dive guides and cruise directors	Port clearance and harbour tax
Transfers between the airport or hotel and the boat	National park fee and local fee
Land excursions	Fuel surcharge or distance fee
ENOS GPS rescue beacon	On-board purchases
Free nitrox for certified EANx divers	Alcohol and soft drinks
	Crew tips, which are customary
	Laundry service
	Wi-Fi and telecommunications
	Dive, travel and medical insurance

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook
- Completed diver medical questionnaire
- Details of your dive and travel insurance
- Dive computer and surface marker buoy
- Torch for night dives

AND ALSO

- Reef-safe sunscreen
- Swimwear, hat and sunglasses
- Light clothing and sandals
- Personal medication and toiletries
- Passport

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Good to know

Sites and timings are an example of the route and are not guaranteed. The captain and cruise director decide the final route, depending on the weather and sea conditions

Good to know

The northern area including Wayag is only visited on special Raja Ampat North trips