

AURORA

Banda Sea

Ambon to Ambon | Nusa Laut, Suanggi, Manuk, Banda Neira and Ambon Bay

Set sail on an unforgettable adventure aboard Aurora and dive into the mesmerising beauty of the Banda Sea.

Known for its pristine water, vibrant marine life and historical charm, it is the ideal mix of exploration and calm.

Start your days with yoga on deck in the fresh sea breeze, looking out over the sparkling ocean.

Slip into the clear water to snorkel over stunning coral reefs and meet a wide variety of marine life, or paddle through quiet bays and hidden coves to the soothing sounds of nature.

On Banda Neira, guided land tours reveal the rich heritage, lush landscapes and captivating history of the island.

The nine nights include the walls of Nusa Laut, the volcanic island of Manuk, hammerhead sharks at Serua, Banda Neira and macro diving in Ambon Bay.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
9 nights	Ambon	Ambon	Open Water, 30 dives







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Ambon

The crew welcome you at the airport for immediate boarding, and depending on the arrival time there may be a check dive in Laha or Tulehu Bay, famous for muck diving that only the Lembeh Strait can compete with.
Check-in is from 6 am, with free airport pick-up from 06:00, and pick-up in the city centre on request.

DAY 2

Nusa Laut

The trip starts with the beautiful coral walls around Nusa Laut, with a wide variety of tropical fish and creatures.

DAY 3

Suanggi

Pulau Suanggi, at the northern end of the outer reefs of the Banda Sea, has water full of fish, reef sharks, tuna and sometimes hammerhead sharks.
Bird lovers can watch brown boobies, red-footed boobies and frigate birds around the island.

DAY 4

Manuk Island

Manuk, the Snake Island, is a volcanic island named for its many sea snakes, and you will surely see a lot.
The drop-offs are amazing, with sharks, mackerel, tuna and barracudas often seen.

DAY 5

Serua

The breathtaking reefs around this small island are full of life, and with luck you meet the schools of hammerhead sharks that cruise close to the reefs.

DAY 6-7

Banda Islands

Sloping reefs and walls around the Banda Islands are home to fusiliers, tuna, eagle rays, barracuda and occasional sharks, with soft corals, trevallies and turtles.
A sunset dive in front of Banda Neira is a chance to see the elusive mandarin fish, and a visit to Banda Neira village is a memorable cultural experience.

DAY 8

Returning to Ambon

Back at Ambon, wall dives outside the bay bring clearer water and passing pelagics, before the boat heads inside for the spectacular macro sites of this huge bay.

DAY 9

Ambon Bay

Today is all about critters: the dive sites inside Ambon Bay are heaven for macro lovers, comparable only to the Lembeh Strait.

DAY 10

Ambon

The trip ends in Ambon after breakfast.
Check-out is at 12 noon.

ROUTE MAP

Banda Sea route



GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Safety

The boat carries oxygen therapy, an AED, first aid kits, life jackets, a satellite phone and a fire alarm system.

Eco commitment

The boat holds the Manta Trust, Green Fins and Sulubaai labels, and uses mooring buoys instead of anchoring wherever it can.

Check in

A representative holding a sign meets you at the airport, just outside the arrival hall after baggage claim and customs.

Check out

After breakfast on the last day the crew organise your transfer to the airport, according to your flight schedule.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Airport pick-up and drop-off, before and after the cruise, from the nearest airport
- Double or twin air-conditioned en-suite cabin
- Meals and all soft drinks on board, excluding beer, wine, spirits and espresso coffee
- A minimum of 20 to 25 dives, including night dives, depending on the weather and flight schedules
- 12 litre tank, weight belt and weights, and a diving guide
- Nitrox, offered as a service on board
- Multilingual guides on board, speaking French, English and Indonesian
- Land excursions according to the itinerary
- Free Starlink Wi-Fi for WhatsApp, email and basic web browsing
- Marine park and port fees, shown as included in the price on our trip listings

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights and visas
- Scuba diving courses and rental dive equipment
- 15 litre tank
- Dive insurance, which is mandatory
- Extra excursions on request
- Beer, wine, spirits and espresso coffee
- Souvenirs, laundry and use of the satellite phone
- Full-access Starlink Wi-Fi, charged by data package
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Balinese massage
- A single-use supplement if you want a cabin to yourself

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook, showing at least 30 logged dives
- Completed diver medical questionnaire
- Details of your dive insurance, which is mandatory
- 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 and cash for crew tips

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Good to know

The route is an example and may change with the weather

Good to know

Divers need a Level 1 CMAS or Open Water certificate with at least 30 logged dives

Good to know

A fuel or exchange rate surcharge may be applied, with at least 14 days notice and none within 28 days of departure





