

AURORA

Raja Ampat and Banda Sea

Sorong to Ambon | Dampier Strait, Misool, Koon, Manuk and Banda Neira

Set out on an epic voyage from the underwater world of Raja Ampat to the historical charm of Banda Neira.

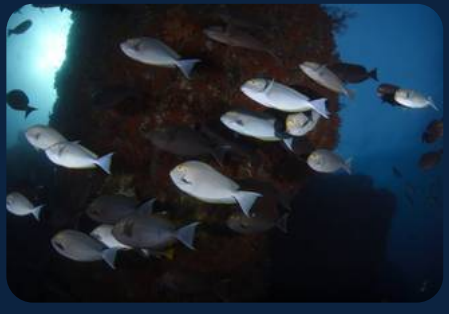
You start with exhilarating dives in the crystal clear water of Raja Ampat, where vibrant coral reefs and diverse marine life are waiting, and join yoga on deck each day with calm views of the ocean.

Then you cross to the Banda Islands, where culture and history unfold, with colonial era landmarks, the unique heritage of the islands and guided tours through lush landscapes.

The contrast between the marine wonders of Raja Ampat and the history of Banda Neira makes this a rich journey, combining exciting exploration with cultural discovery.

The twelve nights are the Maluku crossing, from the Dampier Strait and Misool through Koon and Manuk to the Banda Islands.

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







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Sorong

The crew pick you up at the airport and bring you to Aurora for immediate boarding, and once everyone is on board the boat sails for the first destination.
Check-in is from 6 am, with free airport pick-up from 06:00, and pick-up in the city centre on request.

DAY 2-3

Dampier Strait

To finish, some of the great dive sites of the Dampier Strait before heading to Sorong.

DAY 4

Fam Island

The Fam Islands are the definition of paradise, with stunning landscapes, marvellous coral gardens and exceptionally rich marine life.

DAY 5

Farondi

The Farondi Islands, about 20 km east of Misool, are popular for their unique seascape of tunnels, caverns and colourful walls.

DAY 6-8

Misool

So many islands and so many dive sites: the boat cruises around Jilliet, Fiabajet, Walib, Wajil, Jef Pele, Mesenta and Boo, with as many dives as possible to enjoy this wonderful area.

DAY 9

Koon

The small island of Koon has a vertical wall and a slope where the current curls, pushing in schools of trevallies, batfish and barracuda.
Reef sharks are common, but the stars of the show are the giant groupers, the largest of them 3 metres long.

DAY 10

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 11

Banda Islands

The day starts with a land excursion to learn the incredible history of this spice paradise, followed by dives on the nearby reefs, full of fish, reef sharks, tuna, soft and leather corals, bigeye trevallies and turtles.

DAY 12

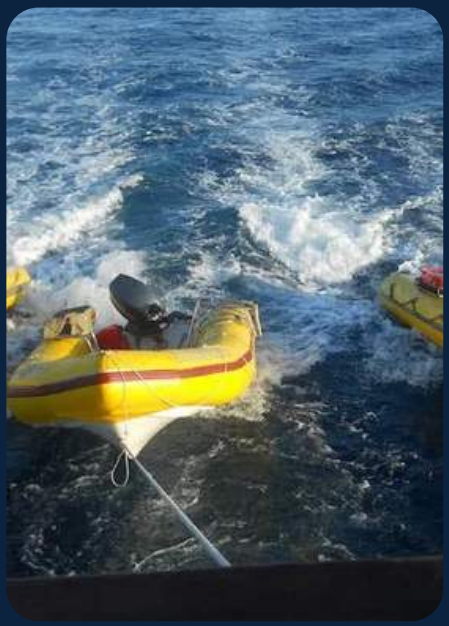
Banda Islands

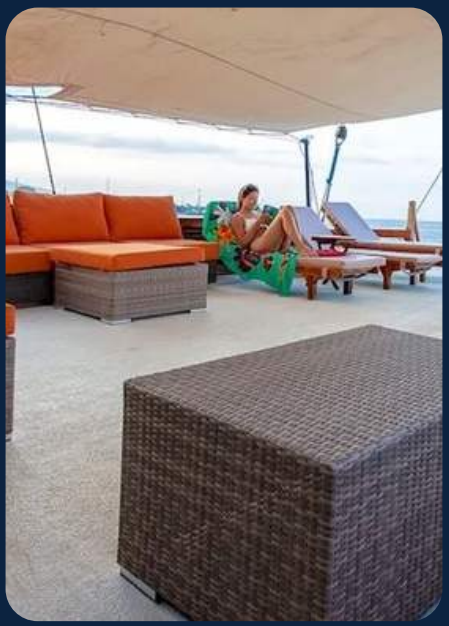
The day starts at Pulau Hatta and Karang Hatta, with sloping reefs and vertical walls where the current draws fusiliers, dogtooth tuna, eagle rays, barracudas and sometimes sharks, with soft corals, leather corals, bigeye trevallies and turtles.
Later the boat moves to Banda Neira for a sunset dive in its harbour.

DAY 13

Ambon

After breakfast the crew organise your transfer to the airport in Ambon to suit your flight.
Check-out is at 12 noon.







ROUTE MAP

Raja Ampat and 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