AURORA

Raja Ampat, Halmahera and Lembeh

Sorong to Bitung | Dampier Strait, Misool, Halmahera and Lembeh Strait

Set sail on an unforgettable journey from the staggering biodiversity of Raja Ampat to the muck diving of Lembeh Strait, two of the best known dive destinations in Indonesia.

Together they offer a perfect mix of underwater experiences, from wide coral gardens to tiny macro creatures, all set against beautiful natural scenery.

You begin in Raja Ampat, the crown jewel of Indonesian diving, where you dive vibrant coral reefs, swim with manta rays and see the marine life that makes it one of the most sought after places to dive in the world.

Aurora then sails on to Lembeh Strait, famous for exceptional muck diving, where rare and bizarre critters make it a dream for macro photographers.

The twelve nights run from the Dampier Strait and Misool through Pulau Pisang to the Strait of Patinti, the Goraici Islands, Tifore and the muck diving of Lembeh Strait.

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







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Sorong

After the airport pick-up, a welcome drink waits on board Aurora in Sorong, a few hours from Raja Ampat, with time to get to know each other before cruising to the Dampier Strait.
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 and Fam Islands

The Dampier Strait and Fam Islands, between Waigeo and the Bird's Head Peninsula, are with Misool the most famous diving areas of Raja Ampat, known for huge schools of fish and coral gardens with reef sharks and wobbegong sharks.
Some of the best manta dives are here, and the village jetties have pillars covered in soft corals, home to small critters.
The boat cruises overnight to Misool.

DAY 4-5

Misool

Misool, the southernmost island of Raja Ampat, is surrounded by hundreds of small islands and rocks and has some of the most beautiful soft coral reefs in the world.
Its sites are as fishy as the Dampier Strait, with schools of barracudas, batfish, snappers and fusiliers, and it is also the kingdom of the pygmy seahorse.
The boat cruises overnight to Pulau Pisang.

DAY 6

Pisang Islands

Pulau Pisang, two islands and two small rocks between Misool and Halmahera, has sloping reefs full of soft and hard coral bommies, very fishy when the current runs, with dogtooth tuna passing by.
The boat cruises overnight to the Strait of Patinti.

DAY 7-8

Strait of Patinti

Two days are spent in the south of Halmahera, where two large pinnacles break the surface, excellent dive sites for their schooling fish and healthy soft corals.
Strong currents decide when you dive.
The boat cruises overnight to the Goraici Islands.

DAY 9

Goraici Islands

The Goraici Islands, off the west coast of Halmahera, have white sand beaches with small villages, amazing reefs and pinnacles, colourful soft coral deeper down and hard coral gardens in the shallows.
The boat cruises overnight to Tifore.

DAY 10

Tifore Islands

Pulau Tifore, a small island between Halmahera and Lembeh, has a submerged reef whose main attraction is its schooling barracudas.
The boat cruises overnight to Lembeh.

DAY 11-12

Lembeh Strait

Lembeh Strait is one of the favourite places in the world for muck diving, five-star diving where finding hidden critters on the sandy bottom is the ultimate goal.

DAY 13

Bitung

The adventure ends in Bitung after a good breakfast and a lot of hugs.
Check-out is at 12 noon.







ROUTE MAP

Raja Ampat, Halmahera and Lembeh 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