DAMAI II

Halmahera and Raja Ampat

Ternate to Sorong | Halmahera Sea, Bacan, Pulau Pisang and Misool

Start the journey through the rarely visited islands and reefs of Halmahera, in North Maluku, famous for its schooling barracuda and jacks.

Finish your trip in Raja Ampat, the centre of marine biodiversity in the world.

The seamounts of the Halmahera Sea are rich in current, with huge schools of surgeonfish, ocean triggerfish, snappers, fusiliers, rainbow runners and sharks, and mantas that come to feed in the shallow water of a lagoon.

Off Bacan there is a dramatic wall alive with barracuda and fusiliers, then muck diving over black sand for octopus, colourful nudibranchs, frogfish and seahorses.

In Misool the islands are booming with colour, with an unreal collection of soft corals and fans along the walls, cruising sharks, schooling fish and mantas cleaning.

There are unique underwater caves, pygmy seahorses on the sea fans, and mobula rays in the blue.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 nights	Ternate	Sorong	Open Water certified







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Arrival in Ternate

0 or 1 dive

The flight usually arrives in Ternate in the morning and you will go directly to Damai II and make yourselves comfortable.
You can complete a check out dive today depending on how you feel.
We'll let you decide.

DAY 2-3

Goraici and Seamount of Halmahera Sea

4 a day

Series of small islands, surprisingly good healthy reefs.
This current rich location has a huge amount of schooling fish; surgeonfish, ocean triggerfish, snappers, fusiliers, rainbow runners, sharks and much more, we have seen in several occasions' mantas coming to feed in the shallow waters of a lagoon.

DAY 4

Pulau Lata Lata

4 dives

Another spot that cannot be missed is the beautiful Island of Lata-Lata.
There, not to long ago, our dive guides found a seamount that we named Charis point.
This is a world class dive site better dove with a medium current to enjoy the fish life and his beautiful corals.
In the afternoon enjoy the pretty shallows and the gorgeous soft coral garden in the area.



DAY 5

Salea

4 dives

Start the day at Batu Mandy near the island of Salea.
Schools of fusilier, snappers and trevally embellish a pinnacle formation that sometimes hosts also manta rays and reef sharks.
Later in the day enjoy the beautiful reefs around the islands of Pokal and Kusu.
Frog fish, ghost pipe fish and pontohi have been spotted here.

DAY 6

Pulau Bacan

4 dives

Begin the day with a dramatic wall dive off Tanjung Marengarango.
Check out the schooling fish; barracuda, snapper, fusiliers and the potential for some great passing pelagics.
Spend the afternoon enjoying some excellent muck diving along the boat-building beach at Penambuan; excellent habitat amongst the variety of black sand, pebbles, algae and coral heads.
Hunt for octopus, colourful nudibranchs, frogfish, seahorses, cuttlefish, unusual shrimp.

DAY 7

Pulau Pisang

4 dives

This small island in the middle of Seram Sea has some great fish action; snapper, barracuda, fusiliers, rainbow runners.

DAY 8

Wayilbatan

3 or 4 dives

The Four Kings is a series of colorful underwater pinnacles which make an amazing dive with plenty of cool fish action.
Moving later to a more sheltered spot we are in the vicinity of some great dive spots: drift along the channel at Neptune Fan Sea; explore wall at Wedding Cake or enjoy the fish action on the ridge at Barracuda Rock.

DAY 9

Boo & Fiabacet

4 dives

This amazing string of small islands has a colourful array of great dives sites.
The signature sites in the area include Boo Windows, Nudi Rock, Tank Rock and Whale Rock.
The whole place is a delight for the eyes.
On a calm day you can visit the amazing seamount Magic Mountain and experience cruising sharks, schooling fish and mantas cleaning.
A truly spectacular dive!

DAY 10

Daram

4 dives

The islands further east in the Misool region, are booming with colors, unreal collection of soft corals and fans along the walls of their most iconic dive sites: Andiamo and the Candy Store.

DAY 11

Farondi / Balbulol

2 dives

No Contest and Love Potion No.
9 near the island of Balbulol are a string of underwater ridges rich in current and therefore colourful soft corals and seafans.
Spend your time looking in the blue for schooling pelagics and often the beautiful Mobula Rays.
To the east is the island of Farondi.
Visit the unique underwater caves at Goa Farondi and hunt for cool pygmy seahorses on the different varieties of sea fans.
Nearby in the channel are the current rich pinnacles of the Three Sisters.
This area is teeming with life and there is a good chance of seeing a lot of fish action.

DAY 12

Departure

Guests will be escorted to the airport in Sorong and assisted with check in procedures, no doubt full of talk about the wonders of the most popular dive destination in the world.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Small groups

Dive groups are limited to 4 divers per guide, with unlimited diving.

Cruise Director

A Cruise Director and 18 crew look after the 12 guests on board.

Check in

Guests arrive at the start port and have time to settle in on the boat, with a check-out dive on the first day on some routes.

Check out

On the last day guests are escorted to the airport and helped with check-in.

Itinerary

This is a draft itinerary for the cruise, and the crew may change it to suit the weather and the guests on board.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Cabin accommodation with daily housekeeping
- Meals, snacks and drinks
- Unlimited guided diving, with a maximum of 4 divers per guide
- Two speedboats with experienced drivers
- Treks, village visits and beach stops as in the itinerary
- Airport assistance on arrival and departure days

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Park fees and harbour fees, shown on our trip listings for each departure
- Dive and travel insurance
- Equipment rental and courses
- Crew tips, which are customary

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook
- Dive and travel insurance
- Completed diver medical form
- 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

The trip is weather dependent and there may be long crossings, and the crew adjusts the plan as best it can

Good to know

Divers must be flexible with the start time of the first dive at some sites, because they can only enter the water once the local village and officers give permission

Good to know

The crew can change the suggested itinerary to suit guests, if weather and time allow and everyone on board agrees