FENIDES

Raja Ampat

Sorong to Sorong | Dampier Strait, Wayag and Batanta

Raja Ampat in one sweep, from the giant mantas of the Dampier Strait to the limestone cliffs of Wayag.

Strong currents pour through the strait, bringing graceful rays and shoals of fish all around you, with sea mounts covered in schooling fish, barracuda and wobbegong sharks.

Wayag brings high adrenaline drifts and swim-throughs covered in hard corals, with a beach nearby to swim with baby blacktip reef sharks.

Vibrant orange soft corals, sea snakes and schools of batfish fill the reefs further on.

Batanta finishes with black sandy slopes famous for muck diving, with nudibranchs and regular sightings of mimic octopus.

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







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Sorong to Waisai

You are picked up from your hotel or Sorong airport and settle in on board with a welcome drink and a short introduction to the boat and safety.
The boat cruises to Waisai, on Waigeo, while you get to know the ship, set up your dive gear and cameras and meet the crew.
After arriving in Waisai there is a first check dive.

DAY 2

Dampier Strait and Gam

The Dampier Strait is known for giant mantas, mangroves, pinnacles and sea mounts covered in schooling fish, sweetlips, barracuda, bumphead parrotfish, fusiliers and wobbegong sharks.
It is also a good place for critters, with several species of pygmy seahorse and many nudibranchs.
Jetties offer night dives with Raja epaulette sharks, toadfish, frogfish and crocodile fish.
A cultural visit to Arborek pier is planned in this region.

DAY 3

Dampier Strait and Gam

The second day in the Dampier Strait and the Gam area.
The strong currents that flow through the strait bring a variety of marine life, with graceful rays and shoals of fish all around you.
At the end of the day the boat sails to Wayag, the most northern point of the trip.

DAY 4

Yanggefo Island

A day at Yanggefo Island, with dives planned at Myhem, Citrus Ridge, Gam Ridge and the mangroves.
Citrus Ridge has vibrant orange soft corals, barracuda, bumphead parrotfish and sea snakes.
Myhem has schools of batfish, surgeonfish and snappers, with the occasional wobbegong.
Gam Ridge is a good place to spot eagle and mobula rays.
The mangroves are best dived late in the day, around 4 pm, when the low sun makes shafts of light.

DAY 5

Wayag

Wayag is the northernmost marine protected area in the Bird's Head.
An early start gives a full day among limestone cliffs covered in trees and vines, with dives from high adrenaline drifts to swim-throughs covered in hard corals.
There are at least 11 named dive sites here and a three dive day is planned.
There is also a hike to the viewpoints, and a beach just north of Wayag where you can swim with baby blacktip reef sharks.

DAY 6

Penemu

Penemu has some of the strongest currents coming out of the Dampier Strait, which bring nutrient rich water to its shores.
The boat arrives early and plans four dives.
Barracuda is an oval reef where large schools of fish gather, with a good chance of pelagics.
Galaxy is a huge reef with amazing corals and easy macro.
My Reef is a good place for wobbegong and blacktip sharks, with a shallowest point of 8 metres, so planning and current checks matter.

DAY 7

Batanta

A day around Batanta Island, which is excellent for underwater photographers and macro lovers.
Black sandy slopes are famous for muck diving, with nudibranchs, regular sightings of mimic octopus and other unusual critters.
The boat then sails overnight towards Sorong.

DAY 8

Return to Sorong

There is no diving on the last day as the boat sails back to Sorong, but the rooftop bar is stocked and the dive guides give detailed run downs of what you saw for logbooks and picture sharing.
After a farewell lunch and debrief, guests leave the boat with memories that will last a lifetime, and are dropped at the airport or hotel in Sorong.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Arborek

A cultural visit to Arborek, a small fishing village of about 200 people with a white sand beach and a long pier, where local men and children spear fish with goggles carved from coconut shells.

Wayag

A hike to the viewpoints over the limestone islands of Wayag, and a visit to a beach north of Wayag to swim with baby blacktip reef sharks in the shallows.

Check in

You are collected from your hotel or Sorong airport, taken to the harbour and welcomed on board with a drink and a short introduction to the boat and safety.

Check out

After a farewell lunch and a debrief on the last day, you are dropped at the airport or your hotel in Sorong.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Transfers to and from the airport or hotel in Sorong
- Air-conditioned en-suite cabin on a double or twin basis
- All meals and non-alcoholic drinks on board
- Up to 4 guided dives a day, including a dawn or night dive where suitable
- Free Nitrox
- Fishing gear where appropriate, kayaks, stand-up paddle boards and wakeboarding
- All land excursions offered
- Satellite internet

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights, airport taxes and visas
- National marine park and port fees, shown on our trip listings (included on a full charter only)
- Spirits, other alcoholic drinks, mocktails and smoothies
- Dive and travel insurance
- Diving lessons
- Dive equipment rental (free on a full charter only), dive computer, torch, underwater cameras and 15 litre tanks
- Onboard massage and laundry
- Souvenirs and merchandise
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Excess luggage costs

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook
- Dive insurance, which is mandatory
- Medical clearance from your doctor, if needed
- 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

This is a sample itinerary and may change with currents, waves and weather

Good to know

Strong currents can mean that the exact location or timing of dives has to change for safety

Good to know

Marine park and port fees are paid in addition to the cruise price