

ILIKE

North Sulawesi - Halmahera

Bitung to Babang | Lembeh, Bangka, Tifore and Halmahera

Muck diving at its best in Lembeh Strait, where most of a macro photographer's dreams can come true in a couple of dives.

Around Bangka Island, pygmy seahorses, frogfish and nudibranchs share the reefs with eagle rays and sharks, among caves, rock towers and steep walls carpeted in soft corals.

In the middle of the Moluccan Sea, an underwater pinnacle hides a big school of barracuda and other big pelagics.

The Goraichi Islands are famous for pristine reefs full of hard and soft corals, with sharks and manta rays.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
9 days / 8 nights	Bitung	Babang	Advanced, 75 logged dives







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Arrive in Bitung

No dives

Guests arrive at the Ilike in Bitung, where the crew welcome you and give the briefing. Check in is between 6:00 and 13:00.

DAY 2

Lembeh Strait

3 to 4 dives

In Lembeh most of the macro photographers' dreams can become reality in a matter of a couple of dives.
This is muck diving at its best.

DAY 3

Bangka Island

3 to 4 dives

A full day around Bangka Island, on the northern edge of North Sulawesi, where you find pygmy seahorses, frogfish, nudibranchs and larger species such as eagle rays and sharks.
The sites vary from slopes with coral gardens and underwater caves to rock towers and steep walls.
Batu Sahaung has extraordinary rock formations, Batu Gosoh 1 has steep faces carpeted in soft corals and nudibranchs, and Batu Gosoh 2 has frequent currents between rock towers that fall to 30 metres.



DAY 4

Tifore Island

3 to 4 dives

After the crossing to Halmahera you visit Tifore Island in the middle of the Moluccan Sea, more than 70 miles from the mainland.
An underwater pinnacle close to the island hides a big school of barracuda, with other big pelagic fish, when the current is favourable.

DAY 5

Tifore Island

3 to 4 dives

A second day diving around Tifore Island.

DAY 6

Goraichi Islands

3 to 4 dives

The Goraichi Islands are at the edge of the Molucca Sea, famous for pristine reefs full of hard and soft corals, with schools of fish, sharks and manta rays.
The slopes, walls and pinnacles are in excellent condition thanks to local conservation efforts.



DAY 7

Goraichi Islands

3 to 4 dives

A second day diving the Goraichi Islands.

DAY 8

Patintie Strait and Saleh Kecil Island

1 to 2 dives

In the heart of Halmahera, the Patintie Strait is a channel where currents are funnelled as two seas meet.
Saleh Kecil is a small island with impressive coral formations, gentle slopes and marine life from macro critters to large pelagics, with regular reef sharks and barracuda.
This is the last day of diving.

DAY 9

Disembark in Babang

After breakfast and check out, the crew prepare for disembarkation in Babang, near Labuha, and arrange your transfer.
Check out is between 4:00 and 11:30.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Lembeh

World-class macro and muck diving.

Bangka

Caves, slopes, rock towers and macro life.

Goraichi

Pristine reefs with sharks and mantas.

Tifore

Barracuda and big pelagics.

Check in

The crew transfer you from the airport or your hotel to the Ilike, where the cruise director gives a welcome briefing, cabins are allocated and you set up your equipment before the boat sails. Check in is between 6:00 and 13:00.

Check out

After breakfast and check out the crew prepare for disembarkation, arrange your transfer to the airport and help with check in for your onward flights. Check out is between 4:00 and 11:30.

Last dive

The last dive is in the morning of the day before disembarkation, and then the Ilike sails back to the harbour. Divers should wait at least 24 hours after their last dive before flying, so please keep to the no-flying rule when you book your flight home.





INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- VAT and airport transfers
- Full board meals and snacks, with drinking water, tea and coffee
- Welcome cocktails
- Diving package, with extra dives
- Land excursions
- Cabin and deck towels
- Complimentary toiletries

NOT INCLUDED

- Flights and local flights
- Trip fees, covering fuel, port fees, local community support and eco projects, paid on board
- Marine park fees, depending on the itinerary
- Nitrox, per diving day
- Rental dive gear
- Private dive guide
- Soft drinks and alcoholic drinks
- Laundry and massage
- Wi-Fi package
- Crew tips
- Dive and travel insurance

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook, showing at least 75 dives
- Completed diver medical questionnaire
- Details of your dive and travel insurance
- 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

Experience

Ilike trips are for experienced divers. Advanced Open Water and at least 75 logged dives are required

Good to know

Sample plans are an example of the route. The exact route and sites depend on local regulations, guest experience, weather and logistics, and are at the captain's discretion

Good to know

Divers should wait at least 24 hours after their last dive before flying

Insurance

Please arrange dive and travel insurance before you travel

Good to know

This itinerary runs from Bitung to Babang