JAKARE

Banda Sea and Raja Ampat

Ambon to Sorong | Nusa Laut, Banda Islands, Koon and Misool

Schools of hammerhead sharks, mobula rays, dogtooth tuna and fusiliers are likely in the Banda Islands, famous as the only place where nutmeg grew and for exceptional diving.

Hammerheads are also hoped for over slopes and pinnacles at Suanggi, and mandarin fish and other critters fill the harbour.

Koon has plenty of marine life, from big fish to small reef creatures, with giant trevally, large groupers, sharks and sometimes manta or mobula rays.

Then several days in Misool bring tunnels piercing the rock, huge gorgonian fans, turtles, reef sharks, barracuda, pygmy seahorses and schools of anchovies with pelagic predators.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
11 nights	Ambon	Sorong	Certified divers







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Ambon

Check dive

Pick up at Ambon airport early in the morning and board Jakare at Teluhu.
After an introduction to the boat, the crew, the safety procedures and the itinerary, Jakare leaves for Nusa Laut and stops at Pulau Mamala for a check dive or snorkel (20 NM, 3.5 hours), then heads east to Nusa Laut for the night.

DAY 2

Nusa Laut

Dives

Two or three dives on slopes or walls, with healthy reefs that are also good for snorkelling.
Jakare then sails overnight south to Suanggi.

DAY 3

Pulau Suanggi

Dives

Arrive early in Suanggi for three dives on slopes and pinnacles, hoping to meet hammerhead sharks.
It is also great for snorkelling.
By mid-afternoon Jakare sails to Banda Neira, arriving at sunset.

DAY 4

Banda Islands

Dives

The Banda Islands are famous for their history as the only place where nutmeg grew, and for exceptional diving.
Visit the museum and fort, and dive sites such as the Lava Flow and Batu Kapal at Banda Neira, Karang Hatta, Tanjung Buton and the Wall at Pulau Hatta, and Pulau Run.
Large pelagics are likely, including schools of hammerheads, mobula rays, dogtooth tuna and fusiliers, and the harbour has mandarin fish and other critters.

DAY 5

Banda Islands

Dives

A second day around Banda and Pulau Hatta.
After the exploration, Jakare sails overnight north east to Pulau Koon at the south east point of Seram (85 NM).

DAY 6

Pulau Koon

Dives

Arrive early and plan the dives and snorkelling around the tides and currents.
Koon has plenty of marine life, from big fish to small reef creatures, schools of fusiliers and surgeonfish, giant trevally, large groupers, sharks and sometimes manta or mobula rays.
After three dives at the same site Jakare sails overnight to Misool (112 NM).

DAY 7

Misool, Boo and Juliet

Dives

Arrive by midday and start the discovery of Misool.
Boo Window, a dive site with tunnels and openings piercing the rock from the surface to below, then Bo West, Magic Mountain and Yiliet Kecil, known for huge gorgonian fans, turtles, reef sharks, barracuda and a chance of mantas.

DAY 8

Misool, Fiabacet

Dives

Fiabacet Ridge, with pelagic fish and turtles on underwater ridges between Tank Rock and Nudi Rock, then Fiabacet Pinnacle and Whale Rock for soft corals and small creatures such as Denise and Barbiganti pygmy seahorses.

DAY 9

Misool, Wayil

Dives

The Neptune Fan Sea channel with its profusion of big gorgonian fans, and Four King, four pinnacles with healthy pelagic and reef fish.
Other sites include Barracuda Point, Wedding Cake and Dunia Kecil.

DAY 10

Misool, Pele

Dives

Pele's Playground, the most westerly site of the Waaf group, often with schools of anchovies and pelagic predators, and Kaleidoscope on the north west side, known for black coral, colourful soft corals and gorgonian fans.
Mantas have been spotted here.

DAY 11

Misool, Balbulol and Farondi

Dives

Baby Rock, Balbulol Corner and Balbulol Plateau, with drop-offs, a canyon and pinnacles, hidden lagoons, kayaks and snorkelling.
Jakare leaves for Sorong in the afternoon and sails overnight (80 NM).

DAY 12

Sorong

The last day is the return to Sorong, mainly overnight.
Fill in your logbook, have it stamped by the instructor and exchange photos, with a small ceremony on board before you leave for the airport or hotel.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Banda Neira

A fort, a museum and nutmeg history.

Suanggi

Hammerhead sharks.

Koon

Fusiliers, groupers and sharks.

Misool

Boo Window and Four King.

Check in

Guests are met at the airport or at a hotel within 10 km of the port. In Raja Ampat check in is before 10 am, and most guests arrive around 8 am. In Labuan Bajo check in is before 12 noon.

Check out

Check out is between 8 am and 12 noon, with a transfer to the airport or your hotel.

Last dive

The last dive is on the penultimate day of the trip. 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

- Airport or hotel transfers at embarkation and disembarkation
- Air-conditioned cabin with private bathroom
- Full board, with snacks, drinking water, soft drinks, tea and coffee
- Guided diving with the dive team
- Snorkelling gear, kayaks and stand-up paddle boards
- A French and English speaking cruise director
- Welcome drinks on arrival

NOT INCLUDED

- Flights and hotels before and after the cruise
- National park fees and the fuel surcharge
- Alcoholic drinks
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Nitrox and rental dive gear
- Massages and other on-board services
- Dive and travel insurance

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook
- 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

Good to know

This is a proposed itinerary for planning only, subject to the weather and the conditions on board and at each site

Good to know

The daily programme is discussed with guests each evening for the following day