JAKARE

# Spice Island

*Ambon to Ambon | Nusa Laut, Suanggi and the Banda Islands*



The Banda Islands are famous as the only place where nutmeg grew, and for exceptional diving.

Large pelagics are likely, including schools of hammerheads, mobula rays, dogtooth tuna and fusiliers.

In the middle of the Banda Sea, a remote island rises as pinnacles with hammerhead sharks and other pelagics.

Another island offers slopes and pinnacles with more chances of hammerheads, and healthy reefs on slopes and walls make good snorkelling too.

Banda harbour has mandarin fish and other critters, and ashore there is a fort and a museum telling the history of the Spice Route.

| LENGTH | DEPARTURE PORT | ARRIVAL PORT | EXPERIENCE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9 nights | Ambon | Ambon | 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

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 of diving and history around Banda Neira, Hatta and Run.

DAY 6

## Banda Islands, then Manuk

Dives

After exploring the Banda Islands and diving at Pulau Hatta, Jakare sails overnight to Pulau Manuk, weather permitting.

DAY 7

## Pulau Manuk

Dives

Manuk lies about 60 NM south of Hatta, in the middle of the Banda Sea.
Three dives, mainly on pinnacles, with hammerhead sharks and other pelagics.
By late afternoon Jakare sails overnight back to Banda Neira, or stays at Manuk if the weather allows.

DAY 8

## Banda Neira

Dives

A return to Banda Neira to explore more dive sites or repeat the best ones, with more diving at Manuk and Hatta as an alternative.

DAY 9

## Pulau Suanggi

Dives

Arrive early at Suanggi for another day with more chances to meet hammerheads, with two or three dives on pinnacles or slopes.
Jakare leaves for Ambon in the early evening.

DAY 10

## Ambon

The last day is the return to Ambon, mainly overnight, arriving by mid-day.
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.

### Lava Flow

A dive at Banda Neira.

### Mandarin fish

In Banda harbour.

### 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