

THINGS TO KNOW

Length Of Trip

12 Days / 11 Nights

Park Fees

US \$ 330

Departure

🕒 Pick Up At 08.00 A.M.

📍 Sorong

🛥 Sorong (SOQ)

Return

🕒 Until 11.00 A.M.

📍 Sorong

🛥 Sorong (SOQ)

Dives

Approximately 34 - 35 dives in total. This number may vary depending on weather conditions.

Experience

Open Water – 40 minimum logged dives required

- Prices listed are net payable and based per person, they are inclusive of National and Localised Taxes.
- You will embark La Galigo in Sorong harbour. A senior member of the La Galigo crew will meet you in Sorong and accompany you to the vessel. The vessel will sail to Waisai for harbour clearances prior to beginning your journey.
- You will disembark La Galigo at Sorong Harbour.
- Please check your visa requirements for entering Indonesia, all passports must have at least 6 months remaining on them when entering the country.
- All guests are required to have valid travel and diving insurance (including Medevac) for the duration of their trip. La Galigo is a recognised D.A.N. partner and can assist you with the purchase of a short-term dive insurance policy.
- To partake in any scuba diving activity with La Galigo, you must hold a certification from a recognised scuba diving society such as SSI, CMAS, BSAC, PADI or similar. It is the client's responsibility, as a certified diver, to respect and follow the guidelines given by the La Galigo guides and instructors, and to follow the regulations stipulated by their certification agency.
- All dives are conducted to a maximum depth of 30 metres/100 ft.
- Average water temperatures in Raja Ampat vary between 27 – 30 Celsius / 80 – 85 Fahrenheit.
- The best time of year to dive in Raja Ampat is September to April.
- BYO Alcohol Policy on Spirits and Wines only.

INCLUDES

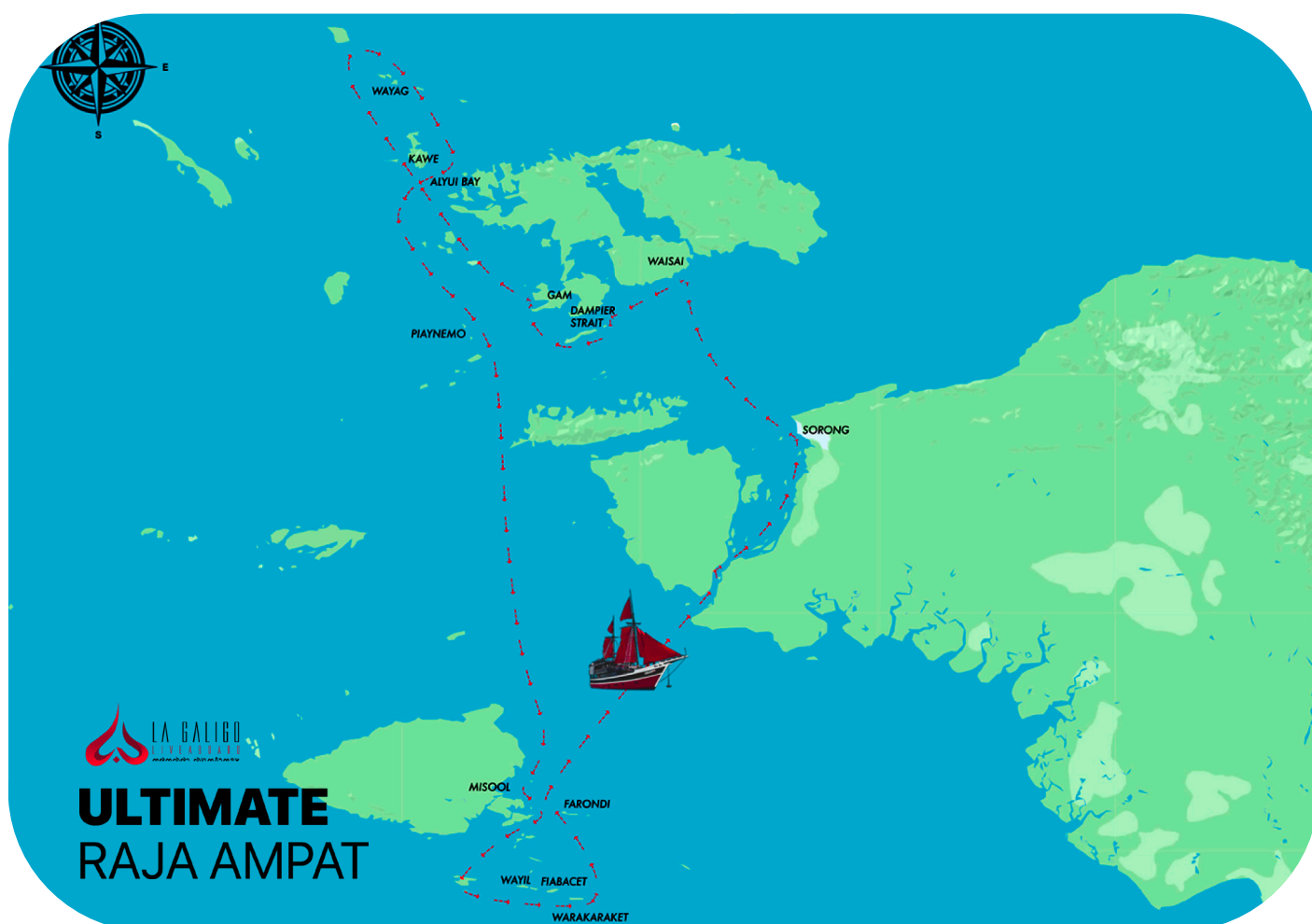
- Transfers to and from the harbour from your hotel or the airport on the day of embarkation and disembarkation.
- All meals and post dive refreshments / snacks, coffee and tea.
- Diving services including 12L tanks, weights and belts , SMB & reel, reef hook, air fills, dive computers, snorkelling equipment, dive guides and dive tenders.
- Land excursions where applicable.

EXCLUDES

- | | |
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| • Flights and airport taxes | • Private dive / snorkel guides |
| • Travel and dive Insurance | • Courses |
| • Visas and associated fees | • Soft drinks, wine and beer |
| • Airport to Hotel /Hotel to Airport Transfer | • La Galigo merchandise |
| • Marine park fees including port clearances, ranger fees, anchorage charges and village donations | • Staff gratuities (many of our guests base their tips around 10% of the cost of the trip). Tipping is optional but greatly appreciated! |
| • Dive rental equipment | • Fuel surcharges (may fluctuate with markets, you may be asked to pay an extra fuel allowance of up to 30 days before departure, of no more than US \$ 20 per person per day) |
| • Nitrox | |
| • 15 litre tanks | |

HIGHLIGHTS

- Observe the most biodiverse thriving coral reefs in full of colour, teeming with life, including sites such as Melissa's Garden and Cape Kri in the North, to Boo Windows to the south.
- Hike both Penemu and our secret Wayag lookout points which have become synonymous with Raja Ampat.
- Take in the pristine reefs of Misool, to the action-packed Equatorial island of Kawe.
- Dive with Giant Oceanic Manta Rays and huge schools of pelagic fish through from the South to the North of Raja Ampat.
- Meet the locals in quaint and remote villages to get a taste of day-to-day life in paradise, and witness daily breath-taking sunsets from one of many of the idyllic beaches scattered throughout the area.
- Discover a diverse array of some of the most desirable macro subjects you've seen or read about, with world class muck diving on a multitude of sites throughout your journey with us.
- Bid farewell to your new buddies with an Al Fresco BBQ cooked up by our wonderful chefs.



DAY 1

SORONG TO WAISAI



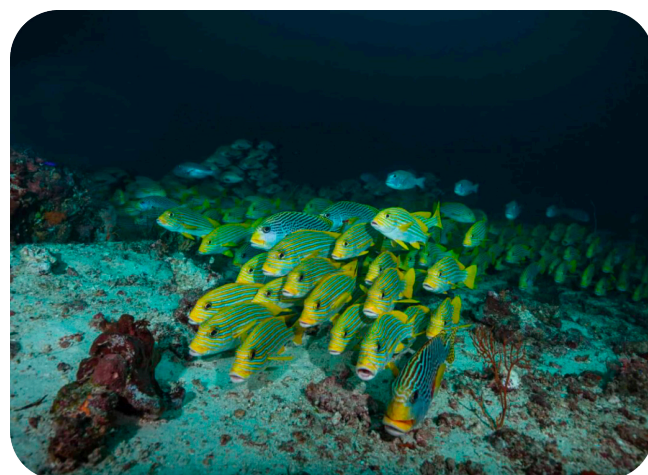
Day one starts with your pickup from either your hotel or the airport. If we are picking you up from your hotel, it is generally around 07:30 – 08:00, if you are arriving on the day of departure, it is important that your arrival time is before 07:30. We will then head directly to Sorong Port, where you will be taken to the vessel.

Once onboard you will be met by the Cruise Director and a welcome drink. After you have been shown to your rooms and unpacked your luggage, it's time for a welcome briefing before we have some lunch, then you have some time to relax and soak up the amazing surroundings en route to our clearance point, and then onwards to our first dive of the trip.

Our 'welcome dive' is usually conducted at the nearby island of **Saonek Kecil**. The waters are generally calm, and is a perfect spot to get the diving going. After the check out dive you can get nice and comfortable in your new surroundings and get excited about the first full day of diving tomorrow.

DAY 2.1

DAMPIER STRAIT

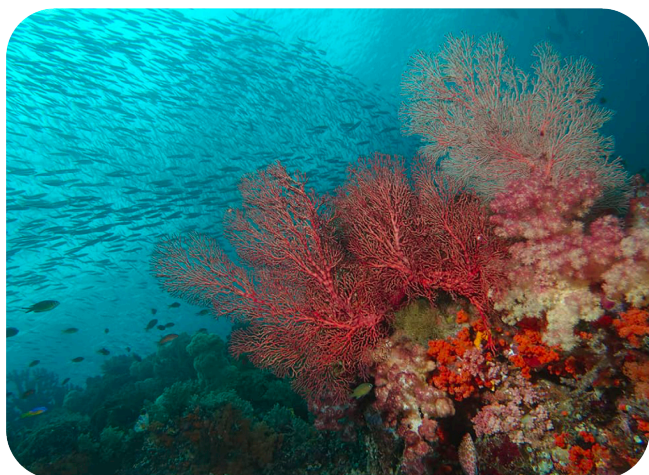


Whilst in the central Dampier Strait we will conduct 4 dives. This is what we typically aim for in a day throughout the trip, although some days are a little different as the number of dives may be reduced by doing a land tour or having to do a large crossing from one region to another (Raja Ampat is a big place!).

The typical schedule is morning dive, breakfast, mid morning dive, lunch, afternoon dive, afternoon snack, night dive, dinner.... DIVE, EAT, SLEEP REPEAT! The top dive sites in this area are **Blue Magic Dive Site**, home to majestic Oceanic **Manta Rays**, and other large pelagics such as **Spanish Mackerel** and **Bigeye Trevally**. Next up is one of the Dampier Strait's highlights, we will head to the nearby island of **Mioskon Dive Site**, to dive its spectacularly colourful reef with an assortment of large bommies encrusted with hard and soft corals.

DAY 2.2

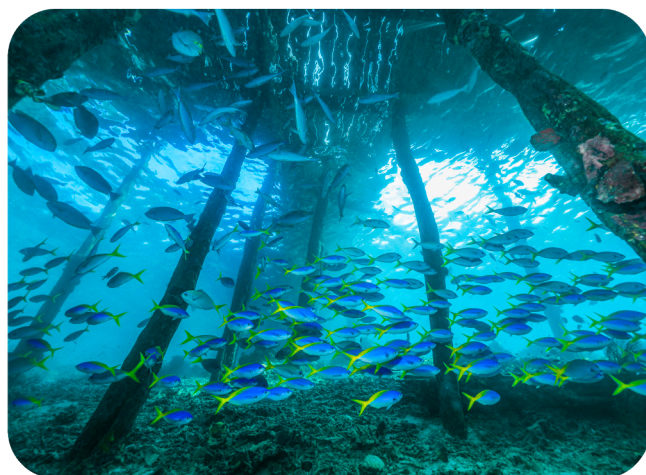
DAMPIER STRAIT



This will also be our anchor spot later on, and in the evening, we may get a chance to see nocturnal flying foxes leave Mioskon in large numbers as they begin their day. After a hearty lunch, we will dive the amazing **Friwen Dive Site**. Here you will have the chance to see some great pelagic action with **Long Jaw Mackerel** and **Black Tip Reef Sharks** a plenty. We will give you a bit of a break from diving until the sun is setting and we are ready to jump into the water for the first night dive of our trip. Starting off with a bang we visit **Batu Lima Dive Site**, to look for the nocturnal Raja Ampat **walking shark!** Your first endemic nocturnal Raja Ampat species for the trip.

DAY 3

DAMPIER STRAIT

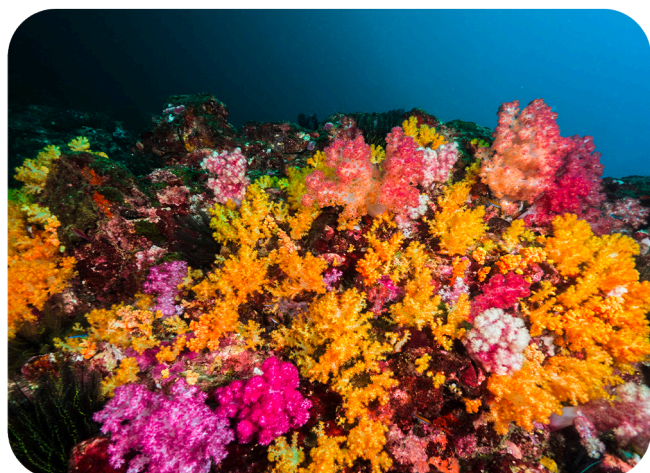


Cape Kri, arguably the top house reef in the world, was made famous by Raja Ampat pioneer **Max Ammer**, and is next on the itinerary. The other dive sites we will be visiting today are dive on **Kri's south coast**, in **Yenbuba Village's Jetty Dive Site**.

Our other site for the day is **Sawandarek Jetty Dive Site**, further down the southern coast of **Kri island**, is where you will probably feel like you're in an aquarium – only the fish are incredibly numerous, wild and free. Both of these sites are stunning dives and we are normally met by the smiles of the village children sitting on the jetty as we surface. As an added bonus we have also been known to see giant Oceanic **Manta Rays** around **Sawandarek** from time to time. This will be our anchor point for the night as you soak in the stunning sunset colour changes and views over the tranquil village.

DAY 4

GAM



Our morning kicks off at the tranquil **Manta Sandy Dive Site**, for an opportunity to dive with the Manta Ray population often located here on the cleaning station. We then head to **Gam Island**. There are some great dive sites around this area with vibrant fish covered reefs and plenty of stunning macro subjects.

Two sites we regularly visit in Gam are **Citrus Ridge Dive Site** and **Mayhem Dive Site**. Citrus ridge is aptly named for the plethora of orange and yellow soft corals on the reef. Mayhem gets it's name from the intensity of pelagic feeding frenzies amongst the schools of bait fish on the top of the submerged sea mount.

DAY 5.1

WAYAG & KAWE



Awake bright and early to witness sunrise north of the equator as you have just passed from the southern hemisphere to the northern hemisphere overnight. Jump on our tenders as we go cruising between the **limestone formations** that make up the island of **Wayag**, in preparation for the morning's hike.

These limestone islands and pinnacles have become synonymous with Raja Ampat, and the bay is also home to the worlds first confirmed Manta Ray nursery. The best time to hike this hill is early morning before temperatures rise, the rewards for climbing are well worth it. The beaches here are also pristine, with fine white sand and turquoise waters surrounding the limestone cliffs of the islands.

After getting back from the hike we will start sailing to **Kawe**, an island located exactly on the equator and is also one of our favourite islands to dive in north of Raja Ampat.

DAY 5.2

WAYAG & KAWE



Dive sites visited here are very heavily dependent on day-to-day unpredictable conditions such as swell, but one of our favourite sites in the area is a very colourful coral reef (somewhat ironically) known as **Black Rock Dive Site**. **Eagle Rock Dive Site** (which comprises 3 separate dive sites) is well known for its **Pygmy Seahorse** as well as its Manta populations, and we will dive these sites early afternoon.

DAY 6

- PIANEMO - (A.K.A. PENEMU)



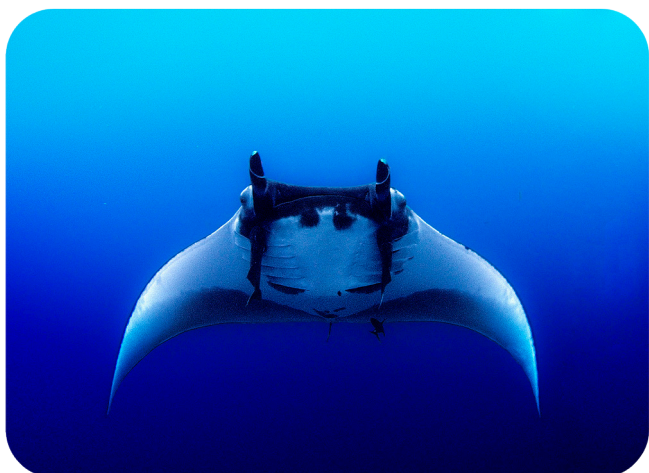
Melissa's Garden Dive Site is undoubtedly the top dive in this area, with a staggering number of coral and fish species packed into this small piece of marine real estate. It gets its name from an amazing hard coral garden situated on a reef between 3 small islands. Its beauty needs to be seen to be believed. Another one of the places we may visit today is Keruo Channel Dive Site.

A great gentle drift dive down a mini wall and slope on the edge of **Keru Island**. One of our other favourites we often visit in this area is **Batu Rufus Dive Site**. This dramatic dive site has a **40m plus drop off wall** to the blue. Amazing views when you sit at 20 meters depth and look up and down at the stark landscape you are floating between.

The iconic limestone pinnacles have become as much a part of the Raja Ampat experience as the diving has, and **Pianemo lagoon/lookout** is just one of many such stunning formations. The best time to hike this hill is late afternoon, when the temperature has dropped and the lighting starts to turn golden, but the rewards for climbing are well worth it.

DAY 7

BATANTA



On day 7 we will head to a lesser-known corner of Raja Ampat, an area known as **Dayang**, at the western end of **Batanta island**. The **Dayang Dive Site** takes place over a shallow, sandy reef which is actually a magnet for Manta Rays, which come to this area to feed as well as conduct routine visits to their "**cleaning stations**" or "**manta spa**" (ask our Cruise Director to tell you about this fascinating aspect of their behaviour).

This is still a bit of a new area for diving itineraries in Raja Ampat as this cleaning station was only discovered a few years ago so for those coming back for a second round at Raja Ampat this may be new. In the afternoon as you relax, we will set sail for the southern islands of Raja Ampat, the biggest crossing of the trip will have you waking up tomorrow morning in **Misool**.

DAY 8

WAYIL MISOOL



Misool is a huge island, with an overwhelming multitude of smaller, satellite island clusters. There are in fact numerous "regions" within this area itself. If being surrounded by limestone pinnacles does not instill in you a sense of awe, doing a **night dive** amongst these towering peaks surely will! Today we will show you the dive sites around **Wayil**, where you will undoubtedly experience the feeling of being far, far away from the rest of civilization ... An outstanding selection of dive sites are located fairly close to each other in Wayil, one of which is the blockbuster – **Four Kings Dive Site**, a group of towering pinnacles which are almost too large to circumnavigate in a single dive, which also happens to attract giant Oceanic Manta Rays.

Giant Trevally, Napoleon Wrasse, and large Snapper are all often found here. Another favourite we will dive into is **Barracuda Rock Dive Site**, a pinnacle with an unusual **underwater cavern**, which is also home to a patrolling tribe of schooling Barracuda. **Neptune's Sea Fan Dive Site** is another great spot we regularly visit here, it gets its name from the vast number of gorgonian sea fans on the site.

DAY 9

FIABACET/BOO – MISOOL



The diving in this part of Misool is filled with the pristine coral life in the heart of Misool and Giant Manta Rays, close to the Eco Resort.

Whale Rock Dive Site, Tank Rock Dive Site and **Nudi Rock Dive Site** are all abundant in beautiful soft coral and schools of fish, and conditions and logistics with Misool Eco Resort will decide which of the sites are dived.

Weather permitting due to it's open ocean location, we will dive **Shadow Reef Dive Site** (a.k.a. **Karang Bayangan/Magic Mountain**), undoubtedly the blockbuster dive site in this remote corner of Raja Ampat, located in the unprotected southern waters of Misool. You can often find huge Manta Rays gliding across this incredibly **'hard to beat'** dive site.

DAY 10

WARAKARAKET - MISOOL



One of our dives today is at the iconic **Boo Window Dive Site**. Unique in topography, the reef has window-like swim-throughs and a great chance for some wide-angle photos. Secret: the sea fans here often conceal Pygmy Seahorses! **Anchovy Dive Site** is one of my personal favourites on this day. An explosive dive site where you can see schools of **Mobula Rays** dart in amongst schools of anchovies scattering them for just long enough for you to have a window through the reef to the circling Mantas on the cleaning station on the other side.

Yilliet Kecil is the night dive around here that is not to be missed, with excellent sea fan growth and stunning bommies to explore. There are also hidden beaches in this area if you fancy an evening beach walk all by yourself.

DAY 11

DARAM

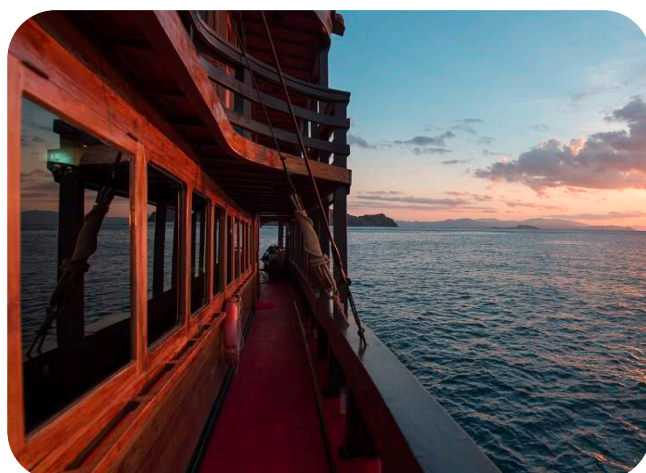


On the penultimate day of the trip, we will start at **Andiamo Dive Site**. Another spectacular site to end up your southern Raja Ampat journey at. Here you will see Pygmy seahorse, hunting Giant Trevallies and Barracuda's galore. The final dive of your trip will conclude on **Warna Berwarna Dive Site**, you can expect lots of seafans, schooling Fusiliers and Bumphead Parrot Fish.

Our journey to Sorong may take around 18 hours depending on currents and prevailing weather conditions. But after an incredible trip, our crew will make sure you're comfortable while they prepare a night of food, song, and dance to party the night away with you while we set sail for Sorong.

DAY 12

DISEMBARK IN SORONG



La Galigo will be anchored up in the morning around 5:00 A.M. in Sorong, in preparation for you to catch your flight, or check in to your hotel.

Guests are welcome to stay onboard until 11:00 A.M., and our staff will assist you with transportation to your desired location.

After breakfast, guests may also take the time to exchange photos and swap contact details to keep in touch with new friends and dive buddies!