

Malaillo & Malayeka Liveboard

Alor - Banda Neira - 12 Nights /13 Days| Up to 40 Dives

Trip Overview

This extraordinary expedition traverses the remote islands of Eastern Indonesia, connecting Alor and Ambon through some of the most pristine and least-visited waters of the Banda Sea. Combining world-class muck diving, untouched coral reefs, volcanic islands, remote atolls, historic spice islands, and some of Indonesia's best opportunities for hammerhead shark encounters, this journey offers a truly unique liveboard experience.

Highlights include the famous muck diving of Alor, the pristine reefs of Wetar and Nyata, the remote atolls of Nil Desperandum and Dusbourg, the volcanic islands of Serua and Manuk, the historic Banda Islands, and multiple opportunities to encounter schooling hammerhead sharks throughout the Banda Sea.

Day 1: Embarkation (Alor -ARD)

Guests board the vessel in Kalabahi, Alor, followed by cabin allocation, vessel orientation, safety procedures, and dive briefings.

Depending on embarkation time and harbour clearance procedures, a check dive will be conducted in the world-famous muck diving sites of Kalabahi Bay. Renowned for its rare and unusual macro marine life, the bay is considered one of Indonesia's premier muck diving destinations.

If time permits, a night dive will also be offered.

Day 2 – Alor (3 Dives)

Begin the day at **Munaseli**, located in Northeast Pantar, one of Alor's most celebrated dive sites. This spectacular wall and ridge system is home to abundant reef fish, vibrant coral growth, and occasional hammerhead shark sightings.

The second dive explores the beautiful underwater arch formations around **Pulau Ternate**, featuring dramatic topography and diverse marine life.

During the crossing, the vessel will make a stop near **Sikka Island**, where guests may have the opportunity to spot dugongs in their natural habitat.

Additional dives will be conducted around the Alor archipelago depending on sea conditions and marine life activity.

Day 3 – Wetar (4 Dives)

Explore the pristine reefs surrounding Wetar Island, one of the Banda Sea's most remote and rarely visited destinations.

Dives feature dramatic walls, healthy hard coral gardens, exceptional visibility, and abundant reef fish. The region's isolation has helped preserve its reefs in remarkable condition.

Day 4 – Penemu (4 Dives)

Nyata offers spectacular underwater landscapes featuring walls, caverns, swim-throughs, ridges, and untouched hard coral gardens extending from the shallows into deeper water. The excellent coral coverage and healthy reef ecosystem make this one of the hidden highlights of the expedition.

Day 5 – Terbang Selatan (4 Dives)

Dive along dramatic walls draped in colorful soft corals and large overhangs.

The site is famous for its giant barrel sponges, healthy reef systems, and excellent pelagic activity. Dogtooth tuna are frequently encountered, along with large schools of reef fish.

Day 6 – Karang Nil Desperandum (4 Dives)

Located in the middle of the Banda Sea, this remote oceanic atoll offers some of the expedition's most exciting diving. Steep walls, strong currents, and nutrient-rich waters attract large pelagic species, including the possibility of encountering schools of hammerhead sharks.

Day 7 – Karang Dusbourg (4 Dives)

Situated close to Nil Desperandum, Karang Dusbourg is another remote atoll featuring walls, plateaus, and excellent pelagic action. The area is renowned for its clear water, healthy reefs, and opportunities to encounter schooling hammerhead sharks.

Day 8 – Pulau Serua (4 Dives)

The volcanic island of Serua rises dramatically from the Banda Sea and offers thrilling diving around its steep underwater slopes. Strong currents and deep-water upwellings attract pelagic species, making this another excellent location for hammerhead shark encounters.

Day 9 – Pulau Manuk (4 Dives)

One of the Banda Sea's most unique dive destinations, Manuk combines dramatic walls, pinnacles, ridges, and abundant marine life. The island is particularly famous for its large population of sea snakes, which are frequently encountered throughout the dives. Schools of hammerhead sharks are also regularly sighted in the deeper waters surrounding the island.

Day 10 – Banda Neira (2 Dives & Excursion)

Begin the day with a land excursion to explore the historic Banda Islands, including visits to Dutch colonial landmarks and the famous fortress that overlooks Banda Neira. Following the excursion, diving resumes at:

Pohon Miring

A beautiful wall dive featuring swim-throughs, healthy coral growth, and occasional pelagic visitors.

Batu Kapal

A spectacular pinnacle and ridge system offering impressive fish life and beautiful underwater scenery.

Day 11 – Pulau Suanggi (4 Dives)

Pulau Suanggi is one of the Banda Sea's most reliable locations for hammerhead shark encounters. The island also offers beautiful hard coral gardens, excellent fish biomass, and frequent sightings of large dogtooth tuna patrolling the reef.

Day 12: Nusa Laut (2 Dives)

The final diving day explores the pristine reefs of Nusa Laut.

Known for its spectacular hard coral gardens and healthy reef ecosystems, the area offers excellent wide-angle photography opportunities and occasional hammerhead shark encounters.

After the final dive, the vessel begins its overnight cruise towards Ambon.

Day 13 – Disembarkation (Ambon-AMQ)

Please note that the latest disembarkation from Malaillo is **11:00 AM**. Guests with later departing flights will be transferred directly to the Airport at 11:00 AM, while guests with confirmed transit hotel reservations will be transferred to their respective hotels following disembarkation. No onboard stay is available after 11:00 AM.



IMPORTANT NOTE:

Flying After Diving: The last dive of the trip will take place on Day 12. Divers are strongly advised to observe a 24-hour surface interval before flying.

Travel Tip:

Arrival Recommendation: We highly recommend arriving in the city of embarkation one day prior to the cruise departure and staying at a local hotel. This provides flexibility in the event of unexpected flight or luggage delays, or cancellations.

Departure Recommendation: We strongly advise against booking international flights on the same day as disembarkation, to ensure a smooth and stress-free transfer.

Itinerary Disclaimer: This itinerary is provided as a sample only and may be adjusted due to weather conditions, sea conditions, local regulations, or other operational considerations. The final route, timing, dive sites, and activities remain at the discretion of the Captain and Cruise Director, who will always prioritize guest safety while striving to deliver the best possible experience.

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