

Malaillo & Malayeka Liveboard

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

Trip Overview

Embark on an extraordinary 12-night expedition across the Banda Sea, connecting the historic spice islands of Banda Neira with the remote volcanic islands of the Forgotten Islands before ending in Alor. This journey is designed for adventurous divers seeking pristine reefs, dramatic walls, vibrant coral gardens, and some of Indonesia's best opportunities to encounter schooling hammerhead sharks.

Dive the legendary waters of Pulau Suanggi, Manuk, Serua, Karang Dusbourg, and Karang Nil Desperandum, where pelagic action, sea snakes, dogtooth tuna, and untouched coral ecosystems await. Continue west to the rarely visited reefs of Wetar and Alor, renowned for spectacular walls, rich marine biodiversity, and world-class muck diving in Kalabahi Bay.

Combining remote destinations, exceptional diving, volcanic landscapes, and the rich cultural heritage of Banda Neira, this expedition offers an unforgettable adventure through one of Indonesia's most spectacular diving regions.

Day 1 – Embarkation | Ambon (AMQ)

Guests board Malaillo in Ambon before departing for the Banda Sea. After the general boat and dive briefings, enjoy a check dive at the world-famous muck diving sites of Laha in Ambon Bay. A night dive may be offered depending on guest arrival times.

Day 2 – Pulau Suanggi (4 Dives)

Spend the day diving around Pulau Suanggi, renowned for its frequent hammerhead shark encounters. Explore healthy hard coral reefs teeming with reef fish, while keeping an eye out for schooling hammerheads and large dogtooth tuna.

Day 3 – Banda Neira (2 Dives + Land Excursion)

Begin with a guided visit to the historic Dutch fortress overlooking Banda Neira. Afterwards, enjoy two spectacular dives at Pohon Miring and Batu Kapal, featuring dramatic walls, pinnacles, swim-throughs, and abundant reef life.

Day 4 – Pulau Manuk (4 Dives)

Dive the unique volcanic island of Manuk, famous for its rugged underwater topography, numerous sea snakes, healthy reefs, and excellent chances of encountering schooling hammerhead sharks.

Day 5 – Pulau Serua (4 Dives)

Explore the pristine reefs surrounding this remote volcanic island. Expect beautiful coral gardens, impressive fish life, and another opportunity to encounter schooling hammerhead sharks.

Day 6 – Karang Dusbourg (4 Dives)

Dive the spectacular atoll of Karang Dusbourg, where walls, plateaus, and nutrient-rich waters attract reef sharks, schooling fish, and seasonal hammerhead sharks.

Day 7 – Karang Nil Desperandum (4 Dives) Visit one of Indonesia's most remote offshore atolls. This isolated reef is renowned for its pristine coral, abundant pelagic life, and excellent opportunities to encounter schooling hammerhead sharks.

Day 8 – Terbang Selatan (4 Dives)

Explore dramatic wall dives covered with colorful soft corals and enormous barrel sponges. Dogtooth tuna, reef sharks, and schooling fish are common highlights.

Day 9 – Nyata (4 Dives)

Discover spectacular underwater landscapes featuring caverns, ridges, swim-throughs, and untouched coral gardens extending from shallow reefs into deeper walls.

Day 10 – Wetar Island (3 Dives)

Dive the pristine reefs of Wetar Island, one of the least-visited gems of the Banda Sea. Enjoy healthy hard coral gardens, dramatic walls, and thriving marine biodiversity.

Day 11 – Alor (4 Dives)

Experience some of Alor's signature dive sites. Dive the spectacular walls of Munaseli in North-East Pantar, continue to the famous underwater arch at Pulau Ternate, and finish the day exploring the vibrant reefs around Pantar Island.

Day 12 – Kalabahi Bay (2 Dives)

Conclude the expedition with two unforgettable muck dives in Kalabahi Bay, one of Indonesia's premier macro diving destinations. Search for frogfish, nudibranchs, seahorses, octopus, ghost pipefish, and numerous rare critters.

Day 13 – Disembarkation (Alor - ARD)

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.
