JELAJAHI LAUT

Ambon and Banda Neira

Ambon to Ambon | Ambon Bay and the Banda Islands



The muck diving of Ambon Bay meets the reefs, seamounts and volcanic slopes of the Banda Sea, part of the Spice Islands.

Ambon Bay is excellent for frogfish, Ambon scorpionfish, nudibranchs, rhinopias and mimic octopus.

Remote seamounts and pinnacles in the Banda Sea are potential hotspots for schooling hammerhead sharks, on what is called the pelagic highway.

Around the Banda Islands, steep walls with great visibility and schools of fusiliers and snappers sit beside pinnacles that attract tuna and mackerel.

On land, Banda Neira has Fort Belgica, nutmeg plantations and the old colonial town.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
9 nights	Ambon	Ambon	Advanced, 10 dives







Your itinerary

STOP 1

Day 1: Ambon

A welcome briefing and a tour of the boat, then a check dive in the muck sites of Ambon Bay, starting at a site like Laha, which is excellent for frogfish, Ambon scorpionfish and nudibranchs.

STOP 2

Day 2: Muck diving and the journey to Banda

A morning exploring more of Ambon's muck sites, such as Rhino City for rhinopias or Critter Junction for mimic octopus.
In the late afternoon the boat starts its overnight journey across the Banda Sea.

STOP 3

Day 3: The pelagic highway

The first full day of diving in the Banda Sea is often on the remote seamounts and pinnacles. Sites like Nil Desperandum or Suanggi Island are potential hotspots for schooling hammerhead sharks.

STOP 4

Days 4 to 6: Banda Neira

Several days around the heart of the Banda Islands.
Lava Flow, at Gunung Api, is a young reef that has regrown on a lava flow.
Pulau Hatta is famous for steep walls, visibility and schools of fusiliers, snappers and groupers.
Karang Hatta is a pinnacle that attracts tuna and mackerel.
Batu Kapal is a submerged pinnacle with schooling fish and reef sharks.
A tour of Banda Neira visits Fort Belgica, the nutmeg plantations and the old colonial town.

STOP 5

Day 7: Run and Ai

The western side of the Banda Islands, where the reefs are in pristine condition.
Nailaka is a reef with a good chance of eagle rays and turtles, and Pulau Ai has walls and pinnacles with healthy coral and large schools of fish.

STOP 6

Day 8: Back towards Ambon

A few last dives in the Banda area before the overnight crossing back to Ambon.

STOP 7

Days 9 and 10: Ambon Bay

The last days of diving, with sites you may have missed, such as Pintu Kota, an archway dive with beautiful corals, or a final night dive for macro life.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Topside

A tour of Banda Neira, with Fort Belgica, the nutmeg plantations and the old colonial town.

Who can join

You need to be Advanced Open Water certified with at least 10 dives to join most of these trips.

No-fly time

The last dive is on the final day, so observe the 24 hour no-fly surface interval before your flight home.

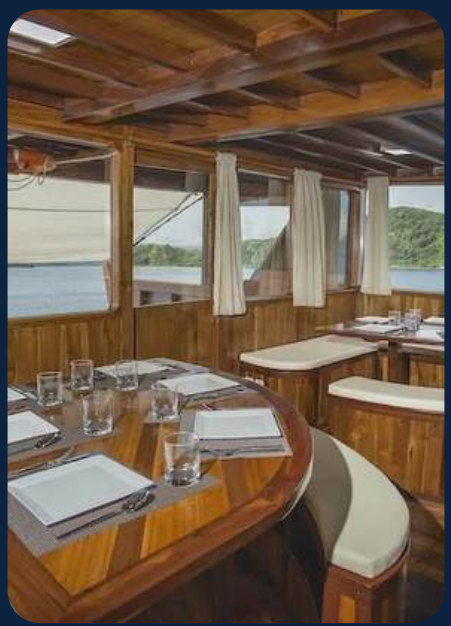
Check in

A taxi collects you from Ambon airport (AMQ) or your hotel and takes you to the meeting point, and you then transfer to Jelajahi Laut.

Check out

The boat returns to Ambon harbour at about 3 to 4 pm on the last day, and a transfer takes you to your hotel. Your flight home is from Ambon airport.







INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Transport from the airport or your hotel to the harbour, and from the harbour to your hotel
- Full room and board, with fresh towels and linen
- Tea, coffee, water and soft drinks
- Tanks and weights
- Dive guides
- Meals cooked by the onboard chef

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- National park and harbour fee, paid on board in cash and shown on our trip listings
- Full equipment rental and 15 litre tanks
- Nitrox
- Alcohol, beer and wine, and onboard purchases
- Starlink data packages
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Dive, trip and travel insurance

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook
- Dive, trip and travel cancellation insurance, which is mandatory
- Your own dive computer, which is mandatory (one can be rented)
- Cash in Indonesian Rupiah for the national park fee, which cannot be paid by card
- 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 sample itinerary only and the final route can vary

Good to know

Weather and tides play a big role in safety and planning, so the Cruise Director and Captain plan each day accordingly

Good to know

The national park and harbour fee is paid on board in cash, in addition to the cruise price