SOLITUDE ADVENTURER

Ambon, Banda and Raja Ampat

Ambon to Sorong | Banda Sea, Koon, Misool and the Dampier Strait

From the Spice Islands of the Banda Sea to the reefs of Raja Ampat, one way across eastern Indonesia.

The Banda Sea has healthy corals and giant sponges, with reefs and walls full of fish and a chance of hammerhead sharks.

Further on come drifts over deep walls with reef sharks, then Misool, with giant gorgonian fans hosting pygmy seahorses.

With luck, the walking shark or a manta ray appears, and the final reefs hold wobbegong, whitetip and grey reef sharks.

Snake Island, an active volcano with sea birds circling overhead, adds a touch of drama.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
12 nights	Ambon	Sorong	Certified divers







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Ambon

Check dive

The crew meets you at Pattimura Airport.
After you settle in and register there is a safety briefing, and a check dive at Laha, with its black sand macro sites.
Overnight Solitude Adventurer sails to the Banda Islands.

DAY 2-3

Banda Sea

3 to 4 dives a day

Healthy corals and giant sponges, with reefs and walls full of fish and a chance of hammerhead sharks.
An optional land tour covers a Dutch fort and spice trade history.

DAY 4

Manuk Island

3 to 4 dives

A volcano in the middle of nowhere, with sea birds circling overhead.
Beautiful corals and many fish species, and dives with many sea snakes, as Manuk is also called Snake Island.
The occasional smell of sulphur and smoke rise from this active volcano.

DAY 5

Koon Island

3 to 4 dives

Drift dives over sloping sand, patchy reef and deep walls, with schools of reef fish and reef sharks, and possibly large Napoleon wrasse or goliath groupers.

DAY 6-8

Misool

3 to 4 dives

The south of Raja Ampat around the big island of Misool, with vibrant coral reefs, giant gorgonian fans hosting pygmy seahorses, pinnacles, ridges and small islands.
With luck, the endemic Raja Ampat epaulette (walking) shark or a manta ray.

DAY 9-11

Fam, Gam and Mansuar

3 to 4 dives a day

Reefs, pinnacles and slope walls with wobbegong, whitetip, blacktip and grey reef sharks, plus mangroves and forested islands.
One optional land excursion.

DAY 12

Raja Ampat

2 morning dives

The last day of diving, with two morning dives, then a cruise back to Sorong.

DAY 13

Sorong

Disembark in Sorong by 11 am, with a transfer to the airport.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Banda Neira

An optional tour of a Dutch fort.

Manuk

Snake Island.

Misool

Pygmy seahorses.

Raja Ampat

One optional land excursion.

Check in

The crew meets you at the airport and check in is from 8 am, with embarkation between 8 am and 11 am. A check dive is possible, schedule allowing.

Check out

Check out is by 11 am on the last day, with a transfer to the airport.

Last dive

There are no dives on the disembarkation day. The boat asks divers to keep a minimum 18 hour gap after their last dive before flying, so please check this when you book your flight home.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Airport transfers at embarkation and disembarkation
- Air-conditioned en-suite cabin in your chosen category
- Full board, with snacks and all non-alcoholic drinks
- Three or four guided boat dives a day, including a night dive
- Check in from 8 am, with dinner included on the first day

NOT INCLUDED

- Flights and hotels before and after the cruise
- Marine park fee, port clearance and diving permit, paid on board
- Alcoholic drinks
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Rental dive equipment
- Nitrox, at an extra charge per day
- A fuel surcharge, payable on board, if it applies
- 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

Good to know

Divers should keep the 18 hour no-fly gap after their last dive