TIARE

Halmahera, Banda Sea and Ambon

Ternate to Ambon | Halmahera, Misool and the Banda Sea

Current-rich small islands off Halmahera have surprisingly healthy reefs and a huge amount of schooling fish, with sharks and mantas feeding in the shallows of a lagoon.

Misool brings a drift through sea fans, a seamount full of fish and healthy coral, and, on a calm day, sharks, schooling fish and cleaning mantas.

Koon lies over a trench deeper than 3,000 metres, with large schools of black snapper, batfish and barracuda.

In the Banda Islands, hammerhead sharks have been known to visit the deep walls and sea mounts.

Ambon Bay finishes with muck diving for rhinopias, frogfish and mimic octopus.

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







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Embarkation in Ternate

The flight usually arrives in Ternate in the morning and you go directly to Tiare and make yourselves comfortable.
You can do a check dive today, depending on how you feel.

DAY 2

Goraici and the Halmahera Sea

Dives

A series of small islands with surprisingly healthy reefs.
This current-rich location has a huge amount of schooling fish: surgeonfish, ocean triggerfish, snappers, fusiliers, rainbow runners and sharks, and mantas have been seen feeding in the shallows of a lagoon.

DAY 3

Bacan Island

Dives

A dramatic wall dive off Tanjung Marengarango, with schooling barracuda, snapper and fusiliers.
In the afternoon, muck diving along the boat-building beach at Penambuan, hunting for octopus, nudibranchs, frogfish, seahorses and cuttlefish.

DAY 4

Misool, Wayil Batan

Dives

Wedding Cake and Barracuda Rock, a drift through the sea fans of Gorgonian Passage, and Four Kings, a seamount full of fish and healthy coral.
A hike up the steep stairs to the Love Lagoon is well worth the view.

DAY 5

Misool, Fiabacet and Boo

Dives

Boo Windows, Nudi Rock, Tank Rock and Whale Rock.
On a calm day, Magic Mountain, with cruising sharks, schooling fish and cleaning mantas.

DAY 6

Misool, Daram

Dives

Daram is the most easterly point of Misool on this trip.
Andiamo is large enough for at least two dives, with sea fans, fusiliers and batfish.
Candy Store has huge sponges, soft corals and sea fans, and Warna Berwarna, meaning vibrant colours, is a place for sea fans in all colours and pygmy seahorses.

DAY 7

Pisang Island

2 dives

Two small rocks and two islands between Misool and South Halmahera, with large coral heads in the shallows and soft corals in the deep, a school of bumphead parrotfish and passing tuna or mackerel.
Tiare then sails overnight to the Patintie Strait, 100 nautical miles.

DAY 8

Koon

Dives

Koon lies south east of Seram over a trench deeper than 3,000 metres.
The one dive site, Too Many Fish, has large schools of black snapper, batfish, barracuda and fusiliers, with groupers, sharks and sometimes an eagle ray in the deep.
Strong currents can make it challenging but unforgettable.

DAY 9

Run, Hatta and the Banda Sea

4 dives

First the island of Run, then Hatta, both with big ocean pelagics and great fish life.
After the first two dives Tiare spends time around the Spice Islands in the shadow of the Gunung Api volcano, with the hard coral at the Lava Flow and the fishy pinnacles of Batu Kapal.
Late in the afternoon there is a sunset dive for a world class mandarin fish experience.

DAY 10

Banda Neira tour

2 dives

Explore Pulau Neira and its historic little town of Dutch and English period houses, with the well preserved Fort Belgica and its views over the water.
Visit a traditional nutmeg plantation with nutmeg, cinnamon and clove trees, and enjoy plantation tea with nutmeg jam, candies and cake.
After the tour, two more dives in the Banda Islands on deep walls, sea mounts and drift dives, where hammerhead sharks have been known to visit, before heading north to Nusa Laut.

DAY 11

Nusa Laut

Dives

A small island close to Ambon, where the village protects the fantastic dive site of Amet Reef.
Eagle rays, a huge school of jacks, hammerhead sharks and even a dugong have been seen here, and bumphead parrotfish feed in the shallows.

DAY 12

Ambon Bay

Dives

The rest of the adventure is spent muck diving in Ambon Bay, a world class destination.
Look out for rhinopias, frogfish, ghost pipefish, nudibranchs, leaf fish, mandarin fish, ribbon eels and, at night, the coconut, starry night and mimic octopus.

DAY 13

Disembarkation in Ambon

After breakfast and a group photo with the crew, you are transferred at 9 am to the airport or a local hotel for your onward journey.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Suanggi

Hammerhead sharks.

Banda Neira

Fort Belgica and a nutmeg plantation.

Koon

Too Many Fish.

Melissa Garden

A coral garden with soft corals.

Check in

The crew welcome you at the airport and take you to the boat. Check in is at the latest by 12 noon on embarkation day, and arriving a day early is recommended.

Check out

Check out is at 9 am, with a transfer to the airport or your hotel.

Last dive

The last dive is on the penultimate day of the trip. Divers should wait at least 24 hours after their last dive before flying, so please keep to the no-flying rule when you book your flight home.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Airport or hotel transfers at embarkation and disembarkation
- Cabin with private bathroom
- Five meals a day, with soft drinks, tea, coffee, natural juice and local beers
- Up to 4 dives per dive day, with 1 or 2 dives on the final dive day
- Weight belt and weights
- Shore activities and excursions according to the programme
- Light laundry service
- Government taxes

NOT INCLUDED

- Flights, and hotels and meals before and after the cruise
- Environmental safety fees, paid in advance with the final balance
- Administration and port clearance fee, and fuel surcharge
- Alcoholic drinks, espresso and cappuccino
- Rental dive gear, other than cylinders and weights
- Nitrox, charged per tank
- On-board purchases, private tours and telecommunications
- Crew tips, which are customary
- 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 flip flops
- Personal medication and toiletries
- Passport valid for at least 6 months

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