SEAHORSE

Raja Ampat, Halmahera and Lembeh

Sorong to Bitung | Misool, Halmahera and the Lembeh Strait

The legendary Raja Ampat area has long been thought of as the last frontier.

A sense of peacefulness surrounds you when exploring the area: one of the last, rare untouched places on earth.

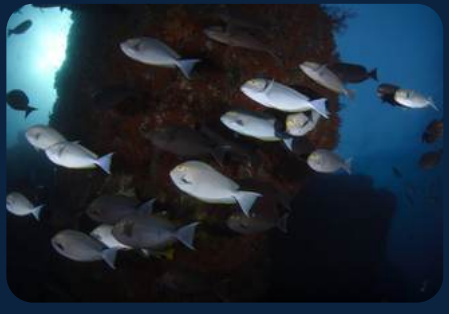
This cruise is a fantastic combination of Raja Ampat, Halmahera and the Lembeh Strait in the north-east of Sulawesi.

In Lembeh the strangest critters live on the sandy slopes, hairy frogfish, mimic octopus, Rhinopias, ghost pipefish and many nudibranchs.

Misool has wide angle shots, mantas and massive schools of fish, and Halmahera has seamounts covered in soft coral, patrolling blacktip sharks and the walking shark on night dives.

At the remote island of Tifore, schools of barracuda compete with schools of jacks above wonderful coral reefs.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
12 nights	Sorong	Bitung	30 dives, Advanced







Your route

STOP 1

Misool

After a night of sailing the boat reaches Misool, where you spend the first four days at Daram, Fiabacet, Wayil and the Boo area.

STOP 2

Pulau Pisang

Pulau Pisang in the Maluku Sea has dive sites with a mix of ridges, slopes, small walls and plateau, with plenty of fish and colourful coral reefs.

STOP 3

Patienti Strait and Goraichi

The islands of Saleh and Kusu, with some smaller ones, partly close the Patienti Strait between Halmahera and Bacan, forcing water through with currents that bring a lot of life.
Sea mounts and rocky islets around the Goraichi islands form the dive sites and attract great marine life.

STOP 4

Tifore

After a night of sailing you reach the remote island of Tifore between Halmahera and Sulawesi, with a dive site where schools of barracuda compete with schools of jacks above wonderful coral reefs.

STOP 5

Lembeh Strait

After the final night of sailing you arrive in the Lembeh Strait for the last dives.
On the last afternoon you can visit Tangkoko National Park, a preserved forest with macaques and tarsiers.

STOP 6

Misool on land

At the rangers' station you snorkel in front of their beach in a natural shark nursery, where small black tips swim in one metre of clear water.
A short hike leads to the viewpoint over the "love lagoon", a lagoon in the shape of a heart.

GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Misool

The first four days are in Misool, with its wide angle shots, mantas and massive schools of fish.

Halmahera

Many Halmahera dive sites are seamounts with a rocky base and plenty of soft coral covered bommies. Blacktip sharks patrol most sites, the walking shark can be seen on night dives, and tuna, Spanish mackerel and giant trevally are part of the show. Napoleon wrasse, bumphead parrotfish, groupers and schools of surgeonfish and spadefish are well represented, along with critter dives and fringing reefs.

Lembeh Strait

Known as the muck diving paradise, the Lembeh Strait is a search for the strangest critters on the sandy slopes, such as hairy frogfish, mimic octopus, Rhinopias, ghost pipefish and many nudibranchs.

Dive count

A minimum of 36 dives, which is 3 dives per day, is offered, including at least 5 night dives.

How the diving works

Divers go in groups of up to four with a dive guide, with a briefing before every dive. Nitrox is free for certified divers, and divers are asked to stay within no deco limits, to a maximum depth of 35 metres.

Joining the boat

You are welcome on board in Sorong before 12 noon. Seahorse can arrange pick up from the airport or your hotel.

Leaving the boat

The cruise ends in Bitung and you disembark before 12 noon. Seahorse can arrange the drop off at the airport or your hotel.

Airports

Sorong (SOQ) at the start and the Bitung area at the end of the trip.







INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Transfers between the boat and the closest airport
- Accommodation in a shared twin or double cabin
- All meals and snacks, drinking water, soft drinks and hot drinks
- All guided dives, with one guide for up to four divers
- Aluminium 12 litre tank, weights and belts
- Free nitrox for certified divers
- Two complimentary kayaks on board

NOT INCLUDED

- International and domestic flights
- Park and port fees and fuel surcharge, paid in cash on board
- Alcoholic beverages, which you can bring yourself
- Diving equipment rental and 100 cf (15 litre) tank
- Crew tips, which are customary
- Massages and laundry

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification card and logbook (PADI Advanced Open Water or equivalent with at least 30 logged dives)
- Dive insurance covering medical evacuation and diving accidents
- Medical fitness statement for diving
- Dive computer and surface marker buoy
- Torch for night dives

AND ALSO

- Reef-safe sunscreen
- Swimwear, hat and sunglasses
- Cash for park and port fees, fuel surcharge, tips and extras
- Passport valid for at least 6 months after you leave Indonesia

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Good to know

The route can vary slightly with weather, currents, visibility and tides

Good to know

Payments on board are in cash only, in euros, US dollars, Australian dollars, Swiss francs or Indonesian rupiah

Good to know

Most nationalities can get a 30 day visa on arrival

Good to know

Prices and trip dates are shown on our trip listings