WHITE MANTA

# Ambon, Banda and Raja Ampat

*Ambon to Sorong | Ambon, the Banda Sea and Raja Ampat*

Three of eastern Indonesia's great diving regions in one voyage, from the muck of Ambon across the Banda Sea to stunning Raja Ampat.

The Banda Islands have fantastic coral coverage and tremendous numbers of fish, and the Ring of Fire adds seamounts, sea snakes, hammerheads, huge schools of fish and reef sharks.

In West Seram and around Misool, wide angle diving means vibrant corals and a profusion of fish life.

Then the trip reaches Central and North Raja Ampat, one of the most biodiverse diving destinations in the world, for the big fish, the schooling fish and an excellent night dive.

It is a once in a lifetime diving safari.

| LENGTH | DEPARTURE PORT | ARRIVAL PORT | EXPERIENCE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11 nights | Ambon | Sorong | Certified divers |







# Your itinerary

DAY 1

## Arrival in Ambon

0-2 dives

Boarding from 2pm.
Our staff will meet you upon your arrival to Pattimura Airport, Ambon or local hotel and transfer you to the awaiting White Manta.
Arrivals before midday are best so we can make check dive(s) in Ambon Bay before we get underway by 2pm for overnight sail.

DAY 2

## Banda Islands (days 2 and 3)

3 dives a day

Diving around Banda Islands with excellent visibility, fantastic coral coverage and tremendous numbers of fish along with potential Hammerhead sightings, plus a visit to one of the Spice Islands.

DAY 4

## Ring of Fire (days 4 to 6)

3 dives a day

Diving around Volcanic Islands and stunning seamounts in search of hammerheads, encounter many sea snakes, huge schools of fish, reef sharks, tunas, and other pelagic superstars.

DAY 7

## West Seram

3 dives

West Seram, Pulau Koon a full day of diving.
Wide angle diving with vibrant corals and a profusion of fish life.
Sail to Misool.

DAY 8

## Misool (days 8 and 9)

3-4 dives a day

Wayil, Fiabacet, and Boo area.
Sail overnight to Central and North Raja Ampat.

DAY 10

## Kri area

4 dives

Including Big Fish, Cape Kri, Sardine Run, and excellent night dive.

DAY 11

## Misokon island

2 dives

Including Blue Magic and Yellow Fever.
Sail back to Usahamina pier, Sorong where you spend last night on board.
Plenty of time to wash and dry equipment, have lunch, rest and relaxation, and if need be an early flight the next day.

DAY 12

## Check out in Sorong

No diving

Check out (between 5am-10am) after light breakfast and farewells, we transfer to local hotel or airport.
Departure from Sorong to Manado/ Makassar/ Jakarta/ Denpasar.







THE DIVING

# Diving days and conditions

### Diving days

11 days (30 dives)

### Ambon, Banda and Ring of Fire

Water 26-28°C, however deep-water upwellings and thermoclines especially in Sept-Nov can mean temps as low as 25C. Air 22-31°C. Visibility 20-30 metres. Currents medium to strong. Level intermediate to advanced. Best time: March, April, and mid-September to early December.

### Raja Ampat

Water 27-30°C. Air 27-32°C. Visibility 15-30 metres. Currents medium to strong. Level intermediate to advanced. Best time: October to April (less rain and much less wind: perfect for diving)

### Check in

2pm, 1st day - Laha Bay, Ambon. Or earlier if everyone arrives before and if all trip preparations are completed. Free pickup upon arrival from Pattimura Airport, Ambon or local hotel* (10am) to White Manta on trip departure day (transfer time 10 mins).

### Check out

5am, last day, Sorong, West Papua. After a light breakfast and fond farewells, we take you to the local hotel or Domine Edward Osok Airport, Sorong in time for check-in and flight. Note: Latest White Manta check-out at 10am, trip return day.

### Last dive

12pm (midday), penultimate day. Plenty of time for R&R while we sail back to Sorong where we spend the last night on White Manta. This also allows for your minimum 18 hours surface interval/ No Fly Time (as recommended by PADI) before flying the next day.

INCLUDED

## What your trip covers

### INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Land transfer from local hotel / airport from destination on trip start and end days (Ambon/ Sorong) to boat
- All nights' accommodation on White Manta
- All meals (Western and Indonesian) snacks, hot beverages, coffee, tea, Milo, soft drinks, towels, toiletries, cabin services
- Free replacement if equipment breaks down
- 12-litre air tanks
- Weights and belt
- Warm towel and drink after every dive
- 6 dive guides (1x instructor, 5x dive master), 30 dives

### NOT INCLUDED

- All flights, hotels
- Pickups outside the trip start and end dates
- Marine park and harbour fee (paid in advance of the trip)
- Fuel surcharge (paid in advance of the trip)
- Dive and travel insurance
- Massage services
- Laundry services
- Nespresso coffee, alcohol: beer, wine, satellite wi-fi
- Diving equipment rental
- Nitrox (enriched air) fills

WORTH KNOWING

## Key notes

### Good to know

All schedules are subject to change according to weather, sea, diving and local conditions

### Good to know

3 dives are scheduled per diving day in Banda Sea*. This is due to deeper dives and long distances covered between islands. Where possible a bonus night dive may be scheduled at the discretion of the Cruise Leader. *Except trip departure day and trip return day