

KM Blue Manta 11 day/ 10 nights & 30 dives Raja Ampat-Ring-Ambon

Itinerary

Blue Manta Trip Schedule

- **Departure; 3pm, 1**st **Day Sorong, West Papua**. Or earlier if everyone arrives before and all Trip Preparations have been completed. Free transfer from <u>Domine Edward Osok Airport</u>, Sorong or local hotel to Blue Manta on Trip Departure day (transfer time 30 mins).
- Return; 5am, Last Day Ambon. After a light breakfast and fond farewells, we take you to local
 hotel or <u>Pattimura Airport</u>, Ambon in time for Check-in & flights (transfer time 10 mins). Note;
 latest BM Check-out midday, Trip Return day.
- Last dive ends; 12pm (midday), Penultimate Day. Plenty of time for R&R while we sail back to Ambon where we spend last night on Blue Manta. This also allows for your minimum 18 hours' surface interval/ No Fly Time (as recommended by PADI) before flying next day.

Sample Itinerary

- Note; all schedules are subjected to changes according to weather, sea, diving, & local conditions.
- **Day 1.** (0-1 dives) 3pm Trip Departure day. Our staff will meet you upon your arrival to Sorong Airport or local hotel and transfer you to the awaiting Blue Manta. Arrivals before midday are best so we can make check dive at Red Light District (Lampu Merah) just outside Sorong before we get underway by 3pm for overnight sail.
- Day 2-4. (3-4 dives x3 days) Misool; Wayil, Fiabacet & Boo area. Then sail to Koon island.
- **Day 5.** (3 dives) West Seram, Pulau Koon full days diving. Wide angle diving with vibrant corals and a profusion of fish life.
- **Day 6-8.** (3 dives x3 days) Ring of Fire; diving around Volcanic Islands, stunning seamounts in search of hammerheads, encounter many sea snakes, huge schools of fish, reef sharks, tunas, & more.
- **Day 9.** (3 dives) 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 10.** (2 dives) Muck dives in Ambon Bay or Nusa Laut. Sail back to Ambon where you spend last night on board. Plenty of time to wash & dry equipment, rest & relaxation, and if need be, an early flight on Trip Departure day.
- **Day 11**. (0 dives) 5am-12pm. Check out after light breakfast & farewells, we transfer to local hotel or airport. Take your pre-booked flight to Ujung Pandang (aka Makassar), Jakarta or Singapore
- **Diving days**: 10 days (30 dives)
- **Note:** 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 & Trip Return day.

Starting in South Raja Ampat including Misool you will be immersed in an amazing array of marine life and diving diversity. The abundance continues with critters, sea snakes, manta rays, sharks and much more as we cross the Banda Sea, tracing the perimeter of islands. Let our experienced crew show you these remote and almost untouched locations with wonderful reefs and stunning drop offs, before we finish our trip with muck diving at its best in Ambon. We also have known cleaning stations for potential sighting of hammerheads........

Dive Site Information

Raja Ampat

Water Temp; 27-30 degrees Celsius, Air Temp; 27-32 degrees Celsius, Visibility; 15-30 meters,
 Level; intermediate to advanced, Best Time to Dive; October to April (less rain & much less wind; perfect, Currents; mild to strong for diving)

Ambon-Banda

- Water Temp; 26-28 degrees Celsius, however deep-water upwelling's & thermoclines especially in Sept-Nov can mean temps as low as 25C. Air Temp; 22-31 degrees Celsius
- Visibility; 20-30 meters, Currents; medium to strong, Level; intermediate to advanced.
- Best Time to Dive; March, April, & mid-September to early December

Embarkation / Disembarkation

Sorong (SOQ), West Papua / Ambon (AMQ)

How to get to Sorong (SOQ), West Papua

- Daily flights to Sorong (SOQ) from Jakarta (CGK) via Makassar (UPG, Ujung Pandang), Bali (DPS, Denpasar), or from Manado (MDC).
- Domestic Airlines; Garuda Indonesia / Sriwijaya Air / Lion Air / Express Air

How to get from Ambon (AMQ)

• <u>Lion Air</u> daily flights from Ambon to Bali via Makassar or Manado, <u>Garuda Indonesia</u> or <u>Sriwijaya</u> <u>Air</u> to Jakarta via Makassar (flight time around 3 hours).

What's included?

• Land transfer from local hotel / airport from destination on trip start & end days (Sorong/ Ambon) to boat, all nights' accommodation on Blue Manta, all meals (Western & Indonesian) snacks, hot beverages, coffee, tea, Milo, soft drinks, towels, toiletries, cabin services, FOC replacement if equipment breakdown, 12-liter air tanks, weights & belt, warm towel & drink after every dive, 5 dive guides (1x Instructor, 4x Dive Master), 30 dives

What's excluded?

- All flights, hotels, pickups outside trip start & end dates fee applies per car, Marine Park & Harbour fee (USD250/ pax), dive & travel insurance, massage services (USD35/ hour), laundry services (USD5/ basket), Nespresso coffee (USD2), alcohol; beer (USD4), wine (USD30-50), Satellite Wi-Fi (USD30 for trip per person)
- Diving Gear; Full Set USD50/ diving day (except Large tank) or if individual items then;
 BCD (USD12), Regulator (USD12), wetsuit (USD8), fins (USD5), mask (USD5), torch (USD12), dive computer (USD12), 15L tank rental (USD12)
- Nitrox Enriched Air fills (USD15/ diving day or USD5/ fill).
- Note: Nitrox & Diving Gear Items priced per diving day and is subject to availability
- Note: Exposure suits; 3mm shorty wetsuits available ONLY.

Additional Trip Information

- For more Trip & Travel information plus FAQ's about the Banda Sea see our Banda Sea Fact Sheet
- For more Trip & Travel information & FAQ's about Raja Ampat trips see our Raja Ampat Fact Sheet
- For more Information on KM Blue Manta please see our <u>Blue Manta Info Pack</u>
- **Note**; late receipt of Passport details may very likely lead to delayed departure & significant changes to the itinerary. We **MUST** receive guest's details well in advance in the trip.