

Banda Sea itinerary

Duration: 12 night trips

Best time to dive: October

Port of Embarkation / Disembarkation: Labuan Bajo in Flores

The Banda Sea cruise is for those with the spirit of adventure as we set sail to rarely dived sites, islands and atolls.

There are several ways to cross the Banda Sea and this depends mostly on the weather and the depths of the thermoclines for the hammerhead sharks.

Crossing is generally done in March and October when the prevailing winds are changing between the seasons. Seldom-dived sites, active volcanoes, hammerheads and pelagic action, plus a visit to the mythic Banda Islands (original Spice Islands) make this a once in a lifetime cruise.

Please note: There are 600-700 nautical miles to cover during this 12-night cruise.

You are mostly diving three dives a day and then travelling at night. This cruise is not advised for people who get very sea sick or who are unable to sleep whilst the boat is under way.

For those with a bit of salty seadog in you, you are definitely looking at the right itinerary.

This cruise may, depending on the route chosen, but not limited to, include the following highlights:

Komba Volcano: Komba Ridge, Komba Reef and Lava Slope

Alor Region: Boardroom, Babylon and Cave Point

Wetar Area: Tanjung Nanukae, Nunukae Wall, Reong North and Reong Wall

Gunung Api: Snake Ridge, Snake Pit and Sulfur Ridge

Tebang Area: Nusleur Wall, Tebang North and Tebang South

Nil Desperandum: Hammerhead dives depending on conditions for sites

Manuk Island: Dives depending on conditions for sites

Banda Islands: Pohon Miring, Batu Kapal, Batu Kapal Pinnacle, Banda Neira Jetty and Lava Flow

Secret Spots: We have some excellent spots for shark action that we prefer not to publish

Land Visits: On this cruise you will visit Banda Neira to see the nutmeg plantation, historic forts and small Maritime Museum.

An excursion of half a day, plus two good nights' sleep on anchor before and after. Trust me, you will need it by then ;)