

CENDERAWASIH BAY



The northern margin of Teluk Cenderawasih bay (literally "bird of paradise bay" in the local language), was partially closed in prehistoric times by the islands of Biak and Supiori. That created a unique environment for several endemic species of reef fishes to develop in this region, as well as allowing other species that are usually found in deeper waters elsewhere in the archipelago to come up and thrive in shallower waters. All this can be seen by regular recreational scuba divers today.

The area was also the scenario of brutal naval battles during WWII, leaving behind the wreckages of ships and planes in depths accessible by regular divers as well.

But the star of the routes is undoubtedly the whalesharks. Attracted by the little anchovies netted by the large outrigger boats that fish at night with the help of lights, these gentle giants have become regular visitors to the area, guaranteeing close-up encounters to divers and snorkelers.

