SeaTrek From The Spice Islands To The Dragon Islands (Ternate-Komodo)

Wetlands Adventures - Fitness

18 Days/19 Nights
Tour Code 2021-2L

Tempo: Le Ballade
Fitness: 4

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

This 10-day voyage of discovery is an epic journey covering nearly over 1,000 miles (Lombok) as we make our way from Ternate in the northern Spice Islands all the way to Komodo in the south. Designed for the true adventure traveller, this cruise will give guests the chance to do a shipwreck or a kayak crossing on the Strait of paradise and black crested macaques in the wild, see Gallicolumbig-butterfly farm of the world's largest, rare Dodungu village where Alfred Russell Wallace lived and worked, see the Dodungu Dance performed by the tribe, visit the Ternate Sultan's palace, hob-nob with pirates and visit the people who inhabit these remote islands, swim in a lake filled with sculpture pillbox, see rare and endemic birds and land species, visit an island where pirate boats are under construction, before finishing up in the Komodo National park where you will walk with the legendary dragons, and enjoy endless amounts of snorkelling each day as we tread our way across the mighty sea of Wallacea.

SNORKELLING WITH SEATREK

Whether it's swimming with whale sharks & mantas on a Sea Safari, gliding along a mesmeric tropical reef in Indonesia, or a dive through the Galapagos Islands, the Red Sea or the Great Barrier Reef, we have it covered. Our snorkelling tours are the best in the world, and we do it often - usually twice a day for an hour or more at a time. No matter if you are a novice or a seasoned pro, our team leaders will ensure that you have everything you need to have some of the best underwater experiences of your life.

WANT TO ADD ON A WILDLIFE OR CULTURAL EXCURSION TO YOUR TRIP?

Our four-day congolese programme that features in our Congo Rainforest & Congolese Rivers tour of our Seatrek cruise throughout the year, regardless of length or location, we just let us know if this is something you would like to do when visiting Indonesia and we will happily arrange it for you.

For textile enthusiasts, we also have two five day land tours across Flores Island in June each year. Ancient Weaving Traditions, Dragons, and Flores Island Beach Tour, which will visit many traditional weaving villages and take you deep inside these unique cultures.

We are also a wealth of information on other great destinations and wildlife and cultural excursions in Indonesia that can be added on to your SeaTrek cruise.

The possibilities are endless so all you have to do is ask.

BE PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE

Our mission is to provide the best experience possible for our guests given the current conditions and circumstances. Unforeseen circumstances may arise that are beyond our control and may force us to alter our itinerary and/or cancel excursions. Such events include but are not limited to: weather, political unrest, and or issues that are out of our control. Our intention is to explore new territories, ports and activities. These explorations will always be a definite enhancement to the published itinerary and will be undertaken after discussion and agreement among guests. Ultimately, the boat captain and your team leaders will make decisions to maximize trip safety and your overall enjoyment, so please come prepared to be flexible!

THE MORE YOU KNOW THE MORE YOU SEE

Our team leaders are a wealth of information on the regions we visit and will prepare you for each activity with on board talks and presentations to give you a greater understanding of the different cultures and wildlife we will see. They will also act as your cultural bridge to all the people we meet along the way, so feel free to ask them to translate when talking to local Indonesian people on your travels.

ITINERARY

DAY 1

- Starting our adventure today we will begin a cruse of Ternate's historical highlights before boarding our SeaTrek ship and starting the cruse and settling into your new home for the next few weeks.

- Later that afternoon, we will visit the island of Tidore, another perfect volcanic cone rising from the tropical seas. Once built on Nutmeg wealth from a sultanate, Tidore today indicates that downstream the island lies deeper Iranian plantations of grassland cloves trees, once found only upon this and a few adjacent islands, and so valuable in world trade that European nations fought the centuries to monopolise them.

DAY 2

- Today we will visit the Gasa'a Archipelago, a chain of islands with white sandy beaches, vibrant coral reefs and some local fishing villages. We will spend a full day here, snorkelling and exploring, plus a visit to some of the villages to meet the local people.

- The islands are part of a government controlled conservation area, designed to protect the reefs and the many beautiful marine species that live there.

- These protected waters also provide the perfect location for beginner or easy snorkellers to become familiar with the water and to learn their skills for the many days of snorkelling that lie ahead.

DAY 3

- Today we will be searching for some very special species of butterfly, some unique birds and some quirky mammals.

- We will explore the deep forest of Bacan island, where Wallace first saw what he called the most beautiful butterfly in the world, the Ornithoptera Priamus. Alongside with, the other species that we might see here include cuscus, the black crested macaque and some hornbills.

- After lunch, we will spend the afternoon snorkelling and swimming on the nearby reef.

DAY 4

We will spend today exploring the islands and local habitats of Bulang Besing Island, which utilizes Gaisean snorkelling beds on the reef to provide a nursery for fish, acts as a nursery to many marine species, including baby sharks and some kinds of school fish.

- We will explore the large inland lagoon which we can explore from the Ketam tender.

- The island is home to healthy populations of birds including parrots, rare moth, tropical pigeon and many more.

DAY 5

- The cultural experiences ratchet up a notch today with a visit dance performed in our honour.

- We will go ashore on Tabelus Island, where we will be greeted by a traditional dance known as the 'cakalele' by local warriors. We will also have a chance to explore the local village and meet the people of this remote isle.

- The afternoon will see us snorkelling on a reef teeming with colorful fish and possibly some breaching and pinkbreaching.

DAY 6

- The Bokan islands are an area of unsurpassed beauty and today will be a day of marine exploration and relaxation as we snorkel, swim, paddle around the glorious reef, explore and relaxed while pirate clans wandered around the area.

- We also have the rare privilege to arrive in a small marine lake filled with Jellyfish, Cassiopeia, an internationally named Disney Pixar Boutique, one of only a dozen of its kind in the world.

DAY 7

- A cruise of unique experiences awaits us today involving culture, conservation and wildlife.

- We will visit the breeding Indonesian island pair owner of Gallicolumbig-butterfly conservation and farmers, who are Bonagai island we will visit the local shellcrete village, the neighbourhoods, the sultan's palace and the sultan-bird-egg museum, and all from our fleet of brightly coloured motor-scholuns, which will be on the dock awaiting on our arrival.

- We will put a hands-on visit to MFK, an NGO doing great work in the area of conservation and education, in addition to working with local fishermen to finding sustainable solutions for overuse-markets and the free aquarium fishing trade.

- The last of the day's highlights will be a snorkel on a local reef where we will see the most elegant, but very threatened, Bonagai Cardinal Fish + a flocking of tadpoles aquarium lovers worldwide.

DAY 8

- The Bajau sea gypsies of Sinabayan Asia have a very unique way of life living in harmony with the water, and today you will get to see it up close.

- We will snorkel on one of the local reefs around a Bajau 'sea gypsy' community whose famous stilt houses Asia's nomadic

- A long-overnight cruise awaits us as we cross from the South of the sea towards remarkable Wakatobi National Park area.

DAY 9

- Now measuring we will officially arrive in the Wakatobi National Park area, a very land-to-reach area, famous for its unique marine culture and also site of Indonesian Bajau national parks, with outstanding underwater life natural beauty.

- You will enjoy a personalised tour of the island of Wanga Wanga, with highlights that include a scenered form, mustering with a traditional weaving community, and the ruins of a centurion's old Dutch fort, a relic of the colonial days.

- In the afternoon, we will be spending some time in the water snorkelling and exploring the abundance with rich colorful corals. We can also take a little stroll around a number of sea normal villages.

DAY 10

- Today is a day for all of us water lovers.

- Snorkelling comes first thing in the morning at Tomia where we will explore some of the magnificent bonus reef.

- In the afternoon, we will explore a nearby uninhabitated atoll where we will learn the ancient Bajau gypsy coral, guidelbound, or kayak.

DAY 11

- In the morning, we will wake up to an uninhabited sea mount in the middle of the Flores Sea, rich in upwelling nutrients and a perfect habitat for fish and roving pelagics. We will spend morning time here for snorkelling and some exploring before sailing onwards for overnight cruising towards the southern tip of Sulawesi.

DAY 12

- Another full day of underwater adventure and exploration awaits us today. The whole day, we will be exploring one of the most beautiful collections of reefs and atolls with pinks fringed white-tailed leaches and crystal clear waters.

- The choice is yours entirely whether you would like to kick back and relax on board while watching the endless horizon dotted with hermione blue waters, hanging on the yard, exploring the ancient Bajau gypsy paddlebrands on foot yourself in the forest of the rich reefs.

DAY 13

- Today we will walk amongst the halls and halls of a huge Neanderthal-sized Homo erectus ships being built on a remote island archipelago. We will meet the Pinisi people and discover their age-old traditions of shipbuilding that they have practiced for centuries in this longstanding corner of the world, using bare plans, wood, and a collection of simple tools and age-old techniques.

- Bonerate is nearly visited by tourists and is known for its fast turning ship-eater and is fortunate to an experience to be mesmerized. As we walk through the village and view the hatchery and meet the locals, you will gain a more appreciation of the Bonerate people.

for island life and for the kind of bear you have been cruising with for the past thirteen days.

DAY 14

- Giants will loom large in your day today: Komodo dragons, flying foxes and manta rays, three of the biggest and most impressive animals in Indonesia.

- Our morning will be spent drifting with Manta Rays, the gentle giants as they glide by food in the current at their go-to local cleaning stations.

- In the afternoon, we will take you for a primarily arranged, ranger-led walk around the island of Rinca, where we will see not only Komodo dragons, but also their preferred mess of prey – monkeys, deer, pigs, and buffaloes.

- This evening, as the sun starts to set, we will gather on the deck and be witness to a more spectacular event: a thousands of flying foxes leave their mangrove forest homes en masse on their nightly feast-foraging missions.

DAY 15

- Rising early, you will have the chance to hike a scenic stretch of Gili Lawa Darat, or you can stretch your legs on the beautiful white sandy beach. After the hike, we will be back on board for a mission: to cruise how many turtles can we spot with our own eyes in Siaba Besar island where it's German as turtle heaven.

- In the late afternoon, we will have relaxing beach time where you're more than free to do pretty much anything you'd like ranging from snorkelling, paddleboarding, kayaking, or just beach combing.

- Tonight, the crew will prepare a beach BBQ for us as we all feast, sing and dance the night away by a roaring fire under the stars.

DAY 16

- Our final day, we will wake as the boat is cruising slowly making its way to the magnificent town of Labuan Bajo. After a final Indonesian breakfast on the boat, we will say farewell to our crew, who have looked after us so well for the past seventeen days, and transfer to Komodo airport for our flight and our onward journey.