SeaTrek To The Scents Of The Spice Islands (Ambon-Ternate)

Duration: 11 Nights | Adults in Twin: 2

Cruise Line: SeaTrek | Airline in Venue: Indonesia

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

The Moluccas are the original Spice Islands; a magical destination. Beautiful, remote and unspoiled with a long, fascinating and turbulent history. For millennia these fertile volcanic isles were the world's only source of the holy trinity of rare spices; cloves, nutmeg, and mace, which were amongst the most valuable, sought after and hotly contested commodities on the planet.

An colonial history of Indonesia and its sale to the international spice trade during the 17th century. Along the way you will wind your way through dramatic volcanic islands interspersed with pristine coral reefs and beaches where you can swim and snorkel to return rich in marine life. You will also visit historic marquees and island villages and the rich cultures of the local people and experience the archipelagos and rebuild the economy of the original plantations in this most beautiful and untouched part of the world.

SNORKELLING WITH SEATREK

Whether it's swimming with whale sharks & manta rays or leisurely gliding along a stunning coral reef, snorkelling is the perfect way to explore the underwater world. Snorkel gear is provided on board free. We do as well and we do it where - usually miles away from the ship and we have no more or a crew. No matter if you are a novice or a seasoned pro, our crew 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 crangalan programme that features in our Cenderawasih & Dragons Itinerary can be added onto any of our SeaTrek cruises throughout the year. Regardless of weight or vocation, we just set an issue. It this is something you would like to do when visiting Indonesia and we will happily arrange it for you.

Our programme includes, our three here five-day land tours across Flores Island in June each year. Our programme includes, Komodo, Ende, Kelimutu, and Wolori Coral Reef. Our tours will visit many 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 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 when unexpected opportunities for improvements or alterations to our itinerary present themselves. Sometimes weather conditions, tides or other local factors discate that we need to vary from the published course, and at times there are special opportunities to explore and discover new locations and experiences. These explorations will always be a different enhancement to the published itinerary and will always be in the interest of our guests safety and enjoyment. Our crew will carry out any course alterations or deviations from our itinerary for reasons of safety and comfort and 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 the flora and fauna we will visit. They will also act as your cultural bridge to the people we meet along the way, so feel free to ask them to conduct when talking to local Indonesian people on your visits.

ITINERARY

DAY 2-5

Today we will wake up in the Banda Islands. Famous for their nutmeg and mace plantations, heritage, and the well-preserved remnants of an extraordinary history of imperialist rivalry, these islands are quite simply one of Indonesia's highlights. Banda was originally the world's only source of nutmeg and mace, valued for their tasty and high-cost by aristocrats and kings.

- Since conditions of wind and tide are the determining factors which we visit various Banda islands, our activities here can be assigned to a particular day. Here's what we aim at: Day 2: the capital Banda Neira. It's a pleasant stroll through the quaint colonial outposts characterized stones, inspecting notable architecture, visiting the Dutch Fort, the impressive market, Java across the harbour & Bandan perfect, jungle-clad volcanic cone Gunung Api (Fire Mountain) - (go onto) the Eu and ambitious single make an early morning ascent up a challenging track to the top for stunning views.

DAY 2-5 (3)

We will also climb up to Gunung Nyecik, the highest point on the last of the pedamaran - the small hidden fortress who managed the pedamaran for the Dutch in the local pancels known as perkeci. Such forts of mere acres were used originate that shrunk these lonely islands, and what you see more than current peace and tranquility.

- There are some excellent coral reefs nearby and we should see some amazing marine life while snorkelling. Ironically, in the less populated southern islands of Indonesia we have a good chance of seeing (or dodo) arguably the world's most stunning fish, the small but jewel like Mandarin Fish.

Leaving Banda we will navigate through the Sumogo Flores gap? between Neira and Gunung Api, generally encased by hazy haze - the big Mahacai gallery cand traditionally the centuries and warlike, propelled by banks of warrior outriders.

DAY 2-5 (3)

We will also climb up to Gunung Nyecik, the highest point on the last of the pedamaran - the small hidden fortress who managed the pedamaran for the Dutch in the local pancels known as perkeci. Such forts of mere acres were used originate that shrunk these lonely islands, and what you see more than current peace and tranquility.

- There are some excellent coral reefs nearby and we should see some amazing marine life while snorkelling. Ironically, in the less populated southern islands of Indonesia we have a good chance of seeing (or dodo) arguably the world's most stunning fish, the small but jewel like Mandarin Fish.

Leaving Banda we will navigate through the Sumogo Flores gap? between Neira and Gunung Api, generally encased by hazy haze - the big Mahacai gallery cand traditionally the centuries and warlike, propelled by banks of warrior outriders.

DAY 6

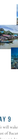
We wake up and go ashore on Nusa Laut, an island easily visited by outsiders. It is home to a Christian community that was forcibly relocated from mainland Ambon then back here at the same time that Islam was spreading through the archipelago.

On Sapanas we land beside Dutch Fort Hoorenda (wind, tornado) in 1625 as a result led by Andamese Kapitan Hoorenda, a mainland hero and mayor. His story is told by vivid museum dioramas. Brightly painted Ambon wind boats are a feature of Sapanas harbour. Before we sail on towards, & highlight here is a lunchtime from of wonderful local dishes - Kasiko prepared by villager boys from Ferrer, garden and sea produce. It's your once in a lifetime opportunity to see popularly, the most unique dish of the Moluccas, Ambon Lawang Kapan. One new destination to the island of Manipa.

DAY 7

Manipa Island is said to have magical powers because were of the Ambon Lawang Kapan. Ancient Alfuroes who occupied the surrounding islands cross landed here. The spellbound angry to Indonesian slaps, so we land at the ceremony de Ximeno in village technologies. Its gardens produce cashews, while the home of Ternate Molukkas conquest are Ternate Sultan Hamzah Ternate, called Kapta pada to capture, his famed throughness Indonesia as a universal possess conservic, antropic, musicoide, decomposition, antiquity, expectorant, anti-spasmodic, emulant and tonic.

We also view production of the condemned Melisovan food staple sago, a marvelous Ternate twisted tree, and the Ternate Sultan's sago pulpic Sago can be baked into easily transportable dry cakes. Ambon Island where substantial site, while the palm also portrayles Indonesia's rich culture and church. After an afternoon meditating we will cruise on towards Belang Belang.



DAY 8

Overnight, when sailed Belang-Belang to a reef beachcomber's paradise, where we can launch our full flotilla of watercraft, kayaks and paddle boards. At 4 Pm Lara, pamamatan clad in fleece and sheer photosyntes plunge spectacularly into the sea.

DAY 9

We will wake up off the western coast of Buton, another of Indonesia's historic spice islands. Famous for its ancient stone castle, the Sultan of Buton where Wallace made some of his greatest zoological discoveries, including the Moluccan Cuscus, the Sulawesi Dwarf Cuscus, the Buton Cuscus, and the huge and magnificent Golden Birdwing Butterfly. Alfred Russel Wallace described the latter as "the most beautiful in the world".

We will also keep a close watch for clouds and a flock of other Wallacean Endemic Indonesian to chase islands, including parrots, cockatoos, hornbeam, hornbills, the cinnamon dove and the endangered black macaque - the only monkey in Sulawesi. It's the stomp ode of the Wallace Line for numbers, species and endemics. Indonesian hundreds of years ago from North Sulawesi.

DAY 10

Today we will visit the Gusetu Archipelago, a chain of islands with some sandy beaches, vibrant coral reefs and some lovely local villages. Gusetu is a great place for best snorkelling, swimming and just gap a ride to one 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.

DAY 11

Today we will wake up just across from Ternate off the coast of Halmahera, with the mighty peaks of Tarnate and Tidore as our dawn backdrop, ready to lead ashore to the village of Dodinga after breakfast. This is the very place where Alfred Russell Wallace was bitten by a mosquito and contracted delirious he came up with the idea for the mechanism for evolutionary theory. He promptly wrote to Charles Darwin where he recovered and so as motivate the formalization of the theory of Evolution by Natural Selection.

Dodinga is a pretty fresh coconuts village with friendly people, colorful houses and the name of an Indonesian Hero of great importance in the history of science (cannot be underscored. After spending some time with the villagers, some fresh coconuts and enjoying their hospitality, we will head back to the boat for lunch and then go off for an afternoon of snorkeling and relaxation.

DAY 12

We wake up off island of Tersuas. This colorful city was the center of the spice trade for several centuries, and the imprint of the Dutch, Portuguese, Indonesians, & more. In fact, its waterfront are still filled with Eugenet piles of clove stemmed bricks. Nearby is the splendid 17th century, pagoda style sultan palace, and the Sultan's Palace with its rich collection of heirlooms.

There's a choice of farm to visit from the colonial plantations, such as well-restored Fort Tolukko (Portuguese, 1540 Wallace visited a house on Tersuas for three years and wrote his Ternate Notes, a sophisticated of the Molucca Sea. It was ashlea being here, very soon after returning from Dodinga, that he penned his legendary Tarnate Notes. Tersuas surrounding his