



SIREN FLEET

Raja Ampat to Ambon, Indonesia

Itinerary

The following is a sample itinerary of dive sites we may visit during your liveaboard cruise with the Siren Fleet in Indonesia. We wish to show you the very best diving possible but a number of factors can determine where we visit. Weather, tides, currents and how busy a site is with other dive vessels all play a part in the Cruise Director's decision of which route the yacht takes. This itinerary involves some long distance travel. Whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives we have scheduled is fulfilled, bad weather can hinder the yacht's ability to reach a specified dive site in good time. The safety of all on board is paramount and we always do our best in offering diving at alternate locations should we be unable to visit those sites listed below.

Your Cruise Director will schedule up to 4 dives per day; 3 day dives and either a sunset or a night dive. The diving day has a typical schedule as follows:

- Light Breakfast followed by a briefing & Dive 1
- Full Breakfast, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 2
- Lunch, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 3
- Snack
- Briefing for Sunset or Night dive
- Dinner

For your final day aboard we schedule 2 morning dives to allow plenty of time for off-gassing before disembarkation and your flight home. The Cruise Director is happy to listen to requests from guests to visit or remain at certain sites and providing it is possible and the schedule allows, then guests' requests are respected.

Mansuar Island & the Dampier Strait

Fast drift dives and big fish schools characterise the sites surrounding Mansuar and the Dampier Strait. Numerous dive sites are clustered together providing a variety of "Big Fish" dives with currents and more relaxed dives where smaller creatures can be found and photographed. Your dive team will check currents and choose sites based on the optimum conditions each day.

Manta Sandy - the 2 large bommies situated in the middle of a sandy bottom at just 18m (60ft) attract many manta rays for cleaning, with a variety of shades, even all-black mantas, distinctive to Raja Ampat have been seen here. Divers rest on the bottom and watch the show. The reef itself has many smaller creatures with pontoi pygmy seahorses



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being found as well as pygmy pipehorses, dragonets and various pipefishes, so in case the mantas are not performing there is still plenty to look at and discover.

Arborek Pier – A stunning site for a sunset dive with superb atmosphere as the light changes. The pier supports have many soft corals and sponges with various nudibranchs such as “blue dragons” being found crawling about. Tiny baitfish form huge schools that swarm about underneath the pier and schools of batfish may also be seen.

Cape Kri – One of the most well-known sites in the Dampier Strait, the variety of reef fish is astounding. Scribbled filefish, harlequin sweetlips, bumphead parrotfish, pinnate batfish, hawk fish and Napoleon wrasse are all commonly seen. Whilst black tip reef sharks, turtles and pipefish are all sighted too.

Blue Magic – A long finger-shaped reef sloping down at the points with hard and soft corals, sea fans and black coral bushes, where schools of jacks and barracuda hover about. Manta rays and wobbegong sharks make for an exciting dive, whilst, for the keen-eyed, pontohi pygmy seahorses can be spotted.

Sardine – Swarms of fusiliers, snappers and sweetlips, schools of bump head parrot fish and banner fish, barracuda and trevally all make this site a very fishy dive. Rock mover wrasse, dragonets and jaw fish are amongst the smaller fish species seen here whilst white tip and black tip reef sharks can also be spotted.

Mioskon – A superb night dive spot where we see pygmy seahorses, flatworms, nudibranchs, leaf fish, scorpion fish and the occasional hunting shark. During the day we can see trevally jacks hunting fusiliers, black tip reef sharks and giant moray eels.

Mike's Point – As we approach the tiny island known as Mike's Point, eagles can be seen resting in the tree tops. Underwater the site offers varied topography with one side full of overhangs and crevices whilst the other has “steps” dropping down to the deep with a field of whip corals adorning the slope. With the right current this site is superb and the island can be circumnavigated in one dive seeing sweetlips, batfish, jacks, Spanish mackerel, grey reef sharks and wobbegong sharks.

Friwinbonda – Lionfish can be seen hunting glassfish schools that hover around the black coral bushes, tiny pipefish and the transparent skeleton shrimp are amongst the other interesting critters and at night we can see crinoids spawning.

Karang Ayam – Black tip reef sharks, schools of banner fish, dog tooth tuna and thousands of fusiliers make this site another fish filled dive. Potato grouper, barracuda, bump head parrotfish and Napoleon wrasse may also be seen.

Gam, & Yangeffo Islands

The islands surrounding Waigeo, the third main island of the Four Kings, provide a range of dive sites for us to choose from including:

Melissa's Garden - A shallow flat reef with beautiful staghorn corals. trevally, black tip reef sharks and wobbegong sharks along with orangutan crabs and spiny lobsters are amongst the common sightings.



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Mayhem – Is a superb site for some larger fish sightings and there are so many varieties here including barracuda, mackerel, trevally, tuna, Napoleon wrasse and bump head parrotfish, as well as eagle rays and wobbegong sharks.

Citrus Ridge – A stunning reef named after the carpet like orange, pink, yellow and green soft corals that cover the entire area. Gorgonian fans shelter pygmy seahorses, jaw fish bob out of their ground holes, wobbegong sharks rest lazily amongst table corals and harlequin sweetlips can be found tucked into the many bommies that are dotted over the reef.

Misool Islands

There are numerous small islands surrounding the second of the Four Kings, Misool, including Daram, Farondi, Boo, Wayilbatan, Kalig and Warakaraket to name just a few. Each offers some of the most dramatic underwater scenery of the region, from steep walls with huge gorgonian fans to gentler slopes with hard and soft corals. The Indo Siren yacht will spend several days here to dive a variety of sites choosing from:

Candy Store – Situated at Daram Islands, is where we see colourful soft corals and yellow sponges, sea whips and black coral which hide creatures such as ghost pipefish and coral shrimps. Schools of batfish, snapper and bumphead parrot fish can all be seen as well as barramundi and Napoleon wrasse.

Andiamo – Thick schools of sardines & fusiliers cruise over the colourful soft corals, where we can find wobbegong and epaulette sharks hiding. Yellowtail and chevron barracuda form schools along the reef whilst reef octopus and numerous nudibranchs can be found.

Boo Windows – Always a favourite site, Boo's scenery is on the wish list of most underwater photographers. Close to the surface currents and tides have eroded holes in the rocks creating the "window" effect. Batfish, Napoleon wrasse, black tip and white tip reef sharks are all to be seen here along with potato grouper and schools of snapper.

Gorgonian Passage - Has huge sea fans in which a variety of pygmy seahorses can be found including Bargibanti and Denise. We also see many types of sweetlips here and some smaller creatures such as peacock mantis shrimp and juvenile razor fish.

Whale Rock – in the Fiabacet chain is where we hunt for interesting critters including tiger cowries, fire gobies, hawkfish and mushroom coral shrimp.

Barracuda Rock – One of our favourite night diving spots at Wayilbatan. All manner of crustacean can be found from decorator crabs and arrow crabs to Durban dancing shrimp and pink squat lobsters. Octopus, yellow margined morays and pygmy seahorses can all be seen here.

Kalig Potato Point – Another superb night diving location, this site is where we find a wide variety of nudibranch species including nembrotha, chromodoris, hypselodoris, tambja and jorunna.

Nudi Rock – Marine life from big to small can all be seen at this stunning site. Black tip, white tips, grey reef sharks and dog tooth tuna can all be seen cruising by whilst hiding amongst the corals are cowries, nudibranchs, porcelain crabs and mushroom coral pipefish.



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Dunia Kecil – is a superb site to spot for pygmy seahorses and “lady bugs” more commonly seen in Komodo National Park. Hawksbill turtles, crocodile fish, barramundi cod and juvenile cuttlefish are amongst the other marine creatures that can all be found here.

Karang Banyangan – On Warakaraket provides a very fishy dive with sightings of yellow fin & chevron barracuda, batfish, jacks, Spanish mackerel, sweetlips, midnight snappers and blue-fin trevally. Wobbegong sharks and bearded scorpion fish are amongst the camouflaged benthic fish that can be seen here also.

Koon

This is a day for the explorer in you, as only a few sites have been recorded and frequently dived. We have named one site “Too Many Fish” as that is literally what you can expect here. Batfish, jacks, snappers & grouper are all seen in abundance.

Banda Neira & Pulau Hatta

At Banda Neira the lava flow underwater has over the years transformed into a beautiful coral garden. The amount of schooling fish and pelagic encounters can be jaw dropping and sea fans some of the largest and most pristine to be found in Indonesia. There is also time to go ashore to visit the Belgica Fort, museum and the old nutmeg plantations as well as stop off at the local market. Currents can be strong around this small island in the north of the Banda Sea, therefore sites will be chosen on the best daily conditions from the following options:

Batu Kepal pinnacle - rises up from 40m (130ft) adorned with sea fans and attracts schooling pelagics, big groupers and cute leaf fish can also be spotted camouflaging themselves amidst the corals.

Karang Hatta - a sloping reef starting at around 15m (50ft) sloping down to 40, (130ft) full with hard corals. In the blue look out for dog tooth tuna, jacks, black tip reef sharks, eagle rays and the possibility of a hammerhead or two.

Banda Neira Pier - otherwise known as the Maolana Jetty is a superb site for a sunset dive to spot mandarin fish mating in the shallows- just 1m below the surface! Other critters can be found in deeper water include cockatoo wasp fish, & crocodile fish.

Pohon Miring - a sloping reef wall dotted with sea fans and sponges is home to bump head parrotfish, Napoleon wrasse, turtles and numerous puffers.

Hole in the Wall - an impressive formation with a hole cutting through the reef between 5-12m (15-40ft). Huge sea fans, sponges, schools of batfish, fusiliers and snappers – expect a very fishy dive!

Tanjung Besar - offers a sloping reef with sea fans and a pristine coral garden in the shallows.



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Batu Belanda - abundant corals and zillions of red-tooth trigger fish make for a stunning sight. The wall overhangs with soft corals and sponges attracting a wide variety of reef fish species.

Pulau Nusa Laut

Ahmed - strong currents bring in large pelagic species and schools of black snapper and chevron barracuda are a common sight. Coral groupers, moray eels, scorpion fish and bat fish are also amongst the regular reef visitors. Whilst along the reef wall pontohi pygmy seahorses, nudibranchs and lobsters can all be spotted. Watch out for the elusive dugong too!

Akoon - is a great site at which to find eagle rays, Napoleon wrasse and bump head parrot fish.

Nahalia Jetty - best dived at night to see the wide variety of crustaceans and molluscs from slipper lobster and dancing shrimp to blue ringed octopus.

Ambon

Twilight Zone - a muck diving hotspot in Laha is where we find all manner of weird and wonderful creatures including bobtail squid, snake eels, mantis shrimp, ribbon eels, mimic octopus, thorny seahorse and cockatoo waspfish.

Laha Village is another great critter spotting dive site. With mild to no current and shallow depth of just 20m (85ft) divers can spend their time spotting all the odd-balls from wonderpus and stone fish to leaf fish and tiny cuttlefish. Seahorses, ghost pipefish, Indian Ocean Walkman and dragonets are common sights too.