



Blue Manta Explorer

12 day/ 11 nights & 30 dives

Raja Ampat-Ring-Maumere

Itinerary

Blue Manta Explorer Trip Schedule

- **Departure: 3pm, 1st Day - Sorong, West Papua.** Or earlier if everyone arrives before and all Trip Preparations have been completed. Free transfer from Domine Edward Osok Airport (SOQ), Sorong or local hotel to Blue Manta Explorer on Trip Departure day (transfer time 30 mins).
- **Last dive ends: 12pm (midday), Penultimate Day.** Plenty of time for R&R while we sail back to Maumere where we spend last night on Blue Manta Explorer. This also allows for your minimum 18 hours surface interval/ No Fly Time (as recommended by PADI) before flying next day.
- **Return: 5am, Last Day - Maumere, Flores.** After a light breakfast and fond farewells, we take you to your local hotel or Frans Seda Airport (MOF), Maumere in time for Check-in & flight (transfer time 20 mins). Latest Blue Manta Explorer departure time is midday.

Starting in South Raja Ampat including Misool you will be immersed in an amazing array of marine life and diving diversity. The abundance continues with critters, sea snakes, manta rays, sharks and much more as we cross the Banda Sea. Let our experienced crew show you these remote and almost untouched locations with wonderful reefs and stunning drop offs, before we finish our trip with muck diving at its best in Maumere. We also have known cleaning stations for potential sighting of hammerheads.

Sample Itinerary (schedules are at the Captain's discretion and subject to change according to weather and sea conditions)

- **Day 1.** (0-1 dives) 3pm Trip Departure day. The staff will meet you upon your arrival to Sorong Airport or local hotel and transfer you to the awaiting Blue Manta Explorer. Arrivals before midday are best so we can make check dive at Red Light District (Lampu Merah) just outside Sorong before we get underway by 3pm for overnight sail.
- **Day 2-4.** (4 dives x3 days) Misool; Wayil, Fiabacet & Boo area. Then sail to Koon Island.
- **Day 5.** (3 dives) West Seram, Pulau Koon full days diving. Wide angle diving with vibrant corals and a profusion of fish life.
- **Day 6-8.** (3 dives x3 days) Ring of Fire; diving around Volcanic Islands and stunning seamounts in search of hammerheads, encounter many sea snakes, huge schools of fish, reef sharks, tunas, & other pelagic superstars.
- **Day 9.** (3 dives) Wetar; excellent wall, pelagic life and fantastic drop off, sail towards Pulau Alor
- **Day 10.** (3 dives) Alor; diving around the best sites; Karl's Dream and Critters diving. Beautiful reefs in (sometimes cold!) clear blue waters, great macro and fish life.
- **Day 11.** (2 dives) Maumere; nearby Pulau Babi or Pulau Besar. Sail back to Maumere Port where you spend last night on board. Plenty of time to wash & dry equipment, have lunch, rest & relaxation, and if need be, an early flight on Trip Departure day.
- **Day 12.** (0 dives) 5am-12pm. Check out after light breakfast & farewells, we transfer to local hotel or airport. Take your pre-booked flight to Bali.
- **Diving days:** 10 days (30 dives)

- **Note:** 3 dives are scheduled per diving day in Banda Sea*. This is due to deeper dives and long distances covered between islands. Where possible a bonus night dive may be scheduled at the discretion of the Cruise Leader. *Except Trip Departure day & Trip Return day.

Dive Site Information

Raja Ampat

- **Water Temp:** 27-30 degrees Celsius (80-86° F), **Air Temp:** 27-32 degrees Celsius (80-89° F)
- **Visibility:** 15-30 meters (50-100 feet), **Level:** intermediate to advanced
- **Best Time to Dive:** October to April (less rain & much less wind), **Currents:** mild - strong for diving

Banda-Maumere

- **Water Temp;** 25-28 degrees Celsius (77-82° F), **Air Temp:** 22-31 degrees Celsius (71-87° F)
- **Alor Water Temp:** 22-26 degrees Celsius (71-79° F), it can be cold in the waters around Lembetta & Alor and we do recommend you bring extra exposure suit for this section of the cruise.
- **Visibility:** 20-30 meters (65-100 feet), **Currents:** medium to strong, **Level:** intermediate to advanced.
- **Best Time to Dive:** March, April, & mid-September to early December

Embarkation / Disembarkation

- Sorong (SOQ), West Papua / Maumere (MOF), Flores

How to get to Sorong (SOQ), West Papua

- Daily flights to Sorong (SOQ) from Jakarta (CGK) via Makassar (UPG, Ujung Pandang), Bali (DPS, Denpasar), or from Manado (MDC).
- Domestic Airlines; Garuda Indonesia / Sriwijaya Air / Lion Air / Express Air

How to get from Maumere (MOF), Flores

- Daily flights with Lion Wings & between Garuda Indonesia & Sriwijaya Air cover all days from Maumere to Bali (flight time around 2 hours).

What's included?

- Land transfer from local hotel / airport from destination on trip start & end days (Sorong/ Maumere) to boat, all nights' accommodation on Blue Manta Explorer, all meals (Western & Indonesian) snacks, hot beverages, coffee, tea, Milo, soft drinks, towels, toiletries, cabin services, FOC replacement if equipment breakdown, 12-liter air tanks, weights & belt, warm towel & drink after every dive
- 5 dive guides (1x Instructor, 4x Dive Master)
- 30 dives

What's excluded?

- All flights, hotels, pickups outside trip start & end dates fee applies per car, Marine Park & Harbor fee (**USD250/pax-paid in advance**), dive & travel insurance, massage services (USD35/ hour), laundry services (USD5/ basket), Nespresso coffee (USD2), alcohol; beer (USD4), wine (USD30-50), Satellite Wi-Fi (USD30/ pax for trip)
- Diving Gear; Full Set USD50/ diving day (except Large tank) or if individual items then; BCD (USD12), Regulator (USD12), wetsuit (USD8), fins (USD5), mask (USD5), torch (USD12), dive computer (USD12), 15L tank rental (USD12)
- Nitrox Enriched Air fills (USD15/ diving day or USD5/ fill).
- Note: Nitrox & Diving Gear Items priced per diving day and is subject to availability
- Exposure suits: 3mm shorty wetsuits available ONLY.