



Ultimate Indonesian Yachts

10-DAY / 9-NIGHT ITINERARY – KOMODO NATIONAL PARK TO SUMBA



Embark on a 10-day adventure combining a sailing sojourn among the fabled islands of Komodo National Park with a stay on land at Nihiwatu Resort on Sumba. This exciting journey begins in Labuan Bajo, the gateway to Komodo, and ends in northern Sumba.

KOMODO NATIONAL PARK

The Komodo National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage site consisting of 3 larger islands (Komodo, Padar and Rinca) and 26 smaller ones, many of which are uninhabited. Komodo and Rinca are home to the native Komodo dragons, respected by locals who believe they descend from one born to a dragon princess centuries ago. The islands turn from lush green to arid throughout summer, contrasting against the vivid blue of the sea. At first sight the mysterious islands of the Komodo archipelago might remind you of Jurassic Park, rising out of the Indonesian sea in great humpbacked ridges covered with windblown savannah grasses and the tousled heads of lontar palms. This is the land of dragons, where you can walk among the giant reptiles of Rinca Island (more spectacularly aggressive than those of Komodo itself), cruise through the mangroves and trek to grassy summits. The tropical waters of Komodo National Park has long been famous as one of the most species-rich tropical underwater environments on earth, with an official count of more than 1,000 types of fish and 260 corals.

SUMBA

The island of Sumba, cast off from the Nusa Tenggara chain, feels a world away from the bright lights of Bali. Sumba's rippling tide is a surfers delight, made stylish by the luxurious Nihiwatu Resort. An island that time forgot – as did Portuguese explorer Antonio de Abreu when he sailed past in 1512, and later Venetian Antonio Pigafetta who misplaced it on a map - Sumba carried on with little interruption from the outside world, save for a spot of trade. Sumba is home to one of the last megalithic cultures on earth. The locals live by the word of shamans, perform animal sacrifices and hold an annual festival called Pasola. The significance of Pasola is represented across the island in art and sculpture, and makes up the majority of prints on Sumba's renowned ikat textiles. With its unsurpassed island location, Nihiwatu Resort is an adventure traveller's dream with an unparalleled activities list. From surfing the resort's legendary waves to big game fishing for mahi mahi and wahoo, diving and spearfishing, hiking through local villages, mountain biking in the lush forests and horse riding on the beach as the sun sets on the horizon, there's something here to suit every desire.



Ultimate Indonesian Yachts



DAY 1: LABUAN BAJO

You will be met at Labuan Bajo airport by the yacht's crew and transferred to the harbour, a 15-minute drive. After you have settled in onboard, your private yacht will set sail from Labuan Bajo and cruise to the outskirts of the National Park while you enjoy lunch on deck. If time allows, you may enjoy a check dive or a snorkel at Saboyer Island, an ideal spot to relax on the beach or watch the sunset with a cocktail in hand.

DAY 2: RINCA ISLAND & KOMODO STRAIGHT

Although lesser known than neighboring Komodo Island, Rinca is an excellent place to observe Komodo dragons, as well as the monkey population and a vast array of birdlife. This morning, you can stroll through the park with a ranger early in the morning and catch sight of the famed endemic dragons. This afternoon, you may submerge at underwater sites in northern Rinca, relax on a sandy beach flecked with tiny shells and pink coral, or explore nearby coves. Nestled in the channel between Komodo Island and Flores, the dive sites of *Tarawa Besar* and *Kecil* offer bustling coral reefs and pelagic encounters.





DAY 3: PULAU PADAR & CENTRAL KOMODO

Set between Rinca and Komodo in the central region of the national park, you'll find the picturesque island of Padar. A sheltered bay on the southeast side of the island makes for a beautiful anchorage, set in the shadow of the dramatic craggy peaks of Padar, and within reach of excellent diving and snorkelling sites. Central Komodo's nutrient-rich waters attract enormous shoals of schooling fish among deep pinnacles and current swept walls that are widely renowned as some of the best underwater sights in Indonesia. The bay of Padar is also a wonderful spot for enjoying powdery soft shores and panoramic island views, and your crew may set up a freshly prepared seafood grill on the beach, where you can recline on comfortable cushions and rugs in the glow of candlelight.

DAY 4: SOUTH WEST KOMODO

Today, you will have a chance to visit the well-known *Manta Point*, located in the south west of Komodo. This is home to the famous Manta cleaning station, and you'll have the opportunity to swim surrounded by Manta rays as they circle around you in an underwater ballet. Known as the most active area in all of Komodo because of its topography, three rocks in this deep bay are covered in an array of vibrant soft and hard coral gardens and home to large numbers of fish, including species such as Tuna, Napoleon, Wrasse, Barracuda, and many more. After lunch onboard, you'll spend the afternoon beach combing or cruising hidden coves and tropical mangroves on the tender, finishing the day with another spectacular sunset.





Ultimate Indonesian Yachts



DAY 5: GILI LAWA LAUT & GILI LAWA DARAT

Today the yacht will anchor on the northwestern edge of Komodo, near the Gili Lawa islands. These two islands are home to some of Komodo's most famous dive sites, including *Castle* and *Crystal Rock*, *Shotgun*, *The Passage* and *Lighthouse*. These sites are home to a myriad of schooling fish and critters alike. The islands also offer stretches of private beaches for relaxing on between underwater pursuits, and a steep trek to the top of Gili Lawa Darat rewards guests with one of the most stunning vistas, stretching off the northern side of the Komodo National Park into the distance, and makes for a wonderful signature Komodo sunset.

DAY 6: SOUTH RINCA

South Rinca is home to the famous Horse Shoe Bay, also known as Nusa Kode, where you can see fierce Komodo dragons patrolling a beach backed by thick forest inhabited by monkeys, deer, wild boar and fish eagles. The landscape here is markedly different to that of central Komodo, with sheer peaks rising into whirls of cloud. Worthy underwater spots here include *Cannibal Rock*, one of the world's most famous macro sites and home to all manner of critters such as pygmy seahorses and colourful nudibranchs. This is also an exciting area to take the tender out for a cruise along the foot of dramatic rock formations. This evening, you'll enjoy a final dinner out on deck and the yacht will cruise to Sumba overnight.





Ultimate Indonesian Yachts



DAY 7, 8, 9 & 10: SUMBA (NIHIWATU RESORT)

This morning, the yacht will arrive at Sumba's northern coast. Your crew will transfer you to the harbour, where a Nihiwatu representative will collect you for the drive to Nihiwatu on the southern coast. Nihiwatu is an exclusive island hideaway settled on 175 hectares of tropical forest, grasslands and rice terraces with 1.6 miles of stunning beachfront. The resort has a key role in sustaining the surrounding community, hiring local Sumbanese staff and operating the Sumba Foundation, which assists with education and medical care on the island. Here, guests will settle into a luxurious eco-friendly villa with a private pool and enjoy the next few days on land.

Please note that itineraries starting or ending outside of Komodo are typically subject to relocation fees. Routes are subject to change, depending on weather conditions, progressing harbor clearances, changes to domestic flights and other deciding factors. Please contact Ultimate Indonesian Yachts to discuss your requirements.

info@u-i-y.com

