



Ultimate Indonesian Yachts

13-DAY / 12-NIGHT ITINERARY – FIVE TRIBES OF PAPUA & RAJA AMPAT



Embark on a 13-day adventure combining West Papua and Raja Ampat. This journey will take you across West Papua by private plane, culminating with a sailing sojourn in the tropical Raja Ampat islands onboard a private yacht. This journey begins in Jayapura and ends in Sorong.

WEST PAPUA

There's no better way to gain insight into the mysterious tribes and majestic landscapes of West Papua than by private plane with an expert guide. Begin with the Baliem Valley, where the Dani tribe is the only community to have developed an agricultural system, followed by the Yali area in the Jayawijaya Mountains, rich in stunning topography. Break bread with the legendary Tree People of the Korowai and Kombai tribes, the smallest most isolated groups in Papua. Living deep in the jungle, they live nomadically and build houses in the canopy. Finally, visit the infamous headhunting Asmat tribe, also known as skilled artists, crafting sculptures recognised throughout Indonesia. From ceremonies, dances and sago feasts in isolated villages to flying over the second largest rainforest in the world, trekking across mountains and canoeing quiet waterways, West Papua makes for a truly wild adventure.

RAJA AMPAT

The Raja Ampat archipelago translates as 'Four Kings', referring to the four main islands of Salawati, Batanta, Waigeo and Misool, which are in turn surrounded by approximately 1,500 wild isles with pristine beaches and sheer limestone cliffs plunging into aqua seas. Above water, the islands' heritage is diverse, with prehistoric cave paintings and relics from past eras. Intrepid visitors can trek through the jungle, learn about traditional kampong life in local villages, visit a sea turtle rookery and explore the coastal mangroves by sea kayak. Resounding with bird calls, the Raja Ampat archipelago houses the largest number of freshwater bird species in the region; parrots, hornbills, lorikeets, marbled frogmouths and birds of paradise to name a few. Beneath the surface, Raja Ampat is recognised as the world's most bio-diverse marine ecosystem with 1,200 species of fish and 550 species of hard and soft coral, a shelter for 6 of the world's 7 species of sea turtle. Brimming with natural beauty, Raja Ampat remains one of the last untouched corners of the earth.



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SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1: SENTANI TO WAMENA

Upon arrival at Sentani Airport in Jayapura, you will catch a connecting flight to Wamena. Once in Wamena, you will transfer to Baliem Valley Resort Hotel to check in, before meeting your expert guide on a hike through Suroba's countryside, dotted with traditional Dani houses. Continuing through the forest and crossing a bridge over the Aike River, you will continue by car to the villages of Jiwika and Sumpaima, where inhabitants keep mummies of their ancestors believed to be some 250 years old. Here, the traditional Pig Feast, Mock War and Tribal Dance will be performed exclusively, an opportunity to get an intimate look at West Papua's extraordinary culture. After lunch, you will return to Wamena, stopping here and there to visit the WagaWaga village, Contilola Caves, and the local market before heading back to the hotel to rest.

DAY 2: KOSAREK & WASALTEK

Following breakfast at the hotel, you will be invited to board your private charter plane and fly to Kosarek for a one-hour hike to Wasaltek, the village of the Yali people. Here, the inhabitants of the village will kindle the fire and perform a War Dance. After lunch, you may explore the village and see how the inhabitants lead their everyday lives. In the evening, you will be invited to join the villagers as they perform traditional songs and dinner will be served in the village, after which guests will spend the night camped out in tents in Wasaltek, or in a local house.





DAY 3: YANIRUMA

This morning, you will be accompanied back to Kosarek to board your private plane for a one-hour flight to Yaniruma - a new settlement on the bank of River Masul. Here, you will take to a canoe and cruise down the river before trekking to a tree house village hidden in thick forest. Here, you will join the tribesmen, assisting with the preparations for tomorrow's Sago feast, and spend time learning about hunting tactics and trap setting methods, or taking a closer look at sago processing and traditional basket weaving. The night will be spent in tents or a forest tree house.

DAY 4: YANIRUMA

The Sago Feast is typically held once every couple of years in the area and today, you will have the opportunity to join in the festivities. The Sago feast is one of the most important events in the life of every Korowai, and dozens of tribesmen will arrive from surrounding settlements for the occasion. It's a gathering of hundreds of people from different clans that share the experience of another passing year and consume huge quantities of sago products together. You will spend the night in tents or in the forest tree house.





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DAY 5: EWER

After breakfast, you will return to the river for a canoe ride back to Yaniruma. From here, you will fly by private plane to Ewer and transfer by motorised canoe to the Asmat villages of Wasrse and Beriten. You will be ushered in with a unique warrior performance from the locals, singing and dancing on their paddle canoes upon your arrival. In these villages, you will learn how the Asmat people carve their renowned statues and spend time soaking up local customs that are a signature of these remote tribal regions. Dinner will be served in the village, followed by an overnight stay in the long house.

DAY 6: TIMIKA

This morning after breakfast in Wasrse, you will be transferred back to Ewer by motorised canoe and board your private plane bound for Timika. Here, you can visit a local market and explore Kuala Kencana Town, which belongs to the PT. Freeport Company, before checking into the Rimba Papua Hotel to rest.





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DAY 7: SORONG

This morning, you will catch a commercial flight to Sorong. Upon arrival, you will be collected by the crew and transferred to the harbour to board your private yacht, which will set sail from Sorong for the island of Mioskon in Kri. Mioskon Bay is a beautiful anchorage surrounded by jungle inhabited by a plethora of bird species, where you can snorkel in the mangroves and kayak mirror still waters. You'll be served cocktails at sunset, as flocks of fruit bats set out across orange skies, and enjoy your first dinner out on deck under the stars.

DAY 8: KRI, DAMPIER STRAIT

This morning, you'll awake to the sound of tropical birds calling from the depths of the jungle. In the 1700s William Dampier reached the northwestern tip of Papua and travelled with the rising tide into the great channel that now bears his name. The Dampier Strait conveys massive quantities of seawater, forcing currents to flow parallel to the equator where most currents flow north and south. Famed for its abundant fish-life and vibrant coral slopes, the Kri peninsula offers some of the most exquisite underwater vistas in Raja Ampat. Here, you can snorkel over vibrant soft and hard coral reefs through veils of colorful reef fish, and encounter turtles, sharks and even manta rays. Nearby, the island of Mansuar is home to an interesting church, and you can head ashore for a glimpse of local culture.





DAY 9: WAYAG ISLANDS, NORTH RAJA AMPAT

Today, the yacht will cruise the interminable green island maze that comprises the most visually stunning scene in Raja Ampat – the Wayag Islands. This postcard worthy tropical paradise proves a magnificent backdrop for watersports. Kayak, paddleboard or cruise at water level on the tender, exploring hidden coves in the shadow of Wayag's sheer limestone peaks. You can climb the renowned island peak behind the anchorage for a full panoramic view of the azure waterways through the rock formations, and finish the hike with a swim at the dazzling white sand beach below. This evening, you will be treated to a magnificent fresh grill on a deserted stretch of beach at sunset, complete with a blazing campfire, comfortable cushions and cocktails.

DAY 10: PENEMU, FAM

A cluster of rocky limestone domes makes up the Penemu Islands. Draped with tiers of green vegetation, the islets encircle a shallow green bay and a walking trail along the rocky hills leads to a look out with magnificent views of the lagoon, its outlying islands, and the ocean beyond. From here, you can travel out to some of the most celebrated snorkelling and diving sites in the area, where turtles float over intricate coral gardens and Manta rays meet large schools of game fish congregating in nutrient-rich currents. Take to a paddleboard or a kayak and enjoy the waters at your own pace, or jump on the tender and cruise out to deeper channels, where you might spot one of the local pods of dolphin, or perhaps some migrating whales.





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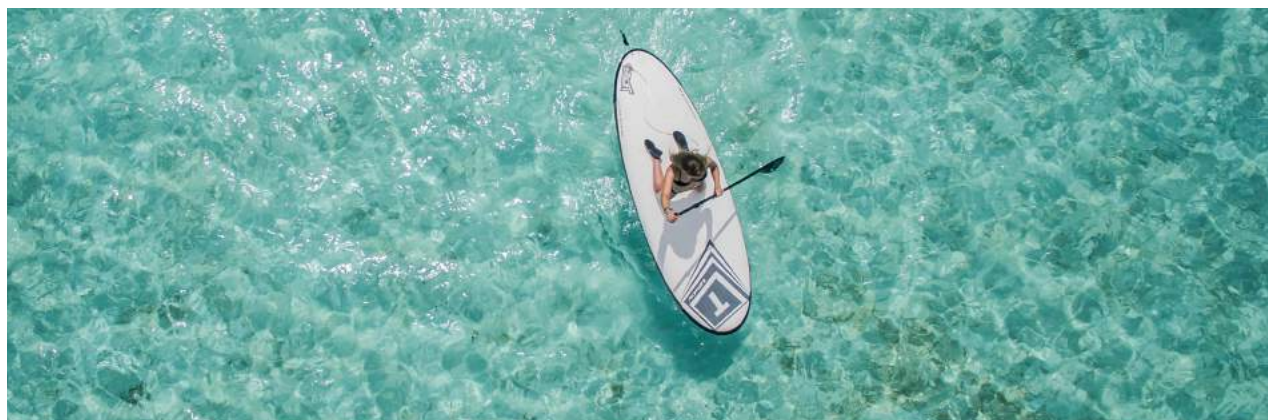


DAY 11: THE PASSAGE, WAIGEO

Rise at the crack of dawn for the best chance of sighting a rare Red Bird of Paradise. Your cruise director will accompany you to the island of Gam, where the curious local children will wander with you to the foot of a jungle-clad hill. Hike around 45-minutes to reach the bird-watching platform and keep your eyes and ears open for signs of this elusive, beautiful bird. Return to your yacht for a well-earned breakfast and take in the statuesque mushroom islands of Kabui Bay, marking the entrance to a narrow channel of water through which strong currents run with each tide – the famous Passage. The channel is framed by limestone cliffs and green vegetation and below, offers a rare glimpse at what is effectively a “salt water river”, shrouded with soft corals, fans and sponges. Nearby, the southern edge of Gam has quiet waterways leading through mangroves where you can glide through narrow inlets in the tender, exploring the jungle.

DAY 12: BATANTA, DAMPIER STRAIT

The island of Batanta offers fantastic bird watching and jungle scenery. Here, you can trek to the local waterfall, enjoy a swim in the pool below or underneath the falls' cave, and observe some of the most spectacular birds and butterflies on the trek back to the vessel. This evening's anchorage affords the chance to settle in for a spectacular island sunset, serenaded by myriad of local bird life, such as Blythes hornbills, palm cockatoos, egrets & various sea eagles returning to roost for the evening.





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DAY 13: BATANTA TO SORONG

The yacht will set sail early this morning towards Sorong. After a farewell breakfast, you will be escorted to the harbour, and onwards to the local airport for your flight home.

Please note that all itineraries 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

