



Ultimate Indonesian Yachts

7-DAY / 6-NIGHT ITINERARY – RAJA AMPAT



Embark on a 7-day sailing sojourn in Raja Ampat. This journey will take you to the tropical Raja Ampat islands onboard a private yacht, beginning and ending at Sorong.

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 life in local villages and explore the coastal mangroves by sea kayak. Resounding with bird calls, these islands house a huge number of freshwater bird species; 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.





SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY 1: SORONG

Upon arrival at Sorong airport, you will be collected by your private yacht's representative and transferred to the harbour, approximately 20-minutes drive away, where you will board your vessel. Once you have met the rest of the crew and settled in, the yacht will set sail from Sorong, bound for the Dampier Strait. After lunch onboard, you will arrive at your magnificent jungle clad anchorage in the late afternoon. Mioskon Bay is surrounded by thick jungle inhabited by all manner of bird species, where you can explore the mangroves and paddleboard on mirror still waters. Here, you can also snorkel in the bay and have your first taste of Raja Ampat's spectacular coral reefs. This evening, you may see a colony of fruit bats setting out on their nightly jaunt while you enjoy your first dinner onboard.

DAY 2: KRI PENINSULA

This morning, you'll awake to the sound of tropical birds calling from the depths of the jungle. Mioskon Bay is a spectacular spot where you can spend the morning snorkelling in the mangroves, or kayaking across mirror still waters, hugging the verdant rocky coastline. 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 dive or snorkel at world-class sites such as *Cape Kri*, *Sardine Reef* and *Mike's Point*, where vibrant soft and hard coral reef provide shelter for veils of colorful reef fish, 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 3 & 4: WAYAG ISLANDS

For the next two days, 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 onboard 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. One 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 5: 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 edge of Gam has quiet waterways leading to mangroves where you can glide through narrow inlets in the tender, exploring the jungle. You may be lucky and see a bloom of stingless moon jellyfish, an enigmatic swimming experience.





DAY 6: ARBOREK & BATANTA

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. Dampier's tidal surges carry planktonic feasts that attract hundreds of Manta rays at this time of year near Arborek Island. Spend time diving or snorkelling over the shallow sandy bottom and wait for the giant mantas to pass, swooping past with curious eyes in an elegant underwater ballet. After lunch onboard, head to shore to Arborek village. Communities in Raja Ampat primarily make their living from sustainable fishing and pearling, with around 18 villages in the region, all of which are very small. Arborek has a population of under 200, with very hospitable people creating handicrafts. Your final day in Raja Ampat ends beside the island of Batanta as the sun melts into the horizon.

DAY 7: BATANTA TO SORONG

The yacht will set sail early this morning towards Sorong. After a farewell breakfast, you will be escorted to the harbour by your yacht's crew, and onwards to the local airport to catch 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

