



ULTIMATE YACHTS

THE SPICE ISLANDS & RAJA AMPAT

11-night itinerary from Ambon to Sorong



THE ULTIMATE INDONESIAN YACHTS TEAM IS PASSIONATE ABOUT EXPLORING SOUTH EAST ASIA'S MOST COMPELLING COASTLINES. WE BELIEVE THAT CHARTERING A PRIVATE YACHT IS THE PERFECT WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE SECRETS OF OUR BLUE PLANET.

Our handpicked collection of luxury and expedition charter yachts offers an unrivalled means of experiencing both land & sea from the comfort of boutique accommodation on the waves. Our yachts combine tradition, elegance and modern conveniences, and each one comes with a skilled crew including an expert captain, a cruise host and a private chef.

We know our niche inside out and we take pride in our longstanding relationships with clients, yacht owners and agents alike. We will take the time to truly know everything about each yacht, from the cruise director's strengths to the cuisine and service onboard.



THE SPICE ISLANDS

THIS SMALL CHAIN OF VOLCANIC ISLANDS LIES SCATTERED IN THE BANDA SEA, TO THE SOUTH OF THE LARGER ISLES OF AMBON AND SERAM, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE FERTILE MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN CLOAKED IN TROPICAL RAINFOREST HOME TO A WEALTH OF WILDLIFE.

For many years, the Spice Islands (also known as the Banda Islands) were renowned for their significance in the spice trade. Today, they are known not only for their history but also for their breath-taking landscapes. With a mixture of history and natural beauty, abandoned forts, nutmeg groves and local markets, this region has plenty to see on land.

Rising up from deep waters in steep mounts, the Spice Islands are surrounded by marine-rich waters and remain one of the best spots in Indonesia for both large pelagic fish and macro life. Crystal clear waters are one of this region's greatest draws.

Currents bring a boundless supply of nutrients up from the depths and at the right time of year, keen divers can find schooling hammerheads in deep oceanic trenches and the densest population of sea snakes in the world, not to mention countless vividly coloured healthy coral gardens.

RAJA AMPAT

RAJA AMPAT IS LOCATED OFF THE NORTHWEST TIP OF BIRD'S HEAD PENINSULA IN WEST PAPUA AND DESCRIBED AS ONE OF THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY ENVIRONMENTS ON THE PLANET. THE NAME TRANSLATES AS 'FOUR KINGS,' REFERRING TO THE MAIN ISLANDS OF MISOOL, BATANTA, WAIGEO AND SALAWATI, WHICH ARE SURROUNDED BY 1,500 ISLANDS WITH WILD BEACHES AND LIMESTONE CLIFFS PLUNGING INTO AQUA SEAS.

In the 1700s William Dampier reached the north western 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.

Above water, the islands' cultural heritage is diverse, with prehistoric cave paintings and relics from bygone eras, while recent history is visible in cave bunkers and seabed wreckage from World War II. Intrepid visitors can trek through the jungle to seek out endemic birdlife, visit remote local villages, explore sea turtle rookeries and pearl farms and discover coastal mangroves by sea kayak.

Raja Ampat comprises a total territory of 9.8 million acres over land and sea, and beneath the surface, it is recognised as the world's most bio-diverse marine ecosystem with over 1,200 species of fish, 550 species of coral, and six of the world's seven species of turtle.



11-night Ambon to Sorong itinerary



DAY 1: AMBON

You will be met at Ambon airport by the yacht's crew and transferred to the harbour. Once you have settled in onboard, the yacht will depart the harbour. This afternoon, plan your first snorkel or dive at one Indonesia's most spectacular muck sites in Ambon harbour. Dinner will be served under the stars.

DAY 2: SAPARUA & MAMALA

Saparua is the largest island in the Lease chain to the east of Ambon. This morning you may head ashore to explore the small town of Saparua and visit the Duurstede Fort, built by the Portugese in 1676. While you enjoy lunch back onboard, the yacht will sail to Mamala Island, where you can explore underwater sites on the eastern coast, which offers some striking walls with overhangs, inhabited by an array of macro marine life.



DAY 3: BANDA NEIRA

Early in the morning, the Banda Islands will emerge on the horizon. This morning you can dive at "Bird Rock" at Suanggi Island, and on arrival at Banda Neira, you can head ashore to the historical town. Every building here could be a museum - there are cannons in the front of colonial houses and 17th century inscriptions on the walls. You'll visit the impressive Fort Belgica, an old church and a former governor's palace, a jail and local museum.

DAY 4: GUNUNG API

We invite the fit and ambitious to make an early morning ascent of Banda's Gunung Api volcano. This is perhaps the most famous of the Banda Sea 'Ring of Fire' volcanos. First recorded in the 14th century, it last erupted in 1988. While this is a challenging climb up a narrow track to an elevation of about 640 metres, the reward when reaching the top of the 'Fire Mountain' is well worth the effort and you can revel in a stunning and unforgettable view.

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DAY 5: BANDA BESAR

This morning, head to Banda Besar to see the historical nutmeg plantations – once the most expensive spice in the world. Walk past ancient almond trees and take the opportunity to see how the locals make a living, while observing various species of endemic birds. After lunch, you can do one or two wonderful dives at Batu Kapal, and later visit a small village on Pisang Island, which is surrounded by the pristine beaches and beautiful reef.

DAY 6: RUN & NAILAKKA

Head ashore to Ai Island, where the ruins of Fort Revenge can still be seen deep in the jungle. We will also cruise to Run Island – the first British overseas colony. This tiny piece of land was once the subject of a long and bloody conflict between European colonial powers, and was transferred to the Dutch in exchange for New York! We will explore the island to see the forgotten ruins of old forts, enjoying picnic lunches and exploring the coral wall.

DAY 7: KOON

Today, we'll arrive at the tiny island of Koon, to the east of Seram, which is a veritable aquarium for underwater aficionados. Coconut palms dot the island, which is encircled by a blindingly white beach melting into turquoise seas. The coral reef fringing the island is well protected and acts as a haven for fish. Overnight, the yacht will cruise to Misool in the southern region of Raja Ampat.



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DAY 8, 9 & 10: MISOOL

This morning, the yacht will reach the southeast end of Misool. You'll awake to a shimmering pastel sunrise and enjoy a decadent breakfast on deck, with tea and coffee served by your crew. This chain of tiny islands carves the area into hundreds of narrow channels concealing lagoons, coves, cliffs and limestone overhang, caves and endless pristine beaches. Here in Raja Ampat's southernmost island, you'll spend three days exploring Misool's treasures. The surrounding dive and snorkel sites have been voted some of the best in the world: Boo Windows, Magic Mountain and more, a myriad of exhilarating and relaxing underwater pursuits. Above water, you'll explore the ethereal "Gua Sacral" ancestral caves of Tomolol, a former burial site of indigenous Papuans. Swim through a cathedral-like cave coated in orchids and discover ancient cave paintings edging the crystal blue surface. There's a pearl farm nearby where you can see how the local's forge a living in these remote parts. Powder sand beaches await your footprints, and you can claim one as your own for as long as you like, hunting for shells or picnicking in the shallows. Overnight, the yacht will cruise to central Raja Ampat.

DAY 11: DAMPIER STRAIT

This morning, you'll awake to the sound of tropical birds calling from the depths of the jungle. Mioskon Bay is a spectacular anchorage where you can spend the morning snorkelling in the mangroves, or kayaking across mirror still waters, hugging the verdant 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.

DAY 12: SORONG

This morning, the yacht will approach Sorong harbour. After a final decadent breakfast on deck, your crew will assist you in disembarking the yacht and transfer you back to the airport to catch your flight home.



ULTIMATE YACHTS



INDONESIA DESTINATIONS

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|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1 | KOMODO NATIONAL PARK | 4 | THE SPICE ISLANDS |
| 2 | RAJA AMPAT | 5 | WEST PAPUA |
| 3 | ALOR ARCHIPELAGO | 6 | NORTH MALUKU |



OUR TEAM

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