



ULTIMATE YACHTS

# KOMODO & THE ALOR ARCHIPELAGO

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*14-night itinerary*







## EXPERIENCE-LED PRIVATE CRUISING SPECIALISTS



*The Ultimate Indonesian Yachts team is passionate about exploring Indonesia's most compelling coastlines. We believe that chartering a private yacht is the best way to uncover 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 the islands like the back of our hand and we love planning bespoke adventures to suit you. We take pride in our relationships with clients, yacht owners and agents alike. We take the time to truly know everything about each yacht, from the cruise director's strengths to the cuisine and service onboard.



# KOMODO & THE ALOR ARCHIPELAGO



*From the famed UNESCO World Heritage site of Komodo National Park to the remote reaches of the untrodden Alor archipelago, this route covers incredible scenery above and below the waterline, as well as fascinating culture.*

The islands of Komodo National Park are known for the endemic Komodo dragons, respected by locals who believe they descend from one born to a dragon princess, centuries ago.

Rolling hills and mangroves in the north give way to craggy mountainous terrain in the central region. With an official count of more than 1,000 types of fish and 260 types of corals, the warm tropical waters of Komodo National Park are one of the most species-rich underwater environments on earth.

The Alor archipelago comprises a series of rugged, volcanic islands, the final link in the chain stretching east of Bali, Sumbawa and Flores. It is perhaps most notable for its staggering cultural diversity — the small archipelago is home to no less than 100 tribes speaking eight languages and 52 dialects.





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KOMODO  
NATIONAL PARK



EAST NUSA TENGARRA

MAUMERE

KOMBA



ALOR

ALOR CHANNEL



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### **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. Once you have settled in onboard, the yacht will depart Labuan Bajo and cruise to the outskirts of the National Park while you enjoy lunch on deck. If time allows, go snorkelling or try a check dive before you watch the sun go down with a cocktail. Dinner will be served under the stars.

### **DAY 2: RINCA ISLAND**

Lesser known than neighboring Komodo Island, Rinca is an excellent place to observe Komodo dragons, as well as the monkey population and an array of birdlife. This morning, stroll through the park with a ranger and catch sight of the famed Komodo dragons. This afternoon, submerge at underwater sites in the channel between Komodo and Flores, such as Tatawa Besar and Kecil, relax on a sandy beach flecked with shells or explore nearby coves and try some watersports.

### **DAY 3: MANTA POINT**

Today, you will have a chance to visit a Manta cleaning station. Swim surrounded by Manta rays as they circle you in an underwater ballet. This area offers one of the most active underwater landscapes in Komodo with vibrant soft and hard coral gardens home to large numbers of fish. After lunch onboard, spend the afternoon beach combing or cruising mangroves and hidden coves on the tender, or relax onboard in the sunshine.

### **DAY 4: PADAR ISLAND**

Set between Rinca and Komodo in the central region of the national park lies the picturesque island of Padar. A sheltered bay on the southeast side of the island makes for a beautiful anchorage in the shadow of dramatic craggy peaks. Central Komodo's nutrient-rich waters attract shoals of schooling fish on current swept walls renowned as some of the best coral reefs in Indonesia. This bay is a wonderful spot for watersports, beach time or a tender cruise in the mangroves.





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**DAY 5: SOUTH RINCA**

South Rinca is home to Horse Shoe Bay (Nusa Kode), where fierce Komodo dragons patrol 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. Underwater spots here include macro-heaven Cannibal Rock. This is an exciting area to take the tender out for a cruise along the dramatic rock formations.

**DAY 6: SEBAYOR**

This morning, the yacht will arrive at Sebayaor Island. This is a great spot for a relaxing castaway day; at Sebayaor Kecil you can snorkel with black-tip reef sharks, groups of tuna, and green turtles diving from the surface. The afternoon can be spent enjoying watersports in quiet bays or reclining on a deserted sandy beach backed by the Komodo hills, as the day draws to a close with cocktails and dinner with a view over a final spectacular sunset.

**DAY 7: GILI LAWA LAUT**

Today the yacht will anchor on the northwestern edge of Komodo, near the Gili Lawa islands. These two islands are home to Komodo's most famous underwater sites including Castle Rock, Shotgun, The Passage and Lighthouse. Pitch up on a stretch of golden sand between underwater pursuits. A steep trek will reward you with stunning vistas over the surrounding islands, stretching into the distance.





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### **DAY 8: RIUNG MARINE NATIONAL PARK**

As the yacht cruises into Riung Marine National Park, also known as ‘Seventeen Islands’ in honour of Indonesia’s Independence Day, you will spend the day exploring this chain of 24 protected isles off the north coast of Flores. Aside from incredible marine life, the park is home to interesting wildlife on land in the forests, and five fishing villages inhabited by a mixture of Islamic Buginese and Catholics from the hinterland. There’s an interesting cave nearby where dusk brings a spectacle – thousands of bats taking off for their nightly jaunt.

### **DAY 9: MOUNT KELIMUTU**

Early this morning, you will be driven from Ende harbour to Moni, where a short walk (30 minutes) reaches Kelimutu. Mount Kelimutu means Mountain of the Spirits, and its main draw is the famed three lakes set within the surreal summit of the craters at 1690m. The trio of lakes comprises Tiwu ata Mbupu (Lake of Old People), which is usually blue and the westernmost of the three lakes. Then there’s Tiwu Nuwa Muri Koo Fai (Lake of Young Men and Maidens) and Tiwu Ata Polo (Bewitched or Enchanted Lake), usually green or red respectively and separated only by a crater wall. While it is the make up of dissolved minerals that give the lakes their different, changing colours, local legend and ethereal landscapes mean this area takes on a mythical feeling. On the way back to Ende, you can stop at the traditional village of Saga Lio Tribe and visit Ende Local Market and Soekarno House, the residence of the first Indonesian president.



### **DAY 10: PALOE**

Today we will approach the small volcanic island of Paloe. There’s a fascinating village built on the volcanic slope, as though the smoking crater above was no real threat, and you can head ashore to see the traditional ikat weave textiles in the making. After lunch onboard, spend the afternoon snorkelling and diving in crystal clear waters. The yacht will depart early this evening for the overnight crossing to Kawula.



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### DAY 11: MAUMERE

This morning, you will be collected at Maumere harbour by a local guide. Maumere, the capital city of the Sikka district, is a main entry point for visiting Flores. Your tour will begin at Sikka village, which is known for its ancient church dating from 1899 and ikat textiles, which are enthusiastically sold by the local people. You'll also stop in at Ledalero Museum before visiting the local market and Wuring fishing village before returning to your yacht.

### DAY 12: KAWULA & KOMBA

This morning offers the chance to dive the north coast of Kawula, where schools of reef fish cluster around tiers of hard coral in the shadow of Ile Ape volcano. You can also head ashore to Ionata village to see the 30m skeletal remains of a blue whale, which remains a sacred icon to the villagers. Subject to weather, we may make the crossing to Komba, where one of the active volcano can be seen spewing smoke into the skies.

### DAY 13 & 14: ALOR CHANNEL

The next two days may be spent exploring underwater sites along the coast of Alor & Pantar islands, such as Clown Valley, Sharks Galore, Mandarin House and The Boardroom, where you can glide through enormous shoals of fish, stunning colorful coral reefs and drifting pelagic marine life. In the very south of the Pantar Strait lies the small, remote village of Beangabang, 3 hours by boat to the nearest town. The village is nestled on a beautiful bay that curves gracefully between two out flung headlands. A large lava flow on one side shows the islands fiery past, and parts of the beach are so hot that they are painful to walk on and the black sand of the beach is steaming. Even by local standards, this is a very simple village with the most welcoming of people, and one of the most wonderful places to get a sense of local culture.

### DAY 15: ALOR

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







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#### DESTINATION KEY

- ★ CRUISING MAY TO OCTOBER
- ★ CRUISING NOVEMBER TO APRIL
- ★ CRUISING IN THE SHOULDER SEASON





## OUR TEAM

Eddie Widhall, Founder, Charter Manager and Indonesia Expert

Annie Biziou, Partner, Marketing Manager and Travel Specialist

Kim Guenier, Sales, Marketing and Indonesia Operations

Yoann Martin, Sales and Burma Operations

Alexander Gadaev, Moscow-based Travel Specialist

Rosie Redman, Guest Services

Rachel Horler, Accounting





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