

# THE LUXURY VOYAGE





## **Spice Islands & Raja Ampat**

Blending the charm of the Spice Islands, scattered across the Banda Sea, with the tropical haven of Raja Ampat promises an unforgettable adventure, rich in history, vibrant reefs, and unspoiled beaches.

Once the heart of the global spice trade, the Spice Islands (or Banda Islands) are now famed for their historical significance and breathtaking landscapes. On land, you'll encounter a captivating mix of history and nature, from abandoned forts and nutmeg plantations to lively local markets.

Raja Ampat spans 9.8 million acres of land and sea, boasting the world's most biodiverse marine ecosystem, home to over 1,200 species of fish, 550 types of coral, and six of the world's seven sea turtle species. Adventurous travelers can trek through jungles to discover rare bird species, visit remote villages, explore sea turtle nesting sites and pearl farms, or paddle through mangrove forests by kayak.

## **Day 1: Ambon**

Begin your adventure with a warm welcome from The Luxury Voyage crew at Ambon airport. After a transfer to the harbor, you'll board your luxurious yacht and set sail. Your first afternoon will be spent snorkeling or diving in the renowned muck diving sites of Ambon harbor. Dinner will be served under the stars as you enjoy your first evening at sea.

## **Day 2: Saparua & Mamala**

This morning, step ashore on Saparua, the largest island in the Lease chain. Explore the quaint town and visit the historic Duurstede Fort, built by the Portuguese in 1676. Enjoy lunch onboard as the yacht cruises to Mamala Island, where you can explore its stunning underwater walls, teeming with diverse marine life.

## **Day 3: Banda Neira**

Arrive at Banda Neira, a bustling village rich in colonial history. Explore the town's historical sites, including Fort Belgica, colonial homes, and a local museum. In the afternoon, dive at the "Lava Flow" site beneath the active volcano before returning to the yacht for a night dive at Banda Jetty, where you may spot the elusive mandarin fish.

### **Day 4: Hatta**

Today, you'll visit Batu Kapal, an excellent dive site known for its rich marine biodiversity. Continue south toward Hatta Island, where the vibrant coral walls provide an unforgettable underwater experience. As evening approaches, begin cruising eastward toward the border of the Banda and Arafura Seas, keeping an eye out for passing whales as the sun sets.

### **Day 5: Banda Besar**

Explore the famous nutmeg plantations of Banda Besar, once the most valuable spice in the world. Walk among ancient almond trees and observe the local way of life. In the afternoon, dive at the beautiful Batu Kapal reef, then visit the charming village on Pisang Island, surrounded by pristine beaches.

### **Day 6: Run & Nailakka**

Sail to the westernmost Banda island of Run, where you'll dive at Run Corner and New Manhattan. Later, visit the village to see colonial houses and experience the isolation of this remote Banda community. Afterward, enjoy a picnic lunch on Nailakka Island and explore the coral walls that surround it.

### **Day 7: Koon Island**

Arrive at Koon Island, a haven for divers and snorkelers alike. Surrounded by white sand beaches and turquoise waters, this tiny island is home to a thriving coral reef. After a day of underwater exploration, relax onboard as the yacht sails overnight toward Misool.

### **Day 8: Heart Lake & Kalig**

Hike to the viewpoint overlooking the stunning Heart Lake, followed by a morning dive at Neptune's underwater paradise. After lunch, head to Kalig, where the crew will set up a beachside relaxation spot for you to enjoy the rest of the day in this secluded haven.

### **Day 9: Tomolol, Balbulol & Lookout**

Begin the day with a hike to the Puncak Harfat Jaya viewpoint, offering panoramic views of the surrounding lagoons. Continue to the ancestral caves of Tomolol, where you can swim through cathedral-like caverns and discover ancient cave paintings. Spend the afternoon exploring the vibrant underwater world of Balbulol and enjoy kayaking or diving along the stunning coastline.

### **Day 10: Daram, Misool**

Today, you'll explore the famous dive sites of Daram, including Warna Berwarna and the Candy Store. After a full day of snorkeling and diving, enjoy a sunset drink on the beach before heading to Yilliet for an overnight anchorage, where you'll have the option of a night dive.

### **Day 11: Manta Sandy & Arborek**

Begin the day with a dive at Citrus Ridge, then head to Manta Sandy to snorkel with majestic manta rays. In the afternoon, explore the Friwin area with its beautiful coral reefs and vibrant marine life. End the day in the Dampier Strait, known for its stunning beaches and magical sunsets.

### **Day 12: Friwin & Kalibiru**

Spend the morning diving at sites like Blue Magic and Sardine Reef or snorkeling in Friwinbonda. Later, hike to the breathtaking Blue River, a hidden gem with impossibly clear waters, before returning to the yacht for your final evening onboard.

### **Day 13: Sorong**

Arrive in Sorong, the capital of Southwest Papua, where you'll enjoy a final breakfast onboard. The crew will assist with your disembarkation and transfer you to the airport, concluding your unforgettable 12-night voyage with The Luxury Voyage.

**This 12-night adventure through the Spice Islands and Raja Ampat with The Luxury Voyage offers a perfect blend of history, natural beauty, and world-class diving, creating an unforgettable experience of Southeast Asia's most breathtaking destinations.**