

THE
LUXURY
Voyage

EASTERN INDONESIA · CRUISING GROUNDS

Triton Bay to Raja Ampat

11 DAYS & 10 NIGHTS · KAIMANA → SORONG

*Off the beaten track in far eastern Indonesia —
whale sharks, waterfalls falling into the sea, and the
dive site that broke the world species record.*



1,005

SPECIES OF FISH IN TRITON
BAY

471

SPECIES OF HARD CORAL

330

SPECIES ON ONE DIVE AT
PAPISOI CAPE

THE REGION

Off the beaten track

While Raja Ampat may claim most of the fame in this region, West Papua has numerous fascinating cruising grounds for those keen to get off the beaten track and explore far eastern Indonesia. To the north lies Bird's Head Peninsula and Cenderawasih Bay, while the south is home to Triton Bay; these destinations are known for their frequent whale shark sightings, authentic villages and wreck dives.

Triton Bay is part of the Kaimana Marine Protected Area, covering over 2,000 square miles. Kaimana in the south is home to the legend of the Garuda bird which today is the symbol of the Republic of Indonesia. Surrounded by the impressive peaks of the mainland, Triton Bay boasts lush rainforest and beautiful waterfalls that are ideal for exploratory hiking, and ancient rock art that can be seen while kayaking.

Triton Bay's marine biodiversity counts 1,005 species of fish, 471 species of hard coral, and 28 species of mantis shrimp with everything from pygmy seahorses to wobbegong and epaulette sharks. This route then turns west into the Misool archipelago, the quietest quarter of Raja Ampat, before finishing at Sorong.

Highlights at a glance

Christmas Rock — a black coral forest covered with glass fish in the Iris Strait.

Walking sharks — the epaulette shark, first identified here, most often seen at night.

Namatote passage — cliffs that are a gallery of prehistoric art left by ancient nomads.

Whale sharks at the bagans — the fishing platforms where the gentle giants gather.

Papisoi Cape — 330 fish species on a single dive, a world record when first surveyed.

Momon — a waterfall falling directly into the sea; swim straight into the fresh water.

When to go

SEASON	CONDITIONS
Oct – Apr	Prime cruising. Settled seas for the long passages between Kaimana and Misool.
Dec – Mar	Richest, greenest water; the most reliable window for whale sharks at the bagans.
Jun – Aug	Stronger south-easterlies; exposed crossings become uncomfortable.

This is a remote route. Flights into Kaimana are limited and can move, so allow a spare night at each end of the charter.

Diving & snorkelling notes

Triton Bay is a scuba divers’ dream, a place where scientists have recorded a total of eight different mantis shrimp species, 24 new fish species, and 20 new species of coral. The water is greener and visibility lower than in Raja Ampat, because it is thick with the nutrients that put the fish there: Christmas Rock’s black coral forest, 7th Heaven’s snapper and trevally, and night dives at Walker’s Reef for the walking shark.

Gua Sacral, Tomolol — the ancestral caves, a former burial site of indigenous Papuans.

Lenmolas — a hike ashore to meet the villagers of Misool’s interior.

Getting there

Embark at Kaimana (KNG)

A small regional airport, usually routed via Sorong or Ambon.

Disembark at Sorong (SOQ)

Domine Eduard Osok Airport, connecting through Jakarta, Makassar or Manado.

Permits

Marine park permits for Kaimana and Raja Ampat waters are arranged by the yacht.

Kaimana to Sorong

Four days in Triton Bay and the Kaimana coast, the waterfall at Momon and the beaches of Pisang, then three days among the Misool archipelago before Kofiau and Sorong.



NUMBERED ANCHORAGES FOLLOW THE DAY-BY-DAY BELOW. COASTLINES FROM NATURAL EARTH.

DAY 1

Kaimana

You will be met at Kaimana airport by the yacht's crew and transferred to the harbour. Once you have settled in onboard, the yacht will depart the harbour and cruise towards the Iris Strait, between Aiduma Island and mainland Papua. Dives include Christmas Rock, famous for its black coral forest covered with glass fish, and 7th Heaven, where it is common to see octopi, schools of snapper, surgeon fish, barracudas and trevally.

DAY 2

Triton Bay

Triton Bay is a scuba divers' dream, a place where scientists have recorded a total of eight different mantis shrimp species, 24 new fish species, and 20 new species of coral. Scientists also first spotted the new species of two kinds of epaulette shark (the walking shark) most commonly seen at night. For the next two days we will make the most of our time in Triton Bay amongst the undisturbed coves, caves, and lagoons.

DAY 3

Triton Bay

We can head north by speedboat through the Namatote passage, where the cliffs are well-known as a gallery of prehistoric art, with cave paintings, glyphs and pictorial signs left by ancient nomads high on the rock walls. We can also dive at Namatote to see leopard anemones and look for 'bagan' fishing platforms where we may be lucky enough to find whale sharks. There are night dives at Walker's Reef, where marine biologists discovered the Triton Bay walking shark.



KAIMANA · TRITON BAY

DAY 4

Tanjung Papisoi

In 2007, two of the first surveyed sites broke Dr Gerald Allen's Raja Ampat world record for the most fish species recorded from a single dive site — an astounding 330 species recorded from Papisoi Cape dive site alone. Marine surveyors always find new species here. There may be a chance to trek onland here; there's Papisoi waterfall inland and creatures such as the Papua pygmy kangaroo, deer, wild pig, pigeons and doves to be found.

DAY 5

Momon

Located approximately 150 nautical miles to the south east of Misool, on the mainland of West Papua, is a spectacular waterfall falling directly into the sea. The waterfall stems from a large river that originates in the highlands of Papuan jungle and gushes amongst beautiful primordial jungle. The falls can be approached by tender and you can jump into the ocean and swim directly to the waterfall, where the water pouring over the edge creates a wide screen of fast flowing fresh water.

DAY 6

Pisang

These tiny islands isolated in the vast waters of the Ceram Sea offer a chance to relax and enjoy sparkling white-sand beaches, clear waters and vibrant reefs before making our way to the shores of West Papua. Here we travel along the shores until we reach the village of Sipitnanam. After visiting with the residents who spend their days fishing the nearby waters or tending their nutmeg plantations, we will enjoy a day of exploration dives by speedboat.



TANJUNG PAPISOI · MOMON · PISANG

DAY 7

Misool — Daram

This morning, the yacht will reach the southeast end of Misool, where you'll spend the next few days, waking up to shimmering pastel sunrises with decadent breakfasts on deck. This morning we will visit the island of Daram. Relax on luminous white sand and enjoy the warm sun on your face. After lunch, dive with marine life as abundant as nature planned or snorkel in the crystal-clear waters and discover coral reefs just off the shore.

DAY 8

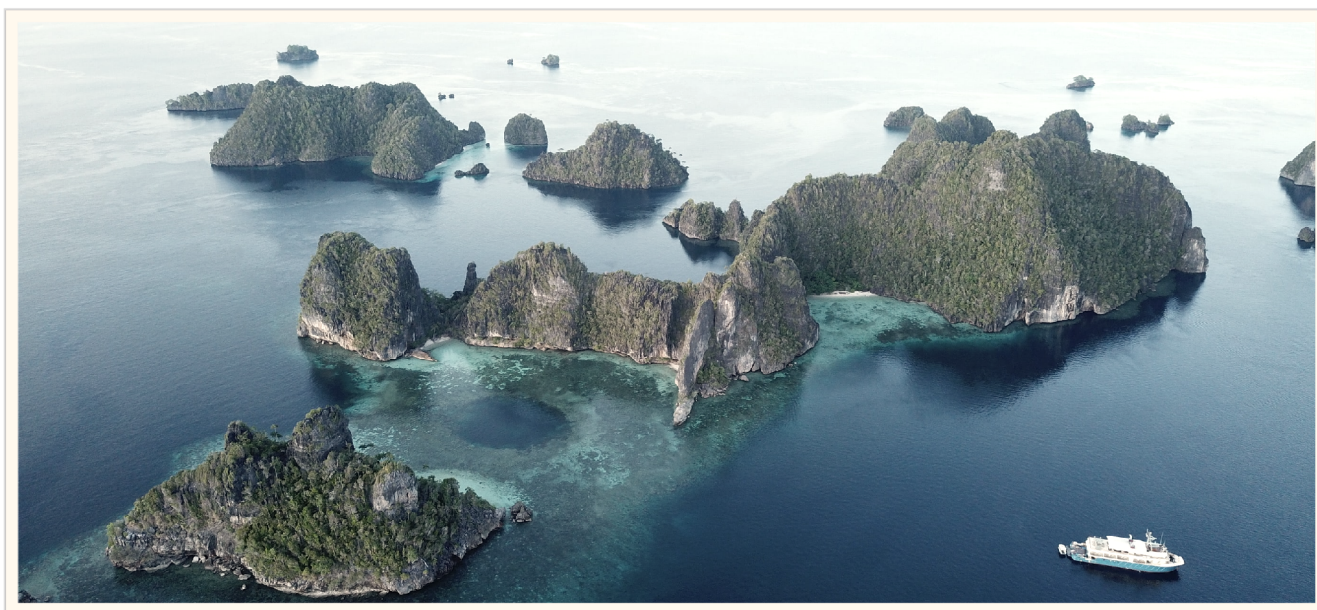
Misool — Farondi & Tomolol

Another morning of new discoveries awaits in the Misool archipelago. The Farondi Islands are surrounded by white beaches and stunning underwater scenery. Swim in tropical waters, explore lagoons in the dinghy, or stroll on the beach. Nearby dive sites include Goa Besar and Verena's Garden. Above water, you can explore the ethereal "Gua Sacral" ancestral caves of Tomolol, a former burial site of indigenous Papuans.

DAY 9

Misool — Lenmolas

Beneath Misool's satellite isles lies a wealth of marine habitats to explore. To the southeast, limestone towers plunge deep, shaped by the moving water over the years, and you'll delight in gliding under overhangs and diving through caverns inhabited by snappers. Sea fans and whips sway as millions of fish dart all around. In the afternoon, head ashore for a hike to the village of Lenmolas and meet the local inhabitants to learn about Indonesian history and culture.



DARAM · FARONDI · TOMOLOL

DAY 10

Kofiau & the Boo Islands

After a gourmet breakfast, we will visit Deer, a scenic village on Kofiau island. You will have time to discover paradisiac beaches with crystal clear waters. Back onboard you can enjoy lunch and relax while the yacht travels west. The Boo Islands are renowned for lush green jungle. Choose from a multitude of activities, such as scuba diving in Boo Kecil lagoon with its wealth of underwater life, or trek on uninhabited islands to admire the exotic birds that fly by.

DAY 11

Sorong · disembarkation

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.



LENMOLAS · KOFIAU · THE BOO ISLANDS

This is a sample itinerary and can be adjusted to your preferences. Routes may also change on the day due to weather, tide or other conditions. Whale shark encounters depend on the fishermen and on the season, and can never be guaranteed.



ENQUIRIES

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