



JEWELS OF RAJA AMPAT

12 DAYS / 11 NIGHTS

Fall in love with Indonesia on this wonderful round-trip voyage from the enchanting city of Sorong. Indonesia can lay claim to such unsurpassed natural splendor as Raja Ampat's Wayag Islands. Visit the Arefi Village and walk through its mangrove waters to the start point of an exceptional trek along the riverbed to the first of two jungle waterfalls, complete with a refreshing pool for cooling off. Discover the beauty of picturesque karst spires perhaps only equaled by the brilliant colors and vibrancy of the reefs and the marine life that flourishes below. Nature has carved these islands into a series of coves and lagoons, narrow channels and inlets, caves, jagged rocks, and shaded, sandy beaches.

Arrival flight: Jakarta

Departure flight: Jakarta

DAY 1: WELCOME TO JAKARTA – SORONG

Upon arrival at Jakarta airport, connection with the flight for Sorong. Night on board.

Meals included: ----

DAY 2: SORONG – EMBARK

Your flight arrives in the West Papuan port town of Sorong, the gateway to Raja Ampat. From the airport take a transfer to the harbor where the ship is waiting at anchor. Once settled into your cabin, the cruise director shows you the vessel's facilities and safety procedures. Ready to start your adventure, weigh anchor and set a southerly course for the Misool archipelago, stopping for a refreshing swim along the way. Then dine alfresco on the main deck while meeting the other passengers and crew and watching the sun set on your first day at sea.

Meals included: Dinner

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DAY 3: MISOOL ARCHIPIELAGO

This morning wake to see the sun rise over the picturesque chain of islands that makes up the Misool archipelago. The topography is typical of 'karst dissolution,' featuring a great number of tiny islets whose bases have been eroded over time by the relentless motion of the tides. Spend the day maximizing everything that this fascinating area has to offer by marveling at both the marine wonderland under the water and the magnificent landscape above the surface. Test out your paddling skills in the sea kayaks, watch for birds perched on the rocks, or just sit back and take in the glorious scenery.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner

DAY 4: TOMOLOL BAY

Swimming through Tomolol's mysterious dome-topped cave is undoubtedly one of Raja Ampat's most memorable activities. After an early breakfast, your tenders take you into the heart of the bay to see this partially submerged cave where it is possible to swim, snorkel, or simply float while gazing up at the cavernous grotto adorned with astonishing stalactites. The more adventurous can swim or paddle through the dark waters to the other mouth of the cave. After returning to the ship, use tenders to explore more of this impressive maze of karst islands, both above and below the surface, complete with mysterious skull cairns in sea-cave cemeteries, and prehistoric cave paintings, estimated to be anything between 3,000 to 5,000 years old and depicting various human figures and huge human palms, fish, flowers and plants, tools and vessels. Overnight, boat cruises north to the island of Batanta.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner

DAY 5: BATANTA

After days of marine exploration, the jungle-clad island of Batanta offers you a change of scenery and a chance to stretch your legs on an adventurous trek into the island's interior. Anchor at the foot of Arefi Village, nestled on the north coast of the island, and there find local guides to escort you through the mangrove waters to the start point of your trek. A short walk along the riverbed brings you to the first of two jungle waterfalls complete with a refreshing pool for cooling off. The fit and adventurous may choose to continue the uphill climb along the rocks to where a second, larger cascade awaits. After leaving the wilderness behind, find a nearby spot to swim and snorkel before moving north to the island of Waigeo.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner



DAY 6: WAIGEO

Wake up in the south of Mayalibit Bay – the huge and wild bay at the heart of Waigeo, Raja Ampat’s biggest island. The bay, which almost splits the island in two, is entered via a narrow fjord-like channel that meets the ocean just east of Waisai on Waigeo’s south coast. When the tide is running, the huge volumes of water flowing into or out of Mayalibit make the channel look like a swift and powerful river. After breakfast, take the dinghies to Lopintol Village where you can find one of the villagers to guide a morning spelunking expedition. Visit two very dramatic and contrasting caves that highlight the fascinating underground formations of the karst landscape. After lunch, freshen up with a well-earned swim and snorkel before heading to Sapokren Village on the southwest tip of Waigeo Island to meet with a local NGO leader to discuss illegal logging, community development and (hopefully) details of a new FFI (Flora & Fauna International) project in these areas.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner

DAY 7: DAMPIER STRAIT / PULAU ARBOREK

After waking up, before sunrise, follow in the footsteps of the famous naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace in a pre-dawn quest to spot the remarkable red bird of paradise, one of the species that Wallace was most anxious to collect. Then enjoy the efforts of your trek through the forest with a rare and privileged sight of the bird’s elaborate courtship dance as the day breaks over the forest canopy. Afterwards, turn your attention from the sky to the sea as the ship makes its way through the Dampier Strait, home to some of Raja Ampat’s premier reefs. With a bit of luck, snorkel among some of the larger specimens of marine life attracted to the strait’s nutrient-rich currents. End your day by mooring off Pulau Arborek in front of Arborek Village. Here, circumnavigate the tiny island by foot and gain a sense of the Asai culture, which is still kept alive by the villagers living in this isolated place.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner



DAY 8: WAIGEO

Another full day of adventure awaits along the convoluted western coast of Waigeo. Begin the morning by exploring Wofoh, three island gems linked together by stretches of pristine coral reef. You can use the tenders or kayaks to navigate the islands, or put your newly-acquired fish identification skills to use in exploring this vibrant reef. Or you may prefer to simply just relax on the beach. In the afternoon move northwards to Aljui Bay, home to the Cendanda Pearl Farm, one of the larger producers of high quality seawater pearls in the region. Pearling is an important industry throughout Indonesia and a number of farms can be seen in the waters of Raja Ampat, where the farmers may grant permission to visit their facilities and receive an explanation of the pearling processes that you have seen during your voyage. In the evening make your way across the equator to the northern hemisphere on your journey to the islands of Wayag.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner

DAY 9: WAYAG

Few areas in Indonesia can lay claim to such unsurpassed natural splendor as Raja Ampat's Wayag Islands. The beauty of these picturesque karst spires is perhaps only equalled by the brilliant colors and vibrancy of the reefs and the marine life that flourishes below. Nature has carved these islands into a series of coves and lagoons, narrow channels and inlets, caves, jagged rocks, and shaded, sandy beaches. For those who dare, there are some spectacular but nearly vertical climbs that are rewarded with magnificent panoramas.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner

DAY 10: WEST PAPUA

The Wayag islands are Raja Ampat's best. Make the most of this unique region for one more morning, navigating the maze of mushroom-shaped islands, and stopping for swimming and snorkeling. In the afternoon, set your compass to return to the southern hemisphere on your way back to mainland West Papua. In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner with the captain and crew.

Meals included: Breakfast, 1 Lunch, 1 Dinner



DAY 11: SORONG – DISEMBARK – JAKARTA

After a quick stop for a final swim and refreshments on one of the nearby islands, make your way back to the harbor of Sorong, arriving around lunch time. Here bid farewell to the ship and her crew. The tenders take you ashore for your transfer to the airport for your onward travel.

Meals included: Breakfast

DAY 12: JAKARTA – OUT

You are free until the moment of the transfer to the airport to take the flight back home.

Meals included: Breakfast

Note: All of our itineraries can be tailored to your requirements, allowing us to create the perfect holiday just for you. Contact us with your holiday ideas and we'll start planning your unique personalized trip!

***End Of Services provided ***

Domestic flights included: Maximun weight 15 kilos + 7 hand luggage.

JAKARTA – SORONG

SORONG – JAKARTA



ACCOMMODATION

STADT	ACCOMMODATION
Jakarta	FM 7 4* Deluxe Room
Raja Ampat	Ombak Putih ou Katharina

Accommodation in hotels is subject to availability. If the listed hotel is fully booked, alternate accommodation will be booked within the same hotel category without surcharge/reduction. If no hotel in same category available, we preserve the right to forward surcharge for any higher category respectively reduction for any lower category. In case you request the quotation with specific hotels, rate may change. All hotel ratings are according to the local accreditation authority.

<p>Cost includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English speaking guide • All the transfers. • Accommodation • Domestic flights • Accommodation in air-conditioned cabins with private shower and toilet • Full board, tea and coffee, soft drinks, mineral water • Excursions • Use of towels • Use of snorkeling gear • Experienced tour leader • Transfer to and from the ship in all harbors with the exception of Serangan Harbor, Bali 	<p>Cost excludes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visas • Personal expenses • Travel Insurance in all kinds • Additional meals not mentioned • Single room surcharges • Airport Tax • Tip, drinks, personal expenses and others not stated • International flights • Social alcoholic beverages • Crew gratuities
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Compulsory surcharges and meal options apply during peak holiday period such as Christmas, New Years and Lunar New Years. These will be advised at the time of booking or at any time should the hotel apply on an ad hoc basis. Some hotels have specific compulsory meal options for groups. These will be advised at the time of quoting.