

# Snorkeling Raja Ampat

BY LIVEBOARD YACHT IN THE WORLD'S MOST BIODIVERSE MARINE HABITAT



Wilderness Travel



# What Makes WT's Raja Ampat Special?



## THE LEADER IN SNORKELING ADVENTURES IN RAJA AMPAT

No other company knows Raja Ampat like Wilderness Travel. Working with our longtime local partners, we pioneered small-group snorkeling journeys in this remote region some 20 years ago. Because the primary focus of our trips has always been snorkeling (as opposed to diving), we're experts at finding Raja Ampat's best shallow reefs, and since we operate trips year round, we're adept at adjusting our daily schedule for changes in weather, tides, or currents (most other boats only come for a few weeks a year). We invite you to experience the spectacular reefs and hidden corners of this snorkeler's paradise with the experts!



## LIMITED TO 10 TRAVELERS

Our small group size—a maximum of 10 travelers—means you'll have an intimate and personalized experience both above and below the water. Larger groups can be chaotic (and unsafe in the water) and you can often miss the chance to ask your guide questions or see the guide expertly point out the elusive reef creatures. With our small group, there are two or three guides in the water at all times, depending on the number of snorkelers, which means you can snorkel at your own pace, and our crew is always nearby in case you want return to the boat early.



## CRUISE IN TRADITIONAL INDONESIAN STYLE

Built in traditional Indonesian schooner style, our sailing ship adds charm to your experience. While not luxurious, she has all the comforts needed for your time in Raja Ampat, including air conditioning, cabins with en suite bathrooms, cold drinks on hand, and space to relax on deck. The intimate size of the boat allows navigation into remote bays for calm nighttime anchorages and we can get you to the snorkeling sites with just a few minutes' dinghy ride.



## EXPERT NATURALIST TRIP LEADERS

Our Trip Leaders have been living and working in Indonesia for decades and are expert naturalists. Before you slip into the water for each snorkeling adventure, they will give you a briefing of what you are likely to see. Once you're in the water, they help you find everything from tiny nudibranchs to camouflaged wobbegong sharks, and each night they follow up with fascinating presentations on the biodiversity of Raja Ampat—you'll leave feeling like you've gotten a crash course in marine biology! Their passion for the remote world of Raja Ampat is infectious.



## OUR COMMITMENT TO CONSERVATION

WT offsets all carbon emissions for your trip from the time you land to the time you leave. We also support (and encourage our travelers to donate to) Bye Bye Plastic Bags, an Indonesian NGO run by two passionate Balinese teenagers. Our boat has a tiny eco-footprint, and we are committed to preserving the healthy and biodiverse ecosystem of Raja Ampat long into the future!



# Why Snorkel in Raja Ampat?

## AN EPICENTER OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY

Raja Ampat is an unparalleled underwater realm in the heart of the Coral Triangle. Called an epicenter of marine biodiversity, it is home to over 1,500 species of fish and 500 species of coral reef and greatly surpasses areas like the Great Barrier Reef and Caribbean in its bounty. In fact, Raja Ampat holds the world record for most species of fish recorded in a single dive, with an astonishing 284 (roughly one new species every five seconds)! This incredible biodiversity means you'll not only see a kaleidoscope of color and critters but also have the opportunity to come face to face with some of the most exciting animals in the ocean, including manta rays, whales, dolphins, sharks, and turtles.



## WORLD-CLASS DESTINATION FOR SNORKELING & MORE

Raja Ampat is widely held as the best place in the world for coral reef snorkeling, with its remote location, crystal-clear waters, and unbelievably pristine and healthy reefs. Snorkeling is the major focus of our trip, with two or three fantastic snorkeling sessions each day, but your journey also allows time to explore secluded beaches, look for endemic species on shore including the red bird of paradise, and hike jungled paths to panoramic island viewpoints. You can also kayak, paddleboard, or just relax on deck and soak up the otherworldly scenery.

## A SECLUDED PARADISE

Raja Ampat remains one of the last places on earth that has proven resilient to global climate change. Various factors contributing to this include its thermally tolerant coral, which have adapted to warmer waters over time, and its remote location in the Pacific, where it remains largely untouched by human development. On your WT adventure, there will likely be several days where you may not see a single other boat, and you'll feel as if you have this untouched paradise to yourself.







## Snorkeling Raja Ampat

Head off the map and into Raja Ampat, one of the most phenomenal snorkeling destinations on the planet—a setting that’s jaw-droppingly beautiful. With our 10-guest Indonesian liveaboard schooner, we get you to the best spots for idyllic snorkeling in this amazing archipelago, from shallow bays with rare shrimp gobies to underwater limestone rock islands covered with corals. We’ll also explore the jungle-draped limestone islands themselves. Experience this perfect paradise the WT way!

### TRIP DATES

#### 2024

November 12-23, 2024  
December 10-21, 2024

#### 2025

March 26-April 6, 2025  
April 9-20, 2025  
April 23-May 4, 2025  
May 7-18, 2025  
June 4-15, 2025  
October 1-12, 2025  
October 15-26, 2025  
October 29-November 9, 2025  
November 12-23, 2025  
November 26-December 7, 2025  
December 10-21, 2025

#### 2026

January 7-18, 2026  
January 21-February 1, 2026  
February 4-15, 2026  
April 15-26, 2026  
April 29-May 10, 2026  
May 13-24, 2026  
September 30-October 11, 2026  
October 14-25, 2026  
October 28-November 8, 2026  
November 11-22, 2026  
November 25-December 6, 2026  
December 9-20, 2026





**TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE**

- Length:** 12 days
- Arrive:** Sorong, Indonesia
- Depart:** Sorong, Indonesia
- Lodging:** 11 nights aboard yacht
- Meals:** All meals included  
(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Activity:** Sea Kayaking, Small Boat and Yacht Cruising, Snorkeling, Wildlife and Natural History
- Trip Level:** 1 2 ③ 4 5 6  
Snorkeling 4-5 hours most days, exploring by dinghy, optional sea kayaking, day hikes

# Itinerary

**DAY 1 SORONG, INDONESIA / EMBARK**

Arrive at Domine Eduard Osok Airport in Sorong, where we are met by our Trip Leader. We'll either board in Sorong or take a fast ferry to our yacht in Waisai, the capital of Raja Ampat on Waigeo Island, for our Welcome Lunch. After a boat briefing, we head off into the heart of the Dampier Strait for an afternoon snorkel on the island of Friwinbonda, where the hard coral reefs are teeming with reef fish. This evening, our Trip Leader will offer a presentation on the rich biodiversity of the Raja Ampat region. Overnight on board...LD

Please be aware that this itinerary is designed to be flexible. Although we will visit all the places listed on the itinerary, we rarely follow the schedule as described exactly due to weather, tides, preferences of trip members, and other factors. Come prepared to be flexible!

During the trip, the Trip Leaders will give various presentations on topics such as Raja Ampat's geology, coral reef fish, biodiversity, limestone ecosystems, and avian life, depending on group interests.

Raja Ampat: Lying west of sparsely populated West Papua province, the Raja Ampat Islands are in the heart of the Coral Triangle, the world's richest area for coral reefs (the triangle includes Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, and Papua New Guinea). These sheer-sided, mushroom-shaped islands scattered across azure seas were explored in the mid-19th century by Alfred Russel Wallace, a contemporary of Darwin and co-founder of the theory of natural



selection. Raja Ampat means “four kings,” a name dating to the 15th century, when the Sultan of Tidore appointed four local rajas for the four main islands. Raja Ampat was not explored in detail until a 2001 survey by an international team of marine biologists working with Conservation International. They recorded 450 species of hard corals (more than half of the world's total species), four new species of fish, seven new species of coral, more than 950 species of reef fish, and the highest number (283) of fish species visually recorded during a single dive in the Indo-Pacific. To protect the amazing biodiversity of these islands, efforts are underway to have them declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### DAY 2 DAMPIER STRAIT / PENEMU ISLAND

We have breakfast en route to Mansuar Island for our morning snorkel under the village jetty, where we have our first chances to enjoy large schools of barracudas, turtles, and soft corals growing on the pillars of the jetty. We return to the boat to enjoy lunch while we sail to Penemu, a group of islands on the western edge of the Dampier Strait. Our Penemu anchorage is in a beautiful bay surrounded by vertical limestone cliffs. An afternoon snorkel brings us to beautiful, shallow Acropora

coral gardens. We finish the day with a lagoon tour by dinghy, where we climb up to a viewpoint for our first panorama of the jungle-draped rock islands of the region. Back to the boat for an evening presentation and dinner. Overnight on board... BLD

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“Once again I was sailed off to Shangri La where time has no meaning and only the beauty of the moment surrounds. That is Raja Ampat to me and no one could dream of a more ideal trip.”

Claire H., Austin, TX

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### DAY 3 PENEMU ISLAND / JEFF NABI

After our morning snorkel, we enjoy some kayaking or paddle boarding beneath the sheer limestone cliffs. We return to the boat for a warm lunch to refuel, then head off for our afternoon snorkel to the secluded island of Jeff Nabi Kecil. Here we enjoy some of the largest table corals in Raja Ampat. After a short afternoon sail, we tie off the

boat in a remote mangrove-lined bay on the island of Batang Pele. We'll enjoy the evening songs of birds as the sun sets. Overnight on board...BLD

Biodiversity: These remarkable islands are home to unusual marine and terrestrial ecosystems, habitat, and niches. There are shallow bays with rare shrimp gobies, octopuses, nudibranchs and "twilight zone" critters, narrow lagoon channels overhung by rainforest, and limestone rock islands





undercut by the sea and covered with a kaleidoscope of tunicates, sponges, and corals. There are also offshore reefs where currents support an unbelievable variety of colorful corals, sea turtles, and fish, including wobbegong sharks, reef sharks, barracuda, and three species of pygmy seahorses (*Hippocampus bargibanti*, *H. denise*, and the newly discovered *H. pontohi*).

#### DAY 4 KAWE / WAYAG ISLAND

We start the day searching for crocodiles in the mangroves before heading off for our first exhilarating snorkel on Eagle Rock in search of manta rays and wobbegongs. Back on board, a two-hour sail brings us north to Wayag. En route we listen for the sound of the ship's horn as we cross the equator. Wayag is absolutely stunning, with the ultimate "dream island" setting of jungle-covered rock outcrops and waters of every imaginable shade of blue and green. There are countless small islets interspersed among the larger islands of the Wayag group. We spend our afternoon snorkeling in search of giant clams and take a hike up the limestone cliffs for a breathtaking view of the sun setting over the lagoons. Overnight on board...BLD

#### DAY 5 WAYAG ISLAND

With a full day at Wayag, we drift-snorkel along the lagoon channels, beachcomb on the deserted white-sand beaches, and tour the hidden lagoons by dinghy in search of orchids, juvenile sharks, and rays. We'll explore these incredible rock islands by kayak or paddleboard, weaving between the karst

limestone islets. After a picnic lunch on the beach, we visit more of Wayag's reefs and take a short hike to another inlet in search of birds and juvenile fish along the way. Overnight on board... BLD

#### DAY 6 WAYAG / URANIE ISLAND

After another relaxing morning snorkeling around Wayag's beaches, we get back on board for lunch and a short cruise to Uranie Island. At Uranie

Island, our anchorage is in a stunning beach-lined bay with small rock islands and reefs. We snorkel the reefs and make a short scramble up the limestone to the top of the island for a spectacular 360-degree view of Uranie Bay and Raja Ampat's beautiful waters (this hike is difficult and only for sure-footed people!). Later, there is plenty of opportunity to kayak, beachcomb, or birdwatch on the outer beaches of the bay. Overnight on board...BLD

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*"The awareness of just how remote we were and the raw beauty of the surroundings seemed like a dream to me! There were moments on this trip that truly filled my soul."*

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Susan F., Sausalito, CA







#### DAY 7 BAG ISLAND / ALYUI BAY (WAIGEO ISLAND)

Waking up in the beautiful Uranie Bay, we take a short dinghy ride to Bag Island for our morning snorkel. Here we enjoy the pristine hard-coral reefs and crystal-clear waters full of reef fish. During lunch, we head to our next destination, Alyui Bay, on the west side of Waigeo Island. Our afternoon snorkel takes us into the mysterious world of invertebrates as we drift through the forest-lined waterways of the bay. We enjoy the sunset in this incredibly scenic bay, listening to the chorus of parrots, hornbills, and herons as they come home to rest for the night. Overnight on board...BLD

#### DAY 8 ALYUI BAY (WAIGEO) / WOFOH

Our morning snorkel in “Spooky Channel” (so named because of the towering limestone walls on either side) is a drift through an abundance of soft corals and sea fans. We hop in the dinghy to explore the wide diversity of marine life, hidden lagoons, and mangroves. During lunch, we move south to the remote islands of Wofoh, a small group of islands off the shores of Waigeo, for an afternoon snorkel on another of Raja Ampat's stunning and diverse coral reefs. Overnight on board...BLD

#### DAY 9 WAIGEO / GAM ISLAND

Cruising the lagoons, we explore mangroves and snorkel the passage separating Waigeo and Gam Island, which was first discovered by the British naturalist Alfred Russell Wallace, who visited this area in 1860 and is one of the “forgotten fathers” of the theory of natural selection and evolution.

We have a chance to explore more by kayak or dingy at our own pace for a different perspective of this tropical paradise. The islands of Waigeo and Batanta are home to the Wilson's bird-of-paradise and the red bird-of-paradise, both endemics, as well as hundreds of other bird species. Lorikeets, parrots, kingfishers, eagles, and hornbills are commonly seen. Before sunset, we have the chance to walk in the village and take

a 30-minute hike up the hill in search of the red bird-of-paradise, first made known to the world by Alfred Russell Wallace, who collected them along with other specimens on his journeys through the Indonesian archipelago. Overnight on board...BLD

Alfred Russel Wallace: Wallace (1823–1913) was one of the most remarkable scientific travelers, naturalists, and thinkers

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“Raja Ampat is the most beautiful snorkeling place in the world. Bountiful, rich with life and diversity. Can't be beat!”

Dianne L., Fairfax Station, VA

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of the 19th century. His independent proposal of a theory of evolution by natural selection, which he sent to Charles Darwin for review in 1858, prompted Charles Darwin to reveal his own more developed but unpublished theory of evolution that he had worked on for 20 years. From 1854 to 1862, Wallace traveled through Indonesia and Malaysia and collected large numbers of previously unknown birds, mammals, and insects. His observations of the marked zoological differences across a narrow zone in the Indonesian archipelago led to his hypothesis of the zoogeographical boundary now known as the Wallace Line, the divide between two great zoogeographic regions, the Oriental and Australian. He was the first to propose a “geography” of animal species, and as such is considered one of the pioneers of ecology and biogeography.

#### DAY 10 GAM ISLAND / YANGEFFO

We wake up early and enjoy the morning sounds of the birds, as our anchorage is tucked into the mangroves on Yangeffo Island. During our morning snorkel, we will explore and enjoy the mangrove-fringed islands, snorkeling in between the

mangrove roots in search for archer fish and juvenile blacktip reef sharks that hunt amongst the roots. Back on board, we enjoy lunch and a lazy afternoon with great kayaking, birdwatching, and of course, more snorkeling. Overnight on board...BLD

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*“The beauty of Raja Ampat has to be seen to be believed. It’s hard to imagine that there is a place so remote, pristine, and beautiful left on the planet.”*

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*Vicki G., Oakland, CA*

#### DAY 11 DAMPIER STRAIT / KRI / YEMBUBA

We return to the Dampier Strait for an outstanding last day of snorkeling. The incredibly healthy coral reefs of Cape Kri and Yembuba are home to an abundance of schooling fish, reef sharks, and turtles. As the sun sets, we settle down to watch the migrating fruit bats flying overhead to feed in

the mangroves. We finish with a slide show to share some memories from our trip. Overnight on board...BLD

#### DAY 12 WAISAI / SORONG / DEPART

We either finish in Sorong or take the morning fast ferry to Sorong from Waisai, and transfer to the airport for homeward-bound flights...B



# Trip Details

## DATE AND PRICING INFORMATION

### TRIP COST

#### Prices are per person, valid through 2025

\$7,495 (9-10 members)

\$8,295 (7-8 members)

\$9,195 (5-6 members)

Single supplement: \$2,245

Note: There is limited single cabin availability.

Charter Price: \$62,995-\$65,995

*Please contact us for future years' pricing*

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

### CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Because the prices published for our program are set so far in advance of the trip dates, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases and/or currency fluctuations that affect the actual cost of running the trip. In most years, no price changes are necessary. However, we do reserve the right to raise or lower the trip price if there is a significant change in costs or exchange rates. If this is the case, your final invoice will reflect the difference in trip cost.

### TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader and local guides
- Accommodations aboard the yacht
- Airport transfer on the final day of the trip only
- All meals included as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- PFDs (life jackets), and boat safety gear

### TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare to/from the trip, internal flights, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, optional gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights made necessary by airline schedule or other factors, airport taxes, expenses such as immunizations (if any), travel insurance, and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600

150 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

90 days prior to departure: Balance

### CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Minimum fee: \$600 per person

91-150 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

\*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

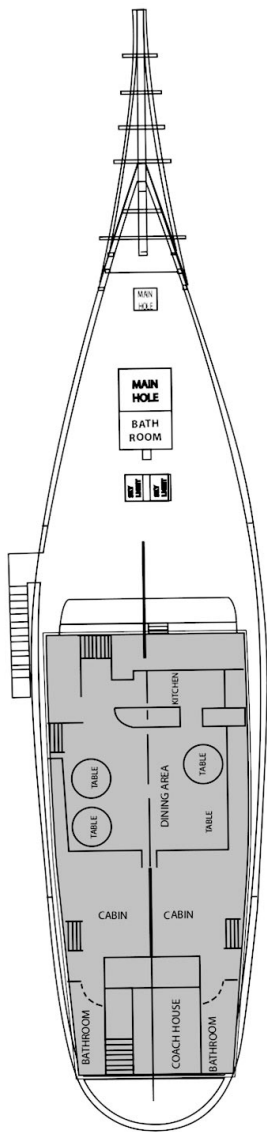
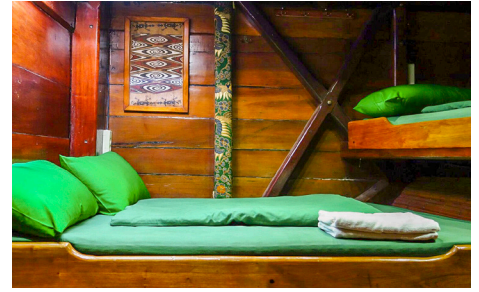
### TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details:

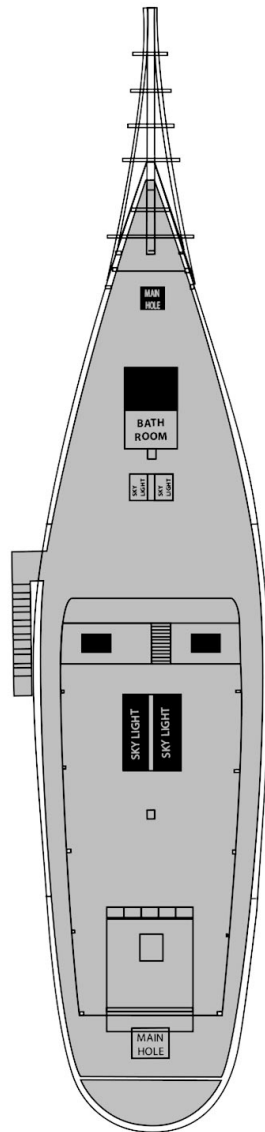
[www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance)



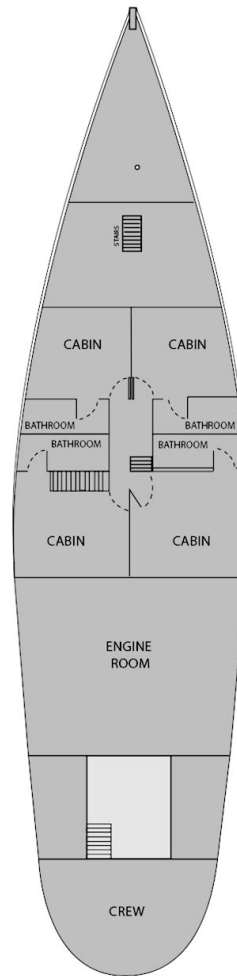
# The Ship



MAIN DECK  
(INTERIOR)



VIEW FROM ABOVE



LOWER DECK

## TRADITIONAL INDONESIAN SCHOONER

Our vessel is a double-masted traditional Indonesian sailboat that offers the unique opportunity to explore the incredibly remote, unique, and mystical Raja Ampat archipelago. The boat was built in Sulawesi in 2000 out of Indonesian hardwoods and is 100 feet long with a 21-foot beam. While not luxurious, she is comfortable, well maintained. There are six double cabins with en suite bathrooms, individually controlled air-conditioning, and electricity 24 hours a day. The boat is very sturdy and stable, whether still or under motor. The boat's crew of seven is attentive, experienced, and helpful, and many have worked on the boat for years. Note: There are four cabins below deck, and two cabins on the main deck (where the dining room and common areas are located). Please note that the cabins below deck require descending steep stairs/ladders, and that the cabins above deck are slightly smaller.

To see more photos, please visit our *Snorkeling Raja Ampat* webpage and click on the "Lodging" tab.



# Extend Your Adventure

To help you make the most of your adventure, we've created several exciting trip extensions. For detailed information, including full itineraries and complete pricing, please visit our *Snorkeling Raja Ampat* webpage and click on the "Extensions" tab: [www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/indonesia/raja-ampat-islands-snorkeling/extensions](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/indonesia/raja-ampat-islands-snorkeling/extensions)



## YOGYAKARTA EXTENSION

Yogyakarta is situated almost exactly halfway along the length of Java, in an area considered by the Javanese to be the heartland of the country. It's home to some of the island's most spectacular scenery and oldest traditions. On this extension, you'll be immersed in the cultural capital of Java, with many influences from Hindu and Buddhist traditions to Dutch colonial designs. Enjoy a sunrise visit to the world's largest Buddhist monument, take a music lesson or batik dyeing class, and you even have the option for a Jeep excursion. This extension can be taken either before or after your main trip.

*5 days. From \$1195.*

## BALI EXTENSION

Sculpted by dense tropical forests and dramatic coastlines famous for their waves, Bali shelters a unique combination of natural beauty and vibrant culture. This extension to the "land of the gods" whisks you to the lush artist's haven of Ubud, where you'll walk amid cascading rice terraces and sample Balinese specialties. Your guide will introduce you to local artisans and farmers and you'll have the opportunity to witness ceremony dances and visit tranquil temples. For those looking for an extra thrill, you have the option to dine 150 feet in the air during a hot-air balloon ride or rush down the white waters on a rafting excursion. Overnights are in lovely atmospheric hotels that blend into the environment. This extension can be taken either before or after your main trip.

*5 days. From \$1495.*





# Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

## ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Sorong, West Papua, Indonesia

**Suggested Airport:** Sorong Airport (SOQ)

**Suggested Date & Time:** Day 1, before 8:00 am

We HIGHLY recommend arriving in Sorong one day prior to Day 1 of the trip. For extra nights in Sorong, we recommend booking the Swiss-Belhotel ([www.swiss-belhotel.com](http://www.swiss-belhotel.com)). If you arrive early, please make your way to the hotel on your own.

On Day 1 of the trip you will meet the group in the lobby of the Swiss-Belhotel at 9:00 am.

Please note that Sorong has very little tourism infrastructure, so there are not many pre-trip hotel options. Hotels are basic and not up to high Western standards.

## DEPARTURE

Sorong, West Papua, Indonesia

**Suggested Airport for Departure:** Sorong Airport (SOQ)

**Suggested Sorong Departure Date & Time:** Anytime after 2:00 pm on Day 12

A morning transfer will be provided to the Sorong airport in time to check in for departing flights.

## A NOTE ABOUT INTERNATIONAL ARRIVAL/ DEPARTURE PORT IN INDONESIA

While it is possible to fly to Sorong from other locations in Indonesia, we suggest Jakarta since it has the most frequent schedule of flights to Sorong. Airlines with schedules to Jakarta include Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific, EVA Air, and United Airlines.

## INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Sorong, Indonesia. There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found at [www.exitotravel.com](http://www.exitotravel.com).

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US two or possibly three days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

**Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip.** Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

## DOMESTIC AIR TRAVEL

Although there are several air carriers in Indonesia, we highly recommend the following:

### Garuda Indonesia

[www.garuda-indonesia.com](http://www.garuda-indonesia.com)

While Garuda may be more expensive than other airlines, it is by far the most reliable, with the fewest delays and cancellations. Also, guests flying through Jakarta on Garuda do not need to transfer from the domestic airport to the international terminal, which saves a lot of time especially if you have short connection times. Garuda also allows an extra 66 lbs of luggage.



# Our Guides

## MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Our Trip Leaders are experienced guides with a genuine gift for bringing the rich natural history of the underwater world to life. Their deep knowledge, insights, and genuine love for this part of the world give you an “insider” experience as you explore the spectacular wonders of Raja Ampat.



### WENDY BROWN

Wendy was born and brought up in Sri Lanka on a tea plantation her British expatriate family operated. As a young child, holidays were to the coast to go snorkeling (she says she learned to swim before she could walk!). A move with her family to Fiji helped her realize her dream of learning to dive and she fell in love with the ocean and all its frontiers. She worked as a volunteer on a marine project in Roatan, and qualified to be a scuba diving instructor. After teaching and guiding for four years, she moved to Indonesia to become a guide at the Wakatobi Dive Resort, which only increased her desire to head to all the amazing and remote locations Indonesia has to offer. In 2008 she helped start up a new liveaboard operation as the Cruise Director and held that job for 12 years, living a nomadic boat lifestyle and enjoying wonderful travels throughout the remote Indonesian Archipelago. Wendy has worked with a number of marine biologists, been involved in looking for new dive areas and fish species, and has now completed more than 13,000 dives. “Indonesia is an incredible place,” she says, “with both its people and nature, you can never really get enough of it.” Wendy is fully conversant in Indonesian and is passionate about conservation of the world’s resources.



### BOB BRUNSKILL

Bob Brunskill is an Englishman with two decades of experience planning and executing diving excursions in Indonesia. He left the United Kingdom in 2003 in search of adventure, which led him to Thailand, where he gained his diving certification, and later to Indonesia. Nineteen years and more than 10,000 dives later, he continues to pursue his passion to explore and introduce travelers to the underwater haven of this spectacular corner of the world. Since 2008, he has specialized in leading trips in Raja Ampat. He is fluent in Indonesian and has a deep appreciation for the people and culture in Papua and Indonesia. Bob has played a major role in the refurbishment of the boat we use in Raja Ampat, and when he's not working on the boat and leading trips, he enjoys spending time with his kids.





### ANDREA DUGGAN

Born and raised in Southampton in the UK, Andrea Duggan has been a passionate world traveler and scuba diving instructor since 1998, when she left the UK for Southeast Asia and fell in love with the Asia Pacific marine life. It was during her first trip to Indonesia's Komodo National Park that she knew she wanted to work underwater in this beautiful country. This is also where she found her passion for freediving. Since 2009, Indonesia has been her home, residing on liveaboard boats, working, planning, and leading trips throughout the entire Indonesian archipelago. Andrea has traveled to every continent and lived in a handful of different countries including Spain, India, Australia, and Thailand. She speaks several different languages and is fluent in both Spanish and Indonesian. She is passionate about the ocean and loves to share her knowledge and enthusiasm about Indonesia's biodiversity. When not guiding, Andrea enjoys practicing and teaching yoga and sharing her knowledge of Ayurvedic and healing diets as a nutrition coach. "Indonesia is a country that never ceases to amaze me. There is always something new to discover whether it is above or below the water."



### KARL KLINGELER

Karl fell in love with the ocean early on in life while living in Southern California. His first job was at Stuart Cove's Dive Bahamas in Nassau, where he met his wife. Their love of the ocean growing, they moved to Bali, where Karl worked as a Co-Cruise Director on a liveaboard boat in the Komodo, Alor, and Raja Ampat archipelagos. He served as Cruise Director on a luxury liveaboard in the Indonesian archipelago for 10 years and is conversant in Indonesian. With over 20 years of experience in diving, snorkeling, and leading trips in Indonesia—and more than 12,000 dives under his belt—he is passionate about sharing his love of Raja Ampat.



# What the Trip is Like

## TRIP LEVEL

This trip is rated a Level 3 (Moderate) according to our trip grading system.

### Average Day

- 4-6 hours snorkeling
- 3-4 hours sailing
- Occasional kayaking, paddle boarding, and short-moderate hikes

### Challenge Days

Day 4: 4-5 hours snorkeling, including 2 hours in an area with extremely strong current, 3-4 hours sailing, and 1 hour hike

### How Tough is This Trip?

You need to be comfortable snorkeling in a variety of conditions, including drift snorkels and occasionally against strong currents. While snorkeling is usually at your own pace, it is sometimes necessary to be able to keep up with the group.

## TERRAIN

There are a few short, steep hikes. The limestone is very sharp, and you will sometimes need to use your hands for balance. There are also muddy sections that can be slippery.

## GETTING IN SHAPE

For maximum enjoyment of the trip, you must be in good health and able to snorkel for multiple hours at a time. We highly recommend that you have previous snorkeling experience. There are a few optional hikes, and if you would like to participate you will need to be comfortable hiking up slippery, muddy jungle floor and steep limestone rocks using your hands for support.

## WEATHER

Raja Ampat is near the Equator and has a warm tropical climate, with year-round temperatures in the low 80s and occasional rain showers. Water temperatures range from 83 to 86°F.

## CUISINE

The cook on board prepares simple and tasty meals, a mix of Asian and Western styles with seafood and plenty of fruit and vegetables. There is bread and fruit available for breakfast, as well as eggs on request. Lunch and dinner are served as a group, and snacks are available. There are plenty of vegetarian options.

## TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to/from the ferry is in an air-conditioned van. The ferry to/from Waisai is air-conditioned and takes about 2 hours. During the snorkels and land excursions, we will take a small dinghy to each site. The dinghy will always stay with the group so that you can return to the boat at any time.

## OCEAN CONDITIONS

The seas are generally calm in Raja Ampat, but unexpected squalls or high winds can create rough ocean conditions at any time. There is a higher chance of rough seas on Days 4 and 6 when our crossing takes place in the open ocean. The remainder of the sailing is in much more protected waters, and sea sickness is typically not a problem.

## MEDICAL ATTENTION AND EVACUATION IN REMOTE DESTINATIONS

The Raja Ampat journey takes place in an extremely remote and uninhabited archipelago in the Pacific. In the case of serious illness or injury, medical attention and swift evacuation are not available. Once we sail from Sorong, we are far away from towns and medical facilities. In the case of serious illness or injury, we will make every effort to reach medical facilities as soon as possible, but be aware that it may take the boat days to return to the port of Sorong. If you have health or medical issues of concern, please discuss them with your physician before considering this trip.

Average Daily Max/Min °F												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sorong	87/78	87/78	87/78	87/78	89/78	87/78	84/77	87/77	89/77	89/78	89/78	87/78
Rainfall - Inches												
Sorong	7.2	6.6	8.0	9.6	12.4	13.4	13.1	9.7	10.3	8.1	6.9	7.0



## EQUIPMENT

We require that trip members bring their own snorkeling equipment (mask, snorkel, and fins) to ensure a proper fit. There are occasional cold currents in Raja Ampat, so we recommend a 3mm wetsuit if you get cold easily, or at least a lycra skin for sun and stinger protection.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Pacific Manager or email us at [pacific@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:pacific@wildernesstravel.com).

## REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At [www.wildernesstravel.com](http://www.wildernesstravel.com), you can find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and special WT Expeditions that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access a complete library of our detailed itineraries and browse the customized reading guides for each of our adventures.

## HELPFUL LINKS

Wilderness Travel has compiled a list of useful websites for travelers. Find the Client Forms & Helpful Links page of our website: ([www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/links](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/links)).





# Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST  
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at [www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan).

Here's how it works:

## YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

## YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

## YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

## YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

## FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

*Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.*

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.



# Travel Notes



**WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:**

**Best Travel Specialists in the World:** *Conde Nast Traveler*, 2024, 4-time winner

**World's Best Tour Operators:** *Travel + Leisure*, 11-time winner

**Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips:** *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *USA Today*

**Trip of the Year:** *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

**50 Tours of a Lifetime:** *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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