

FORGOTTEN ISLANDS & SPICE ISLANDS EXPEDITION

This voyage from Labuan Bajo to Ambon unveils the hidden treasures of Indonesia's Lesser Sunda Islands and beyond, weaving through a tapestry of remote archipelagos and vibrant ecosystems. Travelers will explore historic spice islands like Banda Neira, marvel at the untouched reefs of Nil Desperandum, and witness the volcanic splendor of Pulau Manuk, where seabirds soar above steaming landscapes. From the rugged shores of Pantar and Alor to the tranquil beauty of the Forgotten Islands, this journey offers an intimate encounter with Indonesia's diverse marine life, cultural heritage, and natural wonders, culminating in the bustling port of Ambon.



ITINERARY

Day 1 Indonesia Labuan Bajo

Arrive to a warm welcome at Labuan Bajo. Savor an appetizing lunch at Ayana Resort before boarding Aqua Blu.

Day 2 Indonesia Maumere

Upon arriving at Maumere, head out on an afternoon excursion to a nearby village. Immerse yourself in the local culture and take in picturesque views of the tropical hills. Return to Aqua Blu for a sunset departure.

Day 3 Indonesia Pantar & Alor

Arrive at the Pantar Straits, home to many picturesque fishing villages which are surrounded by crystal clear waters. Enjoy a snorkeling or diving excursion exploring the vibrant coral reefs nearby. In the afternoon, witness centuries-old traditions come to life in the traditional dance performances by the welcoming



Abui Tribe.

Day 4 Indonesia Wetar

The rugged coastline of Wetar is rarely visited and offers plenty of hidden gems to experience. It features impressive wall dives to encounter sharks, schools of pelagic fishes, as well as majestic manta and mobular rays.

Day 5 Indonesia Romang, Nyata, Telang (the Forgotten Islands)

Dive around Nyata island in search of hammerhead sharks and rays. Since Romang and Nyata are not part of a National Park, there are opportunities to go fishing here as well. Cruise south towards Telang for snorkeling and kayaking adventures, with a chance to spot rare silver-tip sharks.

Day 6 Indonesia Nil Desperandum

A tiny atoll located in the Banda Sea, Nil Desperandum is blessed with incredible hard coral formations. Spend a full day here, diving and snorkeling near the impressive coral and sponge formations. Revel in the experience as shoals of big fish such as tuna and Spanish mackerel swim by without worry.

Day 7 Indonesia Serua Island

Serua is a playground for both snorkelers and divers. The island showcases an impressive array of reefs, walls, and beautiful soft coral spots. Schools of fish thrive in the area, and there is also a possibility of spotting hammerhead sharks.

Day 8 Indonesia Pulau Manuk

Savor a sunrise breakfast aboard the ship against the backdrop of the 300-meter-tall cliffs of Pulau Manuk, a volcanic island rising 3 kilometers from the seabed. This is a haven for fish-hunting birds, as well as sea snakes and reef sharks flocking to enjoy the area's underwater thermal springs. After sundown, cruise northwards to Pulau Run, a historically significant island traded by the British in exchange for Manhattan in 1667.

Day 9 Indonesia Banda Islands & Banda Neira

Approach the Banda Islands at sunrise, greeted by Kora-Kora war canoes at the harbor. Stroll through history at the Dutch Fort Nassau on Banda Neira - which used to be the most hotly contested island in the world back in the 16th and 17th century. Walk through ancient passageways now bustling with modern life, yet still showcasing a treasure trove of history. After lunch, head out for a snorkeling or diving excursion, and end the evening with a sundowner at Fort Belgica.

Day 10 Indonesia Pulau Ai & Run

At Pulau Ai, the westernmost of the Banda Islands, swim, snorkel, and dive in the crystal-clear waters, where you'll discover stunning coral gardens and reef fish. Afterwards, head ashore for a guided tour of Fort Revenge and its nutmeg store houses. Spend the afternoon at a pristine beach on Pulau Run, which was traded for the island of Manhattan in 1667 by the British and the Dutch. Witness the sun setting into the sea while enjoying a cocktail party on these historic sands.

Day 11 Indonesia Molana & Nusa Laut



Head out for an early morning ocean swim, followed by a diving or snorkeling excursion. On the north side of Nusa Laut, discover the scenic fishing villages of Ameth and Akon. This is also home of the dugong, the Southeast Asian cousin of the American manatee. Enjoy a cooking lesson before lunch, and cruise to Molana Island -- a small but heavily forested island with fantastic reefs.

Day 12 Indonesia Ambon

Awake to the bustle of Ambon and disembark for your outbound flight.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: AQUA BLU

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VESSEL TYPE:	**Yacht**
LENGTH:	**198 feet / 60 meters**
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	**30**
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	**1968/2006/2019**

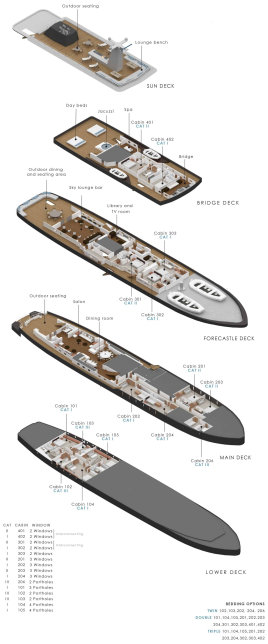
Presenting a brand-new cruise experience in the pristine East Indonesian Archipelago, Aqua Blu is a long-range explorer yacht sailing the region's most prized destinations, including Komodo National Park, Spice Islands and Raja Ampat on unforgettable 7- and 12-night itineraries. Where modern luxury meets naval heritage With a grand legacy as the former British Naval Explorer HMS Beagle and later as the private yacht of a European aristocratic family, Aqua Blu is a compelling maritime statement. A 2019 refurbishment overseen by Dutch yacht design maestro Cor D. Rover brings the vessel to world-class cruising specifications. Guests can expect to embrace an distinguished sense of history and seafaring evolution when they set foot on this one-of-a-kind cruise ship. Inside the four-deck, 15-suite Aqua Blu, Cor has tastefully paired with a brass-and-ivory interior theme with generous and inviting indoor and outdoor social spaces, including a sun deck. Unlocking access to the Earth's most intriguing destinations Faster, further, greater safety and comfort -- Aqua Blu's naval pedigree makes it the perfect vessel to navigate East Indonesia's vast seas. Having attained the highest international classifications (RINA, SOLAS, ISM) in safety, the vessel is additionally equipped with Quantum Zero Speed stabilizers for optimal comfort at rest or while sailing. Aqua Blu's range stands heads and shoulders above that of its peers in East Indonesia. Able to cover vast distances in a short span of time -- and in any sea condition -- the vessel enables explorers on board to experience the most varied, enjoyable and rewarding coastal cruise itineraries in this wild and stunningly beautiful region of the world. On Board Living and Social Areas Sun Deck with Outdoor Seating, Lounge Sofa and Barbecue Bridge Deck with Jacuzzi, Outdoor Lounge Area, Spa and Exercise Zone Forecastle Deck with Outdoor Dining and Seating Area, Indoor Lounge Bar, Library and TV Room Main Deck with Outdoor Seating, Salon and



Dining Room



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