

ORANGUTANS AND DRAGONS 2028 - CRUISING THE RIVERS OF KALIMANTAN

New for 2028, we have extended this journey trip to 14 days and 9 nights by adding an extra day in Komodo so we can offer our guests an even longer journey and deeper connection with the people, places and wildlife that make this region so magical. Starting in Borneo and ending in the Komodo National Park, this is a journey through the rainforests of Borneo and the volcanic epicenter of Indonesia's Ring of Fire. Experience the homeland of the orangutan and then travel to Komodo where you will see the results of countless millennia of Earth's shifting tectonic plates, mighty forces that have helped shape the landscapes, cultures and habitats that exist both on land and in the sea. Cruise on a riverboat along rivers and peat swamps and see orangutans, proboscis monkeys and birds living free in their natural habitat. Visit local villages to experience local customs and experience the rich culture of the Dayak people of Borneo. Visit a highly successful coral restoration project on Hatamin Island to learn, where you can get ands on in creating and placing coral racks into the sea. Trek the hills and forests of the park's prehistoric islands in search of Komodo dragons in the wild. Listen to the early morning birdsong as you hike through dry tropical and monsoon forests of the region. Experience being in the water with whale sharks and learn how they live in symbiotic harmony with local fishermen. Swim with manta rays and sea turtles as they glide along the reefs and "cleaning stations". Soar weightlessly through warm tropical waters as you snorkel on kaleidoscopic coral reefs teeming with underwater life. See thousands of giant fruit bats fly high above the boat as they emerge from their forest roosts on their nocturnal quest for food.



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Day 1 & 2

After being picked up from your hotel after breakfast, we board local motorized canoes to take to the backwaters observe orangutans on the beautiful, forested island of Pulau Kaja. The island is managed by the Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation or BOS, and the orangutans live a totally 'hands off' existence free from human interference.

Exploring by motorized canoes, we will visit the extensive blackwater lake of Bagantung. a unique peatland swamp ecosystem where we have the opportunity to spot birds, the other wildlife and fishing activities by the villagers.



Cruise through the large forested Selat and Badak Islands, where it may be possible to spot orangutans and proboscis monkeys and lots of endemic birds.

Visit Dayak villages, where you will be greeted with traditional dance and hospitality as you see and experience their way of life.

Day 3 & 4

Walk through and explore a local runner plantation and learn about the processes growing and extracting the latex from source by tapping the trees. Learn about the many medicinal herbs and plants that can be found growing in the forest.

Visit more local Dayak villages and learn about some of their traditional livelihoods, such as rattan weaving, and enjoy local entertainment in the form of a kacapi (two-stringed instrument) performance, and local self-defense or shadowboxing.

Explore the tiny fishing village of Tundai, perched atop raised walkways on the edge of an expansive blackwater lake. Here, we float through here on canoes, admiring the stunning reflections and learning more about the unique fishing practices.

On the morning of Day 4, we will transfer you to the airport for your flights to Bali.

*** If doing a 15-day journey, you will spend two nights in Bali with the extra day at your leisure.**

Day 5 & 6

You will be met at Komodo Airport in Labuan Bajo by your tour leaders and taken straight to your ship. After settling into your new home, we run an equipment check and head to a calm beach for an introductory snorkel from the shore, so you can find your feet in the water before we snorkel from the boat.

Get hands-on at a coral restoration project. Learn how the fragmenting process works, where small pieces of healthy coral are used to grow new colonies. Attach your own fragments to a coral rack and place it in the water to grow.

At dusk, we anchor off a small mangrove island to watch thousands of flying foxes leave their roosts and fly to the mainland to feed. These giant fruit bats are not only important to the health of their mangrove roosting area but pollinate flowers and spread seeds across the islands, helping the forests regrow.

Go ashore on Rinca Island in search of wild Komodo dragons. The world's largest lizard grows up to three metres long and about 70 kilograms, and is found in the wild only in this corner of Indonesia. Your guide will explain how, as the top predator on these islands, dragons shape the whole savanna ecosystem.

Day 7 & 8

Go ashore on Sangeang, an active volcano rising straight from the sea. Here you see the Ring of Fire at work: fresh volcanic land, forest taking hold on its slopes and a colourful coral reef growing just offshore, where we snorkel. We also visit the local village to see how people farm the rich volcanic soil.

Go ashore on forested Moyo Island and travel inland to a rainforest waterfall, where you can bathe in its cool pools. It is a



chance to see how forest catches and holds the rain that feeds the island's streams and, ultimately, the reefs.

Day 9 & 10

Swim with whale sharks, the gentle giants of the sea, in Saleh Bay. These plankton-feeding sharks gather around the bagans, traditional floating fishing platforms whose lights draw in the small fish they eat. Learn how local fishers, the sharks and responsible visitors now share the bay, and how tourism gives fishing families a reason to protect them.

Visit a Sumbawan village and watch the age-old tradition of buffalo racing, as local men drive their prized animals through a flooded rice padi.

Spend a day at Satonda, a volcanic island with a salt-water crater lake at its heart. Walk to the lake's edge and snorkel the reef outside, comparing two very different water worlds on one small island.

Day 11 & 12

Visit a village where boatbuilding lies at the heart of the culture. Large wooden pinisi ships, like our own vessel, sit along the shore in various stages of construction, built by hand using the UNESCO-recognised art of pinisi boatbuilding. Meet the builders and learn how their knowledge of wind, wood and sea passes between generations.

Spend a relaxing half day on an uninhabited island with its own pink beach. Swim, sunbathe, wakeboard and snorkel a rich coral reef, and learn where the pink comes from: fragments of tiny red corals mixed into the white sand.

Re-entering Komodo National Park, we drift snorkel some of the park's healthiest reefs. Swim with sea turtles as they cruise the shallows, and with manta rays as they feed in the current and circle cleaning stations, where small wrasse remove parasites from their skin, showing one of the clearest examples of mutual benefit in nature.

Day 13 & 14

Enjoy a drift snorkel at Gili Lawa Darat, in the north of the park, then hike to the viewpoint for sunset over the islands.

Snorkel the Hatamin Island coral restoration project and see what can be achieved when like-minded people come together to solve a problem. Swim among racks placed over the years and see how restored coral brings fish and life back to the reef. Your guide explains how corals live in partnership with the microscopic algae inside them, and why that partnership breaks down when seas warm.

Enjoy one of our famous SeaTrek beach barbecues under a sky full of stars, with local dishes prepared by our chef and live music from our crew.

After breakfast on our final day, take a scenic drive to Melo Village to see the Caci dance of the Manggarai people. In this ritual, two performers armed with a whip and a rattan shield take turns to strike and parry, dancing to traditional music.

On your return from Melo Village, we bring you to the airport for a farewell with your fellow shipmates and tour leaders, and to check in for your onward flight.



Please note:

Our mission is to provide the best experience possible for our guests, given the current conditions, and when unexpected opportunities for adventure may present themselves along our cruise routes. Sometimes, weather conditions, tides, or other local factors dictate that we need to vary from the published route, and at times, there are special opportunities to explore and discover new locations, events, and activities. These explorations will always be a definite enhancement to the published itinerary and will be undertaken after discussion and agreement among guests. Ultimately, the boat captains and your tour leader will make decisions to maximize trip safety and your overall enjoyment, so please come prepared to be flexible!



YOUR SHIP: KATHARINA

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

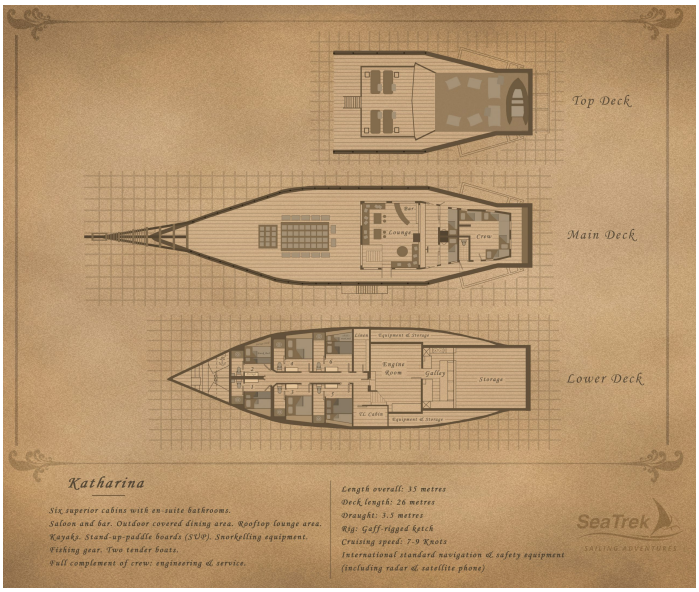
Katharina is a mix of traditional and modern design. Her hull and rigging are traditional, while the deck house and interior were custom designed to adapt to Western tastes of space, privacy and comfort. While Indonesian traditional sailing vessels are customarily referred to as Bugi Schooners, strictly speaking Katharina is rigged as a Ketch, the foremast being higher than the aft mast. The deck area of Katharina is dominated by the 25m tall main and top masts and a large central table around which we enjoy our meals alfresco. Just aft is the main lounge and bar, accessible on the port side. On top of this main cabin there is a sun deck, where you find several additional deck chairs and comfortable day beds. Below decks there are 4 double cabins (with one extra single upper berth) and 2 twin cabins (upper/lower berth). All cabins are air-conditioned (individually controlled) and have private bathrooms with warm and cold water. Obviously, we provide all hotel amenities you may require. Each cabin has a wardrobe, a built-in mini safe, individually controlled cooling systems and soft lightning. All cabins have their own private bathroom with shower and toilet. Unlike typical ship accommodation, your cabin provides ample space to store your stuff and still move about with ease. We know from experience that during a cruise in the tropics some of our guests discover the pleasure of sleeping under the stars and there is plenty of room to sleep on the upper deck. Mattresses as well as light blankets are available for that purpose. Spacious twin shared cabins with twin bunk beds or double bed Each cabin has a private bathroom with toilet and hot shower Washbasin and soap toiletries in your cabin Cabins have individually controlled air conditioning Towels and beach towels that are regularly changed each cabin has an individual minisafe for valuables and travel documents Free tea, coffee and mineral water Excellent food and snacks (vegetarian food on request) Excellent wine selection, cold beer and other alcoholic drinks for sale Chilled towels and a welcome drink upon arrival Outdoor sleeping facilities Unlimited use of our snorkeling equipment and 2 sea canoes Television, DVD and music



centre in lounge



INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Stateroom





PRICING

11-Apr-2028 to 22-Apr-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

22-Apr-2028 to 03-May-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

16-May-2028 to 27-May-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

16-May-2028 to 27-May-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

02-Jun-2028 to 13-Jun-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

14-Jun-2028 to 25-Jun-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

04-Jul-2028 to 15-Jul-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

15-Jul-2028 to 26-Jul-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

08-Aug-2028 to 19-Aug-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp

08-Aug-2028 to 19-Aug-2028

Stateroom	£8395 GBP pp