

info@wildearth-travel.com

## **SPICE ISLANDS & ASMAT TRIBE EXPEDITION**

This captivating cruise from Ambon and back unveils the enchanting diversity of Indonesia's eastern islands, blending rich history with breathtaking natural beauty. Travelers will journey through the legendary Banda Islands, famed for their spice trade legacy, and dive into the pristine waters of Triton Bay, a marine paradise framed by towering cliffs. The itinerary weaves through remote gems like the Aru and Kei Islands, offering serene beaches and cultural encounters, while Pulau Manuk's volcanic landscapes and seabird colonies provide a dramatic highlight. From the tranquil Arafura Sea to the hidden wonders of Pulau Ai and Run, this voyage showcases Indonesia's untouched wilderness and vibrant heritage, bookended by the lively hub of Ambon.



#### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 Indonesia Ambon

Arrive to a warm welcome in Ambon, and board Aqua Blu. After settling in, bid farewell to the harbor as we set sail towards the Banda Islands.

#### Day 2 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 3 Indonesia Pulau Koon

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Spend the day exploring some of the finest reefs on the planet. Off the remote island of Koon, divers and snorkelers can look forward to visiting 'Too Many Fish', an aptly named site with plenty of reef fish sightings as well as occasional pop-ins by leopard sharks and hammerhead sharks.

#### Day 4 Indonesia Triton Bay

Head out early in the morning for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to swim with whale sharks in crystal-clear waters that make up Triton Bay. This region features sublime dive sites, home to a wealth of rare marine life and reefs decorated with some of the finest soft corals in the world. Over on land, the scenery consists of forest-covered limestone cliffs and prehistoric artwork high up on the rocky walls.

#### Day 5 Indonesia Sailing The Arafura Sea

Spend the day exploring the luxurious Aqua Blu and enjoy its variety of social spaces - a jacuzzi, spa and exercise area, sky lounge bar, and a sun deck offering panoramic views of the vast seas. Gain a deeper insight into Indonesian culture through onboard cooking demonstrations and presentations from our expert guides.

#### Day 6 Indonesia Yuan Yufri

Arrive in the uncharted Asmat region - a remote part of West Papua which very few have ever had the opportunity to visit. On board private speedboats, head down the Lorentz River deep into the jungle to visit the village of Yuan Yufri. Enjoy a friendly welcome as the tribal members pass by in their handcrafted canoes. Spend the afternoon interacting with the locals, viewing their art, and learning about their daily lives. End the day with sundowners as we sail to Biwar Laut.

#### Day 7 Indonesia Biwar Laut & Ouws

Today, we continue our exploration of the Asmat region and gain a deeper insight into the traditions of the locals. Enjoy a scenic skiff ride to the village of Biwar Laut, escorted by tribal members in their canoes. Upon arrival, witness the traditional Spirit Mask ceremony, which is conducted by the Asmat people to honor their ancestors. After lunch on Aqua Blu, head over to the nearby village of Ouws to witness the Mbis Pole Ceremony which depicts how, after death, a soul manifests as a spirit in the image of a bird.

#### Day 8 Indonesia Aru Islands

Enjoy a relaxing morning at sea before we arrive at the shores of the Aru Islands. Take the plunge and go on a snorkeling and diving excursion in the island's sparkling waters. Afterwards, unwind on the island's tranquil beach, drinks in hand, as you take in the breathtaking sunset.

#### Day 9 Indonesia Kei Islands

Discover the remote white-sand beaches of the Kei Islands, known to be some of the most pristine in East Indonesia. Swim and snorkel from the shore in the crystal-clear waters, home to marine life including pygmy seahorses and olive sea snakes.

#### Day 10 Indonesia Pulau Manuk

Savor a sunrise breakfast onboard against the backdrop of 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.

Day 11 Indonesia Pulau Ai & Pulau Run

Arrive at Pulau Ai & Pulau Run, the westernmost of the Banda Islands, at



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sunrise. Swim, snorkel, and dive in the crystal-clear waters, where you'll discover stunning coral gardens and reef fish. Afterwards, head ashore to Pulau Ai 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 12 Indonesia 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. In the afternoon, we sail towards Ambon.

#### Day 13 Indonesia Ambon

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

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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### YOUR SHIP: AQUA BLU

YOUR SHIP:	Aqua Blu
VESSEL TYPE:	Yacht
LENGTH:	198 feet / 60 meters
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	28
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	1968/2006/2019

Aqua Blu is a one-of-a-kind long-range explorer yacht, purposefully stationed in East Indonesia to provide unrivalled access to the Coral Triangle--one of the most biodiverse marine regions on the planet. Originally a British naval vessel and later a private yacht for European aristocracy, she underwent a world-class refit in 2019 by Dutch designer Cor D. Rover. Now reimagined with 14 elegant suites, Aqua Blu offers the perfect blend of refined luxury, comfort, and adventure, carrying just 28 guests with personalised service from 32 expert crew.

Designed for both underwater exploration and stylish relaxation, Aqua Blu features expansive decks, an outdoor gym, spa with Balinese massage, a hot tub, and chic lounges. Guests enjoy cuisine by acclaimed chef Benjamin Cross, who draws inspiration from the region's spice trade heritage. Onboard life is relaxed yet elevated, with options for diving (at no extra cost for certified divers), snorkelling, kayaking, or simply unwinding with sunset cocktails on the sundeck. With its naval pedigree and modern refinement, Aqua Blu is the ultimate base for discovering the remote beauty of East Indonesia's seas and shores.

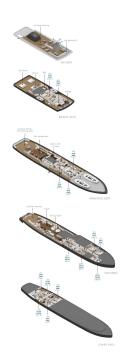


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## **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**



#### Cabin. From



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## PRICING

17-Nov-2027 to 29-Nov-2027

Cabin. From

29-Nov-2027 to 11-Dec-2027

Cabin. From

21450 USD pp

21450 USD pp

