



Sample Itinerary: Forgotten Islands & Banda Sea

10 nights - from: Saumlaki, to: Ambon

The Forgotten Islands with their many archipelagos are an exciting destination to discover and further north, the amazing Banda Sea offers us a true diver's paradise as well.

We start out from Saumlaki, and for the first part of our trip we take our time exploring various "forgotten" islands, like Pulau Nila, Pulau Teun Pulau Dai and Pulau Dewara, all bristling with amazingly pristine and healthy reefs, schooling fish, possibly pelagics as well.

Then, Deep Banda with its atolls will invite us to indulge in pristine hard coral reefs, too. And with luck we spot further pelagics, maybe even some Silver Tips and Marlins around here.

Our next stop is Manuk, an uninhabited volcanic island, that offers nice reefs surrounded by black sand, but also walls, slopes and sandy bays. We can find plenty of sea snakes here and pelagics might pass by. Above the water, amazing bird life can be observed in form of colonies of Frigates, Boobies and Tropic Birds that make the volcano their home.

Culturally interesting Banda Neira and the rocky Suanggi island await us with spectacular diving at pristine hard-coral reefs. We have a good chance to see schooling fish like Jacks and Tuna, and potential pelagics here as well.

On Banda Neira we can explore the historical town on land, which was once the global center of nutmeg and mace trade, and indulge in the view of Gunung Api, a 650-metre-high active volcano.

We will also explore some of the islands just outside Banda Neira, such as Pulau Pisang, Karang Hatta, Pulau Rum and Pulau Ai. These sites have lovely walls, plenty of Napoleon Wrasses and sometimes Giant Queensland Groupers.

Then, we will head on to Nusa Laut, with stunning dives on walls and slopes. The dive sites here offer us a large variety of reef fish as well as interesting macro life. We might encounter Bumphead Parrotfish and schools of Jackfish here.

We finish our adventure in Ambon Bay with some muck diving. If we are lucky, we might spot the Psychedelic Frogfish, but even if not: this unique ecosystem offers plenty of other interesting marine life, such as Moray Eels, Ghostpipefish, Ribbon Eels, Rhinopias, Stonefish and more.

We will disembark in Ambon, wishing our guests farewell after an unforgettable journey.

For booking inquiries please contact us at info@coralia-liveaboard.com.