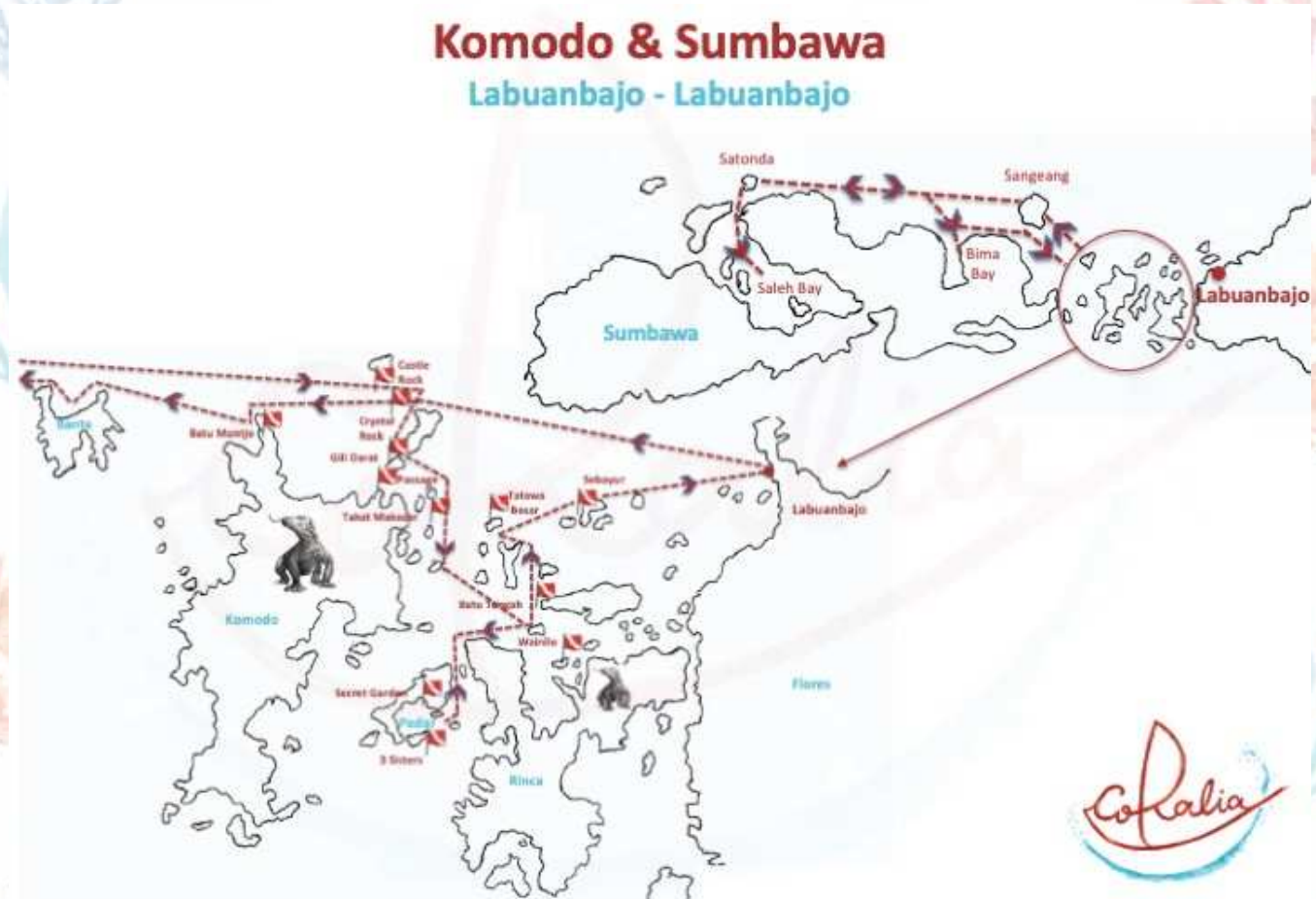


## Sample Itinerary: Komodo & Sumbawa

from: Labuanbajo, to: Labuanbajo

**Please note:** this is a sample itinerary. Itineraries may change without further notice due to weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances.



Diving in Komodo offers an exciting variety of dive sites and experiences. Komodo National Park is home to the world's largest lizard, the Komodo Dragon. This area is a World Heritage Site and one of the New 7 Wonders of the World. Added to this cruise is a visit to some outside Komodo and to Sumbawa with a chance to see whale sharks!

Starting from Labuanbajo on the island of Flores, we will do our first dive on the north of Komodo island. Here there is a healthy reef with large coral heads and plenty of fish! Afterwards we will cruise to Gili Banta, just on the outside of Komodo National Park. The main dive sites there are GPS Point, Tanduk Rusa and Gazer Beach. At Gazer Beach we do a night dive to look for stargazers, octopus and coral catsharks.

The next day will spent at Sangeang Volcano. It is an active volcano where you can dive at Hot Rocks where there is a phenomenon of bubbles coming out of the reef creating a natural jacuzzi! The black sands are home to all sorts of mystical creatures and the night dive here is not to be missed. We will then travel overnight to our next stop.



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Our next stop is at the islands of Satonda and Sumbawa. At Satonda there is a healthy reef where we will do two dives to look for nudibranchs, pygmy seahorses and cuttlefish. In the afternoon we will head over to Sumbawa Island to see what we can find in the sand at Sumbawa Surprise. It is always a surprise what critters we find there!

Next, we will go to Saleh Bay on Sumbawa Island for the chance to see whale sharks. The whale sharks come to feed at the bagans (fishing platforms) here. This is a natural behaviour the whale sharks have learnt that if they suck on the fishing nets the fishermen's catch comes out of the holes! The fishermen believe these huge fish bring them good luck. They throw handfuls of fish to the whale sharks to keep them close to their bagan.

If we get lucky, we might see more than one whale shark and they have been known to stay with us for hours! Having close-up encounters as the whale sharks circle round and round, opening their mouths wide and sucking in the fish, is one of the most incredible experience you can have. We will spend the morning here before making the long crossing back towards Komodo.

Bima is on the island of Sumbawa, our final stop before heading back into Komodo National Park. Bima Bay has some of the best muck diving in Indonesia, with chances to see wunderpus, mimic and blue-ringed octopus, seahorses, frogfish, bumblebee shrimps, tiger shrimps and a long list of other amazing critters.

The final three and half days of diving will be in Komodo National Park. Komodo has it all! Beautiful soft coral reefs, exhilarating drift dives, spectacular hard coral reefs, fishy pinnacles and black sand muck dives. Komodo is home to a large population of manta rays, large schools of fish, turtles, reef sharks and a myriad of weird and wonderful fish and critters!

In the north of Komodo National Park there are pinnacles full of fish where you might also see reef sharks, eagle rays and turtles. The two most famous dive sites are Crystal and Castle Rock. You might also dive at the fishy reefs of Shotgun and The Passage.

In the large channel between the islands of Komodo and Flores there are colourful reefs and exhilarating drift dives. At Karang Makassar you can drift along the bottom of the sea to look for manta rays. Tatawa Besar and Siaba Kecil have healthy reefs that are best viewed while floating along in the current. The corals and fish life at the pinnacle of Batu Bolong are beyond belief! Batu Tengah lies exactly in the middle of the National Park and the healthy hard corals here attract reef sharks and turtles.

A highlight of any visit to Komodo is to see the Dragons! There are several locations where you can see these magnificent animals. Any cruise on board Coralia will include a trek to look for Komodo Dragons. There are also a couple of viewpoints where you can take in breath-taking views across the National Park.



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There are plenty of macro dives too. Wainilo and Loh Liang Bay are where your dive guides will look for critters that you never thought existed! Melibe nudibranchs, hairy frogfish, flamboyant cuttlefish, ghost pipefish, harlequin shrimps are some divers' favourites. Pink Beach and Torpedo Alley are both excellent dives that can be done during the day and at night.

Padar island has a wonderful viewpoint and long, empty beaches. There are several dive sites such as Three Sisters and Secret Garden in this area. Your dive guides will look for giant frogfish here and keep your eyes out into the open water for schools of mobula rays.

On the last full day on board we will do two dives before heading back into Labuanbajo to enjoy our goodbye dinner inside the harbour.

**For booking inquiries please contact us at [info@coralia-liveaboard.com](mailto:info@coralia-liveaboard.com).**