

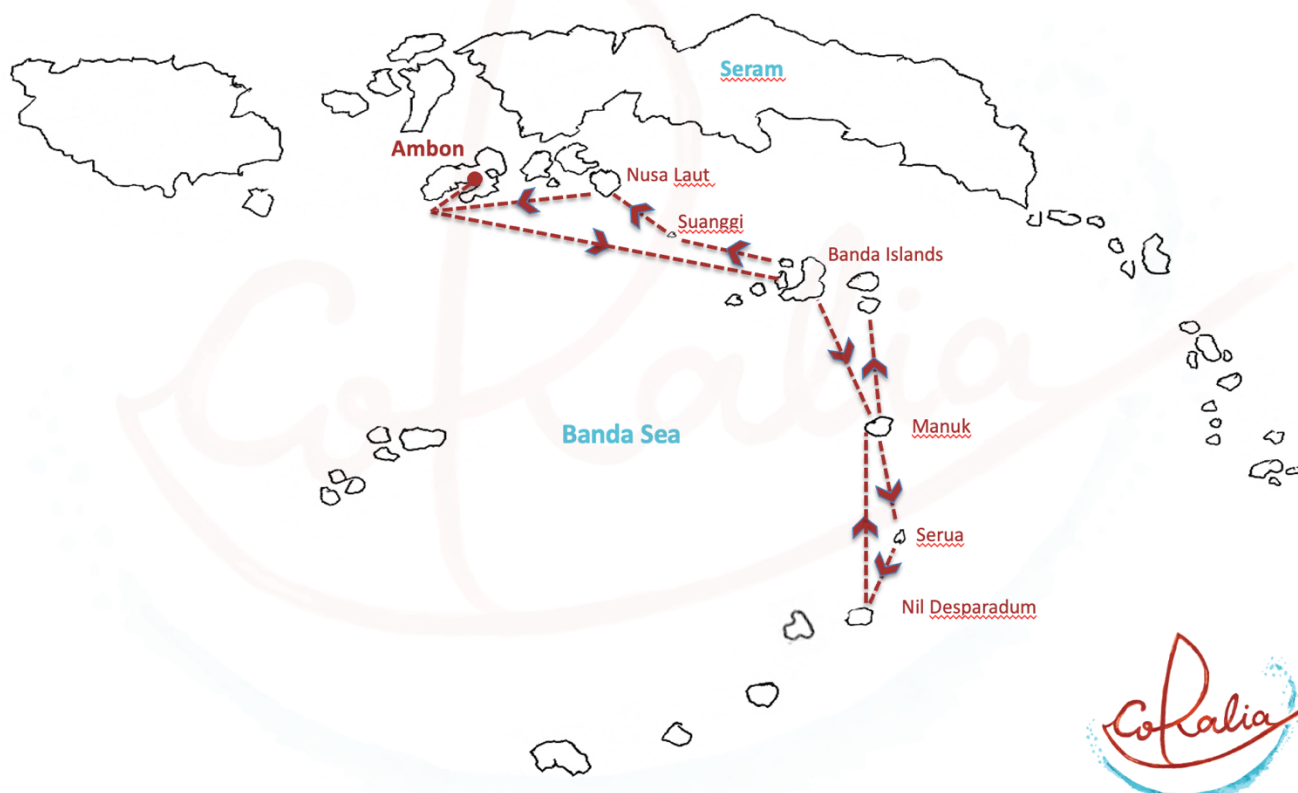
## Sample Itinerary: Forgotten Islands & Ambon

from: Ambon, to: Ambon

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

### Forgotten Islands & Ambon

#### Ambon - Ambon



We head straight out to the Banda Islands, also known as the Spice Islands. The diving here includes the typical deep walls of the Banda Sea, as well as sea mounts and drift dives along fish packed reefs. At Batu Kapal the whole pinnacle is covered in schooling Pyramid Butterfly Fish and Red-tooth Triggerfish which mix in with hundreds of fusiliers, creating a myriad of colour. Hammerhead sharks have been known to visit some of the reefs here, as well as turtles, bumphead parrotfish, eagle rays and napoleon wrasse.

The Forgotten Islands are an arc of islands that are part of a very remote archipelago in the east of the Banda Sea. These islands are accessible only by liveaboard and offer a truly exciting adventure! The Banda Sea is famous for its deep walls, healthy reefs, giant sponges all in crystal clear blue water. This area is also now known for the chance to see schooling Hammerhead Sharks!



Forgotten Island trips are not just about the 'big stuff'. If you want to look for macro critters we can find things like Leaf Fish, Moray Eels, lots of different Nudibranchs, Ribbon Eels, Mantis Shrimps, as well the very special Dragon Shrimps and Leopard Shrimps.

Our first stop in the Forgotten Islands is Manuk. This is the most easterly volcano in Indonesia and is home to lots of sea snakes. They are very curious, and divers will be approached by many snakes during the dives. But don't worry they won't bite, they just take a look and keep on swimming! The dramatic rocky dive sites here can be very fishy and there is a chance to spot hammerhead sharks. Above the water frigate birds and brown boobies soar over the volcano. Next stop is Serua, another Forgotten Island where hammerhead sharks can be seen.

Close to the island of Nila is the sea mounts of Nil Desparandum. They are surrounded by very deep water so there is a chance to see large pelagics. Here we will look out for the famous Banda Sea schooling hammerhead sharks. Absolutely massive barrel sponges and expanses of hard corals make this reef very impressive.

After these exciting dives we head back up to the Banda Islands via Manuk to look for the hammerhead sharks and explore more the sea snake sites of Manuk! In the morning, we will go for a fascinating land excursion in the Banda Islands. Visit the museum, an old Dutch fort and a nutmeg plantation to learn about the incredible history of these remote islands. One and a half more days of the famous Banda diving, including a dusk dive to see mandarin fish, before heading to Nusa Laut.

Nusa Laut is a small island close to Ambon and the village here protects the fantastic dive site of Amet Reef. Eagle rays, a huge school of jacks, hammerhead sharks and even a Dugong have all been seen here. The reef is very healthy, and it is common to see bumphead parrotfish feeding in the shallows. The afternoon will be spent at the nearby island of Momon.

On the last full day on board, we will do two dives in Ambon Bay and enjoy our goodbye dinner inside the harbour.

Ambon is a world class muck diving destination. Inside the bay there are numerous dive sites full of critters galore! The holy grail of fish Rhinopias can be seen here along with Frogfish, Ghost Pipefish, Nudibranchs, Leaf Fish, Zebra crabs, cuttlefish, all sorts of Pipefish, Mandarin Fish, Ribbon Eels, all sort of Eels and cute juveniles like the Barramundi Cod, Batfish and Harlequin Sweetlips. Our eagle-eyed dive guides will be looking out for different types of shrimps such as Bumblebee Shrimp, Harlequin Shrimp, Tiger Shrimp and Coleman shrimps. In the octopus family, we might see the very special Wunderpus or Mimic and at night the Coconut, Starry Night, White-V and Long Arm Octopus come out to hunt. An excellent way to finish a trip!

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