



Banda Sea

(7 night trips | March & October)

This itinerary is not for beginners. Most dives will involve going to depth and currents can be strong. We recommend you have 50 logged dives to join this trip and require that you are Deep Diver/Advanced Open Water or equivalent. All diving is made from zodiacs to give precise entry and exit points.

Port of Embarkation: Ambon

The Banda Islands are a group of seven small volcanic islands in the Banda Sea about 210 km (120 nautical miles) south-east of Ambon in the province of Maluku. They rise out of 4-to-6-kilometres of deep ocean providing superb diving for both macro and pelagic fauna. Until the mid-19th century the Banda Islands were the world's only source of nutmeg and mace spices. Wars were fought between the Portuguese, Dutch and English for hundreds of years before the Dutch finally swapped the Banda Islands for Manhattan. Well off the beaten track, steeped in history and promising breath-taking diving, the Banda Sea 7-night cruise takes you a step back in time to experience these fantastic islands both above and below the water.

Highlights include:

- Muck dives in the famous Ambon Bay
- Sunset Dive for the Mandarin fish in Banda Neira
- Chance to see pelagic sharks
- Incredibly healthy coral reefs
- Land visit on Banda Neira
- Dives around the Islands of Run, Ai, Gunung Api and Banda Neira

Land Visits: On this cruise we visit Banda Neira to see the nutmeg plantation, historic forts and small Maritime Museum. A half-day excursion.

Please note: There are two overnight crossings of approximately 100 nautical miles during this 7-night itinerary (Ambon to Banda and Banda to Ambon)

Liveboard Trips - What's included and what's not

- **Prices** are per person sharing a twin/double cabin.
- **Included:** Shared cabin, 3 meals a day; afternoon snacks; 1 cocktail party on a local island (weather allowing); unlimited drinking water, tea, coffee, guide, 12 litre air tanks, weights, Nitrox. Return airport transfer.
- **Not included:** Flights, diving equipment, 15 litre tanks, alcohol, soft drinks, juices.
- **Liveboard Dive Courses:** Pre-book and pay in advance for courses and extras onboard any of our Indonesian liveboards.