

## Itinerary: Raja North - 8 days/ 7 nights\*

### DAY 1: Sorong/Waisai/Mioskon

We will collect you from the airport or your hotel between 7 - 8am on the day of departure. From the collection point we will head to the harbor where we will transfer from Sorong to Waisai, This is roughly a 2 hour Cruise. When we arrive in Waisai we will head to La Galigo. After a refreshing welcome drink, and a safety briefing of our ship, we aim to anchor up around 12:30pm from Waisai harbour. We will head to our first dive site near Mioskon. Here we will perform a check out dive on beautiful reefs covered in coral, with amazing critters, and clear warm water to ease you into the trip. Dive sites on this day can be affected by several variables, including currents and clearance times in relation to the harbourmaster. After two dives we relax for our first Dinner together and an overnight cruise to the Penemu.

### DAY 2: Penemu.

Whilst in Penemu we will conduct 3 dives, allowing us time to trek the outlook of Bintang lagoon. Dive sites visited will depend on the conditions but we never miss a chance to dive the site made famous by Max Ammer, Melissas garden. The large colourful reef system at the top of the dive site, with its thousands of Anthias dodging predators is what gives **Melissa's garden** its name. There is also and an opportunity to dive Kerou channel, which is located close to Leo's reef, a fish breeding farm funded by Hollywood legend, Leonardo DiCaprio. Overnight we sail to the northern most part of Raja Ampat, and what awaits is one of the most breathtaking sceneries in Indonesia.

### DAY 3: Pulau Wayag.

You awake in the morning cruising between limestone formations on the way to the now infamous lookout of Mt. Pindito. This small mountain has become synonymous with Raja Ampat, and the bay is also home to a Manta breeding station. The best time to hike this hill is early morning, before temperatures rise, but the rewards for climbing are well worth it. The beaches here are also pristine, with fine white sand and turquoise waters surrounding the limestone cliffs of the islands. After trekking, we will endeavor to dive either Way-out-Rock or Figure 8 Rock, both submerged pinnacles home to large pelagic fish, and the occasional passing Manta. While you have lunch, the boat will cruise to the eastern side of **Wayag**. Here is where we plan to dive the legendary dive site, Cathedral, which is renowned for its spectacular topography and swim throughs. Following the dive, we take a short trip to the Wayag Ranger station, which is also a Black Tip Reef Shark breeding area. Here we will hopefully get the chance to do some snorkeling with these baby sharks under the ranger jetty, and also conduct a night dive on the same stretch of reef.

#### DAY 4: Kawe and Aljui Bay.

In Kawe Island we will do 3 dives. Dive sites visited here are very heavily dependent on day-to-day unpredictable conditions such as swell, but one of our favourite sites in the area is Changgo, located on the equator in the east of Kawe Island. Black Rock, and Eagle Rock are both well known for their currents and their Manta populations, and we will dive these sites late morning and early afternoon. Around 4pm, La Galigo will move into Aljui Bay, one of the world's most spectacular bays to watch the sunset, and also do some great muck diving, at sites such as the Fuel Dock or the Pearl Farm Jetty.

#### DAY 5: Gam and Western Dampier Strait.

We wake up just off the coast in Gam Island. There are some great dive sites around this area with vibrant fish covered reefs and plenty of stunning macro subjects. Two sites we regularly visit in Gam are Mayhem and Citrus Ridge. As we have lunch we will cruise down to the Western Dampier Strait, to a dive site named Manta Ridge, for an opportunity to dive with the Manta ray population often located here. In the late afternoon we take a land tour onto the peaceful Arborek Island. The village itself is tranquil and surrounded by beautiful beaches. Arborek is also home to what we consider to be one of the best night dives in the world, Arborek Jetty, for a chance to find Walking Sharks, Blue ringed octopus, and many other critters.

#### DAY 6: Central Dampier Strait.

Day 6 is almost like a highlights reel of Raja Ampat, and in the morning we often visit Cape Kri, with its schools of Barracudas and Snappers, as well as passing Manta Rays and Sharks. After Kri, we take a visit to another world class dive site, Blue magic, a submerged reef with Mantas and Giant Trevally nursing the currents, to Wobbegong sharks hiding under bommies. Our afternoon is often spent at either mikes point or Sardine, dependent on the currents in the area, but either dive site is memorable in it's own right. The night is spent underneath Saonek Jetty, spotting critters in the seagrass

#### DAY 7: Eastern Dampier Strait.

On the penultimate day of the trip, we will repeat one of the guests favourite dive sites from the day before, then move onto Mioskon, for a shallow dive to allow you to gas off in time for your flight. The afternoon can be spent snorkeling, or relaxing on the beach whilst we prepare a beach BBQ, before setting course for Sorong around 11am.

#### Day 8: Disembark La Galigo at Sorong

From around 05:00am La Galigo will be anchored in Sorong in preparation for you to catch your flight, or check in to your hotel. Guests are welcome to stay onboard until 11:00am, whereupon we will assist you with transportation to your desired location.

\*La Galigo does not guarantee this outlined itinerary, and it is to be considered as a rough guideline. Information compiled here is based on past trips we have conducted, and includes common dive sites and routes we often visit. Weather and sea conditions in the area can be unpredictable, and La Galigo retain the right to alter an itinerary from advise of



the ship's captain, cruise director, or owner for the safety of the vessel, it's passenger and crew.