

# The Eastern Banda Sea, Indonesia

## Trip Information

- **Arrival airport:** Mathilda Batlayeri Airport, Saumlaki (SXX)
- **Departure airport:** Kaimana Airport (KNG)

### Flights and Transfers

The liveboard price includes transfers between the airport or local hotels and Indo Siren on the day of embarkation and on the day of disembarkation. See your itinerary for full details on transfers.

### Advice on International Flights

We recommend booking your international flights into and out of Jakarta (CGK) or Bali (DPS) International Airport. Our reservations team can help to arrange your domestic flight connections between your arrival airport and Saumlaki. We advise you to spend at least one day in Jakarta or Bali at either side of your cruise to ensure you are on time for your flight connections and you are well rested before cruise departure.

Please note luggage restrictions of 10kgs are often applied to these domestic routes. Extra allowance can be purchased at the check in counter for approximately US\$1.50 per kilo.

### Visa and Passports

Passport holders of most Western countries can obtain a 30-day visa on arrival.

Visa and passport regulations differ per country; therefore we advise our guests to check for any updates or changes of visa procedures with their nearest embassy or consulate. Please make sure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months upon arrival into Indonesia. You may be required to show a confirmed return ticket to leave Indonesia within the maximum number of days you are allowed to stay in the country. For more information, please visit the Indonesian embassy website at the following link:

[www.indonesianembassy.org.uk/consular/consular\\_visa\\_type\\_arrival.html](http://www.indonesianembassy.org.uk/consular/consular_visa_type_arrival.html)

If you are traveling with medication, please make sure to bring your physician's prescription with you.

## Insurance

Insurance which covers scuba diving is mandatory aboard all of our vessels. All guests are also required to carry full travel and cancellation insurance, in accordance with our Terms and Conditions. We cannot be held liable for delays occurring during the cruise, nor any delays or cancellations of flights, accommodations or tours and transfers that we organise on your behalf.

Your insurance must cover all of your scuba diving and snorkelling activities, including the costs for recompression chamber treatment and emergency air evacuation. We therefore strongly recommend purchasing diving-specific insurance to cover any diving related eventuality.

Master Liveboards act as a referrer for DiveAssure who offer dive and travel insurance policies, including short term and multiple trip policies. Their comprehensive 'Dive & Travel Plus' plan has been specifically developed for diving liveboard holidays and covers expenses in the event of missing your liveboard departure due to flight delays or missed connections, and also provides cover for lost diving days if for any reason the boat is required to abort the cruise; for instance, due to a guest injury, mechanical breakdown of the ship, air supply failure, inclement weather conditions, etc.

Please consult our webpage for details and direct link to DiveAssure's booking portal: [www.masterliveboards.com/insurance](http://www.masterliveboards.com/insurance).

## Diving Information

Indo Siren has two RIBs for transferring divers between vessel and dive sites. Our RIB drivers are happy to provide assistance to guests who need help with their equipment and exiting the water.

### Guests' Level of Diving

It is recommended that guests wishing to participate in scuba diving aboard Indo Siren on this itinerary have PADI **Advanced Open Water\*** certification, or equivalent, with a minimum of **50 logged dives**. You will be asked to show certification cards and a record of your logged dives when you board as proof of experience.

\*Guests with the minimum number of required dives but not certified as Advanced Open Water divers, may complete the course on board. Please contact our reservations team for further information.

Some of the diving in Indonesia in general is not suitable for inexperienced divers due to depths and strong currents. Your cruise director will be able to advise you whilst on board, and may recommend that guests with insufficient experience sit out certain dives.

**Any guests who do not fulfil the recommended minimum requirements, or who the crew feel have insufficient experience in certain conditions, may be denied participation in some or all dives during the liveboard.**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the diving conditions please contact our reservations team directly.

## Fit to Dive

All divers are responsible for ensuring that they are fit to dive, and are required to complete a medical statement upon arrival in resort. Guests who have any symptoms that could be restrictive to diving will need to obtain a doctor's note clearing them to dive, prior to arriving in resort. The medical statement can be found on our website at [www.masterliveboards.com/forms](http://www.masterliveboards.com/forms).

If you are unable to complete the statement as directed, or provide a current doctor's certificate (less 1 year old) clearing you to dive, you accept that you may not be able to take part in certain aspects of the holiday you have booked with us.

## Diving Safety

Guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and must stay within the limits of their certification.

For your safety, we ask all guests to always remain well within the limits of their dive computer, follow the instructions of the cruise director and guides and make a safety stop at the end of each dive.

## Flying after Diving

Current studies indicate that you should wait at least 24 hours after multiple days with repetitive diving before flying. Please keep this in mind when you book your onward international or domestic flights.

## Diving Emergencies

Our diving locations within Indonesia are very remote and there are few hospitals that are able to deal with a diving emergency. The nearest recompression chambers are at hospitals in Manado (Sulawesi) or Denpasar (Bali). To reach either location, it requires the use of private emergency air evacuation. With this in mind it is mandatory that our guests purchase dive specific insurance prior to boarding Indo Siren.

As per our [Terms & Conditions](#) adequate dive insurance and travel insurance are mandatory.

## Water Temperature and Exposure Suits

We will be diving in two seas: The Banda Sea and the Savu Sea.

In the Banda Sea, temperatures range between 26°C (78°F) and 29°C (89°F), whereas the Savu Sea (Alor area) is slightly cooler; between 21°C (70°F) and 29°C (89°F).

For the majority of our guests a 3mm full wetsuit will suffice for the warmer water dives. Diving with a hooded vest or rashguard is also possible if you are not sensitive to cold. For the dive in cooler water, bring a 5mm wetsuit along with booties or socks.

Please note that onboard Indo Siren, a 3mm shorty or full suit is always available to rent for all our guests.

## Diving Equipment

Diving equipment is available to rent for an additional charge but is subject to availability and should be pre-ordered.

11 litre (80 cu ft) tanks, weight belts and weights are provided free of charge.

There are a limited number of 13 litre (100cuft) aluminium tanks which are available, at an additional cost, by special request only and must be pre-booked

Equipment rental and Nitrox costs can be viewed under 'Extras' on the Indo Siren page of our website: [www.masterliveboards.com/boats/indo-siren](http://www.masterliveboards.com/boats/indo-siren).

Please note that the use of a dive computer is compulsory on our yachts. For your safety, Master Liveboards ask all guests to always dive well within the limits of their dive computer and make a safety stop at the end of each dive.

**Please pre-book rental equipment and cylinders at the time of confirming your liveboard holiday, as they are subject to availability.**

## Rebreather Diving

Indo Siren is equipped for rebreather divers but notice is required.

Booster pumps are installed to ensure your tanks can be filled to 135bars/ 2000psi and we have stage tanks available for your use. We can also facilitate the purchase of sofno-lime scrubber though there are additional charges for both this and oxygen. Charges are dependent on quantity used.

Pre-booking of any rebreather supplies is essential to guarantee availability. Please contact our reservations team to place your order and for up-to-date prices.

If rebreather diving is permitted on the trip which you have booked and you intend to participate in rebreather diving during your cruise, please complete the technical diving release form, which can be found at [www.masterliveboards.com/forms](http://www.masterliveboards.com/forms) and immediately email it to [dive@masterliveboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveboards.com) to ensure we can cater for your equipment and gas requirements. This needs to be completed no later than 3 weeks before departure.

## Underwater Photography and Videography

Indo Siren offers specialised features for underwater photographers and videographers which include:

- Indoor and outdoor work stations for the preparation and maintenance of cameras
- Individual storage drawers for cameras and peripheral items
- Large rinsing tanks with fresh water; changed frequently

Our crew are thoroughly trained in the handling of delicate camera equipment and will provide assistance when entering and exiting the water.

## General Information

### Advanced Passenger Information (API)

There are certain details that we require for the airlines and our own administrative purposes prior to travel. Guests are required to submit the required information via our secure online portal at [www.masterliveboards.com/portal](http://www.masterliveboards.com/portal).

### Forms

It is a requirement for all guests to complete the following forms prior to, or upon arrival in resort - medical statement, liability releases, and safe standard practice statement, which can be found at [www.masterliveboards.com/forms](http://www.masterliveboards.com/forms).

To save some time, and to ensure you have no pre-existing conditions that could affect your diving, you can download the forms from the above link, fill in, and bring them along. By completing and signing the forms, you are confirming that you have read, understood, and agree to the conditions outlined in the forms

If you are unable to complete the forms as instructed, you accept that you may not be able to take part in certain aspects of the holiday you have booked with us.

### Time Zone

The time varies depending on your location in Indonesia;

- Sulawesi, Lesser Sunda Islands, Bali and Eastern Borneo - GMT + 8 (Central) - the location of this itinerary
- Papua and Maluku - GMT + 9 (East)
- Sumatra, Java and Western Borneo- GMT + 7 (West)

### Money Matters

The local currency is the Indonesian Rupiah (IDR). The majority of established hotels, shops, and restaurants accept major credit cards, but smaller family-run places might not. Guests are advised to exchange money upon arrival to ensure you have small denominations of Indonesian Rupiah at hand.

You can withdraw cash from ATM machines in larger and medium-sized cities, however, please note that there may not be (many) ATMs in smaller cities and villages, or the available machines may be out of order. The maximum amount of cash from the ATM varies between 1,250,000 and 2,500,000 IDR (100 – 200 USD) per withdrawal, depending on the value of the bank notes dispensed. The maximum withdrawal per day is usually IDR 5,000,000 (around 370 USD).

## Health

Health services in Indonesia are by no means up to Western standards, although there are hospitals in all major towns.

We advise all guests to make sure that their vaccinations are up to date. Please make sure you use insect repellent and cover exposed skin to prevent any insect borne diseases. We also recommend that travelers take regular precautions regarding (street) food in Indonesia and drink bottled water only, in order to prevent stomach upsets, and to drink bottled water only.

Please consult your doctor or nearest health authorities for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure.

## Language and Religion

The spoken language in Indonesia is Bahasa Indonesia; however, nearly all Indonesians involved in the tourism industry speak some level of English.

88% of all Indonesians are Muslims and about 8% Christians. There are sizeable minorities of Hindus and Buddhists.

## Climate and Weather

Indonesia is a tropical country and the climate is fairly even all year round, being roughly divided into two distinct seasons; 'wet' and 'dry'. The east monsoon, from June to September, brings dry weather while the west monsoon, from December to March, brings rain. The transitional period between these two seasons alternates between gorgeous sun-filled days and occasional thunderstorms.

Even in the midst of the wet season temperatures range from 21°C (70°F) to 33°C (90°F), except at higher altitudes, where it can be much cooler.

The heaviest rainfalls generally occur during the months of December and January. Average humidity is usually between 75% and 100%.

## Life on Board

The main features of the vessel can be seen here:  
[www.masterliveboards.com/boats/indo-siren/](http://www.masterliveboards.com/boats/indo-siren/).

## Accessibility

Due to the layout of the boat, Indo Siren may provide challenges, or be unsuitable for guests with limited mobility. Please contact us for further details if you have any concerns.

## Accommodation

All cabins on board Indo Siren are twin or double occupancy. Single occupancy may be available on request and is subject to a supplemental charge.

## Cabin Facilities

All cabins have individually controllable air-conditioning and private en-suite bathrooms with centrally heated hot water. Other facilities include hair dryers, towels, bathrobes and lockable safety box.

## Food and Drink

Meals are provided on a full board basis including a light breakfast, full breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks with unlimited drinking water, tea, coffee, fruit juices and soft drinks.

Local lager (beer), wine and spirits from our cocktail bar are available for an additional fee.

We offer a choice of International and locally inspired cuisine and can cater to special dietary requirements with advance notice. Should you have any specific dietary needs, allergies, or special requests, please advise your sales consultant at the time of confirming your liveaboard trip to ensure we are able to make provisions for your needs.

**Please note:** It can be very difficult to find low-fat or soya products that are common elsewhere. While we always do our best to accommodate dietary requests, please consider bringing some of your own foods if the lack thereof may constitute a health risk or seriously compromise your enjoyment of your holiday.

## Clothing and Footwear

For sojourning on our yacht, we recommend guests bring casual and comfortable clothes; swimwear, shorts and t-shirts. A sweater is advised for cooler nights, particularly after multiple dives. Indo Siren is equipped with laundry facilities and our housekeeper is more than happy to launder your clothes during the trip for a small charge.

We do request that guests respect the wishes of others by donning clothing for meal times. Most guests prefer to walk barefoot on board of our vessel; however, island visits may require sturdy sandals or cross-trainers.

## Electricity

Both 220V and 110V with 2 round pin sockets, European style, are available and we have some universal adapters on board. Nevertheless, we do advise guests to bring their own to ensure you have the amount necessary.

## Staying Connected

We regret that we are unable to provide internet/wifi service on board Indo Siren. Many of our trips are in remote locations and internet service is intermittent at best. Most cell or mobile phones that have 'roaming' will function during your cruise, however, service signal strength can be very weak and some areas of your cruise may not be covered at all. The cost of calls made is determined by your service provider.

We have satellite phone communication which can be used by guests in the event of an emergency. Our out of office contact numbers can be found below, should your family need to contact you during the cruise. As previously mentioned however, this number is reserved for emergencies only.

## Smoking

Smoking on board is permitted in designated outdoor areas.

## Environmental considerations

Although there are recycling programs and facilities in place in Indonesia, they are limited and often not available in our operating ports. We therefore ask our guests to consider the following to help with our mission to reduce our environmental impact.

### Batteries

While some batteries may be available to purchase on board, please bring extras if your personal dive equipment may require a unique size, or need a lot of replacement batteries during your trip. We kindly request that you take spent batteries home so that they can be recycled or disposed of properly. Alternatively, consider using rechargeable batteries as there are plenty of sockets to plug in a charger on board.

### Water Bottles

We are dedicated to becoming single use plastic free across all of our fleets. Plastic straws and stirrers have been banned on all of our boats and we do not provide single use plastic bottles on board.

If you own a sports bottle, we simply ask that you bring it with you, or you can purchase one on board. If you don't have one and you don't want to purchase one, we have plenty of cups on board which you can use to ensure you remain well hydrated.

### Plastic bags and wrappers

We do not provide plastic bags for purchases made on board, although reusable canvas bags are available for sale. Please help us minimise plastic waste by removing plastic wrappers and packaging from items before travelling. If you bring plastic bags with you, please reuse them, and take them home.

### Toiletries

We kindly ask that guests consider the type of products which they are bringing with them and, where possible, to bring environmentally friendly toiletries for use on board, and to take partially or unused products home with them.

## Payments on Board

### Marine and Port Fees

Marine park and port fees are dependent on the duration of your trip; please refer to your itinerary details for further information. The applicable amount can be added to your invoice to pay prior to departure, or they can be paid on board Indo Siren.



## Optional Extras

Indo Siren offers a range of services and optional extras to make your stay on board even more enjoyable. We offer the use of kayaks and land excursions throughout your cruise free of charge. Full details of onboard extras and costs can be found on the Indo Siren page of our website: [www.masterliveboards.com/indo-siren](http://www.masterliveboards.com/indo-siren).

All prices on board are quoted in USD, however we are happy to accept cash payment in GBP, Euro, and AUD as well. We also accept payment by credit card (Mastercard or Visa) for which there is a 3% surcharge.

Please be aware that our Indonesia cruises finish in remote locations, where our credit card payment system, as well as ATM services, can be limited. We therefore recommend that guests withdraw or exchange money upon international arrival. In addition to park & port fees, guests are advised to bring around 250-400 USD (or equivalent currency), for any optional extras.

## Tipping

We believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that your crew has made your holiday extra special, they would certainly appreciate a tip. Please note we are only able to accept tips in cash. For this purpose, you can use the envelope provided by the cruise director. They will make sure the tips are divided equally amongst all crew members, including the captain and dive guides.

## Safety on Board

### Emergency Management & Equipment

All Indo Siren crew members have been extensively trained in emergency management procedures. A thorough boat safety briefing will be provided by your cruise director at the start of your trip, during which all guests will be requested to participate in a life jacket drill. Further practice scenarios may be performed during your cruise to assist our crew in keeping their skills sharp. Each yacht is equipped with modern safety features such as automated life rafts, EPIRB, satellite communication and emergency pumps.

### First Aid

Indo Siren is equipped with a fully stocked medical first aid kit for treating minor injuries and ailments, as well as for assisting trained medical professionals in remote locations. Each of our yachts has a full complement of medical grade oxygen which can be administered to divers through DAN kits or unit specific attachments.

You will also find on board an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), which has been proven to greatly increase the survival rate in the eventuality of cardiac fibrillation. Our dive teams are all qualified emergency responders. Should you feel unwell at any point during your cruise, please seek the advice of your cruise director who will be able to assist you.

## Extending your holiday

Traveling to/from and within Indonesia can be made exceptionally easy when you book with Master Liveaboards. As well as a range of domestic flights, we can offer hotels, excursions and tour packages, which can be arranged for before and/or after your liveaboard.

### Optional, Additional Indonesia Package

To extend your luxury feeling and pamper you a little extra, we can offer you the following package. You will be picked up from Jakarta or Denpasar airport and transferred to a hotel where you can enjoy a good night's sleep.

The next day, you will be transferred back to the airport for your domestic flight to Sorong airport. After the cruise, we have made the same arrangements for you, so you do not need to worry about anything:

- 1 night in hotel pre- and post-cruise
- All transfers to/from airport and to/from Indo Siren
- Domestic flights (return)

Of course, the offer can be tailored to your needs and/or combined with the following excursions; please contact our reservations team at: [dive@masterliveaboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveaboards.com).

### Papua (Irian Jaya) Trip: 5 Days / 4 Nights

This tour starts and finishes in Jayapura airport where a tour guide will meet you for a short flight to Wamema, the largest town in the Baliem Valley. Baliem Valley lies 1800 m above sea level and is surrounded by a crest of mountains, some reaching up to 4500 m.

The discovery of the Dani tribe in the Grand Valley came about by sightings from an airplane in 1938, as no one had yet been able to reach this Dani tribe before, due to its virtually impassable terrain and secluded location. On this tour you will be visiting the local market in Wamena Town, as well as the neighboring Dani villages, to learn about their primitive traditions and to witness a completely different way of life compared to ours. The tour includes a visit to the 350 years old mummy in Aikima and to Kurima, where the Dani and Yali tribes' way of life mixes into a unique combination. This exciting adventure will show you the unique and isolated way of life in the hidden valley. An unforgettable experience!

### Bali Diving trip: 1-4 Days

Bali is often overlooked by divers and is sometimes regarded merely as a hub on the way to Komodo, Raja Ampat, or other more exotic and hard-to-reach destinations in Indonesia. However, the diving in Bali is rich and diverse, offering everything from macro to massive. It is also one of the few places in the world where you can encounter mola mola (ocean sunfish/moonfish); mostly spotted during the months of August to October.

We can put together a unique itinerary from any dives around the coasts of Bali, from muck diving in Puri Jati, the wall and wreck dives of Tulamben and Nusa Penida where you have the opportunity to see mantas and mola molas.

Should you require any assistance, please contact our reservations team who will be more than happy to make reservations on your behalf.

## FAQs

If there are any questions that have not been answered, please visit our website at [www.masterliveboards.com](http://www.masterliveboards.com) or email us at [dive@masterliveboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveboards.com).

## Contact Information

### Thailand Office - Master Liveboards

10/512 Moo 3,  
Tambon Vichit,  
Muang Phuket 83000,  
Thailand

Open Monday - Friday 08:30 - 18:30 and Saturday 09:00 - 17:00 ICT (UTC+7)

Web: [www.masterliveboards.com](http://www.masterliveboards.com)

Email: [dive@masterliveboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveboards.com)

Thailand Office: +66 (0) 76 367 444

UK number: +44 (0) 208 099 2230

USA (Toll Free): +1 866 258 6398

WhatsApp: +66 (0) 93 574 4529

### Indonesia Contacts

Worldwide Dive and Sail Indonesia  
Jl. Pelita Raya Blok A-22 No. 2  
Makassar 90222  
South Sulawesi, Indonesia

**Tel:** +62 411 409 1484 (Office)

**Tel:** +62 812 8233 8741 and +62 812 7395 0709 (24 hours)

## What to Bring

The following is a check list of items that you should ensure to bring with you for your trip aboard a Master Liveboards vessel.

### **Passport**

6 month validity & at least 2 empty pages for visa stickers and stamps

### **Travel Documents**

Flight tickets - International & Domestic; hotel booking; excursions

### **Cash & Credit Card for emergencies**

Recommended amount (additional to park & port fees): 250 - 500 USD

### **Diving Certification & Logbook**

Including Nitrox Card if certified & intending to use Nitrox

### **Travel and Diving Insurance Documents**

To include emergency medical evacuation

### **Essential Diving Items**

Dive computer with full battery

### **Toiletries & Medications**

Including sunscreen & insect repellent  
Inform booking team of medical conditions

### **Essential Clothing Items**

Swimwear, hat and lightweight jacket

***Guests are strongly advised to carry essential items in hand luggage in case of lost or delayed luggage through International or Domestic Flights.***