



Diving 4 Images

Fakfak - Fakfak

The hottest and newest dive destination, find out why...

We will be the first dedicated dive live aboard to offer this area as a destination to the more hardened divers. Please see link to last years trip gallery – www.diving4images.com/fakfak-gallery.html

Area Orientation Map

Dive flag denotes the area where we will be diving



The boat - Seahorse

View Seahorse at http://www.diving4images.com/seahorse_diving.html

Trip Price

\$282 per person per night, plus \$150/person northern Indonesia surcharge. Price includes - transfers from/to hotel in Bali in the south only, all guided dives, tanks, weights, meals and non-alcoholic drinks. Price excludes - internal flights, any hotel bookings, alcoholic beverages, any on board purchases, crew gratuities

Trip Logistics

Bali-Jakarta-Fakfak - 1 day prior to trip Denpasar - Jakarta GA429 departure 22.00, arrival 22.40, Jakarta - Ambon JT790 departure 23.55, arrival 07.00, boarding day Ambon - Fakfak IW1502 departure 08.20, arrival 09.25

Fakfak-Bali - Fakfak - Ambon IW1503 departure 11.40, arrival 12.45, Ambon - Makasar JT637 departure 14.50, arrival 15.20, Makasar - Bali GA637 departure 17.20, arrival 18.10

Fakfak-Jakarta Fakfak - Ambon IW1503 departure 11.40, arrival 12.45, Ambon - Makasar JT637 departure 14.50, arrival 15.20, Makasar - Jakarta JT777 departure 16.05, arrival 17.15

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Sample Itinerary

The cruise director/dive master on Seahorse is one of the very lucky few who made the first real exploratory trip round this amazing new dive destination. No need for worrying about if sites will be good, we have more than enough absolutely incredible dive sites to keep divers excited every day. It's so hot we are not giving out all our area names just yet! Read on...

> Arriving from Ambon to Fakfak we board Seahorse in the afternoon. Boat orientation and safety briefings then we start cruising overnight while divers ready themselves for an exciting day of diving to come.

> We arrive for our first day of diving, sheltered in a unique bay in southern Irian Jaya. Here we have guaranteed excellent dive sites, a submerged reef tops off at 5m, drops down to 25m with black coral bushes surrounded by thousands of small fish all being hunted by jacks whilst schooling barracuda and other pelagic fish cruise off reef. A mild sandy slope in front of a river way here is where Dr. Gerry Allen broke all his fish counts off the charts (328 fish species). We will take you on a short tender ride to see a unique species of kangaroo that can at times be seen here along with a whole array of tropical birds, the scenery in the river way itself is worth the ride.

> Moving on we are in an area where we are surrounded by more fantastic topside scenery. The diving here is fantastic to say the least. Divers will want to dive a few times on these sites, they are so good. "The Bat Cave" is a dive where we have giant boulders dropping to 40+m all densely covered with black coral bushes and surrounded by great numbers of schooling fish and amazing diversity, it was here we saw more large groupers than ever imagined. Back up in the shallows, a small cave makes for great photography with plenty of colourful soft corals. After this great dive we make our first area of exploratory (this is one area we never had time to get to last time round) in a deep bay with many tiny islets surrounded by deep water, here we will make an afternoon and night dive critter hunting, we will take a tender ride to explore the island scenery in this amazing looking bay.

> A few miles move in the morning has us standing off close by a few small open ocean islets, here we have two different sites, both with great fish numbers, one in particular with outstanding reef scenery and great fish life, a chance of some bigger highlight animals are possible here too! Moving a few more miles and we have a great sheltered bay for a critter dive, so good we'll make a night dive on this site where we had fire urchins and their host critters, plenty of nudibranchs, shells on soft corals, a very unique tilefish in the sand and more... In between dives we can go visit the local family and take a tender boat ride to view the ancient skulls placed neatly within this bay!

> Moving back out we dive "White Rock Falls", here we have great fish life, chances of some the big and smallest, chances of mobula rays and a few different species of pigmy sea horses can be seen on this one spot, along with other critters and even some pelagic fish in the deeper areas. In the afternoon we move into the sheltered bay for some critter hunting dives.

> Yet another major hot spot, here we have a school of giant trevallies that hang out in the shallows between 2 small islands with great topographic features for the wide angle photographers, from the islands a mild slope has colourful coral packed bommies all surrounded by fantastic fish life. After 2 dives here we head back into a sheltered bay to make an afternoon and night dive for more great critter hunting dives.

> A big change of scenery as we head in towards the mainland, here we can go and visit the locals in their pristine village or for those who are really into trekking you can take a hike to see the inland lake here. This an area where none other than Dr. Gerry Allen, years back, done as Alfred Russell Wallace did, he spent days collecting unknown species, Gerry found lots of new fresh water fish species. We also have a most unique dive site, we named this "The Fresh Water Vents" as huge underwater plumes of fresh water could be seen coming from the reef with more black corals, giant sea fans and thousands of small fish. We will make a couple of dives in this area to see if we can find some hot critter dives!

> Today we hit our number one spot. This is where Gerry Allen came up from his dive saying "we have to name this site, it should be called Little Komodo", this came from the first ever time he dived Komodo before any fishing impact. There were groupers like we had never seen, literally the size of cars and maybe about 5 of them that came in close to check us out, schools of jacks (4 species), baracudas, many Napoleon wrasse and general fish diversity and numbers like no one on our trip had

ever seen in Asia, coral growth is just awesome. We will spend a day around this one dive site, you'll see why...

> Once more only a few miles away on the open ocean side of the islands we have more incredible sites, well worthy of a few dives, if not a whole day of diving. Another small island that has it all, gorgeous reef scenery and great fish life throughout, gorgeous mini walls with an array of colourful corals surrounded by great numbers of different fish and yet more big groupers all round. This is another area where we can take a tender ride to view the scenery inside the deep winding bay of an uncharted lagoon, here we can see and lots of different tropical birds and take in the fantastic topside scenery.

> One last morning dive on coral garden for more great fish and coral life before moving over a few miles to spend a little time under the dramatic tropical waterfall. In the afternoon another treat we offer is to take you in the tender boats heading inside a cave to view and photograph the dramatic stalagmites and stalactites within.

> Depart from Fakfak.

Please note: This is a sample itinerary and may change due to conditions and your best needs and wishes.

Additional add on activities

Should anyone want to make additional land tours in Bali we can arrange these, trips to temples, Balinese dances, scenic drives through the rice terraces, spa treatments, shopping, what ever it is we can help you arrange these with local Balinese drivers who do not take commissions from tourist shops!

Hints & Tips

Local currency – is Rupiah (Rp). Check rates at the currency converter <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>
In Indonesia it is difficult to exchange US dollar bills that are older than 1997. The bills you bring with you must be in very good condition, no tears, no writing and no stamp marks, like the ones banks sometimes add as ID. If you have bills like this, many places even banks and money changers may not accept them. It is much better go to your bank and ask for new unmarked bills. Try not to bring bills with series numbers starting with C, there have been many forgeries here and many money changers may not accept these bills. **Travellers checks** are accepted though some smaller places may refuse to take them. Remember in Indonesia the smaller the bill the lower the rate of exchange. **Credit cards** are accepted though charges can vary from place to place. **ATM machines** are found all over Bali though not in the more rural areas such as around northern Bali. Always **best to carry plenty of small rupiah** for any small purchases many local shops will struggle changing the larger bills.

Visa Info - 30 day tourist visa is available at the airport on arrival. Cost is US\$30.

Payable visa on arrival is issued to the list of countries below:

USA, Australia, South Africa, Argentina, Brazilia, Denmark, Arab Emirates, Finland, Hungaria, England, Italy, Japan, German, Canada, South Korea, Norway, France, Poland, Swiss, New Zealand, Taiwan.

FREE Visa on arrival is issued to the list of countries below:

Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Phillipine, Hongkong, Macao, Chili, Morocco, Peru, Vietnam.

We can provide a **VIP service** to pick you up directly from the airplane and help you through the custom process, this saves standing in long queues. This is an extra cost of US\$17.50

Airport tax – internal flight taxes to and from dive destination will be paid by Diving 4 Images.

Departing Indonesia airport tax is Rp.100,000 to be paid in Rupiah only!

Overweight luggage – allowance is 20kg, we can usually negotiate a little more up to 25kg free. Overweight will be charged at Rp.14,000kg

Electricity - on Seahorse is 220V throughout the boat with 2 round pins. There is a 110 volt converter in the camera work area if needed. Most resorts use 220V with 2 round pins.

Gifts to bring - We will possibly have the chance to go on land to some local villages, if anyone would to bring gifts, items for schools would be best, books, pencils, erasers, crayons etc

Dress – casual & light, silly hats and funny items of dive clothing are always welcome for giggles!

Weather – this is usually a very good time for calm seas. Water temperature may vary, in the north it

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is usually a warm 28degC, in the south it can be as low as 24degC. However weather patterns have not so reliable from year to year!

Health – for any concerns over malaria please consult a diving doctor about the latest recommended prophylactics, there are always newer and better malaria medications all the time. For any land tours best to cover up the body and use repellants at all times.

Insurances – DAN Membership or an equivalent is highly recommended to dive on Seahorse.

Please do not hesitate to [mail us](#) for more details.

Look forward to diving with you very soon...

Warmest regards

Your cruise director & dive master

Graham Abbott