



# *Dewi Nusantara*

CRUISING ITINERARIES: ALL OF RAJA AMPAT  
(SORONG TO SORONG)



ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

DEWI NUSANTARA ITINERARIES

# ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

TWELVE DAYS · SORONG TO SORONG

*Dewi Nusantara*





MALAYSIA

ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

PACIFIC OCEAN

# The Indonesian Archipelago

SINGAPORE

MANADO

ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

KALIMANTAN

HALMAHERA

SORONG

MANOKWARI

SUMATRA

SULAWESI

CERAM

WEST PAPUA

JAKARTA

MAKASSAR

AMBON

KAIMANA

ARU

JAVA

BANDA SEA

TUAL

INDIAN OCEAN

BALI

SUMBAWA

FLORES

KALABAHI

EAST TIMOR

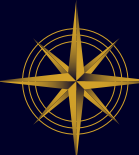
DENPASAR

SUMBA

WEST TIMOR

*Dewi Nusantara*

AUSTRALIA



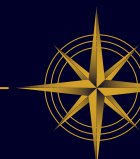
## ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

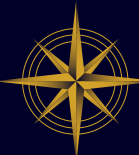
### All of Raja Ampat

Raja Ampat casts a spell on all who visit: scuba divers, scientists, photographers, and crusty sea salts alike. This group of majestic islands, located on the northwestern tip of Indonesia's Papuan "Bird's Head Seascape," lies in the heart of the Coral Triangle, the most bio-diverse marine region on earth. There are some areas where soft corals and sea fans dominate, others with amazing, diverse hard corals, seagrass beds, mangroves, shallow reefs, drop-offs, caves, black sand, and white sand. Then there is the marine life- lots of it, in more shapes and sizes than anywhere else in the world. Raja Ampat's reefs, from pygmy seahorses to top predators, are teeming with life.

The region is huge, 50,000 sq km, with hundreds of islands and an astounding array of habitats, translating to wildly different diving experiences. They range from pelagic drift dives to magic muck dives, and there are even some habitats that are special to Raja Ampat, such as clear-water mangroves with corals growing right next to them. There are thousands of potential dive sites, and there are chances for new and amazing discoveries on every trip.

Raja Ampat is also known for its spectacular above-water scenery. Sparsely inhabited, most of the region still has pristine rain forests atop dramatic limestone islands and cliffs, uninhabited bays with white sand beaches, and all sorts of hidden treasures to greet the intrepid explorer. It's a kayaker's dream- an intricate coastline with caves, bays, gorges, and hidden rivers, all buzzing with exotic tropical wildlife and rare plants.





ALL OF RAJA AMPAT



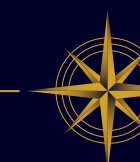
The friendly people of Raja Ampat have primarily been able to maintain their traditional way of life and values, making it an exciting destination and an anthropological haven. There is a wide variety of community celebrations, including various types of music, dancing, singing performances, and lots of fun!

### **Get On-Board with Dewi Nusantara**

Dewi Nusantara was among the original group of purpose-built liveaboard yachts to explore Raja Ampat. To this day she still concentrates the majority of her cruising season around this sensational region of the Indonesian archipelago.

Begin your next scuba adventure on board the Indonesian archipelago's premier liveaboard and experience the best that Indonesia has to offer, along with Dewi Nusantara's outstanding service, exceptional facilities, and her highly experienced crew.

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HALMAHERA

ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

PACIFIC OCEAN

# Cruise Route: All of Raja Ampat

THE HALMAHERA SEA



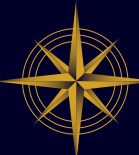
WEST PAPUA

OBI

THE CERAM SEA

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ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

## Destinations: All of Raja Ampat

[Cruise Route ↗](#)

[Mioskon & Kri ↗](#)

[Yangello ↗](#)

[Wofoh ↗](#)

[Aljui Bay ↗](#)

[Penemu ↗](#)

[Daram ↗](#)

[Wayil ↗](#)

[Jef Pele, Lili & Kepotsol ↗](#)

[Fiabacet & Boo ↗](#)

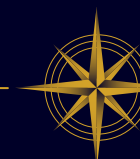
[The Sagewin Strait, Batanta ↗](#)

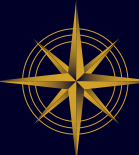
[Cruise Notes ↗](#)

Key: ↗ = To destination. ↶ = Back to this page



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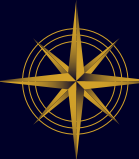
## Mioskon & Kri

Mioskon and Kri are just two of many islands offshore from the Gam and Waigeo shorelines in the Dampier Strait. The seascape around these islands features some of the most spectacular scuba diving anywhere on the planet. Magnificent coral gardens, thrilling seamounts, big fish encounters, and amazing critter activity are the order of the day here in this marine paradise.

The sheer quality and number of dive sites here place this spot at the top of every coral and fish spotter's wish list. The Strait's channels and seamounts form a complicated marinescape, pushing and pulling currents in a variety of directions. These strong tidal flows carry nutrients from deep water to feed spectacular reefs. Colourful corals and prolific concentrations of schooling fish make this collection of islands and waterways a place not to be missed on any cruise to this astonishing region of eastern Indonesia.







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## Yangello

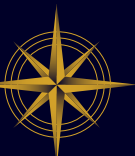
Scuba diving around Yangello is very popular with visiting divers. The coral-covered ridges, reefs, and seamounts around the island create a number of excellent and exciting dive sites.

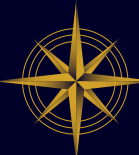
One of the most popular seamounts to dive at Yangello is called Mayhem, close to the west side of the island. This is a current-washed, shallow coral reef for experienced divers seeking a little more adventure. Another submerged reef formation, Batu Dalam, is just south-west of Mayhem. Its shallowest depth is 10 metres, and it could prove to be interesting with some exploration and effort.

Inside the waterway separating Yangello from Gam Island, there are a number of ridges that extend into the channel. Extensive mangrove forests grow just above the corals at the shoreline, providing excellent opportunities to shoot under/over split images when the conditions are calm, clear, and still. Some of the soft corals growing in the waterway are bright pink or purple in colour, and these too make fabulous photo subjects.



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### Wofoh

Despite the fact that the Wofoh Islands have a limited number of dive sites, they remain a popular destination for visiting yachts. With easy anchorages, pristine reefs, and sublime beaches, it is not difficult to see why.

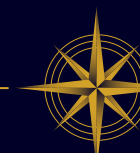
The sites at Wofoh are concentrated around the southern tip of the islands; both are excellent and can be combined into a single dive if needed.

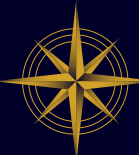
Firstly, there is the dramatic wall under the west-facing cliffs. This drops into the deep and is covered with small indents and ledges that teem with marine life. The reef at the southern end that extends away from the wall is the second named area. The topography here is a nicely sloping reef covered with black coral bushes.

Extra exploration around the reefs around the tip of the north island could also turn up some interesting areas for divers to enjoy around this pretty location.



 Dive Sites: **Wofoh**





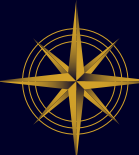
## ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

### Aljui Bay

Diving at Aljui is quite different from other locations in Raja Ampat; it is geared much more towards smaller critters than huge schools of fish and vast coral fields. The edges of the islands in the bay drop very steeply along sloping reefs and walls. Different species of pygmy seahorses make their lifelong homes on the large fan corals that sprout from the steep reefs. In addition, nudibranchs of all types are easy to find around the slopes, ledges, and reefs.

One of Raja Ampat's premier night dives is centred around the three piers at the Cendana Pearl Farm. There is the main pier, where most of the farm's operations are carried out; and two more a little further down the coast. The bottom topography and terrain are different from Aljui's other sites; it is much flatter with a lot more sand, rubble, and gravel. Several excellent critter hunting areas are easy to find here, with plenty of fascinating subjects on offer, including sightings of wobbegong and the endemic walking epaulette shark.





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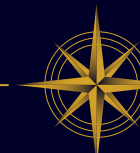
### Penemu

Lying just under 15 nautical miles west of Arborek Island, the Penemu Group is a big favourite with visiting yachts. With numerous exciting land and watersports activities, this island collection has a lot to offer.

Penemu's varied dive sites all feature dazzling, colourful reefs teeming with marine life. There are awesome offshore ridges and seamounts, exciting drift dives, and one of the most talked about and photographed reefs in Indonesia: the mesmerising shallow corals of Melissa's Garden.

As well as diving Penemu's well-known sites, there is a good deal of scope for open-water exploration too. The deep seamounts, a few nautical miles to the west of the islands, give marine adventurers the chance to make their own discoveries and dive where few have ever dived before.

An added attraction at Penemu is a beautifully constructed walkway that takes visitors up to the peaks of the karst islands in the lagoon. This affords spectacular views over the seascape.





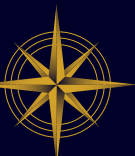
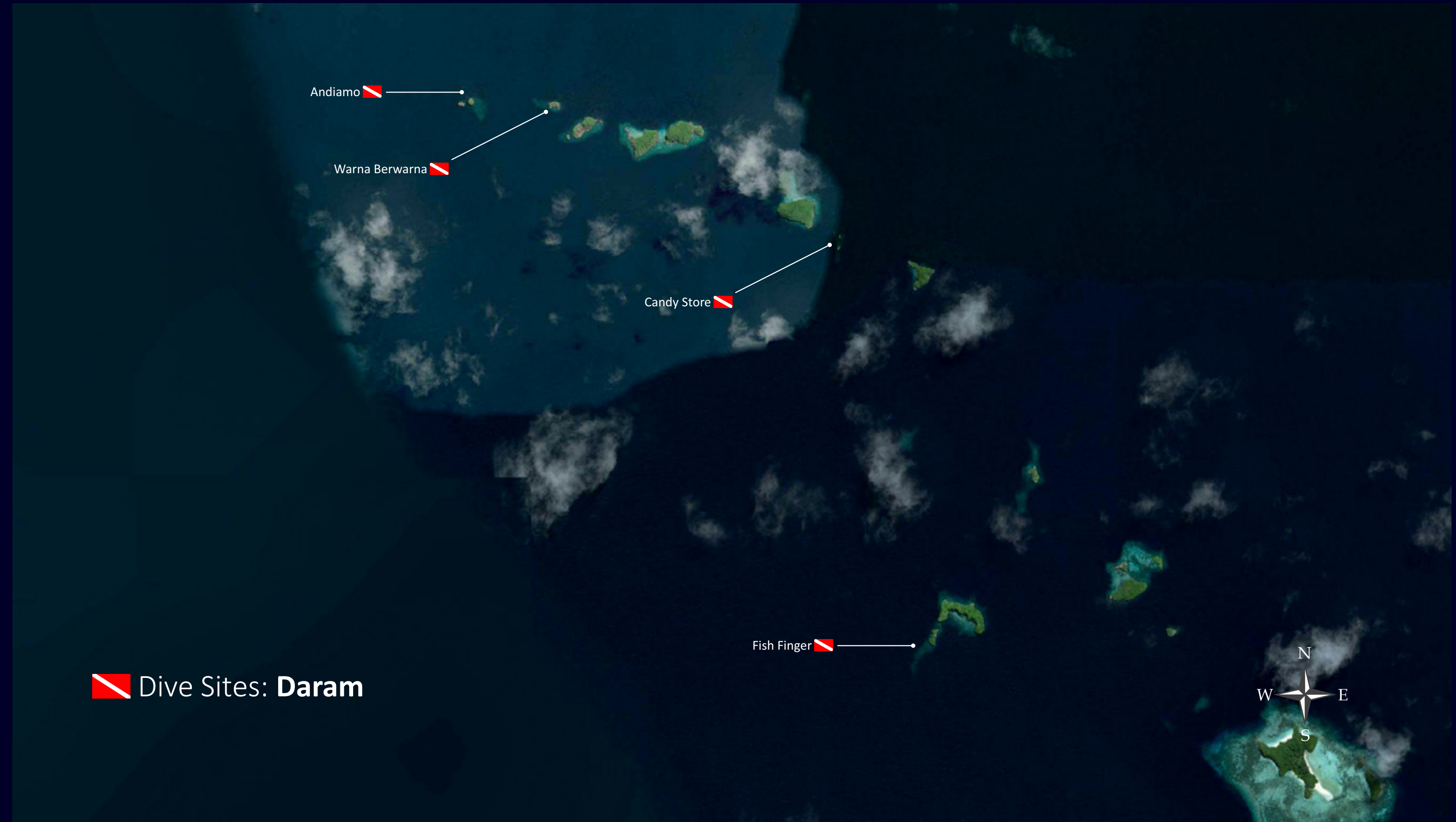
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### Daram

The large island of Daram marks the easternmost boundary of the Misool region. The vast majority of the dive sites are not located around the island itself, but rather a short distance to the north-west. They are undoubtedly some of the most astonishing and colourful in the entire area.

Small collections of karst islets, located along the eastern end of a long island line that extends away from the east side of Misool, are the focal point for most of the site. Many of them boast incredibly abundant coral reefs and jaw-dropping topography. They are also home to so much marine life that, at times, it defies description.

The anchorages and sites are vulnerable to adverse sea and weather conditions due to their remote location. However, if the weather and sea conditions are favourable, the diving here is some of the very best that Raja Ampat has to offer. In addition, there are numerous opportunities to find many more new sites around these iconic rocky islands and ridges.





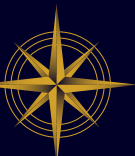
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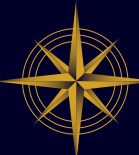
## Wayil

The Wayil dive sites are mostly clustered around the western end of Wayilbatan Island. Comprising multi-peaked seamounts, karst island ridges, and exciting passages, they all feature abundant coral growth and a wealth of both pelagic and reef-dwelling marine life.

At Wayil, there is something for every level of diver. These include easy and pretty reef sites, majestic open-water seamounts, and gentle drift dives that flow down some of the most otherworldly marine seascapes imaginable.

One of the most popular sites is "The Four Kings." This incredible underwater experience takes place in open water, west of the anchorages, where an astonishing four-peaked seamount rises from the deep sea floor. This massive rocky marine structure acts as a magnet for all manner of marine life, large and small.





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### Jef Pele, Lili & Kepotsol

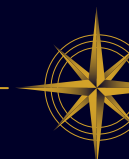
The large island of Jef Pele, as well as the nearby Lili and Kepotsol groups, do not suffer from the concentration of divers and yachts that now visit the anchorages and marine attractions further east. However, they do feature some excellent diving opportunities.

The north-western edge of Jef Pele is home to Kaleidoscope Ridge, the anchorage's signature site. This is a fine example of Raja Ampat's underwater world, with a dizzying array of corals and marine life, both large and small. This impressive coral-covered ridge's incredible underwater architecture combines with a deeper seamount, attracting some of the larger animals that inhabit the abundant reefs and seas of the Misool region. Jef Pele's complex coastline, as well as the numerous offshore islands further south, allow for more dive site exploration.

The sites at Lili and Kepotsol, just under two nautical miles north of the Jef Pele shoreline, share the same amazing marine life and coral characteristics as those around the more well-known anchorages. The scope for new discoveries is considerable, especially in the Kofani group, situated between Lili and Kepotsol.



 Dive Sites: **Jef Pele, Lili & Kepotsol**





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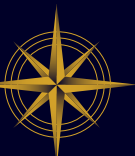
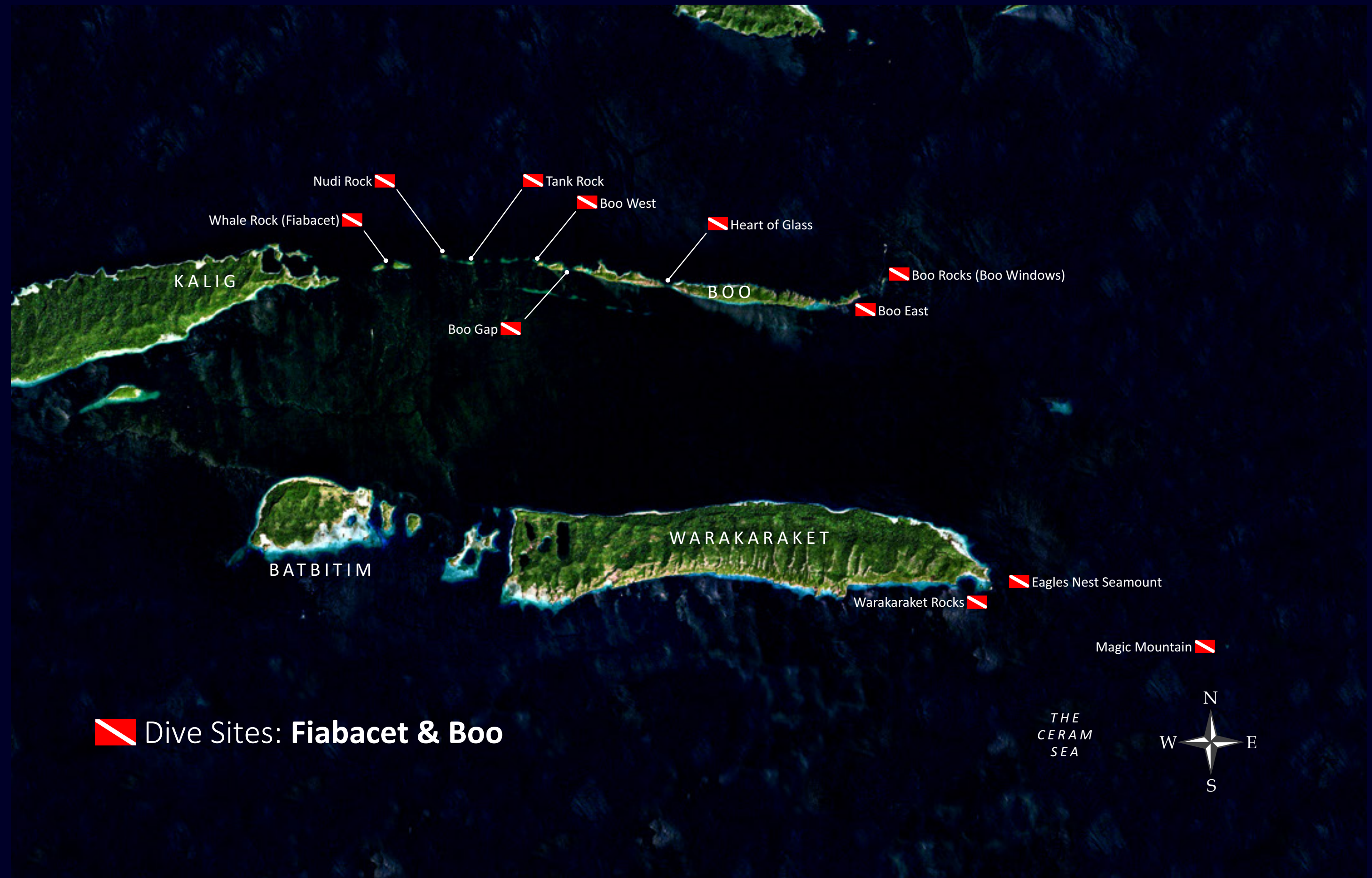
### Fiabacet & Boo

The dive sites in and around Fiabacet and Boo are quite honestly some of the very finest that Raja Ampat, Indonesia, or even the planet has to offer.

The south side's deep ocean floor rises to a marine topography that features a labyrinth of interconnected ridges and seamounts. These act as filters for the nutrient-rich currents flowing up and over the complex seascape, causing the vibrant reefs to explode in a riot of colour and form.

The quality of the numerous sites is incredible. The dives showcase some of the most impressive numbers of schooling fish, swarms of small reef fish, and dazzlingly colourful corals anywhere. At times, the dense clouds of schooling fish obscure the larger predators patrolling behind them. Visiting divers frequently spot grey, white-tip, and black-tip reef sharks, as well as many other powerful predators such as dog-tooth tunas, Spanish mackerel, giant trevally, and acrobatic mobula rays, scything through this massive feast of baitfish.

Karst limestone rocks, as well as the corners and coasts of the larger islands of Boo and Kalig, serve as the focal points for most of the sites. Currents and upwellings from the Ceram Sea to the south wash over these areas, which bring nutrients up from deeper water, sustaining the topographic reefs and marine life in the area.







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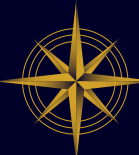
### The Sagewin Strait, Batanta

The southern side of Batanta does not have the picture-perfect panoramas that are normally associated with Raja Ampat, but it does have some of the finest dive sites in the region for searching out weird and wonderful critters. Most underwater exploration of this area has concentrated along the southern shores of Batanta Island at its south-western end rather than further up the strait or along the coastline of Salawati on the other side. However, from time to time, discoveries of both new dive sites and rare and elusive marine creatures are often made.

These sites are all centred around the numerous bays and coral reefs formed at their extremities. In the bays, the seabed consists of sand, gravel, and rubble dotted with coral heads. Narrow, dark-sand beaches border the coastline.

The shorelines of both Batanta and Salawati rise up to high forests, which often get a good deal of rainfall that flows down numerous watercourses that drain into the channel. The freshwater then mixes with the saltwater counter-currents that wash over the dive sites. These naturally occurring conditions combine to complete the criteria required for creating stellar critter dive sites, making the Sagewin Strait and, in particular, south-west Batanta one of Raja Ampat's most popular locations for underwater photographers to enjoy.





## ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

### Cruise Notes

- The suggested itinerary is not fixed. During the cruise, the captain and cruise director assess the prevailing sea, weather, and tide conditions. Where possible, our guest's preferences for certain dive sites will be taken into account.
- The locations included in this itinerary are by no means the only points of interest along the route. There are many more anchorage and activity options available.
- The destinations and anchorages in this presentation are not necessarily in the order the cruise might follow. They are there solely to make the routing easier to understand.
- At times, guests may wish to stay longer at certain anchorages to fully take advantage of what is on offer in that area. The captain and cruise director have discretion over this as long as it fits within the cruise timeline.
- Between anchorages, there can be longer passages, mostly undertaken during the night.
- Aside from the arrival and departure destinations, our itineraries avoid densely populated areas and busy ports.
- Some of these anchorages offer a variety of activities besides scuba diving and snorkelling, such as kayaking or SUP/paddle boarding. Occasionally, we offer village and cultural visits along with other wonderful topside attractions.



*Dewi Nusantara*





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G O D D E S S   O F   T H E   A R C H I P E L A G O

## ALL OF RAJA AMPAT

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Designed, written and produced by Garry Bevan

Some parts of this itinerary have been adapted from "Exploring Raja Ampat", available at Amazon.com

Dewi Nusantara: All of Raja Ampat. July 2024 (Sorong to Sorong)

14/07/24

