



Dewi Nusantara

CRUISING ITINERARY 16

KOMODO & EAST SUMBAWA

WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE
(LABUAN BAJO TO LABUAN BAJO)



WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

DEWI NUSANTARA ITINERARIES

KOMODO & EAST SUMBAWA

WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE



Dewi Nusantara





PHILIPPINES

MALAYSIA

WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

The Indonesian Archipelago

PACIFIC OCEAN

SINGAPORE

KALIMANTAN

MANADO

HALMAHERA

SUMATRA

SORONG

MANOKWARI

SULAWESI

CERAM

WEST PAPUA

AMBON

KAIMANA

MAKASSAR

BANDA SEA

TUAL

ARU

KOMODO & EAST SUMBAWA

JAVA

SAUMLAKI

INDIAN OCEAN

BALI

DENPASAR

SUMBAWA

LABUAN BAJO

MAUMERE

KALABAHI

EAST TIMOR

SUMBA

FLORES

WEST TIMOR

KUPANG

Dewi Nusantara

AUSTRALIA





WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

Komodo & East Sumbawa

Above and below the waves, the Komodo National Park and the surrounding Nusa Tenggara region have always been firm favourites with scuba divers travelling to Indonesia. It's a destination that offers an astonishing variety of drift dives, walls, seamounts, and critter sites: perfect for divers seeking a combination of dazzling coral reefs buzzing with marine life, both large and small.

Along the way we will be checking out the diving at the awe-inspiring Sangeang volcano, a black sand macro enthusiast's dream destination. Also on the route are East Sumbawa and West Komodo. These are roads that are rarely travelled, but they feature marine adventures that are every bit as exciting and prolific as the national park's iconic established dive sites.

Add to this the dramatic topside scenery along with the opportunity of spotting ferocious Komodo dragons, and you have the perfect package. Join us on Dewi Nusantara to experience the region from a brand new angle on these voyages of adventure.

Get On-Board with Dewi Nusantara

The team that conceived Dewi Nusantara in 2007 was among the original group of pioneers that purpose-built liveaboard yachts to explore Komodo and beyond in the mid-90s. For selected trips during our season, the Goddess of the Archipelago will be exploring this outstanding region of Indonesia.

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.



Dewi Nusantara





WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

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Dewi Nusantara





WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE



Cruise Route:
Komodo & East Sumbawa

THE SAVU SEA

Dewi Nusantara





Batu Moncho

The picturesque anchorage at Batu Moncho is blessed with a mixture of different types of dive sites. From vertical walls and big coral-covered boulders to sloping sandy patches and dazzling coral reefs, all of which support a wealth of marine life, from majestic manta rays to tiny pygmy seahorses.

The sites in and around the bay are easy to dive, and the bay is well sheltered for most of the year. This makes it a great anchorage for beginners and novice divers. There can be some currents and thermoclines present at times, particularly on the outer reefs.

Manta rays are often spotted inside the bay, which at times acts as a natural food trap. Frequently, early in the morning, the surfaces of the shallow reefs become covered with plankton. The rays like nothing more than to cruise around in a lazy fashion with their mouths open wide, hoovering up their breakfast.

There are also some surprises to be had too, not known by many visitors. There are reefs and seamounts that are home to huge schools of fish. One, in particular, is guarded by huge Napoleon wrasses and has frequent fly-pasts by squadrons of mobula rays.





Sangeang Volcano

Scuba diving at the imposing Sangeang Volcano has a completely different vibe when compared to the sites at Komodo and the surrounding area. As the whole island is an active volcano, the sandy substrate that surrounds it is dark; some call it black. This dark colouration, combined with the geothermal activity that is constantly going on beneath the island, forms another of Indonesia's unique diving locations. The black sand and bubbles that dominate the Sangeang marinescape provide the perfect backdrop for the intensely colourful reefs that thrive around the island, making it a magnet for underwater photographers and critter spotters alike.

Looking at a chart, the island appears almost circular; however, there are numerous geophysical irregularities around the coastline. Rocky points act as current-catching or disruption points, as well as forming calm bays. Think of the shape as more of a sprocket for a motorcycle chain rather than a circle. These formations act as nutrient traps,

Dive Sites: Sangeang Volcano





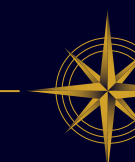
WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

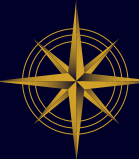


diverting the sometimes strong currents every which way, and are one of the main reasons that Sangeang has such prolific corals and interesting marine life.

Although the island is famous for its sublime critter dives and corals, don't be surprised if you come across some of the ocean's larger animals here too. Manta, mobular, and eagle rays, and even whale sharks and zebra sharks are spotted here fairly regularly. On a good day with good conditions, Sangeang is one of the very best dive locations in the Komodo region and a great favourite with divers from all over the world.

Dewi Nusantara

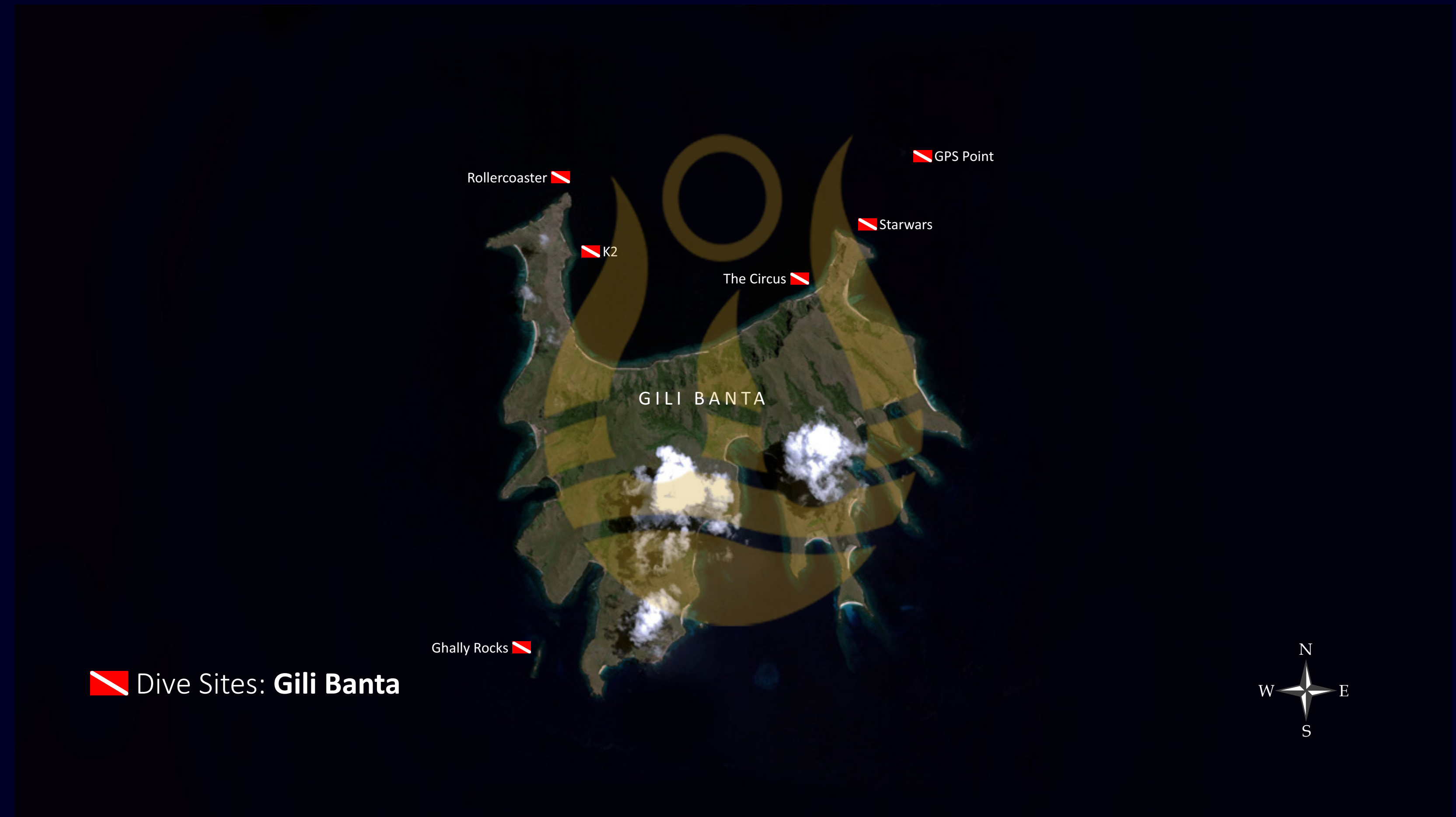




Gili Banta

Gili Banta's major dive sites are situated in and around the island's huge north-facing bay. This expansive seascape stretches almost two and a half nautical miles from west to east and is located under the shadow of what is almost certainly the caldera of a massive but long extinct volcano. There are two points on the eastern and western extremities of the bay, and both feature two excellent dive sites; one of them, a picturesque coral reef teeming with life that lies below the rocky Oiungke peninsula, is known as Starwars; the other, centred around the western tip, a current-blasted rock promontory with breathtaking marine architecture, is the deep and mysterious Rollercoaster, also known as Tandokrasa.

For divers wanting a less energetic experience, Gili Banta features some pretty sand and coral reef sites such as K2 and The Circus. These two dives are found inside the bay and regularly come up with cryptic and unusual marine critters. Their sheltered position and calm conditions make them





WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE



ideal for novice divers and underwater photographers. They also provide two of the island's best night diving sites. The Circus at night is a particularly good place to seek out the grumpy looking stargazer fish.

The main attraction at Gili Banta, however, is the infamous GPS Point, a high-voltage, coral-covered underwater mountain, probably an extension of the island's caldera, and one of the most unpredictable and demanding dives in the Komodo region, if not Indonesia. A pelagic playground subject to strong currents, GPS Point is located close to one nautical mile offshore and can be difficult to plan; however, when current and weather conditions are right, there are not many dives that beat the adrenaline rush of this electrifying site.

Dewi Nusantara





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Tanjung Meriam

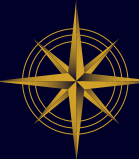
The eastern coastline of Sumbawa is still a relatively unknown quantity amongst the Indonesian scuba diving fraternity, but this great marine secret is set to be uncovered in the new Dewi Nusantara itineraries for 2027.

There are some stunning dive sites to be explored along the huge island's rugged shoreline, and even more out into the Sape Strait. Many of these easily match the famous iconic locations in Komodo, without the crowds.

Tanjung Meriam sticks out from the south-east corner of the huge island of Sumbawa, and is at the very centre of all of this exciting action. Sheer rock walls, electrifying seamounts, and quiet coves combine to provide our guests with wide range of brand new marine experiences.

The complex shoreline of the Meriam peninsula provides some excellent anchorages combined with numerous scenic treks and wonderful deserted sandy beaches.





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Langkoi & Lehoksera

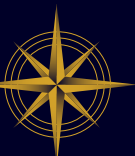
Langkoi and Lehoksera are close neighbours located around the wild and wonderful coastline of south Komodo.

Langkoi Bay features several stunning dives, with an impressive list of several of the ocean's larger marine species. However, the major attraction is undoubtedly the semi-resident group of manta rays. Whether these majestic creatures are feeding in the current-swept channels, getting a wash and brush-up at the numerous cleaning stations, or just flapping around on the surface in the late afternoon sun, they are always one of the most exciting sights a diver can see in the ocean.

The mantas, however, are not the only stars of the show. Oceanic sunfish (mola mola) and marlin have been reported in the area; blacktip, whitetip, and nurse sharks are fairly common; and on one occasion, an hour was spent in the company of two orcas that were splashing around close to Tala. Other sea monsters that dwell in the deep and sometimes cold water down here include



 Dive Sites: **Langkoi & Lehoksera**





WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

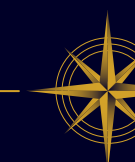


huge potato cod and Queensland groupers, which are often sighted at dive sites around Tala Island.

All in all, Langkoi Bay can be one of the best diving experiences you have ever had; on its day, it's marine wonderland is very hard to beat.

Just around the corner from Langkoi, there is more diving around the pretty and well sheltered anchorage at Lehoksera. Currents don't much affect the sites inside the bay, and there is a small shipwreck that is a great favourite, especially as a night dive due to the nocturnal marine life that it attracts. There are also some good coral reefs running along the north side of the Lehoksera peninsula before it reaches its eastern point.

Dewi Nusantara





WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

Nusa Kode

Featured in dive magazines, books, and journals all over the world, Nusa Kode, or Horseshoe Bay, as it is also known, features its own microcosm of dive site variety and is one of the most popular destinations for visiting dive yachts and other adventurous vessels. This is down to the sheer quality of the underwater experience inside and outside the bay and the fact that the formation of the waterway and topside topography make it easy to operate here.

Under the surface, temperatures are sometimes cold, caused by upwellings from the depths of the Savu Sea. This can make visibility in the plankton-rich water fairly murky at times. However, what awaits divers is nothing short of astonishing: vibrant rocky reefs, sheer walls, and dramatic seamounts pulsate with marine life. There is even a site over the shallow sand, deep inside the bay, to match any of the stellar list of Indonesian critter dives that put the country at the top of the list for marine photographers and explorers.



 Dive Sites: **Nusa Kode**





WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE



One of the dives here, Cannibal Rock, has been described as being one of the finest on the planet, and on a good day, it is hard to argue with that. That said, Cannibal Rock is certainly not Nusa Kode's only marine attraction. All the sites inside and outside the bay feature a jaw-dropping array of colourful corals inhabited by an endless list of marine species. The topography of these sites is interrupted by plenty of holes, cracks, ledges, and current-catching points, providing a perfect environment for the breathtaking underwater scenery and impressive marine life to thrive.

Although Horseshoe Bay is known primarily for its impressive array of smaller animals, there is no shortage of larger species on show. Outside the bay, sites such as the current-blasted Rodeo Rock attract huge groups of schooling fish, which in turn pull in some of the ocean's larger predators. There is still, even today, a lot of scope for exploration too, especially on and around the rarely visited surface-breaking rocks underneath the south-facing cliffs of Nusa Kode Island. A visit to Horseshoe Bay for a couple of days of very special diving is an experience not to be missed during a Komodo cruise.

Dewi Nusantara



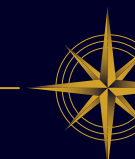


WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

Padar

Nearly all the dive sites at Padar are found on the east side of the island. The most popular are located on the seaward side of a small grassy island known as Padar Kecil East, which is separated from mainland Padar by a narrow but navigable channel. These exciting sites include vast, coral-covered, submerged seamounts; vertical walls; boulders; cracks; swim-throughs; caverns; and critter-crowded reefs and ledges. This side of the island is often subject to heavy ocean swells at times, but the sites are diveable for most of the year.

On the opposite side of Padar Kecil East, sheltered inside the bay, are more exceptional sites. These are better options for diving if easier conditions are required, especially at Pasir Putih and Secret Garden. Both are first-rate sites for spotting small critters. Pasir Putih now features the added attraction of a small shipwreck and is an excellent site to dive at night.





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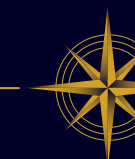
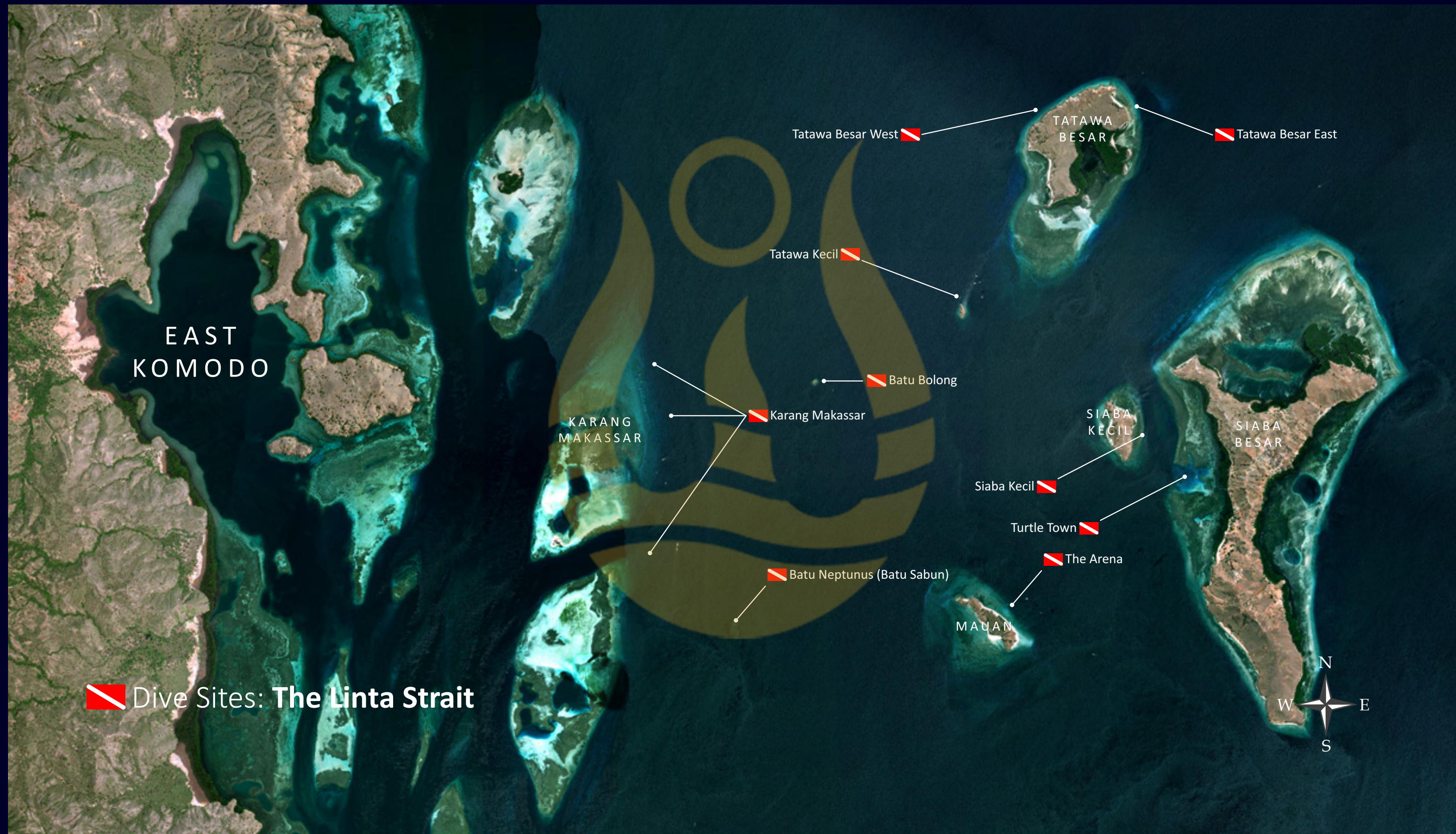
The Linta Strait

The Linta Strait, often referred to as Current City, bisects the national park and is the location of some of Komodo's most thrilling and iconic dive sites.

Tatawa Besar features high-speed drift dives over dazzling coral reefs, often guided by friendly turtles. Several spectacular current-washed rock island and seamount sites in the central channel rank among some of the very best in the world. The slopes, walls, ledges, pinnacles, and caverns of these dramatic dives are covered with colourful coral and swarm with all kinds of marine life.

In addition to all of this fast-flowing excitement, there are a few exceptional locations well known for encounters with manta rays, with feeding and cleaning stations in relatively shallow water. Hair-raising, up-close-and-personal experiences with these gentle giants of the sea are frequent.

The Linta Strait does not have the easiest diving conditions in the national park. Many of the sites are really only suitable for advanced divers, but they are certainly some of the most rewarding.





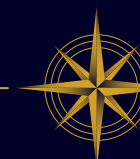
WEST KOMODO - SANGEANG VOLCANO - GILI BANTA - TANJUNG MERIAM - NUSA KODE

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.



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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

KOMODO & EAST SUMBAWA

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Designed, written and produced by Garry Bevan

Some parts of this itinerary have been adapted from "Exploring Komodo", available at www.ultimate-indonesia.com and www.amazon.com

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