



Kingdoms of Coral, Karst & Cloves: A Voyage from Raja Ampat to Ternate with 'SeaTrek Sailing Adventures'

14 JAN – 25 JAN 2019

Code: 21901

Tour Leaders **Jeffrey Mellefont**

Physical Ratings 

Sail in the Coral Triangle from Papua's Bird's Head Peninsula via the pristine Raja Ampat karst-form archipelago to the north-Moluccan spice sultanates of Tidore & Ternate.

Overview

[on the capture of a new birdwing butterfly (*Ornithoptera croesus*) on Bacan Island, Indonesia...]

"The beauty and brilliancy of this insect are indescribable, and none but a naturalist can understand the intense excitement I experienced when I at length captured it. On taking it out of my net and opening the glorious wings, my heart began to beat violently, the blood rushed to my head, and I felt much more like fainting than I have done when in apprehension of immediate death. I had a headache the rest of the day, so great was the excitement produced by what will appear to most people a very inadequate cause."

From Wallace's 1869 book *The Malay Archipelago*.

Tour Highlights

- Seafarer, maritime historian-ethnographer and Indonesian speaker, [Jeffrey Mellefont](#), shares a lifetime's knowledge of this beautiful archipelago, its peoples and seas.
- Sail on spacious *Ombak Putih* ('White Wave'), a magnificent Bugis sail-trader outfitted in air-conditioned luxury, with water-sports craft and all modern safety & navigation gear.
- After seeking the Red Bird of Paradise on Waigeo Island we visit a replica of bio-geographer Alfred Russel Wallace's forest hut, made famous in *The Malay Archipelago*.
- Explore the protected ecological niche of Raja Ampat, with its countless spires of limestone karst-formation islands and islets, unrivalled reefs and marine life.
- Meet some of Indonesia's least-known islanders including the Asai and Betieu people, stewards of these remote and pristine seas.
- Snorkel from ship's tenders or off deserted white tropical beaches over the abundant reefs of the Coral Triangle, which holds the world's greatest diversity of marine life.
- Meet the famous Sama-Bajo sea gypsies, recently resettled from live-aboard boats to stilt-hamlets over tidal fringes in Doworalamo off Halmahera Island.
- Witness the spectacular seascape where four perfect volcanic-cone islands emerge in line from the sea, brilliant green and clad in clove plantations, right next to the Equator.
- Well-restored forts and palaces on Ternate and Tidore recall battles of the Spaniards, Portuguese and Dutch to control the world trade in priceless cloves and nutmeg.

Testimonial

A gorgeous schooner from a bygone era, beautifully refitted, cruising tranquil waters! Our visits to isolated islands with fascinating histories provided an insight into Australia's closest neighbour, whilst at the same time we shared beautiful Indonesian meals, snorkelling and the companionship of other ASA travellers in the expert hands of experienced and friendly guides and crew. An optimum blend of intellectual stimulation and total relaxation. Peter, VIC.

12-Day Cruise: Sorong - Raja Ampat - Ternate

Overnight: 11 nights cruising aboard the *Ombak Putih*

General Description

This voyage criss-crosses the Equator exploring one of the least visited but most memorable destinations on our planet, in the far east of the old East Indies. Its highlight is surely Raja Ampat, a sparsely-inhabited archipelago of spectacular, limestone karst-formation islands and islets. One of the most famous ecological

niches on the planet, in the heart of South-East Asia's 'Coral Triangle', the beauty of its picturesque karst spires is rivalled by the reefs and marine life flourishing below. Our 12-day voyage through these sheltered waters is on luxuriously outfitted, air-conditioned *Ombak Putih* ('White Wave'), a traditional Indonesian sailing ship that's part of the heritage of this wider island world. She sets sail for Raja Ampat from the Bird's Head Peninsula at the north-western tip of Indonesia's Papua province – home of the birds of paradise, which we hope to see. Raja Ampat means 'Four Kings', standing for its four larger islands Waigeo, Salawati, Batanta and Misool. In earlier times these tiny kingdoms were ruled by the North Moluccan spice sultanates of Ternate and Tidore, where our voyage ends. We sail there in the wake of ancient Asian spice traders, and European explorers who fought to dominate its riches of cloves, nutmeg and mace. The 19th-century English naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace, founder of geo-biology (the Wallace Line) and co-discoverer of the theory of evolution, sailed these seas to find the Red Bird of Paradise. All of these stories, and the diversity of local maritime cultures, are revealed day-by-day by ASA lecturer, Jeffrey Mellefont. He works with cruise director Narto, selected for his knowledge of local communities and natural history, dive-master and guide Eva, and an attentive Indonesian ship's crew to look after all your needs.

Note: Guests will meet *Ombak Putih* in Sorong, West Papua. To make a punctual start, we recommend that you to fly to Makassar (Sulawesi) one day in advance of the start date, and then take an early morning flight from Makassar to Sorong. Please note that airfares to Sorong and from Ternate are not included in the tour package. ASA will be happy to assist you with information and flight reservations.

Leaders



Jeffrey Mellefont

A research associate of the Australian National Maritime Museum, where he was a foundation staff member 1987–2014, Jeffrey has been visiting Indonesia since 1975 as a traveller, sailor and researcher. He has published widely on its diverse maritime traditions and speaks Bahasa Indonesia.

BA DipEd

A graduate of the University of Sydney, Jeffrey Mellefont is an honorary research associate of the Australian National Maritime Museum, where he was a foundation research consultant and then had a long career as a publisher and editor (1988–2014). He established and edited the museum's quarterly journal *Signals* and still writes for it. Formerly a blue-water mariner, celestial navigator and professional yacht captain, Jeffrey became a specialist marine writer and photographer and has made a lifetime study of the fascinating maritime world of Asia and in particular of Indonesia. He has published extensively on these subjects in both popular and academic journals. Jeffrey has been visiting Indonesia since 1975 when he was immediately drawn into the maritime life of this tropical archipelago with its extraordinarily diverse cultures and history – as well as the study of Bahasa Indonesia, a national language with its roots in the ancient world of sailors and seaborne traders. He has also traversed the archipelago, west to east, by yacht. Jeffrey has shared his knowledge and enthusiasm for this oceanic world by leading tour groups exploring maritime themes in Indonesia, Cambodia and India, both for the Australian National Maritime Museum and for maritime tourism operators. His richly illustrated presentations draw upon decades of research and adventures sailing with the traditional seafarers and boat builders of Indonesia.



Itinerary

Itinerary Alterations and Alternatives

Our written itineraries must be approached with reasonable flexibility. When touring at sea, weather, currents, and even harbour masters don't always co-operate with our planned itinerary, which sometimes make our planned schedules challenging or even impossible to carry out. Your tour leader and ship's captain are always working hard to create an itinerary that best suits each situation and the needs of each guest onboard. Sometimes this means suggesting additional or alternative activities and destinations that they believe would be an improvement to your original itinerary. The flexibility to make these kinds of alterations (in addition to those due to circumstances beyond our control) in the best interests of all are part of the adventure.

Meals

The tour price includes breakfast daily, lunches/picnics and evening meals indicated in the detailed itinerary where: **B**=breakfast, **L**=lunch/packed picnic and **D**=evening meal.

Trip Schedules

Indonesia is known for its "jam karet" or rubber time, meaning that time and schedules are considered flexible. However, your Captain and Tour Leader will do their best to provide an accurate time schedule for land activities. Your Tour Leader will keep you updated on departure times and procedures.

Motoring and Sailing

The *Ombak Putih* is a motor Bugis gaff ketch. In order to adhere to our planned itinerary, the ship depends on motor cruising. The itinerary is scheduled so that the boat usually begins its longer journeys in the afternoon or during the night, so that you can fully enjoy land activities during the day. The seven beautiful sails are raised when it is beneficial, and the wind and weather are in our favour.

Lecture Program

Each night during your cruise Jeffrey Mellefont will give a richly illustrated lecture delving into the following

topics:

- *Silk, Spice and Gunpowder* – the world’s most ancient and valuable trade: how nutmeg and clove from Maluku drew traders from all over the world to explore and conquer, leading to the beginnings of globalisation and the first multi-national companies.
- *Tanah Air Kita – Indonesia*, this ‘land of water’, and the early mariners who burst out of mainland Asia to settle this huge, wide archipelago before conquering all the other adjacent oceans – and the brilliant sailing technologies they pioneered.
- *Mighty Maritime Empires* – how great Indonesian mercantile states arose through control of the Indonesian archipelago’s sea lanes, and fell in turn; how maritime trade brought currents of world history swirling through the islands introducing Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Christianity and the cultures of China, India, the Middle East and Europe.
- *A Tapestry of Seafarers* – Indonesia’s many different sailing cultures and their brilliant innovations – the Sea Gypsies (Sama-Bajo); the Madurese, the Mandar, the Butonese, the Bugis and Makassans – and Bali’s secret, hidden fleet!
- *Celebes Ships* – the story of our own ship *Ombak Putih* and her lineage, developing from the unique maritime traditions of the famous Bugis and Makassans of South Sulawesi, down the turbulent centuries as their sultans fought colonisers and their sailing fleets dispersed them throughout these islands.
- *Great Guest Voyages* – many Europeans have been inspired by Indonesian sailing traditions. Sail the Moluccas with Captain Thomas Forest on a native kora-kora in 1775; Alfred Russel Wallace searching for the bird of paradise on a Bugis prahu in 1856; colonial administrator G E P Collins ordering his own Celebes palari cruiser in the 1930s.
- *The Best Language – Bahasa Indonesia*: this fascinating, user-friendly language unites an incredibly diverse maritime world. The history of the language is a maritime history of this archipelagic nation. After this simple introduction you’ll be trying it out yourself ashore, with guidance, help and cheat-sheets at hand.

Sorong, West Papua, Indonesia

Day 1: Monday 14 January, Arrive Sorong

- Arrival Airport Transfer
- Board *Ombak Putih*: Welcome & Briefing
- Cruise towards Waigeo Island & Optional Snorkelling

Picked up from the airport by our hosts in the quaint West Papuan port of Sorong, we board *Ombak Putih* and settle into our air-conditioned cabins. Our cruise director and dive master will familiarise you with the vessel’s facilities, safety procedures and your snorkelling gear as we weigh anchor. We immediately enter the protected marine area of Raja Ampat, and cruise towards the nearby island of Waigeo. Lunchtime introduces gourmet buffet dining beneath the deck awnings, and there’s our first swimming or snorkelling stop along the way. At anchor our daily evening routine begins: scenic sundowners on the upper deck, then Jeffrey Mellefont’s pre-dinner, illustrated lecture in the saloon. (Overnight: Aboard *Ombak Putih*) LD

Arborek Island, Raja Ampat Archipelago, West Papua, Indonesia

Day 2: Tuesday 15 January, Arborek Island

- Pre-dawn forest trek to spot the Red Bird-of-Paradise
- Yenbeser village & replica of Wallace’s forest hut, Gam Island

- Arborek village & the Manta Ray Conservation Project, Arborek Island

Our pre-dawn quest is to spot the Red Bird of Paradise (*Paradisaea rubra*), trekking with village guides through a forest alive with night insect-song and then the birds' dawn chorus. From a birdwatcher's hide we hope to see the elaborate courtship dance as day breaks over the forest canopy. This bird of paradise was one of the species sought by Alfred Russel Wallace, and we visit Yenbeser village where he spent months. Nearby is a replica of Wallace's forest hut built by villagers with plans by Flora & Fauna International and a grant from our ship's operator, SeaTrek. We sail on to tiny Arborek island, easy to circumnavigate by foot, to meet the Asai people who represent the intersection of Austronesian and Melanesian cultures. Villagers will proudly explain Arborek's giant manta ray conservation project. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Wofoh & Waigeo Islands, Raja Ampat Archipelago, West Papua, Indonesia

Day 3: Wednesday 16 January, Wofoh & Waigeo Islands

- Snorkelling at Wofoh Island
- Pearl Farming at Aljui Bay, Waigeo Island

On Waigeo's complex western coast, we explore uninhabited Wofoh – three island jewels linked by pristine coral reef. We can snorkel, navigate the islands by ship's tenders or kayaks, or relax on the beach. After lunch we sail northwards to Aljui Bay, home to the Cendanda Pearl Farm. Producing high-quality seawater pearls is an important industry throughout Indonesia, favoured here by Raja Ampat's pristine, remote waters. With the farmers' permission we can visit their facilities and learn about the pearling processes. In the evening we cross the Equator to the northern hemisphere on our journey to the islands of Wayag. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Wayag Islands, Raja Ampat Archipelago, West Papua, Indonesia

Day 4: Thursday 17 January, Wayag Islands

- Karst Spires of Raja Ampat, Wayag Islands
- Snorkelling and Optional Hike, Wayag Islands

Today we wake-up within the natural splendour of Raja Ampat's Wayag islands. The beauty of these picturesque karst spires is perhaps only equalled by the brilliant colours and vibrancy of the reefs and the marine life that flourishes below. Nature has carved these islands into a series of coves and lagoons, narrow channels and inlets, caves, jagged rocks and shaded, sandy beaches. For those who dare, there are some spectacular but nearly vertical climbs that are rewarded with magnificent panoramas. Alternatively we can swim, snorkel, kayak and paddle board. At the end of the day we will go ashore to a deserted beach where our crew will prepare a special beach barbecue. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Day 5: Friday 18 January, Wayag Islands

- Snorkelling and Swimming, Wayag Islands

This morning we can sleep in, if we wish, as we stay at anchor to enjoy another amazing day on the unpopulated Wayag islands, which are simply Raja Ampat's best. We will make the most of this unique region, navigating the maze of mushroom-shaped islands, and stopping for swimming and snorkelling. Later, we set our compass in the direction of Penemu. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Penemu Island, Raja Ampat Archipelago, West Papua, Indonesia

Day 6: Saturday 19 January, Penemu Island

- Optional Trek to Penemu Hill for Scenic Views of Hidden Bay, Penemu Island
- Snorkelling, Kayaking or paddle-boarding, Penemu Island

The heart of uninhabited Penemu island is the scenic wonder known as Hidden Bay. Its name scarcely does justice to the extraordinary, extroverted geography of these limestone islands sculpted into incredible forms by the monsoon seasons and shifting sea levels. We take a short hike to the top of Penemu Hill to be astounded by one of Raja Ampat's most spellbinding views. The rest of the day we spend exploring by ship's tenders, kayaking, paddleboarding and snorkelling in the surrounding island-scape. There is so much to explore. In the early evening we set course for Kofiau. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Kofiau & Boo Islands, Raja Ampat Archipelago, West Papua, Indonesia

Day 7: Sunday 20 January, Kofiau & Boo Islands

- Trek to Inland Lake, Kofiau Island
- Shore Excursion to remote Boo Island

Little-visited Kofiau is out on the far western fringes of Raja Ampat – so remote that several new species of birds have recently been discovered. Its tiny population of Betieu people speak a distinctive language – as do every one of the populations we visit on this voyage. We communicate in the Indonesian national language, based on an ancient traders' and sailors' lingo, Malay, used throughout these islands. A short hike through gardens and forest takes us to an inland lake. Even further west, the obscure, tiny Boo islands are only seasonally inhabited by Betieu or Moluccan fishermen. These islands are a fair blueprint for a beachcomber's paradise; we may be the only foreign visitors to have set foot here in a year. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Bacan & Doworalamo Islands, Northern Maluku Archipelago, Indonesia

Day 8: Monday 21 January, Doworalamo Island

- Sea Gypsies of Doworalamo Island

We round the southern tip of Halmahera island – formerly one of the old spice sultanates – to reach a group of islands at the entrance of the Patinti Strait. A stop at Doworalamo Island allows us to visit a village of the famous sea gypsies, known in Eastern Indonesia as Sama-Bajo. Until recently they spent their entire lives, from birth to death, on their small sailboats called *lipa-lipa*. Now the modern world – intolerant of people of no fixed address – has pushed them ashore. Landless, their homes are always built on stilts over coral reefs or the tidal margins of remote islands such as this one. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Day 9: Tuesday 22 January, Bacan Island

- Rainforest trek spotting parrots, cockatoos, lorikeets and/or visit to Payahe Bay

The waters we're sailing were once dotted with sultans' spice-trade galleys, Portuguese caravels, Spanish galleons, Dutch jachts and English pinnaces. Now, we find local outriggers, sampans, island ferries and sail-trading sloops called *lambo*. Bacan Island is where Alfred Russel Wallace discovered the golden birdwing butterfly and the giant mason bee *Chalicodoma pluto*. We'll keep a close watch for these and a host of endemic species including parrots, cockatoos, lorikeets, the elusive cuscus or a rare black macaque – the only monkey in Maluku. It's the wrong side of the Wallace Line for monkeys; these ones were introduced.

Activities can depend on conditions. Options include a visit to Payahe Bay and a forest trek to a waterfall. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Makian Island, Northern Maluku Archipelago, Indonesia

Day 10: Wednesday 23 January, Makian Island

- Makian Island hot springs

We cross the Line for the third time to awake in the Northern Hemisphere – and, arguably, Indonesia’s most stunning seascape. Four perfect, brilliant green volcanic-cone islands emerge from the sea in a straight line stretching south to north, parallel to the rugged, forested spine of Halmahera Island. They are Makian, Moti, Tidore and Ternate. We’ll stop first at Makian, dominated by the volcanic Mount Kie Besi (1357 metres). There are interesting expeditions ashore and good places to snorkel along Makian’s palm fringed, white-sand beaches and crystal clear waters, and natural hot springs. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Tidore Island, Northern Maluku Archipelago, Indonesia

Day 11: Thursday 24 January, Island of Tidore

- Old town of Soa Siu
- Ancient clove plantations on the slopes of extinct Kiematabu volcano
- Farewell Dinner

Picturesque Tidore is dominated by the extinct Kiematabu volcano (1730 metres), its slopes clad with plantations of shapely clove trees. Cloves were once endemic to these few islands, so valuable in world trade that sultans and European powers fought for centuries to monopolise them. A fleet of local taxis brings us to the old port of Soa Siu, the colonial-era strongholds Fort Torre (Portuguese) and Fort Tahula (Spanish), and the palace of the Sultan of Tidore. We can visit clove plantations on the volcano’s flanks, or a blacksmith working an ancient design of piston bellows. A seashore monument marks the 1521 visit of Magellan’s battered fleet, first ever to circumnavigate. This final evening on our magnificent ship features a farewell dinner and cultural performance from our captain and crew. (Overnight: Aboard Ombak Putih) BLD

Depart Ternate: Northern Maluku Archipelago, Indonesia

Day 12: Friday 25 January, Depart Island of Ternate, TOUR ENDS

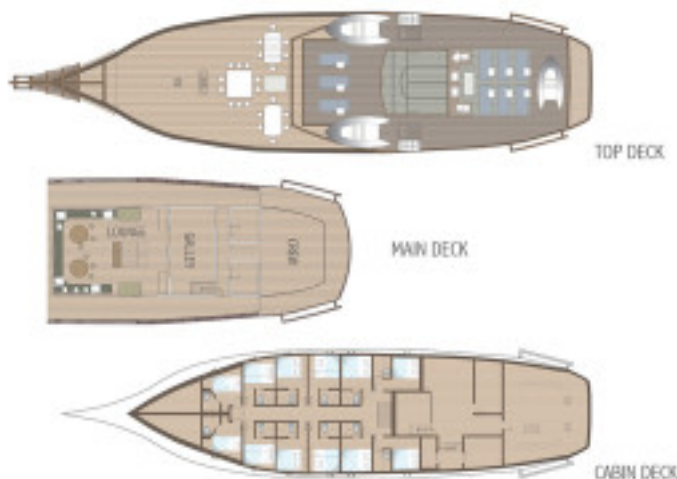
- ‘Kedaton’, Palace of the Sultan of Ternate
- House of Alfred Wallace
- Fort Toluko & Fort Oranje (time – permitting)
- Departure transfer

This morning we explore Ternate city beneath towering Gamalama volcano (1715 metres). Capital of North Maluku province and seat of one of four historically powerful Moluccan spice sultanates, it’s still a vital spice-trading outlet. We can visit the house where Alfred Russell Wallace penned Charles Darwin his crucial ‘Letter from Ternate’ offering his own theory of evolution. It’s opposite the 17th-century, pagoda-style royal mosque and near the palace of the Sultan of Ternate, with its rich collection of heirlooms. Time permitting we can visit Portuguese Fort Toluko or Fort Oranje built by the VOC (Dutch East India Company). Returning to the boat, it’s farewell to captain and crew and transfers to the airport, or to local hotels for those choosing an extended stay in the Moluccas. BL

Accommodation

12-Day Cruise: Sorong - Raja Ampat - Ternate

- **SeaTrek Cruise (11 nights):** Aboard the *Ombak Putih* – a traditional Indonesian gaff ketch custom built from ironwood by Buginese shipbuilders. Her keel was laid in Batulicin Kalimantan in 1995, and she became operational in 1997. The *Ombak Putih* is 42m long, and provides accommodation for up to 24 guests in 12 comfortable cabins. With approximately 400 square metres of public space divided over 2 main decks, the *Ombak Putih* offers both open and covered space in abundance, allowing for privacy and serene relaxing. All cabins are located below deck and offer private bathroom, portholes, individually controlled air-conditioning, and ample storage space including safety deposit box. The gaff ketch is led by Captain Feri and 14 dedicated crew members coming from all regions of the archipelago. www.seatrekbali.com/our-ships/ombak-putih



Ombak Putih Deck Plan

Practical Information: *Ombak Putih*

- 12 superior cabins
- Overall length: 36 metres (118 feet)
- Beam: 10 metres (33 feet)
- Draught: 3.5 metres (11.5 feet)
- Rig: Gaff rigged ketch - 600 m² sails, 2 mains, two tops, three jibs
- Cruising speed: 7-10 knots
- Maximum speed: 12 knots
- International Standard Navigation & Safety equipment (with satellite phone)

En-Suite Facilities

Each cabin contains a private toilet, a hot/cold water shower and locally produced shampoo and soap. The

Ombak Putih provides a modern marine toilet system, which functions just like any western toilet.

Air-Conditioning and Electricity

Each cabin has an individually controlled air-conditioning unit. Each room is equipped with an electrical outlet suitable for round, 2-pinned European plugs that are compatible with 220 Electric Voltage. The salon has additional sockets for charging, and a large power strip that accepts most plug styles. Additional adaptors are available onboard.

Towels and Linen

Beach and bath towels are provided for each guest. In order to conserve water, bath towels will be changed after 3 days and beach towels will be changed after 5 days. Bed linen is changed mid-trip.

Valuables and Care for Personal Belongings

There is a small safe in the Captain's cabin for stowage of your valuables or documents should you need it. There is a lockable cabinet in each cabin that may be secured with your personal luggage lock.

Laundry

A limited laundry service is available to guests, free of charge. To conserve water, guests are limited to two pieces per day.

Communication & Internet

A satellite phone is available for passengers on board for a fee of US\$ 3.00 per minute for international calls and US\$ 1.00 per minute for local calls. Local mobile phone signal may be available at certain times during your trip. Internet access is NOT available on board ship, however you may be able to access the internet via your mobile phone when the *Ombak Putih* arrives at port (the speed of internet connection may vary).

Dining

Meals can be taken either in the salon or on the open air dining area on the foredeck. A breakfast buffet is offered in the salon between 7:00 and 9:30, or before the morning's land excursions, while lunch and dinner times are announced by the salon bell. Between meals local fruit, crackers, biscuits and assorted nibbles are made available at the bar. The *Ombak Putih* offers a fresh, healthy menu full of local specialties that should suit the varied tastes of our guests. The crew sources the freshest local fruits, vegetables, and fish available and a trip to the local market with them can be real adventure. If you have any dietary preferences or restrictions, please advise ASA well in advance of your trip.

Beverages

Coffee, cocoa and a variety of teas, as well as soft drinks and fruit juice are all complimentary and available at any time. Wine and spirits are heavily taxed in Indonesia, therefore generally fairly expensive by international standards. The bar menu offers a limited selection of imported and local wines as well as a range of spirits and delicious cocktail creations at reasonable prices. Alcoholic beverages are provided at an additional charge to our guests. You should feel free to bring your own favourite beverages.

Weather

Although we sometimes cross channels that provide us with some exciting waves, most of your cruise should experience calm seas and sunny days.

What to Bring

Your Tour Leader will usually arrange most essentials for your land excursions, however, a bottle of water, a hat, sunscreen and insect repellent are items you should bring with you at all times. Don't forget your camera (with charged batteries and ample memory) as well as some money for souvenirs if you wish.

Footwear/ Shore Landings

Flip-flops or sandals are usually sufficient footwear for most land tours, but in some cases sturdier shoes, sports sandals, or water booties might be more appropriate. Landings on shore from the tenders may be either dry or wet due to fluctuations in tidal levels. In the case of a wet landing, water might come as high as the knees, therefore suitable sandals or carrying your shoes to be put on upon land (as well as rolled up pants or shorts) might be recommended. Your Tour Leader will try to make recommendations for appropriate footwear for each occasion.

Cultural Dress / What to Wear

In the streets of Jakarta or the tourist areas of Bali, revealing clothing may be more socially accepted, but many of the remote villages we visit are accustomed to more conservative dress. In order to both respect our hosts and not draw uncomfortable attention, we usually suggest more conservative clothing when touring a village. This means that ladies should avoid plunging necklines and bare shoulders while both sexes should cover the knees. On board you can feel comfortable in your swimwear as our crew is used to this, however a revealing bathing costume might cause offence in the vicinity of a village.

Snorkelling

Exploring the underwater world is a highlight of any trip. Snorkelling equipment is made readily available on board.

Bar and 'Boatique' Bill

At the end of your cruise, you can pay for additional purchases and your bar bill with cash (Indonesian Rupiah or major foreign currency at the current exchange rates) or credit card (Seatrek only accepts VISA).



Twin Stateroom, *Ombak Putih*

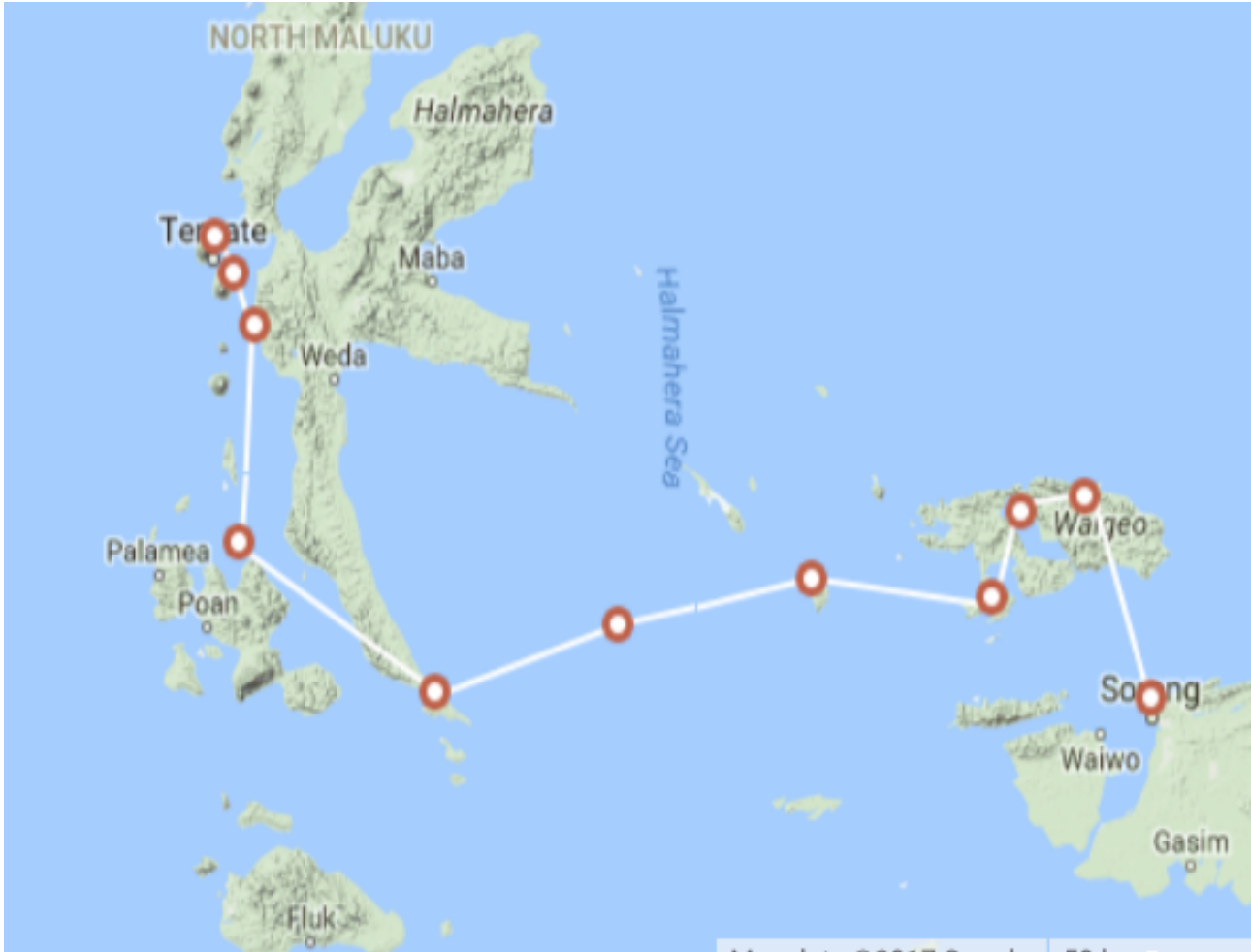


Double Stateroom, *Ombak Putih*



Dining area, *Ombak Putih*

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

USD \$7450.00 Land Content Only Twin-share**

The price for this tour is given in USD. Based on the current exchange rates (1AUD = .75USD), this is approximately \$9935.00 AUD. The final tour price will be confirmed 4 months prior to departure.

Note: due to the limited number of cabins available on the *Ombak Putih*, cabins for single use are not currently being offered. If you are interested in this option please contact ASA for further information.

For competitive Economy, Business or First Class airfares and/or group airfares please contact ASA for further information.

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- 11 nights aboard the *Ombak Putih* in double or twin-share cabins
- Meals as indicated in the tour itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch & D=evening meal
- Non-alcoholic beverages during meals and bottled water during site excursions
- Arrival/Departure airport transfers
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person (not at airports)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Entrance fees

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- Airfare: Australia-Sorong, Ternate-Australia
- Alcoholic beverages
- Personal spending money
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel insurance
- Visas (if applicable)
- Tips for the staff and crew on board the *Ombak Putih* (estimate of \$100.00 US per person)



Physical Endurance & Practical Information

Physical Ratings 

The number of flags is a guide to the degree of difficulty of ASA tours relative to each other (not to those of other tour companies). It is neither absolute nor literal. One flag is given to the least taxing tours, seven to the most. Flags are allocated, above all, according to the amount of walking and standing each tour involves. Nevertheless, all ASA tours require that participants have a good degree of fitness enabling 2-3 hours walking or 1-1.5 hours standing still on any given site visit or excursion. Many sites are accessed by climbing slopes or steps and have uneven terrain.

This 12-day voyage involves:

- 11 nights cruising aboard the *Ombak Putih* involving motoring and sailing on open water from Sorong to Ternate.
- A moderate amount of walking where many of the sites are large and unsheltered.
- Visiting sites where you will encounter steps, rocky and uneven ground, slopes.
- Activities include swimming, snorkelling, village walks and rainforest treks.
- You must be able to carry your own hand luggage. Hotel portorage includes 1 piece of luggage per person.

It is important to remember that ASA programs are group tours, and slow walkers affect everyone in the group. As the group must move at the speed of the slowest member, the amount of time spent at a site may be reduced if group members cannot maintain a moderate walking pace. ASA tours should not present any problem for active people who can manage day-to-day walking and stair-climbing. However, if you have any doubts about your ability to manage on a program, please ask your ASA travel consultant whether this is a suitable tour for you.

Please note: it is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to

direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. For further information please refer to the ASA Reservation Application Form.

Passports and Visas

Please ensure that all necessary travel documents are valid and effective and in your possession. Passports are required for all participants and **MUST** be valid for at least 6 months after your date of return. Please assume full responsibility for checking and verifying any and all passport, visa, vaccination, or other entry requirements. We may provide information or advice on general matters such as climate, clothing, baggage, and special equipment in good faith as a courtesy to you, however, please ensure that you are properly prepared.

Health Requirements and Medical Care

This trip has varying levels of demands and fitness requirements. To participate, you must complete the ASA Reservation Application Form. **Medical care beyond basic first aid, due to the often remote regions visited, is often not immediately available.** If you have a physical, dietary, or other condition for which you may desire special attention, please inform us in writing when the booking is made. ASA and SeaTrek assumes no responsibility for any medical care provided to you.

Booking Conditions

ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION and send it to Australians Studying Abroad together with your non-refundable deposit of AUD \$2500.00 per person payable to Australians Studying Abroad.



Reservation Application

TOUR NAME _____

TOUR DATES _____

Please complete **one application, per person in block letters and sign**. Parental signature is required for participants under 18 years of age. Please mail this form with the appropriate deposit to: **P.O. Box 8285, ARMADALE, VICTORIA, 3143**. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation.

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other _____

FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____

POSTAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

Date of birth ____ / ____ / ____ GENDER Male Female

Passport Number _____ Expiry date ____ / ____ / ____ Nationality _____

Colour copy of my current valid passport enclosed I'm renewing my passport ASA has a colour copy of my current passport

Travel Plans

I wish ASA to book my airfare, please contact me to discuss my options. Business Class Economy Class

I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences. Planned departure date ____ / ____ / ____

I will be arranging my airfare independently and taking the Land Content Only option.

Frequent Flyer _____ Name of Airline _____ Airline Seat preference _____
Membership # _____ (please note request only)

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: a twin-bedded room a double-bedded room a room for sole occupancy

I am travelling: on my own with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

I do not have any specific dietary requests

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:

fish poultry red meat dairy products

eggs pork nuts

Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Other _____

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence Postal Mail Email Address _____

Emergency Contact Details

Note: this person **MUST** be available by telephone and be present in Australia for the duration of your tour with ASA

Name _____ Relationship to Traveller _____

Address _____

TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____

EMAIL address _____

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist ASA to determine, where necessary, whether ASA is able to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs and whether your health and safety (or that of your fellow travellers) is likely to be compromised given your choice of tour. It will also assist you and ASA if you fall ill or have an accident whilst travelling.

- ASA reserves the right to decline your Reservation Application if this Medical Information section is not completed properly and may reject or cancel your reservation, or terminate your participation on any tour, if ASA subsequently learns that you have failed to make full and proper disclosure.
- ASA is committed to protecting the privacy of your personal information. ASA's privacy policy is available for viewing at www.asatours.com.au
- If ASA has any concerns about the information you have provided, it will contact you to request clarification before considering your Application.
- ASA requires you to consider carefully your limitations in light of ASA's Physical Endurance Star Rating System in ASA's Brochure and Itinerary when choosing your tour.
- If you are not likely to satisfy ASA's Participation Criteria (see below), ASA, in its sole discretion, may reject your Reservation Application.
- It is a condition of your tour that you agree to accept the directions of ASA's Tour Leaders in relation to your suitability to participate in activities planned on tour.
- ASA reserves the right to cancel your participation on a tour if your behaviour is in ASA's opinion causing undue distress or damage to any person or their property.
- If your participation is discontinued during a tour, ASA will assist by arranging your onward travel (if required) at your own cost, but you will not be refunded for forfeited parts of the tour.
- ASA tour groups are not accompanied by a medical practitioner. ASA recommends that you see your doctor for advice about your specific needs while overseas. You may also wish to contact a travel and vaccination clinic for advice. www.traveldoctor.com.au tel: 1300 658 444; www.travelvax.com.au tel: 1300 360 164.
- Travel insurers require you to declare all existing medical conditions.
- Please carry a complete list of medications with you during the ASA tour. Include **generic names** of each medication (consult your local pharmacy for information).

Please mark **X** in the YES or NO box to every question below and provide details where necessary:

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. The responsibility of the Tour Leader is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one guest.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Can you walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Can you walk unassisted on and over uneven surfaces? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Can you climb at least 3 flights of stairs and/or walk up and down steep slopes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Can you walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15 - 20 minutes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Can you organise, manage and carry your own luggage? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Can you follow and remember tour instructions and meet punctually at designated times and places? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Can you administer your own medication? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Do you have impaired vision or hearing which may impact your capacity to participate on this tour? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Mobility and Fitness

As many of ASA's international sites do not provide access to wheelchairs or similar mobility aids, we regret that ASA tours are not suitable for people who require the use of a walking frame, wheeled walker, wheelchair or motorised scooter.

1. Do you suffer from any medical conditions that may compromise your mobility and/or fitness to participate on this program? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

Allergies and/or Food Intolerances

ASA will make reasonable endeavours to organise meals to suit you, provided that you give ASA adequate notice of your specific dietary requirements or allergies. You may be required to research dietary alternatives, as not all destinations may be able to offer suitable food substitutes.

1. Do you have any food allergies or intolerances? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

2. Have you ever had an anaphylactic reaction to anything? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

Do you carry an epipen? YES NO

3. Do you have any other allergies or reactions to anything, including medical drugs? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

Existing Medical Conditions

You alone are responsible for managing any existing medical conditions, your medication and any medical equipment that you may need when on your tour. Please plan for contingencies and take extra medication, dietary supplements and/or fully charged batteries for medical equipment if your health and safety depends on these. You should take into consideration that power sources at some destinations may be unavailable, inadequate, inconvenient or unreliable.

1. Have you any significant medical conditions that may impact your capacity to complete this tour? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

2. Do you require some form of powered medical aid, such as a CPAP machine? YES NO

These machines may not be operable on certain international flights, modes of transport, in remote or other areas with inadequate or unreliable power sources without a fully charged independent long life battery or batteries.

Diabetics: You may be travelling and sightseeing for many hours at a time. Insulin dependent diabetics must carry extra supplies of insulin (as this medication cannot be obtained in some destinations), regulators, applicators, storage and refrigeration equipment, as well as any necessary supplements. Accommodation may not provide refrigerators in rooms.

3. Are you diabetic? YES NO

Are you insulin dependent? YES NO

4. Do you suffer from travel sickness? YES NO
 Remember to use an appropriate medication while on tour.



Declaration, Liability and Booking Conditions

Declaration

I declare that: I have read and understood the ASA Tour Itinerary, Reservation Application and Booking Conditions. I am aware of ASA's terms as relating to refunds, cancellations, responsibility and liability. I understand that ASA relies upon this declaration when considering this Application. I accept that there are inherent dangers and risks that may occur during any tour. I have made full and complete disclosure and have not knowingly withheld any medical information about myself from ASA. I have completed this Reservation Application honestly and accurately. I warrant that I am able to participate independently in all activities described by ASA in the itinerary without assistance from any person.

I will advise ASA in writing if any aspect of my fitness and or health conditions change materially at any time before my departure date. I understand and accept that the itinerary, accommodation and lecturers scheduled for this tour may change.

I agree and consent that ASA may give my personal information in this Reservation Application to tour service providers and relevant authorities as required by law, but for the purpose of making bookings with and engaging services provided for the tour. I understand that if I do not consent to the use of my personal information for this purpose, ASA will decline my Reservation Application.

In consideration of ASA's acceptance of my Reservation Application, I irrevocably release and indemnify ASA from all claims that I, or any other party, may have against ASA its employees, invitees, agents and contractors, however arising in respect of any loss, damage, injury, death or expense incurred in the course of travelling to, on and from any tour.

I understand and acknowledge that this Release and Indemnity applies with respect to:

1. Every general risk to which I or my personal belongings may be exposed in the course of travelling to, on or from any ASA tour
2. Every special risk, in particular medical risks, to which I may be exposed in the course of travelling to, on or from any ASA tour arising from, including, but not limited to:
 - a. intermittent power cycles and/or the temporary or permanent loss of power (beware CPAP or any other medical machine users);
 - b. dietary, food or other allergies (ASA cannot guarantee that traces of items to which you are allergic are not present in food or drink you are served, medication you are administered or other substances with which you may come into contact);
 - c. any event or situation that may compromise the administration of necessary medication or my health, safety and wellbeing generally.
3. All claims arising as a result of my or ASA's cancellation or termination of my continued participation on a tour for whatever reason (refund conditions in ASA's Booking Conditions excepted).

Limitation of Liability

ASA is not a carrier, event or tourist attraction host, accommodation or dining service provider. All bookings made and tickets or coupons issued by ASA for transport, event, accommodation, dining and the like are issued as an agent for various service providers and are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by each service provider. ASA is not responsible for their products or services. If a service provider does not deliver the product or service for which you have contracted, your remedy lies with the service provider, not ASA.

ASA will not be liable for any claim (eg. sickness, injury, death, damage or loss) arising from any change, delay, detention, breakdown, cancellation, failure, accident, act, omission or negligence of any such service provider however caused (contingencies). You must take out adequate travel insurance against such contingencies.

ASA's liability in respect of any tour will be limited to the refund of amounts received from you less all non-refundable costs and charges and the costs of any substituted event or alternate services provided. The terms and conditions of the relevant service provider from time to time comprise the sole agreement between you and that service provider.

ASA reserves the sole discretion to cancel any tour or to modify itineraries in any way it considers appropriate. Tour costs may be revised, subject to unexpected price increases or exchange rate fluctuations.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

A **non-refundable** deposit of \$2500.00 AUD per person is required to reserve a place on an ASA tour.

CANCELLATION FEES

If you decide to cancel your booking the following charges apply:

Initial deposit of \$2500.00 AUD is non-refundable

95-66 days prior 50% of total amount due

65-0 days prior 100% of total amount due

We take the day on which you cancel as being that on which we receive written confirmation of cancellation.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR

We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

WILL THE TOUR PRICE OR ITINERARY CHANGE?

If the number of participants on a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates ASA reserves the right to amend the advertised price. We shall, however, do all in our power to maintain the published price. If an ASA tour is forced to cancel you will get a full refund of all tour monies paid. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of ASA make it necessary to change airline, hotel or to make amendments to daily itineraries. We will inform you of any changes in due course.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

ASA requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. A copy of your travel insurance certificate and the **reverse charge** emergency contact phone number must be received by ASA no later than 95 days prior to the commencement of the tour.

FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of the tour price will be due 95 days prior to the tour commencement date.

PLEASE READ THE ABOVE CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW

I accept the conditions on this booking form I have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that I am able to meet these requirements

Applicant's Signature

Print Full Name

Dated

Tour / Voyage Name

Name of Traveller 1

Name of Traveller 2

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$

 (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

The above amount is payable for:

- Intention to Travel Tour Deposit
- Balance of Payment Upgrade from Intention to Travel to a Deposit
- Travel Insurance Other (eg. Airfares, Accommodation)

By Cheque

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
Swift Code ANZBAU3M
BSB 013-423
Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No.

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended

Date Money Transferred

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard & Visa 1.95%
American Express 2.80%

Please debit my: Mastercard Visa American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number

Expiry Date

 Security Code (CVC)

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ)

Cardholders Name

Cardholders Billing Address

Postcode

State

 Country

Phone

Email

Cardholders Signature
