

MAHODAYA

5 Night Historic Banda Neira Expedition

Day One

After being welcomed by the team at the airport, travel to the harbor and embark **MAHODAYA**. During lunch service cruise east towards Nusa Laut. This location offers both excellent snorkeling and diving, with a possibility of sighting an elusive dugong. Once complete, sail south in to the Banda Sea. Enjoy the sunset from the upper deck with cocktails & canapés while looking out for dolphins and whales.

Ambon – Nusa Laut : 28nm / 4 hours Nusa Laut – Run : 78nm / 11 hours

Day Two

Awake next to the island of Run, the westernmost of the fabled Spice Islands. Enjoy a beach set up on the small sandy spit at Nailaka. A number of dive sites encircle this island, with the chance to spot hammerhead sharks, while the crystal blue waters and drop offs also provide excellent snorkeling all around. Opportunities to visit the shore also here to visit the small, disconnected village.

Day Three

A short journey away from Run lies the island of Ai. Enjoy a walk accompanied by a local guide to see the crumbling old Fort Revenge. See the colourful and tidy village while being greeted by the friendly locals. Take a walk in to the plantations to see how nutmeg, mace, cinnamon, cloves and more are cultivated and collected. More excellent diving & snorkeling opportunities surround this island. In the afternoon sail the short distance east to Banda Naira, following in the wake of the most famous explorers through history as you enter the perfect natural harbour beneath the shadow of the active Banda Api – or Banda volcano.

Run - Ai : 5nm / 50 minutes Ai – Banda Naira : 8nm / 1 hour

Day Four

The adventurous minded are able to depart before sunrise to climb the 667m Banda Api, to enjoy the most spectacular panoramic views of all of the Banda Islands.

Alternatively enjoy breakfast under the shadow of Banda Api before walking around this picturesque village.

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Visit all of the landmarks including the museum, the Governor's palace as well as the two forts. Snorkel around the north lava flow for some of the most spectacular hard coral coverage you'll see anywhere.

In the evening enjoy a regal BBQ on the rear porch of the Governor's palace, surrounded by the shadows and inescapable colonial history.

Day Five

Awake next to Banda Besar where you can snorkel and dive at Batu Kapal. In the afternoon, take the dinghy to the west of Banda Besar and enjoy a guided walk up to view the crumbling Fort Hollandia to enjoy stunning views of Banda Api, Banda Naira and the kaleidoscopic colours of the waters between.

Walk later through the plantations on the largest of the Banda Islands, then after dinner on board depart north towards Ambon through the night.

Banda Besar – Ambon : 86nm / 12 hours

Day Six

Arriving in the morning in Ambon, enjoy breakfast while preparing for your arrival. Bid a farewell to the crew before being escorted to the airport for your departing flight.

*Itinerary can be changed based on sea conditions and discussions with the team when the guest onboard.

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