

The Alor Archipelago

We start our cruise exploring the world-famous muck and diverse reefs of Alor in the Savu Sea, then will cross towards Maumere through the Flores Sea.

Itinerary

The following is a sample itinerary of dive sites we may visit during your liveaboard safari on board the S/Y Indo Siren. Our Cruise Director and Diving Director, along with the Captain will take weather, tides, currents and many other factors into consideration to determine which route the yacht takes, and which sites are selected for diving. Whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives we have scheduled is fulfilled; bad weather can hinder the yacht's ability to reach a specified dive site in good time. The safety of all on board is paramount and we always do our best in offering diving at alternate locations should we be unable to visit those sites listed below. This itinerary involves some long distance (overnight) travel.

The diving day on board the S/Y Indo Siren has a typical schedule as follows:

- Light Breakfast followed by a briefing & Dive 1
- Full Breakfast, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 2
- Lunch, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 3
- Snack, relaxation, followed by briefing & Dive 4
- Dinner

For your final day aboard, we schedule two morning dives to allow plenty of time for off-gassing before disembarkation and your flight home. Guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and for obtaining suitable dive insurance to cover all diving activities.

Depending on weather conditions and where we are, we will always try to offer a sunset, or night dive. Guests should bring along dive lamps, though of course we have rental lights for those that need them

Dive sites we visit may include but are not limited to:

Pantar Strait

The Pantar Strait is the second largest island in the Indonesian Alor Archipelago, located 45 miles north from Timor. The area is known for both critter diving and thriving reef walls where larger pelagic species roam. Some stronger currents are to be expected, but these currents bring nutrients that feed the reef and other inhabitants of the strait; enough to support the numerous villages dotted about the islands. The dive sites in this location are very diverse and the optimum sites are chosen depending on the diving conditions on the day. The water temperature is often colder compared to surrounding areas, around 22°C / 72°F, due the flow of water from the south. After the third dive on day 5, the siren will begin the long crossing to Wetar Island.

The French Man's Window – An incredible wall dive site situated in front of Alor's Divers Resort, which is covered in a vibrant array of soft corals. Look closely and you can find a wide variety of colourful nudibranchs. Swimming around, you can also spot a shark or two.

Pak Yan's Village – Situated on the north of Pura Island, it is one of the most iconic sites within the strait. It is a well-known critter hotspot, where divers can see Pegasus sea moths, dragonets, scorpion fish, ghost pipefish and Bargibanti seahorses.

Clown Valley – Hundreds, if not thousands, of anemones cover the shallow reef slope on the south side of Pulau, Pure, all hosting the Clark's anemone fish. A spectacular site, but beware of some very chilly water, as there are thermoclines that are to be expected in these waters.

The Arch – Famous for its overhangs and fissures providing stunning topography, as well as a home to schooling fusiliers and colorful Anthias. The waters are also home to larger pelagic fish, including black tip reef sharks.

Mucky Mosque – An iconic dive nestled at the entrance of Kalabahi bay. A fantastic muck dive where the attentive eye can find Paddle-Flap & Frondosa's Rhinopias, Ornate, Robust and even Halimeda & Velvet Ghost Pipefishes, Frogfishes, Bobtail squids, Long-arm Octopus and sometimes Wunderpus!

Pulau Lembata

Nestled midway between eastern Flores and Alor lies Pulau Lembata. The bay on the west coast of this island is home to some great critter dive sites. We will spend a full day of diving and exploring these amazing sites.:

Sizzler – This sandy slope is superb for critter dives and is a fairly unknown spot. It has proven to be a fantastic day dive, as well as a wonderful night dive. The animals roaming underwater range from different species of frogfish to ornate ghost pipefish and majestic fingered dragonets.

The Jetty – Large currents sweep across the big ferry jetty and bring in lots of food for the underwater life. The slope and underwater structures under the jetty create a good habitat for lots of different kinds of nudibranchs, giant frogfish, ribbon eels and spiny devil fish. It's another one of these dives that you just don't want to end.

Rhino City – We will explore a very gentle sloping sandy bottom bursting with small soft corals. We will try to dive this site with slack tide, because currents can be quite challenging for this critter dive. Expect to find cuttlefish, Strapweed file fish, pipefish, and if you're lucky the illustrious Rhinopias.

Tanjung Gedong, Serbete & Adonara

Our last stop we will visit three extraordinary dive spots :

Tanjung Gedong – A brilliant check dive site encompassing a hard-coral sloping reef wall and sandy areas dotted with coral bommies. The creatures we see here fall into the macro category with a variety of crustaceans, mollusks and benthic reef fish.

Serbete Wall – A shallow reef sloping down to a wall, which drops to approximately 30 meters, dotted with barrel sponges and elephant ear sponges. Along the wall are many overhangs and crevices to explore. Bluefin trevally can be seen hunting and batfish casually hang about. The shallow reef shows healthy corals and abundance of smaller reef fish.

Magic Log / Adunara Reef – Features a shallow slope with large coral heads adorned with a myriad of feather stars which open in the nighttime to feed. Also a fantastic spot for critter hunting with sightings of warty frogfish, ornate ghost pipefish, cuttlefish and octopus. The majority of the dive is spent at a shallow 10 meters.

Should you have any questions or queries concerning the dive sites or whether this itinerary is suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team info@sirenfleet.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.