

○ INDONESIA - HALMAHERA

# MV MALUKU EXPLORER



DISCOVER SOME OF INDONESIA'S BEST DIVING FROM OUR OWN COMFORTABLE LIVEBOARD UNDER THE EXTRA DIVERS BANNER.

ON ITS DIVERSE SAFARI ITINERARIES, MALUKU EXPLORER FREQUENTS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DIVE SPOTS IN HALMAHERA AND OFF NORTHERN SULAWESI. EXPECT VIRTUALLY UNTOUCHED REEFS AND BOTH MAGNIFICENT CRITTERS AND PELAGICS.



# DIVE INDONESIA'S UNIQUE UNTOUCHED REEFS ABOARD MALUKU EXPLORER

## THE LIVEABOARD

This comfortable steel-hull ship was thoroughly refurbished as late as 2017 and offers space for 16 divers thanks to a total size of 35 per 8 meters and three levels. Apart from various cabin categories, facilities include sun deck (partial shades), dining area, a saloon with aircon, TV and DVD. With a total space of 45m<sup>2</sup>, the diving deck offers plenty of room for both divers and equipment. Underwater photographers and videographers will appreciate the safe equipment table with charging stations. The platform itself is equipped with showers for your comfort.

## CABINS

With a total of 9 cabins, Maluku Explorer comprises not only 2 spacious master cabins on the upper deck, 4 double cabins and two single cabins on the lower deck, but a premium suite on sundeck level. Except for one master cabin and the suite, all cabins are equipped with separate beds. Each cabin has aircondition and bath with shower and toilet.



## MEALS

Full board includes breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets plus additional snacks, fresh fruit as well as complimentary coffee, tea and water. Most meals are a combination of Indonesian, Chinese and Western cuisine with vegetarian dishes also being served. A broad selection of drinks, fruit juices and beer is available at surcharge.





### DIVING OPERATION

Diving safaris aboard Maluku Explorer are pure bliss! Divers will enjoy 3 to 4 dives on a daily basis including night dives with the exception of the first and last trip days. Prior to each dive, there will be an extensive briefing (in English) given by 3 to 4 experienced dive guides on board. Standard tanks are 12 liters aluminium with Nitrox being available for 10 Euro per diving day. Guests do not need to look after their diving equipment for the duration of the trip - setup, rinsing and storage will be taken care of by the crew.

Minimum qualification: Advanced Open Water Diver and 50 logged dives. Depth limit is 30m and deco dives are strictly forbidden. Please consider that rental equipment is not available on board.

### THE DIVING

The area not only matches more famous Raja Ampat, but surely ranks among the best in the world. Breathtaking dropoffs and overhangs with dense coral growth make for impressive photo subjects while the biodiversity can only be deemed unbelievable. Pigmy seahorses, many different species of nudibranches, flatworms, bumphead parrotfishes, maori (napoleon) wrasses, jacks, eagle rays, big schools of barracuda and other fish are typical dive companions while the current-swept channels are the lair of whitetip and blacktip reef sharks, grey reef sharks and other big and pelagic fish. With a bit of luck, divers will spot blue-ring octopi, bobbit worms or manta rays. Even the famous "walking shark" (epaulette shark) is not a rarity during night dives. The diversity and sheer abundance of sea fans and both soft coral and hard coral is unmatched. Hard corals are rather a century old than only decades and thus have grown to impressive sizes. Another unique feature of Halmahera's reefs are the sponges, starting with tube sponges to giant barrel sponges. Expect unusual encounters with rare critters: several species of seahorses, frogfishes, harlekin shrimps, flamboyant cuttlefish, ghost pipe fishes and octopi (mimic, coconut and wonderpus) have all been spotted here and every trip brings on the discovery of new highlights.



**ITINERARIES**  
**This fantastic diving area comprises 399 islands and to this day is virtually unspoiled by tourism. Even experienced and well-travelled scuba divers are very enthusiastic about the dive spots!**

Various 7 to 12 night itineraries offer a multitude of trip options in between Labhua, Ternate and Bitung. Every route surprises with different highlights and thus enough variety to keep divers excited even throughout two consecutive trips. Land tours and visits to villages and local markets are typically part of the journey as well.

Detailed itinerary descriptions on: [www.extradivers-worldwide.com](http://www.extradivers-worldwide.com).



**TECHNICAL DATA**

- Date built: 2011 (refurbished and redecorated in 2017)
- Length: 35m / width: 7.7m
- Engine: Cummins NT855, 2 x 500HP
- Power supply: 110V & 220V charging stations, 220V standard in cabins and in general onboard Euro-style sockets
- Compressors: 2 LW with 450l/min capacity + LW Nitrox Membrane
- Fresh water supply: 22,000l tank
- 2 Speedboats: Yamaha 40HP

**TRAVEL**

**Trips from Bitung (Manado):** flight to Manado (North Sulawesi)

**Trips from Ternate:** flight via Manado or Jakarta and on to Ternate on Garuda Indonesia

**Trips from Labhua:** flight to Manado and connecting flight to Labhua on Wings Air (overnight in Manado required prior to the cruise.)

Singapore Airlines provides the most convenient and quickest service from Europe to Manado (via Singapore) while several other airlines offer flights via Jakarta as an alternative.

Ahead of the liveaboard trip, we suggest a stay in one of the many dive resorts in Manado area or on Lembeh Strait (e.g. Murex) with the Moluccas being another reasonable option.

We recommend our partner agencies for both flight bookings and hotel stays following the liveaboard trip.

**ONSITE PAYMENTS**

Only cash (US-Dollar and Euro) accepted onboard.

