

DANCES, DRAGONS & MAGICAL LAKES I

8D/7N - Start from \$2,990 per person

TRIP OVERVIEW

Locations	: Bali - Lombok - Sumbawa - Komodo - Flores
Activities	: Cruise/live on board, sight-seeing, culture, nature, leisure & adventure
Duration & Price	: 8 Days 7 Nights from \$2,990 per person
Tour Schedule	: June - August 2018 8 - 15 June 26 June - 3 July 14 - 21 July 1 - 8 August 19 - 26 August

HIGHLIGHT

Immerse yourself in the Komodo National Park and Indonesia's Lesser Sunda Islands on a voyage of discovery from Bali to Flores, visiting remote beaches, quiet coastal villages, jungle-clad mountain ranges, volcanoes, rivers, waterfalls, a mysterious lake, and the legendary Komodo Dragons. This adventurous, eight-day inclusive voyage of discovery aboard with the luxury phinisi vessel 24-passenger Ombak Putih or the 12-passenger Katharina.

ITINERARY

DAY 1 : BALI

In the morning we will all meet at a café/restaurant in South Bali for a quick breakfast before boarding our minibus for our destination of **Amed** in the eastern regency of **Karangasem** – an exotic royal Balinese kingdom of forests and mighty mountains, emerald rice terraces, mystical water palaces and pretty beaches. With our tour leader providing information along the way, we will stop **Tenganan Village**, a community that still holds to the ancient 'Bali Aga' culture with its original traditions, ceremonies and rules of ancient Bali, and its unique village layout and architecture. We'll also visit the royal water palace of **Tirta Gangga**, a fabled maze of spine-tinglingly, cold water pools and basins, spouts, tiered pagoda fountains, stone carvings and lush gardens. The final part of our scenic the journey takes us through a magnificent terrain of sculptured rice terraces followed by spectacular views of a fertile plain extending all the way to the coast. Guarded by the mighty volcano, **Gunung Agung**, your charming beachside hotel welcomes you with warm Balinese hospitality and traditional architecture, rich with hand-carved ornamentation. After checking in, you can relax and unwind with a swim in the pool or in the calm, clear waters lapping the shore just

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

footsteps from your room. Or you may prefer a gentle walk in the surrounding village and hillsides. This will also be an opportunity for those unfamiliar with snorkelling to have a lesson with our tour leader. In the evening, take time to get better acquainted with your fellow guests in preparation for our voyage ahead with sunset drinks in the seaside bar and a Balinese-style welcome dinner.

Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)

DAY 2 : LOMBOK (GILI ISLANDS)

We will wake in the morning at the resort, have a leisurely breakfast and maybe an early morning swim or snorkel before being transported the short distance to the boat, which will be waiting at anchor in the bay. After we board the vessel you will have a chance to settle in before the captain gives the orders for the anchor to be lifted prior to crossing the **Lombok Strait**. This deep trench of water between Bali and Lombok marks part of a very important ecological boundary called the Wallace Line, which was first described by Sir Alfred Russel Wallace, the renowned Victorian naturalist. Wallace noticed that the flora and fauna of the islands to the west are home to Asiatic animal and plant species, whereas the islands to the east of the invisible line have a greater similarity to species found in Australia. In the afternoon, we will make our first stop at one of the three **Gili islands**, a popular holiday destination just off Lombok's northwest coast. We will spend a few hours here, during which time you can choose from a number of water activities: swimming, snorkelling, paddle boarding, kayaking, or simply enjoying the beautiful white-sand beach. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

DAY 3 : LOMBOK

On Moored off the coast of North Lombok, we will enjoy a hearty breakfast before going ashore and boarding a private bus for a trip into the interior of the northern side of the island and the traditional village of **Senaru**. Here, we will be taken on a tour, by one of the local women-guides, of the simple thatched houses and gardens of fruits and spices, which will give us an insight into the culture of the indigenous Sasak people. Our mellow adventure will then lead us down a well-trodden flight of steps through the tropical forest to **Sindang Gila**, a roaring 40-metre tiered waterfall. The small gravel beach and flat rocks at the base of the falls are a meeting place for the local people, and if we want we can take a dip under the full force of the intense flow. Our walk will continue alongside an old irrigation canal offering panoramic vistas of rice fields stretching towards the sea. The area around Senaru and **Bayan** was the birthplace of Lombok's unique Wektu Telu belief system in which ancient animist practices are combined with Islam. If we have time, we will visit **Bayan Beleq**, a grass-roofed mosque with woven bamboo walls. Said to have been founded in the 16th century, this is the oldest mosque in Lombok. We may also have time to see some weavers and spinners demonstrating their age-old skills. After getting back to the boat and having

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

lunch, we will explore one of the coral reefs near **Gili Sulat**, which is a marine conservation area.

Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)

DAY 4 : SUMBAWA (MOYO ISLAND & SATONDA ISLAND)

This morning we will moor off Labuan Aji village on the island of **Moyo**, visit the village and then walk to **Diwu Mba'i** waterfall, where can swing on a rope and jump into the deep clear river pool below, or simply bathe in the refreshing cool water. Our next stop will be **Satonda**, a strange and mystical volcanic island with a sunken crater lake in its centre that was filled with saltwater when the nearby **Mt Tambora** erupted in 1815, causing a tsunami that flowed into the crater. The eruption was the biggest volcanic explosion in the collective memory of mankind; it had roughly four times the energy of the 1883 eruption of Krakatoa, and gave rise to the 'year without a summer' because of the effect on North American and European weather. Local people believe Satonda to be magical, and with this in mind, we will walk to the lip of the caldera to view the mysterious lake, alongside which are trees believed to be 'wishing trees.' Visitors to the island tie a small stone to a tree and make a wish. If your wish comes true, you are bound to return to the island to offer thanks. The seas surrounding the island are rich with soft and hard corals and colourful tropical fish, so we will spend the afternoon swimming and snorkelling. Another highlight of our visit to Satonda will be the sight of thousands of flying foxes that commute at dusk from the island to feed on the mainland, returning before first light the next day. Immediately after sunset, we leave for an overnight passage on a course due east. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

DAY 5 : SUMBAWA (SANGEAN - GILI BANTA)

We will wake up off the coast of **Pulau Sangean**, an active volcano that towers 1,800 metres above sea level. After breakfast, we will go ashore to a small hamlet, which, because of the active nature of the volcano, is only inhabited for short periods during the year when the local people come to tend their crops and small herds of buffaloes, which we can see swimming in the sea. We will then snorkel on both a nearby reef and a location on the north of the island where volcanic gasses escape in the form of bubbles from the sea floor among the corals, a most interesting sight. We will then proceed to the island of **Banta** and its pure white sand beach, for an afternoon of swimming, snorkelling and hill climbing for the fit. Later that evening we proceed on to Komodo dragon country. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L), Dinner (D)**

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

DAY 6 : KOMODO ARCHIPELAGO

We This morning, the boat will be anchored off the famous **Komodo Island**, one of approximately 80 islands that make up the Komodo National Park. We will go ashore at the ranger station in **Loh Liang** for an early morning ranger-led trek through the park searching for Komodo dragons. In this savannah-like setting of dry, rugged landscape, we will encounter, at a safe distance, these awe-inspiring, giant lizards – Indonesia’s living dinosaurs. We may spot deer, wild boar, sulphur-crested cockatoos, butterflies, rare orchids, and jungle chickens among the strangle-fig trees and the distinctive lontar palms. After returning to the onboard we will cruise around the coast and visit Komodo village, where we can buy some local handicrafts. Later we may head to **Pink Beach** which takes its name from the particles of red coral mingled with the sand. Here we will swim and snorkel over one of the richest reefs in Eastern Indonesia, relishing the unforgettable spectacle of the region’s many varieties of coral and marine life. Later, we will head to **Makassar Reef**, where we will look for manta rays, and if we spot them, we will go snorkelling with these gentle giants. We will then head to **Gili Lawa Darat** for some more snorkelling and a hill climb to watch a magical sunset. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L), Dinner (D)**

DAY 7 : KOMODO ARCHIPELAGO

Today we will visit the ranger station of Loh Buaya on **Rinca Island** where we will have another ranger-led nature trek in search of more Komodo dragons, which are indigenous to this small group of islands. Rinca is also well known for its diverse wildlife, so we may spot monkeys, wild buffaloes and deer as well. From the top of the hills, the scenery is breathtaking. In the afternoon, we can go snorkelling on the beautiful **Siaba Island**, before perhaps visiting the lovely **Kelor Island**. We will also have the option of visiting the adjacent **island of Kukusan** where we will meet a settlement of ‘sea-gypsies,’ the Bajo people who build their homes on stilts over the sea. That evening we will go ashore to an uninhabited island and get our toes in the sand for a final night’s beach barbeque. With a raging bonfire, great food, dancing and the crew singing and playing guitars, this end-of-cruise celebration under the stars. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

DAY 8 : LABUAN BAJO - END OF TOUR

For those early risers, we will have time for one last swim and snorkel, before cruising into **Labuan Bajo** harbour. At about 9am we will leave the boat for a trip to the **village of Melo**. Here, local ‘strongmen’ will perform the ‘Caci,’ a ritual whip-fight between two rivals in which the players, each armed with a rattan shield and a whip, will try to hit each other while dancing to the rhythm of traditional acoustic instruments. The men of Western Flores are famous for this test of daring and

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

skill, requiring lightning quick moves to dodge the infliction of a wound. The winner is loudly applauded and cheered by the village. Besides this, the cultural group will also showcase other traditional dances. After the performance, we will have lunch on the boat before transferring you to the airport for your flight back to Bali. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), & Lunch (L)**

TERMS & CONDITIONS

TOUR INCLUDE

- One (1) night accommodation in Bali & six (6) night accommodation in luxury phinisi Ombak Putih or Katharina - based on twin bed sharing (**notes** : *For the single traveller who wants to secure their own cabin we do charge a 75% supplement. If you are a single traveller and don't mind sharing a twin cabin with another person of the same gender, then this fee will not apply*).
- Meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner, tea time, snacks, & soft drinks) as mentioned in the itinerary, excepting alcoholic drinks.
- Private tours, transfers and all services as mentioned in the itinerary.
- Entrance fees for all mentioned sights visited.
- Professional english speaking guides.

TOUR EXCLUDE

- Domestic & international airfares to and from our start and end points + departure taxes if applicable (**notes** : *The price of this cruise does not include any domestic airfares to and from our start and end points, however, our reservations specialists are more than happy to help arrange domestic flights on your behalf and advise on scheduling. We book hundreds of flights each year on behalf of our guests and we know the best routes to take to ensure you arrive on time. We only book with IATA-approved airlines that have met with international standards of safety and dependability. Except for Bali, transfers to and from local airports to the boat are also included. **If you are booking flights by yourself, do not book any flights before checking with us first.** Our first and last day programmes rely on strict time scheduling, so please confirm with us to ensure that you arrive and depart at your destination with plenty of time to spare and to avoid disruption to other guests' schedules*).
- Additional tour or activity if available (optional).
- Personal expenses (mini bar, laundry, room services, additional food & drink at hotel/restaurant).
- Personal travel insurance & visa fees.

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

- Tipping to captain & crew (**notes** : on your final night on board, you will have an opportunity to discretely contribute to a collective 'captain and crew' tip fund, which will be distributed equally among the crew members. We believe that between US\$ 5-10 per cruising day is an appropriate amount (i.e. seven-day cruise = \$35 to \$70 total, not per crew member). However, this is just a suggestion and remains entirely up to the judgment and discretion of the guests. We do ask that you please refrain from offering tips to crew members at any time, except during cases of exceptional service, when it should be arranged through the office. Tipping of your tour leader for their hard work is also welcome, and is at your discretion. There will be an envelope provided for both crew and tour leaders in the cruise bag in your cabin)

WHAT TO BRING

- **Clothing** - The tropical climate means you can safely leave all of your warm weather gear at home. Bring cool cottons, T-shirts and shorts. We cruise during the dry season in each of the regions that we visit but rain is always a possibility so bring a lightweight waterproof jacket; it can sometimes be a bit windy on the boat and this will also help keep you warm. Likewise, a lightweight fleece could be useful for pre-dawn trekking or if there is a cool wind on the boat – even if you don't need it onboard, it will be useful for the plane. Adventure Archipelago is respectful of the local cultures and customs; bring clothes that cover your shoulders and knees for village visits. Finally, you might want to bring at least one smart-casual outfit for sunset cocktails and evening meals on the boat. Ladies: beach throw-overs, kaftans and sarongs are always useful; choose fabrics that dry easily. Also, bring a lightweight sundress or two – the boat offers a great setting for a photo shoot, live it up!
- **Bags** - A day backpack is essential on day hikes to carry things such as your water bottle, camera, binoculars, and rain jacket. Ombak Putih or Katharina provides each guest with a metal water bottle, which can re-filled as often as required, and makes a nice souvenir to take home. A waterproof wet/dry bag is a good idea for your phone, camera etc.
- **Footwear** - Pack comfortable trainers, trekking sandals, sturdy walking shoes or hiking boots for hikes and walks. Bring socks to wear inside your walking shoes to avoid getting blisters. Many travellers appreciate the added stability of a walking stick or hiking pole; lightweight telescopic poles are easy to pack. You might also want waterproof sandals or reef shoes for wet landings and water activities. Flip-flops are great for the beach. Note: Standard practice is to go barefoot on the boat.
- **Sun Protection** - You'll be spending plenty of time out in the scorching tropical sun, so be sure to pack sunscreen with a high enough SPF to protect your skin from the sun's damaging rays, which are stronger in the water, and some sun-protective clothing as well. Cover-ups, sarongs, sun shirts, and other such clothing will ensure that you come back from your trip with just happy memories and photographs – and not sunburn. A good hat is essential; a wide brimmed hat or

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

cap will keep the strong equatorial sun off your face and neck. Sunglasses keep your eyes protected and add a little glam to your photos. A strap to hold your glasses can be a good idea on more active adventures. Just in case you fail to avoid getting sunburnt, bring an aloe-based lotion to soothe burned skin.

- **Swimwear** - Don't forget your swimsuit/bikini/shorts/trunks/Speedos —and preferably more than just one swimsuit, so that one or two can be drying while you are wearing another. Luckily, swimsuits and/or swim trunks don't take up too much space in your luggage. The water is warm but a rash guard (or a wetsuit) will protect you from the sun, abrasions and stings.
- **Skin & Hair Protection** - Ladies, it's important that you take good care of your skin and hair. The sun, seawater and salty air may be beautiful to experience but it can be tough on your body and will wreak havoc on your locks. Bring moisturising lotion to soothe skin parched by the sun and the saltwater; bring a leave-in conditioner to de-tangle your hair with ease because the water, mask, and hair-ties will leave it in knots. Also consider bringing a scarf or headband to hold back unruly hair, or hair-ties/pins to keep your hair off your face and therefore prevent water seeping into your mask. Note: Your cabin is outfitted with towels, shampoo, conditioner and bodywash.
- **Camera Equipment** - If you are photo enthusiast bring all of the camera and video equipment that you will use as you can expect exceptional opportunities for photography. If you prefer the ease of a point & shoot, bring that. If you want to take underwater photos you might want to invest in a waterproof camera/GoPro or waterproof housing to capture photos of the incredible marine life. It's a good idea to bring a spare memory card; our cruises explore remote regions where memory cards cannot be purchased.

*For further information, you can contact us at **(+62)21-27650758** or **+62813-88274422 (Indonesia)** or video call via skype at **(+1) 323-7395639 (United States)**.*