

DANCES, DRAGONS & MAGICAL LAKES II

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

TRIP OVERVIEW

Locations	: Flores - Komodo - Sumbawa - Lombok - Bali
Activities	: Cruise/live on board, sight-seeing, culture, nature, leisure & adventure
Duration & Price	: 8 Days 7 Nights from \$2,990 per person
Tour Schedule	: May - October 2018 7 - 14 May 29 May - 5 June 17 - 24 June 5 - 12 July 23 - 30 July 10 - 17 August 31 August - 7 September 18 - 25 September 27 September - 4 October

HIGHLIGHT

Immerse yourself in the Komodo National Park and Indonesia's Lesser Sunda Islands on a voyage of discovery from Flores to Bali, 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 : LABUAN BAJO

After flying from Bali in the early afternoon, you will be transported to a beachside resort just outside of the port town of Labuan Bajo, the gateway to the Komodo National Park. You will have the afternoon free to relax and unwind with a swim or a snorkel, or even a walk around the town. It's also an opportunity for those unfamiliar with snorkelling to have a lesson with our tour leader. In the evening, we will enjoy sunset drinks on the beach before dinner with your fellow guests as you get better acquainted for the voyage ahead. **Meals Included : Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

DAY 2 : LABUAN BAJO & KOMODO ISLAND

After breakfast at the resort, at about 9am we will leave the resort 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 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 our visit to Melo we will return to Labuan Bajo where you will get your first glimpse of your splendid pinisi boat. We will have plenty of time to settle in and get acquainted with the crew and fellow passengers as we cruise to the **island of Kelor**. Once there, we can enjoy a swim or a snorkel, kayak, or have a little bit of fun on a paddleboard. 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. At around sunset we will be able to witness the departure of thousands of flying foxes departing their roosts to feed, and later that evening we will cruise to Komodo dragon country. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

DAY 3 : KOMODO ISLAND

Today we will visit the ranger station of **Loh Buaya** on **Rinca Island** where we will have a ranger-led nature trek in search of 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 along the walks, the scenery is breathtaking. In the afternoon, we can go snorkelling in the rich waters of **Siaba Island** and then later we will head to the gorgeous **Pantai Merah** 'red-beach,' which takes its name from the particles of red coral mingled with the sand. Here we will swim and snorkel, relishing the unforgettable spectacle of the region's many varieties of coral and marine life. With over 1000 species of fish in the waters of the national park, there is much more to this wildlife reserve than just dragons. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

DAY 4 : KOMODO ISLAND

When we wake up, 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

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

boar, sulphur-crested cockatoos, butterflies, rare orchids, and jungle chickens among the strangler-fig trees and the distinctive lontar palms. During lunch, we will head to **Makassar Reef**, where we will look for manta rays, and if we are lucky enough to spot them we will go snorkelling with these gentle giants. We will then head to **Gili Lawa Darat** for some snorkelling and a hill climb to watch a magical sunset, then will get our toes in the sand for a beach barbeque. With a raging bonfire, great food, dancing and the crew singing and playing guitars, this celebration under the stars is a quintessential SeaTrek experience. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

DAY 5 : SUMBAWA (SANGEAN ISLAND & GILI BANTA)

We will wake up off the coast of **Banta Island** with its pinkish-white sand beach. We will go ashore and enjoy a morning of swimming, snorkelling and hill climbing for the fit. After lunch on the boat, we will then proceed to **Pulau Sangean**, an active volcano that towers 1,800 metres above sea level. We will go ashore to a small and very simple village, 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. We can see the buffaloes on the beach and sometimes even swimming in the sea. We will snorkel on both a nearby reef and maybe 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. At sunset we will head for Satonda Island. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L), Dinner (D)**

DAY 6 : SUMBAWA (MOYO ISLAND & SATONDA ISLAND)

Today we reach the strange and mystical volcanic **island of Satonda** with its beautiful coral gardens along the coastline. Satonda has 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. From Satonda we will cruise to the **island of Moyo** where we will moor off Labuan Aji village and walk to **Diwu Mba'i waterfall**. Here, we can swing on a rope and jump into the deep clear river pool below, or simply bathe in the refreshing cool water. Returning to the sea, we will find time for snorkelling on the reef, and later relax under the stars aboard the Ombak Putih or Katharina as we will continue our westward voyage to Lombok. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L), Dinner (D)**

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

DAY 7 : LOMBOK

Moored off the coast of North Lombok, we will have breakfast and then go ashore and then head off by bus or car into the interior of the northern side of the island to 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 Beleg**, 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 see some weavers and spinners demonstrating their age-old skills. After lunch we will snorkel on nearby **Gili Sulat** before heading off in the direction of Bali. Tonight, under a starry sky we will have a last night party with the crew on board. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), Lunch (L) & Dinner (D)**

DAY 8 : BALI - END OF TOUR

We will wake up off the coast of **east Bali** under the majestic gaze of Mt Agung, Bali's mother mountain. Here we will go for a final snorkel and swim before heading south along the coast to our disembarkation point of Amuk Bay. Here we say farewell to our crew and will join a bus for the 90-minute trip back to south Bali. **Meals Included : Breakfast (B), & Lunch (L)**

TERMS & CONDITIONS

TOUR INCLUDE

- One (1) night accommodation in Labuan Bajo & 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.

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

- 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.
- 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

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

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 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.

ADVENTURE ARCHIPELAGO

- **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)**.*