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Idyllic Raja Ampat & Cenderawasih Bay

Sailing Oct 2026 From \$ 9,446 USD to \$18,821 USD per person

For those who love nature - bring your camera!

Price drop from \$12, 995 USD

Prices subject to availability, per person, dbl occupancy

Information & Documents



Carrier - Aurora Expeditions

Uncover a hidden world of natural wonder on this unique coastal expedition. Journey through the pristine waters of Cenderawasih Bay, a sanctuary teeming with diverse marine life, including the gentle giants of the sea. Explore the remote beauty of Raja Ampat, a breathtaking archipelago renowned for its otherworldly landscapes and unparalleled biodiversity. Immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of local cultures, from the warm hospitality of Amsterdam Island to the ancient traditions of the region. Our expert guides will lead you on unforgettable adventures, from snorkeling alongside majestic whale sharks to trekking through lush rainforests. Discover hidden coves, encounter exotic birdlife, and create lifelong memories as you explore the heart of Indonesia's last frontier. This is your chance to connect with nature and culture on a profound level.

- Swim alongside majestic whale sharks in the crystal-clear waters of Kwatisore, creating unforgettable memories
- Explore the coral reefs ecosystem and coastal habitats of Cenderawasih Bay by Zodiac, kayak, snorkel or dive
- Uncover paradise in Raja Ampat's pristine marine wonderland and magical maze of limestone karst islands
- Embark on an epic jungle trek to witness the elusive bird of paradise in its natural habitat in Waigeo, Raja Ampat
- Discover the rich cultural heritage of Amsterdam Island



About Aurora Expeditions

Aurora, has pioneered experiential travel for over 33 years – of stepping outside your comfort zone and discovering something new.

Every small ship expedition with Aurora Expeditions promises an immersive, enriching and inspirational experience – no matter which corner of the world we explore. Our intimate ship size and friendly on-board environment ensure our passengers will be surrounded by like-minded explorers and friends, travelling in small groups to where few others have ventured, immersing themselves in breathtaking landscapes, and spotting unique wildlife.

Aurora takes responsibility to the planet seriously. They are a Certified B Corporation™ and proudly carbon neutral, treading lightly and focusing on responsible travel everywhere we go.



Inclusions

- All transfers as mentioned in the itinerary.
- One night's hotel accommodation including breakfast, in Denpasar, Bali on Day 1.
- Return charter flights between Bali and Sorong.
- Onboard accommodation during voyage, including daily cabin service.
- All meals, snacks, tea and coffee during voyage.
- Soft drinks and juices throughout all meals.
- Beer and house wine with dinner.
- Captain's Farewell reception including four-course dinner, house cocktails, house beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages.
- All shore excursions and Zodiac cruises.
- Snorkelling, standup paddle boarding and paddling
- Educational lectures and guiding services provided by Expedition Team.
- Complimentary access to onboard expedition doctor and medical clinic (initial consultation).
- Comprehensive pre-departure information.
- Port surcharges, permits and landing fees.
- Wi-Fi. *Please note we travel to remote regions and therefore the connection can be unreliable.*

Day 1



Arrive in Denpasar

Having made your way to Denpasar, you will be met by a representative of Aurora Expeditions and transferred to our group hotel. Upon arrival at your included hotel, please visit the welcome desk where you can collect your luggage cabin tags and speak with our ground operations team, who may have information to share with you about pre-embarkation or to provide you with information about where to dine, withdraw cash or purchase last minute items from a local pharmacy or supermarket.

The remainder of your time is at leisure. All meals today are at your own expense.

Accommodation: Bali Hotel (to be confirmed)



Day 2



Fly to Sorong, embarkation

This morning, please ensure your cabin luggage is fitted with cabin tags clearly labelled with your name and cabin number. Any valuables or personal items should be kept on you throughout the day. After breakfast at the hotel, we board a morning charter flight to Sorong, where our vessel the Greg Mortimer awaits.

Transfer to the port for embarkation. You will have time to settle into your cabin before our important briefings begin. Enjoy the thrill of departure as we 'throw the lines' and set sail for Cenderawasih Bay. Meet your Expedition Team and crew at the Captain's Welcome Dinner.



Day 3



Amsterdam Island

Part of the secluded Su Islands, Amsterdam Island offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in local culture. Discover this little-known gem as we explore its pristine environment. Friendly locals will welcome us to the village beach, providing an authentic glimpse into island life. We'll learn about their customs, traditions, and the challenges and rewards of living in this remote paradise.



Day 4



Auri Islands, Cenderawasih Bay

Cenderawasih Bay, or Bird of Paradise Bay, is a marine wonderland teeming with life. As Indonesia's largest marine park, Teluk Cenderawasih National Park safeguards over 14,500 square kilometres of pristine ocean, nurturing a vibrant ecosystem that includes whale sharks, dugongs, dolphins, and a dazzling array of fish and coral species.

Lying within Cenderawasih Bay, the Auri Islands are home to some of the most pristine coral reefs in Indonesia and an ideal place to start your water activities in West Papua. Enjoy some beachcombing, swimming, snorkelling and diving in the clear, warm tropical waters. Enjoy Zodiac cruising to explore to the small waterfall and take a stroll at the lagoon marshlands looking for resident wildlife at Maransabadi island.

In the afternoon the ship repositions to Roon island. Dive and snorkel among the colourful shallow reefs in Numamuran Strait, where the jungle meets the reef, and where we search for branching corals, boulder coral colonies, and cushion stars. Paddlers may glimpse dugongs—relatives of manatees that graze on seagrass. At the southern end of Roon Island, divers and snorkellers might see Hawksbill and green turtles, barracuda and surgeonfish, and where a Japanese Zero fighter aircraft, a relic from World War II rests on a shallow coral slope.



Day 5



Kwatisore, Cenderawasih Bay Marine Park

Discover the magic of Cenderawasih Bay, a secluded paradise renowned for its extraordinary marine life. Here, you have an unparalleled opportunity to swim alongside gentle giant whale sharks in their natural habitat. It's crucial to remember that whale sharks are protected species. Your expedition will adhere to strict guidelines to ensure minimal disturbance to these magnificent animals. By observing these guidelines and maintaining a respectful distance, you can contribute to their conservation while enjoying an unforgettable encounter. While sightings are never guaranteed, the chance to encounter these majestic creatures in such pristine waters is truly unforgettable. The experience of sharing the ocean with such an extraordinary creature is a privilege that will stay with you long after your journey ends.

Beyond the ocean's depths, immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of West Papuan culture with a visit to Kwatisore village. Our expert team will introduce you to the unique customs, traditions, and way of life of this fascinating community. You'll be captivated by their distinct dances, adornments, and music, a stark contrast to the familiar rhythms of Raja Ampat and the Spice Islands. Experience the thrill of a once-in-a-lifetime wildlife encounter and a deep cultural immersion in this remote corner of Indonesia.

Day 6



Pulau Num & Palau Swande

Pulau Num and Palau Swande are two pristine islands nestled within Cenderawasih Bay, offering unparalleled opportunities for water activities. Here, kayakers can paddle through serene lagoons surrounded by lush mangrove forests and divers can embark on an adventure to discover vibrant coral reefs teeming with life. Encounter schools of colourful fish, graceful sea turtles, and even majestic manta rays. Discover the magic of the underwater world in Pulau Num, home to a myriad of marine creatures including clownfish, angelfish, butterflyfish, and the impressive Napoleon wrasse. For a truly unforgettable experience, keep an eye out for sharks, as several species inhabit the waters of Cenderawasih Bay. Palau Swande is a birdwatcher's paradise, boasting a diverse range of avian species. Encounter the iconic birds-of-paradise with their elaborate plumage, vibrant eclectus parrots, elusive cuscus, and the impressive cassowary.



Day 7



At Sea

Enjoy the sea crossing to Raja Ampat. Enjoy informative talks from our team of experts, get to know your fellow expeditioners, stay active in the gym or treat yourself to a massage in the wellness centre.

Days 8-9



Raja Ampat - the epicentre of the Coral Triangle

Located in the 'Coral Triangle,' Raja Ampat archipelago has been described as a marine 'species factory,' and a Mission Blue Hope Spot. Believed to contain the most biodiverse marine habitat on the planet, the waters surrounding Raja Ampat are home to 600 species of hard coral and 1,500 types of fish – more than anywhere else in the world – which makes for exceptional diving and snorkelling experience. We plan to spend two days exploring the coral reefs and shoals, limestone formations and rainforests of this hidden gem. Some of the islands we plan to explore include Wayag and Waigeo.

Waigeo, the largest island in the Raja Ampat archipelago, is a birder's dream. Its rugged coastline, framed by towering cliffs, gives way to a vast, largely unexplored interior. This dense jungle is home to an incredible array of wildlife, including the iconic Wilson's Bird-of-Paradise and the Red Bird-of-Paradise. Opossums, snakes, tortoises, and monitor lizards also thrive in this pristine environment. Our early morning birding expedition takes us through diverse habitats, from regenerating to primary forest. This rich ecosystem supports a thriving bird population, with a chance to spot a variety of species, including hornbills, parrots, and pigeons as they emerge from their roosts. We'll be on the lookout for elusive nocturnal creatures like the Papuan Boobook owl, Frogmouth, and Large-tailed Nightjar. This is an unparalleled opportunity to experience the raw beauty of Waigeo and its extraordinary avian inhabitants.

Wayag Island is a quintessential postcard image of paradise. Its iconic mushroom-shaped limestone formations, rising dramatically from emerald waters, are a photographer's dream. This World Heritage-listed island offers a multitude of activities for every adventurer. Explore the stunning Wayag Lagoon by Zodiac, surrounded by lush vegetation and exotic birdlife. Discover hidden white-sand beaches and the labyrinth of limestone karst islands, adorned with vibrant orchids and pitcher plants. For the adventurous, the challenging climb to the summit of Mount Pindito is rewarded with breathtaking panoramic views. Snorkelers and divers will be captivated by the underwater world, teeming with colourful fish and pristine coral reefs. Kayakers can paddle through the enchanting lagoon, surrounded by the island's breathtaking beauty. Whether you prefer relaxation or adventure, Wayag Island promises an unforgettable experience.



Day 10



Disembark in Sorong

During the early morning, we cruise back into Sorong. Farewell your Expedition Team upon disembarkation and transfer to the airport for our charter flight back to Denpasar, Bali.

Note: the arrival time in Bali is contingent on the approved allocated slot for our charter flight to and from Sorong, which we expect to receive in February 2026.