



Frequently Asked

Questions

What about Baggage Allowances?

Check with your international carrier regarding luggage allowance.

For domestic flights on [Garuda*](#), Citilink and Batik you are allowed 20kg (44lbs). [Lion](#) and Wings Air now charge for **ALL** checked luggage. Rates at time of writing from Sorong to/from Kaimana are approx 22k (\$1.53) per kg **IF** prepaid online 6 hours prior to departure. Attached is a full list of [baggage rates](#) on Lion and Wings. Please note that domestic airlines will not accept credit cards or foreign currency so overages will need to be settled with Indonesian Rupiah, unless purchased online.

*Garuda sometimes allows excess luggage for scuba divers so make sure to ask them nicely if they will make an allowance for your dive gear. With other airlines you can also try to negotiate a lower price (tell them you have sports/diving equipment) for excess luggage. If you are nice they will sometimes give a little reduction. Since they rarely check the weight of carry-on luggage we pack our carry on heavy. Peter usually checks in while I stand back with our 2 small carry-ons and 2 backpacks. We have not had a problem with this in the past.

Note: Many airlines now offer premium economy on international flights, if you ask at check-in and space is available they may offer it at a discount. If you are flying Garuda they offer [Bid-upgrade](#). We've also written two blogs about [free things to do](#) at some connecting airports (i.e. WiFi, movies etc).

Visa and Travel Documents.

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after your entry into Indonesia. Please ensure that you have an onward or return ticket with you. You will also need to ensure that you have AT LEAST TWO full Visa pages in your passport for the visa sticker. All guests staying under 30 days will be eligible for a 30-day free visa on arrival. For arrivals in Bali and Jakarta go directly to the immigration counter not the Visa on Arrival - VOA counter. It is highly recommended that you bring two color copies of the personal information pages of your passport, as immigration officials in the provinces will require them. For guests staying in Indonesia more than 30 days we recommend you get a 60 day visa from the Indonesian Consulate in your country before travel.

Do I need vaccinations before I travel to Indonesia?

This is something that you should discuss with your personal physician. When travelling in remote areas it is always wise to be up to date with all necessary vaccinations. As parts of Indonesia are in the malaria* zone, please check with your physician or medical center on the type of prophylaxis you should use. Always ask about possible side effects (especially for divers) and be sure you understand how you are supposed to take them.

*During the seven years we lived on liveboards we were unable to take malaria medication daily but we always carried an anti-malarial. This would allow us to control a case of malaria until we could reach proper medical care. Again, please consult a doctor before traveling. When you are outside, off the boat, cover up and use mosquito repellent.



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What money will I need?

You can easily pick up a little cash upon arrival in Indonesia. Just outside baggage claim you will see currency exchanges. As with most airport currency exchanges, the ones in Indonesia give poor rates so don't change a lot. 50 USD, EUR or AUD is more than enough to get you to your hotel where you can get a recommendation for a reputable currency exchange in the area. Sorong and Kaimana have ATM's however they don't always work so you shouldn't rely on them. It is best to get enough Indonesian Rupiah before arriving in Sorong or Kaimana. See the list below of what is not included. This will give you a better idea of what you need to have if paying by cash.

Tambora accepts Visa, MasterCard, Rupiah, USD, and EUR onboard. Please be advised that foreign notes should be clean, new, and crisp. Indonesian banks and currency exchangers will not accept old notes or notes, which are damaged in any way. In the past, we have had trouble processing credit cards in Kaimana so bringing a little more cash to cover onboard expenses is probably a good idea.

It is not uncommon for the bank to put a block on the card if you use it in an exotic location without notifying them first so it's a good idea to notify them before departure.

Package Includes:

- o Airport Transfers to/from Tambora
- o 12 nights accommodations - Double Occ.
- o Breakfast, lunch, dinner & snacks
- o Up to 4 dives daily - schedule permitting
- o Use of tanks, weights and belts
- o Unlimited coffee, tea, soft drinks & beer

Package does not include:

- Domestic Airfare & hotels
- Park Fees 2,250,000 IDR (\$150 approx)
- Additional beverages
- Crew Gratuities
- Dive & Trip cancellation insurance
- Nitrox (USD 20 per day)
- Bottles of wine (\$35+) & spirits (\$30+)
- Airline baggage fees

What type of electrical outlets and voltage do you have on the boat?

The vessel is fitted with 2 Round Pin Plug Sockets (European Standard) and the electricity is 220v. We suggest you bring a power strip and at least one adaptor. Most electrical items will take 220v however you should check your electronics (including electric razors, and blow dryers etc) to be sure. There are no converters on the boat so if you need one, bring it along.

What about phone and Internet access?

Tambora has a satellite phone aboard. If you have an unlocked mobile phone, you can pick up a pay as you go plan upon arrival in Indonesia that can access local phone coverage. They are relatively inexpensive. Please keep in mind we will be traveling to a remote area where signals aren't always available.



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What kind of food can I expect to be served?

The chef aboard Tambora serves up a delicious mix of international and local dishes. First breakfast is a buffet of fresh tropical fruits & juices, cereals, pastries fresh from the oven & homemade breads and second breakfast is cooked-to-order Western or Indonesian dishes.

Lunch is an assortment of fresh, delicious dishes served family style and a light desert. Dinner starts with soup/salad, followed by a plated entrée and dessert. On most nights, you can choose your entrée from a couple of options; usually one Asian and one Western. There is also an afternoon snack served on deck. The menu tries to cater to all tastes, but if you have a special dietary request, the chef will do his utmost to accommodate you. Please fill out the section provided so we can inform the kitchen of any special items that need to be purchased in port. Also, keep in mind that because the cruise is in a remote location special menu items may not be available at the markets.

Tea, coffee, and soda are available all day long. Beer is included and available after you've finished your last dive of the day.

Clothing and what to bring?

Dress is usually informal due to the warm, humid climate and lightweight fabrics are recommended. Shorts and t-shirt by day and at night the dress code is casual. Also consider a light windbreaker, wrap, or sweatshirt as it can cool down at night (or in case of the occasional rainstorm). Laundry service is available onboard for a small fee. This is a basic wash and dry only. Kristine has written a blog with a short checklist that includes 10 items every diver should bring, for more information link to the article we wrote on [Adelaar Cruises blog page](#). It's also a good idea to bring a muck stick and a reef hook.

Do you recommend any special insurance?

We hope that you do not have to use your insurance but we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation/interruption insurance to cover any unexpected issues, such as illness or anything else that could prevent you from traveling.

Checking your personal medical insurance policy to confirm overseas coverage is a very good idea. If it is inadequate, you may wish to arrange for a short-term travel medical rider. **Supplemental dive insurance is a must** and can be purchased from Divers Alert Network (DAN), PADI, and Dive Assure to name a few. These companies may offer dive-related policies that also include travel, gear, and accident coverage all in one comprehensive policy.

Embark and Disembark Tambora

Please keep us updated on any changes to your airline schedule. We will pass this on to the Cruise Director of Tambora. On the day of arrival, a driver and a member of the crew will meet you at the airport or your hotel. On the day of departure, the crew will assist you with your luggage and take you to the airport or hotel.



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*If you are arriving in Sorong or Kaimana the night prior, please contact the hotel for transfers from the airport to your hotel. Alternatively, taxis are available at the airport for 100,000 IDR - 150,000 IDR depending on the distance to your hotel.

What do I need for diving in Indonesia?

- Each diver must show proof of certification including Nitrox (which we highly recommend)
- Each diver must use a computer (Tambora has a limited number of computers available for rent if you don't have your own). You may want to have your computer serviced before the trip. At the very least, you should bring a spare battery.
- All divers must have a surface-signaling device (SMB's are available if you don't own one).
- Water temperatures in Raja Ampat and Halmahera average 80-84f (26-29c). Sometime we encounter thermoclines but they don't usually last long. We recommend wearing either a 3mm or 5mm full-length wetsuit depending on your sensitivity to cold with a 1-3mm hooded vest added for night dives. We have never heard divers complain about being too warm.

What can I bring to help the local village and children?

For the local children, we recommend anything educational or healthy. Note pads, pencils, erasers, maps, rulers, craft supplies, crayons or basic school or coloring books would be greatly appreciated. Soccer balls, barrettes, and small sewing kits are also appreciated. Since the kids don't get dental care we try and stay away from candy.