

Ron Hunter's Dive Expeditions
Bali-Komodo-Bali Indonesia, Liveaboard
"Mermaid 1" exploration diving safari

Twelve days - eleven nights, Wed 27th June to Sat 7th July, 2012
Minimum thirty-one dives, including two to three night dives

We have organised a unique liveaboard dive tour travelling from Bali to Komodo then back to Bali, diving and exploring all the way. This is real expedition diving, as we are not bound by any set schedules.



We will be onboard the beautiful "Mermaid 1" which will be our home for the ten days we are diving and exploring in the seas off Bali and Komodo, on the southern side of the Indonesian archipelago.

Tuesday 26th June 2012

Fly to Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia. We will be met at Denpasar Airport and transferred to our accommodation for the night, the Fave Hotel Denpasar. And after the long flight we can look forward to a free evening, relaxing and enjoying dinner and getting to know our fellow travellers over a few drinks

Wednesday 27th June 2012

We will be transferred to the "Mermaid 1", going onboard at 2:00pm

Day 1: Check-in on board MV Mermaid I between 14:00-16:00 hours in Bena Harbour Bali.

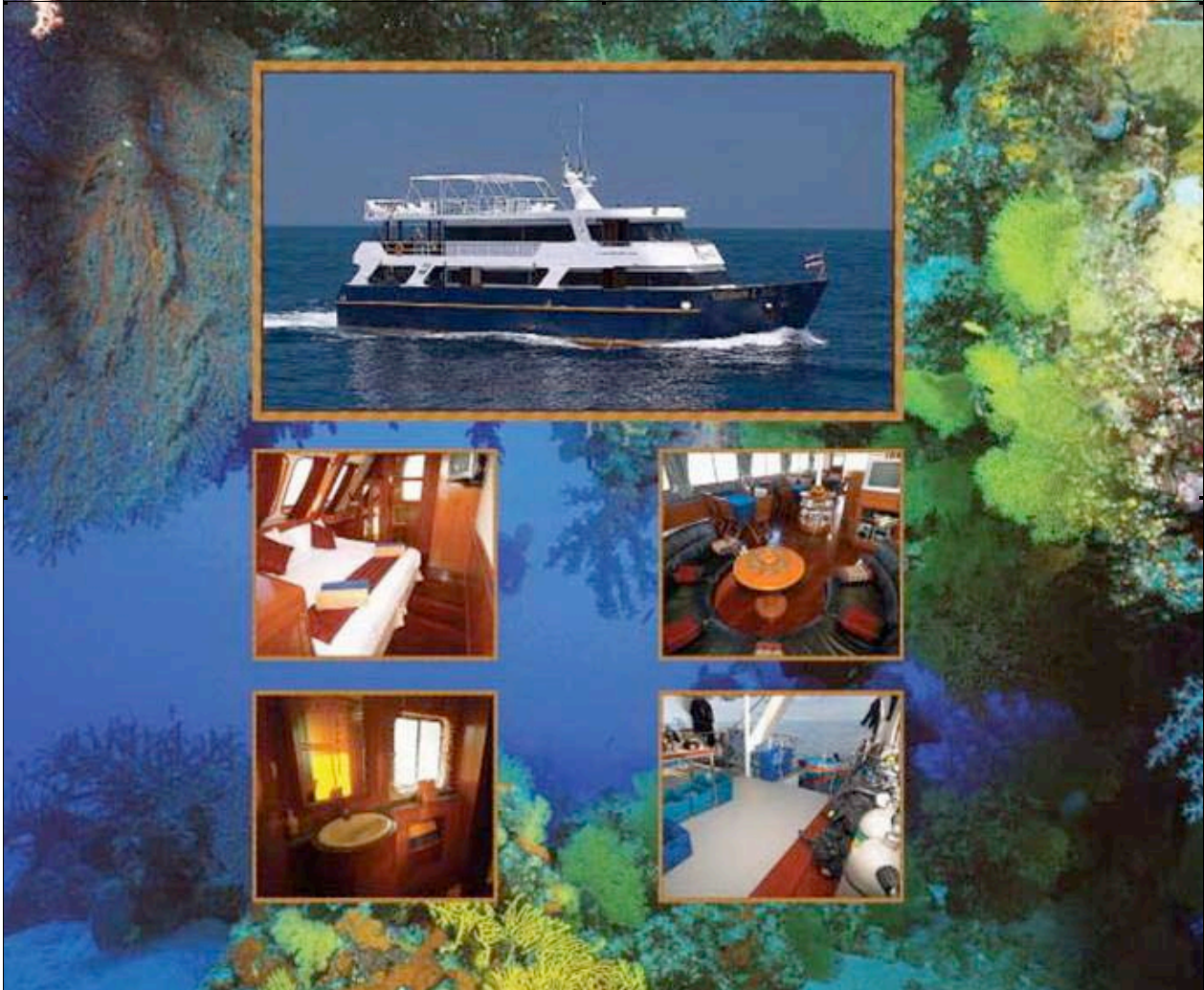
After the boat and safety briefing, your diving equipment is prepared and set up on the dive deck, then settle into your cabin or relax in the lounge. Dinner is served at approx 19:00 hours as we cruise overnight to Moyo Island off the north west coast of Sumbawa



Day 2: Start your adventure with a great dive in the calm, clear waters of Angel Reef at Moyo Island.

Massive elephant ear and barrel sponges, schools of long fin banner fish and red tooth triggers in their hundreds, frog fish, nudibranchs, eels, surgeon fish, snapper, dog tooth tuna checking out what is for lunch! Visit the local village then its lunch for us! Then we cruise to Satonda Island for a macro dive followed by a world-class night dive, just after watching a million bats fly at sunset.

After a great dive and dinner we cruise overnight to Sangeang Volcano off the north coast of Sumbawa.



Day 3: The Nusa Tenggara region has some extremely interesting and unique marine life. Today we will spend the day diving around Sangeang Volcano - 2-3 dives for rare nudibranchs, pygmy seahorse, leaf scorpion fish, blue ribbon eels; this is black sand diving with all its treasures including underwater hot springs that support this very unique marine environment. We will enjoy a night dive here too, or perhaps head on over to Gili Banta for the chance to see Star Gazers and coral cat sharks



Day 4: Current depending, we start the day at GPS Point Gili Banta famous for its sharks and pelagic fishes. Then we enter the Komodo National Park and for more exhilarating blue water/fish soup diving!

Gili Lawalaut has great dives - if the tide is right look out for grey reef sharks and dolphins at Taka Toko Gili Lawalaut. Lighthouse Reef and The Old Passage offer fast drifts with pelagics, maybe Mantas!

Crystal Rock offers awesome soft corals in gold and orange hues plus the chance for sharks, turtles, and giant Maori wrasse, another "fish soup" dive. Tonight we dive the famous Pink Beach - spectacular colours and frogfish, slipper lobster, basket stars, robust sea cucumbers unique to the area plus more!

Day 5: Start your day with an exciting visit to Loh Liang Komodo National Park to walk with the dragons! And as we quietly walk through the bush setting look out for Komodo dragons, deer, wild boar and birds.



Then relax as we cruise south to dive the Three Sisters or Pillarsteen at Padar Island. Next stop is a diver's paradise - Horseshoe Bay Rinja Island - home of one of the top 10 dives in the world, Cannibal Rock - an abundance of corals, sponges, ascidians, sea apples, black corals, turtle, cuttlefish, loads of reef fishes too! Here we can also watch dragons scavenging on the beach, monkey, deer, wild pigs along the shore, go beach combing. Maybe even a chance to follow whales and dolphin feeding in the calm bay.

We overnight at this peaceful place, diving at one of the many fabulous spots.



Day 6: More world class dives today as we relax in Horseshoe Bay. Rinja Island - the Yellow Wall of Texas is absolutely stunning, covered with enormous yellow soft corals. Go slowly along the wall looking for unique creatures but don't forget to look out into the blue to see what's coming by...maybe make a deep dive to check if the tiny yellow pygmy seahorses are on the giant gorgonians at depth.

Nusa Kode offers more walls and critter chances coupled with white tip reef sharks. Torpedo Alley is famous for its "electric" rays and perhaps one of the best night dives of your life for critter fanciers

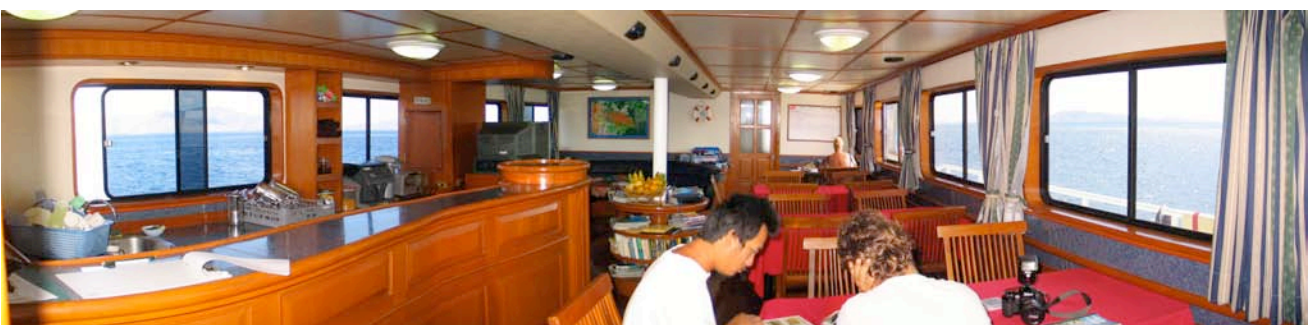


Day 7 and 8: Today we'll head on over to Manta Alley to watch in awe as these magnificent creatures feed, play and get cleaned at the many cleaning stations. In the afternoon we can check out more big fish dives maybe at Loh Serah, Tatawa Kecil or the (in)famous "Current City". Batu Bolong - here we see upon reef sharks, turtles and giant Wrasse. Many good night dives around here - Gili Darat is great for sleeping turtles, colourful reef stonefish, spanish dancers. Here we have calm sea, a good place to sleep.

Day 9: The diving around Gili Lawalaut, Tatawa Kecil, Gili Darat is so awesome you will all want more so today we make 2-3 dives in clear arm blue waters - loads of fish both big and small. Then we'll head off for a night dive at either Gili Banta or maybe Batu Putih in Sumbawa - both interesting sites. Overnight we cruise back to Satonda and Sumbawa - solar powered nudibranchs, ghost pipefish anyone?



Day 10: We enjoy two good dives around Sumbawa and Moyo Islands - a chance to shoot anything you missed at the trip beginning . Then the crew wash your equipment for you while you relax on the sundeck or downloading your pictures, enjoying our trip video as well just before dinner with all your new friends.



Day 11: After breakfast we transfer you ashore at 9am to continue your vacation...or its time to head home to start planning your next Mermaid cruise!

YOU HAVE ENJOYED A TOTAL OF 31 TO 34 DIVES



For those of us heading home to Australia tonight, most flights depart around 11:00pm. We can enjoy the hospitality of the "Mermaid 1" booking centre until 7:00pm, when we could then transfer to the airport. The booking centre is close to the markets and shopping precinct, and our luggage can be safely left here whilst we explore the area

Saturday 7th July 2012

Transfer to the airport and return international flight.

"M/V Mermaid I" is a 28 metre, twin engined steel motor yacht.

She comfortably holds 15 guests in 1 Master State Room (king size bed), 1 Single and 4 Deluxe Cabins (double or twin beds) and 2 Standard Cabins (double/twin beds) below deck.

The master, single and deluxe cabins have ensuite bathrooms, refrigerator and panoramic sea view windows.

The standard cabins are below decks with ensuite bathroom and refrigerator.

All cabins have flatscreen TV and DVD players, bathrobes and toiletries and loads of fluffy towels.

The huge purpose built dive deck and wide stern dive platform with two exit ladders and fresh water showers are a divers dream. Four camera rinse tanks means your valuable equipment is well looked after. **NITROX** is available on every cruise

Delicious Thai, Indonesian and western meals are served in our "Sawasdee Restaurant" with large windows to enjoy the views, or how about trying our delicious Barbeques!

After meals relax in our saloon with our TV/DVD and music center, or select from our extensive library and full range of marine life books.

There are two outside decks, one shaded with outside seating and the fabulous sundeck with sunshade plus cushioned sun beds - a great place to relax.

Currency: If possible, please pay all on board costs in Indonesian rupiah.

We suggest you also have some rupiah for souvenir shopping in Komodo, massages, small items etc. Exchange rates vary. The airport's rate is lower than the rate you find at most small currency exchanges. Bank rates are low and take a long time. US\$ are accepted in the Komodo National Park but rupiah is preferred. There are several currency exchange services and ATM machines near PT Indonesia Liveboards and at the airport and ATM's at Benoa port.

Water Temperature and Wetsuit recommendations:

The Flores Sea with its usually clear blue waters, great visibility has water temperatures of approx 26-28 degrees (northern dive locations) - a 3-5 mm shorty is okay with most guests comfortable with a 3-5mm long. The Sumba Sea (southern dive locations) has an average temperature of approx 22-24 degrees - the awesome diving let's you forget about the cooler waters ! Think about a 5mm long possibly adding a vest or renting a shorty to go over the top if you feel the cold. Hood, gloves and booties are strongly recommended for these cooler waters.

Costs per person: All costs are calculated in €euro at \$AU 1:00 = € 0.74

- 1. € 3030 (\$AU 4095) Master stateroom or single cabin**
- 2. € 2830 (\$AU 3825) deluxe cabin**
- 3. € 2530 (\$AU 3420) standard cabin**

All cabins are twin or double share, plus there is one only single cabin; all have ensuite bathrooms

Costs include:

- Minimum thirty-one dives including two to three night dives
- Cylinders, weightbelts
- Eleven days, ten nights onboard "Mermaid 1"
- One nights' accommodation at Fave Hotel Bali in Denpasar
- All meals whilst onboard "Mermaid 1"
- All airport and resort transfers

Costs do not include:

- Flights to Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
- Airport tax and mandatory Visa to be paid upon arrival, and around \$US 50
- Dive equipment other than cylinders and weightbelts
- Drinks and items of a personal nature

Travel Agents:

For return airfares to Denpasar, Indonesia we suggest you contact Cameron at our Travel Agent:

Airfares at the moment (April 2011) are around \$AU 1,000 and may even be cheaper in 2012

**** Travel insurance is compulsory on all of our tours. We strongly recommend taking out travel insurance at the same time as paying your deposit. Covermore, our recommended insurance provider, will cover you from the time of paying your premium, until your tour's return date. We suggest carefully checking conditions of any other travel insurance you may be considering.**

For information regarding flights and travel insurance contact Cameron at our Travel Agent:

Harvey World Travel - Tuncurry NSW, Australia - Licence number: 2TA 5683 / 2TA 5684

Cameron.Tuncurry@harveyworld.com.au 'phone 02 6554 6673 fax 02 6554 8712