

Join us on a traditional phinisi, sailing to the remotest corners of the Raja Ampat archipelago.



After a <u>fully booked</u> expedition in Raja Ampat earlier this year, we are excited to offer this beautiful route again to those we couldn't join the last one. South Raja Ampat includes the <u>Misool</u> island area, a protected MPA teeming with life hosted by vast, thriving coral reefs painting the underwater world in the most extravagent colours with manta rays as frequent visitors. We are super passionate about Raja Ampat as <u>we have both lived here for years</u>, and can't wait to share our knowledge on marine life, conservation and the local Papuan culture with you on this trip!



"I could dive this region every day for the rest of my life & never get bored."

This trip is being hosted by the founders of Expedition Biru, conservationists Wendy Mitchell and Iris Uijttewaal.

Together, Wendy & Iris have over a decade of experience in managing conservation-focused diving operations in the remotest corners of Indonesia, which made them not only fluent in bahasa Indonesia but also incredibly knowledgeable about the best (hidden) dive sites and Indonesian culture, marine science and local conservation efforts.

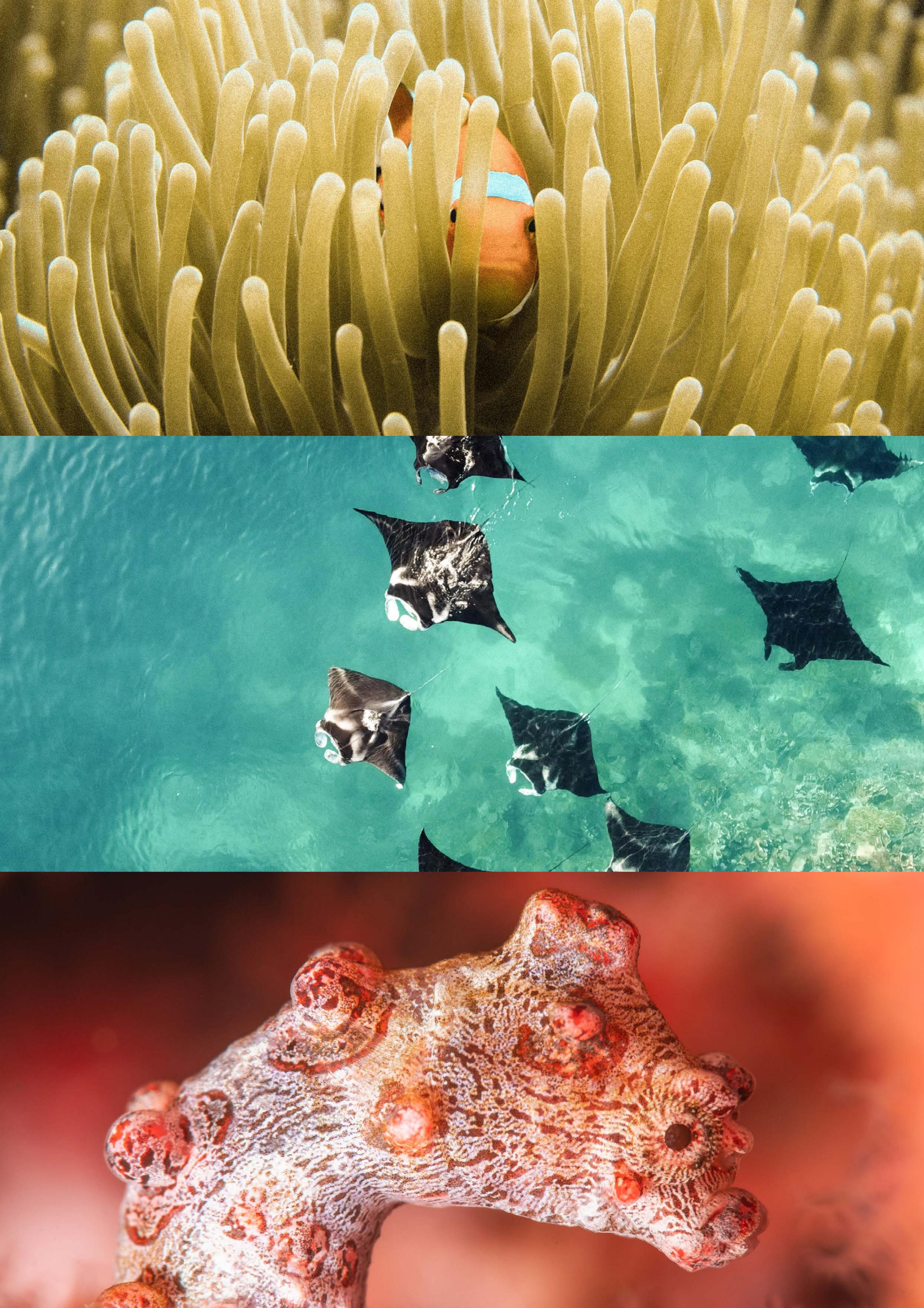
Wendy has been working with organisations such as Greenpeace and Oceanographic Magazine, and Iris manages a marine conservation/science NGO and had her photography published in the UK NatGeo Traveller. Carrying a vast bank of knowledge on marine conservation, diving and photography, Wendy and Iris aim to share as much of hteir knowledge as possible through on board workshops and lectures, and are always keen to chat after a dive about the topics they are most passionate about.



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Quick facts, included/excluded

<8 guests

1-9 April, 2025 (9D/8N)

Sorong – Sorong

USD\$ 4.100 / GBP£ 3250 / AUS\$ 6300 per person

INCLUSIONS

Approximately 26 dives

All meals, soft drinks, drinking water, coffee, tea

Welcome cocktail

Special Expedition Biru Cheeseboard

Airport/hotel transfer to/from the liveaboard

Raja Ampat culture & history lecture

Black Coral lecture

Underwater photography mentoring

Manta ray conservation lecture

Shark biology & conservation lecture

Visit to heart-shaped lagoon viewpoint

Bird of paradise trekking

Visit to local village(s)

EXCLUSIONS

Flights

National Park fee (\$100)

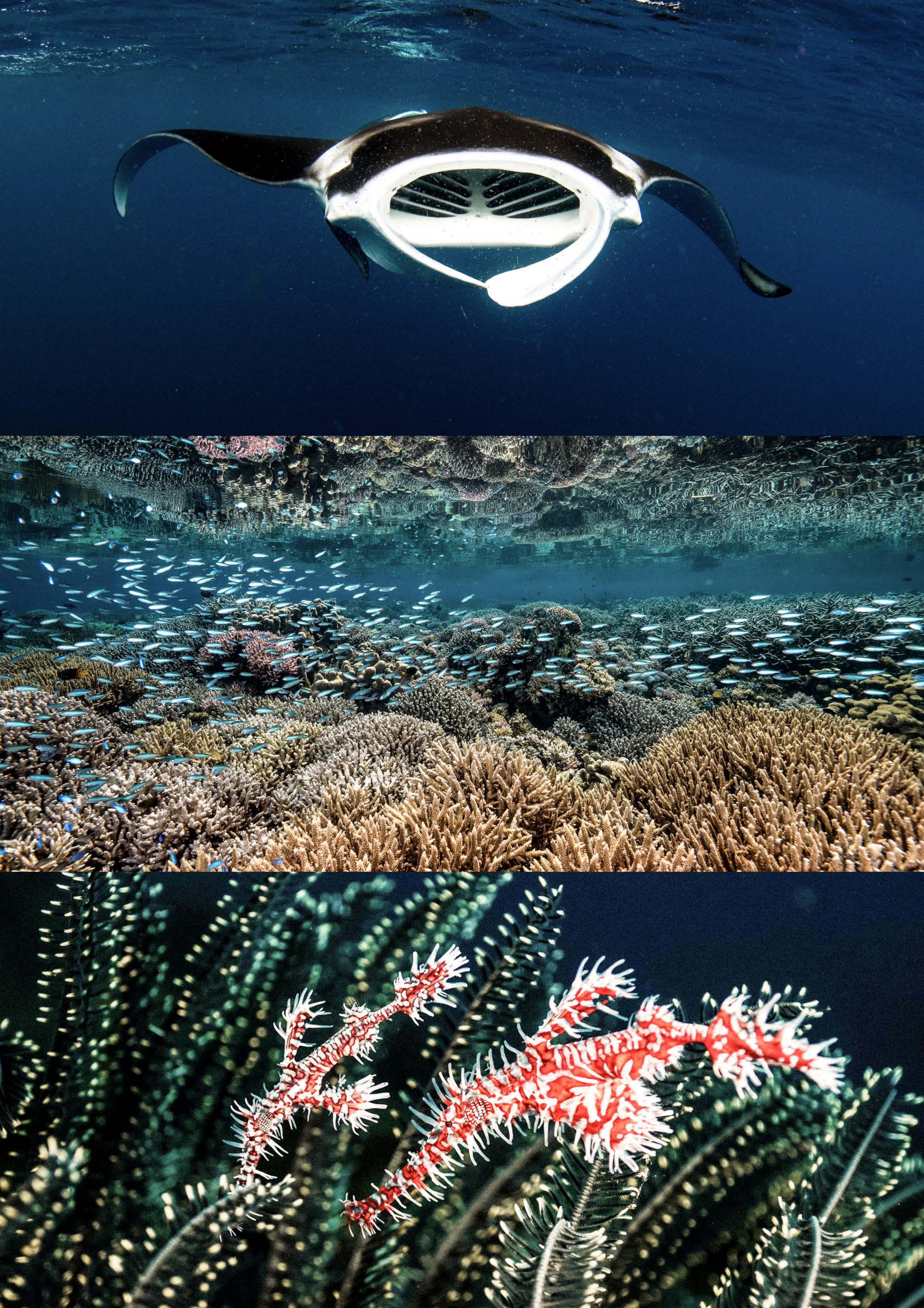
Port fee fee (\$150)

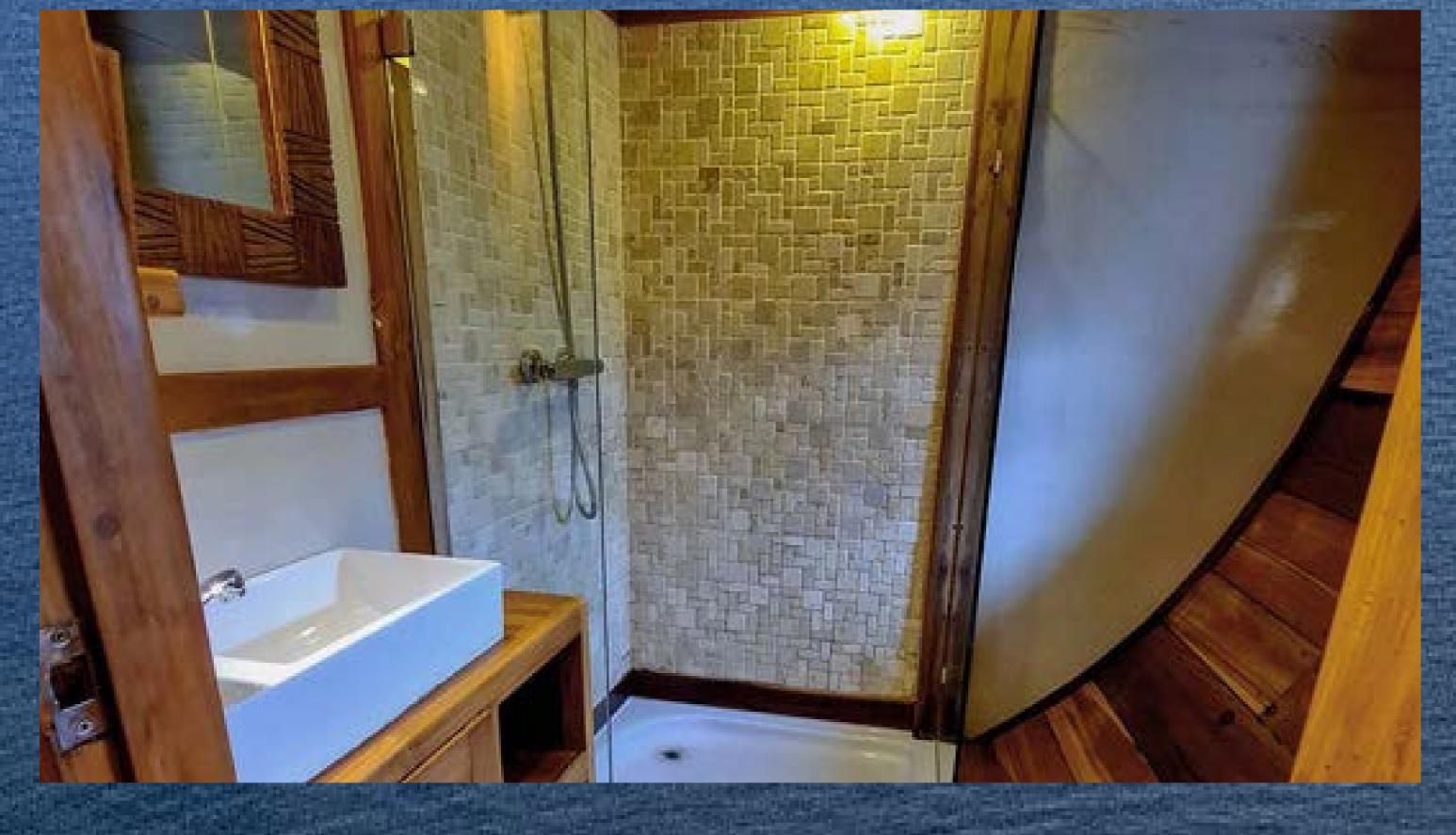
















The phinisi

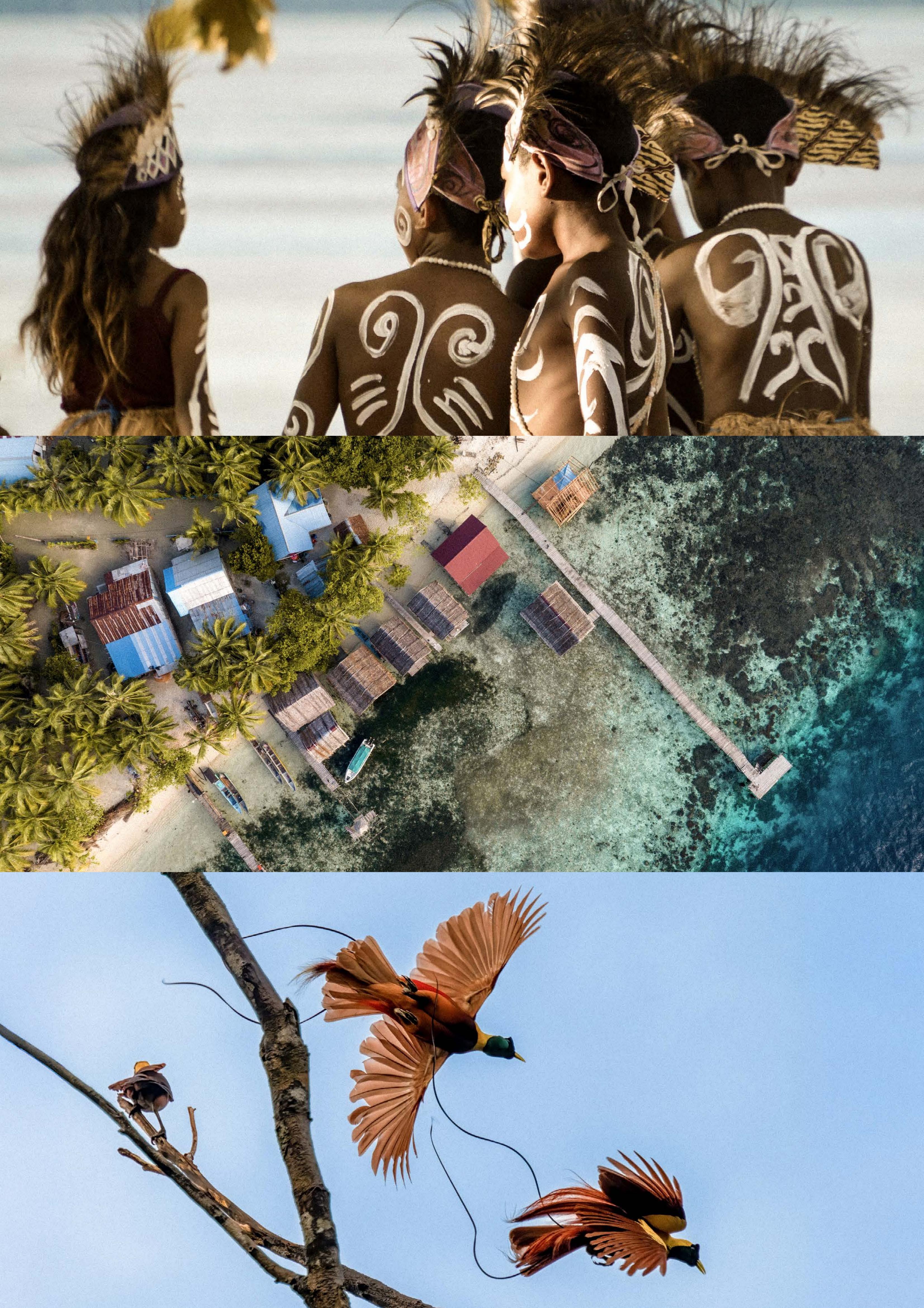
This 23-meter long traditionally built Indonesian phinisi sailing ship can host up to 8 guests, adding a feeling of exclusivity to the newly renovated, boutique-style schooner. The 1 double and two triple cabins all haveThe 3 cabins have en-suite bathrooms with hot showers, air conditioning, wall fans, charging stations, a journaling table, and drawers for storage. The boat is equipped with Nitrox (extra charge), free Starlink 5G WiFi, a dedicated camera station, outside showers, a bar & BBQ area, kayaks and a wakeboard.

With a cruise director on board with over 15 years of experience, you can rest assured that you are in safe hands, and the organisation is excellent. All meals are freshly prepared on board and served à la carte. Each meal is crafted to ensure a delightful blend of flavors and a memorable dining experience onboard, and a fine wine selection is available.





Located in the most northeastern corner of the Indonesian Archipelago, the Raja Ambatislands connect the Pacific and the Indian ocean, resulting in continuous mixing of nutrients. More than 2000 species of fish, (oceanic) manta rays, (endemic) sharks and 31 cetaceans species roam these waters.



Our why'

Raja Ampat is often dubbed 'the last paradise', indicating this may well be the last place on earth where the coral reefs are so vibrant, so full of life and so beautiful. With climate change impacting marine ecosystems worldwide, Raja Ampat is changing. Living in Raja Ampat for years, we have seen the change in reef habitats with our own eyes; whether it's a disbalance of cyanobacteria smothering coral, declines of fish populations on various dive sites or the lower numbers of oceanic manta rays (M. birostris) in recent years.



Seeing the subtle changes in underwater habitats inspired us to host these special liveaboard trips. The funds collected allow us to build a community of female dive masters who not only understand the reef, but have the tools to protect it through knowledge, skillandequipment. We hope they may be the start of something bigger, a ripple effect. Having lived among the Arborek community for years, we immediately had candidates in mind. The young women are selected based on interest and love for the ocean and positive 'can-do' mentality. We teach them ourselves and ensure continuous mentorship, also after the training is completed.

By joining an Expedition Biru trip, you are helping us making our vision a reality. Our capacity increases with every booking, making it possible to train more women, faster. Thank you.



Training local women to become ocean advocates via dive and marine science training.





