

## TRITON BAY AND FAK FAK




A STUNNING AND UNSPOILT UNDERWATER ENVIRONMENT COMBINED WITH ONE OF THE MOST SINGULAR AND PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE MAKES THIS AREA A TRULY SPECTACULAR DIVE LOCATION. THIS REGION IS SIMPLY MIND BLOWING IN TERMS OF ITS BIODIVERSITY AND FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF MARINE LIFE IS CLEARLY UNPARALLELED FOR AN AREA OF THIS SIZE. SCIENTISTS KEEP BREAKING WORLD RECORDS FOR THE NUMBER OF SPECIES FOUND AT SINGLE SITES.

Echoing the need for biodiversity conservation of coastal zone, the Indonesian authorities established Kaimana 597,747 hectare Marine Protected Area, formally in November 2008. Considering that the people of tropical coastal areas depends on fishing as a primary source of income, conservation of biodiversity intend to be economically viable and attractive to these Communities as Owners of the Resource. In that way, the resource owners will get engaged to protect specific habitats or species only in exchange of concrete economic benefits. The holistic approach to developing alternate sources of conservation-based income - such as ecotourism-, by establishing Marine Protected Area and involving Communities as Owners of the Resource, will be a must if tourism and diving wish continue to encountering pristine coral reefs. At this time, Fak Fak and Triton Bay are still relatively un-explored and we expect to discover even greatest dive sites during our cruises to this region of West Papua.

### DIVING IN TRITON BAY AND FAK FAK

The visibility here is generally quite poor -5 to 10 meters- due to the incredibly nutrient-rich water, which means that it has tremendous soft coral growth and lots of schooling fish. One of Triton's dive sites is named Larry's Heaven in honor of Indonesia dive pioneer Larry Smith. Larry made two trips to Triton, and proclaimed to be in love with the diving here, high praise from a man who had dived pretty much all of Indonesia. Triton Bay lies in the heart of the Coral Triangle -a global centre of marine biodiversity and one of the world's top priorities for marine conservation. The Coral Triangle includes various important nesting sites for migratory sea turtles, the channels between major landmasses serve as passages for migrating mammals and mantas, and the waters support feeding grounds for large tuna populations that are targeted by international fishing fleets. Extraordinary numbers of hard corals, mollusks and reef fishes can be found in this area.



| DIVING INFO  |   |
|---|---|
| Diving season   | October to April. But is possible to dive Triton Bay and Fak and Fak all year around. Mid July to mid September sees some small surface swells, but not usually serious enough to interfere with your diving. |
| Rainy season  | May to September is light rainy season.   |
| Water temperature   | 27-30°C.  |
| Visibility  | Can be as low with averages about 5m with a maximum of 10-30m due the incredibly nutrient-rich water.   |
| Depth   | 5 -> 40m.   |
| Currents  | Can be strong.  |
| Surface conditions  | Calm.   |
| Experience level  | Intermediate – advanced.  |
| Dive sites  | Unknown. But by the present >20.  |
| Length of stay  | For this liveaboard cruise is recommended an 11-16 days itinerary, combined to Raja Ampat or Banda Sea.   |

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| TRIP ADVISOR → |  |
| Airport        | Sorong. International flight to Jakarta or Manado and then domestic flight to Sorong.  |
| Weather        | 27-32 degrees. Indonesia has two seasons: wet and dry. In most of Indonesia, dry season runs May-Sept and wet season Oct-April, in West Papua it does contrary: dry season runs Oct-April, and wet season May-Sept, but consider that being in the Equator -Raja Ampat is Latitude 0°-, the weather patron is punctually rain showers in afternoon with sunny and sunshine days. |

Biodiversity surveys conducted in Triton Bay by Conservation International have identified up 335 species of coral reef fish. Among them were a small Epaulette shark that 'walks' on its fins and the amazing Wobbegong shark, endemic of West Papua. This discovery has turned Triton Bay into one of the most valuable dive sites in the world.

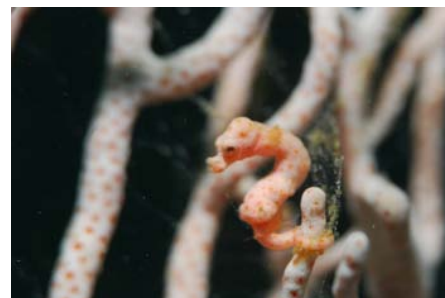
**AIDUMA AND SAURENUS** The area around Aiduma Island is home to some of the most unspoiled diving left on earth. Dense black coral gardens, lush soft corals in all colors of the rainbow and multi-hued sponges including vase, tube, barrel and more abound. Among these a staggering variety of bony fishes and invertebrates frolic in the nutrient-rich water. Flights of cow nosed rays appear seasonally. Grouper, batfish, damselfish and morays swim with fusilier, surgeon fish and scorpion fish. Clouds of batfish swirl. Every kind of pigmy seahorse. Nudibranchs, several species of ghost pipefish, frogfish and more hide out on the bottom. Wobbegong sharks bide their time under coral bommies waiting for the sunset.

The large boulders that lie around Saurenus, some as shallow as ten feet of water, are literally covered completely by wildly varying shades of soft corals. Colorful crinoids cling to any available surface, fighting for space with sea fans and cup-corals. This is the most amazing and overwhelming coral-fish environment ever encountered underwater.

**BATU CAVE AND LITTLE KOMODO** In places like Batu Cave and Little Komodo giant groupers are hiding under the rocks. In Little Komodo and 7th Heaven everything can be experienced. If Komodo is a sum up of diving in Indonesia, Little Komodo has it all in just one dive! Do you want turtles? Bumpheads? O Millions of fusiliers? Wobbegongs? Jacks?... Go for it!

**MACRO** We can regularly find critters and some dives are just perfect for that: devil scorpionfish, wonder puss, frogfish, leafish, ornate ghost pipe fish...

**TRIP HIGHLIGHTS** As we travel from Palau Aiduma to Palau Pisang we will have an opportunity to visit one of the signature features of the Fak Fak coastline. Just north of Momon Bay, flanked by lush mountain slopes, the spectacular waterfall flowing down from the hilly rainforest straight into the sea is a breathtaking view! Lagoons where swim in and have the possibility of a refreshing waterfall-shower. A great sensation! In this area it will be a pigmy, not the sea horse kind, but the rarely seen Papua pigmy kangaroo. The Ancient pre-historic drawings of Maimai are another interesting spot.



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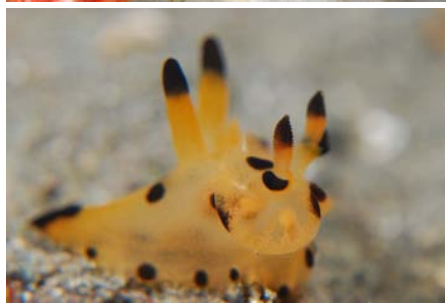
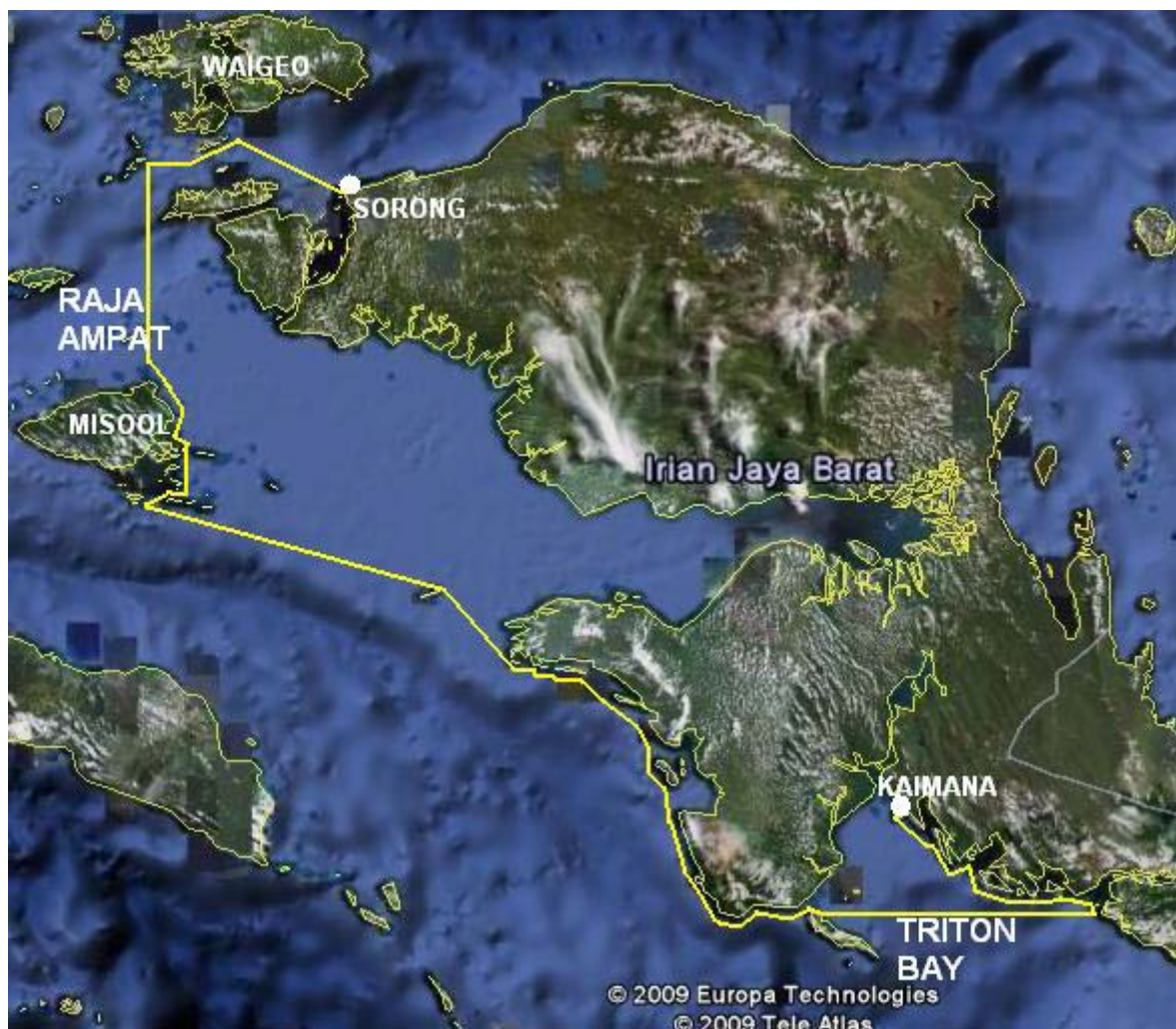


Photo Courtesy: JL Honduras

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| SIDETRIPS 点  |  |
| Whale Sharks Sanctuary:  | In Cenderawasih Bay, where is possible find whale sharks at any time of the year.  |
| Wreck Diving:  | WWII wrecks in Manokwari.  |
| Trekking:  | In the Ballem Valley in the highland of Irian Jaya, region inhabited by the Dani Tribes and other sub tribes as Yali and Lani. A journey through the time to encounter complex and primitive cultures, those looks as come out of "the stone age". |
| PLEASE INQUIRY FOR DETAILS IF INTERESTED: <a href="mailto:INFO@CRUISINGINDONESIA.COM">INFO@CRUISINGINDONESIA.COM</a> |  |



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