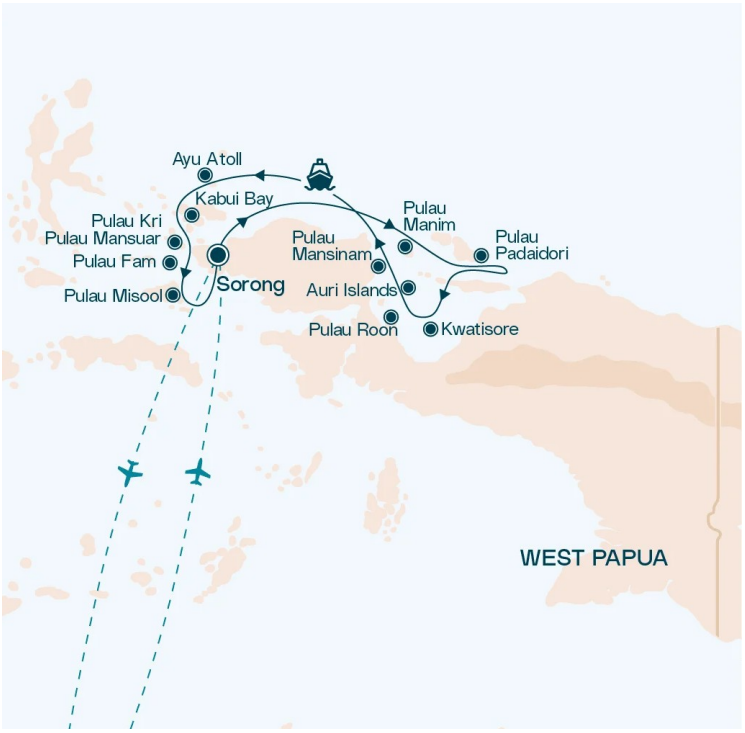
SECRETS OF THE CORAL TRIANGLE: WEST PAPUA AND RAJA AMPAT CRUISE

Embark on a once-in-a-lifetime expedition through one of the most remote and biodiverse regions of the Indonesian archipelago -- the untouched wonders of West Papua and Raja Ampat. This extraordinary voyage reveals the raw natural beauty, vibrant marine ecosystems, and deeply rooted island cultures of a region few travelers ever reach. Sailing through secluded lagoons, coral atolls, and jungle-covered coastlines, you'll explore the heart of Indonesia's hidden paradise by small ship, where nature reigns supreme and discovery awaits at every turn. Your curated itinerary takes you far beyond the usual routes, from the crystal-clear waters of Cenderawasih Bay -- home to graceful whale sharks -- to the surreal limestone karsts of Wayag and Misool. Snorkel among vibrant coral reefs, relax on golden sand beaches only accessible by sea, and immerse yourself in the rhythm of local island life. April and May offer ideal conditions to navigate this untouched region, with calm seas and warm, humid days providing the perfect backdrop for exploration and connection with nature. Designed for curious and conscious travelers, this Raja Ampat cruise offers an unparalleled blend of adventure, cultural immersion, and pristine beauty. Whether you're swimming with giant whale sharks, trekking through lush rainforests, or engaging with remote island communities, every moment is unforgettable.



ITINERARY

Days 0-1 Pre Cruise & Sorong, Papua

Sorong, located in West Papua, serves as a key transportation and logistical hub in eastern Indonesia. Set along the coast and surrounded by tropical landscapes, the city reflects the dynamic character of this remote region, shaped by maritime activity and regional connections. As the final point of the voyage, Sorong provides a practical gateway for onward travel, marking the conclusion of the expedition and guests' return journey home

Day 2 Pulau Manim, Numfoor, Papua

Pulau Manim is a peaceful retreat surrounded by coral islets and hidden lagoons. Deserted beaches and lush forests host tropical birds, while its vibrant waters are perfect for snorkeling and diving. Small local communities preserve age-old traditions, from artisanal fishing to stories rooted in the land

Day 3 Pulau Padaidori, Papua

Pulau Padaidori is one of a cluster of tiny, mostly uninhabited islands and atolls off the northern Papuan coast. This remote stop combines secluded Pacific Rim beaches with a rich, protected marine ecosystem in its calm sapphire waters, where schools of shimmering tropical fish weave amid colourful coral gardens. Mangrove forests shelter snakes and crabs in their twisted root systems and swaying coconut palms decorate white-sand beaches.

Day 4 Pulau Roon, Cenderawasih Bay, Papua

Pulau Roon in Indonesia's Papua province is an island paradise within The Gulf of Cenderawasih, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for rich biodiversity. The island's hilly terrain offers pristine beaches and vibrant coral reefs with diverse marine life like dugong, reef sharks and schools of reef fish Pulau Roon also boasts a rich cultural heritage, showcasing intricate craftsmanship and traditional music.

Day 4 Pulau Auri, Cenderawasih Bay, Papua

Nestled in the turquoise waters of Raja Ampat, Pulau Auri is a secluded island where nature reigns supreme. Pristine white beaches meet thriving coral reefs, while tropical forests shelter colorful birds and endemic species. Small local villages welcome visitors with Papuan hospitality, offering glimpses of traditional life through fishing and handcrafted arts. Beneath the clear waters, sea turtles and schools of tropical fish animate an untouched underwater world.

Day 5 Kwatisore, Cenderawasih Bay, Papua

Kwatisore, along the mainland shore of Cenderawasih Bay, is the bay's most renowned spot for close whale shark encounters. Here, the gentle giants gather beneath local fishing platforms (bagans), drawn by the catch. This unique interaction site offers rare, up-close experiences with resident whale sharks in calm, clear waters, making it a world-class destination for marine wildlife enthusiasts.

Day 6 Pulau Mansinam, Papua

Pulau Mansinam is a small island of great historical and spiritual importance, where Christianity and modern education were first introduced to Papua in 1855. Today, the island combines the quiet rhythm of village life with meaningful cultural landmarks, including historic churches and monuments. Overlooking Manokwari Bay with views toward the Arfak Mountains, Mansinam also offers insight into the strong sense of community and living traditions that continue to shape local life.

Day 7 Ayu Atoll, Raja Ampat, Papua

Pulau Ayu, the main island in the Ayu Atoll, is a remote jewel of Raja Ampat. Fringed by ivory beaches and lush rainforest, and surrounded by vibrant coral reefs, it's a sanctuary for nesting leatherback turtles. Beneath its clear waters, tropical marine life flourishes, while the villages of Ayu and Imbik Kuan welcome visitors with warm Papuan hospitality. Once a WWII outpost, its isolation made it a key strategic base for Japanese forces.

Day 8 Kabui Bay, Waigeo Island, Raja Ampat Archipelago

Kabui Bay on Waigeo Island is the largest of the four in Raja Ampat, with verdant karst islets and rugged cliffs sheltering pristine beaches, hidden lagoons and tranquil shores with turquoise waters. Surreal stalactite caves and serene mangrove forests coexist in this island paradise. Sharks, rays and reef fish glide among clusters of coral rising from the waters, while the dense rainforest hides birds of paradise, cockatoos and maleos.

Day 8 Pulau Kri, Raja Ampat

Nestled in the vibrant heart of Raja Ampat, this small island packs a punch with crystal-clear waters teeming with some of the richest marine biodiversity on Earth. From colorful coral gardens to schools of exotic fish, every swim reveals a new wonder. Above water, the island's lush greenery and serene beaches offer a perfect escape into nature's untouched beauty.

Day 9 Pulau Fam, Raja Ampat

Within the vast Raja Ampat Geopark, the Fam Islands comprise several small islets and four main islands, Fam, Penemu, Inus and Yar, in the Dampier Strait. The inhabited centrepiece is Pulau Pam (Fam Island), where three villages thrive alongside three hidden lakes, one known for its resident crocodiles. The local community proudly creates high-quality virgin coconut oil, contributing to their economy and preserving cultural heritage.

Day 9 Pulau Mansuar, Raja Ampat

Pulau Mansuar is a long, high ridge of limestone covered in jungle, fringed by rich coral reefs that connect it to nearby Kri Island. Three villages line its northern coast, while a fourth village sits midway along the southern shore. The island is home to just over 100 people living in traditional houses with leaf roofs.

Day 10 Pulau Misool, Raja Ampat

Pulau Misool, a remote island in Raja Ampat, showcases wild beauty with white-sand beaches and lush hills. A highlight is Yapap, a secluded lagoon surrounded by towering limestone karsts. Known for its glassy turquoise waters and white-sand seabed, it's ideal for snorkeling, swimming, and photography. Its serene atmosphere makes it a peaceful escape from more crowded spots.

Day 10 Balbulal Lagoon, Pulau Misool, Raja Ampat

With roughly 1,000 coral and over 1,200 reef fish species, the crystalline waters around jungle-woven Raja Ampat, Indonesia's easternmost islands, comprise the most biodiverse marine habitat unparalleled on the planet. Meaning 'four kings,' Raja Ampat refers to Waigeo, Salawati, Batanta and Misool, yet spreads across 1,000 atolls and islets. Originally joined to Australia, Raja Ampat is home to tree-dwelling marsupials and 500 bird species

Sorong, Papua

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Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

YOUR SHIP: MINERVA

YOUR SHIP: **Minerva**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

The 5 star elegant Scandi-design boutique ship offers you an intimate setting from which you will be fully immersed in all the sights and scenery of your voyage. Introducing SH Minerva Minerva has been designed to journey to off the beaten path destinations and remote polar regions in style and comfort. The ship incorporates a PC5 ice-strengthened hull combined with extra-large stabilisers to make your journey as smooth as possible. Sophisticated Elegance We know how important outdoor space is, so our spacious, relaxing public spaces provide wide open, unobstructed views throughout the ship. The destination will always be in view. Your Wellbeing The safety & happiness of the guests is paramount to the 120-strong crew on board as well as the passionate expedition team who'll be serving up thrilling shore excursions and lasting memories. Cabin Types The 76 cabins including 6 suites have all the amenities you will need to feel comfortable including dressing gowns, hairdryers, personal safes and minibars. The stylish cabins all have desks, a dressing area and comfy seating. En suite bathrooms all feature glass-enclosed rain showers. Wheelchair access Guests who use wheelchairs must bring their own, as we have only a small number of wheelchairs stored onboard for emergencies. To ensure ease of movement on the ship, wheelchairs and mobility aids must be no wider than 65cm. All mobility or medical equipment brought on board must be capable of being carried safely and must be declared before sailing. To ensure that all guests can safely evacuate during an emergency, guests requiring a wheelchair can only be accommodated in our ADA-accessible cabins. There is an Oceanview stateroom on Vega which is specifically designed to be completely ADA compliant and have a fully operable wheelchair-access wet unit. Vega has two lifts, serving every passenger deck apart from the Stargazing top deck, which is, therefore, more difficult to access, as are the Aft Marina and Swan's Nest forward observation platform. Also, we don't have special equipment to access the swimming pool, jacuzzi, or sauna. Otherwise, the ship is entirely at your disposal. Many of the expeditions ashore in remote places are by Zodiac. Boarding these boats and returning aboard can present challenges for wheelchair users, as can navigating uneven terrain. These challenges are by no means always insurmountable, though, and our highly experienced crew is trained to provide reliable advice and assistance. They will make every effort to ensure wheelchair-using guests enjoy a memorable experience at each destination. Our general guidance, however, is to recommend wheelchair users travel with a companion for their ease and enjoyment. If you prefer to remain aboard, our panoramic interiors and ample open decks ensure an immersive, intimate experience of your inspiring

surroundings.

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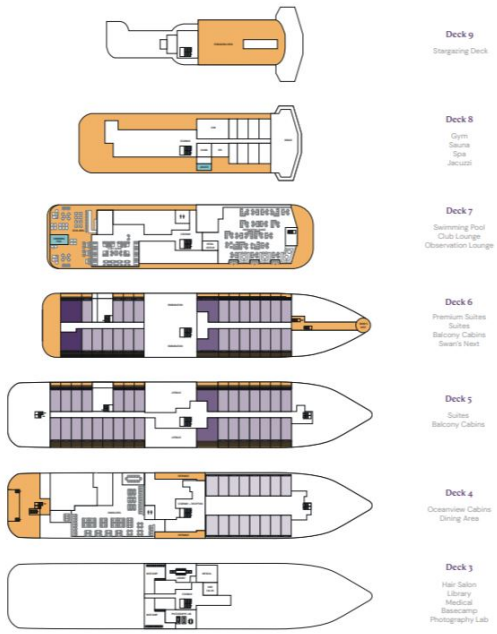
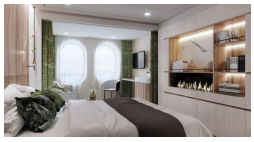
INSIDE YOUR SHIP



Balcony D5

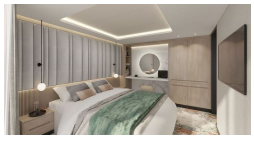
Balcony M5

Oceanview D4



Oceanview M4

Premium Suite



Suite

PRICING

17-Apr-2026 to 28-Apr-2026

Suite	**£11200 GBP pp**
Premium Suite	**£12875 GBP pp**
Oceanview M4	**£6550 GBP pp**
Balcony M5	**£7875 GBP pp**
Balcony D5	**£7550 GBP pp**
Oceanview D4	**£6200 GBP pp**