

TRITON BAY AND FAK FAK WEST PAPUA



A STUNNING 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. FAK FAK AND TRITON BAY ARE STILL RELATIVELY UN-EXPLORED AND WE EXPECT TO DISCOVER EVEN MORE GREAT DIVE SITES DURING OUR CRUISES TO THIS REGION OF RAJA AMPAT.

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 who sadly died in March 2007. 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.

CORAL TRIANGLE 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.

Biodiversity surveys conducted in Triton Bay by Conservation International have identified up 335 species of coral reef fish. Among them was a small

Epauvette shark that 'walks' on its fins. This discovery has turned Triton Bay into one of the most valuable dive sites in the world.

WATERFALLS AND KANGAROOS 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 we can 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.

REEF BASICS 	
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 cruise.

TRIP ADVISOR →	
Airport	Sorong. International flight to Manado and then domestic flight to Sorong. Ambon. International flight to Jakarta or Bali and then domestic flight to Ambon. Currently, an overnight is required in Makassar in flight Bali-Ambon.
Weather	27-32°C. Indonesia has two seasons: wet and dry. In most of Indonesia the wet season is from October to April and the dry from May to September. West Papua dry season October to April, wet season is from May to September.



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. 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.

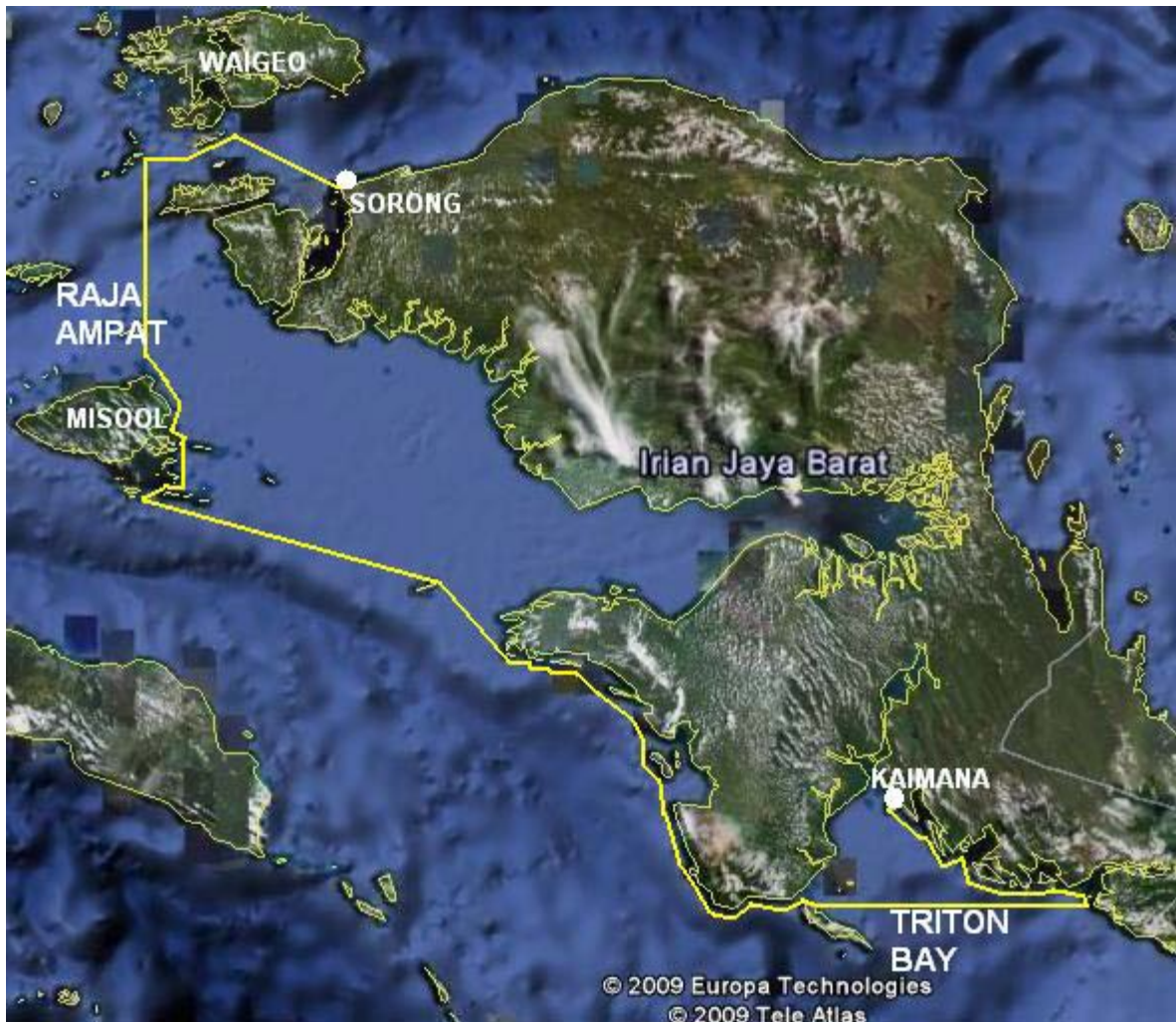
The large boulders that lie around Saurenus, some as shallow as ten feet of water are literally covered completely by wildly varying shades of soft corals. Colorful crinoids cling to any available surface, fighting for space with sea fans and cup-corals. To say the least, we had a unanimous vote by all the guests that this is the most amazing and overwhelming coral/fish environment they have 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: pygmies Denise and bargibanti, nudies, devil scorpionfish, wonder puss, frogfish, leaffish, ornate ghost pipe fish...

OTHERS ACTIVITIES	
Wreck Diving:	WW II wrecks in Manokwari.
Kayaking:	In the shallow bays, especially in the mangrove forests.
Hiking:	Into the forest to experience the diversity of birds and animals.
Tour:	Visiting Baliem Valley highland of Irian Jaya, inhabited by the Dani Tribes and other sub tribes of Yali and Lani with their complex and primitive cultures, which looks more like "stone age" cultures.
-PLEASE INQUIRY FOR DETAILS IF INTERESTED- ✉	

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