***MS AURORA***

***Useful Travel Information and about the Boat***

**DOCUMENTS:**

Passports must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry into Indonesia.

**VACCINATIONS:**

There is no vaccination obligation for tourists who wish to travel to Indonesia.

Vaccination against typhoid and hepatitis A and B are recommended only for special

trips into the interior. Exceptions are travelling in big cities and tourist centres.

In Bali there is currently a rabies alert, and there is a dengue risk in the interior of

Bali.

Theoretically, malarial mosquitoes are present in the whole country, especially in

large cities and in the interior. However, we advise against a malaria prophylaxis,

because the side effects are significant and may affect the ability to dive.

Bring bug spray!

**Baggage Allowance on Domestic Flights**

Vary depending on the airline; we forward detailed information separately if the

flight was booked through us.

Normally, the baggage allowance is **20 kg** though now on many routes only **15 kg**

are allowed. Hand luggage should not exceed **7 kg**, but seldom - if ever - hand

luggage is weighed.

In case of overweight, you pay directly at the airport. Again, the price per kilo

varies depending on the airport, airline and “mood” of the check-in staff and is

between 8.000 RP to 25.000 RP per kilo.

**RECONFIRMATION of the ticket:**

You will be informed about any changes of the domestic flight through our office.

**Tourist Visa:**

The entry visa for Indonesia costs **US $ 25** (payable in cash in US$, rupiah, and

usually also in Euros – Euros can be changed in the immigration building). The

entry visa on arrival must be paid directly at the "Immigrasi" desk before you go to

the baggage claim.

**Airport taxes for domestic and international flights:**

Must be paid directly with the airlines upon check-in or prior to boarding, and can

only be paid in local currency (rupiah).

Between 15,000 and 40,000 RP (max € 3.50) for domestic flights and 150,000 RP

(about € 12.50) for international flights.

**Money exchange:**

We recommend not only bringing Euros but also some US$.

**National currency:**

We recommend exchanging some money into local currency (Indonesian Rupiah,

called IDR or RP) right at the airport in Jakarta, Bali or Manado. For airport taxes

and service for your luggage, we recommend a minimum of 25 € per person.

**COMMUNICATION:**

The GSM mobile network only works in major cities and tourist centres.

The country code for calls to Indonesia is 0062.

**CURRENCY:**

Indonesian rupiah (1€ approximately 12,000 IDR; 1$ around 8.600 IDR -

Amendment 1, Oct, 2011)

**TIME ZONE:**

Jakarta + 8 hours ahead of the U.K., +7 with daylight saving time.

Bali / Manado + 9 hours ahead of the U.K, +8 with daylight saving time.

Sorong + 10 hours ahead of the U.K., +9 with daylight saving time.

**ELECTRICITY:**

220 volt outlets like on continental Europe (two poles only, so for British clients,

**please bring adaptor**!).

The electricity is available 24 hours a day.

**LANGUAGE:**

English is spoken in all tourist destinations, also on board MS Aurora.

**RELIGION:**

Islam, with around 200 million Muslims, is widespread among the entire Indonesian

population; remember that Indonesia is the country with the largest Muslim

population in the world.

But also Christians make up about 10% of the population in many places.

In Bali the Balinese Hinduism prevails, the so-called "Agama Hindu Dharma", a

fusion of Hinduism with the original animistic religion of the natives.

In addition, there are many traditional beliefs and customs, such as in Sulawesi and

the colourful "Toraja".

Our crew on Aurora come from all parts of the country, and we count Christians,

Muslims and Hindus among them, who work and live together in harmony.

**Climate and clothing:**

An equatorial climate with warm days and evenings, and often cooler nights.

We recommend a light wind jacket for the evening, in case it becomes a bit windy

on board, sunglasses and plenty of sunscreen, shorts and a T-shirt for the day.

For the visit of islands / coastal villages and places of worship, we recommend the

use of a sarong, especially for women.

**VIDEO/CAMERAS:**

Batteries and chargers are sometimes difficult to find. Remember to check your

equipment before you leave.

On board we have various rechargeable batteries and chargers.

**Aboard MS AURORA**

We have towels and bath towels on board of MS Aurora.

A **certification card** must be presented on board, and divers should be able to

document at least 50 logged dives.

The completion of a **diving insurance** before arrival is strongly recommended, like

DAN or similar.

**Nitrox** on board with a supplement. Nitrox courses usually available on board.

Please inform us in advance about any kind of **food intolerance** or **allergies**.

**PAYMENTS on board in cash** (Euros, U.S. Dollars or Indonesian Rupiah). **No**

**credit cards**

**Tanks**: 12 litres with DIN and INT, no adapter required.

**CURRENT ON BOARD**: 220 volt outlets like continental Europe

The **WATER TEMPERATURE** fluctuates in Raja Ampat between 26 to 29 degrees.

In Komodo, the water temperature in the south can go down to 21/22 degree in the

summer time while we have some pleasant 28 degrees in the north.

We generally recommend a 3 mm wetsuit.

Shorties to put over your wetsuit can be rented on board, or better bring a 5mm

suit for the colder South Komodo.

**Dive torches** can be rented on board.

**Tips on board the MS AURORA**

Tipping is not mandatory, but quite common and very welcome. We recommend 6-

8 € per day per person on board.

**Cash payments on board (if not already included in the prepaid package):**

◊Komodo National Park Fee 55 EUR

◊Raja Ampat National Park fee is 55 EUR

◊diving with Nitrox

◊alcoholic drinks and espresso coffee

◊use the satellite phone: calls and e-mails

◊gratuities for the crew and guides

◊Rental on board (please specify in advance, specifying the required size)

◊massages

◊laundry facilities on board

◊Shop (polo, reef hook, pointers, etc.

◊For some tours fuel surcharge of 150 EUR – please refer to our price list for

more details

**PRICES - drinks on board**

*Water, soft drinks and fruit juices are free of charge*

◊Beer 3 €

◊Wine 10 to ca. 40 €

◊Espresso 2 €

◊Cocktails around 5 €