



SPICE ISLAND TOUR

with Janet DeNeefe

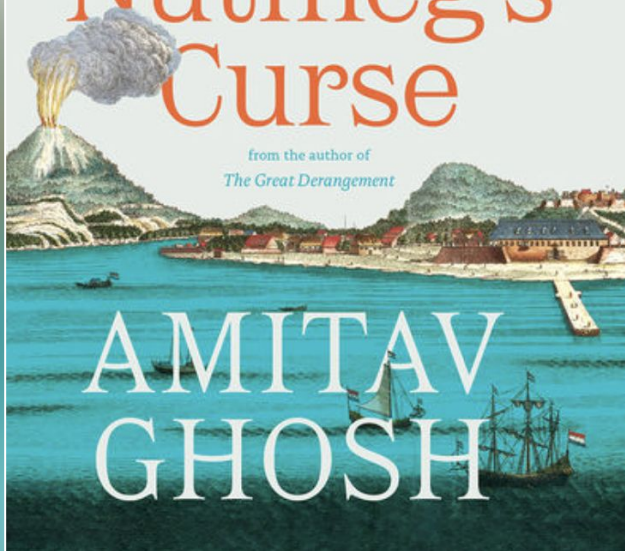
31 October - 9 November 2024 | 9 Nights / 10 Days

PARABLES FOR A
PLANET IN CRISIS

The Nutmeg's Curse

from the author of
The Great Derangement

AMITAV
GHOSH



THE LAST ENGLISHMEN

LOVE, WAR, AND THE END OF EMPIRE

DEBORAH BAKER



A Tour of the Spice Islands with special guest speakers Amitav Ghosh and Deborah Ghosh Baker

Few areas can match the rich cultural, historical and natural diversity found charting the Banda Islands. One day alone can promise it all: **colonial history, quiet coastal villages, emerald seas, colourful marketplaces, breathtaking vistas and an underwater world of exquisite beauty.** And few authors are better matched to a life-changing adventure on the high seas than award-winning bestseller, **Amitav Ghosh and Pulitzer Prize finalist, Deborah Baker.** **In their company, this exclusive expedition will acquire an intimate literary lustre.**

Days spent snorkeling, beachcombing and trekking through nutmeg plantations on some of the most beautiful, remote destinations of Indonesia. Starlit evenings of readings, talks, thoughtful conversations will follow. Twilight drinks on the deck will find you dipping into topics ranging from writing narratives to colonial history and storytelling; all swept along by the gentle currents of the Banda Sea.

Daytime will see cooking classes presented by Janet DeNeefe featuring nature's ocean bounty, focusing on the healing property of spices. For the culinary enthusiast, Indonesian meals from the Casa Luna kitchen will grace the table, as well as, freshly baked sourdough, homemade tempe and house-made yoghurt.

No matter what you see, taste, or think on this exclusive nine-night, ten-day adventure: you won't forget a thing. It will be the trip of a lifetime.



OUR SPECIAL GUEST



Amitav Ghosh

Amitav Ghosh is an acclaimed Indian author known for his novels exploring themes of history, culture, and climate change. With a diverse literary background, Ghosh's work has received international acclaim and numerous awards. His thought-provoking storytelling and insightful observations continue to resonate with readers worldwide. In his recent book, *The Nutmeg's Curse*, Amitav Ghosh intricately weaves a tale set in the Banda Islands, exploring the dark history of colonial exploitation and the impact of the spice trade. Ghosh's vivid storytelling brings to life the rich cultural tapestry and turbulent history of the region.

OUR SPECIAL GUEST

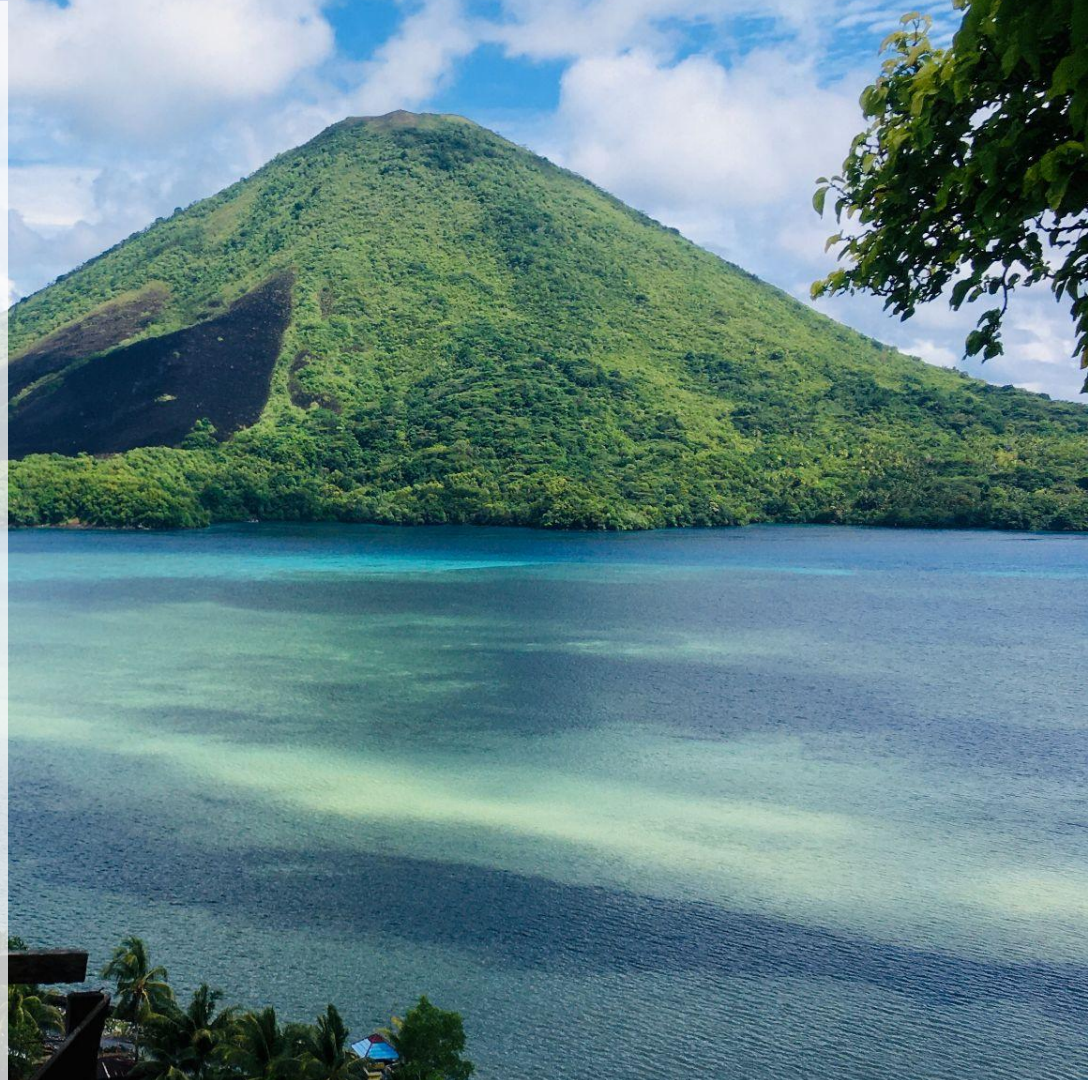


Deborah Ghosh Baker

Pulitzer-prize nominee, Deborah Ghosh Baker is a talented writer with a passion for highlighting diverse voices and untold narratives. Drawing inspiration from her multicultural background, Baker's work often explores themes of identity, belonging, and resilience. Her engaging storytelling style and commitment to social justice have garnered recognition and praise, making her a respected voice in the literary world.

“ The island can be smelled
before it can be seen. From
more than 10 miles out to sea
a fragrance hangs in the air,
and long before the
bowler-hat mountain hoves
into view you know you are
nearing land. ”

Nathaniel's Nutmeg
by Giles Milton

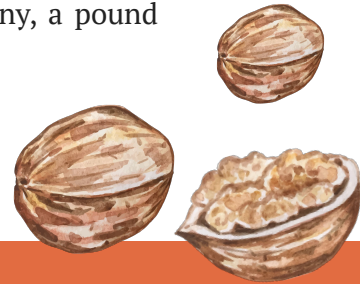




BANDA NEIRA

Banda Neira lies in the middle of ten small, sun-drenched volcanic islands loosely scattered in the wind-swept Banda Seas, south-east of Ambon. Often omitted from maps, the tranquil port was once an important harbour and the town itself, a centre of trade and V.O.C base.

For more than 3,000 years, regional, Arab and Chinese merchants exchanged spices and other treasures with the Bandanese but the main attraction was the glamorous nutmeg. Before the birth of Christ, it had already reached China and India and by 500 AD it had arrived in the Mediterranean. Even Sinbad the Sailor from the Arabian Nights was lured by its charm. By the 14th-century, it was gracing the table of European aristocracy and by 15th century Germany, a pound was worth "seven fat oxen".



ACTIVITIES...

SNORKELING



SPICE TOUR



MARKET TOUR



ISLAND TOUR



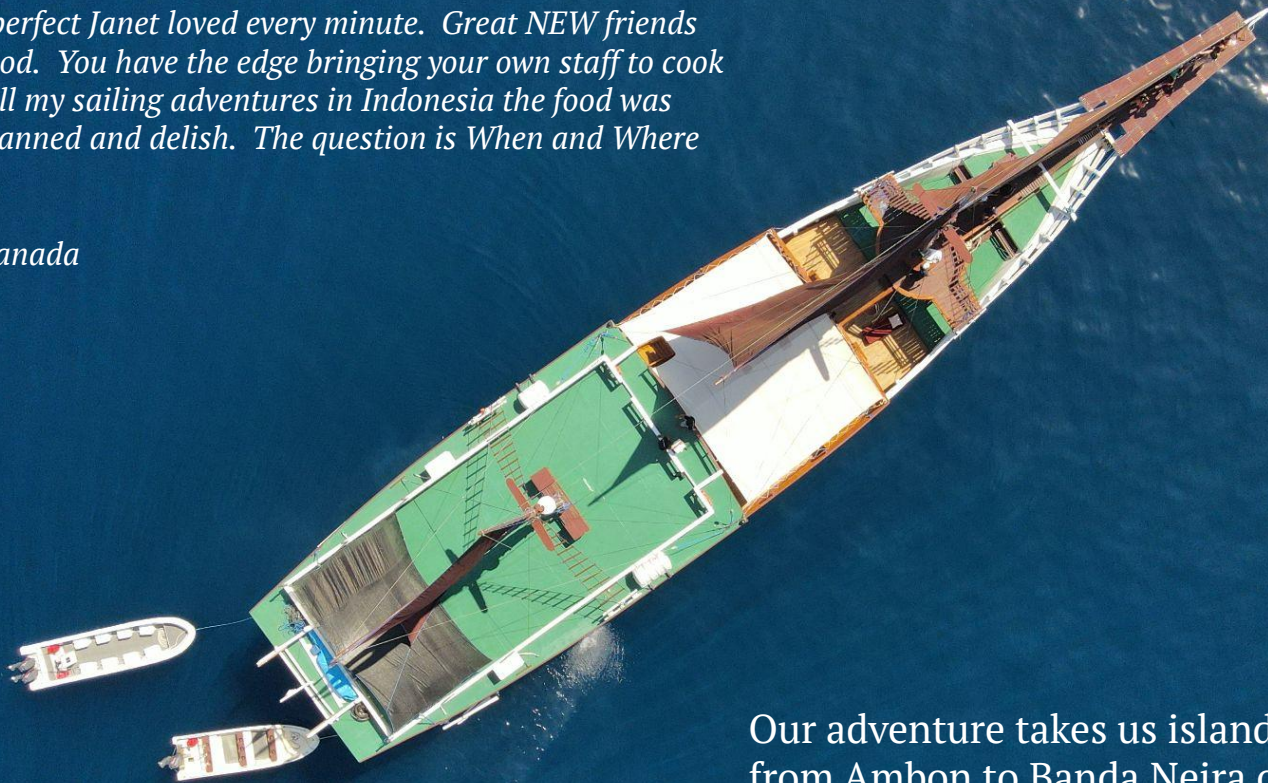
Cooking Class with **JANET DENEEFE**

Join Janet DeNeeffe on an adventure to the **fabled spice islands, from Ambon to Banda Neira**, Eastern Indonesia. We sail on a teak Phinisi Boat and spend 9 unspoiled days trekking, snorkelling, exploring, swimming, **dining** and absorbing the **history** of this **fascinating part of Indonesia**.

Enjoy her **cooking classes** using the **freshest ingredients** from the local market, cocktails under a thousand stars and feasts of **Janet DeNeeffe's favourite Indonesian food**.

“ The trip was perfect Janet loved every minute. Great NEW friends and amazing food. You have the edge bringing your own staff to cook on the ship in all my sailing adventures in Indonesia the food was never as well planned and delish. The question is When and Where next year!!! “

Carol Dodge, Canada

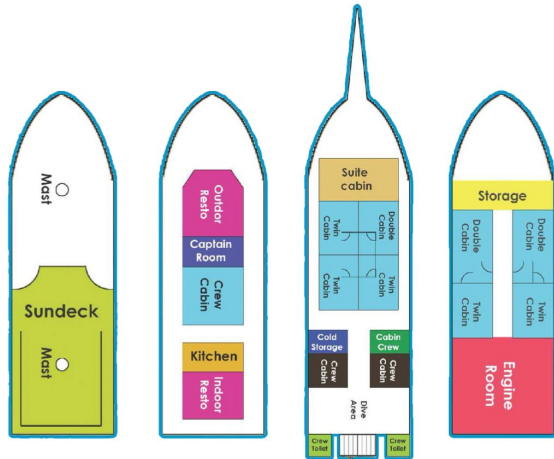


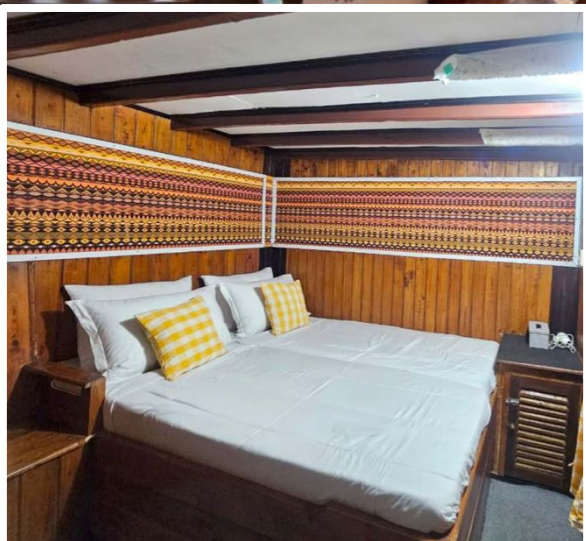
Our adventure takes us island-hopping from Ambon to Banda Neira on a teak Phinisi schooner, spending 8 nights, 9 days exploring, snorkeling, swimming, dining, and absorbing the history of this breathtaking region.

THE BOAT

Seamore Papua is a traditional wooden Phinisi boat that caters to leisure trips and diving beautiful underwater in eastern Indonesia.

The vessel is specifically designed for liveaboard diving cruises, Seamore Papua provides a dedicated dive-deck with gear-up stations assigned for each diver throughout the cruise.





DOUBLE BED ROOM




TWIN BED ROOM

Room Facilities

- Private Bathroom
- Air Conditioner
- Wardrobe
- International Power Outlet
- Towel and Amenities
- Hair Dryer
- Every day room clean-up
- Laundry (2 pieces max per day)

THE PROGRAM



A close-up photograph of a bowl filled with almonds. The almonds are light brown and have a smooth, slightly glossy texture. They are piled together, with some showing their pointed ends and others showing their flat sides. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown, suggesting the bowl's interior or a similar surface. The overall lighting is warm and even.

Can't stop thinking about the trip. It was so special to be in such remote and beautiful places with a history that is almost unbelievable if it weren't true. I feel so lucky to have been there and to share it with such a great bunch of people, guests and crew. Market trip today. Ginger, galangal, garlic, shallots, lemon grass and the Rhun spices that were cleared by quarantine. Yum.

Mary Jose, Australia





DAY ONE | Thursday, 31 October

Meeting Point: AMBON

We meet up at **Natsepa Hotel and Resort, Ambon**, and enjoy a dinner feast of local **Maluku food** on the restaurant terrace.



DAY TWO | Friday, 1 November

AMBON CITY TOUR

We explore the **bustling market of Tulehu** and see Maluku ingredients from papaya flowers, sago and lemon basil to green tomatoes, wild starfruit and fresh fish. Morning tea in the city is enjoyed at the **legendary café, Cibu-Cibu**, followed by a tour of the **Ambon War Cemetery** and statue of young freedom fighter, **Christina Tiahahu**.

A long table lunch at a local Ambon restaurant follows, with a Feast of traditional Maluku dishes, such as **papaya flowers, braised fish broth and seafood**. After our meal we board our ship and set sail across the Ambon Bay towards the open seas sharing stories, sipping cocktails and feasting on Indonesian snacks.



*“ Lots of great memories, thank you all for the company,
witty conversation and an opportunity to share a very
unique corner of the world “*

Murray Taylor, UK



DAY THREE | Saturday, 2 November

SAPARUA

We explore Saparua Island, a former Dutch stronghold in colonial times and home of renowned Indonesian national hero, **Kapitan Pattimura**. The historic **Fort Duurstede**, located in the heart of Saparua, was established by the Dutch East Indies Company in 1691 and is now a small museum that tells a tale of colonial rule and freedom fighters.

We visit the village market to buy provisions for dinner and then see **traditional sago cakes** being made. A cooking class on deck follows. The cocktail hour includes a discussion about the region's history, and then, a **lavish dinner** under the stars will be presented by **Janet DeNeefe and team**.



DAY FOUR | Sunday, 3 November

RUN ISLAND

We land on the fabled island of Rhun, made famous in Nathaniel's Nutmeg. Once a major producer of nutmeg during the colonial era, the spice trade on Rhun Island was lucrative but marked by exploitation and conflict. The demand for nutmeg led to fierce competition among European powers, shaping the island's history and economy. **Pulau Rhun was traded for Manhattan in the famous Treaty of Breda.**

On Rhun we are greeted by Bapak Burhan, head of Rhun's only school, who will lead us to the island's hillside nutmeg plantation and the ruins of Nathaniel Courthope cottage. **Morning tea of local sweets will be served with nutmeg juice and aromatic coffee.**

Snorkelling nearby will follow.



4

DAY FOUR | Sunday, 3 November

BANDA NEIRA

At dusk, we arrive in Banda Neira, a picturesque small island in the Banda Archipelago. This region was once the world's only source of nutmeg and mace.

The Dutch secured the coveted nutmeg trade in the 17th Century, thus, changing the course of Indonesian history, but not without resistance. **They also changed to course of world history.** Despite their illustrious past, Banda Neira is a place where time seems to have stood still. We spend the next two nights anchored off this charming town.





We visit Banda Besar and the nutmeg plantation of **Pongky Van den Broeke**, the **world's last perkeneer** followed by a visit to a nearby old nutmeg forest with breath-taking ocean views.

A cooking class back on deck follows, then snorkeling. Late afternoon we enjoy a walk around the charming Banda Neira township, visiting **Fort Belgica**, the **Hatta cottage and the Governor's Palace**. Dinner at the majestic **Maulana Hotel** follows where we meet Mita Alwi, grand daughter of the late Des Alwi, affectionately named the **'King' of Banda Neira**.

DAY FIVE | Monday, 4 November

THE NUTMEG TOUR





“Hello Gang! I miss you all already. 3pm will mean snorkeling to me for the near future. Thank you for becoming fond and cherished memories for me.”

Lory Johansson, USA

DAY SIX | Tuesday, 5 November

BANDA NEIRA AND BANDA BESAR

After a morning walk, exploring Banda Neira, we enjoy a cooking class at the **Nutmeg Tree Hotel** owned by local personality, Reza Tuasikal. **Papaya flowers, fish in light turmeric broth, eggplant with kenari nut sambal and mint-fish patties** are part of the menu.

Afternoon is for **relaxing and snorkeling**.





DAY SEVEN | Wednesday, 6 November

BANDA NEIRA

Morning snorkelling in **Lava Flow**, one of Banda Neira's iconic spots. Cooking class on deck. Free time to **explore the island** and continue to one of the **best snorkelling spot in Hatta Island**

DAY EIGHT | Thursday, 7 November

HATTA ISLAND



We sail to nearby **Hatta Island** and enjoy a morning snorkel to enjoy this **pristine underwater garden**, followed by a stroll through this quiet village.

We sail overnight to Molana Island, a glorious deserted island.



DAY NINE | Friday, 8 November

MOLANA ISLAND

We swim and snorkel at **Molana Island**.
After our last cooking class on deck we enjoy a **bbq on the sand under the stars**. After dinner, we set sail back to Tulehu, Ambon.



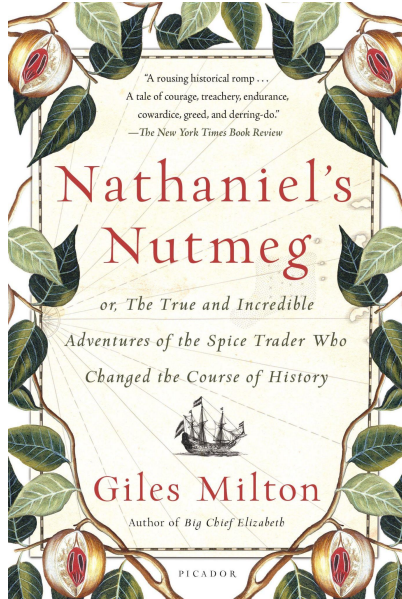


DAY TEN | Saturday, 9 November

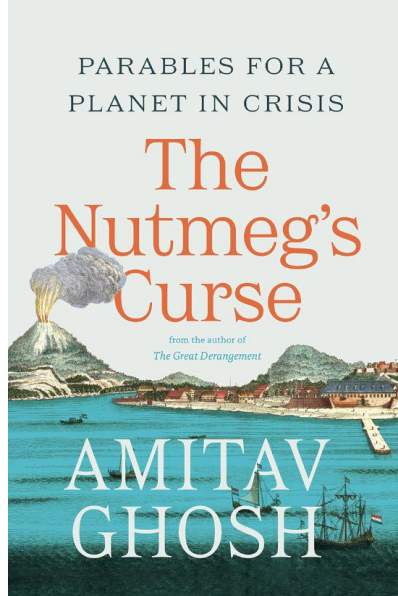
BACK to AMBON

After breakfast on deck, and **a wrap-up of our voyage into 17th century Indonesia**, we will say goodbye to the crew before transferring you to **Ambon airport** for your onward travel.

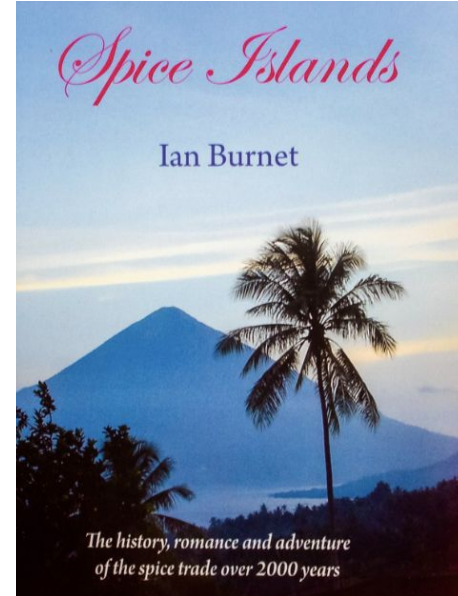
BOOKS RECOMMENDATION



Nathaniel's Nutmeg
by Giles Milton.



The Nutmegs's Curse
by Amitav Ghosh.



Spice Islands
By Ian Burnet

MEET OUR TEAM



Janet DeNeefe | Host

Janet DeNeefe our Host is Melbourne-born, Founder & Director of Ubud Food Festival and Ubud Writers & Readers Festival, has lived in Bali for more than three decades. Her latest book is Bali: Food of My Island Home, following her memoir Fragrant Rice. She is also the owner of Casa Luna, Indus Restaurant, and Honeymoon Guesthouse and Bakery in Ubud.

Christina Arum H | Guest Relations

Arum will assist you during booking process and any inquiries related to the trip such as booking domestic flight to Ambon. She is person in charge for any information and questions about the trip, and you can contact her through email or phone. She will be on the trip with the group and happy to assist the guest needs.



Leo Ukru | Local Tour Guide

Leo is our local tour guide, originally from Ambon. He's the person on the ground to guide you and explain you about the historical place, culture and he is the bridge to communicate with the local people. Leo has been more than 8 year experience being professional and certified guide in tourism industry, especially in Ambon

SPICE ISLAND TOUR FEE

USD 9,900 for Double Bed or Twin Shared

Includes:

Accommodation, 2 people per room

One night at Natsepa Hotel and Resort.

8 nights/ 9 days on Indo Seamore

All Meals

Daily Cooking Class

Tour Program

Airport Transfer - Ambon Airport to Natsepa Hotel,

Natsepa Port to Ambon Airport.

Not Including:

Alcohol beverages & tipping for the crews

Domestic flights.

DOMESTIC AIRLINES

Jakarta - Ambon return 600 USD per person

Bali - Ambon return 900 USD per person



Flight to Ambon (Airlines: Garuda Indonesia)

Depart from Bali:

Departure **07:00** Ngurah Rai (DPS) - Arrival **08:00** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) | *Duration 02h00m*

Departure **09:40** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) - Arrival **15:15** Pattimura (AMQ) | *Duration 03h35m*

Total flight duration: 05h35m

Depart from Jakarta

Departure **09:40** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) - Arrival **15:15** Pattimura (AMQ) | ***Duration 03h35m***

Return Flight (Airlines: Garuda Indonesia)

To Bali

Departure **16:15** Pattimura (AMQ) - Arrival **17:50** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) | *Duration 03h25m*

Departure **09:40** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) - Arrival **12:45** Denpasar (DPS) | *Duration 02h05m*

Total flight duration: 05h25m

To Jakarta

Departure **16:15** Pattimura (AMQ) - Arrival **17:50** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) | *Duration 03h25m*



DETAILS PAYMENT

To secure your place a 50% non-refundable deposit per person is required. Remaining payment of 50% is due 15 September 2024
Deposits are non-refundable.

Account details are as follows:

BCA Account

Janet Mary DeNeefe
Bank : BCA Branch Ubud
Jl Raya Ubud No 10X
Acc no:1350549117
Swift Code: CENAIJJA

ANZ Bank Account

Janet Mary De Neefe
ANZ Bank branch: Northland
BSB: 013 381
Account No: 5588 43453
Swift Code: ANZBAU3M

When submitting payment, please make sure all details are correct.
Please advise when the deposit has been made with a reference code





Payment Terms and Conditions

Passengers are required to pay a 50% deposit at the time of booking. Until payment is received, the booking will not be confirmed. Remaining payment of 50% is to be made by 15 September 2024. Failure of payment within the stated period will automatically give us the rights to offer to participants on the waiting list.

Trip Cancellations

In the event of a trip being canceled due to weather conditions or other factors beyond our reasonable control, deposits will be refunded in full within 20 business days. Otherwise, deposits are nonrefundable. We recommend that all passengers take out travel insurance to cover any losses that they may incur.

General Terms and Conditions

All Passengers undertake the trip at entirely their own risk. We cannot be held responsible (save where prescribed by statute) for any injuries, illness, loss of property, theft or damage occurring during our trip.

Safety is always paramount whilst at sea. We require all passengers to wear a life jacket, when necessary, and conduct themselves in a manner which does not unduly endanger themselves or others.

Due to the ecological fragility of the islands that we visit, passengers are reminded that animals are strictly forbidden and visitors must depart the islands as they find them, taking nothing and leaving nothing.

All day trips are subject to suitable weather conditions to make it safe to undertake, and, as such, some trips may have to be canceled at short notice.

For more details please email:

Christina Arum H

pa@janetdeneefe.com |+6281558809212

An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a deeper blue further out. The beach is a wide, curved strip of white sand. To the right of the beach is a dense line of lush green trees and vegetation, including several palm trees. Two small white boats are anchored near the top of the beach. A few small figures of people are visible on the sand. In the bottom left corner, the text "Thank you!" is written in a white, cursive font.

Thank you!