

Komodo Dancer - Factsheet

This fact sheet briefly introduces our Live aboard Diving Cruises on board our traditional Buginese schooner, the Komodo dancer.

Welcome aboard

The lure of the unexplored is irresistible, so welcome aboard on a brand new journey to a real life "Jurassic Park" both above and below the surface of the seas. This is Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia, one of the last frontiers of the underwater world. This "Land That Time Forgot" is an island chain stretching from Bali to Alor deep in the Indonesian archipelago and boasting some of the finest dive sites on earth!

To enable you to discover this exciting new destination we have constructed the finest dive live aboard vessel possible with every convenience available. The "Komodo dancer" has now joined her sister ship the "Ombak Putih" in the seas of Indonesia to bring you an unparalleled level of service.

The Ship

Whenever possible more than six hundred square meters of sails are raised, but we rely on an engine to safeguard our schedule. We will sail you from dive site to dive site in traditional style blended with all modern comforts. The hull and deckhouse are completely made of wood. Below deck there are eight spacious cabins, each with private bathroom and air-conditioning. The Komodo dancer is a forerunner in safety and environmental protection at sea. We combine tradition with modern technology and awareness of Indonesia's natural resources.

Ship specifications

Construction: South Sulawesi, Indonesia 2000/2001

Registry/Flag: Indonesia

Type: Wooden schooner

Length: 98 feet (30 meters) LOD, 125 feet (38 meters) LOA

Beam: 30 feet (9 meters)

Draft: 7.7 feet (2.3 meters)

Propulsion: Mitsubishi/Hyundai 450 Hp, 8 cylinder

Fuel capacity: 12,000 liters

Fresh Water Capacity: 11,000 liters

Desalinator Production: 6200 liters per day

Voltage: 1 x Mitsubishi 63 KVA gensets, 220v, 50 cycle plus 1 x Mitsubishi 50 KVA

Number of Tenders: 2 x 22 feet (6 meter) fiberglass twin 40 hp engines

Total Displacement: 350 tons

Cruising Speed: 8 - 10 knots

Range: 1100 Nm

Sails: 2 masts, 7 sails total, 450 square meters

Navigation Aids: VHF, SSB, Furuno 36 mile radar, GPS x 2

Communications: Satellite Phone, USB and VHF Radio

Number of Passengers: 14

Accommodation: 7 Double Occupancy Staterooms (with private bathroom h/c water)

Air-conditioning: To all interior areas
Number of Crew: 15 (excluding dive crew)

Dive Operation Specifications

Compressors: 3 x Schifaur V32 High Pressure, 1 x Atlas Copco GA11 Low Pressure

Nitrox System: Nitrox Technologies Membrane

Cylinders: 30 x 11.4 litre

Air Bank: 8 x 50 litre

Rental Equipment: 6 full set Scubapro – BCD, Regs, Computers, EPIRB, Wetsuits

Dive Courses: All PADI and TDI/SDI

Specialty Courses: EANx, Photography, Videography, Deep, Wreck, Night, Equipment

Photo Processing: E6 (Jobo)

Dive Crew: 3 European Instructors, 1 Indonesian Dive master

Maintenance: Full equipment repair service

Accommodation

On deck, the spacious lounge overlooks the sea. You can decide to have your breakfast, lunch or dinner here or on the large table outside on deck. In daytime between dives you can relax in teak deck chairs, have some lazy hours under the canopy or on our sun deck.

Below deck you can find privacy in your spacious cabin. Each cabin offers touches of the old sailing days, bunk beds or double beds and antique styled furniture, all tastefully blended with modern comfortable facilities like individually controlled air-conditioning and an en suite bathroom with toilet and shower.

The entire ship is yours to enjoy. Sing along with the crew in the rear of the ship or contemplate the day under the waves at the bow. We have built the boat for you to experience Indonesia and her fascinating dive sites in a unique and safe way.

Destinations

The Komodo dancer covers the Lesser Sunda Islands region of Indonesia. Starting from Bali and heading east we visit the dive sites of Lombok, Moyo, Satonda, Sangeang, Sumbawa, Rinca, Bali and of course The Komodo National Park.

Please note that due to unexpected weather and sea conditions, local authorities and government regulations, availability of safe anchorage and other factors beyond our control, itineraries might change.

Fares, bookings and payments

Our fares are quoted in US\$ per person.

Prices are inclusive of accommodation in air-conditioned cabins with private shower and toilet, full board, soft drinks, tea and coffee, alcoholic beverages, mineral water, excursions, use of towels, scuba cylinders, weights and weight belts, compressed air and nitrox (if certified), dive safety/location equipment.

Prices are exclusive of transfers in Bali, crew gratuities, scuba equipment (other than that stated above), scuba courses, harbor and park entrance fees.

Inquiries and bookings can be made by phone, fax or online. You confirm your booking by completing a booking form that Indonesia Cruises will send upon request, and by transferring a down payment

Indonesia Cruises also accepts VISA and MASTER credit cards for fare payments (not available on board, but available upon request).

Komodo Dancer Inclusives and Exclusives

Inclusive: full board, AC cabins with private shower and toilet, soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, tea and coffee, dragon excursion, towels, experienced dive personnel, cylinders, weights, air, personal diver safety/location equipment and up to 5 dives per day.

Exclusive: crew gratuities (10% of cruise price is recommended), scuba equipment (other than that stated above), scuba courses, harbor and park entrance fees (US\$90/person) and Nitrox fills.

Itineraries: Subject to change without notice due to sea and weather conditions, availability of safe anchorage, government regulations and other factors beyond the companies control. This may affect the number of dives per day.

Komodo Dancer – Service & Facilities

- Spacious twin shared cabins with bunk beds or double bed
- Each cabin has a private bathroom with toilet and shower
- Hot and Cold water shower
- Washbasin and soap toiletries in your cabin
- Cabins have individually controlled air conditioning
- Towels and beach towels that are regularly cleaned
- You can dine or relax in our spacious air conditioned lounge
- We use teak wooden furniture in lounge, cabins and on deck
- Spacious sun and semi-covered decks
- Free tea and coffee making facilities, soft drinks and mineral water 24 hours a day
- Excellent food and snacks (vegetarian food on request)
- All alcoholic drinks like Australian wine, cold beer and others are included in the cruise fee
- Hot fresh water on-deck shower on your return from dives
- Our pursers will pamper you with chilled towels and a welcome drink upon arrival
- Professional European dive instructors and divemasters
- Cylinders, weights, air and **Nitrox** (if certified) are provided
- Basic and speciality scuba courses can be taken at your leisure
- Electronic dive safety/location equipment is issued free of charge
- You will be in the safe hands of our 15 well qualified crew
- We have 2 large speedboats with 2 x 40Hp. outboard engines (max capacity of 10 pax/boat)
- Television, Video, VCD, DVD and music centre in the lounge
- Land excursions in "The Komodo National Park"
- A small "boatique" for T-shirts, sarongs, postcards and other souvenirs
- Small library with dive and travel books along with many other interesting titles with enough choice for those who forgot to bring their own
- Complete first aid kit and two oxygen units, just in case
- And, a small surprise to take home with you

Komodo Dancer - Travel Information

Accommodation

On board the Komodo Dancer there are 9 twin shared cabins with double beds and bunk beds. All cabins are air-conditioned and have a private shower and toilet attached.

Arrival on board

On arrival our cruise director will show you to your cabin. Shortly after departure there will be a 'safety drill'. During this drill you will be told where the life jackets and life rafts are situated and you will get further safety instructions. After this the 'house' regulations will be discussed. During your trip there will be a daily dive briefing during which your divemasters will give you information about the days activities.

Bar

We provide domestic alcoholic beverages as part of the cruise fee. If there is a specific beverage that you enjoy you are encouraged to pick these up at duty free before the start of the cruise.

Climate and monsoon

Indonesia has a tropical climate with temperatures varying from 27° C to 32° C. Humidity is quite high: 50 to 90%. Indonesia has two monsoon periods. Indonesia Cruises has planned its trips according to these seasons.

Conduct

Bear a few things in mind concerning social behavior in Indonesia. Most travelers experience great warmth and hospitality, but with it comes an open curiosity about personal matters. You should not be surprised by total strangers asking details of your job, income and family circumstances. Use your right hand for giving, taking, eating or shaking hands as the left is considered to be unclean. Don't pat a child on the head. In fact, never touch anybody's head. Most Indonesians see the head as the seat of the soul and therefore sacred. Nudity (or sunbathing topless) is not permitted on beaches and although there are some places where this ban is ignored, it causes widespread offence. Displays of intimacy are not considered suitable in public and will probably draw unwanted attention. Women should cover shoulders and legs in Islamic areas.

Electricity

Voltage on board 220 volts AC. In your cabin there is a socket suitable for 2-way European plugs.

Excursions

Although the Komodo Dancer is a dedicated dive vessel we do recommend a visit to see the fascinating Komodo Dragons while on your cruise.

Fellow passengers

In general our passengers are a heterogeneous but well balanced group of people: couples, singles, men and women of various nationalities.

Guidebooks

You'll find good and up-to-date information about the areas to be visited by the Komodo Dancer in most of the dive guides available in bookshops. These publications are however kept on board for your perusal.

Hotels

Please let us know where we can reach you at least 3 days before departure. This enables us to give you last details concerning the cruise. In order to avoid misunderstandings concerning transfers we would also like to know about your plans after the trip. Indonesia Cruises can help you find a good hotel or give you useful information about other (day) trips during your stay in Indonesia.

Hygiene

On board the Komodo Dancer we only use boiled water for washing or preparing food. Therefore the risk of intestinal upsets is small. When ashore, please be careful what you drink. We advise bottled drinks, tea or coffee. Never drink water from taps, also on board.

Malaria

At sea there are no mosquitoes. Ashore, there will be. Protect yourself against mosquito bites when ashore. Cover up exposed skin at dusk or early evening, wear light coloured long-sleeved clothes and mosquito repellent cream or gel. Take prophylactic drugs. Before you travel you must check with your local medical centre for advice on malaria prophylactics.

Money

Indonesian currency is the Rupiah. Most traveler's' checks in US dollars are accepted without difficulty at banks or money changers. Bring US\$100 notes because for US\$50-20-10-5-1 you get a lower rate. Euro-cheques are not accepted anywhere. Major credit cards are widely accepted in the main centres, though in smaller towns it is still rare to be able to pay by credit card. Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) that accept foreign cards are widespread in the main centres and cities. The Komodo Dancer will take you off the beaten track, so we advise you to bring cash (Rupiah) money along on board.

Phrase books

An Indonesian phrase book will come in quite handy. Not many Indonesians can speak basic English.

Seasickness

Some passengers are afraid that the trip could be spoiled because of seasickness. Of course the swell or the wind can sometimes be stronger than usual, possibly causing a mild form of seasickness. In that case you can take a tablet available on the ship. Once used to the movements of the ship, however, you probably won't get seasick at all.

Single passengers

Single passengers are requested to share a cabin. Sex and age are used as criteria in this case. It is possible to book a single cabin with a surcharge.

Small cuts

The tiniest cut easily gets infected in a tropical climate. Whenever the skin is broken, clean it, treat it, and cover it. There is a well-equipped first-aid kit on board, but do bring your own small-size one.

Sunburn and heat stroke

The burning power of the tropical sun can be a concern. Always wear a hat or cap and use some form of (water-resistant) sun cream or lotion on untanned skin. Always wear a T-shirt when you go snorkelling. Glare from the sun can cause eye problems so wear sunglasses, especially on beaches. Avoid dehydration by drinking lots of non-alcoholic fluid. Put extra salt on your food.

The home front

Leave your holiday address with your friends or relatives. Just in case. You'll find our address at the end of the page. Your cruise director has daily radio communication with our Bali office.

Tipping

At the end of your trip your cruise director will ask you to tip the crew. Of course you are free to give what you consider suitable.

Travel insurance

We expect our passengers to have a personal travel and dive insurance. A cancellation insurance is optional. Contact an insurance company or your travel agent.

Visas and documents

Two weeks before departure Indonesia Cruises or your travel agent will send you specific information concerning your trip:

- a list of participants
- possible changes of itinerary

To avoid any unpleasantness on arrival, check your passport before leaving. Make sure it will be valid for at least 6 months after arrival. Also check at your local Indonesian embassy or consulate whether you need a visa. Please make 2 photocopies of the relevant pages of your passport on arrival and give these to your cruise director on board.

What to take

The atmosphere on board the Komodo Dancer is informal. Light cotton clothes are useful almost anywhere in Indonesia. When you are ashore, modest dress for both men and women is always advisable: loose-fitting non see-through clothes, covering the shoulders, and skirts, dresses or shorts (at least knee-length).

Checklist

- photocopies of essential documents
- medical statement (confidential)
- light cotton clothes
- long trousers and shorts or skirt
- swim-suit
- sweater or cardigan
- bathing shoes (essential when you go snorkeling), casuals or sandals, walking shoes
- high protection factor suntan lotion
- insect repellent
- torch, binoculars, camera, small backpack, umbrella (also against sunburn) or hat/cap, water bottle
- your own first aid
- scuba equipment (excluding cylinders and weights), logbook and certification card