

experience its caleidoscopic diversity throughout the expedition and dive famous sites such as Batu Bolong, Crystal Rock and Shotgun! Schools of trevally, white tip reef sharks, gardens of colourful soft coral, barracudas, bizarre nudibranches, and of course, a visit on-land to encounter the legendary Komodo dragon!

Critter life in Komodo is also extremely abundant and not to be missed! During this expedition we will offer the chance to experience it all through tailored night and day dives at sites such as Pink Beach, Wainilu and Tiga Dara where frogfish, ghostpipe fishes, cuttlefishes, mimic octopus and many more are common encounters!

The expedition will also include shore guided hikes with chances to encounter its unique terrestrial wildlife which includes monkeys, deers and buffalos as well as visiting some of the stunning viewpoints in the park.

The itinerary will vary depending on manta sightings, and will be aimed at maximising our encounters with these ocean giants. With one of the largest populations of reef manta rays in the world, resident year round, Komodo National Park is among the best destinations to encounter these inquisitive species. It also offers a chance to encounter the elegant black morph reef mantas that are typical of this region's population!







# KOMODO



#### **ON-BOARD MANTA EXPERT**

As on all Manta Expeditions, a Manta Trust scientist will be onboard for its entire duration, offering everyone the opportunity to interact and learn from a leading manta expert.

The presence of a Manta Trust scientist onboard will enhance your experience in a number of ways:

- motivate and inspire you, by learning about the marine ecosystems you will be exploring
- · gain access to an accumulated wealth of knowledge and expertise, providing you the opportunity to become actively involved in cutting-edge scientific research.
- offer you an educational and much more rewarding experience by making your underwater encounters more personal, and by involving you first-hand in marine research and conservation.
- · be environmentally aware and proactive and become an active member of an initiative which stands to have strong implications for the ongoing persistence for manta rays worldwide.

Collectively the Manta Trust and Manta Expeditions teams possess over two decades of experience globally, studying manta populations and marine ecosystems and have assembled a vast amount of knowledge and expertise, knowledge you will have access to on this expedition.

A core focus of the expeditions is not only to provide close encounters with manta rays but to enthuse and educate divers in marine conservation issues and the environment surrounding them. Through a series of activities and presentations on topics covering local marine species and habitats led by the Manta Trust expert, you are sure to leave with an increased awareness of the threats facing our oceans and, perhaps more importantly, how you can help.

Using the knowledge of the Manta Trust scientists you will gain a brand-new perspective to diving and experiencing the underwater world; by understanding what you see you will gain a better appreciation and love for the ocean and its creatures. Ultimately, with the guidance of the Manta Trust researcher you will have the chance to give something back to the ocean which we believe is fundamental considering how much we take from it!

## CITIZEN SCIENCE - GET INVOLVED!

On this expedition, you'll have the opportunity to experience

participate in cutting-edge conservation research to protect one of the ocean's most majestic animals. Manta Trust scientists will be collecting photographic identification images of all mantas encountered throughout the expedition - a task that guests are welcome and encouraged to participate in. All new manta rays will be added to the database and guests will be invited to name these new mantas.

## THE MANTA TRUST

A UK registered charity, the Trust's mission is to advance the worldwide conservation of manta rays and their habitat

through robust science and research, by raising awareness and providing education, influence and action. The Manta Trust was formed in 2011 to co-ordinate global research and conservation efforts for these amazing animals, their close relatives and their habitat.

Data Collection: The Manta Trust has a number of research projects worldwide, incorporating population data, research on manta movements, and genetic analyses - to name a few - in order to better understand the general ecology of manta and mobula rays.



#### THE VESSEL | INDO MASTER

Built in 2022, the 47m Indo Master liveaboard was built on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi and is

handcrafted from ironwood and teak (traditional to the area). You will find no other diving liveaboard as beautiful in Indonesian waters and, being built by divers for divers, you can be rest assured that every need has been thought of and addressed.

Welcoming a maximum of 18 guests per cruise ensures that there is ample space to relax. The 9 guest cabins consist of 4 fixed doubles, 4 fixed twins and I family suite (2 double beds), all with air-conditioning and private ensuite bathrooms with hot water.

The spacious air-conditioned saloon offers a great setting for your meals and dive briefings, a cocktail bar, comfortable seating, a charging station and a large flat-screen TV.

To reserve your place on this Komodo Manta BOOKING Expedition, please send an email to Niv Froman via info@mantaexpeditions.com.

Expedition organised in partnership with Master Liveaboards. Trip costs for this 10-nights expedition include transfer from Labuan Bajo airport or Hotel to vessel, full board accommodation, up to 4 dives/day, water, coffee, tea, fruit juice and soft drinks and guided tour to Komodo island.



<sup>\*</sup> Price is for a classic cabin (twin or double) based on double occupancy. Premium cabin USD 5,410, Superior cabin USD 5,560. Single cabin supplement 80%. Cost does not include international and domestic flights, Marine park and port fees (USD 230 per person), Nitrox, alcoholic beverages and crew gratuities.



