



Cruise Itinerary Kalabahi – Labuan Bajo

No cruise on MV Samambaia is like the other. Every single trip is tailor-made to create a once-in-a-lifetime experience. The decision on the itinerary is made by the cruise director as we cruise along and is based on factors such as weather conditions, dive conditions, requests of guests, schedules of other liveaboards, which we are trying to stay away from.

There are however certain constants on every cruise which are:

- Three day dives of minimum 1 hour duration
- One sunset- or night dive (unless we have to cover a serious amount of miles over night)

Activities during the surface intervals such as:

- Scenic rides through lagoons and coves in our tenders
- Trekking to breathtaking view points
- Visits of secluded perfect beaches
- Excursions to traditional villages
- Whale watching
- Water action such as wake boarding and water skiing

Based upon that, here is a potential itinerary for an 11 nights / 12 days cruise from Kalabahi/ Alor to Labuan Bajo/Flores. This is just to give you a general idea and is subject to change due to weather- and other conditions. Popular dive sites are named. We do however have our secret spots as well, which you will learn about during the cruise.

Day 1: Embarkation

Arrival with plane from Kupang in the afternoon to Alor. You will be picked up by crew members at the airport. Embarkation in the port of Kalabahi. A general orientation follows.

Day 2: Easy start

After an initial general dive briefing, check dive in the morning at a pretty, easygoing and protected dive site. Three more macro dives thereafter, one at Pura, two in the bay of Kalabahi. With a little bit of luck our dive guides might show you the 'Holy Grail of Critter Hunters', the Rhinopias, already on your first day of diving. Other than that you can expect: Frogfish, Ghostpipefish, all sorts of cephalopods and Crustaceans as well as colourful Nudibranchs.

Popular dive sites here: Mucky Mosque, Black Rhino, Pertamina Pier

Day 3: Alor & Pura

Time for some action packed current drift dives with potential for big stuff. All our dives are going to be either slope or wall dives. We have spotted here in the past: Oceanic Sunfish, Big Dogtooth Tuna and Thresher Sharks.

Popular dive sites here: School's Out, Anemone City, The Great Wall of Pantar

Day 4: Beangabang

A protected bay which is said to have a better macro life than the famous Lembeh Strait. Be prepared for some cold water upwellings which will not stop you from having extended bottom times if you are a critter lover. No time limit here on the night dive.

Day 5: Lamalera, Soangi & Lembata

A macro morning dive at an excellent secret spot of ours is followed by an optional visit of the traditional Whaling Village of Lamalera. The people of this village are fundamental animists and are living their ancient traditions until today in our modern world. Alternatively we offer a dive for you, of course.

In the afternoon we are aiming for an action packed dive at the island of Soangi if the conditions permit. Good potential for big stuff and amazing colourful coral. If the conditions are too rough, we have our alternative secret site in proximity.

To cap the day, we will offer you a sandy critter night dive.

Day 6: Lembata & Komba

We will do three dives in daytime. Either at a spot we call 'The Shark Wall' or alternatively at a fantastic critter spot. This depends on the preferences of the group. In the afternoon we will head north towards the active volcano of Komba, which erupts every 15 to 20 minutes. A spectacular display of nature's power and free fireworks for us.

Day 7: Pulau Raja & Flores

In the morning we offer two dives at the island of Pulau Raja, north of Flores. One at a stunning wall with very good coral growth and overhangs, the other very interesting one at the bottom of a lava flow of the volcano that erupted last time in 2013. Third and last dive of the day along the north coast of Flores.

Day 8: Komodo - The North

We arrive in the morning in the northern part of the famous Komodo National Park. And straight away hit the signature dive sites 'Crystal Rock' and 'Castle Rock'. Sharks, Jacks, Fish Soup. Action fuelled by current. In the afternoon and at night two more world-class dives at famous site like 'The Golden Passage', 'The Cauldron' or 'Lighthouse'.

Komodo National Park diving at it's best.

Day 9: Komodo Central & Rinca

Heading south through the NP we have a wide selection of top dive sites, like 'Tatawa Besar', 'Tatawa Kecil', 'Batu Bolong', 'Manta Point'. Three excellent day dives based upon conditions and availability. To cap this great day we offer a night dive at Wai Nilu, which ranks within the Top 5 favorite night dive spots allover Indonesia of our Cruise Director.

Day 10: Rinca

Trekking with Komodo dragons in the morning before it gets too hot in the sun. Expect to be eye in eye with the last dragons on this planet. A must when coming here. Local rangers take care of our safety.

Afterwards we will offer two or three more dives during the day, depending on which length of Trek with the dragons the group has opted for (short, medium, long). On the dives: look out for mantas!

Day 11: Komodo central

Depending on the flight schedule the day after, up to two more dives before lunch, then slowly heading back towards the port of Labuan Bajo. Stopover at a perfect beach in the afternoon.

Day 12: Disembarkation in Labuan Bajo

