THE WORLD’S BEST DIVING & RESORTS

80 TOP DIVE SITES
And how you can dive them

Walls, WRECKS, drifts
AND MUCH MORE

Handy travel HINTS & ADVICE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE PUBLISHERS OF SportDiver
If astoundingly beautiful coral and macro critters are your thing, then Wakatobi could well be your dream destination. Named after the four main Tukangbesi islands - Wangi-wangi, Kaledupa, Tomia, and Binongko (Wakatobi is an acronym of the four islands’ first two letters) - the area is famed for the density of its marine biodiversity. Every square inch of the underwater topography (which in itself is beautiful, boasting ravines and canyons) is seemingly covered in corals of all shapes and sizes, from hard to soft, from fledgling anemones to huge gorgonian seafans. In among this coral forest is a range
of critters so vast it is scarcely comprehendible. Denise’s pygmy seahorse is perhaps the most famous of them all.

With a plethora of dive sites to choose from, whittling down your selection is almost impossible. Among the best, though, are Conchita, for its exposed ridges and deep sandy bays, turtles, rays and sharks; Liabale, a site full of caverns and overhangs that ends in a reefside drift; and Magnifica, a steep reef home to schools of snapper, jacks and barracuda. Whichever you choose, you are guaranteed stunning reefscape and plenty of critter time!
Indonesia’s Sulawesi Sea is among the world’s richest coral reef environments, and Wakatobi Dive Resort provides exclusive access to some of its finest dive sites. This upscale beachfront resort sits on a small island surrounded by a private marine reserve, worlds away from civilization, but easy to reach by direct charter flight from Bali to the resort’s private airstrip. Guests experience five-star service and a lifestyle that blends natural attractions with select luxuries. The resort is just steps away from one of the world’s most-prized shore dives, the legendary House Reef. Stretching over three miles in length, this site combines creature-rich shallows with a dramatic coral ridge. Some guests have spent their entire vacation on this site, but Wakatobi offers much more. A fleet of custom-built dive boats delivers divers to over 40 nearby sites that range from shallow coral gardens and near-shore nurseries to dramatic walls and offshore sea mounts. At many of these sites, the underwater terrain rises to within a few metres of the surface, allowing divers to perform safe multi-level dives of 60 to 90 minute durations. Wakatobi is also renowned for the multitude of species that can be found on its reefs, including a number of rare and unusual sightings such as pygmy seahorses. In addition to three daily boat departures and regular night diving excursions, guests enjoy unlimited access to the house reef.

To complement diving and snorkelling, Wakatobi offers a range of other activities that includes kite and paddle boarding, nature and island tours, seminars, photo workshops and social gatherings along with group activities such as Indonesian cooking classes. There is a full-service spa on site, and concierge services to arrange special events such as private beachside dinners. The resort is also family friendly, offering nanny services and a dedicated children’s programme.

**ACCOMMODATION**

4 Villas (villa one with two full bedrooms), 14 Ocean Bungalows, 9 Palm Bungalows.

**AMENITIES**

Guests can choose from a collection of private bungalows and villas that overlook the beach or are nestled into lush landscaping just steps away. Each stand-alone residence includes shaded porches or decks, spacious sleeping and sitting areas and large shower rooms.

**GENERAL FACILITIES**

Restaurant - indoor and outdoor patio dining, Spa, Jetty Bar, Kids Club, Medical centre, Longhouse gathering centre, Dive centre, Camera room, Media room, Large lounge with coffee bar, Boutique.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Pelagian is a 36-metre luxury dive yacht operated by Wakatobi Dive Resort, cruising the central and northern islands of Indonesia’s Wakatobi archipelago, as well as the southern coast of Buton Island. This itinerary encompasses a wide range of sites from shallow reefs to precipitous walls and offshore sea mounts, as well as some of the finest muck diving sites. The yacht carries a maximum of ten guests, and is staffed with an experienced international crew of 12 to provide the ultimate in personal service both aboard and in the water. Diving activities are conducted from a pair of custom-fabricated dive tenders, and the crew handles all details of equipment transfer, leaving guests free to concentrate on the underwater experience. Itineraries include four 70-plus minute dives each day, including night dives. All dives are led by one of Wakatobi’s experienced guides, who are experts at locating rare marine subjects, and can provide photo support or guide services as requested.

Pelagian features:
- Five spacious air-conditioned staterooms, including a luxurious Master Suite
- Large en-suite shower rooms in each cabin
- International team of 12 serving ten guests
- Chef-prepared international cuisine
- Elegant salon with media centre
- Dedicated indoor climate-controlled camera room
- Sheltered open outdoor lounge areas
- Satellite phone, internet and email (not broadband)
- Additional shaded seating on upper deck

After each dive, returning guests will find a freshwater deck shower and clean towels waiting, and treated to between-dive snacks while awaiting the next tempting meal to come from the chef’s galley. The main salon is the center of shipboard activity, where guests can gather to socialize or view videos and images on a large flat-screen entertainment system. Additional shaded and open deck areas provide ample room for private relaxation or taking in the view, while photographers are provided with a dedicated, climate-controlled camera room.

One popular option that Wakatobi provides is a combination trip that allows guests to spend time both at the resort and aboard Pelagian. To facilitate such schedules, the resort has expanded their charter air service from Bali to create additional options for arrival and departure dates. Now, combining resort and liveaboard adventures will be easier than ever.