



**RAJA  
AMPAT  
RESEARCH &  
CONSERVATION  
CENTRE**  
I N D O N E S I A



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## Hello and Welcome to Raja Ampat!

We trust that you will have a good and meaningful visit here with us and that all the work that you get to do will be beneficial not only to the world of science but also to the natural environment we are living in and to help protect it.

The RARCC is the non-commercial, non-profit side of Papua Diving and since 2009 has been registered as an independent non-profit organization with its own Board of Directors in the Netherlands. In October 2015 we have officially become an independent registered foundation, or “Yayasan.”

For years the dream was to support the local economy with sustainable job creating initiatives here in Papua. This dream is now a reality. We have many exciting projects under way, all with the good will of the local population in mind.

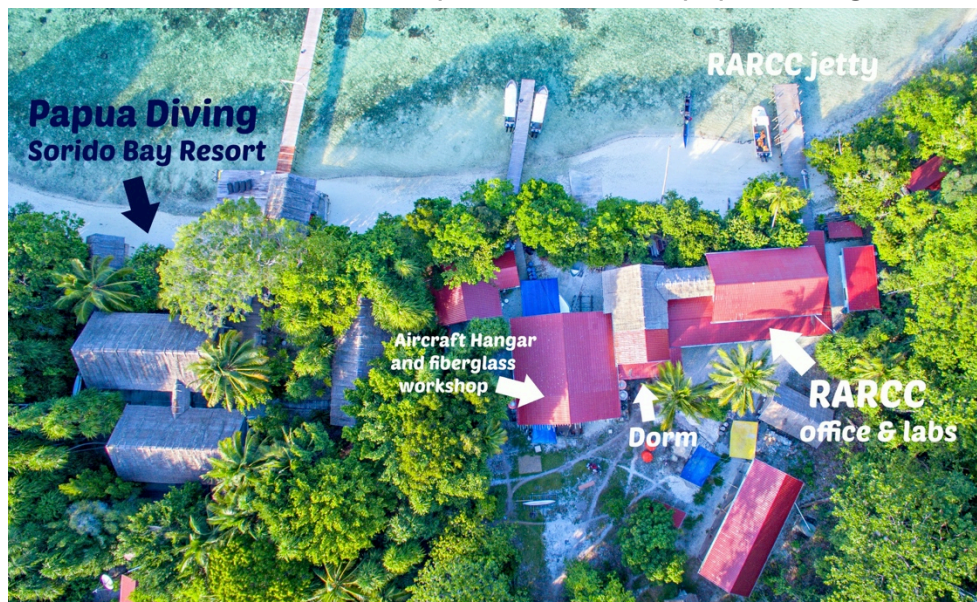
## Papua Diving Resorts:

Papua Diving is our sister organization and a lot of this facility would not have been possible without their support.

Max Ammer's first resort, Kri Eco Resort, opened in 1994 and was the very first dive resort in Raja Ampat. Kri Eco Resort is a 10 minute walk at low tide, just around the corner from Sorido Bay Resort. It hosts a maximum of 24 guests.

Sorido Bay Resort opened in 2004 and accommodates a maximum of 18 guests. The resorts were built by owner Max Ammer together with local people, using local materials.

For more information about the resorts, please visit [www.papua-diving.com](http://www.papua-diving.com)



## Rules, Regulations and Operation procedures.

While the RARCC is not a large research facility we do have regulations both in and out of the water. We ask that you do your best to stick to these as they are for your own good and those around you.

### Out at Sea

#### Insurance for diving

It is an Indonesian law requirement, you must have a valid Dive Insurance. DAN Insurance can be purchased for shortterm use online.

#### On the boat

For safety and smooth operation of the boats:

- Please do not stand up while the boat is moving, use the seats instead.
- Please do not sit on the side of the boat or on the roof.
- The boats carry approx. 200 liters of highly inflammable fuel. To avoid accidents, the risk of fire and explosion do not smoke on the boats.
- Please do not wash masks in the sea while the boat is under power. You may lose it and have to wait on the boat for the other divers to return.
- The boat rides to the dive sites will take usually between approx. 5 - 15 minutes, for longer journeys you will be briefed before the excursion.
- Oxygen, an Emergency Box, Spare Parts, Tools and a Radio to be in contact with the Resort/Center are boat standards.
- Most of the dives are drift dives and the boat will pick you up at the end of each dive.
- Please also be aware that there are sometimes strong current in this area, which is one of the reasons for so many fish!
- We may dive some sites more than once but due to tide and current changes each dive will be different.
- Please do not leave any garbage behind. Whenever you visit another area or island. Be sure to bring back your plastic, glass and paper waste and dispose of here on Kri appropriately.

#### Dive Safety Rules

- The maximum dive time is 60 minutes and the maximum depth 30 meters/100 Feet for Advanced Open Water divers.  
All dives must be no- decompression dives.
- Please signal your guide when your tank is half empty and again on 50bar/150PSI.
- Please ascend with no less than 50bar/150PSI and make a 3 minute safety stop at 5 meters before you come to the surface.

## On Dry Land

### Marine Park Entry Fee

**Raja Ampat is a Marine protected area.**

All guests who are visiting Raja Ampat are required to purchase a Marine Park Tag. The fee for international visitors is Rp1,000,000 and Rp500,000 for Indonesian nationals. This can be done at the tourism office in Sorong, or in the Waisai harbor.

**Please note: No accommodations, facility use, etc will be issued to guests who cannot present their valid marine tag. Marine tags are valid for the period of one year from the date of issue.**

### Smoking

Smoking is not permitted on the boats, in the rooms or the upstairs lounge/restaurant area, or on the RARCC or fuel jetty. You may smoke outside of the dorm room in the picnic area.

### About Kri Island

We do share the island with some other people and we ask that you respect them and the work they are doing. The RARCC has many projects underway and in some areas of work it may be dangerous. You will note the wood working, construction, and fiberglass work areas; we will gladly show you around and introduce you to our staff. Please do not work with any power tools or equipment you find on the premises without permission. Do respect their work area and when working there, leave it as clean as when you found it.

### Interactions at the resort:

We ask that you please respect their clients and the resort area. Please do not make use of resort facilities without prior information and permission from the management team.

### Practical Notes

#### Saturdays

As our Resort and Center is open 365 days a year, most of our staff rest from Friday 18:30 until Saturday 18:30. Dive boats do not operate and our office will be closed until 18:30 on Saturday evenings.

Guests are invited to explore the island, swim, sun tan, snorkel, kayak, walk to the other resort, join the trip for birdwatching and enjoy some time off from diving, where applicable.



## Meals

The meals we serve are wholesome, healthy, traditional Indonesian and Papuan dishes. Fresh supplies come by boat at least once a week from the market in Sorong where local people sell fruits, vegetables and spices. A selection of vegetables and fresh fish are also purchased from local villagers and fisherman.

In respect of our local staff and other guests, please always wear a shirt in the dinning area.

## Garbage and Waste Disposal

We send cans, plastic, beer and Indonesian made bottles to Sorong for recycling. All other garbage we dispose (burn) on the island. We cannot dispose chemical garbage. Please be so kind as to take your batteries, chemicals and as much else as possible home with you or be sure to make prior arrangements on its disposal.

## Water

On the island there is no natural source of fresh water.

The well we use is slight sea water mixture and is distributed to the rooms. Because of the limited capacity, we kindly ask you to save as much water as possible.

If you notice any leakage, (i.e. a continually running toilet) please let us know immediately.

Drinking water is obtained via gallons from Waisai. Drinking water is provided in the water dispensers found in the dorm room and RARCC office.

## Electricity

Electricity is provided 24 hours a day by a generator, with 220Volt power sockets. Please note! Some appliances need 110Volt convertors. Please inform us well in advance in order to make such infrastructure available.

When leaving your room please consider the environment and please switch of air conditioning & lights to save fuel being consumed unnecessarily.

For maintenance purposes, generator oil needs to be changed every week, so power will be off usually for 20 – 30 minutes once a week. Please take note of this to safe-keep ongoing experiments.

## Toilets

Our toilets are based on a septic tank system. A bacteria culture in the tank will decomposes the waste. We are running our dorm and ECO-WC model, which means that waste are also treated with the use of plants!

Sanitary napkins and other non-decomposable waste cannot be decomposed and can cause problems with the system. Therefore please dispose them in the waste bin provided.

## Internet

We offer FREE Wi-Fi in the main building area and in your room. It is subject to availability and fair usage quota of 250 MB transfer per person per week. Additional quota can be purchased.

## Laundry

We ask that you do take care of the rooms and keep them clean and tidy.  
Please ask an RARCC staff member for more information about laundry facilities.

## Mosquitoes

Although there are very few mosquitoes on the island, Malaria and Dengue Fever is present in Papua. Take special care in the early morning and just before sunset. Long sleeves, long pants and sensible use of mosquito repellent will help to protect you.

## Logistical Information

### Time Zone:

Indonesia has three time zones.

Western Indonesian Time :	GMT +7 (Jakarta)
Central Indonesian Time :	GMT +8 (Manado & Bali)
Eastern Indonesian Time :	GMT +9 (Raja Ampat)

### Transfers

The distance between the island and Sorong, is about 75 km and takes about 1.5 – 2 hours by boat.

Typical transfers are on Sunday mornings, usually four hours before your flight.

We will inform you of the time of your transfer boat departures.

For our standard transfer our guest-relations staff will guide you to the airport in Sorong.

## The Culture

This is Indonesia, and we are in the remote parts of Papua. In these areas there are a fine mix between both Muslim and Christian religions and we ask that you are considerate to both. For both men and woman, please be sure to be dressed in “modest attire”... what does this all mean? Speedos and bikinis alone are not appropriate and we ask that you cover up well enough. Think along the lines of board shorts, fishermen shirts, rash guards, sarongs – This will double as protection from the sun also. There is no such thing as a nudist beach here in Papua, so please keep those practices in your own country and respect that you are in someone else’s land. When you are introduced to someone, a handshake with a very gentle grip is a common way of greeting, for men as well as woman. Kissing a person on the cheek is totally foreign and inappropriate to them here, please be respectful of their habits.

## The Climate

We are only a half-degree South of the Equator and so it does get pretty warm around here. To be prepared for this make sure you bring the following items:

- Wide brimmed hat.
- Long sleeved shirts – We find fishing shirts to work the best as they fit loosely, rash guards is much warmer.
- Sunglasses are very important due to the reflection off the water.
- Sunscreen.
- Your own water bottle or Camel Pack.

## Fun Stuff to do

### Bird Watching

The RARCC in collaboration with Papua Diving offer to see the Red Bird-of-Paradise on nearby Gam Island early on Saturday mornings leaving at 4:30 am or in the afternoon at 3:00pm.

A guide from the village of Yenwaupnor will lead you for a 45 minute hike into the jungle to a display tree where it is possible to see the endemic Papuan Red Birds-of-Paradise. A charge of €17 per person (added on your bill) goes to the village, for conservation of the birds. For other trips to see the Wilson's Bird-of-Paradise, trips to local villages or to the Blue Water Mangroves please ask for possibilities.

### Snorkeling

There's plenty of fantastic snorkeling around without using a boat.

Our reefs in front of your doorstep are good for snorkeling.

Snorkeling from just off the Jetty itself you can see all different kinds of marine life:

Blue spotted Stingrays, Turtles, Crocodile Fish, Stone Fish, Batfish, huge school of Jackfish and sometimes even a school of Bump head Parrot Fish, as well as Mandarin Fish, Blue-ringed Octopus, Baby Cuttlefish etc.

Or how about a night snorkel – after dinner - from the jetty – almost always you will meet the endemic Papuan Bamboo Shark (Epaulette Shark), also called walking shark.

### Nature Trail

There is a trail behind the prayer house past the last bungalow (Sentani 5) which takes you on a path through the forest, to Kri Eco resort. Along the trail you will find wooden signs which will indicate direction.

You can find a few look-out spots on the hill to get a beautiful view over the sea to Gam Island.

Wear good shoes, long sleeves, long pants or mosquito repellent to help to protect you against mosquitoes.

We are not held responsible for any accidents on the walk way. This is done at your own risk.



### Wildlife Encounters on Kri Island

There are several species of birds on the island including: Parrots, Lorikeets, Cockatoos, Kingfishers, Kookaburras, Hornbills, Butcher Birds, Pigeons, Sunbirds, Honeyeaters, Swallows, and Wagtails, scrub fowls, Egrets, White headed Shell ducks, Frigate birds and Fish Eagles, to name a few. If you would like to have an extensive list, composed by Jared Diamond during his stay with us please let us know.

It is also possible to see flying foxes, bats, a large variety of insects, including butterflies, grasshoppers, spiders, fireflies, Monitor lizards, geckos, hermit crabs, and varieties of cuscus, coconut crabs and perhaps a tree Kangaroo.



\*\*\*For any questions or concerns you may have, please don't hesitate to ask an RARCC staff member. Thank you!

### **What if there is an Emergency?**

Please be aware that we are located in a remote area and your safety and health are of highest importance to us. We recommend that you take all safety precautions, and are not negligent or take any unnecessary chances.

We have emergency, first aid equipment and a local nurse based in Sorido Bay Resort, but it is far better to try to prevent any accidents.

### **Emergency Contact information:**

**Waisai Hospital - Dr. Iwan Tobakara**

**Tel: 0813 4413 0764**

**General Hospital Sorong**

**Tel: 0951 321 763 / 0951 321 850**

**Pertamina Hospital Sorong**

**Tel: 0951 321 362 / 0951 321 581**

**Hyperbaric Health Manado, Hospital Pelayanan**

**Tel: 0812 430 2970**

**DAN Europe 24h hotline**

**Tel: +39 06 4211 8685 /**

**+39 06 4211 5685**

**DAN Asia Pacific**

**Tel: +61 88 212 9242**

**Singapore Naval Medicine & Hyperbaric Center**

**Tel: +65 750 5546**