

# Sorong, West Papua

## QUICK KNOWLEGDE...

A must-read for anyone heading to Sorong for the first time



- ✦ Sorong Domestic Airport: Domine Eduard Osok Airport (IATA: SOQ)
- ✦ Foreigners with [Visa Exemption](#) from 169 countries will be granted Visit Stay Permit for 30 (thirty) days. You must possess a valid passport with minimum validity of 6 (six) months and with at least 2 blank pages for visa stamp.
- ✦ The official language of Indonesia is Indonesian, but English is also the working language of the country.
- ✦ Time Zone: GMT +9
- ✦ Climate: Tropical Climate with an annual mean temperature of 28°C (82°F). Rain is frequent between the months of December to February.
- ✦ Water Temperature, like most tropical countries, varies between 27°C - 30°C (81°F - 86°F) with thermoclines.
- ✦ Currency is in Indonesian Rupiah (IDR). Solitude Adventurer accepts Indonesian Rupiah and United States Dollar (USD) cash or credit card (Visa/Master Only). We do not accept any travellers' cheques.
- ✦ Marine park fee and port clearance fee of USD 250 per person, must be paid before boat departure
- ✦ Electricity and plug sockets onboard are the same as in the British Standard (UK, SG, HKG - Single phase, 220volts AC). All power sockets in the room (and throughout the vessel) are 220V 50Hz rated and do not have regulated Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS).
- ✦ Duty-Free Allowance – Maximum 1 litre of any alcohol and no more than 200 sticks of cigarettes, 25 cigars or 100g (3.52 ounces) of tobacco.
- ✦ Diving – We have Enriched Air Nitrox, 100cuff/15L cylinders. DIN valves with yoke adapter on our cylinders.
- ✦ Laundry, Massage Chair, Trekking and Tour are available during the cruise (please refer to your cruise itinerary)
- ✦ In-room amenities include air-conditioning, wall fan, mini fridge (stateroom), writing desk and wardrobe, electronic in-room personal safe, ensuite toilet and shower, bathrobe, hair dryer, shower amenities



Type G



# Sorong, West Papua

Know Before You Go...



## Travelling to Sorong

Sorong Domestic Airport: Domine Eduard Osok Airport (IATA: SOQ) serviced by several domestic Airlines (i.e. Garuda Indonesia, Lion Air, Batik Air, Wing Air, and Nam Air) connected directly from some major cities with International Airport in Indonesia like Jakarta, Makassar and Manado. The flight duration is varied between 1-3 hours.

SOQ Airport Terminal Passenger Fee/Tax is no longer payable at the airport and is now included in the price you pay for your air ticket.

Latest update on flight time to Sorong via Jakarta, Makassar, and Manado as follow:

### Via Jakarta:

Domestic Airlines available from Jakarta to Sorong are NAM, Batik Air, Garuda Indonesia with minimum fly duration +4 hours (direct flight). Kindly note that Jakarta (GMT +7) is in a different time zone with Sorong (GMT +9):

Nam Air departure time at 00.05 – arrival 06.10

Batik Air departure time at 01.00 – arrival 07.10

Garuda Indonesia departure time at 00.20 – arrival 06.35

### Via Makassar:

Silk Air flies from Singapore to Makassar (flights code shared with Singapore Airlines and Garuda Indonesia). Air Asia offers direct flights from Kuala Lumpur to Makassar

Domestic Airlines available from Makassar to Sorong are NAM, Batik Air, Garuda Indonesia, Sriwijaya with minimum fly duration +2 hours (direct flight). Kindly note that Makassar (GMT +8) is in a different time zone with Sorong (GMT +9):

Sriwijaya Air (2 flights) departure time at 03.15 – arrival 06.25  
and departure time at 04.15 – arrival at 07.25

Batik Air (2 flights) departure time at 04.10 – arrival 07.30 and  
departure time at 09.45 – arrival at 13.05

Garuda Indonesia departure time at 03.30 – arrival 06.45

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## Via Manado:

Silk Air flies from Singapore to Manado (flights codeshared with Singapore Airlines). Domestic Airlines available from Manado to Sorong are NAM, Lion Air, Garuda Indonesia with minimum a flying time of 1,5 hours (direct flight). Kindly note that Manado (GMT +8) is in a different time zone with Sorong (GMT +9):

NAM Air departure time at 04.30 – arrival 06.45

Lion Air departure time at 08.05 – arrival 10.30

Garuda Indonesia departure time at 05.40 – arrival 08.10

The harbour is located near the seaport town of Sorong, approximately 15 minutes' drive from the Airport.

## Check-In or Out

Check-in time is from 0800Hrs and check out time is before 1500hrs

Return transfer to and from Sorong Domestic Airport for the dates of embarkation/disembarkation are included in the cruise package.

Hotel/resort transfers to the embarkation point can be organised by Solitude with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party transportation company but will subject to additional charges. These charges will vary depending on your location. You are best advised to organise with your resort/hotel to be transferred directly to the embarkation point or to Sorong Domestic Airport Terminal where we can pick you up from 0800hrs onwards.

## Do we serve alcohol?

We have a choice selection of wine, cocktails, spirits and local beer at our bar. We allow any consumable alcoholic beverage not bought from our bar to be consumed in our vessel.

## Money Changer/Currency Exchange Services

As foreign currency notes are scrutinised for the authenticity and condition (no marks, no flaws, etc.). Mode of Payment is in Indonesia Rupiah (IDR) and United States Dollar (USD) or Credit Card Visa/Master Card. Credit Payment is done online with our online payment account with smooovpay.com (+3.5% Facilitation Fee).

You will find currency exchange service at any international airports or use the local Indonesian ATM withdrawals with your debit/credit card to obtain Indonesian Rupiah.

**Do we have WIFI? Do we have internet? Yes, We Do!**

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Solitude Adventurer provides internet access onboard with additional charge (USD 40 for 500 Mbps). To access the internet, our guests will need to connect via our WIFI Network Hotspot and use their sign-in credentials that will be provided upon check-in.

As connectivity can be affected by weather and is also reliant on a 3<sup>rd</sup> party service provider, Solitude Adventurer, her staff and management are NOT responsible for any inconveniences and/or loss of income, data or information which may arise due to the lack of the service, partially or completely.

### Local SIM Card? Can I get Mobile Data? **Yes, You Can!**

Pre-Paid SIM cards are easily accessible! In fact, they are available as soon as you exit from the baggage collection at the airport! There are many mobile telecoms providers – but the main, and recommended one to choose is Telkomsel. Upon purchasing, you can have the salesperson help you set up your chosen prepaid package.



### *The Diving*

#### Is there a “best” time for diving in the Raja Ampat?

Scuba diving in Raja Ampat is possible almost throughout the entire year, although most dive cruises tend to visit the islands between October and April. There are 2 rainy seasons in Raja Ampat, the first between July and August, and the second between November and December. Water temperatures remain unchanged throughout the year, with a low of 81 Fahrenheit (27C) during May and October, and a high of 86 Fahrenheit (30C) between November and April. During these months, when the water begins to warm slightly, plankton blooms are prevalent, and this reduces visibility. However, this also increases activity on the reefs and is when you are going to see manta rays in vast numbers. It should also be noted that between July and September, strong trade winds are present that can liven the conditions of the sea, with rougher boat journeys and slightly more challenging diving.

#### Is there any equipment rental onboard?

We have Mares dive equipment and dive computers available for rent. Please let us know what you need in advance. We also do have a purpose-built camera room, for charging your batteries and storing your cameras during your stay.

#### Can I take diving certification courses?

Yes, we offer the PADI experience, entry to advance (up to Divemaster) scuba certification and Enriched Air Nitrox certification courses.

### Do we have Nitrox? **Yes, We Have!**

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Although the standard mix for EAN is 32%, on most dives we have made an educated decision to provide in the proximity of EAN30 to EAN31 instead, to allow a safer M.O.D. EAN 30% would provide some degree of depth buffer if you are caught especially in a down current, but will still allow ample extended length of bottom time (compared to normal air). We provide a complete all-inclusive diving package with EAN use and also daily EANitrox uses are as follows: USD8 per dive OR USD20 per day (4 dives). Proof of EAN certification must be presented with no exceptions.

**DIN or International?** We have both.

## 15L/100cuft Scuba Cylinders?

Yes, we have. It is the additional US \$8 per cylinder per diving day. Subject to availability due to limited inventory.

## Rebreather Diving? Twins?

No, we do not support Rebreather Diving and do not have Twin-Tanks for technical diving.

## Drone/UAVs

Currently, there is no restriction or regulation to the flying of Drones/UAVs in the region. This may change however without any prior announcement from the authorities.