



**wakatobi**  
world marine heritage

wonderful  
indonesia



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Man and  
the Biosphere  
Programme

FREE

2016



A vibrant underwater scene featuring a large, healthy coral reef with many green and yellow polyps. Several orange and white clownfish are swimming around the coral. In the background, a scuba diver wearing a black mask and fins is visible, looking towards the camera. The water is clear and blue.

Welcome to

# WAKATOBI

There are many crystal clear sea waters in the world, but there is the clearest one amongst them. Let us introduce you to Wakatobi.

Right in the heart of the World's Coral Triangle, there is a maritime district with abundant marine wealth. With only 3% of land, Wakatobi is the only district in Indonesia where the whole area is mandated as a National Park. Be ready for the mesmerizing aerial view of Wakatobi before landing – emerald-like atolls stretching over gradation of turquoise-blue sea, under brilliant sunshine. The wooden stilt houses of Bajo people seem to float above pristine water, close to white sandy beaches.

Wakatobi offers more than 50 spectacular dive sites which are easily accessible from the main islands. Its high visibility make diving in Wakatobi is possible throughout the year regardless of the weather conditions. Enjoy the underwater forest during various dives - from wall, slope, and sea mount to drift, pinnacle and channel. This underwater wonderland this underwater wonderland is home to more than 390 of the world. According to several studies, the reefs in the area host over 396 identified coral species

Previously known as Blacksmith Archipelago, its marine and cultural diversity made Wakatobi a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. While mentioned as a perfect playground for divers, the culture complementing its underwater world.

The classical dance named Lariangi is announced as a cultural asset by Government of Indonesia. Lariangi was a dance to welcome the royal guests of Kahedupa Kingdom back in 1359. There is also Kari'a ceremony, where the boys and girls are carried in barrows to be paraded through the streets. This ceremony is very festive due to the accompaniment of music and dance during parade.

Bajo people are very friendly and story-teller by nature. Sara, the customary law is highly respected by local and basically is the main reason of the well-preserved underwater world of Wakatobi. According to the law, fishing is not a randomly done activity – it can only be done in particular places at particular times. The best time to visit Wakatobi is from March to May and October to December.

Experience Wakatobi, the ultimate world marine heritage.



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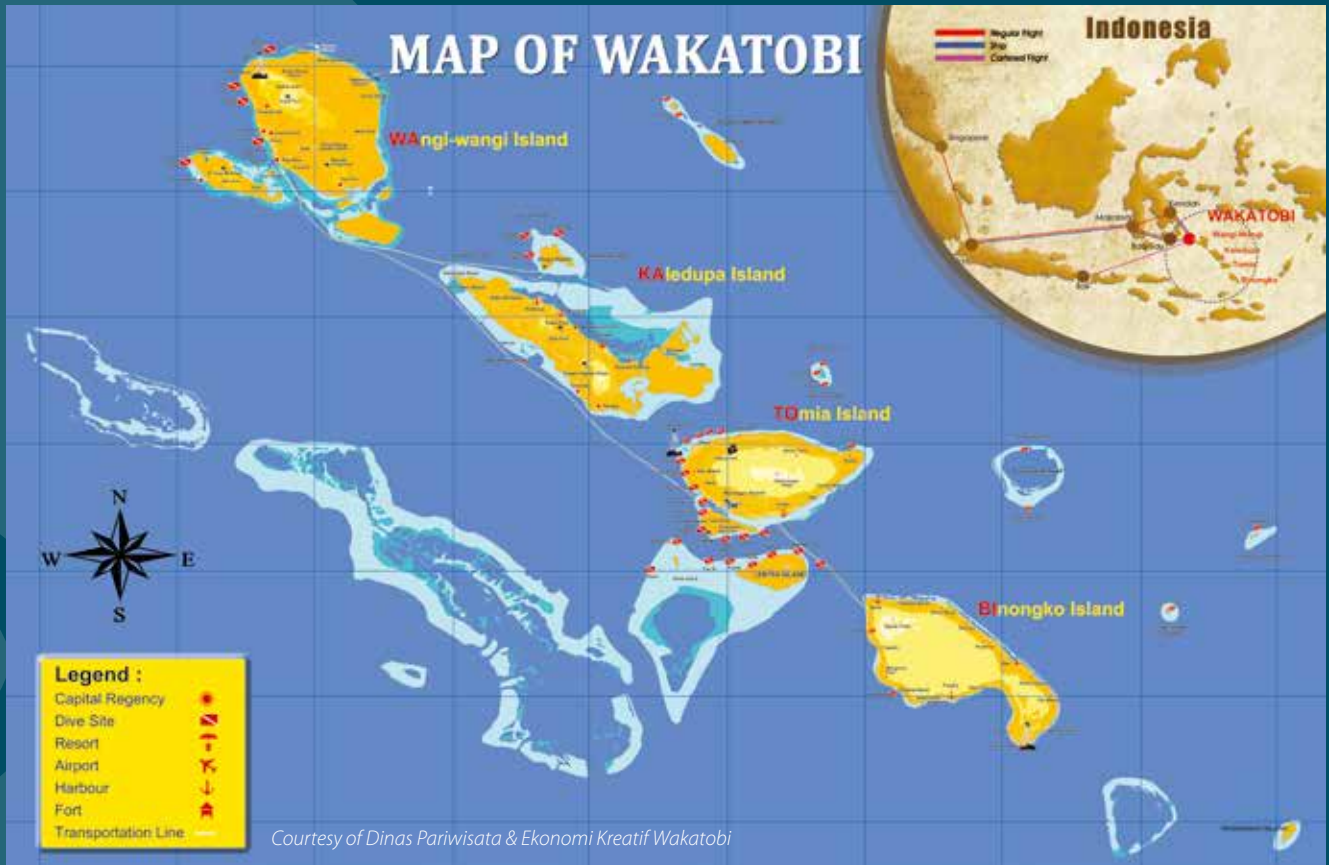


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# ABOUT WAKATOBI

Wakatobi is an abbreviation using the names of the archipelago's four main islands of WAngi-Wangi Island, KAledupa, TOMia and Binongko. The cluster of islands were originally known as "Kepulauan Tukang Besi" or Ironmongery Archipelago, as for a long time many of the inhabitants were iron-smiths producing mostly knives and gardening tools.

Administratively, Wakatobi was part of the Buton Region, Province of Sulawesi Tenggara until December 18, 2003 when Wakatobi was officially designated an independent

district in Sulawesi Tenggara.

Wakatobi is located within a National Marine Park that was established in 1996. In July 2012 UNESCO announced the Wakatobi National Park as a World Biosphere Reserve.

All four main islands - Wangi-Wangi, Kaledupa, Tomia and Binongko combined, cover around 18,377 km<sup>2</sup>, with ± 823km<sup>2</sup> (3%) of land and ± 17,554 km<sup>2</sup> (97%) of sea, which is home to many colorful species and tropical coral reefs.

Wakatobi, offering crystal-clear, pristine

waters and a rich underwater life, is a true paradise for divers, beginners to professionals. Based on its diversity of marine life, scale and reef condition, Wakatobi ranks among the highest in priority for marine conservation in Indonesia. The marine life combined with rich cultural traditions from various ethnic groups and splendid nature make Wakatobi worth a visit. You can find fringing, atoll and barrier reefs offering over 50 spectacular dive sites which are easily accessible from the major islands. They are the habitat of large and small fish species, the playground of dolphins, turtles, even whales. Aside from its dive sites, Wakatobi has many superb beaches.

The island group comprises a total of 43 islands, home to 3 patch reefs and 5 atolls. Besides the four islands only few of the smaller islands inhabited with a total population of around 120,000.

## GEOGRAPHIC

Geographically, Wakatobi is located between longitude 123\_15'00" 124\_45'00" East and latitude 05\_15'00" 06\_10'00" South. It lays in the heart of the Asia-Pacific Coral Triangle right on the Wallace Line and between the Banda Sea to the east and Flores Sea to the west. The northern border is encompassed by the Banda Sea and Buton Island lies to the northwest.

## WEATHER

Generally, Wakatobi has two seasons: Easterly winds from June to August, and Westerly winds between December and February. However, in recent years the season patterns have become less distinct. During those monsoon seasons, tides usually tend to be high and wind is strong, yet underwater visibility is fine.

## BEST TIME TO VISIT

In Wakatobi you can dive throughout the whole year, as visibility is not affected by the weather. However, the best time to dive is from March to May and October to December because these are usually periods of relatively placid weather conditions, meaning more comfort for island hopping during sunny days with a still ocean.

## WATER TEMPERATURES

The warmest water in Wakatobi is found in the upper water layer around late October, when temperatures may reach a maximum of 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit). The coolest time falls in the later half of August with a minimum temperature of almost 26 degrees Celsius (78 degrees Fahrenheit).

From **March-May** the temperature averages 28° Celsius (82.4° Fahrenheit), **June** averages 27° C (80.6° F), **July** 26° C (78.8° F), **September** is between 26 – 27° C (78 – 81 F), **October** 28 – 30° C (82 – 86° F). From **November** until **March** the temperature averages 28 – 29° C (82.4 – 85° F). The water temperature range is ideal for coral growth and only very little coral bleaching is found in Wakatobi.

## AIR TEMPERATURES

For 99% of the year, the temperature ranges between 26 – 33° degrees Celsius (78.8 – 91.4° Fahrenheit).

## UNDERWATER VISIBILITY

The sunlight reaches as deep as 20 – 50m, with an average of 35 m or 100 feet, giving vibrant colors to the reefs. There are no rivers or lakes carrying sediments, therefore visibility is not affected by rain.

# About FTKP Wakatobi

(Destination Management Organization)

FTKP Wakatobi initiated by Ministry of Tourism Indonesia in October 2014 and has function as an umbrella body for tourism stakeholders in Wakatobi. It has function as catalyst through task coordination among Wakatobi tourism stakeholders, associations, Ministry of Tourism Indonesia, district government and tourism industry players.

FTKP Wakatobi has function as an umbrella body in district level, under FTKP Wakatobi as big umbrella, Island Working Groups (IWGs) manage the coordination among tourism stakeholders in island level. Currently two IWGs has formed, Tomia Island Tourism Group (TITG) in Tomia Island and Binongko Island Tourism Group (BITG) in Binongko Island.

## FTKP Wakatobi

Jl. Samburaka No 2, Wangi-Wangi  
Sulawesi Tenggara, Indonesia

Website: [www.wakatobitourism.com](http://www.wakatobitourism.com)





### REEF

Types of reefs include barrier, fringing, patch and atoll reefs. According to several studies, the reefs in the area host over 396 identified coral species, including 31 mushroom coral species, 10 hard coral species non scleractinia or ahermatypic (non-reef-building), 28 soft coral species and the rest being Scleractinia hermatypic.

### FISH

More than 590 species of fish from 52 families have been identified in Wakatobi. Some of them are Wrasse (Labridae), Damsel (Pomacintredae), Grouper (Serranidae), Cardinal (Apogonidae), Snapper (Lutjanidae), Squirrel (Holocentridae) and Marine Angelfish (Pomacanthidae).

### FORAMINIFERA AND STOMATOPODA

There are 31 species of Foraminifera.sp consisting of 3 groups found in reef flats, inside lagoons and sloping reefs. There are 34 species of Stomatopoda.

### SEAGRASS

Seagrass is predominant in the reef flats. Wakatobi has 11 types of seagrass which is impressively diverse considering that only 12 types in total are known to grow throughout Indonesia. They are Haludule uninervis, H. Pinifolia, Cymodoceae rotundata, C. Serrulata, Thalassodendron cilatum (most commonly found), Syringodium isotifelium, Enhalus acoroides, Thalassia hemprichii and Halophila ovalis.

### CETACEANS

Some species of marine mammals, especially from the Cetacea family, are found in Wakatobi, such as Beaked Whale, Pilot Whale,

Sperm Whale, Bryde's Whale and Melonhead Whale. Those whales sometimes appear during migration season between September and November. Besides that, Wakatobi is home to 6 types of dolphins, including the Bottlenose dolphin, Risso dolphin, Spinner dolphin and Spotted dolphin. Bottlenose dolphins and spinner dolphins are those found most commonly.

### SEA TURTLE

Wakatobi hosts 2 types of sea turtles, the Hawksbill sea turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata) and the green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas). Their habitats are found in quiet areas of Binongko, Runduma, Anano, Kentiole, Tuwu-tuwu and Moromaho Island.

### MANGROVE

There are 32 types of mangroves spread among the region's 1200 Ha of mangrove forests. Kaledupa Island has the largest mangrove forest area and in Binongko the mangrove forests are well-conserved due to local custom.

### SEA BIRD

Wakatobi provides habitat for around 85 bird species, such as Phalacrocoracidae sp., Fregatidae sp. and Ardeidae sp. Furthermore, the area is a transit location for birds from Australia migrating to the Pacific and back.

### SPAWNING

There are 11 locations for spawning monitored by the Wakatobi National Park (SPAG – Spawning Aggregation Site), which are located in Kapota reef, Hoga Channel, Otiolo reef, Coral Table City, Tomia reef, Runduma, Kentiole, Binongko, Koko reef and Moromaho.

Underwater view in Karang Gurita Timur



8D/7N

WANGI-WANGI,  
KALEDUPA, TOMIA  
AND BINONGKO

## | Day 1 Makassar - Wangi-Wangi

Morning flight from Makassar to Wangi-Wangi with 30-min transit in Kendari. You will arrive in Matahora Airport of Wakatobi before or around lunch time (depends on flight schedule). From the airport head to your hotel for check-in or go directly for lunch. After lunch and a bit of rest, if you are underwater enthusiast you can try to dive/snorkel at Sombu. Those who prefer on the land proceed to Liya Village and you can arrange a visit to the community of Liya Togo for walking tour, cultural sightseeing and end with dinner and enjoy traditional dance performance. Another choice is sightseeing at Bajo Mola Village, where you can walk or canoe around the village.

## | Day 2 Wangi-Wangi - Binongko

Take an energized breakfast and prepare for a long trip. Tips: Bring lunch box and coffee. Depart at 10am from Mola harbor and it takes 5-6 hour to Binongko Island. You will arrive around 4pm in Binongko Island. From the harbor head to Rukuwa and check-in in one homestay there. After a little rest visit Palahidu Beach and enjoy the sunset here.

Please note, there is no dive operator in Binongko. Thus if you want to dive, you have to arrange it in Wangi-Wangi, carry all equipment to Binongko and rent dive boat from Tomia Island.

## | SAMPLE OF ITINERARY

### | Day 3 Binongko

After breakfast, explore the whole island by motorbike or 3-wheeled motorbike. Stone Park and lighthouse, mangrove forest, snorkeling at Hakka, visit ironsmith and weaving in Popalia, swimming at Bante or One Melangka Beach are things you can do before lunch. Continue your visit to Wali Village, turtle release and snorkeling in Turtle Point.

For adventurous diver can try diving around Binongko Island, lunch on the boat and close the trip with sunset on the beach before returning to Rukuwa.

### | Day 4 Binongko - Tomia

Public boat to Tomia (Wangi-Wangi, stopover in Tomia) departs at 10am and the journey takes 1.5-2 hours. Arrive in Tomia, check in to hotel and have lunch. After lunch explore the island by car or motorbike.

If you want to dive, ask your guide to arrange diving in any spots around Tomia Island. End your day with a stunning sunset view from Kahianga Peak and go down for dinner.

### | Day 5 Tomia

Today you will explore Tomia the whole day. After breakfast proceed to Kulati Village in the eastern part of the island. Arrange with the local community in Kulati to guide your activities in Hu'untete area, sightseeing, walking tour, snorkeling or visit Nda'a Island and arrange lunch with delicious Kulati dishes. In the late afternoon if you are ready to move from this beautiful village proceed to Patua Fort where you can enjoy the landscape.

Divers can arrange full-day dive, depending on your choice for 1, 2 or 3 times dive in any dive sites around Tomia Island. If you still have time, you can go either to Kulati Village or Patua Fort.

### | Day 6 Tomia - Kaledupa - Hoga

Wake up early in the morning and catch the boat to Kaledupa (the boat will go to Wangi-Wangi with a stop in Kaledupa). The boat leaves every 6am and make sure you arrive in Waha harbor in time. It takes 1.5-2 hours to Kaledupa Island. You need to take on smaller boat as the boat can't dock at Kaledupa harbor. Ask your guide to arrange pick up to Ambeua harbor. From Ambeua harbor a small long boat will take you to Hoga Island reachable in 20 minutes.

On the island you can snorkel or explore white sand beach along the shore before lunch time. After lunch, visit Bajo Sampela Village situated 20 minutes from Hoga Island and return at sunset. While in Hoga, divers can choose to dive in more than 22 spots and take 1 or 2 dives before sunset. Enjoy the dinner in Hoga under the starry sky.

### | Day 7 Hoga/Kaledupa

On the seventh day, after breakfast you can dive in favorite spots in Hoga Island such as Hoga Channel famous for its barracuda schooling, The Ridge and Inner/Outer Pinnacle. Continue your dive after lunch time or visit Bajo Sampela in late afternoon.

Those who want to explore beyond Hoga can visit the main island, Kaledupa. After breakfast arrange the trip to Kaledupa Island and head to Limbo Langge, a customary area 30 minutes from Ambeua Harbor (by car/motorbike). You can explore Limbo Langge by boat between small islands, canoe between mangrove and visit small hidden Bajo Village named Lohoa. Snorkel near the reef and if you are lucky you will see dolphins playing in the lagoon. Arrange your lunch in Langge, then head to Pajam Village, a traditional villages famous for hand-weaving; or if you still want to visit natural sites, head to Sombano to see the lake.

Back to Hoga Island during sunset and dinner.

### | Day 8 Hoga - Wangi wangi - Makassar

Get up early morning and catch public boat to Wangi-Wangi. The boat will depart at 6am from Ambeua Harbor. You can have breakfast in Wangi-Wangi and transfer to airport for flight to Makassar.



# 6D/5N

WANGI-WANGI  
KALEDUPA  
TOMIA

## | Day 1 Makassar - Wangi-Wangi

Same itinerary applies.

## | Day 2 Wangi-Wangi - Tomia

After breakfast depart to Jabal harbor and catch a public boat to Tomia Island. The boat depart at 9am and the journey takes 3-4 hours. Arriving in Tomia, check in to hotel and take a lunch. After lunch explore the island by car or motorbike, explore white sandy beaches along the coast. if you prefer diving, consult your guide to arrange it in any spots around Tomia Island. End your day with stunning sunset viewed from hilly area in Kahianga Peak and go down for dinner.

## | Day 3 Tomia

On the third day you will explore Tomia full day. After breakfast proceed to Kulati Village in the eastern part of the island. You can arrange with the community of Kulati to guide your activities in Hu'untete where you can do sightseeing, walking tour, snorkeling or visit Nda'a Island and arrange lunch with delicious meals ala Kulati. In the late afternoon if you are ready to move from this beautiful village, proceed to one of biggest heritage sites of Tomia, Patua Fort. Explore the fort and enjoy the landscape from the top.

For divers, you can arrange full day dive, depends on your choice to do 1, 2 or 3 dive(s) in any tempting dive sites around Tomia Island. If you still have time, you can go either to Kulati Village or Patua Fort of your choice.

## | Day 4 Tomia - Kaledupa - Hoga

Get up early in the morning and have simple breakfast to catch the 6am boat to Kaledupa (the boat goes to Wangi-Wangi with a stop in Kaledupa). Make sure you arrive in Waha harbor in time. Enjoy the 1.5 - 2-hour journey to Kaledupa Island. Entering Kaledupa harbor, the boat may not be able to dock that you will need to take smaller boat (called 'Ojek') that will take you to the harbor from where you can have your guide pick you up to Ambeua harbor. From Ambeua harbor, take a small boat (be aware that boat will be your main vehicle in Wakatobi!) to take you to Hoga Island.

Snorkel or explore Hoga Island till lunch time. After that you can visit Bajo Sampela Village (20 min from Hoga Island) and back at sunset. Divers can explore more than 22 dive spots around the Island and take 1 or 2 dives before sunset. Enjoy dinner in Hoga under the sky full of stars.

## | Day 5 Hoga / Kaledupa

On the fifth day, after breakfast you can dive in favorite spots such as Hoga Channel famous for its barracuda schooling, The Ridge and Inner/Outer Pinnacle. Continue your dive after lunch or visit Bajo Sampela late afternoon.

If you wish to explore beyond Hoga, after breakfast arrange a trip to Kaledupa Island and head to Limbo Langge, a customary area 30-min from Ambeua Harbor (by car/motorbike). In Limbo Langge you can explore by boat between small islands, canoeing between mangrove and visit small hidden Bajo village named Lohoa. Snorkel near the reef and if you are lucky you will meet dolphins playing in the lagoon. Arrange your lunch in Langge and head to Pajam Village, one of traditional villages well-known for its weaving; or if you still want to visit natural sites head to Sombano for its beautiful lake.

Back to Hoga Island at sunset and enjoy delicious dinner.

## | Day 6 Hoga - Wangi-Wangi - Makassar

Get up in early morning and catch the public boat to Wangi-Wangi. The boat will depart 6am from Ambeua Harbor. While in Wangiwangi take a simple breakfast and transfer to airport for departure flight to Makassar.

# WANGI-WANGI

Wangi-Wangi is the biggest island in Wakatobi and administratively as the district capital. Commercial flight fly to Matahora Airport in Wangi-Wangi makes this island doorstep for visitors. The island consist of many small villages and the town Wanci. Wanci is the center of transportation, economy, finance, government and shopping.

The uniqueness of Wangi-Wangi is its easy access to different tourism activities. For visitor interested in culture, the Bajo Village Mola and villages like Liya offer interesting surroundings and cultural events. There is also a nice resort on the island which is perfect to relax for a few days. Those who enjoy diving there are some easy accessible dive sites around the island. Most visitors will stay on Wangi-Wangi at least one or two nights to catch flights and boats to other islands.





Traditional accessories for Karia'a

## I PLACES TO GO

### DIVING IN WANGI - WANGI

For diving enthusiasts there are many accessible dive spots around Wangi-Wangi and Kapota Island. Some of them are Waha Cemara, Sombu, Nua Shark Point, Wandoka Pinnacle, The Zoo, Wangi-Wangi Jetty, Tanki/Tonang Reef, Kapota Pinnacle, Wanci Gate, Kapota Gate and Tanjung Kapota.



**Dive type:** Drop off

**Average depth:** 20m

**Reef type:** Coral reef

**Snorkeling:** Good especially near the jetty and nearby sheltered coral gardens

**Recommended for:** All divers

Sombu is the most popular diving and snorkeling spot in Wangi-Wangi, which is reachable within 20 minutes from Wanci town by car. The site is special due its access. The diver simply needs to park the car or boat near the dive site. The entry is a long jetty and during high tide the divers can just take a giant step and jump straight into the sea. During the best season and usually in the morning the vibrant color of corals and the fish in the sea are already visible straight from the jetty.

Begin the dive in front of the jetty (or the west part if you use the stairs) and follow the wall to the north. You will discover a beautiful hard coral dominating the shallow part and once diving deeper a variation of hard and soft coral cover the steep slope. Various marine life such as Trevallies, Snapper, Fusilier, Sweetlips, Butterfly, Cardinal, Angel, Grouper, Damselfish, Anthias, Trigger, Wrasse, Snake and a lot more can be found here. More experienced divers can continue the dive until the cape, shaped like a man's face. Turn back to the jetty and ascend to the shallow water, where schools of small fishes usually swim, making this spot perfect for photographs with the jetty pillars in the background. Macro enthusiasts can try a night dive where you can find various Nudibranch, Octopus, Shrimp and other marine life under the flare of your torch. Some traditional fishermen go fishing at night time usually using spear guns or traditional fishing equipment.

During weekend or late afternoon this place is a favorite place for local youngster to hang out and enjoy the sunset, for snorkeling or swimming.





**Dive type:** Slope

**Average depth:** 25m

**Reef type:** -

**Snorkeling:** Not advised

**Recommended for:** Experienced divers

One of the highlights in Wangi-Wangi is Nua Shark Point located south of Sombu, which can be reached within 5 minutes by boat from Sombu dive spot.

Descending deeper into the clear blue waters you will notice leafy formations of hard corals covering the bottom of the sea, with groups of blacktip reef sharks cruising around. Some of them may pass close by and curiously play around the divers.

Blacktip reef sharks, yellow fin barracudas, eagle rays, black snapper, bumphead and leaf scorpions are commonly found here.

Colorful soft coral dominates the shallow water thus providing interesting views even during the safety stop.

This site is quite calm and the best time to dive is in the morning and afternoon when the sunlight reaches up to 20 meters thus making visibility very good.

### **BLACKTIP REEF SHARK**

Blacktip reef sharks is a shark with one of the smallest territory and gets its name from the pointed snout and black tips on its fins. Individual adults keep a relatively small territory of about 2.5 km<sup>2</sup> and appear to reside close to their home reef for up to several years at a time if undisturbed. However occasionally they cross deep water channels to neighboring reefs. Blacktips have a slender body with gently sloped snout. Greyish brown in color and with a white underside, they can be identified by their black-edged tail and black-tipped first and second dorsal and pectoral fins. Adults grow to 180cm and can be seen year-round in Wakatobi. This species is commonly found in shallow waters, near coral reefs and occasionally in brackishwater. While generally timid and not dangerous, divers and snorkelers must still treat this threatened species with respect. Overfishing and disturbance have resulted in reported declines of this species worldwide.



**Dive type:** Boat and drift

**Average depth:** 16m

**Reef type:** Submerged coral reef

**Snorkeling:** Not advised

**Recommended for:** Experienced divers

Wandoka Pinnacle is a pinnacle with its shallowest reef at about 5m depth and with very extensive biodiversity. Depending on the current, you can dive the outer or inner part of the pinnacle, following the ridge. The bottom contour of this site are a drop off, steep slope and sand with 40m maximum depth. At first sight the site doesn't appear very exciting until you descend down from 10 – 15 meters and follow the ridge to enjoy the vibrant color of healthy hard and soft corals and huge sea fans along the way. The site is bustling with life including Giant Trevallies, Midnight Snapper, Sweetlips, Butterfly, Angel, Grouper, Damselfish, Anthias, Batfish, Wrasse, Parrot, Surgeon, Trigger, Box, Puffer, Porcupine, Gobies, Moray Eels, Leaf Fish, Scorpion and Octopus. Macro objects such as Frog Fish, Nudibranch, Ghost Pipe Fish and Stone Fish are common here.

This site easy to find and can be reached within about 10 minutes by boat from Nua Shark Point.



## OTHER ATTRACTIONS IN WANGI - WANGI



Tamburu Liya Dance Performance

### LIYA VILLAGE

One of the locations where you can still experience the cultural heritage up close is the village of Liya Togo in the south of Wangi-Wangi Island. The inhabitants of this village have preserved traditional values and rituals over decades and have lived their daily lives accordingly ever since. The remains of historic architecture can be found until today and every year different cultural events are held at this location.

Liya Togo is situated on a small hill not far from the sea about 15km from Wanci. Most inhabitants live in wooden stilt houses in simple conditions. According to the inhabitants those houses exist since the Kingdom of Liya and still look the same until today.

Historically the village was led by the *"Meantu'u"* (king) and his house was called *Kamali*. This house was bigger than a usual Liya house and it also has a larger front yard, which surrounded by a stone fence. The front part of the house contained a traditional bamboo floor used as an area to receive guests.

The kingdom of Liya was surrounded by three layers of forts. The first layer had four *"Lawa"* (gates) the second nine and the third two gates. The gates of the first two layers were secured by guards, which served as defense against sea pirates from the Banda Sea. The other two gates in the third layer were called *Lawa Lingu* and served as secret evacuation paths for the king and his government in state of emergency. The gates were first built to complement the fort during the 12th regency (1730-1750) by King La Ode Ali.

Besides its historical importance, the village itself is very attractive. During late afternoon, if you walk around the village you will see daily activities of the inhabitants, women spending their free time weaving on their terrace, while young people collect water from the spring and the children play soccer near the fort.

If you come during Ramadhan season or after Idul Adha, make sure you also watch *"Posepa'a"*, a traditional battle performance and *"Honari Mosega"*, a traditional heroic dance performed by a group of men.



Cemara White Sand Beach



### CEMARA BEACH

Cemara Beach is around 200meter long and has nice white sand. The beach is the perfect place to relax and swim. The Cemara reef is in very good condition and a favorite diving and snorkeling point in Wangi-Wangi. Dive centers conduct their Open Water Course here. On weekends the beach is very busy because a lot of young local people come here to have a barbecue or hang out. Every Sunday the local volleyball team plays here and everyone is welcome to join. School children participate in swimming courses and families will grill fish. Sometimes ice-cream and fresh coconuts are sold at the beach. The cheerful atmosphere and the friendly people make Cemara Beach a nice place to visit.

Cemara beach is close to the village of Waha around 7km from Wanci. The best way to visit this beach is to take a motorbike from Wanci. Follow the main street of Jalan Ahmad Raya to the north. You will pass Wandoka and Sombu villages. The entrance road to the beach is on the left side directly at the beginning of Waha village.

### KAPOTA ISLAND

A short island hopping trip to Kapota can be an option. You can spot the island if you extend your views to the west side of Wangi-Wangi Island towards a small island with long white sand beach. Public boats crossing between Wanci and Kapota Island operate from 8am – 4pm daily. The boat usually leaves every half-hour to an hour and takes around 30 minutes.

You can enjoy white sand beaches, mangrove forests, a walk around the lake (Tailaro Ntooge Lake) and anyone who is adventurous enough can explore the cave. With a 12m high entrance, the cave divides into four rooms which are decorated with pillars as well as flowery and needle-shaped stones on the ceiling. A small brackish water pool is located in the aisle connecting the second and third room of the cave. The bats hanging from the ceiling make this cave also known as Bat Cave.

Dive at Wandoka Pinnacle



Canoeing tour at Bajo Mola



## BAJO MOLA

There are five Bajo villages in Wakatobi and Mola is one among them. Located in west part of Wangi-Wangi Island. Mola is inhabited by the Bajonese, seafaring people who settled on Wangi-Wangi Island back in 1958. As descendants of sea nomads, Mola's people have passed down their Bajo culture from generation to generation, including knowledge and skills about living on and from the sea.

Experience a walk through the narrow alleys of the village while observing the inhabitants' daily activities, canoeing. Try Bajo culinary delights at Mola night market or stargaze and listen to the stories of the stars from the Bajonese. For centuries stars have served as guides for the Bajonese people when traveling the seas and life.

## DOLPHIN WATCHING

Beyond a series of diving and snorkeling spots around the islands, Wakatobi is also the playground for 6 types of dolphins. One of the spots is near Cape Kapota that can be reached within 40 minutes by boat from Mola Harbor. Groups of dolphins usually play here at sunrise. You will see them jump, dance and swirl in their natural habitat. They enjoy jumping behind the fishermen's boats fishing using a kite.



## EVENT AND FESTIVAL



## KARIA'A

Wakatobi has rich cultural traditions, ceremonies and coastal festivals. One of those ceremonies is Karia'a, a ceremony that is usually held after Ramadhan. This tradition has its roots in the Buton Kingdom and has been held since 1918. Little girls are dressed up wearing purified traditional clothes and a headdress made of colorful paper and decorated with flowers. They sit on barrows, while the men carry them to be paraded through the streets enlivened with dancing and singing of older women. Karia'a aims to purify their souls before they reach adolescence.

This ceremony can be found all over the islands during its season (after Idul Fitri or Idul Adha).



# WAKATOBI WAVE

(WONDERFUL FESTIVAL AND EXPO)

Wakatobi WAVE is a grand annual event held in Wangi-Wangi every November. This event is an occasion beyond of a cultural festival. Visitors can see traditional dances, cultural traditions, foods, folk games, music and carnival during the festival. One of the interesting performances is Tamburu Liya, a heroic sacred parade performed by 15 honoured elders from Liya using spear and drum. A Karia'a parade is also a main part of the festivals with children wearing colorful traditional dresses and girls wearing headdresses with flowers and golden accessories. The blend of music, colorful dancers' costumes and joyful vibe is mesmerizing. For one full week, Wangi-Wangi will be alive with all men, women, girls and boys participating in this cheerful festival.



# KALEDUPA

As stepping on Kaledupa Island after a 2-hour journey from Wangi-Wangi you will directly recognize the difference between the two islands. Kaledupa Island got its name from “Kauhedupa” which means incense wood, has a more quiet and calm environment and the whole island is greener compared to the others, surrounded with mangrove forest and coconut trees along the coast. It is the most fertile island in Wakatobi.

Getting around the island, you will see beautiful wooden stilt houses dominating over modern houses in the villages and green hills with unexplored areas soothing the eyes on a sunny day.

There are lots of things to see around the island, from visiting heritage sites like Bente Mosque and Olo Fortress, learn traditional weaving in Pajam with its authentic ikat pattern, to experiencing the local daily living such as fishing and learning to cook the culinary delights of Kaledupa.





## I PLACES **TO GO**

### DIVING AROUND HOGA

There are 22 dive sites around Hoga Island, all of which can be accessed by boat within half an hour. Some favorites are Hoga Channel, North Wall, Coral Gardens, Outer Pinnacle, Inner Pinnacle, Channel, Buoy 1, Langira, Ridge 1 and Pak Kasim's.



**Dive type:** Drift

**Average depth:** 18m

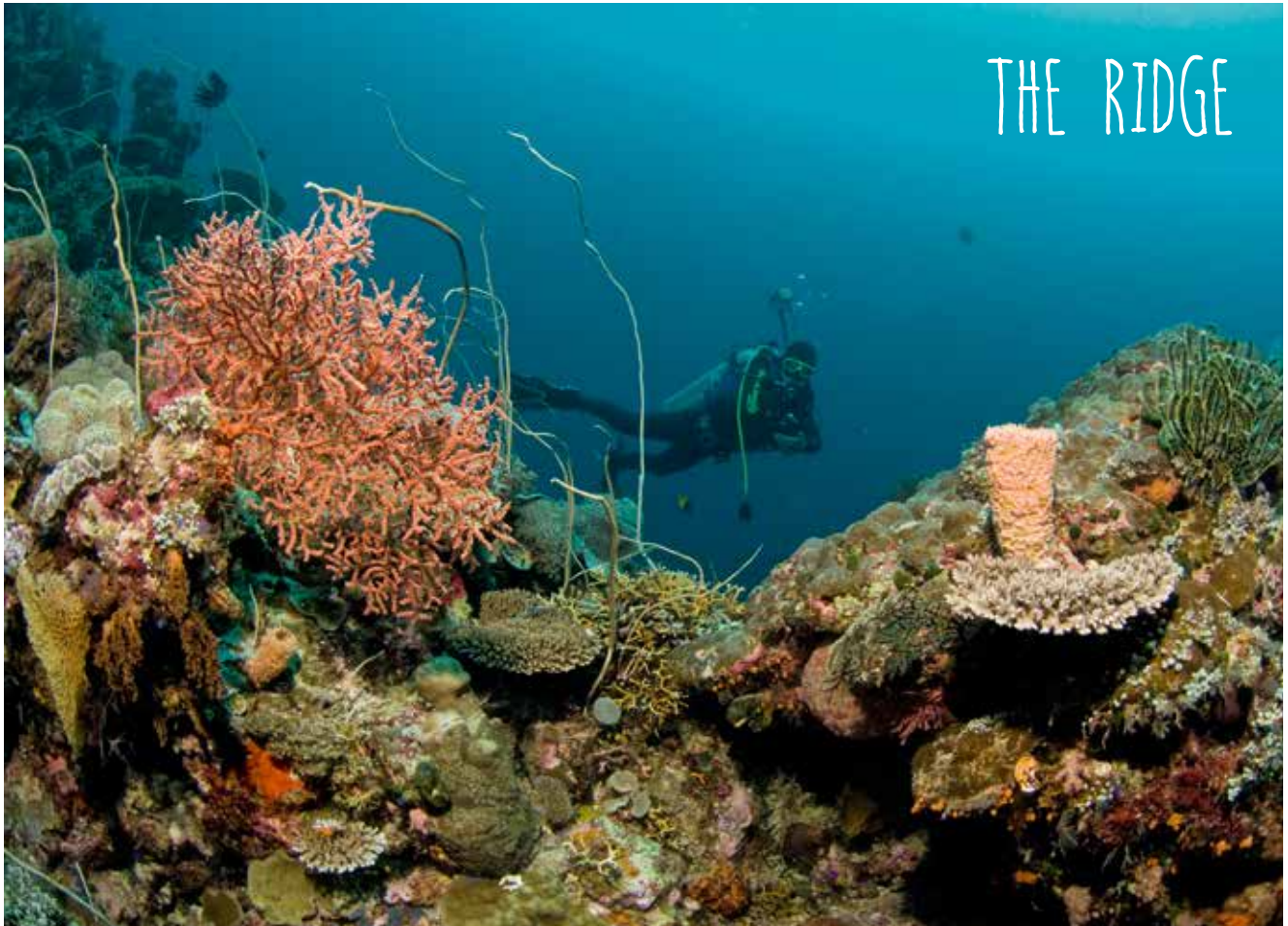
**Reef type:** -

**Snorkeling:** Not advised

**Recommended for:** Experienced divers

The Channel is one of the favorite sites near Hoga. It is a challenging dive as the current is quite strong – however the stronger the current the larger the amount of fish that appear. The drop off is about 15 m running east along the . The best time to dive here is during incoming or slack tide, since it will attract large numbers of fish rewarding divers with views of schooling Barracuda, Eagle Rays, Long Face Emperors, Mouth Mackerel and Dog-Tooth Tunas. The wall on the outer side gives way to a sandy slope at about 26m, home to garden eels and leading to deeper waters. Large barrel sponge decorate the shallower part and colorful soft corals which are home for Pygmy Seahorses.





**Dive type:** Wall, slope and drop off

**Average depth:** 20m

**Reef type:** -

**Snorkeling:** Good

**Recommended for:** Experienced divers

The Ridge is situated on the Northwest side of the reef surrounding Hoga. The top is at about 3m depth and usually you can explore the outer part along the vertical wall. Depending on the current you can float to the right side of the reef and dive into a coral garden overlay with its lip at 21m distance. Large statue shaped coral formation can be found in the middle of the bowl. Every part of the outer Ridge is busy with fish and decorated with various hard and soft corals. Bargibanti pygmy seahorses are commonly found between the soft corals.





**Dive type:** Boat

**Average depth:** 18m

**Reef type:** Fringing reef

**Snorkeling:** Good

**Recommended for:** All divers

From its name you will be able to imagine what to find at the Coral Garden site: a delightful dive surrounded by colorful coral reefs. Your imagination will become reality as you descend the slopes where you will see healthy coral growing on the slopes from east to west. This site is home of Trevallies, Snapper, Fusilier, Butterfly, Cardinal, Damselfish, Wrasse, Parrot, Surgeon, Trigger, Box, Puffer, Flounder, Gobies, Moray Eels, Eels, Scorpion, Blennies, Crab, Snake, Turtle and Rays. Several species of sea pen emerge at night time and squids are just as commonly seen during daytime dives. The site is also a playground for Tuna, Cuttlefish, Commensal Shrimp, Bubble Coral Shrimp, Hairy Squat Lobster, Hawksbill Turtle, Green Turtle and Banded Sea Krait.

Similar to The Ridge, currents can be strong and vary in this site.

### **Barracuda (Sphyraena)**

Barracudas usually live in warm and tropical regions with an abundance of food. They can be found in the deep ocean but tend to prefer coastal habitats along continental shelves in proximity of coral reefs. There are more than 20 species of barracuda that range in size from less than 50cm to 6 feet in length (Great Barracuda or Sphyraena Barracuda). All of the species have a similar appearance: swift and powerful, slender in form, with small scales, two well-separated dorsal fins, a jutting lower jaw, and a large mouth with many large, sharp teeth.

Barracudas are primarily fish eaters, preying on smaller fish, marine invertebrates, crustaceans and squid. Barracudas are often regarded as bold and inquisitive, and large ones are regarded as fearsome fishes with the potential to act aggressively towards humans diving or snorkeling.

Coral heaven at Double Spurs





Bajo Sampela



### BAJO SAMPELA OR SAMA BAHARI

Sampela or Sama Bahari is a traditional village in the middle of the ocean. Sampela has 3000 inhabitants living in traditional wooden houses built on a coral stone base 3km from mainland Kaledupa. The village covers about 1 km<sup>2</sup> and is surrounded by the ocean. The houses are built in rows around 2 m above the water with small water channels for boats in between. Small wooden bamboo piers and foot bridges are connecting the houses. It is an impressive construction in the middle of the ocean.

Arriving in this village, you will be welcomed by children greeting you with a big smile. Women usually spend their time taking care of household duties such as getting fresh water from the well or the market on the mainland as well as, cooking, cleaning and washing clothes. In their spare time they will gather with friends to gossip. The fishermen will return from sea in their dugout canoes and clean out their catch before giving it to their wife or a family member to sell at the market. Small children can be seen playing in the water around their homes, using both buckets pieces of polystyrene as makeshift boats and rafts.

The living conditions and views of the village will make it seem like you are traveling back to another century. The smells of the ocean mixed with fish and smoke give the village a very familial atmosphere. The doors of every house stand open as in a community as close as the Bajo, family is everything.

### MANGROVE FOREST AND LAKE AT SOMBANO

The mangrove forest close to Sombano is surrounded by a coconut tree forest. The mangrove forest itself appears to be hundreds of years old thanks to it not being affected by forestry. The trees have big trunks and roots and the forest is not affected by the tides. The ground is muddy and walking on it will make the feet sink a few centimeters into the mud. The forest is filled with birds, butterflies and looks like a primeval forest giving an idea of what Kaledupa looked like before any human being lived there. There are many rare birds living in this area which create an astonishing variety of sounds. Taking photos of the birds and butterflies requires a lot of experience and patience but the forest is rich of good spots for it.

The mangrove forest is situated 2 km away from Sombano village. Starting at the harbor in Ambeua village the forest can be reached with a motorbike or car.

Besides the mangrove forest, you can visit Lake Sombano which can be reached on foot from Sombano Beach. The lake contains brackish water and is still pristine, meaning that from above you can easily see red shrimp and fish swimming in the lake.





Lariangi Dance



Mangrove at Limbo Langge

## LARIANGI DANCE

One of classical dances originated from Kaledupa is the Lariangi Dance. The dance is performed by 12 young woman moving gracefully while singing, reciting lyrics telling the story of a glorious past, natural beauty, love, advice and philosophy.

The dance is accompanied by traditional acoustic music played solemnly, giving sacred and majestic vibes to the performance. Lariangi got its name from “Lari” which means decorate and the word “Angi” means people who dress up in order to present a certain message. In the past the dance was used as a beautiful way to communicate messages. The dress, accessories and head decoration of Lariangi dancers relate to various symbols of life.

This dance has been passed down for generations and can be witnessed at cultural events in Kaledupa.

## LIMBO LANGGE

Limbo Langge is a traditional area consisting of 8 villages in the eastern part of Kaledupa, which can be reached within 30 minutes from Ambeua Harbor by car or motorbike. You can enjoy Limbo Langge both on land or sea. You can have a look around the villages with their authentic environment of wooden stilt house where fishermen mend their nets, women prepare “kasoami” a dish from cassava and groups of people enjoying the breeze in a sunny day.

Exploring the sea of Limbo Langge can be done by renting a boat in Langge Harbor and cruising between the small islands. Some islands consist of rocks with small villages along the coast, others are unpopulated with frangipani trees growing on the stone and yellow crested cockatoos flying around. You can swim and snorkel in the clear water and if you are lucky you will see a group of dolphin in the lagoon.

If you don't want to go far out to the ocean, cruising between the small islands where mangroves grow along the coast is another option. Visit a small Bajo Village named Lohoa which looks like it is floating on the sea.

# TOMIA

Tomia is the third island of Wakatobi, which can be reached within 3-4 hours by public boat from Wangi-Wangi. This island has been a famous dive site for more than 10 years with one resort even opening a direct route from Bali to Tomia Island for its guests. Public boats will dock at Waha or Jabal Harbor.

Besides the beauty of its underwater life, Tomia can be explored using a motorbike or car. Visit some of the beautiful beaches along the coast, heritage sites, caves or simply cruise around the island.

Coastal view of Tomia Island





## I PLACES **TO GO**

### DIVING AROUND TOMIA

There are more than 43 dive sites around Tomia that have been named and mapped. Most of the dive sites are easily reached by boat making Tomia the most favorite destination for divers. Some examples are Ali Reef, Mari Mabuk, Roma, Sawa Island, Kolo Soha Beach, Teluk Waitii, Table Coral City, Blade, Waitii Ridge, Magnifica, Fan 38, Pocket, Tanjung Lintea, Trail Blazer, Teluk Maya, Malabea, Zoo, Conchita, Turkey Beach, Tanjung Patok, Dunia Baru.



**Dive type:** Boat and drift

**Average depth:** 18m

**Reef type:** Submerged

**Snorkeling:** Good

**Recommended for:** All divers

Roma is a famous coral garden shaped like a pinnacle – wide and large, fringed with beautiful reef and massive corals. Schools of Barracuda, Black Tile Snapper, Damselfish as well as schools of Red Tooth Triggerfish can be observed across the 10m reef flat on the west side of Roma. On the reef slope area massive corals and hard corals form large colosseum-like structures which remind of the pillars in Rome, lead you to a new diving experience.

The best time to dive this site is during slack tide. The outer pinnacle has a challenging current and is well suited to practice drift diving. The diversity of the coral reefs is high as it contains about 80% of massive coral and/or brain coral species which are formed just like pillars or buildings in Rome with a number of clefts as a unique diving experience. Those who prefer macro life can observe Ribbon Eels, Scorpion Leaf Fish, Winged Pipe Fish, Nudibranch, Goby Fish and Rock Mover Wrasses.



# MARI MABUK

**Dive type:** Boat and drift  
**Average depth:** 18m  
**Reef type:** Submerged  
**Snorkeling:** Not advised  
**Recommended for:** All divers

"Mari Mabuk" means "Let's get drunk" and is situated in the western part of Tomia close to the Roma dive site. The forms are close to a pinnacle with a variety of hard fringing reefs, especially table coral and amazing coral views on its wall. The bewitching colors of sea fans and soft corals as well as fish gave the spot its name, as divers are often so amazed they appear 'drunk' on the views.

Here, you can spot many soft corals with a variety of color enriched by the presence of shoals of Yellow Tile, Grouper, Sweetlips Fish, Red Tooth Triggerfish, Snapper, and a number of ornamental fish such as Damselfish, Butterfly. Macro sea creatures can also be observed, e.g. Stonefish, a number of Nudibranch, and several Goby Fish.

The best time to dive this site is during slack tide, the time between high tide and low tide and it has a relatively strong current. About 75% of the reefs coverage is dominated by living and healthy table corals, branching corals, massive corals or brain corals. A variety of sea fan can be found as well. During the safety stop, underwater photographer can capture fish such as rabbit fish, and turtles.



**Dive type:** Coral garden

**Average depth:** 5 - 25m

**Reef type:** Hard coral fringing reef and sandy slope

**Snorkeling:** Good on the inner side of wreck

**Recommended for:** All divers

The wreck of Kulati is located in the eastern part of Tomia and can be accessed only when the sea is calm. A Japanese cargo ship of 30m length with metal structures is heavily overgrown with corals. The best time to dive is during slack tide. The site only has a weak current.

The best starting point for diving is during falling tide, starting at the flat reef towards the reef which is situated on the slope down to the beach leading to the wreck, which can be found at depths ranging between 5m to 21m. While diving or snorkeling, you will experience the magnificent colors of shipwreck corals, massive hard corals, a number of sponges, table corals, soft corals, anemones, and a diverse range of hard corals.

You will also see a variety of reef fish, schooling Batfish, Blue Streak Fusilier, Yellow Tile Fusilier, Black Tile Snapper, Rabbit Fish, a number of Groupers, Parrot fish and various ornamental fish such as Damselfish, Butterfly Fish, Angel Fish, and Emperor Fish. Occasionally you will see Blacktip Reef Shark patrolling.

There are several ways to dive this site and it highly depends on the divers' experience and the sea condition. It is recommended to dive during slack tide and finished the dive with a safety stop among the shallow corals. During the safety stop, you can explore macro sea creatures such as Nudibranchs, Goby, Manties and Ribbon Eel.





Kulati Cliff

## KULATI VILLAGE

Kulati Village is a small village in the eastern part of Tomia that can be reached within 30 minutes by car or motorbike from Waha Harbor. Stepping into the village, it does not seem special. Similar as in other areas of Tomia there are not many wooden stilt houses left and only a small road runs through the village. However, as you enter the TIC (Tourism Information Center) located on the hilly part of Kulati, you will realise what make this village special: a stunning landscape view of turquoise seas with majestic cliffs all around. Exploring the Hu'untete area is adventurous. From the hilly part until the lower areas you will see gradations of the blue sea on the left and wide stony and grassy areas turning it into a savanna during dry season. Several beaches with white sand and crystal clear water are located in the lower part. The view from the cliff towards the fish bank will make you want to stay forever. During daytime the sea is very clear and from the top of the cliff you can see groups of fish inside the fish bank. Occasionally reef shark juveniles play among rocks in the shallow water.

Besides its stunning natural sites, you can stay with the locals and follow their daily activities which will make you feel like you belong to the community. Learn to cook traditional culinary, learn the local traditions of fishing, weaving, traditional dancing and crafts are some of the interesting activities which can be done in Kulati.

## PATUA FORT

Among many heritage sites and fortresses in Wakatobi, Patua Fort is the biggest and the building still remains intact. Located in the hilly area in Patua II Village, this site can be reached using a motorbike or car from Waha. There are 3 main gates to enter the fort and upon entering you will find old graves, ruins of an old mosque, tunnels, old cannons and a big gazebo. From the top of the fort, you have views across the sea and the lower part of Tomia.

Besides the heritage site itself, people hold festivals and cultural events in this fort.

## KAHIANGA PEAK

Kahianga Peak is located in the highest area of Tomia. Since Wakatobi has no mountains or highlands this place is famous as its peak. The peak allows stunning views over the whole of Tomia and its long white sand beach with coconut trees and small islands surrounding the main island. This is the favorite place for locals to enjoy sunset while having a picnic. Kahianga can be reached easily using a car or motorbike.

## NDA'A ISLAND

Nda'a Island is a small uninhabited island situated opposite of Kulati Village. The island can be reached within 40 minutes by boat from Kulati Village or downtown Waha. Surrounded by white sand beach, the sea around Nda'a is very clear and perfect for beach lovers who want to swim, snorkel or relax.



Sunset over Tomia Island

# BINONGKO

The natural environment on the Island is extraordinary and completely different compared to the other islands of Wakatobi. The climate is dryer and very humid. The landscape consists of rocky hills and the island is surrounded by cliffs. Nevertheless, in between these cliffs beautiful white beaches with natural coconut trees can be discovered. The swimming conditions at these beaches are fabulous. Moreover, mangrove forests with trees of 20 meter-height and an inspiring flora and fauna wait to be explored. The countless springs which can be found almost everywhere on the island are perfect for a swim to cool down. There are also many caves housing bats and flying foxes. Some caves are quite deep, completely dark and have a variety of impressive stalactite and stalagmite structures. The Binongko marine life of comprises many turtles and fish and offers beautiful reefs explorable by professional divers.

Most villages in Binongko are very unique and traditional. Some villages are built directly on steep cliffs giving it an amazing sight. Most houses are stilted wooden houses. The culture of Binongko is well-preserved and the traditional law conserves its natural resources. The roles and values in the families are still very traditional and the tasks clearly defined. The men are responsible for hard work and income generation, whereas the women take care of the children. The village rules adat still have a strong influence and decisions are made by the men. The social principle of “gotong royong” (helping each other) means the whole community is closely knit together. The communities have also preserved traditional dances and ceremonies. The people in Binongko are very welcoming, friendly and helpful.

Economically, most people are dependent on fishing and agriculture. However, since the grounds in Binongko are very rocky the only plant that grows well is cassava.

One unique aspect of Binongko are the “Tukang Besi” blacksmiths, which in the past gave the area Wakatobi its name “Tukang Besi Archipelago” (Blacksmith Archipelago). The blacksmiths are famous for their high quality products such as the “Parang” machete. These products are so famous that they are exported and sold throughout Indonesia.

Green sea turtle (*Chelonia Mydas*)





## I PLACES TO GO

### DIVING AROUND BINONGKO

The sea around Binongko is rarely explored except by its inhabitants who usually go fishing using small boats and traditional tools. There is no dive operator in Binongko and adventurous divers who wish to explore the far end of the underwater wonderland in Wakatobi have to rent a boat from nearest island (Tomia) and bring all the dive equipment (including filled tanks) to Binongko. However, this is well worth it as the underwater world of Binongko is very rich and pristine, with various hard corals dominating dive sites in the western part of the island while in the eastern part the corals are more scarce but you can find hundreds of sea turtles. The conditions depend on the monsoon season (easterly or westerly wind). So far, there are 12 dive sites mapped around Binongko, some of which are Haka, Teluk Wall, Onemelangka Beach, Tanjung Bante, Palahidu Beach and Bela'a.



**Dive type:** Step slope and drop off

**Average depth:** 30m

**Reef type:** Hard coral slope

**Snorkeling:** Not advised; consult your guide for nearby snorkeling spot

**Recommended for:** Experienced and adventure divers

The dive begins at the eastern part of the lighthouse on the northern side of the island. From the start the dive will be challenging even for experienced divers as the waves and currents start immediately as you get off the boat. Descend to 15m and swim to the east, following the slope wall teeming with 90% living corals with mostly colorful hard coral dominating this site.

The slope descends to more than 40m and expert divers are rewarded with huge schools of Big Eye Trevally curiously following the divers. You can find numerous marine creatures such as Snappers, Groupers, Green Sea Turtle, Bumphead, Cockatoo Fish, other Carangidae family and many more.

The site is very dynamic and it is essential to seek advice from an experienced guide who is able to evaluate conditions above and below the water. Strong currents can make this site unsuitable for inexperienced divers and even render it impossible to dive.

Green sea turtle (Chelonia Mydas)



## ONE MELANGKA BEACH/RINU

**Dive type:** Slope wall and drop off

**Average depth:** 25m

**Reef type:** Hard coral encrusted rocky wall

**Snorkeling:** Good

**Recommended for:** All divers

Melangka Beach dive site has an easy entry, as you can drop in at any section of this site just around 60m from the white sand beach. You will find the shallow water covered with colorful coral that can be seen from the surface, thus make this site an ideal place for snorkeling. Snorkelers often see Eagle Rays near the lip of the reef. You can access it from the beach, however, using a boat is the best way to dive in this site.

The best time to dive in Melangka Beach is in the afternoon, as the sun illuminates the slope wall thus making the coral reef radiant. Several fish such as Batfish, Grouper and Snapper swim close to the wall. Green Sea Turtle, Napoleon and Bumphead are commonly found here.

## PALAHIDU BEACH

**Dive type:** Slope wall

**Average depth:** 20m

**Reef type:** Rocky reef

**Snorkeling:** Good near the lip of the reef

**Recommended for:** All divers

Palahidu Beach dive site is situated in the northeastern part of Binongko with its entry point around 100m from the beach on the lip of the reef. Corals run along the southeastern to the northeastern part. Follow the lip of the reef and along the way you will find lots of sea turtles swimming around divers or hiding in the cove and behind corals. Meeting sea turtles in this site is guaranteed either while diving or snorkeling. Various fish like Batfish, Snapper, Trigger and Cockatoo are commonly found in this site.



Lighthouse at Haka



## LIGHTHOUSE AND STONE PARK

Taman Batu (Stone Park) is located underneath the fort of the old Tandu Haka village, directly at the ocean. The beautiful and unique rock garden forms a landscape which reminds of a moonscape. The park is around 3km long and at average 500-600 meters wide. No plants and trees grow here so providing a clear view of the rocky surface so that you can even spot Binongko lighthouse from 2km away. You can climb up the hilly part and see the landscape or stay near the ocean. Make sure you bring your own meal for the trip, and be aware that during the day this area gets very hot with little shade. The nearest village is located around 30 minutes from the stone park.

## IRONSMITH POPALIA

The ironsmiths "*Tukang Besi*" can be found in several villages, however a great location to see them is Popalia village because the ironsmiths are directly located on a cliff above the ocean. They traditionally create their hot fire by fanning the flames with a self-constructed fan. They heat the metal until they can mold it to get the desired shape. The ironsmiths in Binongko are especially famous for their high quality "*Parang*" (machete). These machetes are sold everywhere in Wakatobi and also on other islands such as Maluku. You can experience the work process and even do it yourself. Visitors can participate in an ironsmith workshop and make their own knife with the professional support of the local experts.



Binongko Machete



Flying Fox at Topa Mata Spring



## PALAHIDU BEACH

Most beaches in Binongko have white sand and palm trees as well as nice water conditions. The clear water provides a great view and when thirsty you can enjoy a fresh coconut harvested straight from the trees. One among those beaches is Palahidu Beach. Besides the long white sand there is an old, square-shaped stone fort located on a cliff. Palahidu Beach situated 2.5km from Rukuwa and can be reached easily by car or motorbike.

## WATER CAVE

There are countless springs in Binongko, one of them is in Bante village. Follow the ring road from Wali 14 km through the village of Rukuwa to Bante village. There you can ask a local for the spring "Topa Labago". The many springs in Binongko formed various small caves and are all surrounded by hard rocks. According to the locals in Bante the Topa Labago spring has already been used for hundreds of years. The villagers use the spring to take a shower or do their laundry.

# BUSINESS LISTING

## ❖ Dive & Tour Operator

### **PATUNO DIVE CENTER**

Dive Trip, Marine Activities, Dive Course  
Patuno Resort, Jalan Ir. Soekarno  
Wangi-Wangi, Wakatobi  
+628114002221  
[www.wakatobipatunoresort.com](http://www.wakatobipatunoresort.com)

### **MAWADAH Dive Center**

Dive trip and dive gear rent  
Jl. Ahmad Yani, Wangi-Wangi  
+6282196095175

### **RAKA DIVE**

Dive trip and dive course  
+62811405670

### **WAKATOBI DIVE TRIP**

Dive trip  
+62811401449  
[www.wakatobidivetrip.com](http://www.wakatobidivetrip.com)

### **WAKA-WAKA DIVE CENTER**

Dive trip  
Mandati II and Hoga Island  
+6282343680000

### **TOMIA SCUBA DIVE**

Dive trip & Dive Gear rent  
Waha Village, Tomia Island  
+6282187877751

### **WAKATOBI DIVE ADVENTURE**

Hotel & Dive trip  
Mandati II, Wangi-Wangi  
+6285240137888

### **DINIS CEMARA DIVE CENTER (DCDC)**

Dive, Snorkeling, Marine Activities  
Cemara Beach, Wapia-pia Village  
Wangi-Wangi  
+6282292340110

### **PT. ANOA OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

Tour Operator  
+6282187160421

### **TOUDANI TRIP OPERATOR**

Kel. Ambeua, Kaledupa  
+6282193266020

### **TANDIONO DIVE CENTER**

Dive trip, dive gear rent  
+6285696987445

### **BINONGKO TUKANG BESI TOUR**

Kelurahan Wali, Binongko  
+6281245076369

## ❖ Community Based Tourism

### **Kelompok Sadar Wisata Kapota Raya**

Kapota Village, South Wangi-Wangi  
Suhaeri +6285394194832  
Yuwono +6285242435197

### **WAHA TOURISM COMMUNITY (WTC)**

Snorkeling Center, Marine Activities  
Waha Village, Wangi-Wangi  
+6285241857674

### **KEPPO'OLI LIYA TOGO**

Liya Togo Village, Wangi-Wangi  
Mursida +6285340578935  
Riadi +6281343267915

### **Lembaga Pariwisata (LEPA) MOLA RAYA**

Mola Raya  
Samran +6285239590350  
[bajomolatourism@gmail.com](mailto:bajomolatourism@gmail.com)

### **POASSANUHADA Kulati Village**

Kulati Village, East Tomia  
La Nyong +6285241204467

## ❖ Accommodation - Wangi-Wangi

### **HOTEL AL AZIZYAH**

Jalan Poros Liya Bo. 5 Jabal Rahman  
+6281245912744

### **WISATA BEACH HOTEL**

Jalan Jenderal Sudirman, Mandati  
+6281245639300

### **HOTEL LINA**

Jalan Wolter Monginsidi, Endapo  
+6240421691

**PATUNO BEACH RESORT**

Jalan Ir. Soekarno, Wangi-Wangi  
Wakatobi  
Telp +628114002221  
www.wakatobipatunoresort.com

**HOTEL FIDEL**

Jalan Jenderal Sudirman, Wanci  
+6281330766274

**LAMONGAN**

Jalan Merdeka, Kel Pongo  
+6240421961

**NITA SARI INN**

Komp Pasar Pagi Wanci  
+6281341762446

**HOTEL NUR RIZQI**

Jalan Jenderal Sudirman, Night Market  
+6240421221

**NIRMALA INN**

Jalan Ahmad Yani  
(Bundaran mandate I)  
+6281341768156 / +6285398512032

**MELATI INDAH**

Jalan Kemakmuran no.27, Kel  
Pongo, kec Wangi-wangi

**WISMA MAHARANI**

Jalan Jenderal Sudirman  
No. 125 Wanci  
+6285341664816

**HOTEL WAKATOBI**

Jalan Jenderal Sudirman No. 105  
Mandati  
+6240421823

**SINAR BABO**

Mola Utara, Wangi-wangi  
+6285241727484

**JELLY INN**

Jalan Lesaa Kel Pongo, Wangi-Wangi  
+6285299427798

**WISMA AR RAZZAQ**

Jalan Kontamale Wanci  
+6240421285

## ❖ Accommodation - Kaledupa

**Hoga Dive Resort**

hogadiveresort@yahoo.co.id  
+6281379532485

**MADYA SIRU INN**

Jalan Poros Kaledupa  
+628219663825

**HOGA ISLAND DIVE RESORT  
(Pak Kasim)**

hogaislanddiveresort.com  
wiahoga@gmail.com

**AGUNG INN**

Sandi Village, South Kaledupa  
+6285394419844

**OPERATION WALLACE in HOGA ISLAND**

+6285395303993

**ISMA INN**

+6285656306413

**LYAN INN**

+6285298321530

## ❖ Accommodation - Tomia

**WAKATOBI DIVE RESORT**

Tolandona Island, Tomia  
www.wakatobi.com

**LABORESTAY**

Jalan Pasar Waha, Tomia  
laborestay@gmail.com  
+6281343730361

**ABI JAYA Inn**

Waha Village, Tomia  
+6281355507480

**ASRI Inn**

Tee Moane Village, tomia  
+6281524762828

**TERAPUNG Inn**

Waha Village, Tomia  
+6285394331703

**ARIS JAYA INN**

Patipelong Village, Tomia  
+6282333852850

**TOMIA Inn**

Waha Village, tomia





# HOW TO GET THERE

The best way to get to Wakatobi depends on the available time and budget. There are connecting flights from Makassar (Ujung Pandang) via Kendari as well as boats to Wangi-Wangi from Kendari. Flying to Bau Bau (Buton Island) and taking a boat to one of Wakatobi's larger islands is also an alternative.

## By Air

Flight from Makassar (UPG) to Wakatobi (WNI): Direct flights leave every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday morning at 08:10 am and on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 10:00 am. This Wings Air flight will take you from Makassar via Kendari to the airport of Wakatobi (WNI) on Wangi-Wangi Island. The flight cost is around 100US\$ and the duration around 2,5 hours. Some online booking websites will indicate this as a transit flight, however passengers to Wakatobi can stay on the airplane in Kendari during the 20 minute transit before continuing to Wangi-Wangi.

## Flight from Kendari (KDI) to Wakatobi (WNI):

On Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday morning the option is to join the direct flight from Makassar at 09:30 directly in

Kendari. On Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday the flight leaves Kendari at 11:30 am. The cost is around 40US\$ and the duration is around 45min.

**Flight from Bali to Tomia Island:** If you want to go directly from Bali you have to buy a dive package with the Wakatobi Resort and fly with their charter airplane to Tomia. The flight schedule can be found on their homepage: <http://www.wakatobi.com>

## By Sea

Taking the boat is cheaper but also more risky and takes more time. Be aware that safety standards in Indonesia are not the same as in Europa or America. Weather conditions can also affect the schedule, because the boat may not operate during times of high waves. During clear weather and if you want to travel slowly going by boat is a good option.

## Boat from Kendari to Wangi Wangi

In Kendari the boat to Wakatobi leaves from Pelabuhan Wanci (Wanci Harbor). The Kapal Wanci (Wanci Boat) departs at 11:00 am and takes around 10 hours. There are two types of boats named KM. AKSAR SAPUTRA and

KM. AGIL PERMAI with different departure schedules.

KM. AKSAR SAPUTRA departs every Monday and Thursday from Kendari to Wanci and back on Tuesday and Saturday from Wanci to Kendari. KM. AGIL PERMAI departs on Tuesday and Saturday from Kendari to Wanci and back on Monday and Thursday from Wanci to Kendari. The journey to the harbor by car from Kendari Airport (Haluoleo Airport) takes 1 hour. The cost for one ticket is around 200.000 IDR or 20 US\$.

## Boat from Bau Bau to Wakatobi

Another way is to fly from Makassar (UPG) to Bau Bau, Buton (BUW) and continue to Wangi-Wangi by public boat. A wooden overnight boat departs every day at 9:00pm from Murhum Harbor "Pelabuhan Murhum". The harbor can be reached within 20 minutes by car from the airport (Betoambari Airport).

The boat will arrive in the town of Wanci on Wangi-Wangi Island around 6:00 or 7:00am. The price for a ticket is around 15US\$. There are four different boats named KM. AKSAR SAPUTRA, KM. MIRAMA, KM. UKI RAYA and KM. AGIL PRATAMA.

# GETTING AROUND

## (INTER ISLAND TRANSPORTATION)

As Wakatobi consist of four main islands the only way to get around is by sea. Be aware that weather conditions have a large influence on the schedule. During high waves no boat will depart to another island. The following timetables, prices and locations of boats give an overview but may change daily depending on the tide conditions and numbers of passengers.

### From Wangi-Wangi to Kaledupa

#### Slow Boat

Departure : Mola Harbor  
Time : 09:00am and 01:00pm (daily)  
Duration : 2 h  
Arrival : Ambeua Harbor  
Price : 50.000 IDR or 5 US\$

### Transit to Hoga

Visitors to Hoga will have to transit in Kaledupa. After arriving in Kaledupa at Ambeua Harbor, local people offer small charter boats to Hoga. The cost should be around 50.000 IDR or 5 US\$

### Return Kaledupa to Wangi-Wangi

#### Slow Boat

Departure : Ambeua Harbor  
Time : 05:00am (daily)  
Duration : 2-3 h  
Arrival : Mola Harbor  
Price : 50.000 IDR or 5 US\$

### From Wangi-Wangi to Tomia

#### Slow Boat

Departure : Mola Harbor  
Time : 09:00am (daily)  
Duration : 4 - 5 h  
Arrival : Onemai Harbor  
Price : 120.000 IDR

#### Speed Boat

Departure : Jabal Harbor  
Time : 08:00am (daily)  
03:00pm (Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday)  
Duration : 3 h  
Arrival : Onemai Harbor  
Price : 150.000 IDR

### Return Tomia to Wangi-Wangi

#### Slow Boat

Departure : Onemai Harbor  
Time : 06:00am *(alternating schedule with speed boat)*  
Duration : 4 - 5 h  
Arrival : Mola Harbor  
Price : 120.000 IDR

#### Speed Boat

Departure : Onemai Harbor  
Time : 06:00am *(alternating schedule with slow boat)*  
Duration : 3 h  
Arrival : Jabal Harbor  
Price : 150.000 IDR

*During high tide season with choppy waters, travelling by slow boat is more comfortable.*

### From Wangi-Wangi to Binongko

#### Slow Boat

Departure : Mola Harbor  
Time : 09:00am (daily)  
Duration : 6 h  
Arrival : Rukuwa or Bante Harbor  
Price : 120.000 IDR

### From Binongko to Wangi - Wangi

#### Slow Boat

Departure : Rukuwa or Bante Harbor  
Time : 10:00am (daily)  
Duration : 6 h  
Arrival : Mola Harbor  
Price : 120.000 IDR

*During high tide season, the boat operation depends on weather conditions.*

### Money

In Wakatobi, only Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) are accepted for cash payments. In general, transactions in Wakatobi are cash-based. Credit cards are not commonly accepted, except at a few larger resorts.

There are two banks in Wakatobi located in Wangi-Wangi in the town of Wanci. One bank is called BNI, with two ATMs in Wanci. BNI gives access to ATMs for VISA or MasterCard. The other Bank is called BRI which only gives ATM access for MasterCard users.

When visiting islands other than Wangi-Wangi, be sure to bring enough cash, since there are no banks and ATMs available outside of Wangi-Wangi.



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