

Cruising

Sailor Tips

- Change some money prior to departure and get plenty of small stuff
- Indonesian phrasebook is worth its weight in gold!
- Take supplies of second hand clothes, notepads and pens, old reading glasses, sunglasses & hats etc. to giveaway.
- International roaming for your mobile

Ambon

The capital of the fabled Spice Islands.

In Ambon can be found a large deep water port, air and sea connections to other parts of Indonesia, a beautiful Australian War Cemetery, and interesting road travel all around the island, modern supermarkets to re-supply, Asian markets, and of course spices of all sorts.

Close to Ambon

1. **Kass**
A small National park island on the north-west side of Ambon. A quiet place to have a sort out after a hectic week in Ambon.
2. **Saparua**
An island on the east side of Ambon Island. A good anchorage. A large fort.
3. **Nusa Laut**
A quite village island off the south-east end of Ambon. A good jumping off point for going south or east to Australia.

HEADING SOUTH

If the south-east trades are blowing, consider going north out of Ambon first as it gets you closer south and east. **See item 2 above.**

Banda Neira

24 hours from Nusa Laut depending on conditions. Excellent anchorage, stunning scenery under an active volcano, great history, nice and quiet. It's the reason for the early discovery of Australia by the Dutch and the scene of the world's biggest real estate deal. For more background read "**Nathaniel Nutmeg**". From Banda there are 3 alternatives to Australia depending on the time available.

1. **The Shortest Route**
Head south stopping at Pulau Babar. There is a safe anchorage off Tepa. Thence to the west side of Melville Island. Overnight in Gordon Bay if you need a rest (it's shallow so don't go too far in).
2. **The Middle Route**
Head East then south to the Tanimbar Islands. There are lots of anchorages. Saumlaki the main town has supplies and a great pub with a huge veranda.
3. **The Longer Route – via the Kai Islands.**
Kai Belarus is long and narrow, with a safe anchorage right at the top. Elat harbour on Kai Besar is a safe anchorage, take a Bemo to the other side. Kai Kecil is flat. Tual is one of the 18 clearance ports. Lots of islands to the SW. Overnight to the top of the Tanimbars.

HEADING NORTH

There is a narrow passage on the west side of Seram, and lots of anchorages along the top coast, with a big resort about half way (Ora Beach Resort). From Seram you can travel north through fascinating off the grid islands. You can anchor on the equator in a Sandy Bay.

You follow the Wallace Line (Darwin's competition for the origin of species) to the Kingdom of Ternate. Thence north to the Philippines or west to Asia.

HEADING WEST – to the Buton Strait

The Buton Strait is a 100 mile long protected waterway. Bau-Bau is the main town on Buton Island. From here you can either continue west towards Singapore or south to Flores. From Flores you can continue west through Indonesia or east via Wetar back to Darwin & Australia.

CRUISING GUIDES

A Guide to Indonesia: a pilot guide to Indonesian Waters.

Andy Scott

ISBN: 9780990562610

Cruising the Tanimbars

Mark Stephenson

spiceywonderdog@bigpond.com

Cruising the Tanimbar Islands

Jan Carter

Jancarter18@yahoo.com.au

Spice Islands Blog

<https://spiceislandsblog.com/2017/02/22/a-journey-across-java-2017/>

MARINAS IN INDONESIA

1. Medana Bay Marina, located in North of Lombok
2. Marina Del Ray, located at West of Lombok
3. Bali International Marina
4. Bali Serangan Island
5. Waisai Marina, Raja Ampat
6. Saronde Island, North of Gorontalo
7. Batavia Marina Jakarta
8. Nongsa Point Marina, Batam
9. Bintan Lagoy Marina
10. Pantai Mutiara Marina Jakarta

