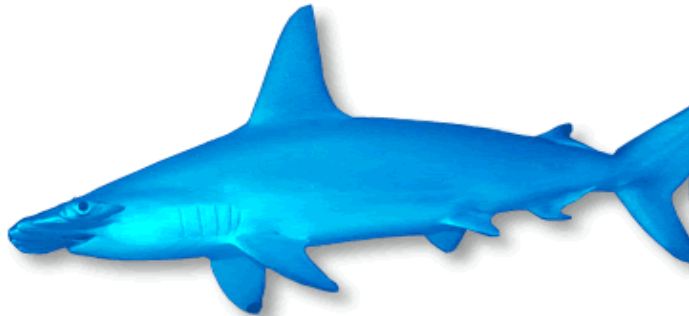


EASTERN FIELDS ITINERARY



The Eastern fields/Coral Sea operates **November** through to **December** and **April** through to **May** - prime time for this area. On these cruises, you will find the waters of the barrier reef system around Port Moresby teem with beautiful flora and fauna to satisfy the keenest sports diver or the most dedicated underwater photographer, with Mantas, Sharks and Turtles. Divers have encountered the rare **Great hammerhead** as well as his smaller Scalloped brothers and Whale Sharks are sighted annually as far in as the capital's main harbour!



The more exotic treats include the **Lacy Scorpion fish** (*Rhinopias aphanes* and his rarer brother *R. fondoza*), Leaf Scorpion fish, Stone and False Stonefish, Crocodile fish, **Pygmy sea horse** and Tasselled Wobbegongs, Epaulette and Leopard Sharks. The waters here are moderate in visibility but excellent for close-up photography. This area of the Coral Sea is rarely troubled by the cyclone's passing by on their way to the southern latitudes leaving the coral in pristine condition. Being close to the eastern approaches of the Torres Strait (the name for the passage of water between Australia and Papua New Guinea) gives this area the currents that attract the pelagic marine life such as schools of large Dog Tooth, Yellow fin, Blue fin Tuna, Spanish Mackerel and Wahoo.



The Coral Sea trip is not recommended for the beginner diver or those who are prone to seasickness as it is all open ocean diving.



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