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MV OCEANIA

Liveaboard Diving - Papua New Guinea

MV Oceania is the newest addition to liveaboard diving in the waters of Papua New Guinea. Working out of Walindi Resort, MV Oceania commenced operations in April 2019 after an extensive refit. She is a 27 metre catamaran accommodating up to 16 guests in fully rebuilt cabins and guest areas. Itineraries include the waters of the Bismarck Sea and beyond, both for diving and birding charters.

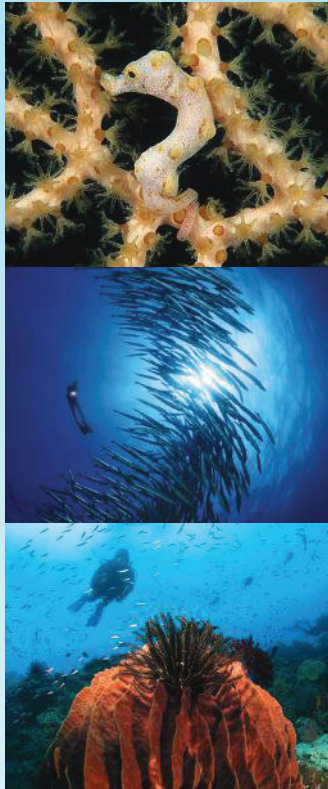


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MV Oceania began operation in April 2019 out of Walindi Plantation Resort with itineraries including Kimbe Bay, Fathers Reefs and the Witu Islands. MV Oceania underwent a complete refurbishment of cabins and guest areas before she launched which makes for a modern, fresh and comfortable interior. Her focus is scuba diving charters within the Bismarck Sea, however at select times of year she explores some other areas within Papua New Guinean waters, including specialist charters such as leisure and birding focused trips.

Guest cabins are a combination of twin bed and queen bed rooms, all ensuite, on the main deck with ocean views and designed with comfort in mind. Cabins and common areas inside are air-conditioned, or guests can relax outside on the spacious sun deck.

Diving is both from the water level duckboard and from the specially fitted dive tender. Most dive sites on regular itineraries have moorings installed.



The Diving

Whilst on board MV Oceania, guests will be diving on some of the most beautiful reefs and sea mounts in the Bismarck sea, with abundant fish life amongst picturesque and dramatic volcanically formed reefs. Papua New Guinea is located in the Coral Triangle, the centre of marine biodiversity which has the highest diversity of tropical fish, crustacean and invertebrate life. Many of the reefs have resident schools of barracuda, tuna and jacks. A range of shark species are regularly sighted, including hammerheads and silver tips. At certain times of the year MV Oceania also cruises east to Rabaul, south to Milne Bay and north to New Hanover. Below are just some of the dive areas we visit in the Bismarck Sea.

Kimbe Bay Reefs

Kimbe Bay is home to some of the healthiest coral, as well as some of the largest diversity of both coral and fish anywhere on the planet. Prof. Charles Veron, former chief scientist of the Australian Institute of Marine Science had this to say - "The coral reefs of Kimbe Bay take me back forty years to a time when corals grew in lush profusion, untroubled by the problems that beset them today."

Fathers Reefs

A long extinct volcanic caldera, Fathers Reefs are a series of offshore reefs located along the northern coastline of New Britain to the east of Kimbe Bay. These reefs are a hub of pelagic activity - masses of resident schools of barracuda, tuna and jacks are sure to delight divers with their sheer enormity. Sharks are commonly sighted, typically a myriad of reef sharks including black tips, white tips and silver tips. Volcanically formed swim throughs and arches are also common.

Witu Islands

The Witu Islands are a group of islands, volcanic in origin, situated to the north west of Kimbe Bay. A cross section of diving includes dramatic sea mounts and protected black sand bays around the islands, so this area provides a perfect mix of both pelagic activity and critters.

Onboard, find 8 air-conditioned, ensuite cabins for a maximum of 16 guests, all on the main deck. A combination of Twin Bed and Queen cabins are available and all cabins have ocean views, ensuite bathroom facilities, fresh towels daily, hairdryers and daily laundry service included. Guest areas also include a large dive deck also on the main deck, a large saloon and dining area on the bridge deck and a sun deck above. The dive deck includes for individual storage areas, camera work area and a dive deck bathroom and shower. Tariff includes airport transfers and all meals.

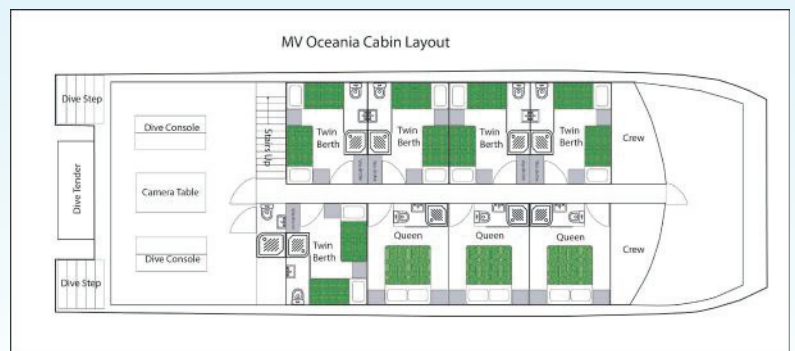


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