



wakatobi
world marine heritage

wonderful
indonesia



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Man and
the Biosphere
Programme

FREE 2017

W E L C O M E T O WAKATOBI

There are many crystal clear waters in the world but there is one the clearest of them all. 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 Bajonese people seem to float above pristine water, close to white sand beaches.

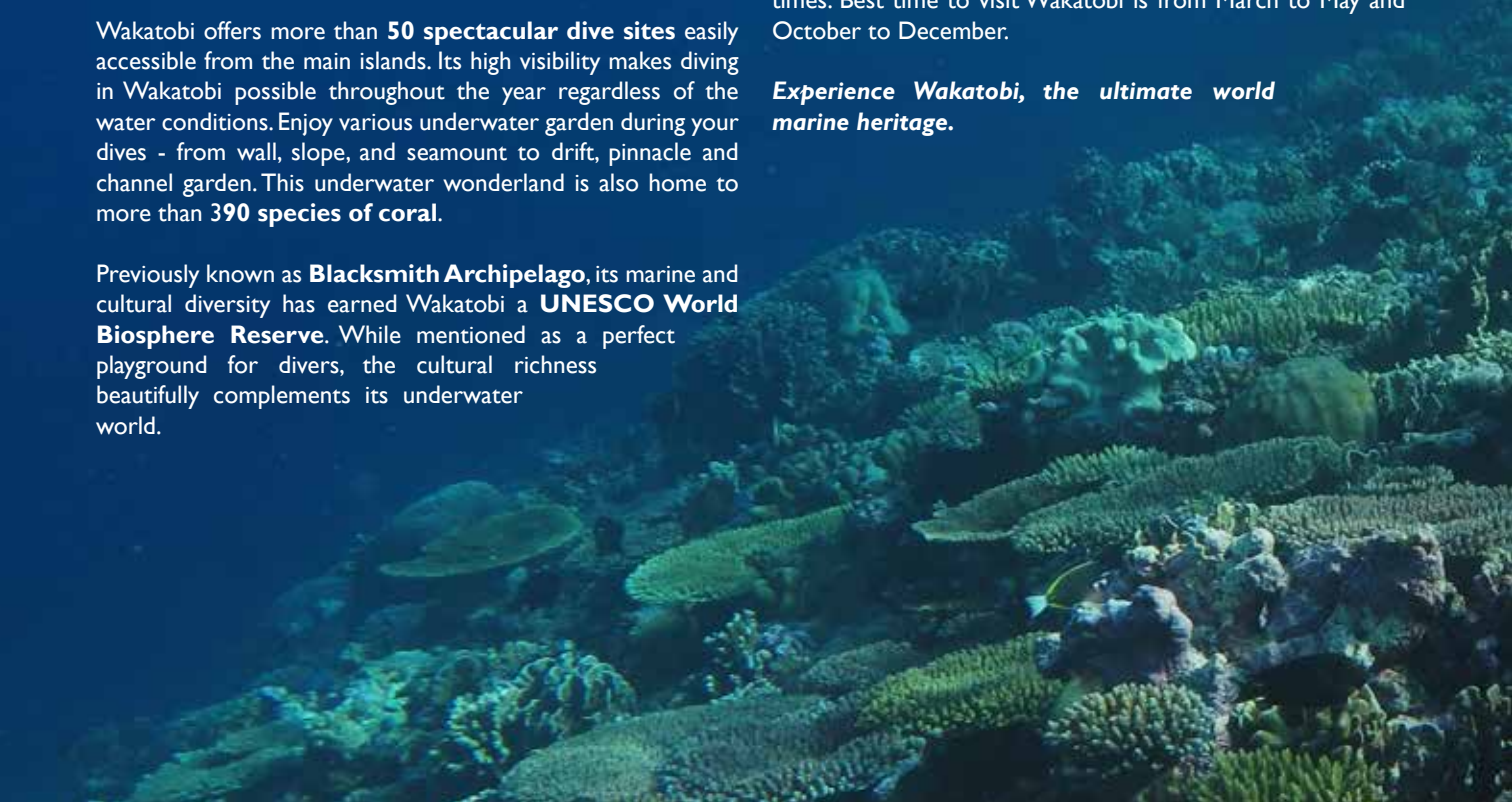
Wakatobi offers more than **50 spectacular dive sites** easily accessible from the main islands. Its high visibility makes diving in Wakatobi possible throughout the year regardless of the water conditions. Enjoy various underwater garden during your dives - from wall, slope, and seamount to drift, pinnacle and channel garden. This underwater wonderland is also home to more than **390 species of coral**.

Previously known as **Blacksmith Archipelago**, its marine and cultural diversity has earned Wakatobi a **UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve**. While mentioned as a perfect playground for divers, the cultural richness beautifully complements its underwater world.

The classical dance named *Lariangi* is declared a cultural asset by the Government of Indonesia. *Lariangi* was a dance to welcome the royal guests of Kahedupa Kingdom back in 1359. There is also *Karia Ceremony*, where the boys and girls are carried in barrows to parade through the streets. This festive ceremony is enlivened by an intriguing collection of live music and dances.

Bajo people are very friendly and storytellers by nature. *Sara*, the customary law, is highly respected by locals and basically is the main reason of the well-preserved underwater world of Wakatobi. According to the law, fishing is not an adventitious activity. It can only be done in particular places at particular times. 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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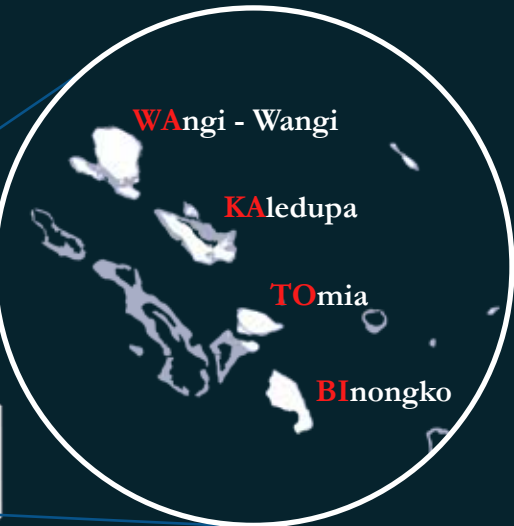
Wakatobi is an abbreviation using the names of the archipelago's four main islands of WAngi-Wangi Island, KAledupa, TOMia and BInongko. The cluster of islands were originally known as "Kepulauan Tukang Besi" or Ironmongery Archipelago, as for a long time many of the inhabitants were iron-smiths producing 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 km², with ± 823km² (3%) of land and ± 17,554 km² (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

ABOUT WAKATOBI

FLORA & FAUNA

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 (Pomacentridae), 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 Halodule 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, Tuwutuwu 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.



Wakatobi Exploration for Adventurous Traveler



| Day 1 Makassar to Wangi-Wangi

Get the afternoon flight from Makassar to Wangi-Wangi Island (Matahora Airport). Upon arrival, you will meet your guide and head to hotel for check-in. If you are an underwater enthusiast, you can go diving or snorkeling at Sombu. Others who prefer to stay dry can proceed to Community Based Tourism Village in Liya for a walk tour, sightseeing and canoeing. In the evening you can dine while enjoying the traditional dance performance.

| Day 2 Wangi-Wangi to Binongko

Take an energizing breakfast and prepare for a long trip. Tips: Bring lunch box and coffee. You will depart at 10am from Mola Harbor and it will take 5-6 hours to Binongko Island. You will arrive around 4pm. From the harbor, you will head to Rukuwa and check in to a homestay. After a little rest, you will visit Palahidu Beach and enjoy the marvelous sunset.

| Day 3 Binongko Island

After breakfast, you will explore the whole island by motorbike or 3-wheeled motorbike. You will enjoy white sand beaches along the way, lush mangrove forest, a quick snorkeling at Hakka and Bante, and visiting ironsmith and weaving center in Popalia. Do not miss the opportunity to swim in the water cave at Topa La Bago and brace yourself to jump off the cliff there.

| Day 4 Binongko to Tomia

Public boat to Tomia departs at 10am (the last stop is Wangi-Wangi with a stopover in Tomia). The journey will take approximately 1.5-2 hours. Upon arrival, you will check in to the hotel and have lunch. You will then explore the beautiful island by car or motorbike. End your day with a stunning sunset view from Kahianga Peak and go down for dinner.

| Day 5 Tomia Island

You will have the whole day to explore Tomia. After breakfast, you will visit Kulati Village located in the eastern part of the island. The local community in Kulati can guide your activities in Hu'untete area such as sightseeing, walk tour, snorkeling or visit Nda'a Island as well as prepare delicious Kulati dishes for your lunch. In the late afternoon, when you are ready to leave this beautiful village, you will visit Patua Fort and enjoy the surrounding beautiful landscape.

| Day 6 Tomia - Kaledupa - Hoga

Wake up early in the morning to catch the boat to Kaledupa (the last stop is Wangi-Wangi with a stopover in Kaledupa). The boat will leave at 6am and you want to make sure to arrive in time at Waha Harbor. It takes around 1.5-2 hours to Kaledupa Island. Upon arrival at the Harbor, you will be transferred to a smaller boat. Do not forget to remind your guide to arrange a pickup to Ambeua Harbor. A small longboat will then take you to Hoga Island that is reachable within 20 minutes.

On the island, you can do snorkeling or explore white sand beach along the shore. After lunch, you will visit Bajo Sampela Village, situated 20 minutes from Hoga Island, and return at sunset. You will enjoy a relaxing dinner under the starry sky in Hoga.

| Day 7 Cultural trip and Mangrove exploration in Kaledupa

After breakfast, enjoy a snorkeling trip in Hoga Island's most favorite spots, such as Buoy 1 or 2. Alternatively you can visit main island of Kaledupa. After breakfast, arrange a trip with car/motorbike to Kaledupa and head to Limbo Langge, a customary area located 30 minutes from Ambeua Harbor. Explore the surrounding small islands in Limbo Langge by boat, go canoeing between mangroves, enjoy the silence and do birdwatching. You also can visit Lahoa, a small hidden Bajo Village. Your lunch will be prepared at Pajam, a traditional village famous for hand-weaving fabric and craft. Taking cooking class or enjoying traditional Lariangi dance can be another refreshing alternatives. The beautiful sunset on the way back to Hoga Island will accompany you before you finally end the day with a delicious dinner on the island.

| Day 8 Wangi-wangi to Makassar

Get up early in the morning and catch a public boat to Wangi-Wangi. The boat will depart at 6am from Ambeua Harbor. As the boat leaves on time, make sure you arrive early. Have a simple breakfast in Wangi-Wangi and if you are still curious about the Bajonese, you can explore Bajo Mola Village. Another appealing trip option is the dolphin tour around Wangi-Wangi or souvenir shopping in Wanci traditional market before the final transfer to the airport to catch the flight to Makassar.

Note: Consult your tour operator to arrange boat and itinerary above.

SAMPLE OF ITINERARY

Day 1 Makassar to Wangi-Wangi

Get the afternoon flight from Makassar to Wangi-Wangi Island (Matahora Airport). Upon arrival, you will meet your guide and head to hotel for check-in. If you are an underwater enthusiast, you can go diving or snorkeling at Sombu. Others who prefer to stay dry can proceed to Community Based Tourism Village in Liya for a walk tour, sightseeing and canoeing. In the evening you can dine while enjoying the traditional dance performance.

Day 2 Wangi-Wangi to Tomia Island

After breakfast, go to Jabal Harbor and catch a public boat to Tomia Island. The boat departs at 9am and takes approximately 3-4 hours. Check in and have lunch in the hotel. Head to Kulati Village where you can do sightseeing around Hu'untete, join a walk tour or rent a boat to explore the cliffs from the sea. Do not forget your snorkeling gear and swim wear since the blue turquoise water will tempt you to explore the underwater. Ask the community to arrange snack and delicious dinner for your trip.

Day 3 Full day dive trip around Tomia Island

Arranging your full day dive depends on your choice to do 1, 2 or 3 dive(s) on any of the tempting spots around Tomia Island. You can visit the surrounding small, unpopulated islands during your surface intervals. Check our recommendation in Tomia for diving.

Day 4 Hoga Island and Bajo

Get up early in the morning and have a simple breakfast before catching the 6am boat to Kaledupa (The last stop is Wangi-Wangi with a stopover in Kaledupa). Do not be late as the boat leaves on time. Enjoy the 1.5 – 2 hour-journey to Kaledupa Island. Upon arrival at the harbor, you will be transferred to a smaller boat called 'Ojek' by the locals. The guide will pick you up at Ambeua Harbor. Then, take a small boat to Hoga Island. Be aware that boat will be your main vehicle in Wakatobi!

On the island, you can do snorkeling or explore white sand-beach along the shore. After lunch, you can visit Bajo Sampela Village, 20 minutes from Hoga Island, and return at sunset. Divers can explore more than 22 dive spots around the island and take 1 or 2 dives before sunset. You will enjoy a relaxing dinner under the starry sky in Hoga.



Diving and Island Hopping





Day 5 Diving around Hoga and cultural trip in Kaledupa Island

On the fifth day, after breakfast you can dive in numerous favorite spots, such as Hoga Channel which is famous for its barracuda schooling, The Ridge and Inner/Outer Pinnacle. Continue your dive after lunch or arrange your trip to the main island, Kaledupa.

Visit Palea and Jamaraka and arrange with the local community for some activities. You can visit the hand-weaving center, explore the traditional cooking activities or enjoy the traditional dance performances. It is also possible to arrange canoeing around mangroves area of Limbo Langge. Return to Hoga Island at sunset and enjoy delicious dinner.

Day 6 Hoga to Wangi-wangi

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

Note:

Please book your diving trip in advance. Consult your tour operator to arrange the itinerary.

WANGI WANGI

Whether you are a skilled diver or a laid-back traveler, your adventure begins here. Commercial flights available to Matahora Airport in Wangi-Wangi make this island the doorstep for visitors. As the administrative capital, it is easier to explore Wakatobi from here. Visitors interested in culture, Bajo Mola village and Liya village offer fascinating cultural atmospheres. Numerous traditional festivals are commonly celebrated throughout the year. A relaxing beach resort is also available for your perfect getaway.

Diving in Wangi-wangi

For scuba-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, Turtle Transporter, Wangi-Wangi Jetty, Tankil/Tonang Reef, Kapota Pinnacle, Wanci Gate, Aquarium Kapota, Kapota Gate and Tanjung Kapota.

Sombu



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 dive spot and perfect for all levels. A quick 20-minute drive from Wanci will get you to witness the abundant breathtaking collection of corals and fishes.

Begin your dive in front of the jetty and follow the wall-garden to the north. As you dive deeper, you will be welcomed by a beautiful combination of hard and soft corals. Marine life such as Trevallies, Snapper, Fusilier, Sweetlips, Butterfly, Cardinal, Angel, Grouper, Damselfish, Anthias, Trigger, Wrasse, and snake can be easily found here. Experienced divers can continue until the cape, whose shape is like a man's face.

Macro-photography enthusiasts can try the night dive where Nudibranch, Octopus, Shrimp are often spotted under the flare of your torch. Watching fishermen in action during night time with their spear guns is also something you do not want to miss.

Nua Shark Point



Dive type: Slope
Average depth: 25m
Reef type: -
Snorkeling: Not advised
Recommended for: Experienced divers

Nua Shark Point is only five minutes away to the south of Sombu. 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. Besides 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.

Best time to dive is in the morning and afternoon when the sunlight reaches up to 20 meters down and provides good visibility.

BLACKTIP REEF SHARK

Blacktip reef sharks occupy one of the smallest home ranges of all shark species. Greyish brown in color with a white underside, they can be identified by their black-edged tail and black-tipped first and second dorsal and pectoral fins. Adults can grow up to 180cm and can be seen all year-round in Wakatobi. This species is commonly found in shallow water near coral reefs and, occasionally, in brackish water. While generally timid and not dangerous, divers and snorkelers should still treat this threatened species with respect. Overfishing and disturbance have resulted in reported declines of this species worldwide.

Aquarium Kapota

Dive type: Wall and slope
Average depth: 20 m
Reef type: Coral reef
Snorkeling: Good
Recommended for: All divers



Start with a big jump from the boat into the clear water to find out why this site is named an Aquarium. Your eyes will directly catch the colorful soft corals and sponge along the reefs, as well as the bustling life of candy crab, leaf fish, snapper, grouper, trevallies, fusilier, butterfly, cardinal, angel and many more. Follow the soft current along the wall while going deeper into 15-20m, you will see big cuttlefish with its colorful semi-transparent body passing by unnoticed. Spend the safety stop dive-dreaming among the colorful soft corals and sea fan. This site is easy to find and can be reached within 30 minutes by boat from Sombu.

Other Attractions in Wangi-wangi



Liya Village

Liya Togo is

Located on a small hill about 15km from Wanci, the local community still live in the simplicity of wooden stilt houses preserved since the glorious era of Kingdom of Liya.

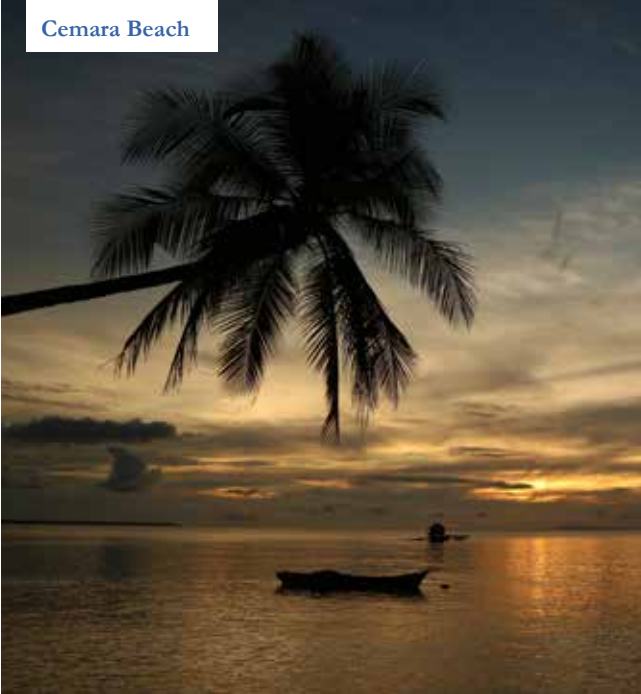
Liya Togo Village in the south of Wangi-Wangi Island is the place to experience the cultural heritage of Wakatobi. The inhabitants of Liya Togo have preserved traditional values and rituals over decades and have lived their daily lives accordingly ever since. The relics of historic architecture still exists today. Various cultural events are also commonly held at this location.

Historically the village was led by the Meantu'u (king) and his house was called Kamali. Kamali is bigger than a normal Liya house with a large front yard surrounded by a stone fence. The front part of the house has 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 had two gates. The gates of the first two layers were secured by guards and 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 in the state of emergency. The gates were first built to guard the fort during the 12th regency (1730-1750) of King La Ode Ali.

Besides its historical importance, the village itself is very enticing. You can witness the daily activities of the inhabitants including women weaving on the terrace, young people collecting water from the spring and children playing soccer by the fort. You can also do canoeing in the bayou having delicious lunch with sea views. If you come during Ramadhan season or after Idul Adha, make sure you also watch Posepa'a, a traditional martial art performance, and Honari Mosega, a traditional heroic dance performed by a group of men.

Cemara Beach



Cemara Beach

This long white-sand beach is the perfect place to relax and swim. Cemara reef is also a favorite diving and snorkeling point in Wangi-Wangi with Open Water Diving Course occasionally conducted here. Weekend is the busiest time of the week as locals come to relax, swim or play volleyball, while enjoying the delicious grilled-fishes added with fried bananas and fresh coconuts. Cemara beach is close to the village of Waha around 7km from Wanci. Grab your motorbike and drive down the main street of Jalan Ahmad Raya to the north, passing Wandoka and Sombu villages. You will see the entrance path on the left once you reach Waha village.

Kapota Island

You can take a short trip to this small, long-white sand beach island on the west of Wangi-Wangi. Public boats operate hourly from 8am – 4pm and it takes 30 minutes to get here from Wanci. You can enjoy white sand beaches, mangrove forests, a walk around the Tailaro Ntooge Lake, and anyone adventurous enough can explore the cave. With a 12m high entrance, the cave is divided into four rooms decorated with pillars, as well as flowery and needle-shaped stones on the ceiling. A small brackish water pool is in the aisle connecting the second and third room of the cave. The bats hanging from the ceiling has earned the cave its name: Bat Cave.

Dive at Wandoka Pinnacle



Bajo Mola

There are five Bajo villages in Wakatobi and Mola is one of them. Located in the west side of Wangi-Wangi Island, Mola is inhabited by the Bajo, seafaring people settled on Wangi-Wangi Island back in 1958. As descendants of sea nomads, Mola people have passed down their Bajonese culture for generations, including knowledge and skills about living on and from the sea. Experience a walk-through the narrow alleys in the village while observing the inhabitants' daily activities. You also can go canoeing, enjoying Bajo culinary delights at Mola night market, or stargazing and listening to the stories of the stars from your Bajo guide. For centuries stars have served as guides for Bajo people in conquering the sea.



Fisherman in Bajo Mola

Dolphin Seafaris

Beyond a magnificent series of diving and snorkeling spots around the islands, Wakatobi is also the playground for six different species of dolphin. At sunrise, a group of dolphins can be spotted near Cape Kapota located 40 minutes away of Sombu or Mola Harbor. You will see them jump, dance and swirl in the sea. A big group of sea birds diving into the sea catching the fishes also become common natural attraction in this area.



Dolphin parade

Event & Festival



Kabuenga

Swing and find your soulmate

Kabuenga is an old yet fun tradition of locals to find their soulmate by riding the swings! This ceremony gives chance for youngsters to meet-up and know each other. It starts with a sacred ritual with an elderly leader praying for happiness and welfare. Young women, accompanied by their parents, show up with the best colorful traditional dresses, while the young men also wear their finest costume to attract the girls. Young couples will be invited to ride the swing and recite some prayers. Locals believe this ceremony will bless the young people to find their future life partners.

Wakatobi Wave

(WONDERFUL FESTIVAL AND EXPO)

Wakatobi WAVE is a grand annual cultural festival held in Wangi-Wangi every November. Visitors can enjoy traditional dances, cultural traditions, delicious foods, folk games, music and various parades. Tamburu Liya, a heroic, sacred parade performed by 15 honored Liya elders carrying spears and drums. Karia parade is also something you do not wish to miss. Children will parade in their colorful traditional costumes and golden accessories attached to their beautiful headpiece. This is the time where Wangi-Wangi will be enlivened with a mesmerizing, joyful mixture of music, dances, and colorful attires.

Kaledupa

Stepping on Kaledupa Island after 2 hour-journey in Wangi-Wangi you will directly notice the difference between the two islands. The name Kaledupa was derived from “Kauhedupa” which means incense wood. The island has a quiet and calm environment and is greener compared to the other three with mangrove forest and coconut trees growing along its coasts that make Kaledupa the most fertile island in Wakatobi.

Getting around the island, you see beautiful wooden stilt houses dominating the sight over modern houses in the villages. Green hills with unexplored areas soothe

your eyes on a sunny day.

Take your time exploring the island. Visiting heritage sites like Bente Mosque and Olo Fortress, learning traditional weaving in Pajam with its authentic Ikat pattern, experiencing the island living in the local community's daily activities such as fishing, to learning to cook the culinary delights of Kaledupa are to name a few of things you can do while in Kaledupa.



Diving around Hoga

Hoga hosts no less than 22 dive sites, all of which can be accessed within ½ hour by boat. Hoga Channel, North Wall, Coral Gardens, Outer Pinnacle, Inner Pinnacle, Channel, Buoy 1, Langira, Ridge 1 and Pak Kasim's are favorite sites.

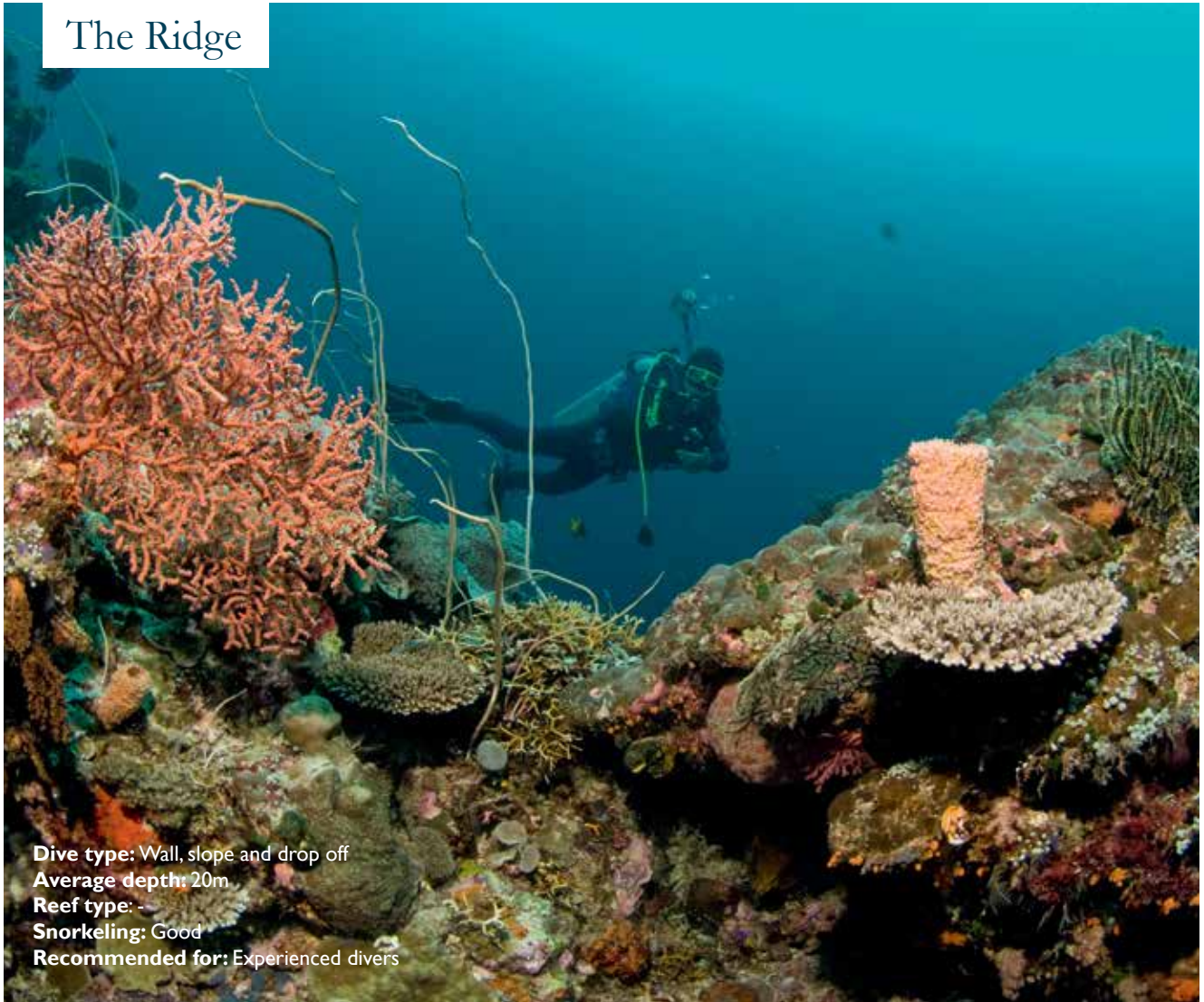


Hoga Channel

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 –the stronger the current however the larger the amount of fish that appear. The drop off is about 15m running east along the The best time to dive 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 - home to Pygmy Seahorses.

The Ridge



Dive type: Wall, slope and drop off
Average depth: 20m
Reef type: --
Snorkeling: Good
Recommended for: Experienced divers

The Ridge is on the Northwest of the reef surrounding Hoga. The top is at about 3m depth and normally 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 formations spread 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.



Coral Garden

Dive type: Boat
Average depth: 18m
Reef type: Fringing reef
Snorkeling: Good
Recommended for: All divers

The name will give you direct impression of what to find at Coral Garden: a delightful dive surrounded by colorful coral reefs. Your imagination will turn into reality as you descend the slopes where you will see healthy coral growing on the slopes from east to west. This site is home to 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 and squids emerge during night time 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. Be aware as in The Ridge, currents can be strong in this site.

Barracuda (Sphyraena)

Barracudas usually live in warm and tropical regions with an abundance of food. They are 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 considered fearsome fishes with the potential to act aggressively towards humans diving or snorkeling.



Bajo Sampela

Bajo Sampela or Sama Bahari

Sampela or Sama Bahari is a traditional village in the middle of the sea. Sampela has 3,000 inhabitants living in traditional wooden houses built on coral stone base around 3km from Kaledupa's mainland. The village covers about 1 km² and is surrounded by the sea. The houses are built in rows around 2m above the water with small water channels for boats in between. Small wooden bamboo piers and foot bridges connect the houses that make the whole area an impressive construction in the middle of the ocean.

Arriving in this village, you will see the typical island life that seems to take you back to previous century. Children will greet you with a big smile. Women usually do the household chores 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 sometimes sit together with friends gossiping. The fishermen will

return from sea in their dugout canoes and clean out their catch of the day before giving it to the family member or sell at the market. Small children play in the water around their homes, using both buckets pieces of polystyrene as makeshift boats and rafts. The smells of the ocean mixed with fish and smoke give Sampela a very familial atmosphere that every house has its door stand open as for the Bajonese community, family is everything.

Tombole'a

Tombole or *Tombole'a* is how the locals call for cooking food using fired stone. Even though modernization has touched Wakatobi, in many occasions the people of Kaledupa still use the same way of cooking where stones are burnt and become the stove. Most dishes are cooked without using the modern kitchen utensils. Instead, the food made from cassava and banana are wrapped in banana leaves, put on the hot stones and covered with sand. The best part is while waiting for the food, a group of women will sing and dance to cheer up the moment.

Limbo Langge

Limbo Langge stretches in Kaledupa's eastern side reachable within 30 minutes from Ambeua Harbor by car or motorbike. You can enjoy Limbo Langge both on land or sea. You can visit the 8 villages with their authentic wooden stilt houses with the view of fishermen mending their nets, women prepare "kasoami" - a dish from cassava - and groups of people enjoying the breeze during sunny days, all to entertain your senses.

Rent a boat at Langge Harbor to explore Limbo Langge's water area where you can cruise between small islands. Some islands has only rocks with small villages along its coast, others are unpopulated with frangipani trees growing on the rocky shore with 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 playing in the lagoon.

Bird watching enthusiasts can cruise between the small islands where lush mangrove forest grow along the coast. Don't miss Lohoa, a small Bajo village, that looks as if it floated on the sea.

Event & Festival



Barata Kahedupa Festival

Every September, Kaledupa Island holds the biggest folk event - *Barata Kahedupa Festival*. Being the island where the roots of Wakatobi cultures originate from, the event is rich with vibrant cultural celebration. *Karia*, a ritual to purify the souls of young boys and girls before reaching adolescence is one of the main occasions. The young girls have to learn some lessons guided by the elderly or the parents during a week retreat. The lessons include fasting and learning knowledge related to femininity. They are dressed up and use a natural herbal powder during the retreat whose rituals has been done since 1260 M. At the peak, the little girls and young women will dress up like *Kahedupa* princesses wearing purified traditional clothes with their special hairdo.

The family members will then carry them on a barrow and parade through the streets enlivened with dancing and singing of the older women.

Lariangi Dance

One of classical dances originated from Kaledupa is Lariangi. 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 was derived from the word “Lari” which means decorate and “Angi” meaning people who dress up to present a certain message. In the past the dance was indeed used as a beautiful way to communicate messages. The dress, accessories and head decoration of Lariangi dancers connect to various symbols of life.

This dance has been passed down for generations and performed at various cultural events in Kaledupa such as the annual Barata Kahedupa Festival.

Tomia

Tomia Island 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 their guests. Public boats will dock at Waha or Jabal Harbor.

Besides the beauty of its underwater life, Tomia can be explored by motorbike or car. Visit some of the beautiful beaches along the coast, heritage sites, enjoy stargazing at night or simply cruise around the island. Some cultural events are held every year like Tomia Island Festival, Potapaki or Patua Festival.



"Simply put, it doesn't get any better than this! Everything is about service and maximizing your diving experience. The diving was amazing and the staff are first class. They will accommodate any request, but you hardly need to make any since they have thought of essentially everything."

Dr. Jim & Laurie Benjamin

An experience without equal

Over the past twenty years, Wakatobi Resort has earned a reputation as one of the world's premier diving destinations, and received recognition as a global leader in self-sustaining conservation efforts.

The privately-funded marine preserve we created to protect reefs around Tomia uses resort revenues to support surrounding communities, while also ensuring divers continue to enjoy a pristine underwater environment.

From a single building, our award-winning resort has grown to a premier collection of luxury bungalows and villas, providing guests with five-star service, fine dining and upscale amenities.

Since 2001, direct charter flights to our private airstrip cut travel times to and from Bali to 2.5 hours, and our luxury dive yacht Pelagian gives access to more of the Wakatobi archipelago.




www.wakatobi.com

Diving around Tomia

Tomia hosts more than 40 dive sites that have been named and mapped. Most of the dive sites are easily accessible 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.

Ali Reef



Dive type: Deep seamount
Average depth: 25m
Reef type: Submerged
Snorkeling: Not recommended
Recommended for: Experienced divers

The dive site can be reached in less than 30 minutes by boat from Waha Harbor, Tomia. Ali Reef has been known among veteran divers as challenging yet beautiful site. Down in the water you will dive around a Seamount with flat peak connected by a deep ridge to the long valley table corals. The yellow color of Sun Corals (*Tubastraea*) stands out among the rest. Gorgonians also dominate in the shallow part. Further down, bigger soft corals with their vivid colors dominate the ridge.

Almost like a big city, Ali Reef is very busy with vibrant life. Be mesmerized by the Giant Trevally Tornado and other smaller fishes. This site is also the underwater hometown for sea turtles and reef shark. Please consult your dive guide on the best time for diving since the current can be very strong during incoming tides. If you dive early in the morning, it is recommended to bring along your torch due the low light from the sun.

Roma



Dive type: Boat and drift
Average depth: 18m
Reef type: Submerged
Snorkeling: Good
Recommended for: All divers

Roma is an elegant coral garden shaped like a pinnacle – wide and large, fringed with beautiful reef and massive corals. Schools of Yellowtail and Pickhandle 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 is during slack tide. The outer pinnacle has a challenging current and suits well to practice drift diving. The diversity of coral reefs is high as it contains about 80% of massive coral and/or brain coral species forming 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.

The best time to dive 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.

Wreck of Kulati



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 30m length Japanese cargo ship 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 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, 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 preferable 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.



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Kulati Village

Kulati is a small village in the eastern of Tomia and is reachable within 30 minutes by car or motorbike from Waha Harbor. Stepping into the village, it does not seem special at first glance. Similar to other areas of Tomia there are not many wooden stilt houses left and only a small road runs through the village. Your tropical getaway start at TIC (Tourism Information Center) located on Kulati's hilly part offering sea scenery as far as eyes can see with stunning landscape view of turquoise seas and majestic cliffs as the backdrop. Exploring *Hu'untete* is adventurous. From the hill until the lower area you will see gradations of blue sea on the left and wide stony and grassy areas turning into a savanna during dry season. Beaches with white sand and crystal clear water are on the lower ground. The view from the cliff towards the fish bank at daytime 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 the rocks in the shallow water.

Besides its stunning natural sites, you can stay with the locals and experience their daily activities which will give a bonding feeling

to the community. Learn to cook traditional culinary, or the local traditions of fishing, weaving, traditional dance and crafts are some of the interesting activities to do in Kulati.

Patua Fort

Among many heritage sites and fortresses in Wakatobi, Patua Fort is the biggest with the building remains intact to date. Located in the hilly area in Patua II Village, this site can be reached by 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 land of Tomia. The local people also hold festivals and cultural events in this fort.

Kahianga Peak

Kahianga Peak is 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 by car or motorbike.

Nda'a Islands

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





Kahianga Peak

A photograph showing three women in traditional Binongko attire, including colorful headscarves and patterned blouses, working in a wooden structure. One woman is using a large wooden pestle to pound ingredients in a mortar, while another is sifting a substance through a large woven basket. A third woman is looking on. In the foreground, a plate holds a large, triangular, yellowish food item, possibly a traditional rice cake, resting on green leaves. The background shows lush greenery and the wooden framework of the structure.

Binongko


The natural environment on the island is extraordinary and completely different compared to the other islands of Wakatobi with dryer and very humid weather. The landscape consists of rocky hills and the island is surrounded by cliffs. In between these cliffs, beautiful white beaches with natural coconut trees can be discovered nonetheless. Swimming at these beaches are simply fabulous. Moreover, mangrove forests with trees of 20-meter height and

inspiring flora and fauna wait to be explored. The countless springs 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. Binongko marine life comprises of many turtles and fish and offers beautiful reefs that can be explored by professional divers.

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 operators in Binongko and adventurous divers wishing to explore the far end of the underwater wonderland in Wakatobi have to rent a boat from the other island and bring all the dive equipment (including filled tanks) to Binongko. However, it is well worth 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, i.e. Haka, Teluk Wall, Onemelangka Beach, Tanjung Bante, Palahidu Beach and Bela'a.

Light House at Haka



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 that curiously follow 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.

One Melangka Beach/Rinu

Dive type: Slope wall and drop off

Average depth: 25m

Reef type: Fringing, Hard coral encrusted rocky wall

Snorkeling: Good

Recommended for: All divers

One 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 that 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 during 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.



Green sea turtle (*Chelonia Mydas*)

Bante

Dive type: Wall and drop off

Average depth: 20m

Reef type: Fringing reef

Snorkeling: Best near the wall

Recommended for: All divers

Located in the West North of Binongko, Bante is one of best spot in this island. Cruising your dive boat for about 10 minutes to the western part of Bante Harbor and your entry point will be around 100 meters from the land. Go deep slowly and follow the current along the reef while you enjoying various hard corals attached to the reef's wall. This site is very busy with life even from the shallow water. Various fish like Snapper, Trigger, Cockatoo and sea turtles are commonly found. In the deeper level be mesmerized with the group of Bumphead, Grouper, Giant Trevally, and sea turtles.

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 providing a clear view of the rocky surface that you can even spot Binongko lighthouse around 2km away. You can climb up to the hill 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 of 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 re 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 hand-picked straight from the trees. Among those beaches is Palahidu. 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, with Bante being one of them. Follow the ring road from Wali 14km through the village Rukuwa to Bante village. There you can ask a local for the spring "Topa Labago." The springs in Binongko form various small caves and are all surrounded by hard rocks. According to the locals in Bante, Topa Labago spring has already been used for hundreds of years. The villagers use the spring to take a bath.

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How to get there



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

By Air

Makassar (UPG) to Wakatobi (WNI)*

Direct flights with WINGS Air from Makassar (UPG) to Matahora Airport (WNI) on Wangi-wangi Island. This 90 minutes flight leaves every day from Makassar at 12.05 p.m.

Kendari (KDI) to Wakatobi (WNI)*

Direct flight with WINGS Air from Kendari (KDI) to Wakatobi (WNI) on Wangi-wangi Island. The flight leaves from Kendari at 09.35 a.m. and 12.20 p.m. This 45 minutes flight cost around US\$ 55.

*Please check www.lionair.co.id for updated flight schedule and price.

Bali (DPS) to Tomia Island

If you want to go directly from Bali you can book a dive package with the Wakatobi

Resort. They will provide a private air charter to Tomia Island. The flight schedule can be found on their homepage: <http://www.wakatobi.com>.

By Sea

Taking the boat is cheaper. If you are not in a rush and the weather is clear, traveling by boat will be a good option. Be advised that the departure schedule is usually affected by the weather condition. The boat may stop operate due to high tides.

Kendari to Wangi-wangi Island

In Kendari the boat to Wakatobi leaves from Pelabuhan Wanci (Wanci Harbor). The Kapal Wanci (Wanci Boat) departs at 11:00 a.m. and it takes around 10 hours*. There are two types of boat with different departure schedules:

- KM.AKSAR SAPUTRA departs every Monday and Thursday from Kendari to Wanci and return every Tuesday and Saturday.
- KM.AGIL PERMAL departs on Tuesday and Saturday from Kendari to Wanci and return on Monday and Thursday.

The ticket costs around 200.000 IDR or U20 US\$. The trip from Haluoleo

Airport in Kendari to Wanci harbor takes approximately 1 hour.

Baubau to Wangi-wangi Island

Another option 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 9:00 p.m. from Murhum Harbor. The harbor can be reached within 20 minutes by car from Betoambari Airport.

The boat will arrive in the town of Wanci on Wangi-Wangi Island on the following day at around 7:00 a.m. The price for a one way ticket is around 15US\$. There are several boats available to serve you, such as KM. AKSAR SAPUTRA, KM. MIRAMA, KM. UKI RAYA and KM.AGIL PRATAMA.

Another option is taking JETLINER ferry provided by PT. PELNI. You can save your time as the trip takes only 5-6 hours. Jetliner is available only twice a week (Februari 2017) at 11.00 p.m. every Monday and 09.00 a.m. every Friday* from Murhum Harbor, Bau-Bau. The return trips are at 09.00 a.m. every Tuesday and at 06.00 p.m. every Friday* from Wanci harbor; Wangi-wangi Island. The trip costs around US\$ 7.

Getting Around

Exploring the island is quite feasible by renting a car or motorbike. Ojek or motorbike taxi for a shorter distance is also available in public places such as the harbor or market.

We recommend you arranging the transportation with your tour operator or car rent association at the airport.

Wangi-Wangi to Kaledupa Wooden Boat

Departure : Mola Harbor
Time : 09:00am and 01:00pm (daily)
Duration : 2-3 hours
Arrival : Ambeua Harbor
Price : IDR 50.000 or US\$ 5

Transit to Hoga

If you want to go to Hoga Island you need to take the boat from Wangi-Wangi to Kaledupa first. At Ambeua Harbour you can book a private boat to Hoga. The cost is approximately IDR 50.000 or US\$ 5 per person.

Kaledupa to Wangi-Wangi Wooden Boat

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

(Inter-Island Public Transportation)

As Wakatobi consists of four main islands, the only way to get around is by boat. Be advised that the departure schedule usually depends on weather condition. The boat may not operate due to high tides.

The following timetables give an overview of boat prices and locations. This may change daily depending on the weather and the numbers of passengers. It is more comfortable to travel with wooden boat during high tide season. You can always rent a private boat for a faster and more comfortable option. Please ask your tour operator for booking.

Wangi-Wangi to Tomia Wooden Boat

Departure : Mola Harbor
Time : 09:00am (daily)*
Duration : 4-6 hours
Arrival : Onemai Harbor
Price : IDR 120.000 or US\$ 10

Speed Boat

Departure : Jabal Harbor
Time : 08:00am or 03:00pm*
Duration : 3 hours
Arrival : Onemai Harbor
Price : IDR 150.000 or US\$ 12

Tomia to Wangi-Wangi Wooden Boat

Departure : Onemai Harbor
Time : 06:00am (alternative schedule with speed boat)
Duration : 4-6 hours
Arrival : Mola Harbor
Price : IDR 120.000 or US\$ 10

Speed Boat

Departure : Onemai Harbor
Time : 06:00am (alternative schedule with slow boat)
Duration : 3 hours
Arrival : Pelabuhan Jabal
Price : IDR 150.000 or US\$ 12

MONEY

In Wakatobi, transactions are cash-based and only Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) are accepted. Credit cards are not commonly used except at few larger resorts. Foreign currency exchange service is available at Bank BNI in Wangi-Wangi with minimum exchange amount of US\$ 1,000.

BANK AND ATM

There are two banks in Wakatobi located in Wangi-Wangi at the town of Wanci. The first bank is BNI with two ATMs in Wanci which accept VISA and Master Card transactions. The second is BRI which accepts only Master Card. When visiting islands other than Wangi-Wangi, be sure to bring enough cash since there is no banks or ATMs available outside Wangi-Wangi.

Wangi-Wangi to Binongko Wooden Boat

Departure : Pelabuhan Mola
Time : 09:00 am*
Duration : 6 hours
Arrival : Rukuwa or Bante Harbor
Price : IDR 150.000 or US\$ 12

Binongko to Wangi - Wangi Wooden Boat

Departure : Rukuwa or Bante Harbor
Time : 10.00am*
Duration : 6 hours
Arrival : Mola Harbor
Price : IDR 150.000 or US\$ 12

**Please check the schedule at the harbor due the weather condition and boat availability.*



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