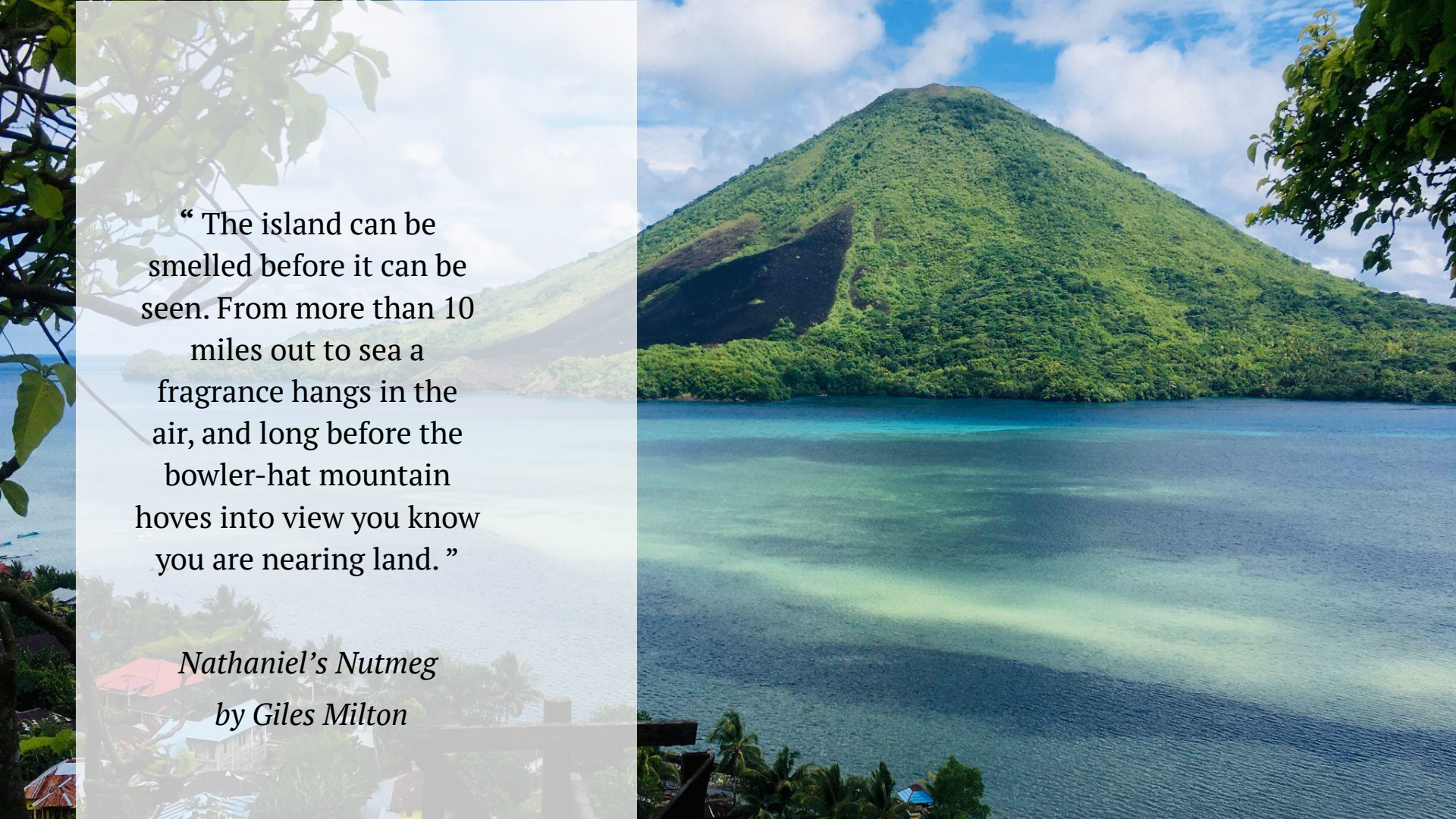




SPICE ISLAND TOUR

with Janet DeNeefe

31 October - 9 November 2026 | 9 Nights / 10 Days



“ The island can be
smelled before it can be
seen. From more than 10
miles out to sea a
fragrance hangs in the
air, and long before the
bowler-hat mountain
hoves into view you know
you are nearing land. ”

Nathaniel's Nutmeg
by Giles Milton

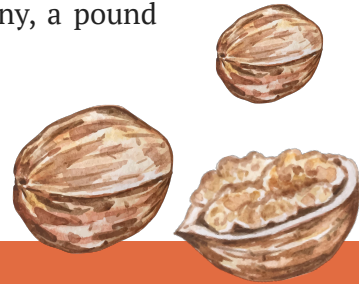




Banda Neira

Banda Neira lies in the middle of ten small, sun-drenched volcanic islands loosely scattered in the wind-swept Banda Seas, south-east of Ambon. Often omitted from maps, the tranquil port was once an important harbour and the town itself, a centre of trade and V.O.C base.

For more than 3,000 years, regional, Arab and Chinese merchants exchanged spices and other treasures with the Bandanese but the main attraction was the glamorous nutmeg. Before the birth of Christ, it had already reached China and India and by 500 AD it had arrived in the Mediterranean. Even Sinbad the Sailor from the Arabian Nights was lured by its charm. By the 14th-century, it was gracing the table of European aristocracy and by 15th century Germany, a pound was worth "seven fat oxen".



ACTIVITIES

SNORKELING



SPICE TOUR



MARKET TOUR



ISLAND TOUR



Cooking Class with **JANET DENEEFE**

Join Janet DeNeeffe on an adventure to the **fabled spice islands, from Ambon to Banda Neira**, Eastern Indonesia. We sail on a teak Phinisi Boat and spend 9 unspoiled days trekking, snorkelling, exploring, swimming, **dining** and absorbing the **history** of this **fascinating part of Indonesia**.

Enjoy her **cooking classes** using the **freshest ingredients** from the local market, cocktails under a thousand stars and feasts of **Janet DeNeeffe's favourite Indonesian food**.




“ The trip was perfect loved every minute. Great NEW friends and amazing food. You have the edge bringing your own staff to cook on the ship in all my sailing adventures in Indonesia the food was never as well planned and delish. The question is When and Where next year!!! “

Carol Dodge, Canada

THE PROGRAM



A close-up photograph of a bowl filled with almonds. The almonds are light brown and have a smooth, slightly glossy texture. They are piled together, with some showing their pointed ends and others showing their flatter sides. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown, suggesting the bowl's interior or a similar surface. The overall lighting is warm and even.

Can't stop thinking about the trip. It was so special to be in such remote and beautiful places with a history that is almost unbelievable if it weren't true. I feel so lucky to have been there and to share it with such a great bunch of people, guests and crew. Market trip today. Ginger, galangal, garlic, shallots, lemon grass and the Rhun spices that were cleared by quarantine. Yum.

Mary Jose, Australia



DAY ONE | Saturday, 31 October

Meeting Point: AMBON

We meet up at **Natsepa Hotel and Resort, Ambon**, and **enjoy a dinner feast of local Maluku food** on the restaurant terrace.

DAY TWO | Sunday 1 November

AMBON CITY TOUR

We explore the **bustling market of Tulehu** and see Maluku ingredients from papaya flowers, sago and lemon basil to green tomatoes, wild starfruit and fresh fish. Morning tea in the city is enjoyed at the **legendary café, Cibu-Cibu**, followed by a tour of the **Ambon War Cemetery** and statue of young freedom fighter, **Christina Tiahahu**.

A long table lunch at a local Ambon restaurant follows, with a Feast of traditional Maluku dishes, such as **papaya flowers, braised fish broth and seafood**. After our meal we board our ship and set sail across the Ambon Bay towards the open seas sharing stories, sipping cocktails and feasting on Indonesian snacks.



*“ Lots of great memories, thank you all for the company,
witty conversation and an opportunity to share a very
unique corner of the world “*

Murray Taylor, UK



DAY THREE | Monday 2 November

SAPARUA

We explore Saparua Island, a former Dutch stronghold in colonial times and home of renowned Indonesian national hero, **Kapitan Pattimura**. The historic **Fort Duurstede**, located in the heart of Saparua, was established by the Dutch East Indies Company in 1691 and is now a small museum that tells a tale of colonial rule and freedom fighters.

We visit the village market to buy provisions for dinner and then see **traditional sago cakes** being made. A cooking class on deck follows. The cocktail hour includes a discussion about the region's history, and then, a **lavish dinner** under the stars will be presented by **Janet DeNeefe and team**.



DAY FOUR | Tuesday 3 November

RUN ISLAND

We land on the fabled island of Rhun, made famous in Nathaniel's Nutmeg. Once a major producer of nutmeg during the colonial era, the spice trade on Rhun Island was lucrative but marked by exploitation and conflict. The demand for nutmeg led to fierce competition among European powers, shaping the island's history and economy. **Pulau Rhun was traded for Manhattan in the famous Treaty of Breda.**

On Rhun we are greeted by Bapak Burhan, head of Rhun's only school, who will lead us to the island's hillside nutmeg plantation and the ruins of Nathaniel Courthope cottage. **Morning tea of local sweets will be served with nutmeg juice and aromatic coffee.**



5

DAY FIVE | Wednesday 4 November

AY ISLAND

Explore Ay Island's **crystal-clear turquoise waters and vibrant coral reefs during a relaxed snorkeling session**, followed by time to unwind on its quiet white-sand beaches.

Continue the journey through lush nutmeg and clove gardens that reveal Banda's historic role as the world's spice center. Concludes with a guided walk through the village to visit remnants of Dutch colonial forts and experience warm local life rooted in tradition, harmony, and island hospitality.



DAY SIX | Thursday 5 November

BANDA NEIRA

Banda Neira, a picturesque small island in the Banda Archipelago. This region was once the world's only source of nutmeg and mace. **The Dutch secured the coveted nutmeg trade in the 17th Century**, thus, changing the course of Indonesian history, but not without resistance. **They also changed to course of world history.** Despite their illustrious past, Banda Neira is a place where time seems to have stood still. We spend the next two nights anchored off this charming town.





DAY SEVEN | Friday 6 November

THE NUTMEG TOUR



We visit Banda Besar and the nutmeg plantation of **Pongky Van den Broeke, the world's last perkeneer** followed by a visit to a nearby old nutmeg forest with breath-taking ocean views.



“Hello Gang! I miss you all already. 3pm will mean snorkeling to me for the near future. Thank you for becoming fond and cherished memories for me.”

Lory Johansson, USA

DAY EIGHT | Saturday , 7 November

BANDA NEIRA AND BANDA BESAR

After a morning walk, exploring Banda Neira, we enjoy a cooking class at the **Cilu Bintang** owned by local personality, Aba Rizal. **Papaya flowers, fish in light turmeric broth, eggplant with kenari nut sambal and mint-fish patties** are part of the menu.

Afternoon is for **relaxing and snorkeling**.



DAY NINE | Sunday 8 November

MOLANA ISLAND

We swim and snorkel at **Molana Island**.
After our last cooking class on deck we enjoy a **bbq on the sand under the stars**. After dinner, we set sail back to Tulehu, Ambon.





DAY TEN | Monday 9 November

BACK to AMBON

After breakfast on deck, and **a wrap-up of our voyage into 17th century Indonesia**, we will say goodbye to the crew before transferring you to **Ambon airport** for your onward travel.

THE BOAT

EcoXplorer

Previously known as Imbekwan, this ship has undergone a stunning transformation. Now featuring a unique Phinisi-shaped design, it embodies the rich cultural heritage of the Bugis tribe while fulfilling a greater mission. When you choose to sail with EcoXplorer you are directly contributing to the well-being of local and indigenous communities in eastern Indonesia. Run by the Eco Nusa Foundation, all profits generated go toward enhancing their welfare and safeguarding the natural wonders of this region.

EcoXplorer is not merely a ship; it serves as a catalyst for positive change. Their mission is to foster a harmonious relationship between humanity and the environment, and to stand as a testament to their dedication to uplift the eastern region of Indonesia, a vital area for climate and biodiversity. They are committed to protecting and preserving this invaluable ecosystem in partnership with local communities, ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come. The





Boat Specification

- Dimension: 6.5 meters Width x 26 meters length
- 6-7 knots cruising speed
- 2 supporting 80 HP speed boats.
- EcoXplore independently produce fresh water by distilling seawater into fresh water.
- Research, training dan public awareness support facilities.
- Drones for forest monitoring, diving equipment and mobile data centres.
- Spacious open space including a sun deck.
- Convertible dining room equipped with a storage warehouse
- Total Room : 6 Rooms with private bathroom.

This trip Includes:

- Accommodation
- One night at Natsepa Hotel and Resort.
- 8 nights/ 9 days on EcoXplorer
- All Meals
- Daily Cooking Class
- Tour Program
- Return Ambon Airport Transfer

Not Including:

Alcohol beverages, tipping for the crews, domestic flights & personal expenses





Upper Deck Room with private terrace

1 Double Bed accommodate 2 people

Shared : IDR 99,000,000 per person

Single Occupancy : IDR 149,000,000

Number of room: 1

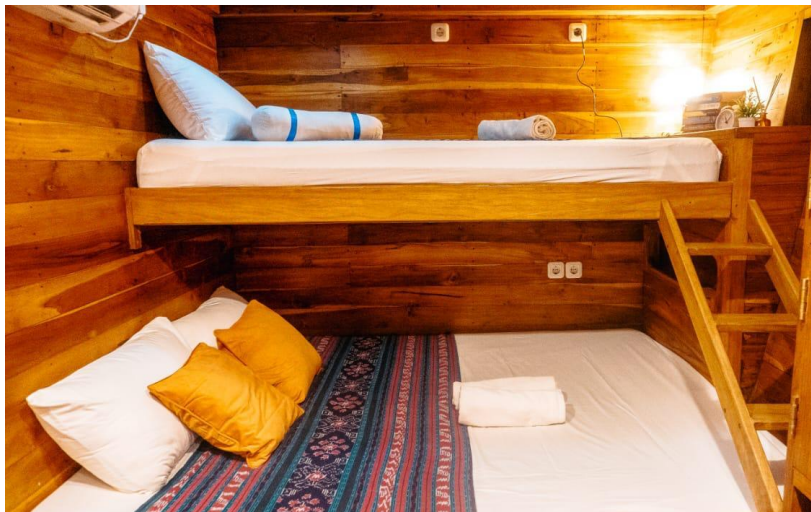


Main Deck Room with terrace

**1 Double Bed & 2 Bunked Bed
accommodate 4 people**

Shared : IDR 93,000,000 per person

Number of Room: 1



**Lower deck 2 bunk bed with 1
queen size bed and 1 single bed**

Accommodate 3 people

Shared : IDR 89,000,000 per person

Couple: IDR 218,000,000 per couple

Number of Room : 2



Lower deck, 2 bunk bed (single bed)

Accommodate 2 people

Shared : IDR 89,000,000 per person

Single Occupancy : 129,000,000 per person

Number of Room: 2



DETAILS PAYMENT

To secure your place a 50% non-refundable deposit per person is required. Remaining payment of 50% is due 15 September 2026 Deposits are non-refundable.

Account details are as follows:

BCA Account

Janet Mary DeNeefe

Acc no:1350549117

Swift Code: CENAIJJA

Bank : BCA Branch Ubud

Jl Raya Ubud No 10X Bali, Indonesia

OCBC Bank Account

Janet Mary De Neefe

Acc no 693814340511

Swift code ocba : NISPIDJA

Bank Name : OCBC NISP

Jl Prof Dr Satrio blok C4 no 25

Kuningan, Jakarta, Indonesia

MEET OUR TEAM



Janet DeNeefe | Host

Janet DeNeefe our Host is Melbourne-born, Founder & Director of Ubud Food Festival and Ubud Writers & Readers Festival, has lived in Bali for more than three decades. Her latest book is Bali: Food of My Island Home, following her memoir Fragrant Rice. She is also the owner of Casa Luna, Indus Restaurant, and Honeymoon Guesthouse and Bakery in Ubud.

Christina Arum H | Guest Relations

Arum will assist you during booking process and any inquiries related to the trip such as booking domestic flight to Ambon. She is person in charge for any information and questions about the trip, and you can contact her through email or phone. She will be on the trip with the group and happy to assist the guest needs.



Leo Ukru | Local Tour Guide

Leo is our local tour guide, originally from Ambon. He's the person on the ground to guide you and explain you about the historical place, culture and he is the bridge to communicate with the local people. Leo has been more than 8 year experience being professional and certified guide in tourism industry, especially in Ambon



Flight to Ambon (Airlines: Garuda Indonesia)

Depart from Bali:

Departure **07:00** Ngurah Rai (DPS) - Arrival **08:00** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) | *Duration 02h00m*

Departure **09:40** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) - Arrival **15:15** Pattimura (AMQ) | *Duration 03h35m*

Total flight duration: 05h35m

Depart from Jakarta

Departure **09:40** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) - Arrival **15:15** Pattimura (AMQ) | ***Duration 03h35m***

Return Flight (Airlines: Garuda Indonesia)

To Bali

Departure **16:15** Pattimura (AMQ) - Arrival **17:50** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) | *Duration 03h25m*

Departure **09:40** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) - Arrival **12:45** Denpasar (DPS) | *Duration 02h05m*

Total flight duration: 05h25m

To Jakarta

Departure **16:15** Pattimura (AMQ) - Arrival **17:50** Soekarno Hatta International (CKG) | *Duration 03h25m*





Payment Terms and Conditions

Passengers are required to pay a 50% deposit at the time of booking. Until payment is received, the booking will not be confirmed. Remaining payment of 50% is to be made by 15 September 2026. Failure of payment within the stated period will automatically give us the rights to offer to participants on the waiting list.

Trip Cancellations

In the event of a trip being canceled due to weather conditions or other factors beyond our reasonable control, deposits will be refunded in full within 20 business days. Otherwise, deposits are nonrefundable. We recommend that all passengers take out travel insurance to cover any losses that they may incur.

General Terms and Conditions

All Passengers undertake the trip at entirely their own risk. We cannot be held responsible (save where prescribed by statute) for any injuries, illness, loss of property, theft or damage occurring during our trip.

Safety is always paramount whilst at sea. We require all passengers to wear a life jacket, when necessary, and conduct themselves in a manner which does not unduly endanger themselves or others.

Due to the ecological fragility of the islands that we visit, passengers are reminded that animals are strictly forbidden and visitors must depart the islands as they find them, taking nothing and leaving nothing.

All day trips are contingent upon suitable weather conditions for safety. Additionally, other variables may result in the cancellation of trips at short notice.

For more details please email:

Christina Arum H

pa@janetdeneefe.com | +6281558809212

An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a deeper blue further out. The beach is a wide, curved strip of white sand. To the right of the beach is a dense forest of lush green trees, including several palm trees. Two small white boats are anchored near the top of the beach. A few small figures of people are visible on the sand. In the bottom left corner, the text "Thank you!" is written in a white, cursive font.

Thank you!