

KOMODO DANCER

2010 KOMODO NATIONAL PARK



area of operations



Most scuba divers, especially Komodo Dancer guests, already know about the stunning diversity, spectacular marine life and exciting dive and land adventures to be encountered in the Komodo National Park, Indonesia. What a few of our newer recruits are now discovering are the incredible critter black sand sites that we are starting to cover to the west of the park.

Many of our guests are avid photographers who like nothing more than hunting out weird and wonderful critters on the reef and sand. A lot of our divers have told us about the fascinating black sand diving of the Lembeh Strait. Our Divemasters already have experience of Lembeh so we set out to find our own macro Mecca closer to home.

We have come up trumps at two locations to the west of the Komodo National Park – Sangeang, an island volcano to the north of East Sumbawa and Bima Bay, an inlet that meanders down to Bima town on Sumbawa. There are two specific sites in both of these areas that are producing a dazzling array of rare creepy crawlies on a regular basis – “Estuary” on Sangeang and “Fuzzy Bottom” at the entrance to Bima Bay. Both are similar in that they are slightly current swept, as is Lembeh and while not entirely black sand, they do share similar bottom compositions.

“Estuary” is located on the northern tip of Sangeang, west of the lighthouse, and is marked out by two large rocks on the shore, left and right. The deeply shelving topography in this bay consists of black sand with coral reefs east and west, is relatively easy to dive and has produced seahorses, pygmy seahorses, Ambon scorpion fish, ghost pipefish, frogfish, inimicus, snake eels, stargazers, dragonets, sawblade shrimp, candy crabs and a whole host of rare nudibranchs.

“Fuzzy Bottom” near Bima Bay is a newer site. Looking fairly nondescript from the surface and not much better once you descend this place comes alive if you look for long enough. Fairly shallow and gently sloping the sand here provides shelter and a hunting ground to some of the rarest cephalopods on the planet. Five of the “Octopus Holy Grails” are here. Of the long arm variety Mimic’s, White V and Wonderpus are fairly common and Blue Rings and Veiny have also been seen on a regular basis.

Apart from our eight tentacled friends there are zebra crab and Coleman shrimp in fire urchins, thorny seahorses, various ghost pipefish, frogfish and strange looking puffers and porcupine fish. Night dives here are a trip – battling crabs and shrimp fight it out

on the bottom while trying to avoid the attentions of the other hunters.

Both of these locations have now been added to the already incredible Komodo Dancer itineraries – if you have been before it has just got better, if you haven’t you should find out! Once again – Komodo is calling the shots.

In 2010 the Komodo Dancer will offer all 11 Day / 10 Night cruises featuring an enhanced itinerary that allows guests more time diving, more time in the signature area of the Komodo National Park and an opportunity to explore the newly discovered area of the Sangeang Islands. To achieve this, each sailing of the Komodo Dancer will be a one way cruise that will either begin in Bali and end in Komodo or will begin in Komodo and end in Bali. Guests will then fly one way to either return to Bali or reach the vessel to begin their voyage on Merpati Airlines.

No matter which duration or direction is chosen, all cruises on this itinerary depart and return from the island of Bali. Sample itineraries are available. Remember—the exact itinerary you sail may vary slightly at the Captain’s discretion due to weather, logistical, or safety concerns.

2010 Komodo Dancer Packages Include:

- Ten nights on board the Komodo Dancer,
- All meals and beverages (non-alcoholic and local beer).
- 3 transfers (between airport, hotel, and yacht). Additional transfers may be purchased based individual needs.
- Nine days of diving usually three or four dives per day.
- Shore excursions on Satonda Island plus a “Dragon Trek” in Komodo National Park.
- Other standard Dancer Fleet services and amenities.

Sample Bali to Komodo Itinerary^{1,3,4,5,6}

10 Night
Itinerary

Daily Events

Pre-Embarkation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Arrival at Bali Airport (DPS) • Transfer from airport to a hotel in Bali (Trx #1) • Check into Bali Hotel
Day 1 (Embark)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer from hotel to board Komodo Dancer. (Trx #2) • All day cruising and relaxing while sailing to Satonda.
Day 2	Three Dives at Satonda
Day 3-8	Four dives a day in Komodo National Park
Day 9 & 10	Four dives at Sangeang Island featuring black sand diving.
Day 11 (Disembark)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer from Komodo Dancer to Labuan Bajo Airport (LBJ) (Trx #3) • Fly from Flores Island to Bali.⁴ • Arrive Bali and transfer to hotel.
Post Disembarkation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer from hotel to Bali Airport (DPS). • International Departure for home.

1—On the Disembarkation Day while it is possible to board a flight for an international departure that evening a flight delay on the domestic carrier could cause a guest to miss their international flight. We highly recommend an additional overnight in Bali upon the conclusion of the cruise in addition to the purchase of Trip Cancellation / Interruption Insurance so that guests have protection and a backup in case this situation would occur.

2—On Komodo to Bali routes, because your arrival in Bali is based on a transit on-board Komodo Dancer and not an airline, guests may schedule an international departure for the night of disembarkation as an option.

3—The Komodo Dancer will schedule domestic flights and purchase a ticket for each guest as part of their package, however, in doing so, Komodo Dancer is only acting as an agent for the airline and is not responsible for, and can accept no responsibility for, cancellations, delays or problems caused by the air carrier.

4— Flight Schedules:

eff 21-Jan-2010

Flight schedules and fares subject to change without notice and not guaranteed until ticketed. The estimated Fare \$111 one way.

Indonesia Air Transport LBJ-DPS IAT #8121 13:30 15:00

2010 Bali to Komodo Cruise

KOM-07-Mar-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-31-Mar-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-11-Jun-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-05-Jul-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-29-Jul-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-22-Aug-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-15-Sep-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-09-Oct-10 IAT #8121
 KOM-20-Dec-10 IAT #8121

Tentative flight plans for specific departures. Indonesia domestic flights cannot be confirmed or ticketed until 30 before departure.

Sample Komodo To Bali Itinerary^{2,3,4,5,6}

10 Night
Itinerary

Daily Events

Pre-Embarkation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive In Bali. • Transfer from airport to a hotel in Bali. • Check into Bali Hotel.
Day 1 (Embark)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer from hotel to Bali Airport (DPS) (Trx #1) • Fly from Bali to Labuan Bajo Airport (LBJ) in Flores Island.⁴ • Transfer to Komodo Dancer from airport. (Trx #2) • Embark Komodo Dancer in early afternoon. • Depart Flores Island and check-out dive.
Day 2	Four dives at Sangeang Island featuring black sand diving.
Day 3-8	Four dives a day in Komodo National Park.
Day 9 & 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Dives at Satonda. • Afternoon and overnight cruise relaxing while sailing to Bali.
Day 11 (Disembark)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive in Bali in the morning. • Transfer from Komodo Dancer to Bali Airport or a hotel in Bali. (Trx #3) • (Optional) Evening International Departure for home. • (Optional) Land Tours if staying over in Bali,
Post Disembarkation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer from hotel in Bali to Bali Airport (DPS). • International Departure for home.

5—Each carrier allows 20kg standard baggage. Excess Baggage rates are:

Merpati Airlines R14.100 / kg DPS-LBJ
 Indonesia Air Transport R11.000 / kg LBJ-DPS

6—Each passenger is required to pay an airport tax upon check in. Payment can only be made in local currency. The Bali Airport Tax (DPS) is 30.000 Rupiahs and the Labuan Bajo Airport Tax (LBJ) is 10.000 Rupiahs.

Indonesia Air Transport DPS-LBJ IAT #8120 11:30 13:00

2010 Komodo to Bali Cruise

KOM-19-Mar-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-30-May-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-23-Jun-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-17-Jul-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-10-Aug-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-03-Sep-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-27-Sep-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-08-Dec-10 IAT #8120
 KOM-01-Jan-11 IAT #8120