



Dancer Fleet

Planning Guide

LiveAboard Excellence

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Thank you for choosing Paradise Dancer for your LiveAboard dive vacation. Our crew looks forward to your visit.

All information contained here is correct at the time of printing, however is subject to change without notice.

Dream, Dive, Discover

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North Sulawesi, Indonesia and the Paradise Dancer – Overview

Indonesia is the land of over 17,000 islands stretching over 5,000 kilometers— all surrounded by nutrient rich, cerulean blue waters. A convergence of oceans and currents constantly feed the marine life ensuring the most verdant habitat on earth for divers searching for diversity and wow! Straddling the equator just north of Australia and south of Malaysia and the Philippines, the entire country has a diverse natural beauty from lush, green and rainy at times to arid, volcanic and desolate all represented on islands and islets of varying sizes. Some densely populated and frequented by travelers – and many uninhabited and ripe for exploration.

North Sulawesi Indonesia, with a population of about two million, is a province of Indonesia. It is on the island of Sulawesi, which is the world's 11th largest island and borders the province of Gorontalo to the west. The islands of Sangihe and Talaud form the northern part of the province, which borders the Philippines. The capital and largest city in North Sulawesi Indonesia is Manado. North Sulawesi's culture is evident in the highland towns of Tomohon and Tondano where you'll find clove and coconut plantations, rice paddies and flower gardens with the same beauty and serenity found in the smiling people of the area.

Your home for 11 nights – Paradise Dancer is a triple-masted wooden sailing yacht crafted with stylish lines of schooners and cutters from the classic era of sailing. Christened in 2008, the hull was laid in Borneo, Indonesia and outfitted in its home port of Benoa Harbor. With a length of 47 metres (148 feet) and a beam of 12 metres (37 feet) she is a comfortable home away from home for this exciting journey. Her twin 7 metre tenders function as able means to reach the best diving the North Sulawesi region has to offer. The Captain and crews experience in the region will deliver the trip of a lifetime in LiveAboard luxury aboard the beautiful Paradise Dancer.

Using the size and range of this "Floating Boutique Resort", the Paradise Dancer takes divers on a 320 nautical mile voyage that "Goes Beyond" the Lembeh Strait and explores Bangka Island, the Sangihe Island chain and Bunaken National Marine Park before spending several days exploring the world famous Lembeh Strait.

Located off the northern tip of Sulawesi, Bangka features steep pinnacles and boulders dressed in colorful corals that provide shelter to schooling fish such as snappers, fulsiliers, and surgeon fish. Big pelagics come in to feed here and the reefs are alive with color.

The Sangihe Archipelago is a chain of 40 steep and lush volcanic islands that lie 136 miles (220 km) off Sulawesi and connects Indonesia with the Philippines. The area's best feature is its natural seclusion and untamed nature. Here from deep oceanic trenches rise towering volcanic

islands including the still active Siau volcano. This rain-forest island rises to over 4,600 feet (1400 m) above sea level. Nights can be a special effects spectacle as red-hot lava spews from the vent at the cone's summit.

Established in 1991, the Bunaken National Marine Park Indonesia covers 343 square miles, 97% of which is clear, warm tropical waters. Nearly everything can be found at Bunaken. Reef inhabitants include white and black tip reef sharks, giant sea turtles, napoleon fish and dugongs. You may also run into dolphins, and occasionally schools of whales.

Located near the port town of Bitung, the Lembeh Strait delivers "close encounters" of the macro type where bizarre and beautiful critters are the norm.

This is a unique itinerary that will deliver amazing beauty above and below the surface. Only the Paradise Dancer can combine modern conveniences, comfort and world class service in the remote and undeveloped areas visited to make this a truly once in a lifetime experience.

WHERE IS NORTH SULAWESI IN INDONESIA?

North Sulawesi is one of the 32 provinces in the Republic of Indonesia, with its capital city being Manado. To the North this region borders on the Republic of the Philippines, Sulawesi Sea and the Pacific Ocean. The Eastern part is on the Maluku Sea and on the Southern side is the Tomini Gulf. The western part borders Gorontalo Province.

WHAT KIND OF DIVING IS FOUND IN NORTH SULAWESI?

Paradise Dancer will conduct its diving in Bangka Island, the Sangihe Island Chain, Bunaken National Marine Park and the Lembeh Strait. In the northern tip of the mainland between Bunaken and Lembeh lies Bangka Island, a group of tropical islands with white sandy beaches and beautiful coral reefs, covered with amazing soft corals and even more critters. The remoteness of the Sangihe Islands has helped to preserve the diversity of marine life there and its clear blue water offers visibility of 35 to 45 meters (on average), sometimes more. The whole archipelago has breathtaking scenery including volcanoes above and below the water. Huge walls, crystal blue warm water, beautiful soft and hard corals, big sponges, and amazing colorful tropical fishes inhabit the Bunaken National Marine Park. The waters of Lembeh Strait, known for some of the world's best black sand diving and is full of extraordinary marine critters, many of which are masters of camouflage. Dramatic drop offs, big pelagics, small critters, whales and dolphins make North Sulawesi a paradise for both beginner and experienced divers and photographers.

IN WHAT TIME ZONE IS NORTH SULAWESI LOCATED?

North Sulawesi is in the Eastern Indonesia Time Zone and is 9 hours ahead of GMT.

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WHAT LANGUAGES ARE SPOKEN ON BOARD?

There are about 583 languages and dialects spoken in the archipelago. Bahasa Indonesia is the national language. In all tourist destination areas English is the number one foreign language. Our crew will converse in English with the guests.

WHAT WEATHER CONDITIONS CAN I EXPECT IN NORTH SULAWESI?

Like other regions in Indonesia, North Sulawesi has a typical equatorial climate with two seasons: rainy and dry.

Dry season is from April to November when the wind blows from southeast and the sea stays relatively calm. This is the best time to guarantee blue skies and sun, and it offers the best visibility.

Wet/rainy season is from December to March with cooler winds from the northwest. This can bring heavier rains and rougher seas in Feb. The wind and rain can reduce visibility slightly.

Please don't let rainy days deter your plans. The norm is for blue skies and sun in the morning, cloudy in the afternoon, and rain at night ending by early morning. Occasionally it may rain in the afternoon but typically it does not last long. When rain falls – it is considered a “rainy” day. The presence of rain will not deter any diving operations. A light wetsuit is necessary, though some people choose more thermal protection (a 3mm suit) to ensure continued core temperature warmth throughout their visit.

WHAT CURRENCY IS USED?

Rupiah (IDR) is the official currency. It is advisable to exchange currency at banks which have the most favorable exchange rates and most are open Monday to Friday. It is recommended that you exchange enough currency for island tipping, airport taxes and small pocket change. Major credit cards are accepted by most restaurants, hotels, car rental companies, and shops. Travelers checks are accepted everywhere.

WHAT DOES MY PARADISE DANCER PACKAGE INCLUDE?

All staterooms are air-conditioned and fitted with private toilets, showers and sinks. Breakfast (cooked to order), buffet lunch and an elegant meal at dinner with table side service are served daily in addition to fresh mid-morning and mid-afternoon snacks. Beverages (non-alcoholic and local beer) are complimentary while onboard. Bathrobes and some toiletries are available for your use onboard. The yacht is equipped with hair dryers in each stateroom. Linens are changed mid-week and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom daily as needed. Filled tanks, weights and weight belts are included. Ground transfers to and from the Manado Airport are also included.

FOR WHAT ADDITIONAL EXPENSES WILL I BE RESPONSIBLE?

No air transportation (domestic or international) is included in the Dancer package. An airport departure tax must be paid at the airport when leaving. Please see the latest rate schedule for departure tax amount. Dive instruction, dive and photo equipment rentals and “Boatique” purchases must be settled onboard prior to departure. Acceptable methods of payment include: US Dollars, local currency, traveler's checks, or credit cards (Visa or MasterCard). Personal checks are not accepted. Crew gratuities are not included.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF INDONESIA

The name Indonesia has its roots in two Greek words: “Indos” meaning Indian and “Nesos” which means islands. It is an appropriate description of the archipelago as there are estimated to be a total of 17,508 islands, of which only about 6,000 are inhabited, stretching for 5,150 km between the Australian and Asian continental mainland and dividing the Pacific and Indian Oceans at the Equator.

The islands and people of Indonesia constitute the fourth most populated nation in the world. As a democratic republic, Indonesia is divided into 27 provinces and special territories and classified geographically into four groups. Bali is part of the Lesser Sundas, a chain of small islands stretching eastward.

A rich history of kingdoms, conquests, colonialism, trade and natural disasters has bequeathed it with an exhilarating kaleidoscope of cultures and traditions, people, languages and religions, aspirations and problems, and the dramatic scenery of changing landscapes. It is the combination of the friendly people, the natural attractions, the great variety of things to see and do, and the year-round pleasant climate that make this such a desirable vacation destination.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF NORTH SULAWESI

The people of North Sulawesi can be classified into four groups; Minahasa, Bolaang Mongondow, Gorontalo and the Sangir-Talaud. The Minahasans are centered around the Provincial capital of Manado, but the entire province has a strong tradition of trade and contact with the outside world.

The Sangir-Talaud Islands, to the north of the mainland, form a natural bridge to the Philippines providing a convenient route for peoples and cultures to easily move between Indonesia and the Philippines. Many traces of Filipino culture can still be found here. The Filipinos encouraged the local populations to raise coconuts, for copra, and nutmeg. Today the main industries of the province are copra and cloves. North Sulawesi has a larger concentration of coconut trees than anywhere else in Indonesia.

First contacts with European traders came in the 16th

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century with the arrival of the Spanish and Portuguese and with them Christianity. It wasn't until the arrival of the Dutch, however, that Christianity became the predominant religion of the area. The Dutch besides establishing religious structure, introduced strong political structure.

The provincial capital of Manado is one of the international gateways into Indonesia. Regular flights to and from all parts of the Indonesian archipelago service this beautiful town as well as the smaller airports of Gorontalo, Tuhuna and Talaud. Manado's main attractions are off-shore. Here, truly amazing coral reefs off nearby Bunaken Island, which is now a protected Marine Park, offer some of the best diving and snorkeling in the world.

Paradise Dancer - Travel Information

HOW DO I GET TO NORTH SULAWESI?

No matter where in the world our divers come from, getting to Manado, Bunaken and North Sulawesi Indonesia is easy. The most direct way to reach Manado is via Singapore. Singapore to Manado is on Silk Air, Singapore Air's regional carrier, with five direct flights per week - Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday (based on currently published schedule).

Flight time from Singapore to Manado is 3 hours and 20 minutes and many of the overnight flights from Europe and North American arrive early enough in Singapore to connect with the flight to Manado, with just a short layover (flights from Singapore to Manado typically depart at 9:25 or 10:35 in the morning).

If you'd prefer to break up the trip, you can stopover in Singapore on the way to or from Manado and take in the atmosphere of Singapore, a unique city-state. Singapore is efficient, clean and offers some excellent shopping and nightlife opportunities. For hotels in Singapore, ask for a "Singapore Stopover", which is a special rates deal offered only by Singapore Air. Note that you must book your "Stopover" at the same time that you pay for your flights. If you need assistance with your flight arrangements, be sure to contact **LiveAboard Vacations**, Dancer Fleet's in-house travel specialists at 1-800-9DANCER or 305-669-9391 for the most competitive airfares.

WHAT LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS DO I NEED TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT?

Guests are encouraged to pack carefully and lightly as possible. For international flights, please check with your carrier about weight restrictions and any other restrictions on the content of your luggage. Depending on which gateway you are using, you may also be flying on a domestic Indonesian air carrier to reach Manado. Domestic airlines have different baggage weight restrictions than international carriers. A rule of thumb is that passengers are allowed 44lbs (20kg). Above that—expect excess baggage charges.

Excess luggage is charged for at a per kilogram per segment rate determined by the particular airline being used. (A connecting flight would have two segments.) However, please be advised there is no guarantee that any excess luggage (especially that above 45kg) will actually travel on the same flight as the guest. This in turn could result in luggage not making it to the guest in time for the charters departure or an international flight home.

WHAT TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WILL I NEED?

You are required to possess a passport valid for at least six months from the date of arrival and have proof of return or onward ticketing. Your passport should have at least two blank pages in it in order to passing through immigration.

You may also require a Visa. You may qualify for a free Visa or a Visa on arrival depending on your citizenship. Please contact your local Embassy or Consulate for your destination or review the requirements on one of the many travel visa information websites.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION?

At the airport, customs formalities are usually quick and trouble free. Tourists are allowed articles for use during their stay. These include items of personal adornment, wearing apparel, toiletries and any portable articles which someone can reasonably be expected to use during their stay.

WHAT ARE THE EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION TIMES?

You may board the Paradise Dancer around 4:00 pm on the embarkation day. On the day of disembarkation, you will depart the yacht at either 9:50 AM or 11:50 AM for the bus ride back to the Manado airport.

HOW DO I GET FROM THE AIRPORT TO PARADISE DANCER?

The Paradise Dancer package includes a transfer from the Manado Airport to the yacht. So once you have claimed your luggage, please look for an agent from our transfer company holding a Paradise Dancer sign or a sign with your name on it. It is approximately a 90 minute drive from the airport to the harbor where the yacht is.

Once you have claimed your luggage and cleared customs and immigrations, please look for an agent holding a Paradise Dancer sign or a sign with your name on it. A transfer company has been hired to meet and greet our Paradise Dancer guests and provide bus transport to the yacht for the entire group.

For embarkations on Monday-Wednesday-Saturday look for the bus driver outside of the Customs and Immigration area at 1:30 pm. For Thursday and Friday embarkations meet at 2:45 pm. These times are based around the ar-

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rival of the Silk Air flight on these days and will be adjusted to accommodate any flight delays. On Tuesday and Sunday when there are no Silk Air flights (or other days with no Silk Air flights) the meeting time for embarkations is 2:00 pm.

Your package includes round trip group transfers from the airport to the yacht. The Paradise Dancer departs from and returns to the port of Bitung.

If you are extending your stay at a hotel nearby, our bus will take you to the Manado airport and from there you will be able to arrange your own transport to the hotel..

HOW DO I GET FROM THE HOTEL TO PARADISE DANCER IF I ARRIVE EARLY?

If you arrive early into Manado you will be responsible for making your way to the Paradise Dancer docks or you may join up with other guests arriving at the airport for transport to the yacht.

Guests that arrive a day or more early and stay in Manado should make their way to the airport for the group pickup on the day of embarkation. (See pick-up times above.) Guests staying at KBR or the Lembeh Resort are already close to the Paradise Dancer. A message will be left for you at your resort with an exact pickup time and details. Typically this is around 2:30 pm and you will be picked up at the dock by the Paradise Dancer tender.

WHAT DO WE DO ON THE DAY WE DISEMBARK?

The Paradise Dancer returns to port on the morning that you disembark the yacht. Final disembarkation will occur between 8 am and 10 am at the end of the charter. Transfers are provided to the airport for guests departing this day.

For those guests choosing to extend their stay in the Manado area, the group transfers will drop you at the airport. If you are extending your stay you will need to make arrangements for your hotel to provide you with transfers from the airport.

HOW DO I ARRANGE FOR PRE AND POST CHARTER HOTELS AND TRANSFERS?

In addition to being able to book your airline tickets to and from North Sulawesi, **LiveAboard Vacations**, Dancer Fleet's in-house travel agency, has created several extension packages based around different experiences in the area. Or they would be happy to design something specifically with your interests in mind.

DO I NEED TRIP INSURANCE?

We strongly recommend each guest purchase comprehensive accident, medical, baggage and trip cancellation and interruption insurance when space is reserved. Trip insurance will protect you from financial disappointment if you are prevented from making your scheduled trip due to illness or family illness, or in the event that unforeseen circumstances prevent the airline or yacht from making its scheduled trip. In an event where it is necessary to

cancel or interrupt a charter due to weather or any matter beyond the control of Dancer Fleet, Inc., there will be no refund or credit issued. We also recommend diving accident insurance. Please inquire with our reservation office for assistance.

Paradise Dancer – The Onboard Experience

IF I AM TRAVELING AS A SINGLE, WILL I HAVE A ROOMMATE?

All rates are quoted on a share basis; therefore, unless you require a guaranteed single room and pay an additional supplement, you will very likely be sharing your stateroom with one other guest of the same gender.

WHAT TYPE OF CUISINE IS PREPARED?

Meals prepared by our onboard chef consist of an international mix with a local flair. If you have any special dietary requirements, please advise our US office as soon as possible so we can adequately prepare to meet your needs. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available on a consistent basis due to the remote nature of this location.

WHAT KINDS OF BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE?

The Paradise Dancer's selection of beverages includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, tea and coffee and a limited selection of local beer. One glass of wine is served with dinner. Fresh milk may not be available, although UHT long life milk is provided onboard. We recommend that you purchase any special brands of alcoholic beverages that you may want to consume onboard at the Duty Free Shop at any airport. We encourage you to consume lots of non-alcoholic liquids during the week to avoid dehydration. **REMEMBER: ALCOHOL AND DIVING DO NOT MIX.** Once you consume alcohol, you become a snorkeler until the next day.

A WORD ABOUT ALCOHOL

The importation of alcoholic beverages in Indonesia is strictly controlled by the government through quota restrictions. Locally produced beer has no restrictions. In accordance with local cultural customs and regulations only local beer is provided and one glass of wine is served with dinner as part of your Paradise Dancer package. At all other times, additional alcoholic beverages (based on availability) including bottles of imported wines and drinks containing spirits may be purchased through the ships bar.

There are no corkage or bottle charges imposed for guests who choose to bring their own alcohol on board for personal consumption. Customs regulations allow foreign tourists arriving into Indonesia to bring with them 1 liter of alcohol per adult. If you have a favorite alcoholic wine or spirit you would like to consume on your upcoming cruise, we encourage you to bring it with you.

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While customs in Indonesia is laid back and friendly to tourists, the importation limits are enforced. All checked and carry-on bags are x-rayed when clearing customs, so bottles and containers are easily identified by Customs officers. Any tourist who attempts to circumvent the import limits opens themselves up to a very inconvenient situation with government officials.

WHAT ELECTRICAL CURRENT IS AVAILABLE?

The electrical current on Paradise Dancer is 220 volts. Guests may wish to bring a converter for the use of small appliances in their stateroom. There is a charging station in the Main Salon which offers access to both 110V and 220V power. The standard current in all of Indonesia is 220 volts.

HOW MUCH SHALL I PACK?

Please plan to travel light, as on all LiveAboard dive yachts, space is limited. We recommend that you pack your gear in soft luggage such as a duffel bag for easy stowage and to add to your comfort in your cabin, leave those large, rigid suitcases at home. Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear and swim suits are a must. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for the evenings. Dress aboard is always casual. Light clothing that reflects the sun is best and a hat is a recommended. Evening dress is informal. Additional items you may want to bring are sunscreen, sunglasses, walking shoes and a hat or visor for your time on shore. Hair dryers are provided in each cabin. We recommend you pack your regulator, dive computer, mask, swim suit, change of clothes and essential items in your carry-on bag. This will make it easier in the event your luggage is delayed. Please check with your airline as to what weight restrictions will apply to your carry-on and checked luggage.

WILL THERE BE ANY OPPORTUNITIES TO GO ASHORE DURING THE CRUISE?

When the location is suitable, there is swimming, snorkeling and beach combing.

WHAT IF I AM PRONE TO SEASICKNESS?

Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. If you have a tendency toward seasickness we strongly urge you to bring some over-the-counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets. Chewable ginger tablets or capsules of powdered ginger have also proved to be effective.

WHAT IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY ONBOARD?

All Dancer crews are trained in first aid and diving accident management. Each yacht is equipped with a complete first aid kit and a high capacity oxygen system. Each yacht also has direct contact with the closest hyperbaric chamber. Since emergency transportation and treatment cost is the responsibility of each guest, we strongly recommend that you dive conservatively and obtain special insurance for divers from Divers Alert Network, Dive Assure or similarly ranked company.

HOW CAN MY FAMILY CONTACT ME IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY AT HOME?

In case of emergency your family may contact you by calling our Miami office at 1-800-932-6237 or 305-669-9391 during business hours (8 am – 6 pm EST weekdays). If outside of our operating hours, call our emergency cell phone number, 305-778-8004. Please reserve calling this number for emergencies only.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS, MAIL, AND E-MAIL?

Check with your local cell phone provider for service while visiting each Dancer yacht destination. The Paradise Dancer is equipped with Satellite based phone for emergency communications. At this time e-mail is not available.

IS SMOKING PERMITTED?

A designated area on the back of the outdoor lido deck is available for smoking. Smoking is not permitted in any other area for any reason.

IS THERE ENTERTAINMENT ONBOARD?

The Paradise Dancer has a multi-system TV/VCR unit for videotape and video camera playback, a compact disc player, a DVD player and stereo in the main salon. If you have a favorite movie, slide show or a video to share, we encourage you to bring it along! You may also bring your own favorite music CD's or DVD's. A small library of "books for exchange" is maintained onboard, as well as fish identification books for reference.

HOW CAN I CELEBRATE A SPECIAL OCCASION?

Our crew is delighted to help you celebrate any special occasion onboard including birthdays, anniversaries, honeymoons or weddings. Kindly advise our US office at least 30 days prior to departure so that we can adequately prepare.

IS IT CUSTOMARY TO OFFER A GRATUITY TO THE CREW?

Aboard Dancer Fleet yachts, gratuities are not included. We prefer that our guests reward our crew based on performance. If the crew performs to your expectations, we suggest that a gratuity of approximately 10% of the published package price be considered normal aboard a live aboard dive yacht. Payment of gratuities is entirely at the discretion of the guest. Payment of gratuities can be by cash, traveler's checks, or credit card (Visa or MasterCard). The crew greatly appreciate cash as local banking fees and government taxes for traveler's checks and credit card processing reduce the amount of gratuity left on a credit card up to 35% in some destinations.

HOW CAN I PAY FOR MY EXPENSES AND PURCHASES ONBOARD?

Each Dancer yacht has a small, onboard "Boatique" which sells a selection of logo clothing, custom jewelry, sundries, diving accessories, batteries, logbooks, etc. A crew member will gladly assist you with your purchases at any time during the week. The US Dollar, local currency, traveler's

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checks or credit cards (Visa or MasterCard) are accepted onboard. Personal checks are not accepted

Paradise Dancer – Diving Operations

HOW MANY DIVES WILL WE DO EACH DAY?

We will offer up to four dives per day, including a night dive. On the first and last dive days there will be 2-3 dives (weather and sea conditions permitting).

WHAT PAPERWORK WILL I NEED FOR DIVING?

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification. The divemaster requires proof of certification before the first dive. You will be required to complete our Cruise Application and Waiver agreement prior to departure for Indonesia. Our GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to complete all required paperwork on-line including the cruise application, waiver agreement, special requests and travel information. If you haven't received a link to access the GIS, please contact a Dancer Fleet agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS registration process will be denied boarding. Please remember, many Dancer destinations require complete passenger information prior to departure for itinerary approval by government agencies.

HOW WILL WE DIVE FROM THE PARADISE DANCER?

Tender diving is the rule rather than the exception. All dives will be made from 2 dive tenders. Guests board the tender and then don their gear at the dive site. For divers who require special assistance we will be happy to provide it. Backward roll entry from the tender is the most convenient way to enter the water. Our crew will hand down cameras and other equipment. To re-board the tenders, guests may remove their gear in the water and hand it up to our staff and simply climb aboard by way of a ladder secured to the gunwale of the tender.

For your safety, it is recommended that each diver carry an emergency SMB (safety sausage), DiveAlert or other suitable audible surface signaling device and mini-strobe light on all dives. If you do not bring any one of these devices with you they are available for rent on board, however, quantities may be limited.

ARE THERE ANY LIMITATIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE DIVING?

All diving on board the Paradise Dancer should be planned no-decompression dives and conducted within the limits and standards your certification agency. Solo diving and rebreather diving is not permitted.

CAN I EARN ADVANCED DIVING CERTIFICATIONS OR SPECIALTIES ON BOARD?

Several diving specialty courses are offered on each Dancer yacht. To ensure that an instructor is available and that all required paperwork is complete, 30 days advanced notice is required prior to sailing. **IMPORTANT:** If

you intend to receive diving instruction onboard, you must complete a medical statement in advance and return it to Dancer Fleet Inc. prior to the departure date. A doctor's note will be required if you answer yes to any of the questions on the medical statement. A list of available courses and prices is located on our website at www.dancerfleet.com.

ARE NITROX FILLS AVAILABLE?

Paradise Dancer is equipped with Nitrox facilities. Nitrox fills of up to 32% are normally available to all certified Nitrox divers for an additional charge. Nitrox dive profiles must be planned and executed with a Nitrox compatible computer. It is recommended that the planned PO2 level be set within the limits of your certifying agency. All Nitrox fills must be analyzed by the divers using the mix and logged prior to each and every dive. Nitrox certifications are usually available onboard to all certified open water divers for an additional charge.

WHAT DIVING EQUIPMENT WILL I NEED TO BRING?

Equipment provided aboard the Paradise Dancer includes tanks (80 cu. ft. aluminum with yoke style "K" valves), weights and weight belts. Divers will also need the following equipment:

Basic Required Diving Equipment for Each Diver

- Regulator with alternate air source
- Depth and pressure gauge
- Dive computer
- Buoyancy Compensation Device (BCD)
- Mask / fins / snorkel
- Night Dives: we require at least two light sources on a night dive.

Recommended (Additional) Dive Equipment

- Battery operated tank marker light.
- Dive light w/ extra batteries/charging source

WHAT SAFETY EQUIPMENT DO I NEED TO HAVE?

We suggest that you bring your own to ensure compatibility with your personal equipment. The Paradise Dancer has a limited supply available for rental by our guests.

Recommended Surface Safety Equipment For Each Diver

- Audible Surface Signaling Device such as a Dive Alert (Air Horn) or an Emergency Whistle of superior quality.
- Visual Surface Signaling Device (Daytime) such as an Inflatable Safety Sausage or similar device.
- Visual Surface Device (Night or Dusk) such as a Per-

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sonal Mini-Strobe or similar device.

Additional Recommended Surface Safety Equipment

- Signaling mirror
- Whistle

ARE DIVE GEAR AND PHOTO/VIDEO GEAR AVAILABLE FOR RENT?

Every Dancer has a limited amount of diving equipment available for rent, so it is critical that you advise our US office staff in advance if you decide you want to rent gear. We offer BCD's and regulators. At this time digital photo gear is not available for rental.

I AM A PHOTOGRAPHER – WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Photo opportunities are abundant no matter what system you have. Guests who are shooting digital photography may view their images on either of the two computers, a PC and a MAC, we provide in the Main Salon for your use.

Camera Tables: Every Dancer has a camera table built into the dive deck for your use.

Charging Stations: There is a charging station with 110V and 220V power available for your use.

Rinse Buckets: There is a “cameras only” rinse bucket for the exclusive use of photographers onboard.

All divers are required to have a buddy with them at all times. When on a drift dive, photographers are expected to stay with the body of the group on their tender. You may move away from the group within reason – providing that the divemaster leading the dive is kept in sight at all times. You will not be permitted to separate from the group or carry your own drift line.

CAN I FISH OR SPEARFISH?

Fishing and spear fishing are not available. Spear fishing equipment is prohibited onboard the diving yacht.

Paradise Dancer – North Sulawesi Itinerary

North Sulawesi Operational Areas

Using the size and range of this “Floating Boutique Resort”, the Paradise Dancer takes divers on a 320 nautical mile voyage that allows guests to “Dream, Dive, and Discover” the Lembeh Strait and explores Bangka island, the Sangihe island chain and Bunaken National Marine Park before spending several days exploring the world famous Lembeh Strait.

Bangka

Located off the northern tip of Sulawesi Indonesia, Bangka and its surrounding islands are quite exposed and often get strong currents which come from all directions. Big pelagics come in to feed here and the reefs are alive with color. Dive sites closer to shore feature steep pinnacles and boulders dressed in colorful corals that provide shelter to schooling fish such as snappers, fusiliers, and surgeon fish.

Sangihe Archipelago

The Sangihe Archipelago is a chain of 40 steep and lush volcanic islands that lie 136 miles (220 km) off Sulawesi and connects Indonesia with the Philippines. The areas best feature is its natural seclusion and untamed nature. Here from deep oceanic trenches rise towering volcanic islands including the still active Siau volcano. This rainforest island rises to over 4,600 ft. (1400m) above sea level. Nights can be a special effects spectacle as red-hot lava spews from the vent at the cone's summit.

Mahangetang

One of the most amazing geological features of this archipelago is a dive at Mahangetang—an active underwater volcano near Siau. Rising 1,300 ft. (400m) from the sea floor, the vent lies just below the surface. The surrounding area is desolate and strewn with huge boulders while hundreds of tiny bubbles race to the surface as gasses escape from deep inside the volcano. Close inspection reveals tiny sea stars, algae, small worms and sprouting corals - all signs of a new coral reef in the making.

Sangihe Islands

In the Sangihe Islands Indonesia the diving from the Paradise Dancer LiveAboard is incredibly rich and varied. Here plankton and nutrients from the upwelling deep-water currents create the food chain for the coral reef fringed islands which in turn attracts massive schools of fish. The waters surrounding the islands are frequented by numerous species of cetaceans such as sperm whales, pilot whales, melon-headed whales and numerous species of dolphins are often seen traveling in pods.

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Bunaken National Marine Park Indonesia

There are 22 official dive sites within the park. Diving in and around Bunaken is mostly wall and drift diving. Here schools of barracudas and jacks, green sea turtles and reef sharks, sea snakes and napoleon wrasses are found. The area also has beautiful coral slopes where coral fish in all shapes, sizes and colors can be found, as divers drift by the huge sea fans and sponges. The area offers superb opportunities for both macro and wide angle photography.

Lembeh Strait

Located near the port town of Bitung, the Lembeh Strait Indonesia delivers "close encounters" of the macro type where bizarre and beautiful critters are the norm. So what do you see at the Lembeh Straits? There are the "shy critters" such as pygmy seahorses, mimic octopus, flamboyant cuttlefish, harlequin shrimp, skeleton shrimps, candy crabs, pegasus sea moths, and bobbit worms. Along with the usual reef fish there are also more unusual ones such as ambon scorpionfish, hairy frogfish, snake eels, stonefish, devilfish, sea robins, stargazers, devil fish and even the weedy scorpionfish. There are also beautiful seahorses including pygmies, pegasus, mandarinfish, ghost pipefish and the endemic banggai cardinalfish. The incredible array of nudibranchs come in all shapes and colors. This is the one location where you will likely encounter a new species on every dive!

Sample Itinerary – North Sulawesi

Day	Daily Events
Pre-Embarkation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bali or Jakarta Flight Gateways:</i> Arrive in your Indonesian gateway city. Overnight in local hotel before embarking on domestic flights to Manado • <i>International Arrival in Manado:</i> Arrive in Manado on Silk Air from Singapore and overnight in local hotel. (May be required depending on flight patterns).
Embark -1 day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bali or Jakarta Gateways:</i> Fly from your Indonesian Gateway city to Manado connecting in Ujung Padang. • <i>Manado Flight Arrivals:</i> Meet at the airport arrivals area for a group transfer to the Paradise Dancer. These times are based around the arrival of the Silk Air flight. • Bus transfer (for all passengers) 90 minute bus ride to Paradise Dancer • Embark Paradise Dancer • Lembeh Strait (Checkout dive) and night dive
Day 2 through Day 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dream, Dive, and Discover North Sulawesi and the Sangihe Islands on board the Paradise Dancer where you will complete 3-4 dives each day as you explore this area.
Day 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will finish our diving this morning. Then we'll head back to Bitung Harbor for departure while we enjoy our final night celebration onboard.
Day 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disembark Paradise Dancer between 8:00 am - 10:00 am (depending on guest flight departures). • Board bus for group transfer back to Manado airport. • Board International flights for home or begin your land extension to visit other magical Indonesian destinations.

Itinerary Notes:

All itineraries are always weather permitting and are conducted at the sole discretion of the Captain with consideration to the safety of the guests, crew and the yacht. A typical itinerary is described in this guide and may be refined without notice.

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