

DIVE OPERATORS CODE OF CONDUCT RAJA AMPAT

In order for you to operate in an environmentally sound and safe manner in Raja Ampat based on your feedback we provide the following guidelines and code of conduct.

Many places in Raja Ampat where you need to anchor are deep – up to 80m. You need to ensure you have the capability to anchor in these depths or you will have no choice but to anchor on shallow reefs or travel long distances from anchorages to dive sites on your tenders.

In order not to crowd dive sites and ensure all guests have the best experience, you need to anchor a minimum of 200m from a dive site, and use your tender to go to the site. Ensure your tenders are set up to travel some distance to a dive site. NEVER put your divers on top of another group of divers.

Liveboards who “live boat dive” directly from their boat must be especially careful to avoid other divers and ensure their clients swim well away from the reef to be picked up.

We undertake to;

1. *Have the capability to anchor in at least 60m depth.*
2. *Not to anchor in less than 40m unless clearly in a sand area away from reefs and dive sites.*
3. *Not to anchor within 200m of a dive site.*
4. *Use moorings when available.*
5. *Communicate with other dive operators, including land based operators, to arrange dive schedules and minimize having excess numbers of divers in one location.*
6. *Not to purchase threatened or over-exploited fish species – garoupa, coral trout, napoleon fish, parrot fish, lobster and shells.*
7. *Instruct dive guides not to manipulate marine life for the benefit of guests.*
8. *Return all plastics and non biodegradable garbage to port by ensuring we have facilities to enable us to carry hygienically ALL our garbage for extended trips. Eg can crusher, compactor etc. as required. Organic materials and waste water will be disposed of well away from reefs.*
9. *It is the responsibility of the captain (by law) and cruise directors as owner representatives, to ensure garbage is disposed of properly. Severe penalties will be enforced for non-compliance.*

Agreed and Endorsed by