Our Beloved Seas Expeditions

with Dive Adventurer Wendy Brown & Marine Biologist Dr Richard Smith

Southern Raja Ampat and the rarely visited Kofiau Island | 21st January - 1st February 2016

Join Wendy and Richard on an unforgettable journey to the frontiers of the world's most biodiverse coral reefs

Focusing on only the southern region of Raja Ampat provides the perfect opportunity to really explore this amazing and unique area. It allows us to visit areas that we wouldn't ordinarily have time to see during a trip that also includes the northern islands. This southern itinerary will include a new perspective on Misool and it's surrounds, starting off with the enchanting island of Batanta en route to Kofiau.

Kofiau is one of Raja Ampat's least dived areas, but an absolute hidden gem. Raja Ampat's highest species diversity count was from Kofiau and this diversity is well protected within a Marine Protected Area patrolled by The Nature Conservancy. Due to the dominance of oceanic currents, Kofiau can have excellent visibility but there is also fantatsic muck diving. The island is even home to endemic kingfishers, pythons and butterflies!

To see Richard's images from Raja Ampat please *click here*.

Wendy Brown was born and raised in Sri Lanka, swimming before she learnt to walk. She has been diving for 30 years and has spent the last 10 working in Indonesia sharing her passion and enthusiasm for its wealth of marine life. As one of Indonesia's most experienced Cruise Directors, she is renowned for striving to deliver the very best customer care, making every guest's trip unforgettable.

Richard Smith is a British born marine biologist and underwater photographer. He has written scores of articles, published internationally, with a focus on marine life and conservation. In 2011, Richard was awarded the first PhD on the biology of pygmy seahorses. He has a broad knowledge of terrestrial and marine biology to share during his evening talks.

Dewi Nusantara is an elegant and genuinely spacious 5 star vessel, sailing to the faraway corners of the Indonesian archipelago. At 57 meters, this three-mast topsail schooner moves with a grace and stability that only larger sailing vessels can offer. The 'Goddess of the Archipelago' was designed to be totally independent for long periods at sea, while offering unparalleled comfort.

Eight spacious, air-conditioned staterooms can be adapted to twin or double occupancy, each with an en-suite bathroom. The stunning Master Suite is the size of a large hotel room. Four dive masters complement her discreet and attentive Indonesian crew of eighteen. The name Dewi Nusantara has become synonymous with the ultimate live-aboard diving experience in Indonesia.

Why dive with Wendy and Richard?

With over 20 years experience and thousands of dives in Indonesia between them, Wendy and Richard are some of the best qualified to share the country's rich and varied marine life. This wealth of knowledge allows them to tailor their trips, providing well-planned, safe, exciting and unique expeditions, all in a relaxed 'friends among friends' atmosphere. They will be on hand to teach and mentor throughout the trip. Be it fish identification, marine biology or photographic tips.

Richard will be conducting a series of evening lectures during the cruise, exploring the fascinating species, behaviours and ecosystems we encounter. Both Wendy and Richard assert that the more you learn about the reef, the more you will get from your diving experience.

Get more from your diving by allowing us to share Our Beloved Sea....

Tour Costs

Diver - $5995 (USD) per person in Deluxe Stateroom
- $6995 pp in Master Suite

Tour Includes
- 11 nights in a double occupancy cabin
- 3-4 dives per day, including air fills, tanks and weights
- All meals and beverages (non-alcoholic and local beer)
- Transfer from airport to Dewi Nusantara

Tour Excludes
- Airfare and airport departure tax, payable in local currency
- Spirits and wine (except a glass of wine with dinner)
- Nitrox (charged at $200 per trip)
- Park and harbour fees ($215)

Bookings
For bookings and/or with any questions, please contact Richard or Wendy:
Email: *Richard@OceanRealmImages.com* | *Wendyfishface@hotmail.com*

Mission Statement: We at Our Beloved Sea are extremely passionate about protecting the marine environment. The focus of our trips will be to observe and photograph marine life in an environmentally friendly way, without harming or stressing animals. We want everyone to enjoy their diving, but not to the detriment of the reef and its inhabitants.

www.OceanRealmImages.com