

A person wearing a vibrant red dress with white decorative patterns and tassels is shown from the chest down. Their hands are held together in front of them, presenting two small, round, brown objects. One of these objects is cut open, revealing a bright red, spiral-shaped interior. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting.

BANDA NEIRA

The Seduction of Spices

17 - 23 April

Embark on an adventure to a land that time forgot.



“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



Arrive on a fast boat from Ambon and spend 6 unspoiled days trekking, snorkelling, exploring, swimming, dining and absorbing the history of this breathtaking island.



DAY One Tuesday 17 April

8.00am. Meet at Tulehu harbour, Ambon, to catch the fast boat (5/6 hours) with a picnic lunch on deck. Arrive in Banda Neira around 2pm and check into the iconic Hotel Maulana where Bill Bailey was married and Mick Jagger, Princess Di, Sarah Ferguson, Jacques Cousteau and Valerie Taylor spent time. Enjoy afternoon tea followed by a tour around the town. Dine under the stars with a view of the bay and a discussion about Banda Neira and the coveted nutmeg trade with Tanya Alwi, daughter of Des Alwi, unofficial King of Banda Neira.



DAY TWO Wednesday 18 April

Morning tour of Mohamad Hatta's cottage, Indonesia's first vice-president who was exiled in Banda Neira before Independence and the nearby Governor's office. Late morning visit to Pongky Van Den Broeke's nutmeg plantation in Banda Besar island and home-cooked lunch. Snorkeling in the afternoon. Dinner and cooking class at the Nutmeg Tree Hotel joined by Reza Tuasikal, owner, dive master and photographer.

DAY THREE Thursday 19 April

Visit the picturesque Island of Run that was exchanged for Manhattan in the Treaty of Breda. Meet the village head who will discuss the history of this tiny island.

Walk through the nutmeg plantation that still yields the world's finest nutmeg and Nathaniel Courthope's mountain hideaway of Nathaniel's Nutmeg fame. Snorkeling at Ay island. Cooking class with dinner.

DAY FOUR Friday 20 April

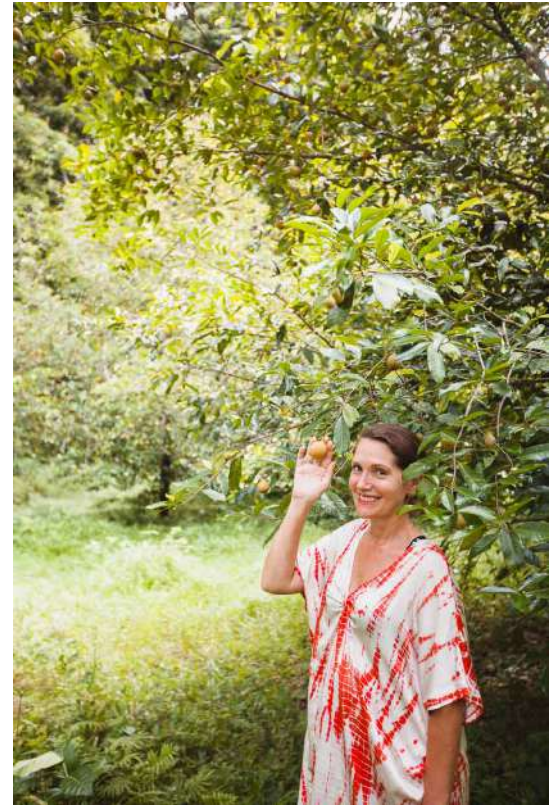
Morning soft trekking to Gunung Api and Karaka Island, followed by snorkeling in the island's pristine waters. Return to hotel for cooking class. Late afternoon visit to Fort Belgica to watch a magnificent sunset over Banda Neira and then dinner in the fort with an expansive view of the harbour.

DAY FIVE Saturday 21 April

After breakfast, visit to nearby Hatta Island, snorkelling, traditional lunch, and soft trekking. Dinner with cooking class.

DAY SIX Sunday 22 April

Catch the 9 am fast boat to Ambon. Afternoon tour of Australian memorial centre, Martha Christina Tiahahu monument and the renowned Cibu-Cibu café. Dinner in the grounds of Natsepa.



DAY SEVEN Monday 23 April

Transfer to Pattimura airport.

Cost

USD 1,750.00 For single deluxe occupancy.

USD 1,650.00 For deluxe share occupancy.

USD 1,550.00 For twin share occupancy.

Services included:

- All transfers
- Snorkelling equipment
- Speed boat
- Local guide
- Accommodation for 6 nights
- All meals
- Passenger fast boat return ticket
- Conservation fees

The price includes 6 nights accommodation, all meals, snorkeling/water sports and park permits. Alcohol is not included. To secure your place a 50% deposit per person is required immediately and full payment by April 4.

Our account details are as follows:

Bank Account

Janet DeNeefe and Ketut Suardana

Bank : ANZ Branch : Northland Shopping Centre

BSB 013 381

Anz Swift Code: ANZ BAU 3M

Please advise when the deposit has been made with a reference code.

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 14 days prior to departure. 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 cancelled due to weather conditions or other factors beyond our reasonable control, deposits will be refunded in full within 10 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 paramount at all times whilst at sea. We require all passengers 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 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 subject to there being suitable weather conditions to make it safe to undertake, and, as such, some trips may have to be cancelled at short notice.

Please note that the trip begins and ends in Ambon and individual travel arrangements must be made to fly in and out of this city.

For more details email:

Michelle pa@janetdeneefe.com

www.casalunabali.com

A portrait of the legendary Des Alwi, affectionately called the unofficial King of Banda Neira, painted on the primary school wall on Run Island.

