TRAVEL GUIDE TO RAJA AMPAT

PAPUA DIVING RESORTS

Pioneers of sustainable tourism and diving in Raja Ampat

WWW.PAPUA-DIVING.COM

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WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AS OUR GUEST

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In preparation for your diving holiday we have collected some handy tips & tricks to ensure a great trip from which you return, both invigorated and inspired with memories that will last long beyond your tanline.

THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION

Both resorts - Kri Eco Resort & Sorido Bay Resort - are located on Kri Island, a scenic exclusive resort island.

The remote Raja Ampat archipelago lies off the northeastern coast of West Papua, Indonesia's most easterly province.

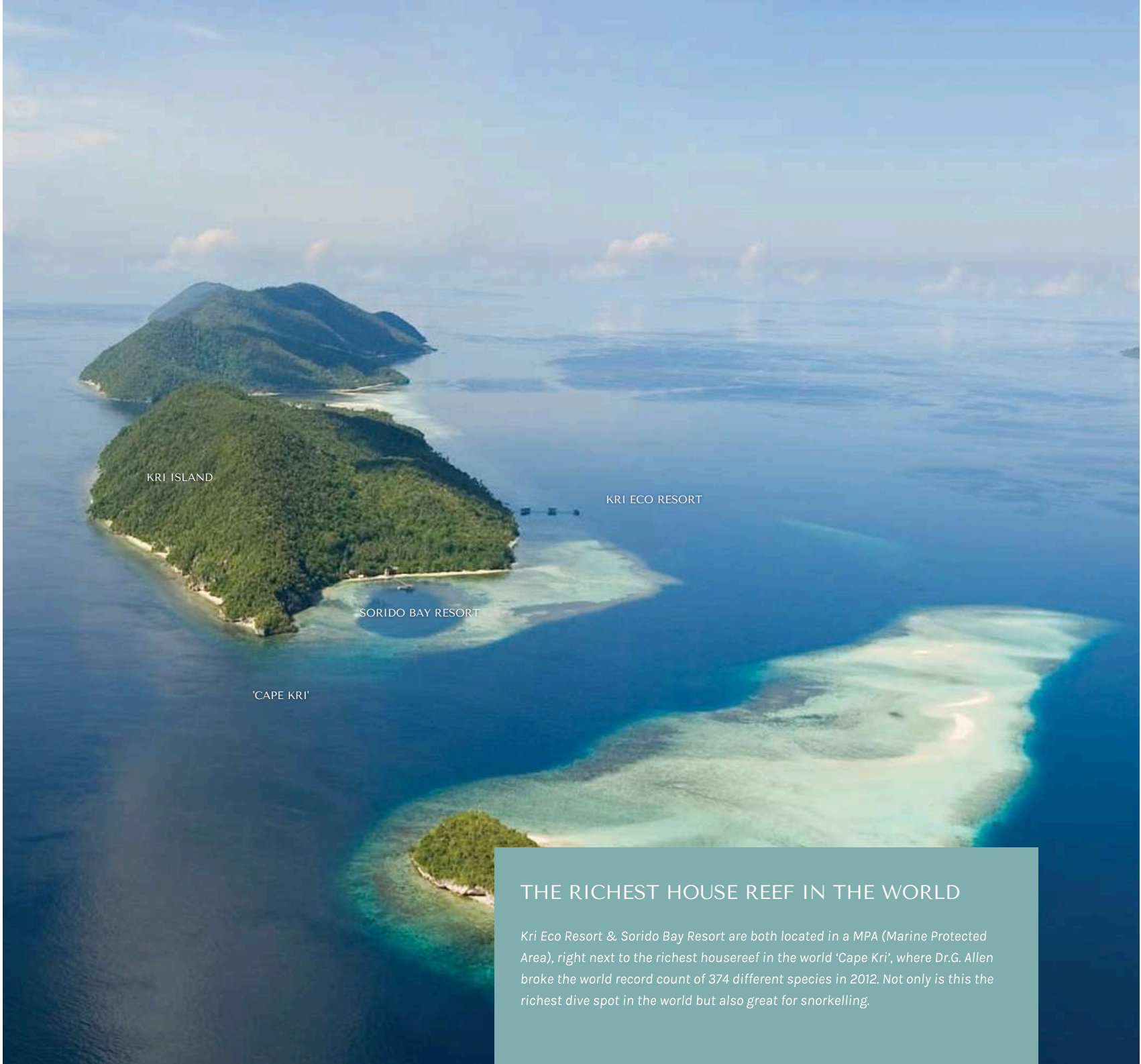
Raja Ampat - the 4 kings: Misool, Salawati, Batanta and Waigeo and over 1,500 islets

All formed from limestone and those who have travelled to Palau will find these greencapped, limestone outcrops looking very similar to the latter's Rock Islands. No two islands or islets are alike, and no two dive sites the same. The steep-sided walls of the rocks are shaped by wind and water. Soft, vanilla-coloured, sandy bays are ideal for spending time exploring between dives. But it is below the surface where one finds the most amazing creatures in abundance.

Raja Ampat is deemed a 'species factory' for marine life, with scientists proclaiming the region as one of the Earth's richest seascapes.

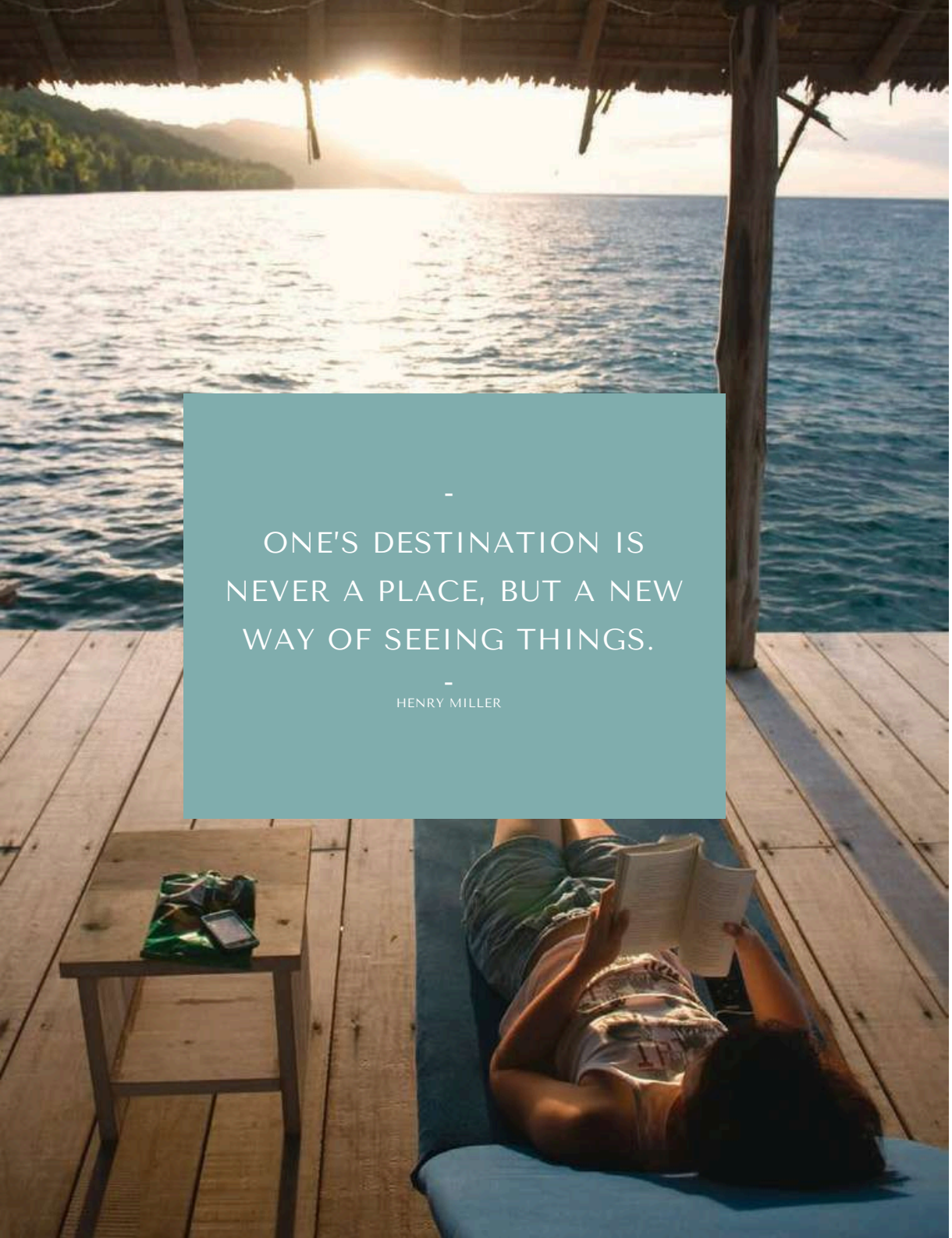
These rich reefs are home to 75% of all known coral species and more than 3000 species of reef fish.

Conservation is active in Marine Protected Areas in the Raja Ampat and both Resorts are located in a MPA (Marine Protected Area).



THE RICHEST HOUSE REEF IN THE WORLD

Kri Eco Resort & Sorido Bay Resort are both located in a MPA (Marine Protected Area), right next to the richest housereef in the world 'Cape Kri', where Dr.G. Allen broke the world record count of 374 different species in 2012. Not only is this the richest dive spot in the world but also great for snorkelling.



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ONE'S DESTINATION IS NEVER A PLACE, BUT A NEW WAY OF SEEING THINGS.

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HENRY MILLER

WAKE ME UP BEFORE YOU GO GO

It all starts with packing your bags, but before you realize it you will find yourself relaxing at one of our resorts.

PRE TRAVEL CHECK LIST:

Passport & Visa

- *Passport valid for minimum 6 months from date of entry into Indonesia.*
- *A Tourist Visa is provided to citizens of 45 countries (please check online) entering Indonesia through one of the international Airports. The Visa on arrvial (VOA) costs IDR 500.000. At Manado Airport a Visa can only be obtained at a cost of 35US$.*
- *Valid departure ticket from Indonesia within 30 days of arrival. Immigration officials are entitled to ask.*
- *IDR (Indonesian Rupiah) cash for excess baggage charges.*
  Fees can only be paid in IDR Rupiah. No other currencies or Credit Cards are accepted. Rates vary from IDR 30,000 to IDR 50,000 per kilo. Stipulated allowance is typically between 10 – 20 kg p/p. It is always worth mentioning that you are carrying diving equipment, occasionally the fee becomes negotiable.
- *Raja Ampat Marine Park fees will be arranged by us, unless staying at a different operator prior to your stay. The total fees cost IDR 2,00,000 for international tourists.*
  Fees will be added to your bill at the end of your stay. If you are staying with a different operator in Raja Ampat prior to arriving at our resorts, please inform our team and bring your Marine Park Tags with you. Please note that fees are subject to change according to the local regulations.

Health & safety

- *Inoculations: Please consult your doctor for inoculation advice.*
- *Malaria: Malaria is present in Papua.*
  Although there are surprisingly very few mosquitos on the island itself, it is recommended that you take care and exercise common sense, particularly at dawn and dusk. The liberal use of mosquito repellent is highly recommended, especially when passing through populous areas such as Sorong. Bear in mind that some malarial prophylactics cause adverse reactions in divers e.g. Lariam (Mefloquine), so please discuss your travel plans with your doctor.
- *Diving insurance: Insurance is mandatory. All diving guests must have dedicated diving insurance (such as DAN), which covers for emergency evacuation, and all divers must present valid proof/membership card. A regular travel insurance is not equivalent to a dedicated diving insurance and may not cover emergency evacuation for diving related incidents.*
- *Sunscreen & hat, as you will spend some time right below the equator.*
- *Double check your travel pharmacy: think about broad spectrum antibiotics, painkillers, anti-diarrheals, laxatives, antihistamine, decongestant, hydrocortizone cream, cold & flu meds, swimmer's ear, anti-biotic ear/eye drops, etc.*
- *If you plan to enroll in a PADI Course you will have to submit a medical statement not older than 6 month, stating your fitness to dive.*

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FAR FROM BEING THINGS TO COMPLAIN ABOUT, CLOUDS ARE THE MOST DIVERSE, EVOCATIVE AND POETIC ASPECTS OF NATURE

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UP IN THE AIR

Here are a few tips & tricks for your time in the sky and airports.

IN THE AIR

- *It's always good practice to name your luggage and to lock your check in luggage.*
- *items. Travel comfortably and carry a warm sweater for airports and aircraft; domestic airlines within Indonesia do not typically carry blankets and can get quite cold.*

AT THE AIRPORT

JAKARTA:

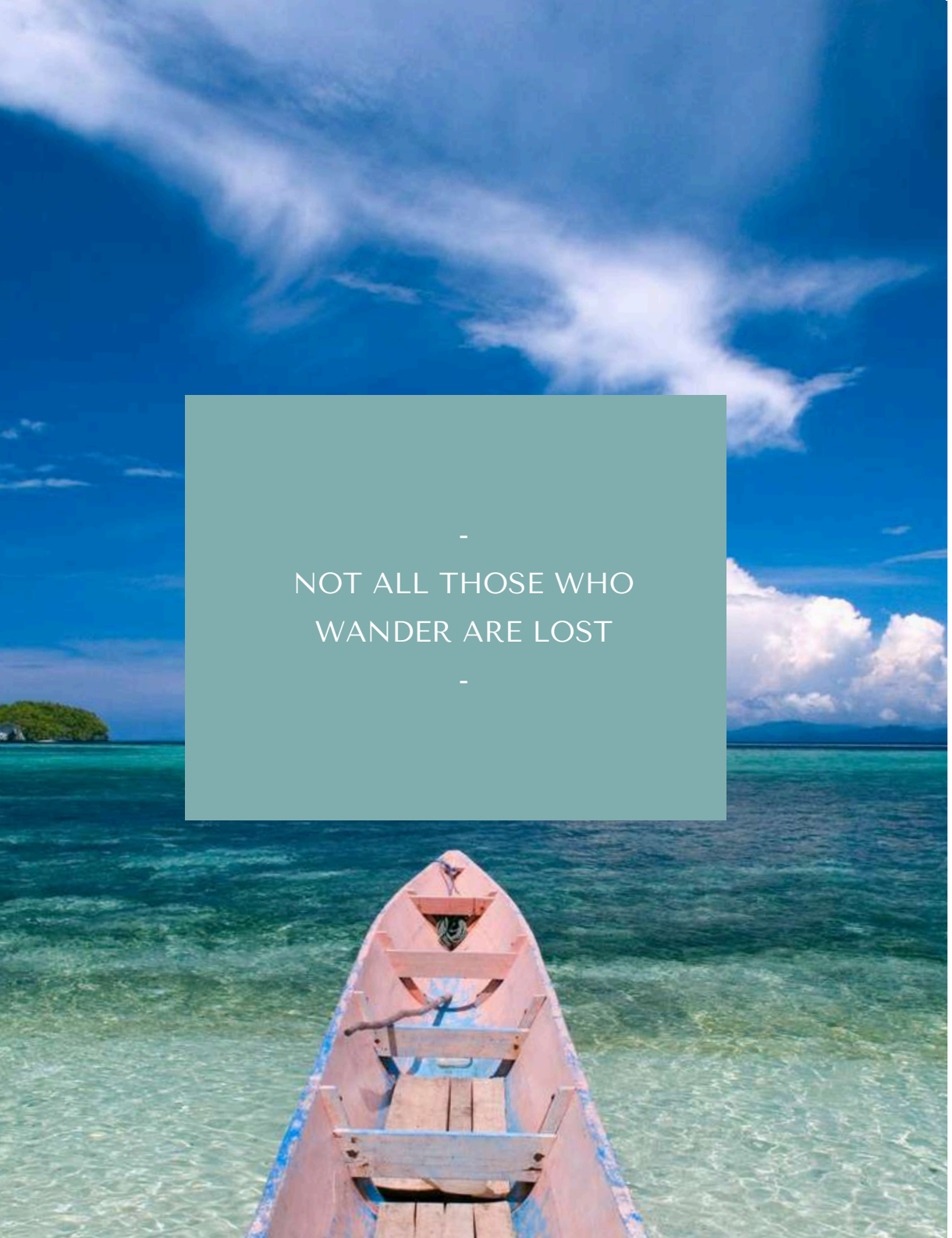
- *Arrival form: Use the following address: Papua Diving Resorts, Kri Island, Raja Ampat.*
- *Transit time: Depending on your arrival time you will have to spend some time at the airport. In case you need to change terminals you can do this by taking the Skytrain. For longer transit periods we recommend guests to make use of the airport hotel in Terminal 2 (T2).*

MAKASSAR/UJUNG PANDANG:

- *Usually you will need to head to the transit desk to collect your boarding pass for the connecting flight.*
- *Announcements are typically hard to understand in the airport building, and departure gates can change at the last minute, so keep an eye on the monitors, but for more accurate information simply show your boarding pass or ask airport staff.*
- *There are plenty of restaurants that offer free Wi-Fi.*

SORONG:

- *Papua Diving staff will welcome you at the airport and assist you further.*
- *Early arrivals will be first transferred from the airport to the Marina Restaurant and be offered a complimentary breakfast while waiting for the transfer boat to the island which is scheduled to depart around 9:30 am.*



READY - CHECK - GO

AIRPORT

- ☐ *Passport must be valid minimum 6 months from date of entry*
- ☐ *All travelers to Indonesia must be in possession of a passport that is valid for at least 6 months from the date of arrival, and have proof (tickets) of onward or return passage. A Tourist Visa entering Indonesia through international Airports Jakarta and Bali costs 50US$.*
- ☐ *e-CD (electronic Custom Declaration) is now mandatory for all international travelers.*
  Official e-CD link: **https://ecd.beacukai.go.id/**
- ☐ *IDR (Indonesian rupiah) cash for excess baggage charges. Fees can only be paid in IDR Rupiah. No other currencies or Credit Cards are accepted. Stipulated allowance is typically 20 kg p/p. Depending on the airline they charge 30 000 to 50 000 IDR per excess kilo. Most domestic airlines have free dive gear allowance*
- ☐ *A warm sweater for airports and aircraft; domestic airlines do not typically carry blankets and can get quite cold*

SCHEDULED BOAT TRANSFERS:

Our standard arrival and departure days are on SUNDAYS and WEDNESDAYS.

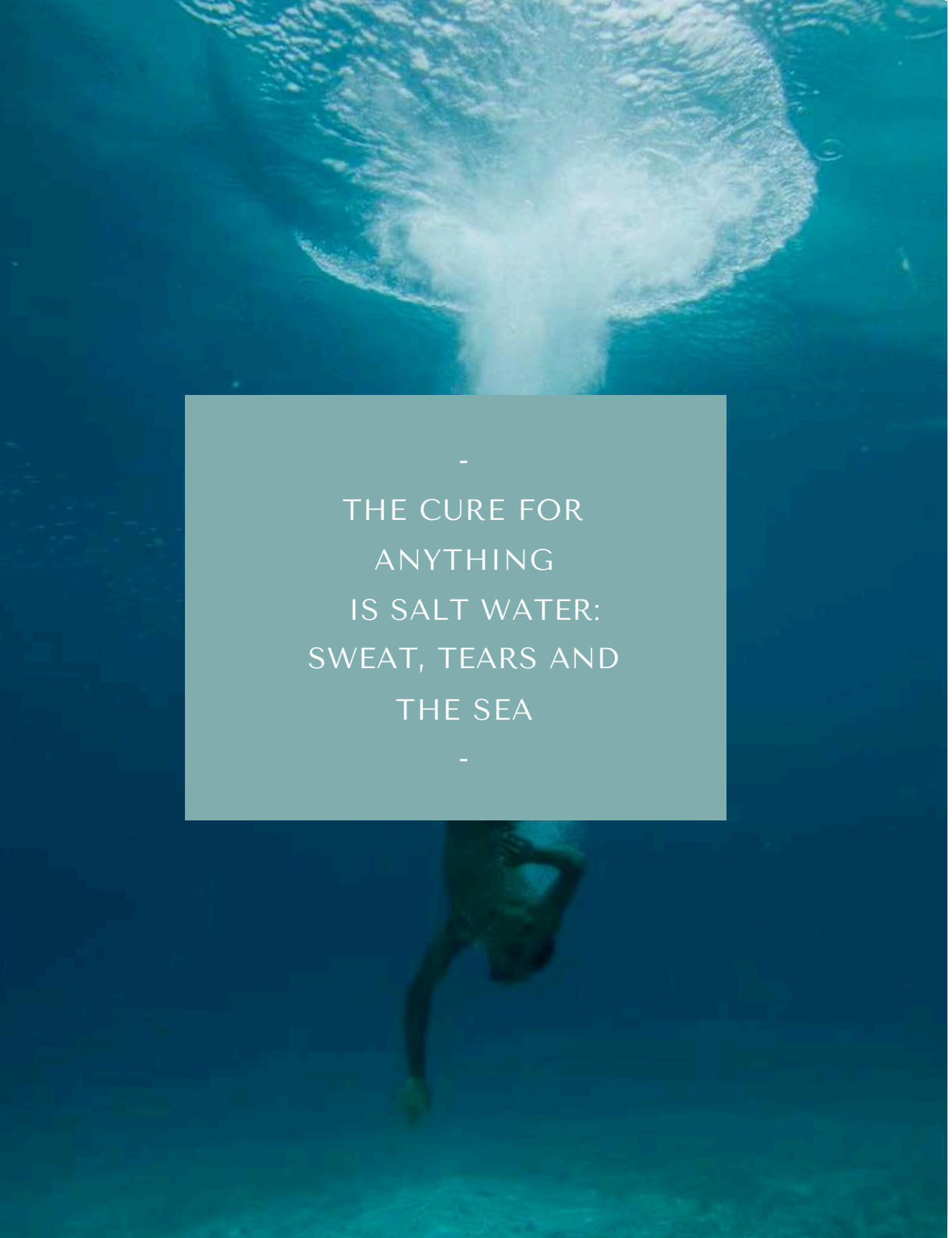
For arrivals: the transfer boat is scheduled to depart around 09:30am from Sorong (please do not arrive with a flight later than 08:30am in Sorong)
For departures: the transfer boat is scheduled to arrive around 09:00am in Sorong (please do not book a flight leaving Sorong before 10:30am)
Wednesday arrival and departure time and transfer depending on the number of total guests.

Our standard packages with a minimum of 7 nights stay are inclusive of boat transfers on the days below:

- ***7, 14 & 21 nights:*** *Sunday – Sunday*
- ***14 & 21 nights:*** *Wednesday – Wednesday*
- ***10 & 17 nights:*** *Sunday – Wednesday*
- ***11 & 18 nights:*** *Wednesday – Sunday*

RESORT

- ☐ *Passport to hand in at the resort, to arrange registration and administration*
- ☐ *Your preferred toiletries, insect repellent & if you are planning to travel the mainland of Papua, medications. Eg: Broad spectrum antibiotics, painkillers, anti-diarrheals, laxatives, antihistamine, decongestant, anti-biotic ointment, hydro-cortizone cream, cold & flu meds, swimmer's ear, anti-biotic ear/eye drops*
- ☐ *Sunscreen & hat, light waterproof wind-breaker for occasional rain showers*
- ☐ *Sturdy walking shoes/sandals if you plan a visit to the bird of paradise or walks through the jungle*
- ☐ *A bottle of your favorite tipple from the Duty Free. We have limited stock of wine available. Wine and spirits are very difficult and expensive to obtain in Indonesia*
- ☐ *Camera, binoculars/headlamp to capture the terrific memories*
- ☐ *Laptop, iPad, Kindle and other peripherals. Although Wi-Fi is available and provided at our resorts. Sorido Bay Resort offers unlimited Wi-Fi access; Kri Eco Resort guests receive 1GB free per week. Additional data can be purchased. If you wish to have a backup internet connection, we recommend to buy a TELKOMSEL SIM card, including data*
- ☐ *Our bungalows are equipped with 220V & 110V power outlets to charge your devices*
- ☐ *We do accept visa/mastercard payments at the resorts. A 3% charge applies. Extra charges can also be paid in Euro, IDR, USD Important note: USD cash notes must be in pristine condition, un-torn*
- ☐ *(Optional) Bring along some local currency (IDR Rupiah) in small notes for buying souveniers during excursions*



READY - CHECK - GO

DIVING & SNORKELLING

- ☐ *Dive certification card. Mandatory for all certified divers*
- ☐ *If you have not dived within the last 12 months or have logged less than 50 dives a refresher course is mandatory. The refresher is ideal if you have had a short break from diving or if you are a newly qualified diver that has not been diving for a few months. It allows you to recollect your skills and theory and promotes your safety as a diver. At the cost of 50 euro, the refresher Program will be added to any dive package of your choice*
- ☐ *Enriched Air certification card is mandatory for all divers using Nitrox*
- ☐ *Proof of diving insurance or other insurance which covers emergency evacuation is mandatory for all divers. We highly recommend becoming a DAN Member.*
  Short-term DAN dive insurance can be arranged at the resort
- ☐ *BCD, regulator, wetsuit, torch, computer, reef hook*
  Rental gear is available. Please inform us upfront to ensure we have your size available
- ☐ *A Dive computer is mandatory for all divers. We recommend bringing your own*
- ☐ *Mask, Snorkel, Fins, Booties*
  For your own comfort we highly recommend to bring your own
- ☐ *Our dive tanks are DIN and INT compatible, so simply bring the gear you already have*
- ☐ *Spare items for dive equipment*
  Don't forget to have your equipment serviced before your arrival. But it is always good to carry some mask/fin straps, batteries for cameras & computers
- ☐ *Underwater cameras to capture the beauty of Raja Ampat*
  Sorido Bay Resort houses the world's first SEACAM Center, where underwater cameras are available for rent, depending on your level

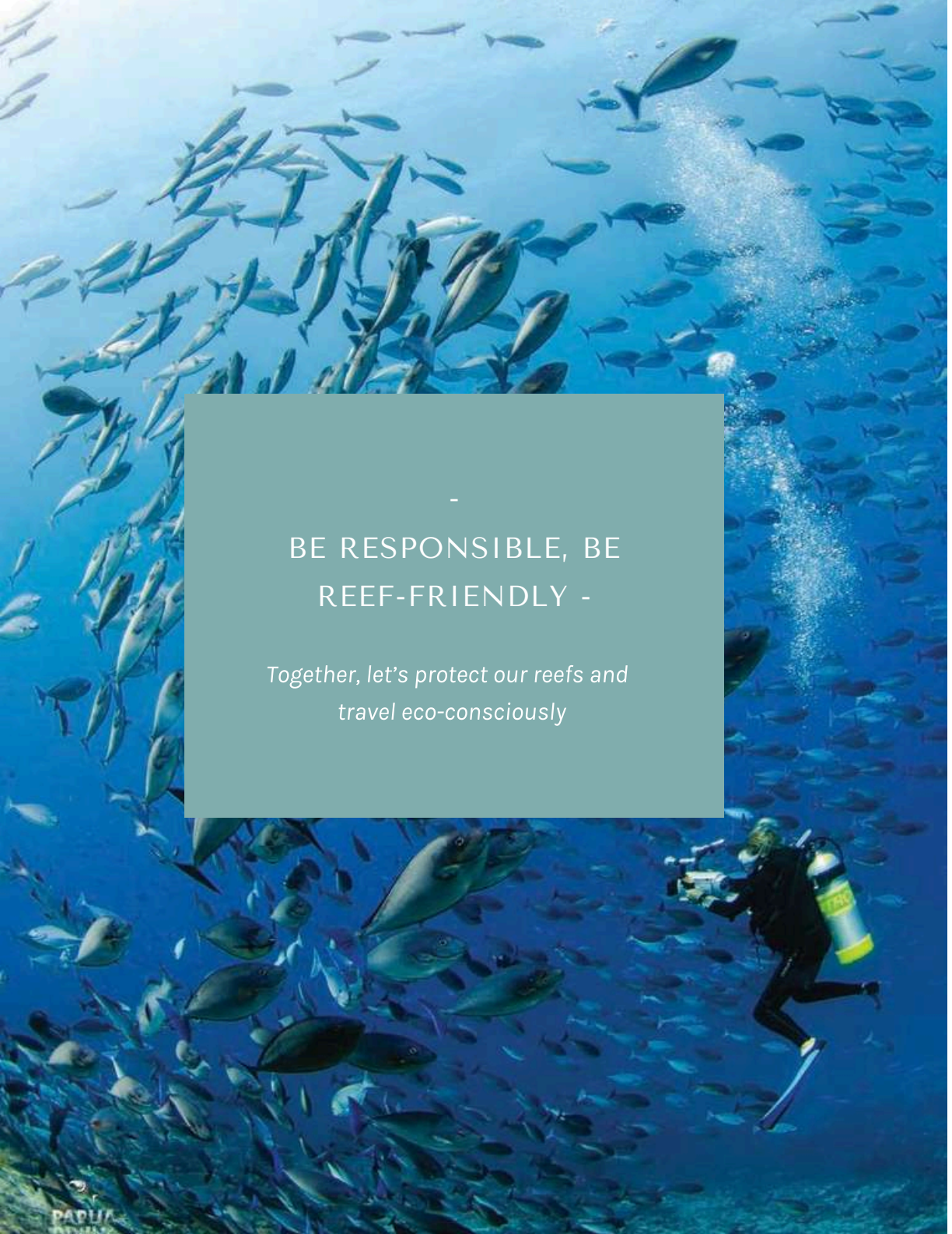
OTHER ACTIVITIES (BIRDING - KAYAKING - SUPS)

- ☐ *Birding: binoculars, walking shoes, camera, small backpack*
- ☐ *Kayaking and stand-up paddle boards: drybag, rashguard*

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- ☐ *Bath & Beach towels*
  Towels are provided in your room and on the boat after the dive
- ☐ *Dive gloves*
  We kindly ask you to leave your gloves at home. We do apply a no-glove policy, as part of our reef protection program
- ☐ *Non re-chargable batteries*
  We kindly ask you to either work with rechargable batteries or take empty batteries back home. We have no opportunity to recycle batteries

Visit our FAQ page for more information



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BE RESPONSIBLE, BE REEF-FRIENDLY -

Together, let's protect our reefs and travel eco-consciously

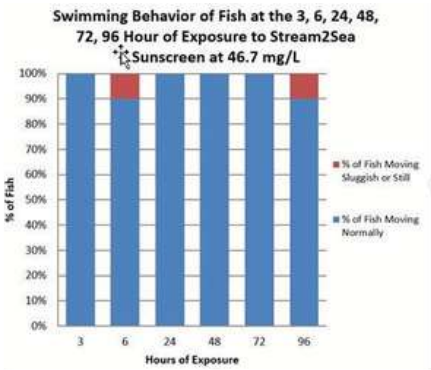
DID YOU KNOW THAT SUNSCREEN IS TOXIC TO CORAL?

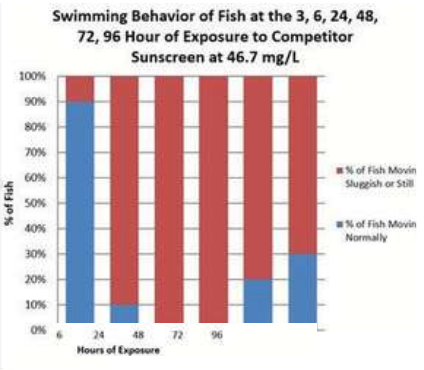
NEW RESEARCH HAS PROVEN THAT A COMMON INGREDIENT FOUND IN SUNSCREEN IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DECLINE OF REEFS AROUND THE WORLD.

Oxybenzone, a UV-fi ltering chemical compound found in 3,500 brands of sunscreen worldwide, can be fatal to baby coral and damaging to adults in high concentrations.
Studies have shown that the highest concentrations of oxybenzone is found around coral reefs popular with tourists.

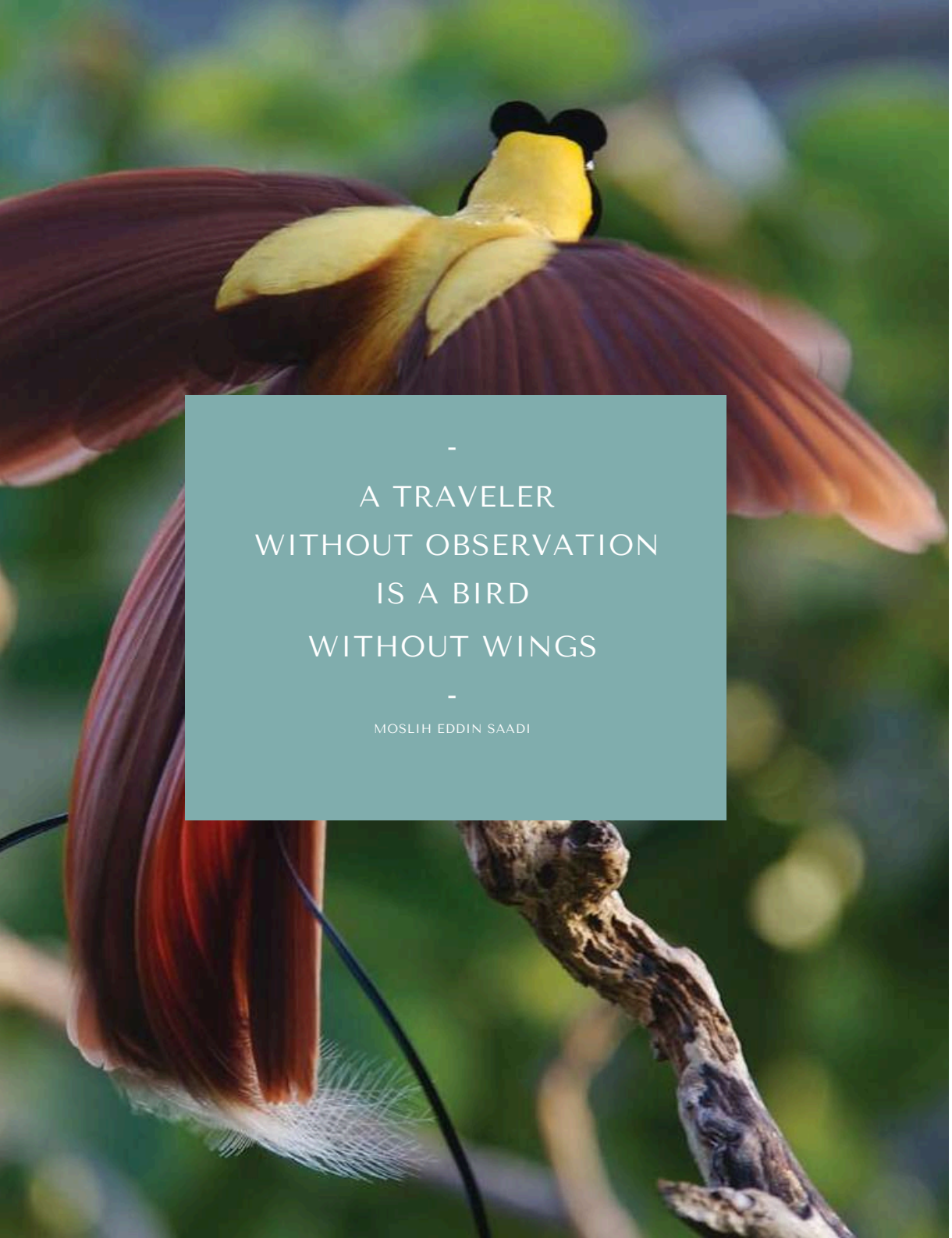
Oxybenzone alters coral DNA, makes coral more susceptible to potentially fatal bleaching and acts as an endocrine disruptor, causing baby coral to encase itself in its own skeleton and die, according to the findings. Between 6,000 and 14,000 tonnes of sunscreen lotion winds up in coral reef areas each year, much of which contains oxybenzone. According to the researchers, the damaging effects were seen in coral in concentrations of oxybenzone as low as 62 parts per trillion, which is equivalent to a drop of water in six and a half Olympic-sized swimming pools.

When you're shopping for sun protection products, opt for products with mineral active ingredients, such as zinc oxide or titanium dioxide, and practice other sun-safety measures, such as staying in the shade, avoiding sun exposure during peak hours and wearing protective clothing.





If you've forgotten to bring sunscreen, or are struggling to find reef-safe sun protection, stop by our resort shop, where we have reef-safe sunscreens available for purchase during your stay.



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A TRAVELER
WITHOUT OBSERVATION
IS A BIRD
WITHOUT WINGS

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MOSLIH EDDIN SAADI

USEFUL TRAVEL APPS

XE CURRENCY
Know how much you're spending with live updates

GOOGLE TRANSLATE
Translates between 64 languages, audio too

ADOBE SCAN
A pocket scanner for all your important documents

PACKPOINT
Packing list organizer based on your destination, length of stay, and planned activities.

TRAVEL SMART
Access to emergency services and health advice

EVERNOTE FOOD
Document recipes you love as you travel

WHATSAPP MESSENGER
Free to send pictures, videos and sound clips over wi-fi

VIBER
International calls and messaging for free

NAUTIDE
check the tides, wind and surf, as well as solunar data and weather data

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10 REASONS TO GO

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As the pioneers of conservation in Raja Ampat, we are dedicated to preserving the cultural and environmental local heritage through responsible tourism, education and training.

Diversity and cultural heritage are the cornerstone of responsible tourism. And we've seen environmental growth even in our house reef which is now the richest reef in the world.

And here are some more reasons to stay with us.

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01 THE SETTING

WITHIN A FEW MINUTES AFTER EACH DIVE YOU WILL BE RELAXING ON A TROPICAL ISLAND PARADISE

-

02 OUR EXPERIENCE

PIONEERED DIVING IN RAJA AMPAT OVER 20 YEARS AGO

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03 OUR PROXIMITY

OUR FREE TRANSFERS TO THE RESORTS ARE A SHORT JOURNEY OF ABOUT 1.5 HOURS ONLY

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04 OUR FOOTPRINT

SINCE 1993 PAPUA DIVING HAS BEEN PRO-ACTIVE IN CONSERVATION INITIATIVES AND WORKING WITH THE LOCAL PAPUAN COMMUNITIES

-

05 RECORD HOUSE REEF

374 DIFFERENT SPECIES IN ONE SINGLE DIVE – THE SHEER NUMBER OF FISH IS MINDBLOWING

-

06 SAFETY RECORD

IN OVER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE WE PRIDE OURSELVES ON AN EXCELLENT SAFETY RECORD

-

07 FREE NITROX

WE LIKE TO EXTEND YOUR BOTTOM TIME TO ENSURE YOU GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR DIVE TIME

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08 ISLAND KITCHEN

WE CATER FOR ALL TASTES AND PROVIDE A HEALTHY FUSION OF WESTERN AND INDONESIAN DISHES

-

09 THE ATMOSPHERE

OUR MANY RETURNING GUESTS ARE PROOF THAT WE AIM TO DELIVER AN EXCELLENT SERVICE

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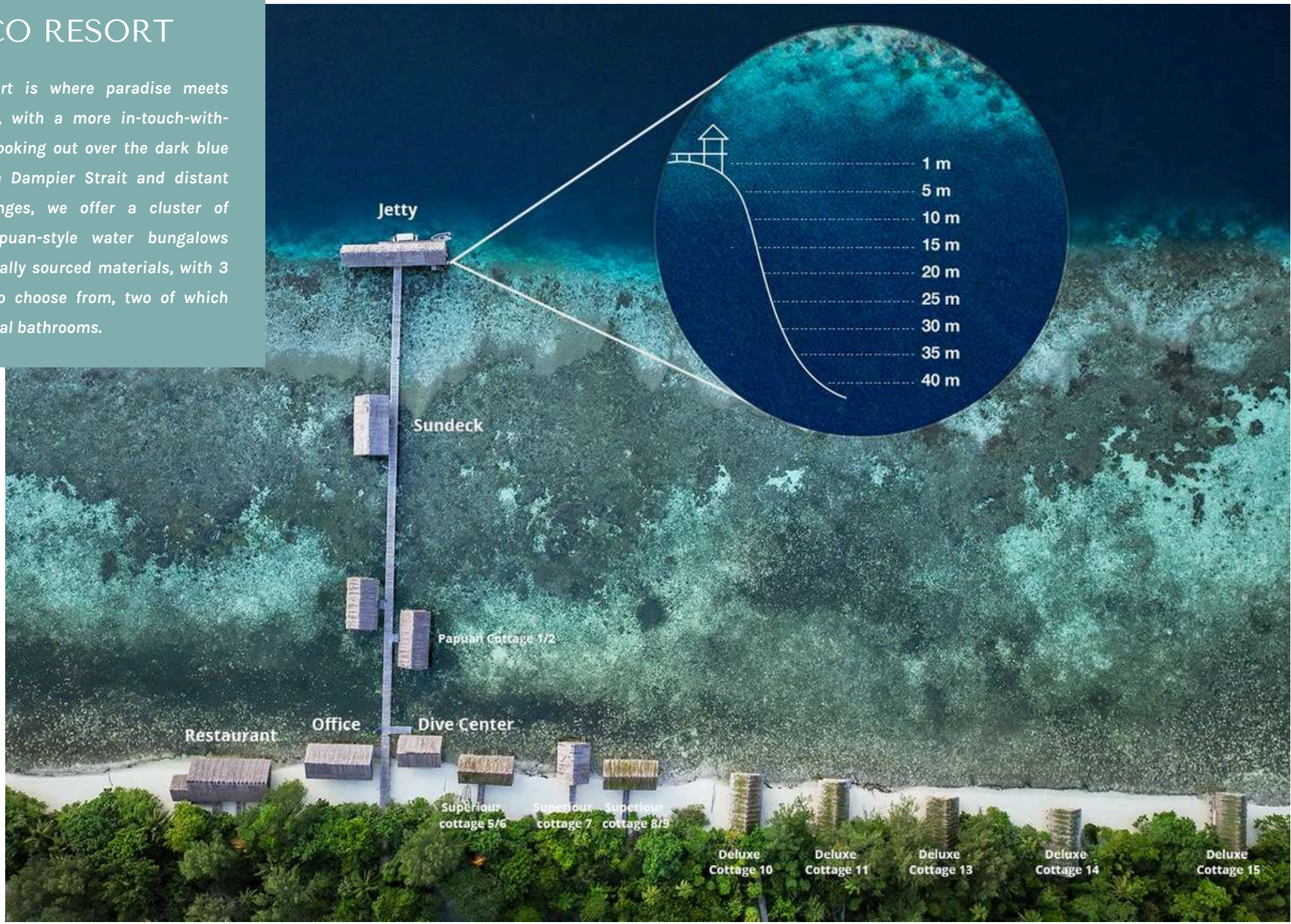
10 OUR PAPUAN TEAM

YOU WILL GET TO KNOW SOME OF THE FRIENDLIEST PEOPLE ON THE PLANET

KRI ECO RESORT

Kri Eco Resort is where paradise meets sustainability, with a more in-touch-with-nature feel. Looking out over the dark blue waters of the Dampier Strait and distant mountain ranges, we offer a cluster of authentic Papuan-style water bungalows built from locally sourced materials, with 3 room types to choose from, two of which have communal bathrooms.



SORIDO BAY RESORT

Sorido Bay Resort is our luxury boutique option, perfect for those who want a touch of luxury in the Raja Ampat wilderness. A collection of 9 charming bungalows each with ensuites, AC and electric fan and a veranda with direct beach access.

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OFFICE HOURS

Sunday till Friday

08:00 - 17:00

(Local time GMT+9)