

THE ULTIMATE RAJA AMPAT GUIDE

Everything I'd tell a friend before visiting the world's richest reef 🌊



Getting There

Getting to Raja Ampat is probably the most confusing part of planning the trip—but it's actually much easier than it sounds. **India → Jakarta/Bali → Sorong → Ferry to Waisai → Boat to your accommodation.** The public ferry from Sorong to Waisai takes around 2 hours, and most homestays or resorts will arrange the final boat transfer to your island.



Tip

The ferry is actually the easiest part of the journey. Before booking your flights, confirm your accommodation first—they'll usually help coordinate your ferry timings and boat pickup from Waisai.



Ideal Trip Duration

I'd recommend spending 5 days in Raja Ampat. If you're short on time, 4 days is the absolute minimum I'd recommend because you'll lose almost a full day getting there.



Getting Around

Once you arrive, boats are your only mode of transport. Almost every snorkelling spot, viewpoint and island is only accessible by boat.



Tip

Stay on Kri Island or Gam Island if it's your first visit. They're well connected to the best snorkelling spots and island-hopping routes.

Which Side of Raja Ampat Is For You?

Raja Ampat isn't just one island—it's made up of hundreds of islands, each offering a slightly different experience. Choosing the right base can completely change your trip.

Kri Island **SNORKEL & DIVE**

Perfect if you're visiting mainly for **snorkelling or diving**. Most of Raja Ampat's famous underwater sites are just a short boat ride away, making it one of the easiest and most popular places to stay.

Gam Island **SLOW & QUIET**

If your idea of a perfect holiday is disconnecting from the world, you'll love Gam. **Quiet beaches, lush jungle, Birds of Paradise treks and peaceful sunsets** make it one of the most relaxing islands in Raja Ampat.

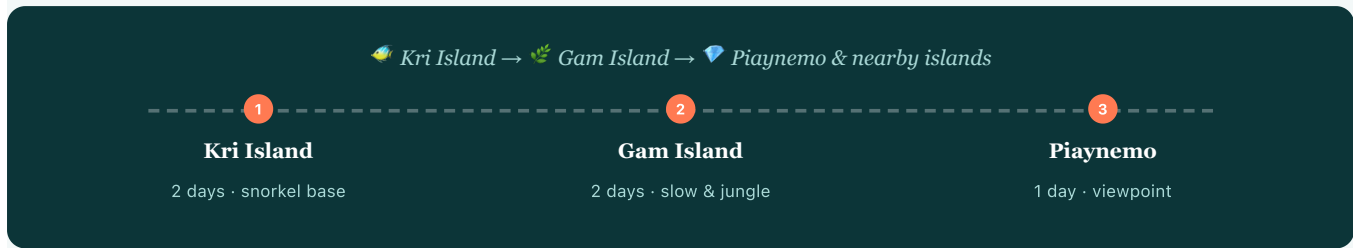
Waigeo **BASE & TRANSIT**

The largest island in Raja Ampat and home to Waisai. A good option if you want to **explore local villages, viewpoints and have easier access to transport**.

Piaynemo **DAY TRIP**

You can't stay here, but you absolutely shouldn't leave Raja Ampat without visiting. **The iconic viewpoint overlooking hundreds of limestone islands** is one of the most breathtaking landscapes I've ever seen.

My Ideal 5-Day Route



Don't Leave Raja Ampat Without Experiencing...

- Piaynemo Viewpoint
- Cape Kri
- Melissa's Garden
- Yenbuba Jetty
- Arborek Village
- Friwen Beach
- Swimming with manta rays (seasonal)
- Birds of Paradise Trek (Gam Island)

What to Expect for Food

One thing I loved about Raja Ampat is how simple everything is. Most homestays include breakfast, lunch and dinner, so you rarely have to worry about finding restaurants.

Expect plenty of fresh grilled fish, rice, vegetables, tropical fruits and local Papuan dishes. If you're staying on the smaller islands, meals are usually home-cooked by your hosts, which makes the whole experience feel even more personal.



In Waisai

If you're spending some time in Waisai before heading to your island, I'd recommend:

- Warung Makan Raja
- Mien Papua Restaurant

Quick Budget (5 Days)

CATEGORY	BUDGET TRAVELLER	MID-RANGE TRAVELLER
Accommodation (per night, incl. meals)	₹3,000–₹5,000	₹8,000–₹15,000+
Marine Park Entry Fee — ~₹5,500		
Island Hopping / Boat Trips — ₹3,000–₹6,000/day (shared) or ₹8,000–₹15,000/day (private)		
Airport Taxi (Sorong) — ₹800–₹1,000		

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