

DIVING SITES



THE ISLANDS

- 1 BAWAH
- 2 BATU TOKONG
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- 4 SANGGAH
- 5 ELANG
- 6 LIDI
- MANGROVE
- BARRIER ISLAND

- SPEED BOAT
- SAILING
- SEAPLANE

POINTS OF INTEREST

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A JULES VERNE BAR | G BAT CAVE |
| B MAIN LOOKOUT | H TURTLE BEACH |
| C BEHIND WATER BUNGALOWS WEST | I SEAPLANE LAGOON |
| D BLUE LAGOON LOOKOUT | J BOAT LAGOON |
| E COCONUT BEACH | K BLUE LAGOON |
| F NORTH EAST LOOKOUT | |



DIVING

Underwater explorers will love Bawah Reserve's coral formations at our marine-reserve dive sites, all just a short distance or a maximum of a 15 minute boat ride away. You have exclusive access to kilometres of pristine reefs, where diverse and dramatic marine landscapes harbour high levels of marine biodiversity.

All dives, aside from a refresher's dive, are outside the fringing reefs of Bawah where the waters are slightly cooler, the currents stronger, the fish bigger and of a different variety to those inside the lagoon. Dives begin by descending 25 or 30 metres to the sandy floor at the base of the reef wall, then gradually ascend to follow the line of the reef wall. No more gazing into the great blue yonder for your safety stop. You will barely be aware of it as you watch all manner of fish and small creatures in the plate and boulder corals at 5 to 6 metres.

To schools of Jacks, Trevallies, Barracudas,, there are three types of Black and White Anemone fish, a shoal of majestic Bumphead Parrotfish, Emperor Angelfish, Eagle Rays, Napoleon Wrasses and Green Turtles await you. Groupers large and small, some as big as a person, will roll in and out from coral hideaways.

MUERBA REEF

A dive on the outer side of Muerba Island which sits at the most easterly point of the Seaplane Lagoon. The wall drops to 30 metres where you will find small caves made out of hard coral formations and soft coral overhangs. Black Gorgonian Fans, the emblem of Bawah Reserve and feather stars are abundant. Expect to see Nudibranchs and small creatures hiding in the coral and hanging on to the sea fans. Larger fish like Black-tipped Reef Sharks are on patrol. You finish your dive on a magnificent upper reef which is also a good snorkelling spot.

This is a similar dive to Muerba as the same reef extends further north along the east coast of Bawah Island. A pristine upper reef with plenty of fish and coral to a depth of 15 metres followed by a 5 metre wide strip of damaged coral before descending once more to beautiful blocks of coral adorned with fans to a depth of 30 metres. A common encounter on this dive is with Bumphead Parrotfish of which Bawah Reserve boasts quite a number. Different kinds of Angelfish and Rabbitfish are easily spotted, as are Barracuda.

TURTLE BEACH REEF

The top of the reef has been damaged by the turbulent water of this exposed bay. It is the preferred nesting place of the Green Turtle which can be observed on the deeper slopes awaiting nightfall to come and lay their eggs. Nesting season is between March and September. Black coral trees and sea fans sway in the currents and Moray Eels hide amongst the coral along with Coral Groupers. Keep an eye out for deeper water pelagic fish.

SOUTH SANGGAH REEF

Situated near the southernmost point of Sanggah Island this dive follows a coral covered slope made up of good Staghorn and Plate coral down to 15 metres. The many terraces as you go deeper are anchorages for fans and featherstars. You should see larger pelagic fish, and more turtles as this is close to the beach where they lay their eggs. A resident male Green Turtle can often be seen.

EMPEROR REEF

A lagoon dive directly in front of Bawah Reserve. The top reef starts with a coral covered slope, mainly Staghorn and Plate corals to a depth of 15 metres. Here you can expect to see schools of Blue Stripe Snapper and Sweet Lips, Lion fish, Emperor Angelfish and Yellow-masked Angelfish. Needlefish or Halfbeaks bask in the surface waters making them easy prey for eagles.

NAPOLEON REEF

The outside protective barrier between Pulau Lidi and Pulau Sanggah. A wall starting at 2-3m deep going to approximately 30 metres. The reef is rich in beautiful Table and Boulder Coral. Expect to encounter Black Tip Reef Sharks, Turtles, Spanish Mackerel and many more. A safety stop will complete the dive on the spectacular top reef surrounded by a multitude of colourful reef fish.

LIDI REEF

The counterpart to Setigi is the southern part of the barrier reef island as you exit the harbour mouth. Again there is the opportunity to see a Napoleon Wrasse. Drift past a beautiful stretch of almost perfect Pachyseris Coral and perhaps watch a large grouper at a cleaning station. The currents attract Spanish Mackerel, Barracuda, Yellow Trevallies and Eagle Rays. Look carefully and you will see all manner of strange creatures such as Nudibranchs, Scorpionfish and perhaps an Octopus.

SETIGI REEF

This dive, on the northern side of the harbour exit, often has a light current which will carry us along the wall down to 30 metres where we can see three types of black and white Anemone fish on the sandy bottom, Emperor Angelfish and perhaps a Napoleon Wrasse. Ever present are the Black Tip Reef Sharks, Bumphead Parrotfish and the occasional Eagle Ray, not to forget turtles. We make the safety stop over pretty coral formations.

BATU TOKONG REEF

Situated off Batu Tokong in the north of Bawah, this curved wall is one of the richest sites for marine life with shoals of snapper and fusiliers and patrolling Black Tip Reef Sharks. The clear sandy bottom at 30 metres harbours Sting Rays and gives way to an upper reef with beautiful coral and all manner of reef fish - perfect for a safety stop.

BAT REEF

This is a similar dive to Muerba as the same reef extends further north along the east coast of Bawah Island. A pristine upper reef with plenty of fish and coral to a depth of 15 metres followed by a 5 metre wide strip of damaged coral before descending once more to beautiful blocks of coral adorned with fans to a depth of 30 metres. A common encounter on this dive is with Bumphead Parrotfish of which Bawah Reserve boasts quite a number. Different kinds of Angelfish and Rabbitfish are easily spotted, as are Barracuda.



Please avoid touching coral, as even small grazes can get infected, never walk on coral and be mindful of your fins. Wear appropriate clothing to protect you back, back of legs and shoulders.

Always ask for help and/or advice. We are happy to escort you to any of the numerous snorkelling sites.