

LUXURY WITHOUT COMPROMISE

Robb Report

THE
GIVING
ISSUE

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gifts exclusively
for you*

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This Holiday Season and Beyond**



40 A Private Yacht Tour of East Indonesia

The anthropologist Lawrence Blair has spent the past few decades trekking to the most remote corners of Indonesia, living with indigenous peoples, climbing Krakatoa, sailing with pirates, seeking rare birds of paradise and researching ancient myths, as depicted in his Emmy-winning 1988 PBS documentary, *Ring of Fire: An Indonesian Odyssey*.

Now *Robb Report* readers can join the colorful explorer on private expeditions to some of Indonesia's most spectacular locations aboard a private charter of the *Aqua Blu* superyacht. You

can customize your trip from a range of itineraries, depending on the time of year, including tours of the volcanic Spice Islands, once the sole source of nutmeg on Earth. Here, the remnants of Dutch and British colonial periods blend with indigenous communities. Explore Fort Amsterdam, the old Dutch fortification on the island of Ambon, discover local pottery on Saparua, tour the oldest nutmeg plantations in the world and hike the active volcano Gunung Banda Api. At Pulau Manuk, look out for the sea snakes and reef sharks that flock to the volcanic thermal springs,

then cruise to Pulau Run, an island traded to the Dutch by the British in exchange for Manhattan in 1667, in what must be one of the most head-scratching deals in history, and enjoy a cocktail party on the beach.

An alternative tour to Raja Ampat offers one of the world's most diverse collections of underwater habitats and marine species. Saltwater crocodiles and hawksbill turtles are common, and the dive site at Cape Kri holds the world record for the most species spotted in a single 90-minute dive. Visit a pearl farm at Aljui Bay, snorkel off Wayag Island, home to

blacktip reef sharks, and marvel at the manta rays off Dayang Island.

Blair and a team of expert local guides will host private groups of up to 30 guests each on board *Aqua Blu*, in 15 sea-facing suites. Expect five-star service, fine dining, an outdoor Jacuzzi, a spa and watersports equipment such as diving gear, kayaks and stand-up paddleboards. *Travel dates for charters are subject to availability, but all bookings are flexible. Rates for a seven-night private charter for 2 to 30 passengers start from \$297,500, reservations@ aquaexpeditions.com L.A.*