



2021 PALAU



PALAU

RAINBOWS END

18 APR – 01 MAY 2021 • 14 DAYS • 14 GUESTS

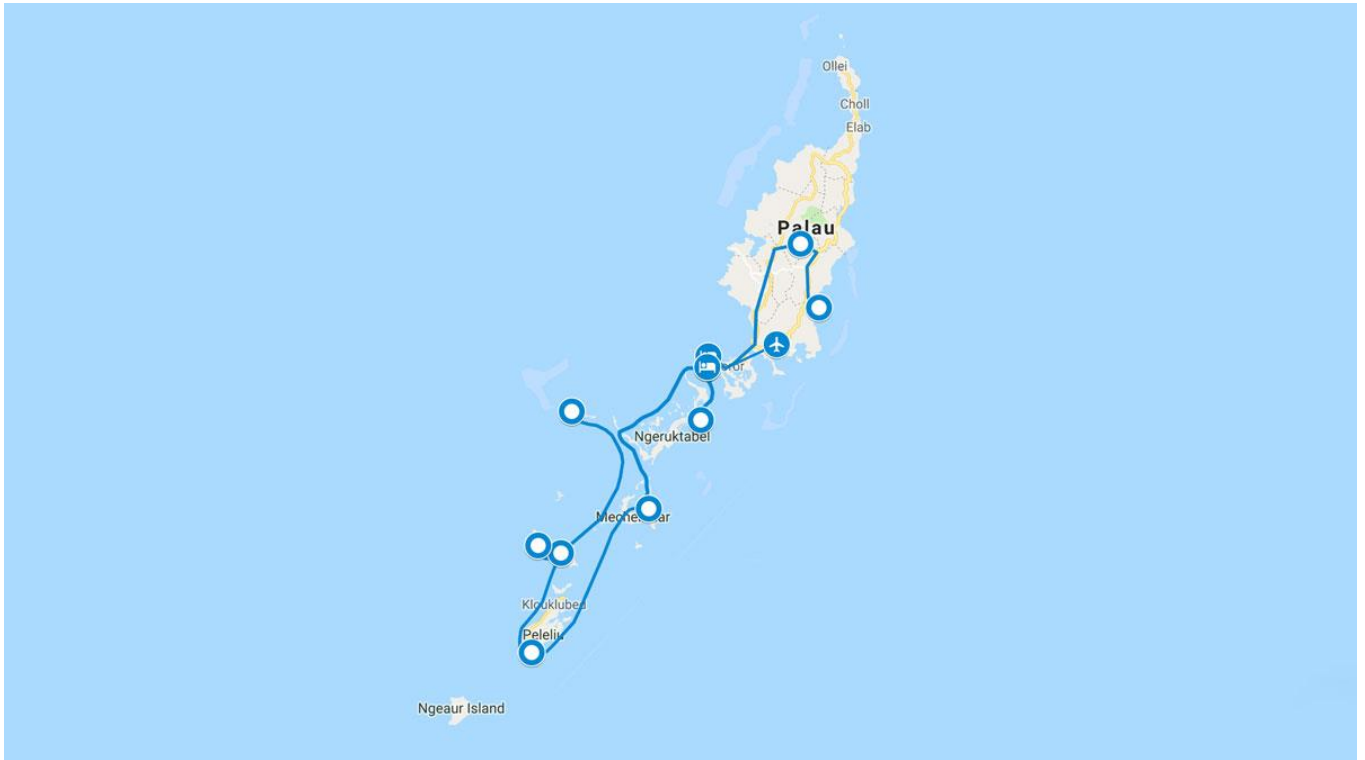
Join us on an exceptional expedition through the archipelago of Palau, a tropical island paradise showcasing incredible marine biodiversity with over 1500 fish species, an abundance of pelagic animals and a plethora of soft and hard corals.

Discover jaw-dropping island landscapes, with world-class diving and snorkeling. Swim with millions of jellyfish at mysterious Jelly Fish Lake and experience the cultural riches and scenic sites of Babeldaob as you walk along an ancient stone path to a traditional men's house and hike to a spectacular waterfall in the middle of the jungle for a refreshing dip. Explore the hidden network of marine lakes, mangrove channels and white sandy beaches by kayak. Paddle through the lush Rock Islands and marvel at the beautiful blue hues of the crystal-clear waters and its unique flora and fauna. Enjoy a scenic flight for an incredible aerial view of this unique and beautiful island nation with the rich waters and the lush green of the islands dotted throughout.

Discover Palau's spectacular and world-famous snorkel and dive sites from the comforts of our exclusively chartered yacht, the *SY Palau Siren*, furnished with luxury amenities and excellent food. When not in the water exploring the underwater riches, visit the significant World War II battle sites of Peleliu, enjoy a massage and sip on a cocktail whilst watching the spectacular sunsets. Experience the best of Palau in comfort and style on this incredible adventure.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sail in the lap of luxury as you explore the best that Palau has on offer, onboard our exclusively chartered yacht.
- Explore spectacular drop offs, marine channels and marine lakes abundant with fish and corals.
- Watch sharks patrolling the reefs, swim alongside Manta rays and turtles.
- Enjoy a Pelagic day in search of whales, dolphins and sharks.
- Explore a coral encrusted World War II shipwreck and swim with millions of jellyfish in mysterious Jelly Fish Lake.
- Kayak through Palau's Rock Islands, snorkel fragile coral gardens inside hidden marine lakes and feast on a beach BBQ.
- Soar over the enchanting Rock Islands and reefs of Palau on a scenic flight.
- Experience a spawning fish aggregation dive and "Black-water night dive".
- Take a refreshing dip in a jungle waterfall and stroll down an ancient stone path to a traditional men's house.



[CLICK TO VIEW IN GOOGLE MAPS](#)

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Palau - RAINBOWS END

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- Day 01 | Apr 18** Depart Home / En Route to Koror, Palau
- Day 02 | Apr 19** Arrive in Koror
- Day 03 | Apr 20** Babeldaob / 'Moana' Cultural Day
- Day 04 | Apr 21** Rock Island Tour / Beach BBQ
- Day 05 | Apr 22** Scenic Flight Over Rock Islands / Koror / Chandelier Cave
- Day 06 | Apr 23** Pelagic Day
- Day 07 | Apr 24** Kayaking / Beach BBQ / *S/Y Palau Siren*
- Day 08 - 12 | Apr 25-29** Dive Palau onboard *S/Y Palau Siren*
- Day 13 | Apr 30** Jelly Fish Lake / Fly Home or travel to Manila for Philippines Expedition
- Day 14 | May 01** Arrive home



ITINERARY

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Day 01. Apr 18, 2021. Depart Home / En route to Koror, Palau

Depart your home and journey to Palau, arriving into Koror international airport. We highly recommend arriving a day before the expedition starting date, so you can acclimatize, are well rested and most importantly, don't miss the trip. We can assist you with making a booking for additional nights at the *Palau Carolines Resort*.

Day 02. Apr 19, 2021. Arrive in Koror

On arrival at *Koror international airport* you will be met and transferred to the *Palau Carolines resort*. Relax and recover after your long journey in preparation for the exciting days to come. Anyone arriving from the Truk Lagoon Expedition will arrive at the resort late evening.

Overnight: *Palau Carolines Resort – Bungalow*

Day 03. April 20, 2021. Babeldaob / 'Moana' Day

For the perfect introduction to this unique island nation, experience first-hand some of the local traditions and customs in Babeldaob. Walk along an ancient stone path to a traditional men's house, hike to a spectacular waterfall in the middle of the jungle for a refreshing dip before enjoying a traditional Palauan feast served in baskets accompanied by refreshing chilled coconuts. Spend the afternoon with a visual history of the Micronesian Islands, as you learn how the people of Oceania navigated the vast distances of the Pacific Ocean onboard traditional sailing canoes. Enjoy a demonstration of how the canoes are constructed, using the ancient tools and methods. Join the talented artisans as they prepare the sails from Pandanus fibers, before sailing out through the labyrinth of Palau's rock islands and experience the traditional ways of sailing canoes. Slip into the warm waters of West Ngeruktabel island and enjoy a snorkel at the coral garden, before seeing the sunset on the azure waters and enjoying a delicious dinner.

Overnight: *Palau Carolines Resort – Bungalow (B, L, D)*

Day 04. April 21, 2021. Rock Island Tour / Beach BBQ

Spend your day exploring the lush Rock Islands, visiting Palau's hidden network of marine lakes, mushroom-shaped rock islands, mangrove channels and white sandy beaches, and simply enjoying the quiet beauty of this magical place. Cruise through this UNESCO world heritage site comprised of 445 uninhabited limestone islands. These lush jungle-covered islands, vertically rising from the ocean, create a labyrinth in perfectly calm lagoons, with hidden marine lakes, rocky arches and rich coral reefs. As you snorkel fragile and wondrous coral gardens, look up and see endemic Palauan fruit bats, white-tailed tropic birds, terns and cockatoos soar overhead. Enjoy a freshly prepared BBQ on a white sandy beach as you relax in the serenity of the sights and sounds of the tropical island around you.

Overnight: *Palau Carolines Resort – Bungalow (B, L, D)*

Day 05. April 22, 2021. Scenic Flight over Rock Islands / Dive Chandelier Cave

After breakfast take a scenic flight for an incredible aerial view of this unique and beautiful island nation with the many different hues of blue of the rich waters and lush green tops of the islands dotted throughout. Back on land time permitting take some time to visit the museum to learn more about Palauan traditions and customs and take a look at the Palauan Storyboards, all with legends

and stories to be told. After lunch, take the plunge and dive the famous Chandelier Cave, a unique dive site with five separate chambers, 4 situated underwater with each cave having an air pocket where you can see some fascinating stalactites and stalagmites, with the possibility of spotting the magnificent mandarin fish at the caves entrance.

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before retiring for the night.

Overnight: *Palau Carolines Resort – Bungalow* (B, L, D)

Day 06. April 23, 2021. Pelagic Day

Today after breakfast embark for a full day of open ocean adventures. Palau is home to 22 species of marine mammals, most of which are found within only a few miles of the outer reef. Search for playful spinner dolphins surfing the boat's wake, keep an eye open for the world's deepest diving marine mammal, as sperm whales peruse the Eastern trench line. Motor a little further off-shore for further pelagic adventures on Palau's Fish Aggregation Devices (FADs). These deep-water mooring lines are designed to attract small bait fish, which in turn attract wahoo, mahi-mahi, tuna and marlin. Slip into the clear blue water and enjoy a look at the pelagic community including the enigmatic triple fin and perhaps a curious Silky Shark or two!

Overnight: *Palau Carolines Resort – Bungalow* (B, L, D)

Day 07. April 24, 2021. Long Lake Kayaking / Beach BBQ / S/Y Palau Siren

After breakfast, board a canopy covered speed boat and head to the Rock Islands. Slip into comfortable kayaks with high back seat support for an effortless drift through a clear water mangrove forest channel. As the tidal water carries you under a canopy of old growth trees, keep your eyes out for rare orchids, epiphytic ferns and endemic birds. The tidal river meanders into a mile long salt water lake filled with colorful corals, ancient cycad trees and juvenile stingrays. Enjoy lunch on a quiet beach with powder white sand, before paddling through the turquoise waters of Kingfisher Alley. Snorkel by the "tunnels of doom" as they spill nutrient rich waters onto the multi-colored brain corals of Einstein's Gardens. Paddle through a tunnel into the protected waters of Secret Lake and search for the ancestral medusa from the world-famous Jellyfish Lake. Visit Milky Way, where the calcium rich waters create unique photo opportunities and the chance to enjoy a natural clay spa treatment. After a fun-filled day embark on the *S/Y Palau Siren*, your home for the next 7 nights, and enjoy a special sunset cocktail and welcome dinner as you set sail on the tropical waters.

Overnight: *S/Y Palau Siren* (B, L, D)

Day 08-12. Apr 25-29, 2021. 5 Days Diving and Snorkeling

Enjoy 5 full days of unique world-class diving and snorkeling amid the comforts of our exclusively chartered *S/Y Palau Siren*. Laying between the Philippine Sea and northern Pacific Ocean, these limestone islands surrounded by crystal clear, cobalt blue water are home to a dazzling array of marine life.

Explore dramatic coral encrusted drop-offs that are thousands of meters deep, marine channels with schooling fish and feeding manta rays, explore awe-inspiring caves, adrenalin-pumping drift dives with a variety of reef sharks, schooling barracuda, tuna and jacks at the famous dive sites of Blue Corner, New Drop Off, Ulong, German Channel and Peleliu Cut. We have timed our expedition to coincide with a mass fish spawning event and will also take those adventurous enough on a "Black-water" night dive in deep water to see what amazing and unique critters make their way up to the surface at night. Explore a Japanese World War II shipwreck and when not underwater, visit the significant World War II battle sites of Peleliu, or grab a kayak and go for a paddle through the incredible limestone formations called the Rock Islands, observing tropic birds flying overhead and witness spectacular sunsets.

Overnight: *S/Y Palau Siren* (B, L, D)

Day 13. Apr 30, 2021. Jellyfish Lake / Fly Home or to Manila for Philippines Expedition

On your final day in Palau, take a speed boat tour to the world-famous mysterious Jellyfish Lake to swim with millions of non-stinging jellyfish. After some more snorkeling and a nice final Rock islands cruise savor a delicious lunch as the ship slowly sets sail back to Koror.

After an early dinner head to the airport for your international flights home or continue on to Manila for our Philippines adventure.

If you are flying back to the USA, gain a day crossing the date line and arrive the same day back home. Please note the Manila flights currently only operate Tue/Fri.

Overnight: S/Y Palau Siren (B, L, D)

Day 14. May 01, 2021. Arrive Home

PLEASE NOTE

WHAT TO EXPECT

All *Wild Earth Expeditions* are very active, and participants need to be in good general health. For most activities a moderate to good level of fitness is required. This expedition is very active and will include snorkeling, scuba diving on coral reefs where strong currents can be present, hiking nature trails on sometimes rough terrain, kayaking, climbing in and out of boats and other physical activities. Accommodations we have chosen are at the lovely *Palau Carolines resort* and onboard the luxurious *MY Palau Siren* all with a/c, hot water and en-suite bathroom facilities.

Detailed Pre-departure information will be sent to you 4-5 months prior to the expedition.

Your expedition will be led by 2 *Wild Earth Expeditions* leaders and the most experienced local guides.

ITINERARY

Wild Earth Expeditions will make every reasonable effort to operate the expedition as advertised, but alterations may occur, usually due to tides, weather or flight schedule changes. We will discuss our planned itinerary daily with our local expert guides and will always choose the best available option. Accommodations and arranged tours are subject to change or cancellation at any time due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond *Wild Earth Expeditions* control. Please note that 2021 flight schedules will only be released 11 months prior to the end of the expedition.

WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS

Although we have reported honestly and accurately about our sightings and experiences, we would like to point out that we are working in the wilderness and despite all our good intentions and utmost preparation, Mother Nature may not cooperate with us at times. We believe that with good planning and a realistic approach, you will have a successful time witnessing the natural behavior of the wildlife we have set out to see.



S/Y PALAU SIREN

Onboard the stunning 40-meter *S/Y Palau Siren* luxury live-aboard, the cabins can be used as twin or double bedrooms. The outside dining area is very spacious, offering a great setting for all your meals. The dive deck is very spacious and comfortable and there's a large sun deck. There are designated areas for charging and preparation of your camera, video and laptop equipment.

She is a traditional "gaff-rigged Phinisi schooner", handcrafted from ironwood and teak. You will find no other dive live-aboard as beautiful in the waters of Micronesia. She was built by divers for divers and you can rest assured every need has been thought of and has been implemented.

FEATURES

- 8 large air-conditioned cabins each with their own en-suite bathrooms with hot water, personal computer, audio-visual entertainment system and multiple power sources to facilitate the needs of digital photography. All rooms are lavished with luxury extra's including bathrobes, hair dryers, towels, individually controlled mood lighting and controls for your air-conditioning unit.
- 7 sails, an expansive leisure and diving deck area, covered outdoor dining area, a spacious air-conditioned saloon with cocktail bar, 42 inch flat-screen and computer server supporting the inter-cabin network.
- 2 ten-meter dive tenders accompany the main ship
- Workstations for the preparation and maintenance of cameras including prep and storage areas and large rinse tanks with fresh water solely for cameras and videos.
- Enriched Air Nitrox is free for all certified Nitrox divers. If you are not a certified Nitrox diver the instructors onboard can teach you the Enriched Air Specialty (at a cost)
- Dive gear rental free of charge (only torches and dive computers cost extra)
- Laundry Service (at a cost)
- Massage Service (at a cost)
- Kayaks

[CLICK TO VIEW IMAGES](#)



COST & INFO

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Double Occupancy: USD \$10,980 per person sharing

Single Supplement Surcharge: USD \$6,650 per person



ULTIMATE COMBINATION SAVINGS

- Book 2 expeditions and receive a \$500 per person savings
- Book 3 expeditions and receive a \$750 per person savings

Palau can be combined with [2021 Chuuk](#) and [2021 Philippines](#)

INCLUDED

All accommodations in twin/double share rooms as outlined in the itinerary; Exclusive *MY Palau Siren* yacht charter; Scenic flight; All group meals; Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions; Soft drinks, drinking water, tea and regular filter coffee during lunch and dinner at the hotel and onboard the *MY Palau Siren*; Drinking water in rooms/cabins and while on tours; All group transfers and baggage handling; All tours, excursions, diving and snorkeling as outlined in the itinerary; Exclusive services of English speaking professional guides and naturalists; Services of 2 Wild Earth Expedition Leaders; All gratuities to porters, guides, drivers, dive crew, ship-, resort- and wait staff; Government-Service- and Room taxes; All permits, Harbor fees, Entrance and Marine park fees (\$270); Complimentary slideshow; Daily Recaps; Dive tanks/weights for Scuba divers. Donation to reef conservation project.

NOT INCLUDED

All international airfares; Any airport arrival and departure taxes; Passport and visa fees; Immunization costs; Meals outside the group travel itinerary; Mandatory Travel insurance (including medical, medical evacuation and accident); Excess baggage charges; Personal items, such as laundry, any alcoholic beverages or bar charges (unless specified above), WiFi, telephone, fax calls; Tips for your 2 Wild Earth Leaders and any non-group services; Nitrox air fills and dive gear rental. Any sudden increase in price, due to currency fluctuations, a steep hike in fuel cost, change in government tax policy or for any reason beyond our control, will be adjusted with the final invoice due 4 months prior to the expedition.

SINGLE OCCUPANCY

We only have 2 single spaces available on this expedition and single occupancy rates apply. If you are wanting to share accommodations, a roommate will be assigned to you and double occupancy rates apply. If we cannot pair you with a roommate, the single supplement surcharge applies.

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