

FACT SHEET



NABUCCO ISLAND RESORT



Nabucco Island is a private island with beautiful views of the turquoise Maratua lagoon, intact nature on the island incl. mangroves, monitor lizards, flying foxes, kingfishers, coconut crabs, mud skippers etc. World class dive sites for big animal and macro lovers are only a few minutes away including the famous spot Big Fish Country. Stingrays, moray eels, various fish and crabs incl. mantis shrimps etc. can already be seen from the restaurant terrace. A professional diving operation, tasty food as well as a friendly and welcoming team let you enjoy your holiday.



1. WHERE IS NABUCCO ISLAND RESORT?

- We are located on our own private island in the protected lagoon of Maratua Atoll (originally the island was called Pulau Pabahanan) approximately 60 km east of the Indonesian state East-Kalimantan in the middle of the Celebes Sea.
- The resort on the approximately 2 hectares big island was built in 2001, the buildings are carefully integrated into the nature.

2. WHAT FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE ON THE ISLAND?

- 12 bungalows
- restaurant
- bar
- dive centre
- 3 dive boats
- small souvenir shop
- camera room
- volleyball field

3. HOW DO YOU GET TO NABUCCO?

Option for arrival/departure on Saturday (most comfortable way to get to the island)

From Balikpapan (BPN) to Maratua and back with the EXTRA DIVERS private charter flight. From Maratua airport it is only a quick car ride to the lagoon side, from where the you reach Nabucco by only 5 – 10 minutes boat ride. The charter flight is available every Saturday, operated by Garuda with an ATR-72 aircraft with 65 seats, 30 kg luggage allowance and snack on board. The charter flight it is not listed online, only bookable through the island.

Flight times (Saturday):

14:15 Balikpapan – 15:30 Maratua

(GA570 ETA 13:30 is possible, but GA564 ETA 12:05 more comfortable)

16:00 Maratua – 17:15 Balikpapan

(GA571 ETD 17:55 is possible, but GA575 ETD 19:45 more comfortable)

Please note that for the charter flight you won't receive a ticket, however the Garuda ground crew in Balikpapan is well informed about the flight connection. Your name will be listed on the flight manifest and you can check in with your passport.

Upon arrival in Balikpapan please contact the transfer desk (before the luggage belt) if you need to re-check-in your luggage.

Garuda counter #08 is open for check-in for the Maratua flight. Please be at check-in 2 hours before departure.

Option for arrival/departures on weekdays

Flight to Balikpapan (BPN) and then domestic flight to Berau (BEJ). Transfer from the airport to the jetty is around 15 mins, then the last part of your trip will be a speedboat ride arranged by the resort of around 3 hours. During the first third of the way to Nabucco Island Resort you can get an impression how the people live along the river and maybe even spot a Proboscis monkey up in the trees. The last two thirds of the trip will be open sea and with a bit of luck you can watch dolphins escorting the boat.

We propose our midweek shuttle transfer:

Arrivals: Wednesday (boat will leave Berau after landing of GA467, or latest IW1362)

Departures: Tuesday (leave from Nabucco early morning to connect with GA462)

Baggage allowance for the domestic flight Balikpapan-Berau: At the moment most airlines allow 20 kg per person (WingsAir / NAM 10 kg). Excess luggage fees are around 1 EUR/kg, depending on airline (please check on your booking confirmation). Garuda offers additional 20 kg dive luggage, but all packed in a separate bag. It is not necessary to apply for dive luggage in advance.

4. COMBINATION WITH EXTRA DIVERS NUNUKAN OR EXTRA DIVERS VIRGIN COCOA

A stay on Nabucco can also easily be combined with our sister islands in South Maratua: Nunukan Island or Virgin Cocoa.

The transfer is only 30-45min by boat so you can still dive that day.

5. WHEN IS THE BEST TIME FOR HOLIDAYS ON NABUCCO ISLAND?

- Nabucco Island Resort is open nearly all year long, we only close for a small break beginning of the year (2019: 05 Jan – 09 Feb) for renovations when the weather can be windier/rainier.
- The air and water temperature is all year round between 26 and 30 degrees.

6. WHAT IS THE ACCOMMODATION LIKE ON NABUCCO ISLAND?

- Nabucco has 18 rooms in 12 bungalows (9 Seafront rooms, 7 Garden rooms and 2 Nabucco Suites)
- Some bungalows have 2 rooms each under their roof – of course with separate entrance and own bathroom. Very convenient also for parents with teenage kids or friends travelling together.
- 2 Nabucco Suites, 3 Garden rooms and 1 Seafront room are available as single bungalows.
- The bungalows are built with natural, local materials
- All rooms have AC, ceiling fan, minibar, mosquito net over the bed, desk, bathroom with Western toilet and warm shower as well as a terrace with sunbeds.
- Hand, shower and beach towels are provided in the rooms

- Double, twin and extra beds available (please let us know what you would prefer).
- Seafront rooms have direct access to the sea at high tide, and to the beach at low tide. They enjoy a beautiful view over the turquoise lagoon and starry sky.
- The Nabucco Suites are spacious single standing bungalows with beautiful sunset view and upgraded interior.
- Garden rooms are set back a little in the garden and enjoy beautiful views of the green garden.

7. WHAT KIND OF FOOD CAN I EXPECT?

- Meals are served in our airy and roomy restaurant. It is constructed on stilts directly over the sea. While enjoying delicious meals, your eyes can feast on fantastic views of Maratua Atoll with its turquoise lagoon and surrounding sandbanks, the marine life swimming past or a monitor lizard taking a sunbath.
- You can choose between half and full board (dishes are a mix of Asian, Indonesian and Western cuisine)
- The day starts with a tasty breakfast including coffee/tea, fresh fruit juice, fresh fruit plate, homemade bread, and your choice of eggs/fried rice/fried noodles/pancake/cornflakes etc, which will be served à la carte
- If you booked full board, we will serve you a 3-course lunch.
- If you booked half board you can choose your dish according to your appetite from a small lunch menu, which will change every day (approx. 4 – 8 EUR per dish)
- In the evening, the night sky over the Celebes Sea is the perfect ambience to enjoy the freshly prepared 4-course dinner (homemade bread, salad, soup, main course, dessert)
- Please let us know in advance if you have any food allergies or if you have any dietary restrictions. We can easily accommodate vegetarians
- Machine coffee, soft drinks incl. homemade ice-tea and fresh juice, as well as alcoholic drinks incl. cold beer, cocktails and wines are on offer in our restaurant/bar
- Drinking water: 2.50 EUR/bottle. Free refills at the restaurant and dive centre. During meals drinking water is included.
- Meal times: 7 – 9.30h breakfast. 12.30 – 14.30h lunch. From 19h dinner

8. HOW WILL I DIVE AND WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO SEE?

- Our dive centre is situated on the jetty in front of the island. It is equipped with a reception area, wet room and several rinsing tanks for the equipment
- We offer 3 dives a day, usually single dives where we come back after each dive, occasionally half day trips (2 dives) and daytrips (3 dives), plus early morning, twilight & night dives on request.
- More than 20 local dive sites at Maratua atoll are reached in 5 – 20 minutes from the island. To reach Kakaban/Sangkalaki (daytrip) the boat ride is about 45/60mins.
- Our boats are equipped with radio, GPS, medical first aid kit and oxygen
- We organize the diving in small groups with max. 6 divers per guide, if possible less

- Max. depth 30m, no deco dives, dive computer is mandatory
- In our small remote diving paradise, you find a large variety from small critters, (pygmy seahorses, nudibranchs, orangutan crabs, leaf fish, etc) to larger marine life (sharks - white tips/grey reef/leopard/occasional hammerheads, feather tail and eagle rays, barracudas, jack fish, bumphead parrotfish, and many turtles).



9. WHERE WILL I DIVE?

- Nabucco is located in the middle of the coral triangle where the largest marine diversity and one of the biggest turtle populations worldwide is found. Due to the remote location there are almost no other dive boats around. The dive sites around the Maratua atoll are remarkable for their intact hard and soft corals, steep and sloping walls as well as the channel, and of course marine life! We will make sure to provide a nice mix of dive sites for you!
- 5 minutes from Nabucco is the famous dive site Big Fish Country. This dive site is a current dive which can only be done with incoming tide and an AOW certification with at least around 50 dives and the necessary experience is obligatory for this dive. Here various types of sharks (grey, white tip, black tip reef sharks), eagle rays and sometimes hammerhead, tunas, jacks and the resident huge school of barracudas can be seen regularly. Big Fish Country is a dive site which is best done a few times as every time is impressive in a different way.
- The tides and the moon affect this area quite a bit, so even the same dive site can be very different when it comes to animals during low tide or high tide, little or stronger current.
- Another highlight is Sangalaki, with a beautiful coral garden, lots of fish and high chance to encounter manta rays nearly the whole year around
- A trip to Kakaban Island with its amazing colourful drop offs and the unique stingless jellyfish lake (at the jelly fish lake only snorkelling without fins is allowed) is usually combined with Sangalaki
- In addition, double tank dives north and mid Maratua, or a day in South Maratua with lunch on Nunukan Island could be organized

10. WHAT IS THE WATER TEMPERATURE?

- The water temperature is all year round between 27 – 29 degrees Celsius.

11. WHICH KIND OF EQUIPMENT IS USED BY THE DIVING CENTER?

- 12 l aluminium tanks with DIN valves (INT available)
- Small number of 15 litre tanks available for 2 EUR per tank (pre-booking recommended)
- Limited amount of rental equipment available: BCD, regulator, masks and fins from Aqua Lung, Suunto/Aqua Lung dive computer, 3mm Aqualung suits (pre-booking recommended to ensure availability)
- Emergency oxygen on the island and on dive boats
- SSI & PADI dive centre, courses available on request (pre-booking recommended to ensure availability)

12. DOES NABUCCO ISLAND ALSO PROVIDE NITROX?

- If you like to dive with Nitrox please let us know, surcharge per tank is 6 EUR.

13. WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PRICE?

- You can book your stay with half or full board
- Half board includes breakfast and 4-course dinner
- Full board includes breakfast, 3-course lunch and 4-course dinner
- Drinking water during meal times
- WIFI in the island centre longhouse is available free of charge (limited speed due to the remoteness of the island)

14. WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE?

- Diving: You can book a 10 or 20 dive package in advance. The 10-Dive-Package includes the supplement for 1 daytrip (3 dives - just the 3 dives that day will be calculated) to Sangalaki/ Kakaban. The 20-Dive-Package includes the supplement for 2 daytrips (3 dives) to Sangalaki/ Kakaban).
- All Diving Packages include boat, belt, tank, weights and guide
- Dive equipment rental and nitrox
- Activities such as snorkelling by boat, excursions to neighbouring island, cooking class
- Drinks in the restaurant/bar or mini bar
- Minishop purchases
- Massages
- Laundry services
- Tips are not included in our prices

15. WHICH CURRENCY IS ACCEPTED?

- All extra costs (drinks, extra dives, tips and so on) can be paid cash in IDR, EUR, USD. Please consider that foreign banknotes have to be in perfect condition. USD notes are only accepted if they are 2009 or younger and with no damages.
- Card payment is not possible, credit cards cannot be accepted.

16. WHAT SORT OF POWER DO YOU HAVE?

- We have 24h electricity and 220V (2 pin sockets – same as Germany)

17. WHAT CAN I DO AT NABUCCO, IF I DO NOT DIVE?

- An amazing adventure will be a trip to the jellyfish lake at Kakaban. After a small walk through the jungle you can snorkel with the stingless jellyfish
- Snorkelling on the outside reef of the Maratua Atoll, as well as around the island, especially snorkelling around the jetty is great with frog fish, pipefish, juvenile batfish, blue spotted stingrays, nudibranchs, clownfish, moray eels and more (please note that it depends on the tides)
- Beach volleyball
- Visiting a local village on Maratua Island
- Exploring the surrounding sand banks with their intertidal pools during low tide
- Traditional Massages
- Indonesian cooking class
- Watching the tides and sea colour change
- Nabucco Island with its flora and fauna provides many photo opportunities

18. WHAT SHOULD I BRING WITH ME?

- Everything you will need for the duration of your stay – we are very far from the next dive shop, supermarket, or pharmacy
- Please bring a copy of your diving insurance and your dive certification card with you
- Your complete diving equipment incl. dive torch, surface marker buoy, dive computer, wetsuit and all other well-maintained equipment
- Your passport has to be valid at least for another 6 months at the time you enter Indonesia and has to have at least one empty page for the visa. Nationals of most countries will be granted a 30 days visa on arrival – not extendable. For details please check with your embassy.
- A light sweater or jacket. Evenings can be brisk. Hat and sunglasses, insect repellent.
- Light coloured clothing. For some reason, light colours are generally less appealing to mosquitos then dark ones
- Please bring also all your hygienic articles with you, such as shampoo, shower gel, sun lotion, shaver, tampons, toothbrush, toothpaste, medications, etc.
- The Maratua Atoll is remote. We are happy, if sometimes our guests could bring us something. If you have still space in your luggage, thank you for sending us an email to nabucco@extradivers.org.

19. WHAT ANIMALS ARE LIVING ON NABUCCO?

- Nabucco is a small paradise also for unique animals. When exploring the island, you can see kingfishers, sunbirds, monitor lizards, mudskippers, coconut crabs, flying foxes as well as our cat.

20. WHAT, IF I GET SICK OR HURT WHILE I AM THERE?

- Please take the medication you regularly use or might use with you (in your hand luggage).
- At Nabucco Island Resort we have a medicine cabinet for the most common sicknesses
- On Maratua Island there is a little hospital where small injuries can get treated, the next international hospital is in Balikpapan.
- The closest decompression chamber is located at Balikpapan, to reach Balikpapan from Nabucco we need around 24h by boat/land. The new decompression chamber in Tanjung Batu might be available and is around 2h by boat.
- In the event of a general medical emergency you will be immediately evacuated to the nearest hospital in Berau.
- In case of a dive emergency, your dive insurance provider will advise us on the appropriate course of action
- You must have a health insurance as well as dive insurance, if you plan on diving. We recommend DAN or AquaMed insurance as they cover emergency evacuation

21. SHOULD I TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST MALARIA?

- Until now there is no malaria known at Maratua Atoll
- We recommend that you sleep under the mosquito net, use mosquito repellent during morning and evening hours. Mosquito coils are also provided in the rooms.

THE ENTIRE TEAM AT NABUCCO ISLAND LOOKS FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU ON THIS LITTLE PARADISE!

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