

Palau | SNORKELING & KAYAKING ODYSSEY

PACIFIC ISLAND ADVENTURE | 10 DAYS

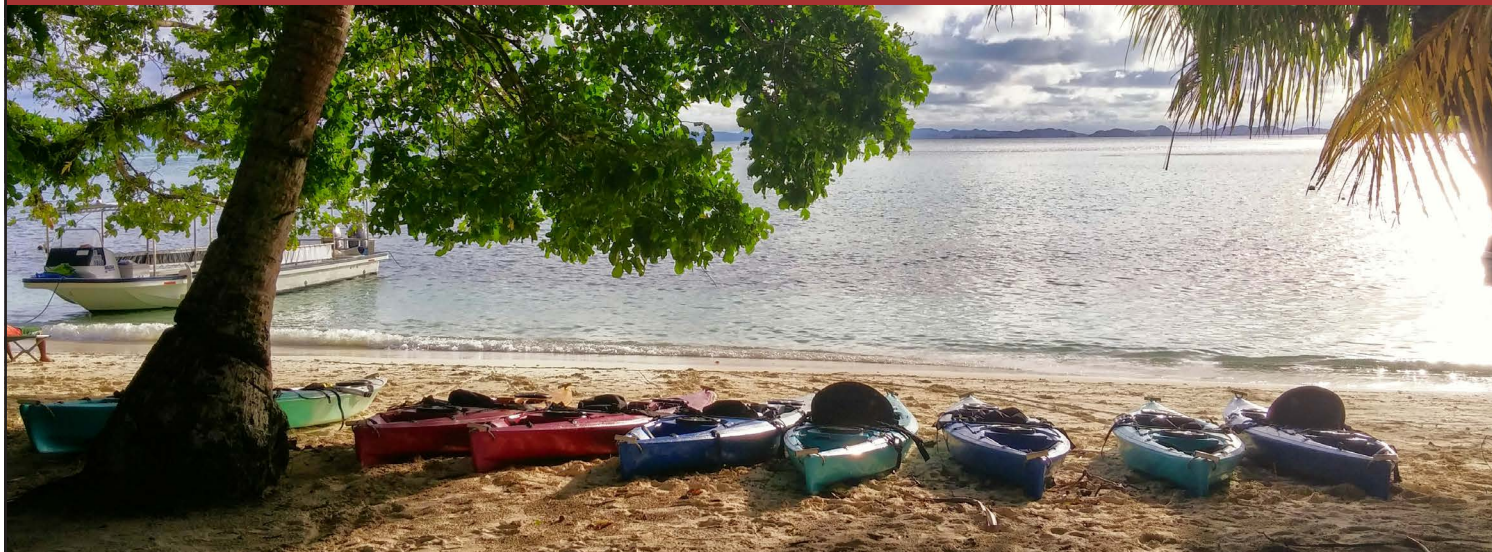
February 9-18, 2022

March 25-April 3, 2022

October 31-November 9, 2022



TRIP ITINERARY




Boundless
JOURNEYS

1.800.941.8010 | www.boundlessjourneys.com

How we deliver

THE WORLD'S GREAT ADVENTURES

A passion for travel. Simply put, we love to travel, and that infectious spirit is woven into every one of our journeys. Our staff travels the globe searching out hidden-gem inns and lodges, taste testing bistros, trattorias, and noodle stalls, and discovering the trails and plying the waterways of each remarkable destination. When we come home, we separate wheat from chaff, creating memorable adventures that will connect you with the very best qualities of each destination.

Unique, award-winning itineraries. Our flexible, hand-crafted journeys have received accolades from the world's most revered travel publications. Beginning from our appreciation for the world's most breathtaking and interesting destinations, we infuse our journeys with the elements of adventure and exploration that stimulate our souls and enliven our minds. Whether you are looking for a challenging physical expedition or a leisurely cultural exploration, Boundless Journeys has exceptional itineraries to match your sense of adventure.

Insider connections. There is simply no substitute for traveling with a knowledgeable insider, and our expert local guides will open doors for you that other travelers miss, like dinner with their extended family in Peru's Sacred Valley, or meeting an art scholar in Florence. Relationships developed over many years allow you to experience our destinations through a well-connected friend.

Small groups. Although the camaraderie of a group of like-minded travelers often enhances the journey, there can be too much of a good thing! We tread softly, and our average group size is just 8–10 guests, allowing us access to opportunities that would be unthinkable with a larger group.

Flexibility to suit your travel style. We offer both scheduled, small-group departures and custom journeys so that you can choose which works best for you. Not finding exactly what you are looking for? Let us customize a journey to fulfill your travel dreams.

Customer service that goes the extra mile. Having trouble finding flights that work for you? Want to surprise your traveling companion with a bottle of champagne at a tented camp in the Serengeti to celebrate an important milestone? There is no request that is too big—or too small—for our staff to handle. From your first call, we guide you through choosing your trip, provide advice on preparing for your adventure, and hold your hand until you return home.



Multi-year recipient of *Travel + Leisure* magazine's "World's Best Tour Operator"; and recognized by the editors of *National Geographic ADVENTURE* magazine as one of the **Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth**.

Palau | SNORKELING & KAYAKING ODYSSEY

Thank you for your interest in this fantastic journey in Palau. We have hand-crafted this tour from our own experience and hope you fall in love with the stunning Rock Islands—as we have!

THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS JOURNEY

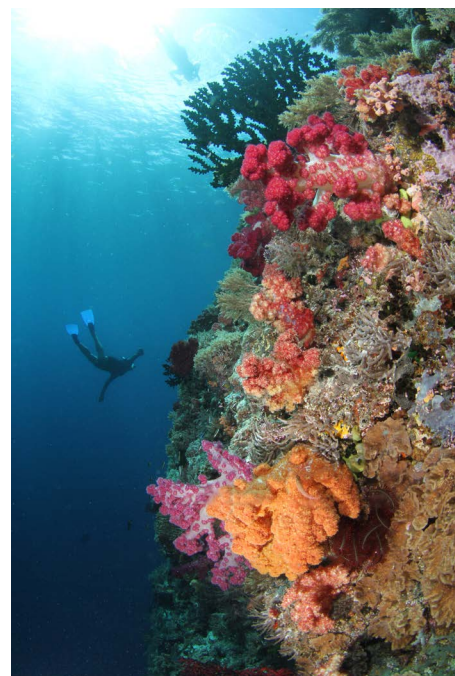
The island nation of Palau could well be the most beautiful place you've never heard of, and therein lies its allure. Three major ocean currents feed this pristine archipelago in the western Pacific—making it a fertile marine garden whose turquoise waters boast quadruple the reef diversity of Caribbean waters.

As island idylls go, this tops our list for world-class sea kayaking and snorkeling in one of the world's finest marine ecosystems. Boundless Journeys reveals all the visions you would expect in paradise—swaying coconut palms, silky sand beaches, and an underwater Eden. Discover inlets and mangrove forests by kayak. Duck into magical sea caves and explore hidden bays. Never heard of Palau? After this trip, you'll never forget it.

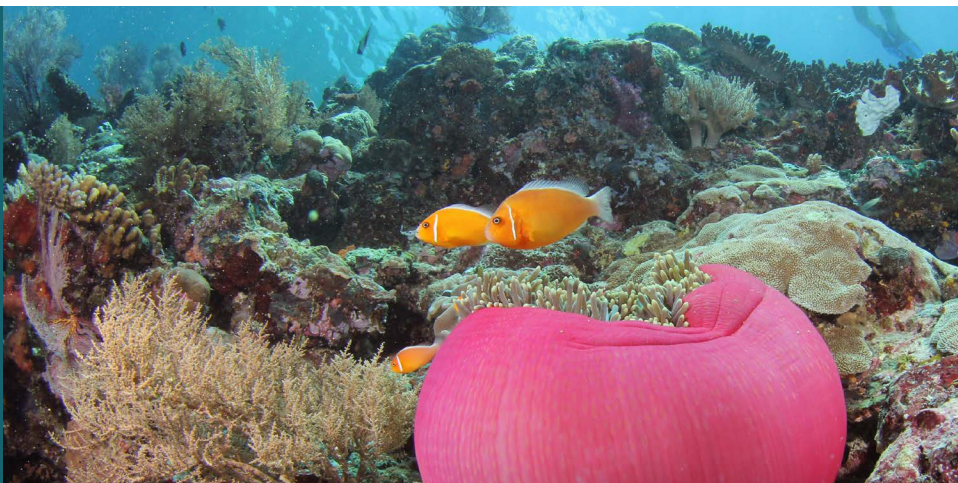
HIGHLIGHTS

- Led by an expert naturalist guide, snorkel among unimaginable marine life including over 1,500 species of fish, sea turtles, giant clams, stingrays, and docile reef sharks
- Discover Palau's rich cultural heritage and enjoy a ride on a traditional hand-carved wooden outrigger canoe
- Learn about Palau's WWII history by visiting sunken war relics and touring Peleliu Island, site of the infamous Battle of Peleliu
- Snorkel Jellyfish Lake surrounded by its famous inhabitants—stingless jellyfish

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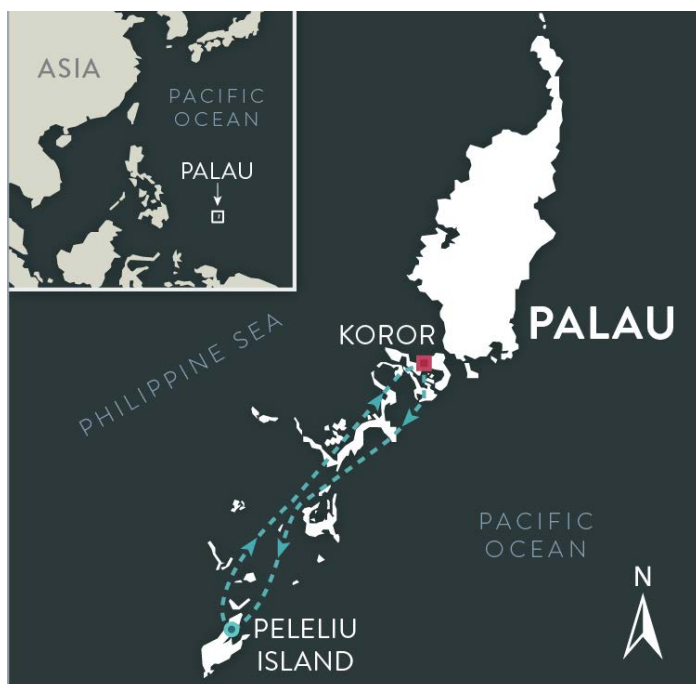


TOUR OVERVIEW



THE BASICS

Duration:	10-day trip
Tour start:	Koror
Tour end:	Koror
Accommodations:	Combination of boutique bungalows and a deluxe beach-side resort
Trip rating:	1 2 3 4 5 (See pages 12-13 for more information) EasyStrenuous
Land cost:	\$6,795 per person
Single Supplement:	First two solo travelers: \$1,095* Additional solo travelers: \$1,595 <i>*Must reserve at least 120 days prior</i>



WHAT'S INCLUDED

Just pack your bags—we've got you covered! When you're on a Boundless Journeys adventure, every detail is taken care of for you, so you can relax and truly experience each moment. Your Boundless Journeys adventure includes:

- Expert leadership
- All accommodations
- All meals Days 2-9
- Select beer and wine with included dinners
- All on-tour transportation, including airport transfers and all boat transfers
- All activities as noted in the itinerary
- All sea kayaking and snorkeling equipment
- All gratuities except for those for your guide and boat crew, which are at your discretion
- Explorers Club savings on your next scheduled, small-group trip (conditions apply)

International airfare is not included in the price of your trip. Please contact your local travel agency or the airlines directly to make any arrangements you may need. If you would like assistance with booking your flights or other travel plans, please contact Boundless Journeys directly for a referral to our partners who will best fulfill your needs.



ITINERARY AT-A-GLANCE

DAY 1

Welcome to Palau! Transfer from the airport to our hotel.

DAY 2

Meet our guide and enjoy an introduction to Palau's culture with a visit to a local museum and a replica *bai*, or traditional men's meeting house. Conclude today's cultural exploration with a ride on a traditional hand-carved outrigger canoe.

DAY 3

Our adventure begins! Kayak and snorkel the calm, shallow lagoons of Nikko Bay and Disney Lake.

DAY 4

Snorkel among stingless jellyfish at the famous Jellyfish Lake and see the mollusc residents at Giant Clam Beach.

DAY 5

Snorkel the outer reef and see a variety of larger fish species and other marine animals. Visit WWII relics on a land tour of Peleliu Island and learn about the Battle of Peleliu.

DAY 6

Snorkel Turtle Cove, known for its vertical drop-offs and a current swept corner teeming with reef sharks, sea turtles, stingrays, and schooling fish.

DAY 7

Snorkel the inner lagoon of West Ngeruktabel with its amazing snorkel sites and fascinating WWII history.

DAY 8

Kayak to secluded lagoons and snorkel among the marine life at Risong Bay's Black Tip Lake, Blue Devil Gardens, and Sunken City Lake.

DAY 9

Our final day of snorkeling concludes with a visit to Ulong Island.

DAY 10

Transfer to the airport in time for departing flights.

PLEASE NOTE: *This is a typical itinerary, and actual activities may vary to take advantage of weather conditions, local events, and to allow serendipity to play a hand in your experience. Accommodations are as outlined in the itinerary, although we reserve the right to change these should the need arise. See our booking terms and conditions for more information about our change policy.*

THE JOURNEY



DAY 1: Arrival in Koror

Upon arrival of your flight to Koror, you are met by a Carolines Resort representative and transferred to your hotel. As most flights arrive late in the evening, we meet as a group on the morning of Day 2.

Accommodation: Carolines Resort, Koror

Meals: None

DAY 2: Welcome Orientation

Activity Overview: Walking

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

After breakfast, our guide meets us in the lobby of the hotel for an orientation of the week's activities. We begin with a day of cultural touring. Our introduction to Palau starts with a visit to the Belau National Museum in Koror. Here, we gain some insight into Palauan culture and customs by viewing displays and artifacts which shares the story of Palau's history both before and after contact with foreign peoples.

On the museum grounds sits a replica *bai*, or men's meeting house. Each village in Palau had a men's meeting house built on a raised stone platform, constructed from giant timbers, reinforced with coconut fiber ropes, and assembled without nails. Roofs were made from woven mangrove palm fronds. Bais were elaborately painted and decorated with carvings of traditional legends.

There were two types of bais. Bai ra Rubak (or old men's bai) were used exclusively for the meetings and customs of the older men of the village. The Bai ra Cheldebechel (or

clubhouse bai) was used for younger men and was the place where the older men would teach the younger generation the legends of the village and fishing lore. Women were typically only allowed to visit the Bai ra Cheldebechel.

After enjoying lunch, we have the special opportunity to take a ride in a traditional Palauan canoe. This outrigger canoe is hand-carved and constructed in the same style as the canoes used by Palauans in centuries past to fish and explore the warm turquoise waters surrounding the Rock Islands.

When we return to our hotel, you may choose to rest and relax before dinner or prepare for our upcoming paddling and snorkeling adventure which begins tomorrow morning.

Accommodation: Carolines Resort, Koror

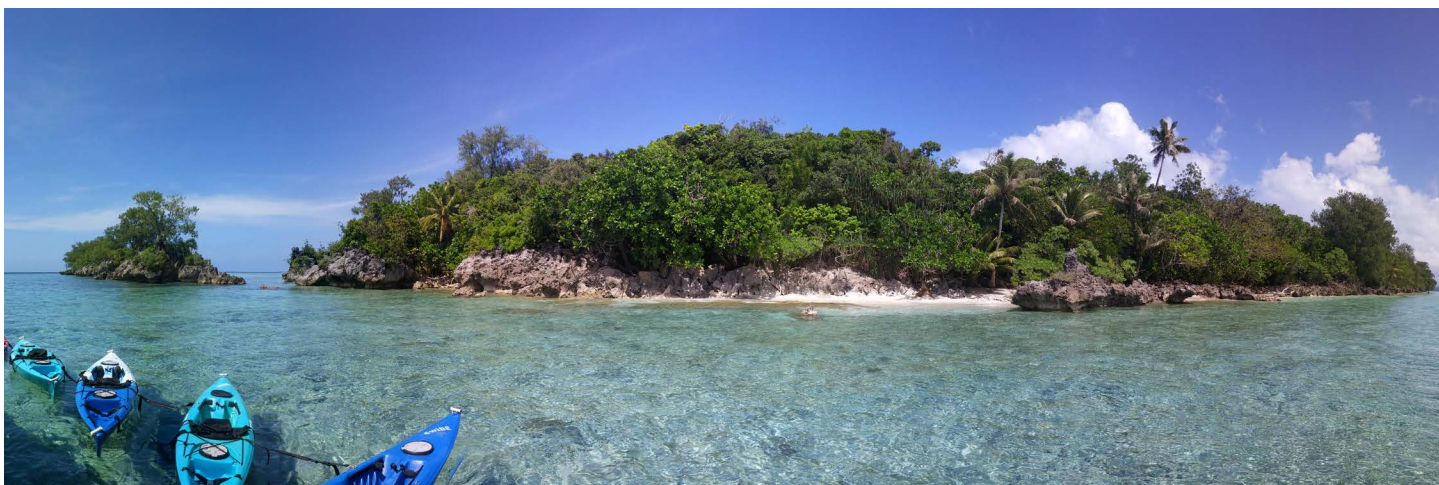
Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3: Nikko Bay

Activity Overview: Sea kayaking & snorkeling

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

After breakfast, we gather together for a kayaking instructional and safety briefing before heading out into the Rock Islands. Our first stop within Nikko Bay is at Disney Lake, which we enter by maneuvering our kayaks through a small marine tunnel exposed at low tide. In this hidden lake, we discover multi-thousand year-old reefs, protected from surrounding limestone walls that prevents wind and waves from disturbing the delicate marine environment. As a result of the complete cessation of physical force, the reefs have grown into spectacular old-growth coral gardens, where corals are literally climbing over one



another, competing for space. Corals that would normally be constrained by repetitive action of pounding waves are curled up in magnificent swirling baskets so thin that light shines right through the fragile skeleton. To protect themselves from intense ultraviolet rays, many of the corals possess fluorescent pigments, which create a multi-color glow radiating from the reef.

After lunch, we paddle to Lettuce Coral Wall, a nursery of sorts for small reef fish who will eventually make their way to Palau's outer reefs. The remainder of the afternoon is spent exploring marine caves filled with hanging stalactites, botanical treasures, and an occasional sheath-tailed bat. These caves are some of Palau's greatest geological wonders with names like Cathedral Cave, Rolling Rock Arch, and Skylight Cave.

Accommodation: Carolines Resort, Koror

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4: Jellyfish Lake

Activity Overview: Snorkeling

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

Our adventure today is no doubt among the highlights of the trip, as we venture from colorful Rainbow Reef to the secret and surreal Jellyfish Lake, where we encounter thousands of non-stinging jellyfish. Their existence in Jellyfish Lake is a fascinating evolutionary story tracing back 35 million years to the time when the Rock Islands were first created. As a result of colliding tectonic plates, erosive forces slowly ate away at the exposed sea bed, carving away what are now hundreds of islands with pockets in the limestone. These

pockets continued to carve deeper and deeper into the rock until they reached through to salt water. Over time, the sea water percolated through the porous limestone to create a number of salt water lakes.

With this sea water came microscopic organisms, including a particular variety of jellyfish. Trapped inside the lake, with little plankton to prey upon, the jellyfish were forced to evolve away from their predatory ways to an existence based on photosynthesis. In the end, the stingers became extraneous and were lost. As witnesses to this evolutionary phenomenon, we float gently in the water of the lake, equipped with just our masks and snorkels. It is incredible to feel the delicate bodies of the jellyfish swimming against us—truly a special experience; one you will only find in Palau! Other highlights of the day include snorkeling in Cycad Lake and visiting Giant Clam Beach—a place whose name will be obvious when you see its inhabitants.

Accommodation: Dolphin Bay Resort, Peleliu Island

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5: Outer Reef, Ngemelis Island, and Peleliu Island WWII Land Tour

Activity Overview: Snorkeling & walking

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

Today, we have the pleasure of snorkeling along the Outer Reef. Big Blue Drop Off is a sheer vertical wall that runs along the whole length of Ngemelis Island, providing some of the most impressive snorkeling in the world. Amazingly, the edge of the reef drops down 900 feet. Pyramid butterflyfish, square anthias, Moorish idols, sargent majors, and yellowtail fusiliers are among the plethora of fish found

"Palau is such a beautiful place full of rich culture and natural wonders and this tour managed to fully immerse us into this amazing world. Every little detail of the tour had been thought out to make our journey not only comfortable and stress free but fun and varied. Our guide was so much fun and an amazing wealth of knowledge on all aspects of the islands. I have traveled to some amazing places in the world, but I think Palau has managed to sneak to the top of my list, and this tour was just flawless in its organization and content. I would do this tour again in a heartbeat!"

- Meredith W., NSW, Australia



along the top of the reef. Blue face, regal, and emperor angelfish are also easily spotted. Dwarf angelfish, such as coral beauty, keyhole, and gray's dart in and around coral heads, and clarki and blue striped clownfish, with their host anemones, are also scattered here. Hawksbill turtles even like to feed and rest at the top of the reef.

Palau's most popular dive site, Blue Corner, is recognized as one of the best in the world due to its concentration of marine life. It is the most highly-rated site in Micronesia, and features a shallow coral shelf that projects out into the ocean with vertical walls on both sides. An upwelling created by the currents attracts schools of fish to the top edges of the walls. Napoleon wrasses, dogtooth tuna, eagle rays, manta rays, white tip reef sharks, turtles, schooling barracudas, and groups of other reef fish populate the area. At least some of these species will make an appearance during our snorkeling here.

In addition to today's snorkeling, we also tour Peleliu Island to learn of its role in WWII. The remains of old bunkers, tanks, and guns litter the island and are haunting reminders of its past military significance. It is difficult to imagine this tropical paradise was once the site of the bloody Battle of Peleliu where US and Japanese forces fought for three months, with both sides suffering significant casualties before the US eventually gained control of the island.

Accommodations: Dolphin Bay Resort, Peleliu Island

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6: Turtle Cove

Activity Overview: Snorkeling

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

With immense biodiversity and beauty, Palau provides unrivalled snorkeling opportunities, and the reefs surrounding Peleliu Island are some of Palau's finest. Peleliu is well-known for its fringing reefs, coral reefs which develop adjacent to islands with little or no separation from the shore. From the surface, multitudes of colorful reef fish can be observed gliding among dense coral formations sprinkled with giant clams, sea squirts, and varieties of anemone. The outer barrier reefs near Peleliu are also exceptional for viewing a multitude of marine life. Turtle Cove is a particularly stunning reef system, which includes a beautiful blue hole, vertical drop-offs, and a current swept corner teeming with shy reef sharks, sea turtles, stingrays, and schooling fish. Sightings of classic tropical reef fish, including clown triggerfish and palette surgeonfish, are common at this world class snorkeling and diving site.

Accommodations: Dolphin Bay Resort, Peleliu Island

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7: West Ngeruktabel

Activity Overview: Snorkeling

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

West Ngeruktabel's inner lagoon environment offers us many amazing snorkel sites today, with endless varieties of bright, vibrant coral consisting of old growth hard corals and precious soft coral. These reefs are home to an abundance



of fish and other marine creatures that thrive in this unique and exotic underwater ecosystem. We delight in the resident fish of Fish Bowl Reef who have little fear of snorkelers. And we keep our eyes peeled for the well-camouflaged sea horses living in the shallow waters of Sea Horse Cove. But in Palau's Rock Islands, the fascinating aquatic creatures are not the only dwellers waiting for you beneath the waves. West Ngeruktabel is also the final resting place for several sunken tanks, planes, and artillery from WWII, a chilling reminder of what is now a celebrated, pristine snorkeling destination was once a battleground. This wreckage has developed its own thriving ecosystems brimming with fish, corals, and other invertebrates not commonly seen along the outer reef.

Accommodations: Palau Pacific Resort, Koror

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8: Risong Bay

Activity Overview: Sea kayaking & snorkeling

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

With six isolated turquoise bays and two marine lakes, Risong Bay is a paddler's paradise. After kayaking through a marine tunnel, we arrive to a quiet oasis known as Black Tip Lake, where the calls of bush warblers and fruit doves permeate the surrounding forest. For centuries, female black tip reef sharks have returned here to give birth to their young. The young sharks frequently swim alongside boats in an endless quest for tiny fish.

Just outside of Black Tip Lake sits a reef flat known as Blue Devil Gardens. Sparkling blue devil damsels dance between the corals and are so numerous they can be

seen from the seats of our kayaks. Black spotted puffers, threadfin butterflies, and cryptic honeycomb groupers liven up the reef with color and personality.

Each of the hidden bays within Risong contains a unique and distinctive habitat. The underwater walls of Kingfisher Bay are covered with multi-colored sponges, while Sunken City Lake protects miniature spires like castles of coral. Along the shore, white terns and collared kingfishers perch on overhanging branches looking down into the waters for their next meal.

As tidal waters flow out of an enclosed marine lake, they spill into Mandarin Fish Bay as a saltwater waterfall. The flowing falls can be heard before they are seen as we wind through a narrow limestone passage into this natural wonderland. The waters have been filtered by their artesian passage through the limestone and thus the bay becomes crystal clear for our final snorkel of the day. In shallow sunlit waters, we search for pajama cardinal fish, sail-fin tang, and the enigmatic and brilliantly colored mandarin fish.

Accommodations: Palau Pacific Resort, Koror

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 9: Ulong Island; return to Koror

Activity Overview: Snorkeling & walking

Activity Level: Easy to moderate

Activity Length: 2-3 hours

Our last full day in Palau is no less incredible than the previous ones. We depart for the island of Ulong. White sand beaches, swaying palm trees, and turquoise bays define this picturesque island. Ulong also hides some fascinating



historic treasures including the site of an ancient village, hidden pictographs, stone terracing, and myriad artifacts from a lost culture of ancient Palauans.

At Ulong Arch, we enjoy a snorkel and search the coral for all four of Palau's colorful anemone fish. Next, we visit a historic site where Palauans had their first contact with the Western world. We enjoy lunch on the sandy shores of this protected cove before paddling on to the reef named Wilson's Channel. Colorful clams, spider conchs, and dancing damselfish grace this pristine coral garden.

We head to Ulong's most beautiful stretch of sand, where we learn of the Palauans' history and how their ancestors managed to cross vast distances to reach these remote shores. We walk through a thick tropical forest to a UNESCO World Heritage village site mysteriously abandoned over 500 years ago. Our return to Koror by boat provides us with breathtaking scenery as we cruise through a labyrinth of islands, bays, and arches on our return to Palau Pacific Resort.

With most departing flights leaving tomorrow morning at around 2:00 a.m., we have time to indulge in some of the luxuries of the resort and share a our last celebratory meal before our late night transfer to the airport.

Accommodations: Palau Pacific Resort, Koror

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 10: Return flights home

You will either be transferred to the airport in time to check in for your departure flight or you may opt to extend your stay in Koror.

Meals: None

ACCOMMODATIONS



NIGHTS 1, 2, 3

Carolines Resort

Koror, Palau

Tel: +680 488-3755 / 3754

reservation@carolines-palau.com

Nestled among lush tropical jungle and perched atop a small hillside, the Carolines Resort's bungalows have some of the best views in Koror. Enjoy the feeling of seclusion and relaxation when you watch the sun set from your private bungalow's balcony, while still having access to the necessary modern hotel amenities.



NIGHTS 4, 5, 6

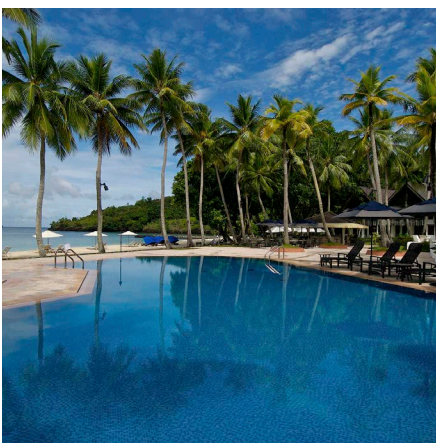
Dolphin Bay Resort

Peleliu Island

Tel: +680 345 5555 / 6666 / 1058

dive@dolphinbay-resort-peleliu.com

Located on the island of Peleliu on the southern tail-end of Palau's Rock Islands, this isolated, eco-friendly accommodation provides a comfortable stay in paradise. The bungalows have all the basic amenities in addition to the resort's private beach and a quiet, secluded atmosphere.



NIGHTS 7, 8, 9

Palau Pacific Resort

Koror, Palau

Tel: +680-488-2600

guest@ppr-palau.com

Palau Pacific Resort is Palau's premier luxury, 5-star hotel. Surrounded by the blue water of the western Pacific, it features a private 1,000-foot white sand beach with a freshwater outdoor beachside swimming pool. Palau Pacific Resort rooms are all thoughtfully appointed with a range of modern amenities for a enjoyable stay.

WHAT TO EXPECT



TRIP RATING

Boundless Journeys' trips are designed for energetic and flexible individuals who like to be active and have a spirit of adventure and a positive attitude. Palau: Snorkeling & Kayaking Odyssey is rated 2, easy to moderate, on a scale of 1-5 (with 5 being the most strenuous). No prior kayaking experience is necessary for this trip. Our guides will provide basic paddling instruction for anyone who needs it, as well as more advanced paddling tips for guests who already have some prior experience. The sea kayaking and snorkeling, while not technically difficult, will have you active for good portions of each day. Kayaking will primarily take place on Days 3 & 8 of the itinerary and is likely to be 3-4 hours in duration, with breaks for lunch, snorkeling, etc. On a few of the days you will have the opportunity to do short walks to inland sites. These excursions will be relatively easy walks in the rainforest, but the paths may be slippery, rocky, rooted, and steep in small sections.

PREPARING FOR THIS TRIP

It is important that you realistically assess your physical condition with regard to the demands of this trip. The more well-prepared you are for the activities on this trip, the more you will enjoy yourself! Please consider some sort of strength building and flexibility maintenance for your core and upper body. Done correctly, kayaking makes use of abdominal muscles and the muscles of the shoulders and back. Consult your doctor before undertaking any new fitness programs.

ABOUT THE SEA KAYAKING ON THIS TRIP

It is hard to accurately rate the difficulty of a sea kayaking trip as much of the challenge is determined by the weather. We

plan our daily schedule and routes to avoid strong wind and currents, and to correspond with the tides. With the support of a speedboat, we have the option to motor through difficult conditions and therefore ensure more gentle and pleasant paddling. Still, it is important on a sea kayaking trip that you travel with a spirit of flexibility.

Sea kayaks, especially the type we use, are very stable vessels. We offer both single and double kayaks, of the open cockpit, sit-on-top style. All kayaks offer dry hatches and adjustable seats. The double kayaks come equipped with rudders.

This trip is appropriate for both those with previous kayaking skills and those who are new to the activity; no previous experience is required. Sea kayaking skills are quickly learned, and our expert guides provide paddling instruction and tips throughout the trip.

ACCOMMODATIONS

We stay in hotels all 9 nights of the tour, however the category of accommodations does vary greatly. Carolines Resort, where we stay the first three nights, consists of quaint, comfortable bungalows. On nights 4-6, we stay in more rustic bungalows due to our location on the remote island of Peleliu. What the Dolphin Bay Resort lacks in modern amenities, it makes up for with its secluded, relaxing, location. A hammock hung between palm trees on a quiet, white sand beach is only steps away from the ocean-view deck of your private bungalow. We end the tour staying in style at the 5-star Palau Pacific Resort. This resort boasts a freshwater infinity pool, multiple restaurants and bars offering a variety of cuisines, a spa, tennis courts, and a fitness center.



WEATHER

Palau enjoys a warm, humid climate all year, with an average annual temperature of 82 degrees Fahrenheit. Given the tropical climate, rainfall can occur at any time throughout the year--there is no "rainy season" in Palau. Palau is located outside the typhoon zone, so severe storms are generally not a concern.

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE °F (HIGH/LOW)		
FEBRUARY	APRIL	NOVEMBER
86/76	88/77	88/77

You may obtain more detailed weather information on www.weatherbase.com.

WHEN TO GO

Given Palau's consistent weather patterns, any time of year is good for visiting. No matter what the weather brings, the kayaking routes we follow are well-protected and there are many options for snorkeling.

TRAVELER'S RESPONSIBILITY

As a trip participant, you have responsibilities to Boundless Journeys, your fellow travelers and guide, and the local people you encounter. This includes understanding and preparing for the activities and conditions described in the itinerary, ensuring it meets your interests and abilities, and following the health and safety guidelines of Boundless Journeys, local authorities, and/or the CDC. At their discretion, a guide may ask a guest to leave the trip if further participation may be detrimental to the individual or other participants.

We strongly urge any guest feeling ill shortly before departure to cancel their trip. To help cover your investment, we highly recommend considering purchasing travel insurance with supplemental "Cancel for Any Reason" coverage. If you feel unwell during the tour, please immediately inform your guide, who can help take the appropriate next steps. We appreciate your cooperation.

SMALL GROUP TRAVEL

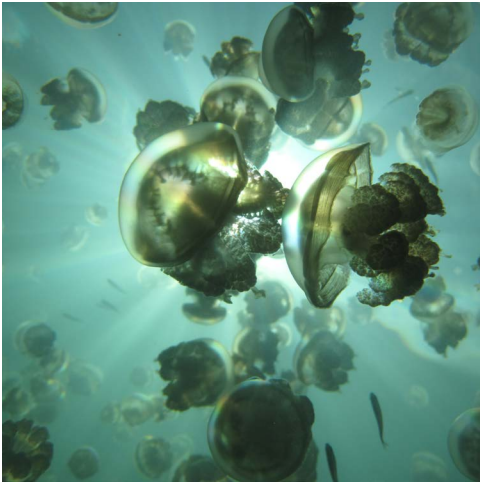
Small group travel affords us the opportunity to seek out the most remote and exotic destinations on the planet. Often we are exploring these locales with just 6-12 guests. The nature of active group travel is such that not all participants have the same ability level or interests. Traveling at a pace that is comfortable for the entire group, with a spirit of flexibility and adventure are all part of this shared experience.

DRINKS WITH MEALS

At Boundless Journeys, we believe group dinners are a time to celebrate our day, while enjoying the best of local cuisine, and good company. In keeping with this spirit, we typically include standard beer and wine with group dinners. If you prefer premium wine, or liquor, please feel free to order what you like, and you may settle your tab at the end of the meal.

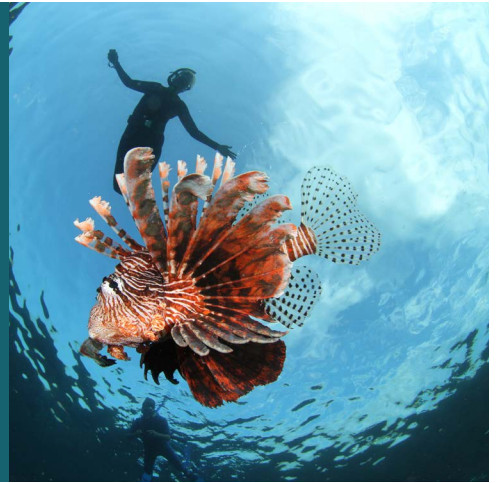
DRINKING WATER

We provide purified or bottled water on all trips; however, in an effort to reduce waste, we strongly encourage you to bring a water bottle to refill where safe to do so. We will provide purified water while on tour. Here we do our best to provide purified water from larger containers to refill your bottles, rather than using many small single-use bottles



"Traveling with Boundless Journeys provides exclusivity in terms of guides, sites, activities & culture that can't be duplicated. When I've told friends about the tour they imagine a horde of people, a large bus, and mediocre food. Of course we correct them. We say it's like having your own personal tour!"

—V.M., Katonah, NY



throughout your trip. This is just one small way we strive to travel more responsibly and we appreciate your efforts in helping us to protect the extraordinary places we visit.

Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge, too, and learn more about TAP's efforts at www.travelersagainstplastic.org.

CUISINE

Modern Palauan food is strongly influenced by Asian cuisines. Many of the best restaurants in Palau are Asian, specializing in Japanese, Chinese, and Korean food. Traditional Palauan food is typically comprised of seafood, chicken, and pork with tropical fruits and vegetables such as mango, papaya, watermelon, bananas, peppers, breadfruit, and taro. Sweet potato and tapioca have traditionally been important staples of the Palauan diet, although much canned and processed food is now imported into Palau. During the tour we strive to dine at restaurants that incorporate as much fresh, local ingredients as possible.

Please inform us of any specific dietary preferences or restrictions by completing your guest forms, and we will do our best to accommodate you. Please contact us with any questions or concerns about our ability to meet your dietary needs.

OUR PALAU TEAM

TRIP MANAGER



Kristen Bernarsky

Originally from Pennsylvania, Kristen first came to Vermont for college. She then spent two years teaching in Asia before returning to Vermont permanently. Kristen joined the Boundless Journeys home team in 2015 as our guest services coordinator and moved into a destination manager role shortly thereafter. She is the manager for Palau and our Asia adventures, having developed our Japan and Nepal trek itineraries. Kristen enjoys sunset hikes and back-country skiing with her husband and their three dogs.

GUIDES

With a Boundless Journeys guide, your experience is that of friend and local adventurer. We believe strongly in working with local guides, experts in the areas to which we travel, and they hold the keys to unlocking the hidden delights of your chosen destination. Although you will never know they are at work—the mark of a truly great leader—our guides make magical things happen and add a dimension to your trip that you could not experience on your own.

Over the years we have forged bonds with some of the best guides in the world, and we typically work with a small team of guides in each region. You will be informed of the guide for your trip one month prior to your departure.



Macstyl Sasao

Macstyl grew up in the Republic of Palau with his early childhood spent climbing palm trees, catching land crabs, and paddling his outrigger canoe. At age 7 Macstyl went to live with extended family in the United States, but returned to Palau after graduating from high school. Once back in Palau, Macstyl began snorkeling and scuba diving, becoming an expert in identifying the native flora and fauna and gaining invaluable knowledge of the native marine life.

When not guiding tours and sharing his love of Palau with our guests, Macstyl can be found honing his skills as a talented underwater photographer and traveling throughout Oceania as a competitive outrigger canoe paddler.

NEXT STEPS



TO MAKE A RESERVATION

You can call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, request a reservation online, or contact your travel agent. We will confirm your spot with a deposit of \$500 per person and the payment of internal airfare, payable by check or credit card.

ONCE YOU RESERVE

As soon as you confirm your adventure, we will provide you with an extensive, detailed trip planner that includes arrival and departure instructions, a complete packing list, regional information, required documents, a reading list, and other details.

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

Please check our Terms & Conditions page on our website for our comprehensive cancellation and refund policies: www.boundlessjourneys.com/terms-and-conditions.

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE

In addition to your detailed trip planner, we will email you a quote for Travel Guard trip insurance. Please let us know if you would like us to purchase a policy on your behalf. Boundless Journeys strongly recommends purchasing Trip Insurance.

QUESTIONS? WHICH TRIP IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Adventure travel may involve exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, and activities that may be new to you. If you have any questions about the level of comfort, difficulty, or activities included on your trip, please call Boundless Journeys at 800-941-8010, or email us at info@boundlessjourneys.com. Our travel experts look forward to helping you select the perfect adventure.

VISIT US ONLINE

www.boundlessjourneys.com for:

- additional departures
- special promotions
- detailed itineraries
- inspiring photography
- guide bios

EXTEND YOUR TRIP...

Check out. . .

- CAMBODIA: Custom Trip
- LAOS: Custom Trip
- JAPAN: Hiking the Nakasendo Trail
- VIETNAM: Cultural Explorer

PREFER A PRIVATE TRIP?

The perfect option for alumni and family reunions, birthdays and anniversaries, or just to catch up with friends in fabulous destinations. Mark your calendar and leave the planning to us! Call our travel experts today: 800-941-8010.

BOUNDLESS BEYOND



RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

At Boundless Journeys, our goal is to create meaningful experiences that protect the delicate ecosystems and attributes of every location we visit. We aim to educate our guests on the best responsible travel practices for each destination.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO

Making connections. Our local guides offer insider knowledge of their country, including tips on etiquette and customs. They facilitate meaningful interactions with the people and places we visit, such as dinner at the home of a local family. While you may arrive in a destination as a visitor, you leave with a deeper understanding and connection to each place.

Going local. Boundless Journeys' small group size stems from a desire to provide a more intimate traveler experience, giving us the freedom to move through the tight alleys of old towns on foot, eat and sleep at traditional guesthouses, participate in immersive cultural exchanges, and leave a smaller footprint on all of the locales we visit. This mobility allows us to support local economies directly, forging strong relationships with our partners and friends abroad as we return year after year.

Respecting people and the environment. We support organizations working to protect ecosystems and improve the livelihoods of local communities. On many of our trips, we explore stunning natural landscapes where conservation is of the utmost importance. As visitors, we practice Leave No Trace ethics and actively contribute to the conservation of parks and protected areas.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Give back. Instead of receiving a Boundless Journeys t-shirt or water bottle, you can opt to donate the value of your gift to our travel scholarship fund, which will be awarded to a local student for an educational or service-based travel opportunity.

Learn more. Visit boundlessjourneys.com/responsible-travel to read more about how our values are reflected in our trip offerings. We also offer a selection of Resources for the Responsible Traveler, which suggests ways to tread lightly and ensure your journey has a positive impact.

Join us. Boundless Journeys has taken the Travelers Against Plastic company pledge to promote sustainable travel and encourage travelers to avoid buying bottled water when they travel. You can take the pledge at travelersagainstplastic.org.

CONSERVATION IN ACTION

Boundless Journeys is a proud member of the Adventure Travel and Trade Association, a global network of adventure seekers who believe in the protection and promotion of local communities and wilderness areas.

