

Rumba Boo Islets

Birding walk

0.5 day

Please enquire for an up-to-date quote

The Rumba Boo Islets lie off the northeast coast of Salawati Island in the Raja Ampat archipelago, just half an hour's boat ride away from Sorong. These sandy atolls are an excellent place to come to grips with a variety of waders and wetland birds, besides sporting a number of so-called 'supertramps': wide-ranging colonists that thrive on species-poor small islands. Great as a relaxed half day's out birding in West Papua.

When?

Possible year-round, but most certainly best from September to April.

Scheduled departures

Please enquire for details on our upcoming departures.

Physical effort

Relaxed birding from a boat and in flat terrain.

Tour description

We could either depart early morning at first light or in the early afternoon on the 30 minutes' speedboat ride to the Rumba Boo Islets. Likely we shall be passing a few sizeable mixed foraging flocks of terns, usually including Greater Crested, Bridled, Black-naped, Common and Whiskered Tern, and with a little luck, joined by Brown or Black Noddy. This bird-watching excursion will be governed by the tides, and we shall plan a visit to a high-tide roost and adjacent grassland and shrubbery on foot, and further circumnavigate the islets and surrounding tidal mudflats at the most appropriate time for each.

A pair of Beach Stone-curlew resides on the Rumba Boos and usually proves not too difficult to track down. At least a few Grey-tailed Tattlers tend to be present year-round, and other transient and staging waders that we normally encounter include Pacific Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Lesser and Greater Sand Plover, Swinhoe's Snipe, Whimbrel, Far Eastern Curlew, Terek and Common Sandpiper, Great Knot, Red-necked and Long-toed Stint, and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. In addition, we have on occasion recorded the rare Oriental Plover from grasslands during the month October.

Widespread bird species that we further expect to see include Eastern Osprey, Brahminy Kite, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Buff-banded Rail, Spice and Pied Imperial Pigeon, Beach Kingfisher, Varied Honeyeater, White-breasted Woodswallow, White-bellied Cuckooshrike, Willie Wagtail, Shining Flycatcher, Torresian Crow, and Metallic, Singing and Moluccan Starling.

Related links

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<http://www.PapuaExpeditions.com/conditions.html>