



BANWA

PRIVATE ISLAND

The Essence of Palawan
Unique Life Experiences and Activities



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

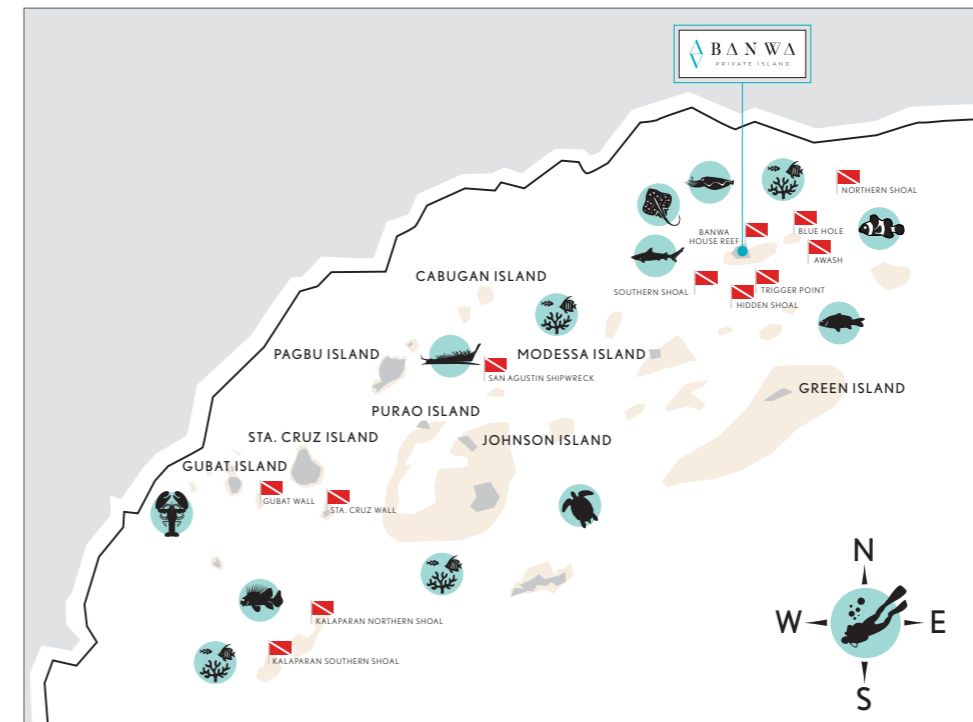
SCUBA DIVE AMIDST BANWA'S FINEST DIVE SITES

SCUBA DIVING

Banwa offers a wide variety of scuba diving options. Whether you're exploring the house reef with a shoreline entry or diving from the jetty, each experience offers a unique glimpse into this rich underwater ecosystem.

Additionally, within a short boat ride from the island, discover stunning dive sites teeming with vibrant coral reefs, diverse marine life, and even a shipwreck that has evolved into a thriving artificial reef.

Our Resident Dive Instructor ensures a safe and enjoyable dive, whether you're a seasoned diver or trying it for the first time. Thanks to the Aquos Foundation's dedication to marine conservation, the waters around Banwa Private Island have become a sanctuary for a variety of marine species, including Napoleon Wrasse, Coral Catsharks, and Black-tip Reef Sharks.



STARTING POINT:

House Reef:
Shoreline entry or via the jetty



DURATION:

1 hour



OUTER REEF:

20-30 minute boat ride



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

SNORKEL AROUND BANWA'S HOUSE REEF



SNORKELING

Just a short three-minute swim from the jetty on the island's south-western side, Banwa Private Island's House Reef offers a guided snorkelling experience in crystal-clear waters. Led by our expert team, explore the Reef Balls, an integral part of the Aquos Foundation's reef restoration programme, designed to support marine life and coral growth.

Encounter a thriving underwater ecosystem, home to giant clams, schools of Jackfish, Cuttlefish, Groupers, Surgeonfish, and many other vibrant reef species. Whether entering from the shoreline or the jetty, this immersive experience offers a closer look at the island's rich marine biodiversity.



STARTING POINT:

House Reef:
Shoreline entry or via the jetty



DURATION:

1 hour



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

BEE HIVE VISIT AND HONEY HARVESTING



BEE HIVES

Visit Banwa's honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) hives and discover the vital role these hardworking pollinators play in maintaining the island's ecosystem. Essential for biodiversity and agriculture, bees support the growth of fruits, flowers, and crops through pollination.

As part of our commitment to sustainability, we use eco-friendly methods such as mosquito traps instead of harmful alternatives, creating a safe environment for bees and other beneficial insects. During your visit, you'll observe the honey extraction process, where cold pressing preserves the honey's natural purity and flavour.

Gain insight into the world of beekeeping and the importance of these remarkable insects—all while sampling the honey they've produced.



STARTING POINT:

Tee #2 on our golf course



DURATION:

1 hour



HARVESTING SEASON:

February - May



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

NATURE WALK AMIDST BANWA'S MAGNIFICENT ISLAND SANCTUARY



NATURE WALK

Our island walk offers a fascinating insight into the conservation programmes led by Aquos Foundation, focusing on marine protection, reef rehabilitation, marine turtle conservation, and terrestrial initiatives.

As you explore, keep an eye on the shoreline—you may spot juvenile Black-tip Reef Sharks swimming in the shallows, a testament to the island's years of dedicated protection, making it an important nursery for this species.

Banwa Private Island is also home to the Philippine Megapode, or Tabon Bird, which nests from June to September. A Bird Hide within the reserve area provides a unique opportunity to observe these intriguing birds up close without disturbing their natural behaviour.

Throughout your walk, you'll also learn about the island's sustainable practices, including Banwater—sourced from a natural deep well 500 feet underground and filtered using advanced technology to provide both still and sparkling water, which also fills the jacuzzi and pool.

As dusk approaches, listen for the distinctive call of the Mantanani Scops Owl, often heard roosting among the trees. You'll also discover how our eco-friendly mosquito traps help control the mosquito population naturally, protecting beneficial insects while allowing guests to enjoy the island's outdoor spaces comfortably.



STARTING POINT:

Dive Centre



DURATION:

2 hours



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

SUNSET CRUISE TO PAGBU ISLAND – A SANCTUARY FOR FLYING FOXES



SUNSET CRUISE

A 30-minute boat ride from Banwa Private Island, Pagbu Island serves as a roosting sanctuary for flying foxes, with their protection supported by the Aquos Foundation. Thanks to ongoing conservation efforts, the population of these remarkable creatures continues to grow year after year, as they thrive in a safe and undisturbed environment.

The real highlight of your visit begins shortly after sunset. Watch in awe as thousands of flying foxes take flight in a spectacular, synchronized display, heading towards the mainland for their nightly search for fruit. The precision and scale of this flyout is truly a sight to behold.



DEPARTURE TIME:

Leave the island 45 minutes before sunset



DURATION:

2 hours



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

BARBACAN RIVER CRUISE



RIVER CRUISE

The Barbacan River is a thriving mangrove sanctuary, home to a rich diversity of life and an essential ecosystem that supports both wildlife and local communities. Spanning approximately 25 kilometres, the river is lined with mangroves, Hoyas, vines, puzzle nut trees, bamboo, and a variety of palm species, including Nipa palms, a crucial resource for local livelihoods.

As you cruise through the peaceful waters, enjoy scenic views of riverside life—local fishermen paddling their boats, bamboo poles with drying fishing nets, crab traps, and the humble huts of families living along the riverbanks. It's a tranquil experience that highlights the close connection between nature and community.



DURATION:

1.5 hours



BOAT RIDE:

20-minute journey from the island



RIVER CRUISE:

30-minute cruise along the river



TIDE DEPENDENT:

Requires a minimum tide level of 0.7m to safely enter the river mouth



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

VISIT BANWA'S ORGANIC FARM IN TUMARBONG



ORGANIC FARM

Located on the mainland in the village where many of our team members come from, Tumarbong Organic Farm is a living testament to sustainable farming practices. The farm is lovingly tended by our team, trained in organic methods to ensure the health of the land and its produce.

Discover the traditional process of making copra, the dried coconut used for various local products, a livelihood that has supported families for generations. Learn about the farm's diverse activities, from composting and vermiculture to growing oyster mushrooms, cultivating flowers for the island, and year-round vegetable farming, all of which provide the freshest produce for the island's guests and residents.



DEPARTURE TIME:

Early morning



DURATION:

2 hours



BOAT RIDE:

15-minute journey



TIDE DEPENDENT:

Depending on the tide, you may enjoy a peaceful low-tide walk or proceed directly to the farm



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

HIKE TO MT. CALVARY – A JOURNEY THROUGH TUMARBONG



MOUNTAIN HIKE

Located on the mainland in Tumarbong, Mt. Calvary holds deep religious significance and features the 14 Stations of the Cross along its scenic path. Upon arriving in Tumarbong, you'll be greeted by the warmth and hospitality of the local villagers, whose smiles embody the true spirit of Palawan culture.

A leisurely walk through Tumarbong Village offers a glimpse into rural life, with sights including the Sari-Sari Store, a local convenience shop, Tumarbong Elementary School, and the Multi-Purpose Building, the heart of the village's social activities.

At the foot of Mt. Calvary, your 40-minute hike begins, taking you along a steep and challenging route that will test your physical endurance. Reaching the summit rewards you with breathtaking panoramic views of Tumarbong Village, Green Island Bay, and Banwa Private Island—a truly stunning sight.



DURATION:

4 hours



BOAT RIDE:

15-minute journey to Tumarbong



WALK TO MT. CALVARY

30-minute walk to the foot of the mountain



HIKE TO SUMMIT

40-minute hike*



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

BARBACAN RIVER CRUISE AND KAYAKING ADVENTURE



KAYAKING

For those seeking adventure, the Barbacan River Cruise offers more than just a leisurely boat ride. Paddle through the river's winding corners by kayak or stand-up paddleboard, exploring its narrower passages with the help of our expert guides.

Experience the local tradition of Mudcrab catching using "Bubo" traps, guided by our team, who will teach you the techniques passed down through generations. Once you've made your catch, bring it back to the island where it will be prepared into a fresh and delicious meal, showcasing the best of local flavours.



DURATION:

2.5 hours



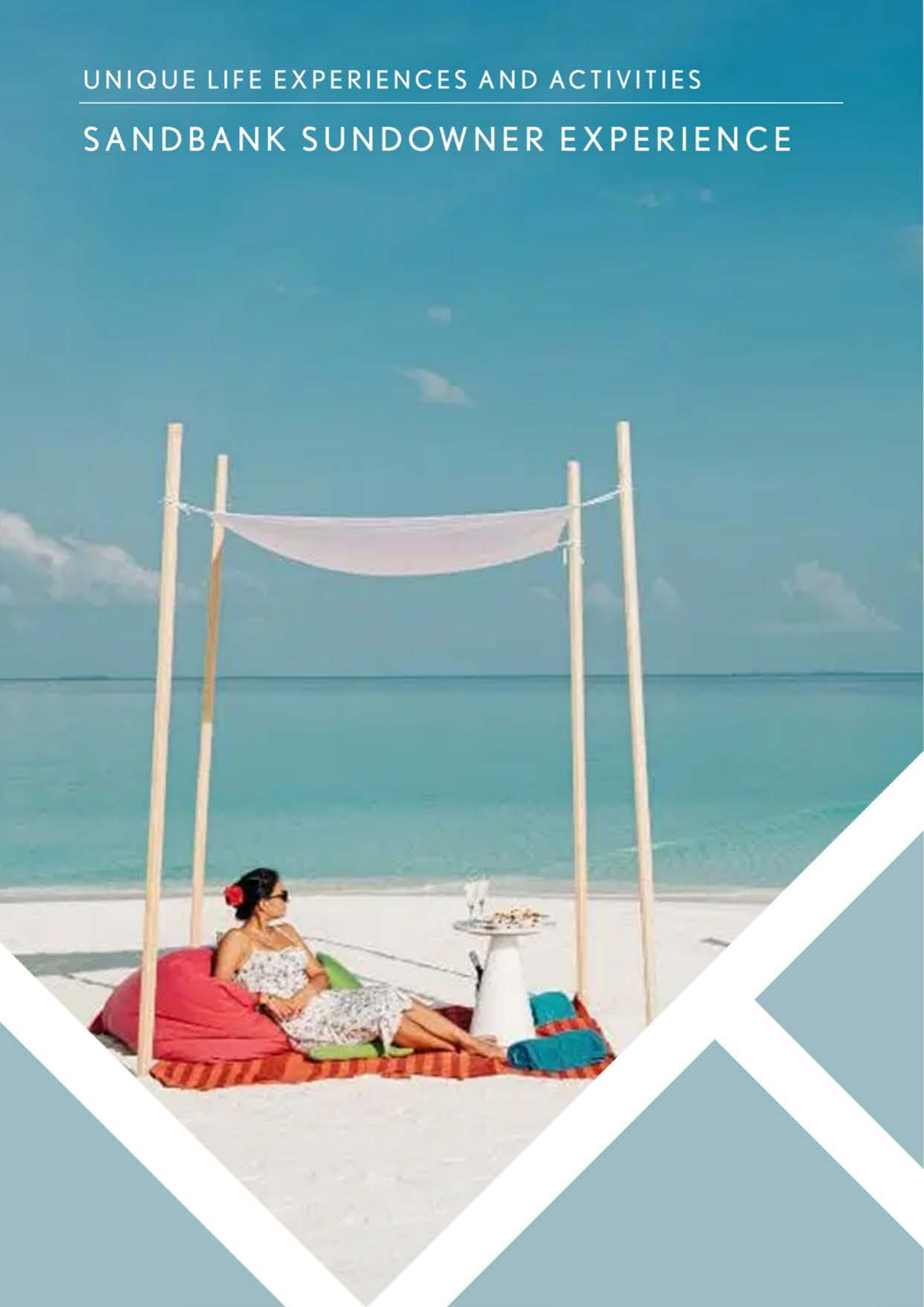
TIDE DEPENDENT:

Requires a minimum tide level of 0.7m to safely enter the river mouth



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

SANDBANK SUNDOWNER EXPERIENCE



SANDBANK

Located on the island's south-western edge, Sandbank is just a 10-minute boat ride away, offering the perfect spot for those looking to unwind. Whether you're an avid swimmer, a snorkeller, or simply someone who enjoys the peaceful serenity of the shore, the calm waters and tranquil surroundings create an ideal escape.

As the day winds down, enjoy a stunning sunset, making for a truly memorable experience. For your comfort, a hut will be set up to provide shade during your visit, ensuring you can relax in complete comfort. True to our eco-friendly principles, the hut will be carefully dismantled after the activity, leaving the Sandbank just as pristine and untouched as before.



DURATION:

2 hours



DEPARTURE TIME:

Scheduled 1.5 hours before sunset for the best experience



BOAT RIDE:

10-minute journey from the island to Sandbank



TIDE & WEATHER DEPENDENT:

To ensure the best possible conditions



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

ILIAN RIVER CRUISE AND TREK TO BAGONG BAYAN FALLS



WATERFALL TREK

This unforgettable experience begins with a 30-minute boat ride to the mouth of Ilian River, followed by a 15-minute river cruise through a lush mangrove forest, home to a rich variety of wildlife.

As you arrive in Bagong Bayan Village, you'll be welcomed by the simplicity of rural life and the genuine warmth of the locals, whose hospitality will make you feel right at home. The community is deeply connected to the land and river, with livelihoods centred around mud crab hunting, nipa weaving, and farming—a unique opportunity to gain insight into their traditional way of life.

Next, embark on a 30-minute trek to Bagong Bayan Falls, passing through the heart of the village and offering a chance to meet the locals and learn more about their daily lives. Once at the falls, enjoy the refreshing waters or simply relax and take in the natural beauty that surrounds you.



DURATION:

4 hours



BOAT RIDE:

30-minute journey to the mouth of Ilian River



RIVER CRUISE:

15-minute journey to Bagong Bayan Village



TREK TO FALLS:

30-minute walk to Bagong Bayan Falls



TIDE DEPENDENT:

Requires a minimum tide level of 1.2m to safely enter the river mouth



BEST EXPERIENCED:

During the rainy season (June to October)



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

LINE FISHING AT CONSTANCIA SHOAL & GREEN ISLAND BAY



FISHING

Start your day early with a 45-minute boat ride to Constancia Shoal, a natural underwater ridge located 18 km from the island. The best time for fishing here is at dawn, when the fish are most active and eager to bite.

At Constancia Shoal, you'll have access to five jigging fishing gears, using artificial lures or "jigs" to attract your catch. For a more traditional approach, try line and hook fishing and experience the thrill of reeling in your catch. Common catches in the area include Grouper, Ruby Snappers, Mackerels, and Jackfish.

If you prefer to fish closer to the island, take a 20-minute boat ride to Green Island Bay, where you can enjoy traditional line fishing, targeting Threadfin Breems and other reef fish, all while enjoying the stunning natural beauty of the area.



DURATION:

4 hours



DEPARTURE TIME:

5:00 am for the optimal fishing experience



BOAT RIDE TO CONSTANCIA SHOAL:

45-minute journey



BOAT RIDE TO GREEN ISLAND BAY:

20-minute journey



WEATHER DEPENDENT:

This experience is subject to weather conditions to ensure safety and enjoyment



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

SUBTERRANEAN RIVER NATIONAL PARK – A NATURAL WONDER



UNDERGROUND RIVER

The Subterranean River National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage site located about 50 miles north of Puerto Princesa. Nestled within the Saint Paul Mountain Range on the island's western coast, it's a 3-hour drive from Roxas Port or a quick 15-minute helicopter ride from Banwa Private Island.

This extraordinary underground river winds its way through dramatic limestone caves, home to unique rock formations and a variety of wildlife. A guided boat tour will take you inside the cave, where you'll be mesmerised by its stunning beauty and learn about its rich history and natural importance.



TOTAL DURATION: 2 hours



HELICOPTER RIDE: 15-minute flight to Sheraton
(OPTIONAL)



LAND TRANSFER: 5-minute drive to Sabang Port



BOAT RIDE: 30-minute journey to the
Underground River



TOUR DURATION: 1 hour tour inside the river

For more information, visit their official website: [Subterranean River National Park](#)



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

TUBBATAHA REEFS NATURAL PARK – A DIVER'S PARADISE



TUBBATAHA REEFS

The Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park, located in the Sulu Sea, is a protected area renowned for its extraordinary marine biodiversity. Covering an impressive 375 square miles, it consists of two large atolls and a smaller reef. Situated 93 miles southeast of Puerto Princesa City, the capital of Palawan, this UNESCO World Heritage site is a must-visit for avid divers and nature lovers alike.

Part of the Coral Triangle, recognised as the global epicentre of marine biodiversity, Tubbataha is home to 75% of the world's described coral species and 40% of the world's reef fish. Scientific studies have uncovered an incredible variety of life here, with 600 fish species, 360 coral species, 11 shark species, 13 dolphin and whale species, and over 100 bird species. The park also serves as a crucial nesting ground for Hawksbill and Green Sea Turtles.

Accessible from mid-March to June, Tubbataha can be reached from Puerto Princesa by private yacht or liveaboard dive boat. A minimum of three nights and four days is required to fully experience this dive destination, making Banwa Private Island the perfect pre or post-dive retreat.



DURATION:

3-4 days



TRAVEL TIME:

10-hour liveaboard boat trip from Puerto Princesa Port to Tubbataha



RETURN JOURNEY:

10-hour liveaboard boat trip from Tubbataha back to Banwa Private Island



**DISTANCE FROM
BANWA PRIVATE
ISLAND:**

Approximately 170 km (105 miles)

For more information, please visit their official website: [Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park](#)



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

FLOWER ISLAND & JEWELMER PEARL FARM – A BLEND OF NATURE AND LUXURY

PEARL FARM

Flower Island, located in northern Palawan, offers a unique experience that combines natural beauty with the art of Philippine pearl farming. Known for its vibrant landscapes, serene beaches, and crystal-clear waters, it's the perfect destination for those seeking peace and picturesque surroundings.

While on Flower Island, you'll have the opportunity to visit the nearby Jewelmer Pearl Farm, where you can witness the fascinating process of cultivating South Sea pearls. From nurturing oysters to harvesting the precious pearls, you'll gain insight into the farm's sustainable practices and the intricate craftsmanship behind luxury pearl jewellery.



HELI RIDE DURATION: 50-minute flight from Banwa Private Island to Flower Island (one-way)



BOAT RIDE DURATION: 10-minute boat ride from Flower Island to Jewelmer Pearl Farm (one-way)

For more information, please visit their official website: [Flower Island Resort Experiences](#)



UNIQUE LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ACTIVITIES

VISIT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM'S TABON CAVE COMPLEX



TABON CAVES

Tabon Cave, located in the municipality of Quezon in Palawan, is one of the most significant archaeological sites in the Philippines, earning its reputation as the “Cradle of Philippine Civilization.” Situated in the foothills of the Lipuun Point Range, this cave complex has been a key site for understanding the early history of the Filipino people.

The cave system is renowned for its rich archaeological discoveries, including skeletal remains, tools, and artifacts dating back approximately 50,000 years. The most famous find, the Tabon Man, a set of human remains uncovered in 1962, is believed to be one of the earliest ancestors of the Filipino people.

Explore the chambers of the cave, which hold immense cultural and historical significance, offering a unique glimpse into prehistoric life in the Philippines. This protected site is an important destination for archaeology enthusiasts and anyone interested in the rich cultural heritage of the region.



HELI RIDE DURATION:

1 hour and 15 minutes from Banwa Private Island to Quezon (one-way)

For more info, please visit their official website: [Tabon Cave Complex - National Museum](#)





BANWA

PRIVATE ISLAND

LET US CREATE YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE

For further information please contact:

Simon Turner:

Sales & Marketing Director

s.turner@banwaprivateisland.com

Mobile/WhatsApp: +44 (0)7766 876920

Catherine Barron-Villanueva:

reservations@banwaprivateisland.com

Mobile/WhatsApp: +63 (0)917 888 2864

banwaprivateisland.com

