STUART SCUBA FISH GUIDE FOR

Raja Ampat

PART 1 OF 2 • Find these first



Ocellaris Anemonefish

Amphiprion ocellaris

Up to about 3 in

Three white bars cross orange body near anemone tentacles.



Mandarinfish

Synchiropus splendidus

Up to about 3 in

Brilliant winding bands of blue, orange and green.



Copperband Butterflyfish

Chelmon rostratus

Up to 8 in

Long narrow snout, orange bands and rear dorsal eyespot.



Ribbon Eel

Rhinomuraena quaesita

Up to about 4¼ ft

Ribbon-thin body and flared nostrils at a sandy hole.



Bargibant's Pygmy Seahorse

Hippocampus bargibanti

Up to about 1 in

Tiny stout seahorse with rounded bumps matching sea-fan polyps.



Clown Triggerfish

Balistoides conspicillum

Up to about 20 in

Large white spots low on dark body; yellow lips.

Compare shape and markings. Observe without touching or chasing.

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Background: Piaynemo Islands, Raja Ampat, Erick Morales Oyola / Unsplash

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PART 2 OF 2 • Look a little closer

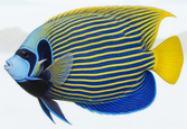


Moorish Idol

Zanclus cornutus

Up to about 9½ in

Black-and-yellow markings, tubular snout and long curved dorsal streamer.



Emperor Angelfish

Pomacanthus imperator

Up to 15 in

Adult has yellow-blue horizontal stripes and a dark mask.



Fire Dartfish

Nemateleotris magnifica

Up to about 3½ in

Pale head fades to orange-red beneath tall dorsal flag.



Bumphead Parrotfish

Bolbometopon muricatum

Up to about 4½ ft

Rounded adult forehead and strong beak among group swimmers.



Ornate Ghost Pipefish

Solenostomus paradoxus

Up to about 4½ in

Ornately frilled silhouette can hang head-down beside reef growth.



Coral Trout

Plectropomus leopardus

Up to about 4 ft

Small blue spots and blue rim around the eye.

Compare shape and markings. Observe without touching or chasing.

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