### Partner fact sheet

# Intrepid Travel



## **About Intrepid Travel**



Intrepid is a leading outbound tour operator in the world, with a remarkable history since its establishment in 1989. As a B-Corporation, Intrepid emphasises social and environmental impact, public transparency, and legal accountability, aligning its business with a purpose beyond just profit. With an extensive array of adventure tours, Intrepid compromises three tour operator brands, over 25 destination management companies, and a not-for-profit foundation, boasting a global presence with 2,400 staff and leaders operating from 40+ offices worldwide. From 2002 to 2012, Intrepid actively facilitated two to three tours to Timor-Leste, collaborating with Eco Discovery and a local tour operator to curate the trips.



## **Market Constraints**

Timor-Leste possesses an abundance of cultural and social experiences, Longwith breathtaking landscapes and marine life. However, the country remains relatively unfamiliar to many, resulting in limited available information. According to a recent MDF survey of 30 Australian travel agents, agents and clients face challenges in selling trips to Timor-Leste due to a lack of awareness about the destination. Despite its unique attractions, the number of international tourists visiting Timor-Leste remains relatively low compared to other countries, with approximately 70,000 arrivals recorded as of 2019. The tourism sector in the country faces intricate challenges, such as limited air connectivity, a small economy, and insufficient infrastructure.

### Intervention

Intrepid and MDF have collaborated to support the development and promotion of a new tourism product in Timor-Leste. MDF provided Intrepid with essential insights into the potential opportunities and challenges in relaunching a tour. By facilitating connections with different local operators capable of providing on-the-ground services for a new package, MDF fostered collaboration between Intrepid and these local partners. Jointly, MDF, Intrepid, and the local operators are designing an exciting new tourism package. Intrepid introduced a 9-day excursion to Timor-Leste in March 2023.

Tourism, although currently a small sector in Timor-Leste's economy, is showing potential for growth. MDF believes that better connections between local and international operators will lead to increased international arrivals, generating new revenues for local companies and communities. Intrepid, as a certified B-Corporation, is well-positioned to drive demand for social and environmentally responsible tourism.







On March 8, 2023, Intrepid Travel, in collaboration with local partner Timor Unearthed, unveiled a captivating 9-day expedition travel package to Timor-Leste. This extraordinary adventure provides a diverse array of activities, including exploring stunning landscapes, visiting coffee farms and plantations, embarking on guided snorkelling excursions to witness the remarkable biodiversity of coral reefs, and engaging in invigorating hiking expeditions.



