

Important Shark Diving Information

The Bahamas

The Bahamas offers world-class diving with a huge variety of sharks including hammerhead, tiger, lemon, bull & Caribbean reef sharks. Although we will do our best to minimise it, there is a very real risk when in close quarters with them.

At Master Liveboards, we take the safety of our divers very seriously and we enforce the following rules when diving with sharks in the Bahamas:

- Ensure you are facing the sharks at all times as well as keeping an eye on the safety diver in the water. He/she watches for sharks approaching the divers from behind and warns divers by using a rattle and pointing out the sharks.
- In order to maximise shark interactions, we will chum the water and offer limited baiting/feeding. Keep your distance from both the bait and from chum boxes.
- Photographers, place your emphasis on the sharks and not on your camera or checking out the photographs you have taken.
- Ensure you do not swim away from any sharks that are in close proximity.
- Do not try to entice the sharks in any way; wait for them to approach you.
- Maintain a kneeling or seated position on the bottom and a vertical position in mid-water.
- If you feel uncomfortable at any time during the shark dives, please alert one of the dive team who will ensure your safe return to Bahamas Master.
- Minimise any time spent on the surface; when entering the water, descend as quickly as possible.
- When finishing your dive, remain vigilant and surface next to the boat.
- Do not surface next to any sharks.
- Most importantly, please remain vigilant and follow the directions of our dive crew at all times.

Reiteration of the above will be included in dive and safety briefings onboard.

In addition to the above, we also require all divers to have the following equipment for diving:

- Dark-coloured (black or dark blue) full-length wetsuit
- Dark-coloured buoyancy aid, hood and gloves - cover as much skin as possible
- Black or dark blue fins
- Dark-coloured housing for cameras

It is not permitted to dive with any brightly coloured equipment during shark dives.

Should any equipment be deemed unsuitable we offer a range of rental equipment onboard* although, in some cases, we can use masking/duct tape to cover certain things.

Please refer to our [Equipment Guidelines](#) for examples of items that are suitable and those that are not.

*Where possible, please let us know before your arrival if you will need any rental equipment.

IMPORTANT: There are *limited rental equipment quantities and sizes* available, not all of which are stored onboard. Once the vessel has departed from port, it might not be possible to provide the required items, and *you may be denied participation in shark dives*. It is therefore *imperative that all guests have what they need before the boat departs*.

Divers must be adults (minimum 18 years old) with minimum AOW certification. Divers must also be confident underwater and comfortable in a variety of diving conditions.

Shark diving is not suitable for inexperienced or novice divers.

If you feel uncomfortable at any time during any dive, please return to Bahamas Master with your buddy and end the dive safely.

Divers wishing to participate in shark dives on Bahamas Master are required to read and sign the [Shark Diving Liability & Release & Assumption of Risk form](#).

Should you have any questions or queries concerning shark diving, equipment requirements, or whether Bahamas Master itineraries are suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team dive@masterliveaboards.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.