

# Bikini Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands

# **Trip Information**

- Arrival airport: Kwajalein Airport (KWA)
- Departure airport: Kwajalein Airport (KWA)

# Flights

# Advice on International Flights

Our Bikini Atoll itineraries are scheduled around United Airlines 'Island Hopper' flights from Hawaii to Kwajalein via Majuro. The HNL–MAJ–KWA route departs from Honolulu early in the morning on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and takes around 7 hours to reach Kwajalein. Bear in mind that you will be crossing the international date line when travelling West from Hawaii to the Marshall Islands so you will arrive the day after departure from Honolulu, i.e. Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday.

Generally, you will need to leave from Los Angeles (LAX) or San Francisco (SFO) the day before (Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday) and ideally you will arrive in Honolulu one day before your flight to Kwajalein to ensure that you make the connection.

**PLEASE NOTE:** There have been many **instances of luggage not arriving** in Kwajalein on the same flight as guests due to aircraft weight limitations. As the flights only operate every other day, for guests arriving from Hawaii on the day of embarkation this means their missing luggage *usually arrives two days later, after the liveaboard has departed* Ebeye and is on its way to Bikini Atoll.

United Airlines also operates a flight from Guam via Chuuk and Pohnpei on alternate days to the flights from Honolulu, i.e. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, although the same issues with luggage can occur on that route too.

# **IMPORTANT:** We strongly recommend making arrangements to arrive at least 2 days before your liveaboard embarkation date to make allowances for luggage arriving on a later flight.

Please be aware that there are no hotels on Kwajalein, and only one in Ebeye. Reservations can be made in advance by contacting the hotel directly by email, but do not accept credit cards or bank transfers so payment needs to be made in cash when you check in.

# Visas and Passports

US citizens do not require a visa to enter the Marshall Islands. Visitors from the EU, UK, and Taiwan are exempt from visa requirements for stays up to 90 days. Most other nationalities will be granted a visa on arrival for a fee of \$100.

Please refer to <u>www.rmiocit.org/visa-requirements</u> for further details of countries covered by visa exemption agreements or eligible for visa on arrival.

Nationalities not covered by visa waiver agreements, or eligible for a visa on arrival, must obtain a visa before travelling to the Marshall Islands. Processing time for visa applications is up to 14 days.

Passports must be valid for 6 months beyond the date of departure from the Marshall Islands.

Guests travelling with medication should bring a copy of their physician's prescription with them.

#### ESTA

**Non-US citizens** need a US Visa or ESTA (Electronic System of Travel Authorization) to travel via the United States and Hawaii or Guam. An ESTA, or US visa, must be obtained before travel. Guests without either of these may be denied boarding of their flight.

Citizens of 37 countries, including most European nations, the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Japan are eligible for the ESTA under the visa waiver program and should apply online at least 72 hours before travel.

Please refer to the US Department of Homeland Security's ESTA information page for further details and application: <u>esta.cbp.dhs.gov/</u>

# Arriving at Kwajalein Airport

As it is a US Military base, there are special procedures in place for entering Kwajalein. Please ensure you have a printed copy of the **Master Liveaboards Sponsor Letter** on hand when arriving in Kwajalein as it is a declaration of the reason why you are travelling to/through Kwajalein.

Important information on arrival procedures is provided in our <u>Kwajalein Arrival Procedure</u> document which can also be downloaded from the downloads page of the Master Liveaboards website (www.masterliveaboards.com/forms). A shuttle bus will take you from the airport to the ferry terminal, from where an Army ferry departs on a short trip to Ebeye Island.

#### Airport Tax

All passengers travelling out of the Marshall Islands are charged \$20 USD departure tax, to be paid in cash at the airport.



# Insurance

#### Insurance which covers scuba diving is mandatory.

Your insurance must cover all of your technical diving activities, and provide full cover for recompression chamber treatment, emergency air evacuation and any additional medical expenses. We therefore strongly recommend purchasing diving-specific insurance to cover any diving-related eventuality.

*All guests are also required to carry full travel and cancellation insurance*, as outlined under section 3 of our <u>Terms and Conditions</u>.

We cannot be held liable for delays occurring during the cruise, curtailment due to circumstances beyond our control, lost or missing dive equipment or other luggage, nor for any delays or cancellations of flights, accommodations and transfers that we organise on your behalf.

For further details of why travel insurance is a crucial part of your holiday arrangements, take a look at our blog - '<u>Do You Really Need Travel Insurance?</u>

Master Liveaboards act as a referrer for DiveAssure who offer dive and travel insurance including short-term and multiple-trip policies. Their comprehensive 'Dive & Travel Plus' plan has been specifically developed for diving liveaboard holidays and covers expenses in the event of missing your liveaboard departure due to flight delays or missed connections, and also provides cover for lost diving days if for any reason the boat is required to abort the cruise; for instance, due to a guest injury, mechanical breakdown of the ship, air supply failure, inclement weather conditions, etc.

Please consult our webpage for details and a direct link to DiveAssure's booking portal: <u>www.masterliveaboards.com/insurance</u>.

# Diving Information

Diving in Bikini Atoll is <u>only suitable for divers with technical diving certifications</u> and deep, wreck diving experience.

The **average maximum dive depth** of the wrecks in Bikini Atoll **is 50 metres**. Therefore, Bikini itineraries are **NOT SUITABLE FOR RECREATIONAL DIVERS**.

Experience and certification requirements

The minimum MANDATORY certification required for guests joining a Master Liveaboards Bikini Atoll itinerary is TDI Advanced Nitrox and Decompression Procedures, or equivalent, e.g. PADI Tec. 45, with 100 logged dives and wreck diving experience.

**Closed Circuit Rebreather (CCR)** divers must have minimum **TDI Air Diluent Decompression 45 metres or Helitrox Decompression 45 metres**, or equivalent.

All guests will be asked to provide copies of their certification card(s) and a record of logged dives as proof that they meet the mandatory dive qualifications and experience.



# Any guests who do not meet the minimum mandatory certification and experience requirements will not be able to dive.

To get the most out of your dives in Bikini Atoll, we recommend certification to depths beyond the 45 metre limit of the mandatory ones indicated above, for example:

- TDI Extended Range Diver (55 metres)
- IANTD Technical Diver (51 metres)
- CMAS Extended Range Nitrox Diver (54 metres)
- ANDI Technical SafeAir + Extended Range Diver (ERD Lvl 4) max. depth 50 metres

#### We are not able to offer any certification courses on Bikini Atoll itineraries.

# Dive plans/scheduling

A maximum of two dives will be scheduled per day in Bikini Atoll, with a standard, minimum surface interval of 4 hours between dives.

Depending on which wreck is being dived, total dive time is usually no more than 2 hours: 30-40 minutes bottom time with 1-1<sup>1/2</sup> hrs ascent and decompression followed by at least 4 hours surface interval during which time lunch will be served. In some cases, longer dives may be allowed but this will limit the number of dives on that day to one (1).

*It is mandatory for guests to take an afternoon off from diving mid-trip.* An optional <u>land tour</u> <u>on Bikini Island</u> and beach BBQ will be organised on this day but there will be **no alternative shallow diving** offered for any guests who do not want to visit the island.

While the Cruise Director will provide a thorough briefing well in advance of each dive with information about depths, hazards, and points of interest including penetration possibilities, and maximum bottom times, all guests are responsible for planning and adhering to their own dive profiles.

Many of the dives are unguided but all divers are required to dive in buddy teams. However, some of the wreck penetrations can be extremely challenging and hazardous, especially on the Saratoga, and therefore not allowed without a guide; For safety reasons, these dives will be done in small groups of 2-3 divers per guide over several dives.

#### Solo diving is NOT permitted in any circumstances.

Guests are responsible for obtaining suitable dive insurance for technical diving, which must include cover for emergency evacuation and recompression chamber costs.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the diving conditions and experience requirements please contact our reservations team directly.

# Deco / Tec Diving Facilities

For your convenience, there is a "Deco Bar" under the dive platform of the main vessel with bars at 6 and 3 metres and an additional line to 21 metres to assist divers in their staged decompression stops. Stage tanks are available to rent and gases are charged per litre of Oxygen / per fill.



# **Rebreather Diving**

Pacific Master is equipped with booster pumps to support rebreather divers and has bailout cylinders available to rent. We can facilitate the supply of CO<sup>2</sup> absorbent (Molecular Products 797 Sofnolime) which is available in 20 kg tubs only and charged per tub. Sofnolime MUST be pre-ordered at least 6 months before the commencement of your liveaboard itinerary but needs to be paid for on board.

# PLEASE NOTE:

- The majority of our rebreather cylinders have 3/4 NPS valve threads although there are also a limited number with M25 threads.
- M26 thread/adaptors are NOT available; Guests who need cylinders with M26 valve threads or M26 adaptors for their rebreather are advised to bring their own.
- We do not carry spare oxygen cells or specialist rebreather tools. Therefore rebreather divers will need to bring their own.
- We are unable to supply pre-packed scrubber cartridges for rebreathers such as Poseidon.

Pre-booking of all rebreather supplies is essential to ensure we have sufficient quantities on board. Please complete the <u>Pacific Master Technical Diving Form</u> as soon as possible to let us know of your requirements.

# Oxygen

The Oxygen on board comes from an Oxygen Generator, which does not produce 100% pure O<sup>2</sup>, but up to 93% purity, +/- 3%.

# Helium

# Helium is only available for CCR divers.

Due to the logistics of obtaining and storing helium, we are unable to accommodate Trimix requests for Open Circuit divers.

**IMPORTANT**: Oxygen and Helium must be requested in advance but paid for on board, and are charged per litre, per fill. We do not bank non-standard gases, so all gases supplied will be charged in full, even if they are not fully used.

Gas prices and equipment and cylinder rental costs can be viewed under 'Extras' on the Pacific Master page of our website: <u>www.masterliveaboards.com/boats/pacific-master/</u>

# Diving Equipment

Guests are advised to bring their own technical diving equipment. Please inspect and test all of your dive equipment before travelling. If your equipment has recently been serviced we still recommend that you test it thoroughly before coming to Bikini. There are no dive centres or facilities for repairing equipment in Kwajalein, Ebeye or Bikini Atoll.

There is a limited amount of equipment available to rent on board (pre-booking is required) for an additional fee. Weights and weight belts are provided free of charge.



# **Required Scuba Equipment**

To dive in Bikini Atoll you will need the following items:

- Two methods of buoyancy. This can be achieved by using a wing with a redundant bladder, drysuit or lift bag with a minimum of 20 kg/45lb of positive lift.
- Dive Computer Multi-gas dive computer capable of switching between a minimum of 2 gases ideally more.
- Backup Computer or depth/bottom timer.
- 2 Surface Marker Buoys (SMB) One red or orange SMB and one yellow SMB with a slate or wet notes attached for emergency use.
- 2 Reels or spools One with a minimum of 15 metres of line and one with a minimum of 60 metres of line.
- Dive Slate or Wet Notes In addition to the slate used with the emergency SMB or a set of wet notes.
- Minimum of **two dive torches**\* (primary and backup) for guests planning on doing wreck penetration.

\*Divers who wish to penetrate overhead environments in Bikini must bring their own primary lights. All divers must also follow their training standards for overhead diving with respect to backup lights.

There are *no primary lights available to rent* on Pacific Master so guests are required to bring their own. A limited number of backup lights are available if required.

# Recommended Equipment

- Back-plate, harness and wing capable of carrying manifolded twin aluminium 80 cu ft cylinders and one or two 40/80 cu ft aluminium stage cylinders. The wing should have a minimum of 20 kg/45lb of positive lift.
- Two DIN regulator sets: one with a long hose configured for twin-cylinder operation.
- One or two DIN stage regulators for use with up to 95% oxygen.
- Protection 3mm or 5mm full-length wetsuit. Some divers also like to use a hood or helmet and gloves. Water temperature is between 27°-29°C all year round with no thermoclines.
- Spare Mask Spare mask should be carried on all dives.

As rental equipment, cylinders and gases are subject to availability, please inform us of your requirements at the time of confirming your liveaboard booking by completing the <u>Technical</u> <u>Diving Form</u> as early as possible.

# Diving Safety

# Fit to Dive

All divers are responsible for ensuring that they are fit to dive, and are required to complete a <u>medical statement</u> to that effect. Guests who have any medical conditions or symptoms that could be restrictive to diving will need to *obtain a doctor's evaluation and clearance to dive,* <u>*before travelling*</u>. There are no facilities in Kwajalein, Ebeye or Bikini Atoll to obtain medical evaluation and approval.



If you are unable to complete the statement as directed, or can not provide a current doctor's certificate (less than 1 year old) clearing you to dive, you accept that you may not be able to take part in certain aspects of the holiday you have booked with us.

The medical statement can also be found on the liability waivers page of our website at <u>www.masterliveaboards.com/forms</u>.

All guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and must stay within the limits of their training and experience, follow dive plans and computer guidelines, and complete all necessary decompression stops on every dive. They must also follow any instructions given by the dive crew aboard the vessel.

Due to the remote nature of diving in Bikini Atoll, we recommend that all divers plan and execute conservative dive profiles and, once all the necessary decompression obligations are met, spend an additional 10 minutes between 3-6 metres before surfacing.

#### Diving Emergencies

The Marshall Islands are an extremely remote diving destination without any readily available hyperbaric facilities. Although there is a chamber on the military base on Kwajalein, special permission which is difficult to obtain is required to use it, and is also dependent on the availability of the base's chamber operators. The nearest recompression chambers that are guaranteed to be available are located in Hawaii or Australia and emergency air evacuation to one of these countries is required.

Kindly note that we do not support 'In Water Recompression'.

With the above in mind, all guests are required to purchase diving and liveaboard-specific insurance according to their level of certification. This insurance must cover the maximum depths that you plan to dive to, as well as air evacuation costs. We strongly urge all guests to dive well within the recognised limits of their training and follow our Dive Guides' advice.

As outlined in our <u>Terms & Conditions</u>, dive insurance and travel insurance are mandatory.

# General Information

# Advanced Passenger Information (API)

There are certain details that we require guests to provide for administrative purposes before they travel. Guests can submit their information via our secure online portal: <u>Guest login in</u>.

#### Standard Forms

All guests are required to complete a medical statement and acknowledge acceptance of standard safe diving practices before or upon arrival. The forms can be found on the Liability & Waivers Forms page of our website: <u>www.masterliveaboards.com/forms</u>.

To save some time, and to ensure that you have no pre-existing conditions which could affect your diving, you can download the forms from the above link, fill them in, and bring them with you. By completing and signing the forms, you are confirming that you have read, understood, and agree to the conditions outlined in the forms.



# Additional Technical Diving Forms

In addition to the standard safe diving practices and medical statement, guests joining a Bikini Atoll itinerary are required to complete the <u>Technical Diving Liability Release</u> and <u>Bikini Atoll</u> <u>Liability Release</u>. Both releases can also be downloaded from the Liability Waivers page of our website: <u>www.masterliveaboards.com/forms</u>

If you are unable (or unwilling) to complete any of the forms as instructed, you accept that you may not be able to take part in certain aspects of the liveaboard itinerary which you have booked with us.

Time Zone: The local time in the Marshall Islands is 12 hours ahead of UTC /GMT.

#### Money Matters

The local currency in the Marshall Islands is the US Dollar. There are no ATMs in Ebeye so we recommend bringing a sufficient amount of USD in cash, preferably in smaller denominations to cover any incidentals or local purchases.

#### Health

Medical care in the Marshall Islands is very basic with the 'best' medical facility being in Majuro. Any form of treatment other than basic requires evacuation.

Normal precautions should be taken with food and it is advisable to drink bottled water only. Please make sure you use insect repellent and cover exposed skin to minimise the risk of insect-borne diseases.

Radioactive radiation to which divers are exposed from the shipwrecks in Bikini Atoll is negligible since water acts as an excellent insulator. Divers are safe, as long as they do not try to grab souvenirs from the wrecks. Pilfering is forbidden and hazardous.

# Vaccinations

It is each guest's responsibility to check their own country's travel advisories for the Marshall Islands, or with their nearest health care professional or travel clinic for the latest vaccination requirements and recommendations.

We strongly advise all guests to ensure that all routine vaccinations are up to date; these include MMR\* (measles-mumps-rubella), Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio. Other recommended vaccinations for The Marshall Islands include Hepatitis A and Typhoid.

#### \*Measles Advisory

There have been outbreaks of measles and mumps across the Republic of the Marshall Islands over recent years. Although the RMI Ministry of Health and Human Services has implemented an MMR immunisation program throughout the islands, the situation regarding vaccination requirements for entry into the RMI is constantly changing. As such, we recommend that all travellers ensure that they are immunised against measles and **bring proof of vaccination** with them **in case it is required**. This can be in the form of a vaccination record card (yellow book), or vaccination certificate showing they are fully vaccinated.



The use of insect repellent and covering exposed skin is highly recommended to prevent insect-borne diseases that are present in the Marshall Islands, such as Dengue Fever.

If you are travelling with medication, please bring your physician's prescription with you.

#### Language and Religion

The official languages are English and Marshallese.

Safety and dive briefings on board will be provided in English. If you or any of your group do not speak or fully understand English please let us know before arrival.

Approximately 98% of the population of the Marshall Islands is a mix of predominantly Christian religions: 54.8% United Church of Christ (Protestant), 25.8% Assemblies of God (Pentecostal), 8.4% Roman Catholic and 9% other Christian faiths.

#### Climate and Weather

The climate of the Marshall Islands is tropical, hot all year round, with constant trade winds and little variation in temperatures, although the central and southern islands are more equatorial and rainy all year round.

Temperatures in the northern atolls average between 30° and 31°C (86°-88°F) from April to October cooling down to around 25°-26°C (76°-78°F) in the evenings. The wettest months in the north are July - October with an average of 185-250 mm (7-10 inches) and 21-22 days of rain.

#### Water Temperature and Exposure Suits

Warm temperatures in Bikini Atoll are pretty consistent with very little variation from the norm of 28°-29°C (82°-84°F). Many divers are comfortable in little more than swimwear and a rashguard although a full-length suit is strongly recommended due to the nature of the dives and to avoid injury from the wreckage. We advise bringing appropriate, thermal exposure protection for prolonged deco-stops and dive times.

# Environmental considerations

Waste disposal in The Republic of the Marshall Islands is a constant challenge, with traditional disposal methods being neither ideal nor environmentally acceptable. Although the Marshall Islands Government has introduced a management strategy, the current challenges, which include a lack of recycling facilities, remain until the project is complete. We therefore kindly ask our guests to consider the following to help with our mission to reduce our environmental impact.

# Batteries

If your personal dive equipment may require a unique size, or a lot of replacement batteries during your trip, please bring extra batteries with you and take the spent ones home to be recycled or disposed of properly. Alternatively, consider using rechargeable batteries as there are plenty of sockets to plug in a charger on board.



#### Water Bottles

We are dedicated to becoming single-use plastic-free across all of our fleets. Plastic straws and stirrers have already been banned and we are removing single-use plastic bottles from our vessels. If you own a sports bottle, we simply ask that you bring it with you, or you can purchase one on board. Alternatively, we have plenty of cups on board that you can use to ensure you remain well-hydrated.

#### Plastic bags and wrappers

We do not provide plastic bags for purchases made on board, although reusable canvas bags are available for sale. Please help us minimise plastic waste by removing plastic wrappers and packaging from items before travelling. If you bring plastic bags with you, please reuse them, and take them home.

#### Toiletries

We kindly ask that guests consider the type of products they are bringing with them and, where possible, to bring only environmentally friendly toiletries for use on board, and to take partially or unused products home with them.

# Life on Board

The main features of the vessel you have booked can be seen via the Bikini Atoll page of the Master Liveaboards website: <u>https://masterliveaboards.com/bikini-atoll/</u>

#### Accessibility

Due to the layout of the boat, the vessel is not suitable for wheelchairs and may provide challenges, or be unsuitable for guests with limited mobility. Please contact us for further details if you have any concerns.

#### Accommodation

Unless otherwise stated, accommodation on board is based on standard occupancy of each specific cabin type. Single occupancy of double/ twin cabins may be available on request and is subject to a supplemental charge.

#### **Cabin Facilities**

All cabins are air-conditioned. Towels and shower gel are provided free of charge to all guests. Please be aware that the lower deck cabins (standard twins and standard singles) do not have ensuite bathrooms; The facilities for these cabins are located on the dive deck.

#### Food and Drink

Meals are provided on a full board basis including breakfast, lunch and dinner served buffet style in the indoor dining area. We offer a choice of International and locally influenced cuisine and can cater to special dietary requirements with advance notice. A complimentary range of carbonated soft drinks, fruit juices and teas are available at all times as well as instant and fresh brewed coffee, snacks and fresh fruit. There is also a selection of beer, wine and spirits available for an additional charge.



#### Special dietary requirements

Should you have any specific dietary needs, allergies, or special requests, please advise your sales consultant at the time of confirming your liveaboard trip to ensure we can cater for your needs.

Please note that, while we always do our best to accommodate dietary requests, it is extremely difficult in The Marshall Islands to find low-fat, soya, and many other products that are common elsewhere. Please consider bringing some of your own foods if the lack thereof may constitute a health risk or seriously compromise your enjoyment of your holiday.

# Clothing and Footwear

Dress on board is very casual and most guests feel comfortable in little more than swimwear, shorts and t-shirts. A sweater is advised for cooler nights, particularly after extended dive times. We kindly request guests respect the wishes of others by wearing appropriate clothing for meal times. Most guests prefer to go barefoot on board the vessel; however, land visits may require sturdy sandals or cross-trainers.

The boat is equipped with laundry facilities and our housekeeper is happy to launder your clothes during the trip for a nominal fee of 1.00 USD per item, irrespective of size/ weight.

#### Electricity

Power throughout Pacific Master is 220V / 50hz, using Australian-style 3-prong outlets. We advise bringing a plug adapter and a multi-socket power bar if you have many things to charge and just one Australian plug adapter. If your electrical items are not compatible with 220 V, please bring a voltage adapter with you to avoid equipment damage and ensure it charges correctly.

# Staying Connected

There is very limited general internet access throughout The Marshall Islands, and no mobile roaming data available at all.

Wi-Fi internet access is available to purchase on Pacific Master. The vessel is equipped with a Starlink satellite system enabling us to offer Internet data packages for guests who wish to remain connected with the outside world for part or all of their time on board.

An access code will be provided upon purchase of a data package on board and is subject to availability and signal strength. Data package sizes range from 5GB for 10 nights up to 7GB for 13 nights.

Our <u>Onboard Internet Access Guidelines</u> provide general advice and useful tips on how to get the most out of your purchased data.

There is satellite phone communication on board which can be used in the event of an emergency but will be charged for incoming and outgoing calls at a rate of \$4 per minute (or part thereof).



# Smoking

Smoking on board is permitted in designated outdoor areas only.

# Underwater Photography and Videography

The vessels offer specialised features for underwater photographers and videographers which include a dedicated charging table, spacious indoor and outdoor workstations for the preparation and maintenance of cameras, individual drawers for storing peripheral and other items and large rinsing tanks with frequently changed fresh water.

Our crew are thoroughly briefed on the handling of delicate camera equipment and will offer to assist you when entering or exiting the water. However, each diver bears the sole responsibility to look after and care for their own camera equipment and fully assumes the risk of any loss or damage to such equipment.

#### Drones

Drone use is allowed in the Marshall Islands but, there are laws that need to be followed:

- Drones must not be flown in sensitive areas including government or military facilities, i.e. Kwajalein. The use of drones or camera drones in these areas is prohibited.
- Drones can not be flown over or near airports or in areas where aircraft are operating
- Drones should not be flown over people or large crowds
- Respect people's privacy; flying low over villages/settlements is not acceptable without their permission
- Drones must only be used during daylight hours and in good weather conditions

# Payments on Board

# Marine, Park and Port Fees

Marine, Park and Port fees are dependent on the itinerary duration and will be added to your invoice to be paid on board before disembarkation.

Please refer to your booking and itinerary details for the amount applicable to your trip.

The full amount of the Marine, Park and Port Fees is paid directly to the Bikini Council and cannot be fully or partially reimbursed if a trip is cut short for any reason.

We strongly recommend guests have insurance which covers losses due to trip curtailment.

#### Onboard extras and payments

We strongly recommend adding equipment rental to your liveaboard invoice to pay before the start of your trip.

Additional charges for gases and Sofnolime\*, as well as equipment and cylinders that have not been paid for in advance, and other items such as laundry, alcoholic drinks and Master Liveaboards merchandise, can be paid on board in cash or by credit card.



\*Sofnolime is charged per 20kg tub and can not be paid for in advance, although it MUST be pre-ordered. No price reduction or buy-back will be offered for opened or partially used tubs.

All prices are given in USD, but can also be paid in Euro, GBP, and AUD calculated using the applicable exchange rate on the last day of your liveaboard. We can also accept Mastercard and Visa credit card payments onboard for which there is a 3% surcharge.

#### Please note that we are unable to charge gratuities to credit or debit cards.

Guests are advised to bring from 500–900 USD cash in addition to the applicable marine, park and port fees to cover onboard extras that have not been paid in advance in case of credit card payment issues, as well as any gratuities you may wish to leave.

# Tipping

We believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that your crew has made your holiday extra special then a tip is always appreciated; an envelope will be provided for your convenience by your cruise director and all gratuities are divided equally amongst all the crew, including the captain and dive guides.

If you are unsure how much to tip, we suggest 10% of the liveaboard price; Please note that *tips can only be accepted in cash*.

Safety on Board

#### Emergency Management

All of our crew members undergo rigorous training in emergency management procedures. A thorough boat safety briefing will be provided, in English, by your Cruise Director at the start of your trip during which all guests will be requested to participate in a life jacket drill. If you do not understand, or speak English, please let us know.

Further practice scenarios may be performed during your cruise to assist our crew in keeping their skills sharp.

#### Emergency Equipment & First Aid

Pacific Master is equipped with numerous safety features including fire detection and suppression systems, automated life rafts, EPIRB, satellite communication and emergency pumps.

There is a fully stocked medical first aid kit for treating minor injuries and ailments as well as a full complement of medical-grade oxygen which can be administered through DAN kits or unit-specific attachments in the event of suspected DCI incidents. You will also find an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on board which has been proven to greatly increase the survival rate in the eventuality of cardiac fibrillation.

Our dive teams are all qualified emergency responders. Should you feel unwell at any point during your cruise, please seek the advice of your cruise director who will be able to assist you.



# Extending your holiday

Travelling to and from the Marshall Islands can be made exceptionally easy when you book with Master Liveaboards. We offer a range of hotels, transfers and excursions that can be arranged for before or after your diving holiday.

# Optional Bikini Atoll package

To extend your Master Liveaboards holiday experience, for an additional cost, we can organise transfers to and from the airport in Hawaii and book the hotel of your choice in Honolulu for your first and last night before and after your Marshall Islands flights (Prices depend on hotel choice). Please contact our reservations team for more information and quotes.

# FAQs

If there are any questions that have not been answered, please visit our website at <u>https://masterliveaboards.com/faq/bikini-atoll/</u> or email us at <u>dive@masterliveaboards.com</u> and our team will be happy to assist you.



# Contact Info

Thailand Office - Master Liveaboards Open Monday - Friday 08:30 - 18:30 and Saturday 09:00 - 17:00 ICT (UTC+7) 10/512 Moo 3, Tambon Vichit, Muang Phuket 83000, Thailand

Web: www.masterliveaboards.com

Email: dive@masterliveaboards.com

Thailand Office: +66 (0) 76 367 444 UK number: +44 (0) 208 099 2230 USA (Toll Free): +1 866 258 6398 WhatsApp: +66 (0) 62 668 7136

Marshall Islands contact number

Operations Manager (Ferg): +692 458 5255 (in Ebeye only)

Master Liveaboards 24hr emergency number:

Please, only use the Master Liveaboards 24 hr emergency number if you are unable to get a response from the numbers listed above.

UK Mobile: +44 7862 126398



# What to Bring

The following is a check list of essential items that you should bring with you for your trip aboard a Master Liveaboards vessel.

Passport	
6 month validity & at least 2 empty pages for visa stickers and stamps	
Travel Documents	
Flight tickets - International & Domestic; hotel booking; excursions Printed copy of the Master Liveaboards Sponsor Letter	
Cash & Credit Card for emergencies	
Recommended amount (additional to park & port fees): 250 - 500 USD Airport Departure Tax in local currency	
Diving Certification & Logbook	
Including Nitrox Card if certified & intending to use Nitrox	
Travel and Diving Insurance Documents	
To include emergency medical evacuation	
Essential Diving Items	
Dive computer with full battery	
Toiletries & Medications	
Including sunscreen & insect repellent Inform booking team of medical conditions	
Essential Clothing Items	
Swimwear, hat and lightweight jacket	

Guests are strongly advised to carry essential items in hand luggage in case of lost or delayed luggage through International or Domestic Flights.

