

North & Brothers

7 nights - Red Sea itinerary

- **Embarkation:** Marriott resort Marina, Hurghada OR Port Ghalib Marina at 18:00
- **Disembarkation:** Marriott resort Marina, Hurghada OR Port Ghalib Marina between 09:00 - 10:00

Transfers from and to Hurghada Airport (HRG) or Marsa Alam Airport (RMF) on embarkation and disembarkation days are included in the cruise price. Transfer times from/to Hurghada Airport:

- Hurghada Marriott Marina: 15 mins
- Port Ghalib: 4 - 4.5 hours

Transfers to hotels and resorts outside of the local area can be arranged for an additional charge.

Marine & Port Fees:

Governmental Reef Tax is 80 USD per person. These fees will be added to your invoice to be paid in advance.

Minimum dive certification and experience:

Due to the exposed nature and possible strong currents, some elements of this itinerary are not suitable for inexperienced divers.

Divers wishing to join this itinerary are required to be certified as minimum PADI **Open Water certification**, or equivalent, and are required to have a **minimum of 30 logged dives**.

Guests who do not fulfil the minimum certification and experience recommendations, or who the crew feel have insufficient experience in certain conditions, may be denied participation in some or all dives.

It is a mandatory requirement for all divers to have insurance which covers scuba diving activities, including emergency evacuation and recompression chamber costs.

Participation in this liveaboard itinerary is subject to acceptance of our Terms & Conditions as outlined here: <https://masterliveaboards.com/terms-conditions/>

Itinerary details

Number of scheduled dives: Up to 16

Whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives indicated above is fulfilled, this is only indicative, and not guaranteed. A number of factors can hinder the vessel's ability to reach, or remain at a specific area and may therefore affect the number of dives possible.

Safety and dive briefings are conducted in English. If you, or any of your group do not speak or understand English, please contact us.

The following is an example of the day-to-day itinerary.

Day 1: Embarkation at 18:00 followed by dinner and briefings.

Day 2: Visit a local dive site for a check dive before heading towards Brothers after an afternoon dive.

Day 3: We normally plan to spend one day at the Brothers.

Day 4-6: Spend two days cruising the northern Red Sea. Normally you will have the opportunity to make three day dives and a night dive each day. The exact itinerary and order of dive sites will vary depending on the conditions but you can expect to visit plenty of wrecks including the Thistlegorm. There is also some fantastic reef diving including the Ras Mohamed marine park.

A typical diving day is scheduled as follow:

- Briefing & Dive 1
- Breakfast, relaxation period, briefing & Dive 2
- Lunch, relaxation period, briefing & Dive 3
- Snack, relaxation period, briefing & Dive 4 (no night dives in the marine parks)
- Dinner

Day 7: Enjoy two relaxed morning dives* close to your disembarkation point (either Hurghada or Port Ghalib) allowing you to cruise into harbour in the early afternoon. Take advantage of an evening onshore to purchase souvenirs and enjoy Egypt's famous hospitality before your journey home the next day.

Day 8: Following breakfast on board, disembarkation is scheduled for between 09:00 and 10:00.

**We kindly request that guests check their flight departure times to ensure that they leave a minimum of 18 hours (ideally 24 hours) between their final dive and their flight home.*

While we wish to show you the very best diving possible, a number of factors determine which route the yacht takes and which dive sites we are able to visit. Weather, tides, currents and how many other dive vessels are at a particular site, influence the Cruise Director's and Captain's decision of which route the boat takes and which sites are selected for diving.

The safety of all on board is paramount and we always do our best in offering diving at alternate locations should we be unable to visit those sites listed below.

Guests are welcome to suggest preferred dive sites to the Cruise Director. He/she will be happy to accommodate guests' wishes, providing it is possible and the schedule allows for it.

Ras Mohamed - Shark & Yolanda Reefs

This is a world renowned dive site, situated at the tip of the Sinai. Two small ergs are joined by a vertical wall dropping into the abyss. At Shark Reef the current allows you to drift along the wall, rich with colourful corals. Moving towards Yolanda Reef you reach a plateau scattered with small ergs and coral outcrops. Continuing around the reef you will come upon the scattered remains of the wreck 'Yolanda' complete with its cargo of toilets and baths. The whole of this area is big fish territory so keep an eye on the blue!

Abu Nuhas

Also known as the 'Ship's Graveyard', this reef is positioned dangerously close to the busy shipping lanes of the Gulf of Suez. Abu Nuhas has claimed more ships than any other in the area. On the north side there are four wrecks laying on a sandy sea floor on the bottom of a steep sloping reef layered with table corals. Wrecks here include the Ghiannis D, Carnatic (Wine Wreck), Chrisoula K (Tile Wreck) and Kimon M (Lentil Wreck). On the south side, there is a safe anchorage for liveaboards and two ergs, known as Yellow Fish Reef.

SS Thistlegorm

Probably the most famous of the Red Sea wrecks. The 129m English freighter was bombed by German aviation on 6 October 1941.

Today, she makes for an artificial reef on a sandy bottom at 32m maximum depth. She is home to an enormous variety of marine life and is especially popular with large schooling fish.

Please note: Due to local legislation, you must have a minimum of 20 logged dives in order to dive on this wreck.

Safaga

Filled with a variety of stunning drop offs, shallow coral gardens and interesting wrecks, Safaga offers something for everyone. The most famous wreck is 'Salem Express'; a large ferry, which sank in 1991 with massive loss of life. There are also the large ferry wrecks of El Arish El Tor and Al Kafain, which both sank without any lives lost. The famous finger shaped reefs of Abu Kafan and Panorama offer stunning drop-offs with plentiful fan corals and incredible plateaus encrusted with soft and hard corals. Shallower reefs (such as Torbia Arbaa) are full of critters and make a perfect afternoon or night dive.

Brother Islands

The northernmost part of Egypt's offshore marine park is made up of two islands 60 km away from the coast and 140 km south from Hurghada. Big Brother, the larger island (complete with a lighthouse from 1883) is 400 m long with a spectacular plateau on the south east corner which is dotted with coral mountains and famous for thresher and grey reef shark sightings. The western side of the island has two impressive wrecks which both lie almost vertical on the side of the reef.

The most spectacular wreck is the Numidia, a large cargo steamer which sank in 1901 and now lies on the tip of the island between 10 and 80 m covered in soft corals and frequented by large pelagic predators.

The smaller wreck of the Aida (sitting between 30 and 65 metres) was a lighthouse authority supply vessel which sank in bad weather in 1957.

Small Brother Island is only a little over 200 m long, but hosts an incredible concentration and variety of marine life. There is a pristine fan coral forest, a massive collection of hard and soft corals and compelling overhangs to explore. Main attraction is the abundant pelagic life; with regular seasonal sightings of hammerhead, thresher, grey reef and oceanic whitetip sharks.

Should you have any questions or queries concerning the dive sites or whether this itinerary is suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team dive@masterliveaboards.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.