



**MASTER**  
LIVEBOARDS

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# Northern Red Sea & Brothers

## 7 nights itinerary

- **Embarkation:** Marriott Resort Marina, Hurghada **OR** Port Ghalib Marina
- Embarkation time: 18:00 only
  
- **Disembarkation:** Marriott Resort Marina, Hurghada **OR** Port Ghalib Marina
- Disembarkation time: between 09:00 - 10:00

**IMPORTANT:** The majority of Brothers, Safaga and itineraries start and end in Hurghada. However, some may start or end in Port Ghalib. *Please refer to our schedules and check your booking confirmation for embarkation and disembarkation locations for your chosen dates.*

### Flights

We recommend booking flights to and from Hurghada International Airport (HRG) which is served by many direct scheduled and charter flights from the UK and much of Europe, as well as several flights per day from Cairo (CAI).

### Transfers

The liveboard price includes a shared transfer between Hurghada Airport, or a local hotel in Hurghada and the Marriott Marina (or Port Ghalib where applicable) on embarkation and disembarkation days only. Transfers on other days or from/to other locations can be arranged for an extra cost.

### Arrivals

Guests arriving in Hurghada in the morning\* or early afternoon on embarkation day will be transferred to the Marriott Resort (approximately 15 minutes from the airport) where they can use the beach until embarkation or the afternoon transfer to Port Ghalib.\*\*

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** Guests arriving earlier than 08:00 a.m. on embarkation day are advised to book a hotel room and arrange transport from the airport to the hotel.

**\*\*Transfer between Hurghada and Port Ghalib takes approximately 3 - 3.5 hours**

### Departures

Guests departing from Hurghada Airport on afternoon or evening flights can wait at the Marriott Resort in Hurghada before being transferred to the airport in time for check-in.

Transfers earlier than 09:00 a.m. will be charged. Guests with early morning flight departures are advised to disembark the evening before and make hotel arrangements.

## Marine & Port Fees:

Governmental Reef Tax is 90 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 of some of the diving locations and possible strong currents, some elements of this itinerary are not suitable for inexperienced divers.

The minimum requirement for divers wishing to join this itinerary is PADI **Open Water Diver certification**, or equivalent with **at least 30 logged dives**.

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

**All divers must have insurance which covers scuba diving activities**, including emergency evacuation and recompression chamber costs.

## Itinerary details

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

**Number of scheduled dives:** Up to 16

While we endeavour to ensure the number of scheduled dives is fulfilled, this is only indicative, and not guaranteed. Various factors can hinder the vessel's ability to reach, or remain at a specific area and may 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 fully understand English, please let us know in advance**

Following is an example of the day-to-day itinerary. 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.

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

**Day 2:** Visit a dive site local to the embarkation port 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:** Two days cruising the northern Red Sea. Normally you will have the opportunity to make three day dives and a night dive each day, typically scheduled as follows:

- 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:** Two relaxed morning dives\* close to your disembarkation point before cruising 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:** Breakfast on board followed by disembarkation between 09:00 and 10:00.

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

While we wish to show you the best diving possible, several factors determine the exact route the boat takes, and which dive sites we 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 where the boat goes each day and which sites are selected for diving.

Following is an overview of the areas normally covered and some of the dive sites that may be included on this itinerary. Please note however that some may be excluded and others that are not listed may be included depending on embarkation and disembarkation ports.

Additionally, the safety of all on board is paramount and we always do our best to offer diving at alternative locations should we be unable to visit a specific location for any reason.

### **Brother Islands**

The northernmost part of Egypt's offshore marine park comprises two islands 60 km from the coast and 140 km south of Hurghada. Big Brother, the larger island, (complete with a lighthouse from 1883) is 400 metres long with a spectacular plateau on the southeast corner, dotted with coral mountains and famous for thresher and grey reef shark sightings.

On the western side of Big Brother are two impressive wrecks both positioned almost vertically beside the reef. The most spectacular is the Numidia, a large cargo steamer that sank in 1901 and now lies at the northern tip of the island between 10-80 metres, is covered in soft corals and frequented by large pelagic predators. The smaller wreck of the Aida was a lighthouse authority supply vessel which sank in bad weather in 1957 and now rests on the northwest side of the island between 28-60 metres.

Small Brother Island is a little over 200 metres 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. The main attraction is the abundant pelagic marine life with regular, seasonal sightings of hammerhead, thresher, grey reef and oceanic whitetip sharks.

### **Safaga**

Boasting 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 115 metre long, 18 metre wide passenger ferry, which sank in 1991 with massive loss of life. There are also the wrecks of two other large ferries, El Arish (El Tor) and Al Kahfain, which both sank without any lives lost following engine room fires. The famous finger-shaped reefs of Abu Kafan and Panorama offer plentiful corals and incredible plateaus; Shallower reefs (such as Torbia Arbaa) are full of critters and make a perfect afternoon or night dive.

### **Ras Mohamed - Shark & Yolanda Reefs**

This world-renowned dive site is situated at the tip of the Sinai Peninsula. 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 entire area is big fish territory so keep an eye on the blue!

## Abu Nuhas

Also known as the 'Ship's Graveyard', Abu Nuhas is positioned dangerously close to the busy shipping lanes of the Gulf of Suez and has claimed more ships than any other in the area. On the north side of the triangle-shaped plateau, four wrecks lay on the sandy sea floor at 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.

## Sha'ab El Erg

Famous for its dolphin sightings (therefore also known as Dolphin House), this shallow, horseshoe-shaped reef features stunning hard corals and a huge variety of moray eels, blue spotted stingrays, crocodile fish and napoleon wrasse.

Also located at Sh'aab El Erg, the reef and pinnacles of Poseidon Garden are covered with abundant large corals and clams of all sizes and colours. Masked pufferfish, large shoals of bannerfish and butterfly fish, and trevally are just a few of the many fish species found here.

## Gubal Islands

'Bluff Point', at the gate of the Strait of Gubal, gets its name from the turbulence created by strong currents that batter the northeastern corner of Little Gubal island. The wreck of the Ulysses lies on the reef 300 metres north of the lighthouse, starting at 5 metres and sloping down to 25m. 'The Barge' wreck provides divers with a fun and unusual night dive with the wreck's skeleton creating protection for all sorts of night critters.

## SS Thistlegorm

Probably the most famous of the Red Sea wrecks, the 129m English freighter was bombed by German aviation on 6 October 1941 and sank as a result. Today she rests, listing to her port side, on the sandy seabed at a maximum depth of 32 metres. Not only does she hold a treasure trove of WWII munitions and military vehicles but, as an artificial reef, she has also become home to a large variety of marine life and is especially popular with large schooling fish, as well as divers.

***Please note: Due to local legislation, you must have a minimum of 20 logged dives to dive on the Thistlegorm.***

Should you have any questions regarding the diving or whether this itinerary is suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team [dive@masterliveaboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveaboards.com) who will be happy to assist and advise you.