

Rocky, Zabargad & St. Johns

7 nights - Red Sea itinerary

- **Embarkation:** Port Ghalib Marina at 18:00
- **Disembarkation:** Port Ghalib Marina between 09:00 - 10:00

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

Transfer times from/to Port Ghalib:

- Hurghada Airport: 4 - 4.5 hours
- Marsa Alam Airport: 15 mins

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.

The minimum requirement for divers wishing to join this itinerary is **PADI Open Water certification**, or equivalent, with **at least 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 18

Whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives indicated above 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 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 fully understand English, please let us know before you arrive.

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 dive site local to Port Ghalib for a check dive before heading south for your afternoon dive on the way to the marine parks.

Day 3-5: The next three days will be spent between Rocky and Zabargad Islands and the reefs of St Johns.

Day 6: Enjoy a relaxed day of four easy dives at Fury Shoal.

A typical diving day is 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: After an early morning dive at Elphinstone*, enjoy a relaxed dive local to Port Ghalib allowing you to cruise into the 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 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 to offer diving at alternate locations should we be unable to visit those sites listed below.

Following is a sample of dive sites which we may visit during your time aboard.

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.

Rocky Island

Rocky Island hosts a fringing reef that circles the entire perimeter of the island, dropping steeply to astonishing depths. Keep your eyes on the blue for life but take care as there can be strong currents.

Zabargad Island

The island of Zabargad is an amazing dive spot. It is characterised by an enormous mountain reaching out of the water, surrounded by a lagoon and circling reef. There are a couple of wrecks, such as The Khanka (better known as the Russian wreck; a Russian spy ship) and a great variety of corals and reef fish.

St. Johns Reefs

Located on the Tropic of Cancer, this chain of reefs boasts stunning dive sites, most of which are very close to each other allowing you to move quickly and easily from one place to another. This adds a lot of variety to your dives; drop-offs, tunnels and stunning hard-coral formations. One of these dives (St. Johns Caves or Umm Kharalim) is truly unique and is a photographer's heaven with rays of light filtering through into the beautiful tunnels. The reef formation is not the only thing that will stun you at St. Johns; the marine life and colours of the soft corals are some of the best in the Red Sea. With any luck, dolphins or sharks will join you on your dives and St. Johns will forever have a place in your heart.

Fury Shoal Reefs

This large cluster of reefs offers spectacular and easy dives. From the northern side of Small Abu Galawa to its southernmost site of Sataya, Fury Shoal can prove to be surprising and diverse. Each dive site has its particularity; from dolphins to stunning hard coral formations. There are two nice little wrecks: 'Tug Boat' and 'Yacht' as well.

Elphinstone Reef

A Red Sea legend; a finger-shaped reef, with north and south plateaus covered in hard and soft corals, unpredictable and exciting this truly is an awesome reef where hammerhead sharks are regularly spotted in the summer and oceanic whitetip sharks often congregate in large numbers during late autumn.

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@masterliveboards.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.