



**MASTER**  
LIVEBOARDS

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# Know Before You Go - Red Sea, Egypt

## General Destination & Trip Information

The majority of our Red Sea liveboard itineraries are circular routes starting and ending in Hurghada. However, some embark and disembark in Port Ghalib, while others begin in Hurghada and end in Port Ghalib, or vice versa. *Please check your booking details carefully for the embarkation and disembarkation locations for your chosen itinerary and dates.*

- **Hurghada Embarkation/Disembarkation:** Marriott Resort Marina, Hurghada
- **Port Ghalib Embarkation/Disembarkation:** Port Ghalib Marina, Marsa Alam
- Embarkation time for all itineraries is 18:00
- Disembarkation time is between 09:00 and 10:00

## Flights & Transfers

You can book your international flight into Hurghada (HRG) or Marsa Alam (RMF) (more convenient for Port Ghalib departures) depending on your itinerary.

However, Hurghada offers the advantage of many scheduled and charter flights, mostly originating from the UK and European countries, as well as several flights every day from and to Cairo. For guests flying into Hurghada to join an itinerary which starts from and (or) ends at Port Ghalib, we provide a transfer from and back to Hurghada on embarkation and disembarkation days.

Marsa Alam is served by direct flights from London Gatwick, some areas of Europe, and Cairo although they are not as frequent as Hurghada flights, and may not fit with embarkation or disembarkation days.

Additional information can be found in the itinerary-specific information sheets.

## Transfers

The liveboard price includes a shared transfer between your arrival and departure airport, or local hotels and the embarkation and disembarkation marina on embarkation and disembarkation days only. Transfers on other days or from/to other locations can be arranged for an extra cost.

- Transfer between Hurghada Airport and Marriott Resort Marina is about 15 minutes.
- Transfer between Marsa Alam Airport and Port Ghalib Marina is about 15-20 minutes.
- Transfer between Hurghada and Port Ghalib Marina takes approximately 3-3.5 hours.

Please refer to your chosen itinerary's information sheet for further information.

## Visa and Passports

Passports must be valid for at least six months from the date of arrival in Egypt. Dual nationals must bring the passport they used to book their flights and that they provided details of when completing their [Advance Passenger Information](#) (API) form.

### Travellers who have visited Israel

Evidence of a previous visit to Israel (Israeli entry/exit stamp) does not normally cause any issues when entering Egypt. However, it is up to the Egyptian authorities to determine the right of entry into the country so, it is advisable to check with your nearest Egyptian consulate or embassy before travelling.

### Israeli Nationals

There are no regulations preventing Israeli passport holders from visiting Egypt, although there are specific requirements for them to obtain a visa and some restrictions related to cruise permissions. Israeli Nationals are not permitted to go to the Marine Parks on a liveaboard; Therefore, they may only join a northern itinerary and special permission from the local authorities is also required for the boat. A copy of the guest(s) passport and flight information is required at least one month in advance to apply for the special boat permission and the Egyptian authorities reserve the right to refuse.

## Visas

The majority of travellers need a visa to visit Egypt which can be achieved in several ways, depending on nationality.

Citizens of Hong Kong, Macao and some Arab states do not require a visa.

Nationals of most Western countries can obtain a tourist visa upon arrival which allows them to stay in Egypt for up to one month (30 days). Many nationalities can also apply for an Egypt Visa online ([e-Visa](#)) before travelling.

**IMPORTANT:** *Some nationalities need pre-approval and must obtain a visa before travelling from the Egyptian Consulate in their home country.*

*As visa requirements, processes and regulations can change at short notice, we can not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided below. We therefore recommend checking your home country's government advisories or Egyptian embassy/consulate for the most up-to-date information.*

***It is the individual traveller's responsibility to check before travelling to ensure they meet all visa requirements for the holiday they have booked.***

### Visa on Arrival

Obtaining a Visa on Arrival often involves lengthy queues and requires payment in cash only (USD is preferred but GBP and EUR may also be accepted although the price may be higher). For those who are eligible, Visa on Arrival costs 25 USD and is available in Cairo (CAI), Hurghada (HRG), Sharm EL Sheikh (SSH), Marsa Alam (RMF) and Luxor (LXR).

We offer a [Visa Meet & Greet Service](#) (charges apply) which facilitates a Visa on Arrival for guests arriving in Hurghada or Marsa Alam. Please refer to the Visa Meet & Greet section below for further details

## e-Visa

The Egypt e-Visa is the most convenient and reliable option; it eliminates the need to queue at the airport and allows visa approval before travelling. To apply for an e-Visa go to the official Arab Republic of Egypt [Electronic Visa Portal](#) and follow the steps outlined under '[How to Apply](#)'.

A list of nationalities eligible to apply for an e-Visa can be found under the [FAQs section](#) of the Electronic Visa Portal.

E-visas cost 25 USD and are valid for a maximum of 3 months from the date of issue.

## Embassy issued

Travellers who are not from a visa-exempt country, or not eligible for an e-visa or Visa on Arrival must apply in person at their nearest Egyptian embassy or consulate.

## Visa Meet & Greet Service

We can pre-arrange Visa-on-Arrival for most nationalities including the UK, EU and USA and offer a Visa Meet & Greet service at Hurghada Airport (HRG) and Marsa Alam Airport (RMF). There is a small charge for this service in addition to the cost of the visa, which needs to be paid in advance.

We advise guests arriving at Hurghada on the day of embarkation to use this pre-arranged visa service to avoid lengthy delays which may affect their transfer and other guests.

A Master Liveboards representative, who will have all the necessary documents, will be waiting to greet guests who have paid for this service at their arrival airport before they reach the immigration counters.

***Guests who have booked our Visa Meet & Greet service should not purchase another visa*** either in advance or on arrival. If you are harassed at your arrival airport by a local agent, the incident should be reported to the tourist police inside the terminal building.

We can also offer the Visa Meet & Greet service for guests arriving before their liveboard embarkation day if it is combined with a transfer; Transfer prices depend on the number of passengers, type of vehicle and location they are arriving at / going to.

## Travelling with Medicines

If you need to bring medication with you, please be aware that some prescribed and over-the-counter medicines may be controlled substances in Egypt and require permission from Egypt's Ministry of Health before you arrive. Please check with your pharmacist or the Egyptian Embassy for clarification. If you are travelling with prescription medication you must have a letter from your GP stating that it is for your personal use as well as the condition it is prescribed for and the quantity you are bringing, which should not be more than you need for the duration of your stay in Egypt.

## Insurance

***Insurance which covers scuba diving is mandatory*** aboard all of our vessels. Your insurance must cover all of your scuba diving and snorkelling activities, including the cost of recompression chamber treatment and emergency air evacuation. 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 [Terms and Conditions](#). We cannot be held liable for delays occurring during the cruise or any delays or cancellations of flights, accommodations, or tours 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 - '[Do You Really Need Travel Insurance?](#)'

Master Liveboards act as a referrer for DiveAssure who offer dive and travel insurance policies, including short-term and multiple-trip policies. Their comprehensive 'Dive & Travel Plus' plan has been specifically developed for diving liveboard holidays and covers expenses in the event of missing your liveboard 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: [www.masterliveboards.com/insurance](http://www.masterliveboards.com/insurance).

## Diving Information

We are happy to welcome everyone from non-divers to seasoned divers aboard our Red Sea vessels. Although most of our itineraries are generally suitable for all experience levels, some dive sites are unsuitable for entry-level divers.

Our Egyptian vessels have two RIHBs for transferring divers to and from the dive sites. The tenders have ladders and our RIHB drivers are happy to assist guests who need help with their equipment and exiting the water.

At some sites, entry and exit may be directly from the main vessel's dive deck.

## Guests' Level of Diving

Each itinerary has different minimum requirements based on the diving conditions and local regulations in the areas covered; please refer to the itinerary webpages or the information sheets for the minimum requirements for your chosen itinerary.

*Any divers who do not fulfil the specified minimum requirements, or who the crew feel have insufficient experience in certain conditions may be denied participation in some or all dives during the liveboard.*

Depth limits given by the Cruise Director must be followed at all times.

**PLEASE NOTE: Dives that include decompression stops are classified as technical diving, even if they are within recreational depth limits. This means that *BSAC Sports Divers are not allowed to conduct decompression dives* unless they have additional technical diving training, e.g. Accelerated Decompression Procedures and must follow [technical diving](#) requirements.**

**Solo Diving is not permitted** on our Red Sea vessels.

## Night Dives

Local regulations dictate that night dives are NOT permitted in the offshore marine parks, i.e. Brothers Islands, Daedalus, Rocky Island and Zabargad Island. Additionally, night dives are also not allowed at Elphinstone or other areas where sharks are present.

On itineraries that include these areas, there will only be three dives offered on the days that the vessel is within the confines of their boundaries.

## Rebreather Diving

Our Red Sea vessels are rebreather and technical diver-friendly. Rebreather equipment is available but advance notice is required. Guests who wish to use a rebreather during their liveboard itinerary need to complete and submit the [Master Liveboards Technical/CCR Diving Form](#)

**PLEASE NOTE: Sofnolime is not currently available in Egypt.**

Extended bottom times are not always possible and depend on various factors, including the cruise itinerary and distances between dive sites.

## Technical Diving

The Egyptian Chamber of Diving and Watersports (CDWS) considers technical diving to include any decompression dive (regardless of depth or your certification agency) or any dive deeper than 40 metres, irrespective of the gasses used.

Additionally, CDWS regulations require us to have a suitably qualified technical dive guide onboard for the duration of the trip if any guests intend to do any technical diving during their liveboard itinerary. The dive guide must have the same, or greater, level of technical diving certification for the depth limits and gas mixes that guests will be diving.

If you wish to do technical diving and do not have a dive buddy with the same technical qualifications booking on the trip with you, you will need to pay for a private technical dive guide.

If you intend to do any decompression dives or dive deeper than 40 metres, ***you must inform us before confirming your liveboard booking*** to ensure we can accommodate your request.

If you do not notify us in advance and/or fail to provide the completed technical diving form, you may be unable to engage in any technical diving. Please complete and submit your [Technical Diving Form](#) as soon as possible.

## Fit to Dive

All divers are responsible for ensuring they are fit to dive and must provide a completed medical statement before their liveboard departure. Guests with any symptoms or medical conditions that could be restrictive to diving need to obtain a doctor's evaluation and clearance to dive, before travelling. The medical statement is included in the [Red Sea liability release](#) which all guests are obligated to complete.

If you are unable to complete the medical statement as directed or provide a current doctor's certificate (less than a year old) clearing you to dive, you accept that you will not be allowed to participate in scuba diving activities.

## Flying after Diving

Current studies indicate that you should wait at least 18 hours before you fly after repetitive dives or multiple days of diving although *we recommend 24 hours*. Please bear this in mind before you book your onward international or domestic flights.

## Diving Emergencies/ Recompression Chambers

In the unlikely event that a diving accident occurs, there are several hyperbaric facilities in Egypt and a specially trained emergency team is constantly standing by and. Chambers are located in Hurghada, El Gouna, Hamata, Marsa Alam, Safaga, and Sharm el Sheikh. We strongly encourage all guests to carefully follow dive guides' advice, dive conservatively and remain well within their certification and computer limits at all times.

As outlined in our [Terms & Conditions](#) diving insurance and travel insurance are mandatory.

## Water Temperature and Exposure Suits

Diving in Egypt is possible all year round; Water temperatures vary quite significantly between the Summer and Winter months, ranging from 20°C (68°F) in December up to 29°C (84°F) in August. We suggest a 3 or 5mm full wetsuit for the summer and a 5-7mm full-length wetsuit, or drysuit during the winter. Guests prone to feeling cold are advised to use a hood/vest and additional thermal layers under their wetsuit to ensure their comfort. You can find exposure suit recommendations on our [sizing chart](#).

## Diving Equipment

### **Use of a dive computer and DSMB is compulsory.**

A single 11 litre (80 cu ft - also referred to as 12L) aluminium cylinder, weights, weight belt, SMB and reel are provided free of charge.

Since some airline carriers have strict check-in luggage limits, our vessels have equipment available to rent for an additional charge, including:

- BCDs
- Regulators complete with depth/pressure gauge console
- 5mm full-length wetsuit
- Masks
- Fins - open heel and boots
- Underwater torch
- 15 litre (100 cu ft) tank
- Dive computer

Rental equipment is subject to availability and must be pre-ordered. Please note that equipment is not stored on the vessels; therefore, it is imperative that you inform us of your requirements before arrival.

Equipment rental and Nitrox costs can be viewed under 'Extras' on the vessel and itinerary pages of our website and in the onboard extras [download](#).

PLEASE NOTE: Items paid for on board are subject to 14% VAT.

## Underwater Photography and Videography

Our vessels offer specialised features for underwater photographers and videographers, such as designated charging areas and camera-only rinse tanks. Our crew is thoroughly trained in handling delicate camera equipment and will bring your cameras to/from the tenders for you.

## Destination Information

### Time Zone

Local time is GMT / UTC + 2 hrs.

### Money Matters

The local currency is the Egyptian Pound (EGP). Most hotels and bigger shops will accept credit cards, although there is usually a surcharge, and there are many ATMs for cash withdrawal. Widely accepted are Euro, USD and UK Pounds.

### Language and Religion

The Egyptians speak Arabic, although English is also widely spoken in the tourist areas. The country is predominantly Sunni Muslim with an estimated 90% of Egyptians following Islam. Roughly 9% of the population are Christian, mostly affiliated with the Coptic Orthodox Church, with the remaining 1% comprising other faiths.

### Climate and Weather

Egypt has hot and dry summers and fairly moderate, cool winters; the air temperature can easily reach 40+°C (>104°F) in summer, while winter is a more comfortable 18-23°C with occasional rain and cool nights. Take care all year round when exposed to the sun as it can be intense. In the desert area, temperatures are even more extreme, both hot and cold.

### Sun protection

We recommend bringing high-strength, reef-friendly sunscreen with you to prevent getting sunburnt. We also suggest hats, sunglasses, protective clothing and utilising shade as easy and environmentally friendly ways to protect yourself from sun damage.

### Health

The standard of medical care in Egypt varies greatly depending on location, can be very limited in some areas and, generally, is not free. Egypt has public and private healthcare options although some public facilities are underfunded, poorly equipped and often understaffed. While others meet International standards, they are mostly private facilities and may not be comparable to what you would expect in your home country.

***All travellers should ensure they have adequate travel health insurance to cover medical emergencies and treatment costs.***

It is recommended to take sensible precautions with uncooked and street food and refrain from drinking tap water to minimise the risk of stomach upsets.

Heat stroke is a fairly common problem so we recommend that you protect yourself from the fierce Egyptian sun as much as possible and remain well hydrated.



## Vaccinations

No specific vaccinations are required for entry into Egypt unless you are coming from or passing through yellow fever risk areas\*. However, we advise ensuring routine vaccinations are up-to-date (tetanus, polio, MMR, etc.) and consult a healthcare professional or your nearest travel clinic for the latest information and recommendations at least 6 weeks before travelling.

Rabies is present throughout Egypt, although more common in rural areas; it is, therefore, advisable to avoid contact with stray animals and consider being vaccinated against rabies if you will be spending an extended amount of time travelling in Egypt.

\*A Yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for travellers arriving from countries where there is a risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers who have spent more than 12 hours in transit in an airport of a yellow fever risk country. Yellow fever vaccination is also recommended for those intending to travel further into Africa.

## Bringing Medicines into Egypt

Many medicines can be brought into Egypt as long as they are for personal use. However, some require a permit and others are not allowed under any circumstances.

Certain prescribed and over-the-counter medicines such as psychotropics and pain relief that contain opioids (e.g. tramadol, cocodamol, hydrocodone, oxycodone, and others) are controlled substances in Egypt may require permission from Egypt's Ministry of Health to bring into the country. If you do not have prior permission or the required documentation, the medication will not be allowed in and you may be prosecuted under Egyptian law.

Please note that **any medication containing Methadone is not permitted** in Egypt.

Prescription medication must be in its original packaging with the dispensing label intact. You should only bring enough for the duration of your trip and must also have an official letter from your doctor specifying the condition that it is prescribed for, the quantity you will be carrying and that it is for your personal use only.

## Mobile Phone Coverage

Guests with international roaming will be able to use their phones in Egypt although call and data costs depend on their home network provider. Local SIM cards with data packages are available for tourists and can be purchased at Hurgada Airport and Marsa Alam Airport. Alternatively, if your smartphone is eSIM compatible, there are various options available that will work in Egypt.

There are four mobile network providers in Egypt - Vodafone, Orange, Etisalat and WE - although none currently provide 5G. Generally, Vodafone or Orange have the best network coverage and are the most reliable.



## Trip Information

### Advanced Passenger Information (API)

We require certain information, including diving certification and passport details before departure for administrative purposes, which includes obtaining sailing permissions. Guests can submit the required information through our secure online portal at [www.masterliveboards.com/portal](http://www.masterliveboards.com/portal). **Passport copies must be clear and unaltered with all ID information easily readable.** There have been cases where sailing permissions have been denied because of blurred or redacted images of guests' passport ID pages.

### Egyptian Nationals

The Egyptian Navy and Coast Guards will not accept copies of Egyptian passports when granting sailing permissions. Any Egyptian National joining a liveaboard itinerary must provide a clear copy of their national ID card.

### Forms

It is a requirement not only of Master Liveboards but also of the Egyptian authorities for all guests to provide a signed liability release, express assumption of risk and medical statement before the commencement of their liveaboard itinerary.

We have one form specifically for the Red Sea that incorporates all of these requirements which can be downloaded from the following link: [Red Sea Vessels – Full Liability Release](#). To save some time, and to ensure you have no pre-existing conditions that could affect your diving, you can download the form from the above link, fill it in, and bring it with you.

In addition to the liability release and medical statement, divers are also required to confirm that they have read and understood Appendix A: Standard Safe Diving Practices statement which can be downloaded here: <https://masterliveboards.com/forms/>

By completing and signing the forms, you confirm that you have read, understood, and agree to the conditions outlined in them. *If you are unable or unwilling to complete the forms as instructed, you accept that you may not be able to take part in certain aspects of the holiday you have booked with us.*

## Life On Board

The main features of our Red Sea vessels can be viewed on their respective pages on the Master Liveboards website:

- Blue Horizon <https://masterliveboards.com/boats/blue-horizon/>
- Blue Melody <https://masterliveboards.com/boats/blue-melody/>

### Accessibility

The layout of the boats may provide challenges, or be unsuitable for guests with limited mobility, and are not suitable for wheelchairs. Please contact us for further details if you have any concerns.

## Accommodation

Both Red Sea vessels can accommodate up to 26 guests in 13 twin or double occupancy cabins. Single occupancy may be available on request and is subject to a supplemental charge.

## Cabin Facilities

All cabins have individually controllable air-conditioning and private en-suite bathrooms with centrally heated hot water. Other facilities include liquid soap, towels, ponchos and lockable safety boxes. Guests who like to use shampoo and hair conditioner are advised to bring their own. Please also be aware that there are no hairdryers on board either vessel.

## Food and Drinks

We offer guests a choice of international and local cuisine served buffet style in the indoor air-conditioned dining area. We can also cater to special dietary requirements, although advance notice is required; please inform our reservations team before your trip to ensure we have plenty of time to plan dishes to suit your needs.

**Please note:** It can be difficult to find low-fat, soya, gluten-free and some other items that are common elsewhere in the world. While we always do our best to accommodate dietary requests, please consider bringing some of your preferred food items with you if the lack thereof may constitute a health risk or compromise the enjoyment of your holiday.

Complimentary instant coffee, drinking water and a range of teas are available at all times. A selection of fresh fruit is also readily available in addition to some “naughty” treats should you feel peckish in between meal times. Guests may also select filter coffee, beer or wine for an additional fee.

## Clothing and Footwear

The dress code on board our vessels is very casual and most guests feel comfortable in little more than swimwear, shorts and t-shirts. A sweater is advised for the cooler nights, particularly after multiple dives. We request that guests respect the wishes of others by donning clothing for meal times. As a rule, we ask guests not to wear shoes indoors on the vessel although most prefer bare feet on board anyway.

## Electricity

The standard power outlets are 220V/50Hz, European-style 2-pin (Type F). We provide multi-socket extensions with 2-pin and UK 3-pin (Type G) options but do not have power converters on board; if your electrical items require a different voltage to charge or operate correctly please bring converters with you.

There are also USB sockets in guest cabins and communal areas so you can conveniently charge your portable devices; there are also designated charging points for cameras and torch batteries on board. For fire safety reasons, we ask guests not to leave batteries or other electrical items charging in their cabin when they are not present.

## Staying Connected

There is wireless internet access on both vessels which can be used free of charge *for email and web browsing* wherever there is a signal. However, it is on a 3G network, there is a limited amount of data available on each trip and connectivity is mostly only possible when close to shore. *Guests who wish to have a faster connection, or want the ability to upload*

*and download movies or pictures are advised to purchase a local SIM card and data package before boarding.* Tourist SIM packages can be purchased inside your arrival airport terminal building, or from service providers' local shops.

Please note that Egyptian internet coverage is not up to European standards and, on some itineraries, there may be no signal at certain locations. Reception is generally better in the North and non-existent in the marine parks.

## **Smoking**

Smoking and vaping are permitted in most outdoor areas on board, but not on the dive deck or during dive briefings. As required by CDWS regulations, windproof ashtrays are provided for smokers to use in the areas where smoking is allowed.

## **Fishing**

Fishing is not permitted on Blue Melody and Blue Horizon or from the dive tenders.

## Environmental Considerations

Although there are recycling initiatives in place in Egypt, the available facilities are limited. We therefore ask our guests to consider the following to help with our mission to reduce our environmental impact.

### Batteries

While some batteries may be available to purchase on board, the amount or type may be limited. If your equipment requires a unique size or is likely to need a lot of replacement batteries during your trip, please bring extras with you. We also ask that guests take spent batteries home so they can 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 been banned on all our boats and we do not provide single-use plastic bottles on board. If you own a sports bottle, we simply ask that you bring it with you, or you can purchase one on board. If you don't have one and you don't want to buy one, there are 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 branded, 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 guests to consider the type and quantity of products they are bringing with them and, where possible, bring environmentally friendly toiletries for use on board, and take partially or unused products home.

If you are bringing cotton buds (Q-tips) with you, please avoid the types that have plastic stems. There are many such products available which use unbleached paper or bamboo instead of plastic and are therefore much more environmentally friendly.

## Payments On Board

### Optional Extras

We offer a range of services to enhance your time on board. The following are available for an additional fee:

- Nitrox
- Courses
- Equipment rental
- Beer and wines
- Snacks (pringles, peanuts and chocolate)
- Merchandise: T-shirts, polos, hoodies, Fish ID books, logbooks, toys, jewellery, etc.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All items paid for on board are subject to Egyptian Goods & Services Tax (VAT) which is currently 14%.

All onboard prices are quoted in USD although we can also accept cash payments in GBP, EUR and EGP. The currency conversion from USD will be based on the current exchange rate on the day your bill is finalised. We can also accept debit and credit card payments onboard, which are subject to a 3% surcharge in addition to GST.

We suggest bringing \$250–400 USD cash (or equivalent currency) to cover any incidental extras and crew gratuities.

## Tipping

At Master Liveboards we believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that your crew has made your holiday extra special; then they will certainly appreciate a tip. If you are unsure how much to tip, we suggest 25 USD per guest, per day.

Please note **we can only accept tips in cash**. For your convenience, an envelope will be provided by your cruise director and gratuities will be divided equally amongst all of the crew, including the captain and dive guides.

## Safety Onboard

### Emergency Management and Equipment

All Master Liveboards vessels are equipped with modern safety features such as EPIRB, satellite communication, fire detection and suppression systems, automated life rafts and emergency pumps. Our crews undergo rigorous training in emergency management procedures and further practice scenarios may be performed during your cruise to assist in keeping their skills sharp.

Our Red Sea boats have a centralised fire detection system, with smoke detectors in every cabin and all communal areas. These are connected to a central panel in the captain's cabin which shows where a fire may be in the event of smoke being detected; As a backup to this system, all areas are also fitted with independent, battery-operated smoke detectors.

All cabins are also equipped with a powder fire extinguisher, and all public areas have a mix of extinguisher types and sizes depending on the location and potential cause of a fire. Your Cruise Director will provide a thorough briefing at the start of your trip to familiarise you with the vessel's safety features, during which you will be required to participate in a life jacket and muster drill.

### First Aid

Our dive teams are all qualified emergency responders and the vessels are equipped with a fully stocked medical first aid kit for treating minor injuries and ailments as well as for assisting trained medical professionals in remote locations.

Both boats have a full complement of medical-grade oxygen which can be administered through DAN kits or unit-specific attachments. 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.

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

For those interested in experiencing more of Egypt, we can offer hotels, excursions and tour packages in addition to your liveaboard, which can be arranged to fit your travel plans. Please contact our reservations team who will be more than happy to make reservations on your behalf.

### Optional/Additional Egypt Packages

#### **The Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx**

The Pyramids of Giza represent one of the greatest architectural feats of man. There are 3 main pyramids at Giza, each a tomb dedicated to a different Egyptian king: Khufu, Khafre and Menkaure. The last surviving member of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, The Great Pyramid, built by King Khufu, is one of the world's oldest tourist attractions and still draws vast numbers of visitors every year. On guard in front of the pyramids sits the Great Sphinx; carved from a single block of limestone, this enormous lion-bodied sculpture depicting the face of King Khafre has captivated millions of visitors since it was excavated.

#### **The Egyptian Museum in Cairo**

Situated in downtown Cairo, the museum is home to an extensive collection of ancient Egyptian antiquities. It houses the largest Pharaonic collection in the world and thousands of interesting and unique artefacts from over 5,000 years of Egyptian history, including the world-famous 11kg solid gold mask of Tutankhamun and the treasures he was buried with.

#### **Luxor Temple**

On the eastern bank of the River Nile, where the ancient city of Thebes was situated, another must-see is the spectacular Luxor Temple. Largely built by Amenhotep III and completed by Tutankhamun, its main purpose was as a venue for the Opet Festival, one the most important of ancient Egyptian religious celebrations. Many rulers made additions to the temple, including Ramesses II, yet it has remained a place of worship, including for Christians and later Muslims. A mosque built inside the temple still exists and is one of the Temple's highlights; At night, Luxor Temple is beautifully lit and well worth visiting as the sun sets over the Nile.

#### **Valley of the Kings**

The Valley of the Kings sits in a valley amongst pyramid-shaped desert hills on the western side of the River Nile, opposite Luxor City. Comprising over sixty underground tombs, it is the last resting place for the majority of 18th, 19th and 20th dynasty pharaohs and is where they hoped to meet their Gods in the afterlife. It was here that Tutankhamun's tomb was unearthed, although he was a relatively minor king, and there are many larger and more impressive tombs to discover in the Valley of the Kings.

#### **Abu Simbel**

Along with the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx, Abu Simbel is perhaps one of the most recognised monuments of ancient Egypt. The two temples, built for the Pharaoh Ramesses II, have been attracting visitors since Victorian times. The majestic splendour of the temple complex is awe-inspiring at any time of day or year but, if you visit at night, the light and sound show brings the fascinating history of the temples to life. On February 21st and October 21st every year natural sunlight and architectural brilliance combine to make the inner sanctum of the temple light up - a 'must-see' experience if you are there at the right time.

## FAQs:

If you have any questions that have not been answered here, please visit our website's [frequently asked questions](#), or contact us directly.

## Contact Information

### Thailand Office - Master Liveboards

10/512 Moo 3,  
Tambon Vichit,  
Muang Phuket 83000,  
Thailand

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Email: [dive@masterliveboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveboards.com)

### Egypt Contacts

Hurghada Office number: +20 127 745 5566

Emergency number: +20 122 084 0755

### Master Liveboards 24-hour emergency number (calls only):

Please, only use the Master Liveboards 24-hour emergency number if you are unable to get a response from the local numbers listed above. Please do not SMS this number.

**Mobile:** +44 7862 126398



## What to Bring

Our blog, [Packing for a Scuba Diving Liveaboard](#) provides useful tips on what to pack. Please ensure you *remove all plastic wrappers and packaging* from any new items you are bringing with you.

The following is a checklist of essential items you should ensure you bring with you. You can also download a complete packing checklist from the General Information section of the Master Liveaboards [downloads page](#)

**Passport**

6 months validity & at least two empty pages for visa stickers and stamps

**Travel Documents**

Flight tickets - International & Domestic; hotel booking; excursions

**Cash & Credit Card for emergencies**

Recommended amount 250 - 500 USD

**Diving Certification & Logbook**

Including Nitrox Card if certified and 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 insect repellent and Reef-safe sunscreen  
Inform the 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.*