

Diver Certification & Experience Requirements

As a condition of your booking, all divers are required to have experience levels outlined below for the itinerary you will be joining. Guests will be asked to provide copies of their certification card(s) as part of their Advance Passenger Information and proof of logged dives when they board the vessel to confirm that they meet these requirements. **PLEASE NOTE: Divers who do not fulfil the minimum requirements may be excluded from diving.**

DESTINATION		MINIMUM LOGGED DIVES	CERTIFICATION LEVEL	MANDATORY*	AOW CAN BE COMPLETED ON BOARD	SUITABLE FOR:		
						Technical	Rebreather	Snorkelling
Galapagos Master		50	Advanced Open Water	✓		✗	✗	limited
Solomons Master	Most itineraries	40	Advanced Open Water		✗	✓	✓	✓
Solomons Master	WW2 itinerary	75	Advanced Open Water + Deep Specialty	✓		✓	✓	✓
Pacific Master	Truk Lagoon	50	Advanced Open Water		✗	✓	✓	✓
Pacific Master	Bikini Atoll	100	TDI Advanced Nitrox and Decompression, or equivalent (45+ metres)	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✗
Indo Master	All itineraries	50	Advanced Open Water		✗	✗	✗	✓
Palau Siren	Standard itineraries	30	Advanced Open Water		✗	✗	✓	✓
	Spawning itineraries	50						
Philippine Siren	Tubbataha itineraries	50	Advanced Open Water Open Water	✓	✗ ✓	✗	✓	✗ ✓
	All other itineraries	25						
Egypt	Coastal itineraries	10	Open Water	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Min. for SS Thistlegorm	20						
Egypt	Offshore itineraries	30	Open Water	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Maldives	Central Atolls itineraries	30	Open Water + Deep Adventure Dive (30 metres)	✓	✓	✗	✓	limited
Maldives	Northern and Southern Atolls	50	Advanced Open Water	✓		✗	✓	limited
Thailand Master	Thailand	10	Open Water	✓	✓	Charter only	Charter only	✓
Thailand Master	Myanmar	30	Advanced Open Water + Nitrox	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓

***MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:** *The minimum number of logged dives is mandatory on all itineraries, regardless of certification. Where marked as mandatory above, all divers must have the specified diving certification* (or equivalent) for those itineraries; Where not marked as mandatory, the certification level is strongly recommended.

These requirements are in place and enforced to ensure the safety and comfort of all divers, including our dive teams. *Failure to meet these minimums will result in those guests being excluded from diving* throughout the cruise. Our crew have the right to refuse guests' participation in some or all dives if they are not satisfied that the diver meets the minimum qualifications, safety, or experience requirements for the diving conditions.

Additional Information

Bikini Atoll (Republic of the Marshall Islands)

Diving in Bikini Atoll is **only for technical divers** with previous wreck penetration experience. Divers are responsible for planning their own technical dive profiles with their dive buddy. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Egypt (Red Sea)

Coastal itineraries - minimum of 10 logged dives include Northern Wrecks & Reefs, Strait of Tiran & North, North & Safage and Deep South.

Note: A **minimum of 20 logged dives is required to dive on SS Thistlegorm** but other sites on these itineraries are not restricted.

Off-shore itineraries - minimum of 30 logged dives include Best of the Red Sea, Ultimate Red Sea, Best of Wrecks and all others that cover Brothers, Daedalus, Rocky or Zabagad.

Galapagos

Diving in the Galapagos can be especially challenging due to strong currents, reduced visibility and colder water temperatures. We strongly recommend you have previous experience with these conditions.

Snorkelling possibilities in the Galapagos are very limited due to strong currents and surge in many locations.

Indonesia

We strongly recommend that you have previous experience and are comfortable with drift dives, negative entries and deploying an SMB. Diving in some parts of Indonesia, including Komodo, can be especially challenging with strong currents.

While completing AOW onboard is possible in Indonesia, we require a minimum of 3 students to run the course. If there are fewer than 3 participants, the students will need to hire a private guide.

Maldives

Diving throughout the Maldives is exhilarating, but often challenging and generally **not suitable for inexperienced divers**. We strongly recommend that you have previous experience with currents and are comfortable with drift dives, negative entries and deploying an SMB.

Diving in the southern Maldives atolls (including Huvadhu and Addu) can be especially challenging with strong currents and **is only suitable for more experienced divers**. Channel and drift dives are to be expected.

Myanmar

Diving in Myanmar can be challenging due to isolated dive sites and strong currents; it is recommended that divers have experience in similar locations and conditions.

Palau

Some areas of Palau are known for strong currents and bluewater diving. Spawning itineraries often involve more challenging conditions with stronger currents so we recommend a minimum of 50 logged dives, including experience with currents, to be comfortable with these conditions.

Philippines

Diving in Tubbataha can be challenging due to strong currents and is best suited to experienced divers who are comfortable with currents. We strongly recommend you have previous experience in similar conditions.

Much of the Visayas region is more sheltered and generally suitable for all levels of divers.

Solomon Islands

We strongly recommend you have previous experience and are comfortable with drift dives, negative entries and deploying an SMB. Diving can be especially challenging with stronger currents.

While the wrecks on the wreck itineraries are within recreational limits it is very beneficial to be qualified to dive to at least 40 metres and to have experience with wreck penetration.

Thailand

While reef diving in Thailand can be very gentle, some sites in open or deeper water can be more susceptible to currents. On longer Similan Islands itineraries and those which cover Southern Andamans, it is beneficial to have experience in currents and surge.

Truk/Chuuk (Federated States of Micronesia)

While many wrecks in Truk Lagoon are within recreational limits, divers will find it very beneficial to be qualified to dive to at least 40 metres and to have experience with wreck penetration.

Important Note: Where the required certification card(s) and recent dive logs are not presented or the dive crew are not satisfied that you fulfil the specified minimum dive qualifications, safety requirements or experience for the dives, they have the final judgement and the right to refuse guests access to dive sites during the liveaboard itinerary.