

# Southern Visayas, Philippines

## 6 nights Itinerary

### Cebu to Moalboal

- **Meeting point for embarkation:** Marina Seaview Restaurant, Mactan Island
- **Cebu embarkation:** 13:00
- **Disembarkation:** Moalboal Pier at 10:00\*

### Moalboal to Cebu

- **Embarkation location:** Moalboal Pier\*
- **Moalboal embarkation:** 13:00
- **Disembarkation:** Marina Seaview Restaurant at 10:00

*\*Transfers to or from Moalboal for embarkation or disembarkation are not included in the liveaboard price but are offered as a shared transfer for an additional charge.*

Please refer to the [Visayas Cebu / Moalboal Trip information](#) for specific transfer details.

**Marine Park & Port Fees:** 75 USD per person\* (payable onboard only)

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Marine park fees are subject to change without notice.* The applicable amount at the time of departure will be added to your onboard extras to be paid prior to disembarkation.

\*There is an additional charge of 30 USD per person, also payable on board, for diving with whale sharks at Oslob should you choose to do so.

### Minimum dive certification and experience:

Diving conditions in and around the Visayas are generally suitable for all levels of divers although some sites can be challenging for inexperienced divers due to currents.

Divers wishing to join this itinerary are advised to have Advanced Open Water certification\*, or equivalent, with a minimum of 10 logged dives and experience in strong currents.

\*PADI Advanced Open Water certification can usually be completed on board if requested and confirmed in advance.

*Guests who do not fulfil the minimum certification and experience requirements 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.

## Itinerary Details

Participation in this liveboard itinerary is subject to acceptance of our Terms & Conditions as outlined here: [www.masterliveboards.com/terms-conditions](http://www.masterliveboards.com/terms-conditions).

**Number of scheduled dives:** Up to 18

This itinerary involves some long distance travel between sites and, whilst we attempt to ensure the number of planned dives is fulfilled, bad weather and sea conditions can affect the boat's ability to reach a specific dive site in good time and may impact on the number of dives that are 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 13:00 followed by lunch and briefings. If time allows there may be a check dive scheduled but *diving on embarkation day is not guaranteed*.

**Day 2-4:** Your Cruise Director will schedule up to 4 dives per day; 3 day dives and a sunset or night dive. A typical diving day is scheduled as follows:

- Light Breakfast followed by a briefing & Dive 1
- Full Breakfast, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 2
- Lunch, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 3
- Snack
- Briefing for Dive
- Dinner

**Day 5:** Usually 2 morning\* dives before Philippine Siren commences the cruise to port.

**Day 6:** Following breakfast on board, disembarkation is scheduled for between 09:30am and 10:00am.

\*We kindly request that guests check their flight departure times to ensure that they leave a minimum of 24 hours between their final dive and the departure of their flight.

Following is a sample of the dive sites which we may visit during your time aboard Philippine Siren. Guests are welcome to suggest preferred dive sites to the Cruise Director who will be happy to accommodate guests' wishes where possible and the schedule allows for it.

The safety of our guests is paramount and we always do our best to offer diving at alternate locations, should we be unable to visit those sites listed below.

## Moalboal, Cebu

The main attraction of Moalboal is the millions of sardines hanging out in the shallow waters. Other than that, the beautiful diving around Pescador Island is just 30 minutes away.

### Panagsama Beach

Along with millions of sardines performing an underwater ballet, giant frogfish might be found together with reeftop pipefish and ringed pipefish.

### Tongo Point

Schools of razorfish, crocodile needlefish, purple and threadfin anthias are to be found while reef squids and spade fish are making their way home. Green sea turtles and hawksbill turtles are also commonly seen here.

### Turtle Bay

This site is popular for night dives where we can spot sleeping turtles along with different kinds of crabs and shrimps.

### Dolphin House

Crocodile needlefish, drummers, milkfish and yellowtail barracudas are living just under the surface while zillions of damsels and anthias are darting around the coral reef top.

## Pescador Island

Just 30 minutes away from Moalboal, this small island is a perfect place to explore dramatic steep walls and lively, colourful reef-tops.

Thousands of damsels, anthias and chromis dart around the corals while schools of fusiliers, red tooth triggerfish, surgeonfish, long jawed mackerel, juvenile convict fish and big eyed trevallies fill the blue. Pescador Island is also home for a number of giant frogfish. On the northwest side, a large cavern with sunlight filtering through the chimney from above provides an array of photo opportunities.

## Oslob (optional)

The optional whale shark encounter, where the whale sharks are hand fed, can be done by diving or snorkelling, subject to additional fees payable at destination. Please be advised it is not allowed to use strobes and/or flash lights here.

## Apo Island

Apo Island Marine Reserve is one of most successful marine sanctuaries established in the Philippines. Reef hooks and gloves are not allowed and night diving is unfortunately not permitted. The order of dives will be based on the currents and conditions of the day choosing from:

## Coconut Point

An often fast paced drift brings divers over the sloping coral reef wall. Along the way giant trevally, blackfin barracuda, big school of big-eyed trevally and plenty of sea snakes can be encountered.

## Rocky Point West

Just beyond the chapel opposite the marine park warden's office, Rocky Point West offers some of the most stunning hard corals to be found in the region with endless patches of leather corals on the top. The steep reef walls support numerous colourful reef species – pyramid butterflyfish and red-toothed triggerfish are here in their hundreds, frogfish, cuttlefish, banded sea snakes and hawksbill turtles are amongst the common sightings.

## Cogon

The colourful bottom divided by sand channels is the place to find a big school of big-eyed trevally, huge brown marbled groupers and sea snakes.

## Dauin, Negros

Dauin, with its black volcanic sand, is famous for muck diving. Depending on the season, different types and sizes of octopuses, sea horses, (baby) frogfish, a variety of ghost pipefish and flamboyant cuttlefish can be found.

## The Cars

Between 25-30m (80-100ft), car parts forming an artificial reef attract porcelain crabs and different kinds of shrimps amongst the many weird and wonderful creatures found at this site.

## Secret Corner

This sand and pebble dive site is the perfect habitat for the smallest, weird and unexpected creatures such as cockatoo waspfish, short-fin lionfish and snake and garden eels.

## Ceres

Named after the local bus company that donated its tyres to create an artificial reef which attracts schools of reef fish. Different kinds of shrimps live on this reef together with a variety of juvenile reef fish.

## Mainit

A mix of black volcanic sand and coral boulders with soft corals. Due to the currents, all fish are very active which makes this dive very lively and exciting ending in an area with hot sand at the bottom, hence the name Mainit meaning 'hot'.

## Balicasag Island

The small island of Balicasag, just off the tip of Panglao, is characterised by its many turtles, coral gardens and steep walls which provide overhangs, cracks & crevices in which to search for a variety of marine species. This area has become a marine protected area since July 2017 and allows two dives per day only with valid permits.

### Divers Heaven

The main attraction of this beautiful dive site is the green sea and hawksbill turtles in the shallow waters. The reeftop edge is a nice habitat for schools of colourful damsels and anthias and when lucky also for giant frogfish..

### Black Forest

Once famed for its black coral is where we encounter schools of jacks, long-jawed mackerels, red tooth triggerfish and different kinds of fusiliers.

## Cabilao Island

There are several interesting wall and coral garden dives around the island of Cabilao and we choose from the following:

### Gorgonian Wall

Provides a gentle drift along a fantastic coral reef with schooling fish and plenty of macro life in the shallow water, including the possibility of spotting a Denise's pygmy seahorse.

### Lighthouse

Sloping walls full of sponges and gorgonian fans. This is a great place to dive with large green turtles. Also being seen are giant frogfish which can be spotted resting on sponges and numerous cowries hiding amidst the stunning hard coral garden.

### Talisay Tree

Beautiful wall with gorgonians where bubble coral shrimps and orangutan crabs can be found in the bubble corals. The shallow grassy garden with its elephant ear sponges and barrel sponges is a perfect spot for wide angle photography.

### Cambaquiz

A fantastic spot where we often make night dives. A gently sloping reef and sandy bottom to 20m – soft corals and sea pens can be found dotted over the sand; also a great site for sightings of bottom dwellers. The grassy top is a favourite crab hideout.

Should you have any questions concerning the dive sites 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 pleased to assist and advise you.