



MASTER
LIVEBOARDS

Tubbataha National Marine Park, Philippines

6 Nights Itinerary

- **Arrival/departure airport:** Puerto Princesa International Airport (PPS)
- **Meeting point for embarkation:** Hue Hotel, Puerto Princesa at 12:30*
- **Embarkation Point:** Baywalk Pier, Puerto Princesa at 13:00
- **Disembarkation Point:** Baywalk Pier, Puerto Princesa between 09:30-10:00 only

**It is imperative that all guests arrive at the meeting point before 12:30 to avoid unnecessary delays to the boat's departure from Puerto Princesa.*

Due to local regulations, and 12-16 hours crossing time from Puerto Princesa to Tubbataha, **all guests need to embark at the designated time.** The Tubbataha Management Office needs to do a mandatory briefing for ALL guests, followed by a check conducted by the coast guards before Philippine Siren can leave Puerto Princesa. If the briefing and Coast Guard checks are not accomplished in good time, the boat will not be able to leave the port, subsequently delaying arrival in Tubbataha and the diving schedule.

We cannot be held responsible for delayed departure from Puerto Princesa, or missed dives caused by guests arriving late.

Tubbataha Visitor Entry Permits

All guests must complete a Visitor Entry Permit application before Philippine Siren will be issued with a permit by TMO to enter Tubbataha. When completing the form, which can be accessed here - <https://bit.ly/TubbatahaGuest> - you will need to select the liveboard vessel name which is officially listed as Philippine Siren 2.

Flights & Transfers

Transfer from Puerto Princesa Airport or hotels within Puerto Princesa city boundaries to Hue Hotel, and from Hue Hotel to Philippine Siren on embarkation day is included in the liveboard price. Shared transfer from Philippine Siren to Puerto Princesa Airport or local hotels on the day of disembarkation is also included in the liveboard price. Transfers from and to hotels and resorts outside Puerto Princesa city boundaries can be arranged for an additional charge.

Advice on Flights

Flights to and from Puerto Princesa are not included in the liveaboard price.

International flights may be booked into and out of Manila or Cebu, although Manila offers a greater choice of flights to Puerto Princesa. We recommend making arrangements to arrive in Manila, Cebu or Puerto Princesa at least one day before your liveaboard departure date to allow for possible flight delays or schedule changes and to ensure you start your holiday well-rested.

If transiting between international and domestic flights on the same day, please allow plenty of time for transfer between terminals, check-in and security clearance.

Embarkation Day Arrival in Puerto Princesa

If you intend to arrive in Puerto Princesa on the day of embarkation please **book a flight which arrives in PPS no later than 12.00, noon**. The airport is a short taxi ride from our embarkation meeting point at Hue Hotel

Disembarkation Day Departure from Puerto Princesa

Disembarkation is between 09:30 and 10:00. We kindly request guests *NOT* to book early morning flight departures.

IMPORTANT:

Disembarkation involves transfer from Philippine Siren to the jetty on the tenders.

Flight check-in time is at least 2 hours before departure so, disembarkation needs to be 3 hours before. Early morning flight departures pose many logistical and safety issues and therefore should not be booked.

1. Arrival time in Puerto Princesa from Tubbataha depends on the weather conditions and we can not guarantee that the boat will be back at port in time for early departures.
2. The disembarkation point is slippery and wet, and there are no street lights in the area, which makes it dangerous to disembark in the dark. (Sunrise is around 06:00)
3. At low tide (between midnight and 5 am), the dinghy can not reach the lowest step of the jetty so the crew have to drag the tender closer to the steps, which is hazardous for them and can cause a lot of damage to the RHIB or prop.
4. Our crew needs their rest! - They work extremely hard to make your holiday as enjoyable as possible and there are limits set by the International Labour Organisation's Maritime Convention for the maximum number of work hours and minimum hours of rest for all seafarers. Early disembarkation deprives our crew of the rest they are entitled to and deserve.

Diving Information

While we are happy for non-divers to join us on Tubbataha itineraries, for safety reasons we regret that we can not organise **snorkelling** or swimming activities in Tubbataha, and it is not permitted to go ashore on any of the islands.

Mandatory minimum dive certification and experience:

Diving conditions in and around Tubbataha are not suitable for entry-level or inexperienced divers due to the exposed location and challenging conditions, including strong currents, deep wall dives and surge.

All divers joining a Tubbataha itinerary **must have PADI Advanced Open Water** certification, or equivalent, with a **minimum of 50 logged dives and experience in strong currents.**

Currents are very variable and change all the time. Some trips have mild currents while on other trips, especially around new or full moon phases, currents can be very strong.

Any guests who our crew feel have insufficient experience or skills to dive safely in certain conditions may be denied participation in some or all dives during the liveaboard.

We can not offer Advanced Open Water certification on Tubbataha itineraries. Open Water divers with at least 50 logged dives are advised to complete Advanced training before the start of their liveaboard itinerary.

It is a mandatory requirement for all divers to have insurance which covers scuba diving activities and accidents, including emergency evacuation costs. We strongly recommend purchasing diving-specific insurance (e.g. [DiveAssure](#), [DAN](#), etc.) before your trip departure.

The use of a dive computer is compulsory on all dives.

Diving Emergencies

There are numerous recompression facilities throughout the Philippines; the most accessible are located in Manila, Cebu and Batangas. There is also a hyperbaric chamber at Ospital ng Palawan in Puerto Princesa City. Private emergency air evacuation may be needed to access these facilities from Tubbataha National Park in the unlikely event of an accident.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your insurance will fully cover and reimburse all evacuation costs as well as recompression chamber and hospital treatment.

Water Temperature and Exposure Suits

Water temperatures are broadly similar throughout the Philippines with temperatures around Tubbataha ranging from 26°-29°C (79°-84°F). Most guests find that a 3mm or 5mm wetsuit is suitable for the expected water temperatures. 3 mm shorty wetsuits are available to rent on board. However, we recommend that those who feel the cold easily, especially with repeated diving, bring a full-length wetsuit or an extra vest/hood with them.

Itinerary Details

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

Marine Park & Port Fees: 120 USD per person (to be paid on board).

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 before disembarkation.

Number of scheduled dives: Up to 19

This itinerary involves some long-distance cruising to and from Tubbataha National Marine Park and, while we endeavour to ensure the number of scheduled dives is fulfilled, bad weather and other factors can affect cruising time and 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 from Baywalk Pier at 13:00. Once on board, lunch will be served followed by a mandatory briefing from the Tubbataha Management Office and a check conducted by the Coast Guard before the boat can leave port.

There is no diving on embarkation day.

Days 2-5: Your Cruise Director will schedule up to 4 dives per day; 3 day dives and a sunset dive, typically 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 Sunset dive (no night dives)
- Dinner

In accordance with Tubbataha Marine Park regulations, dive times are limited to a maximum of 60 minutes.

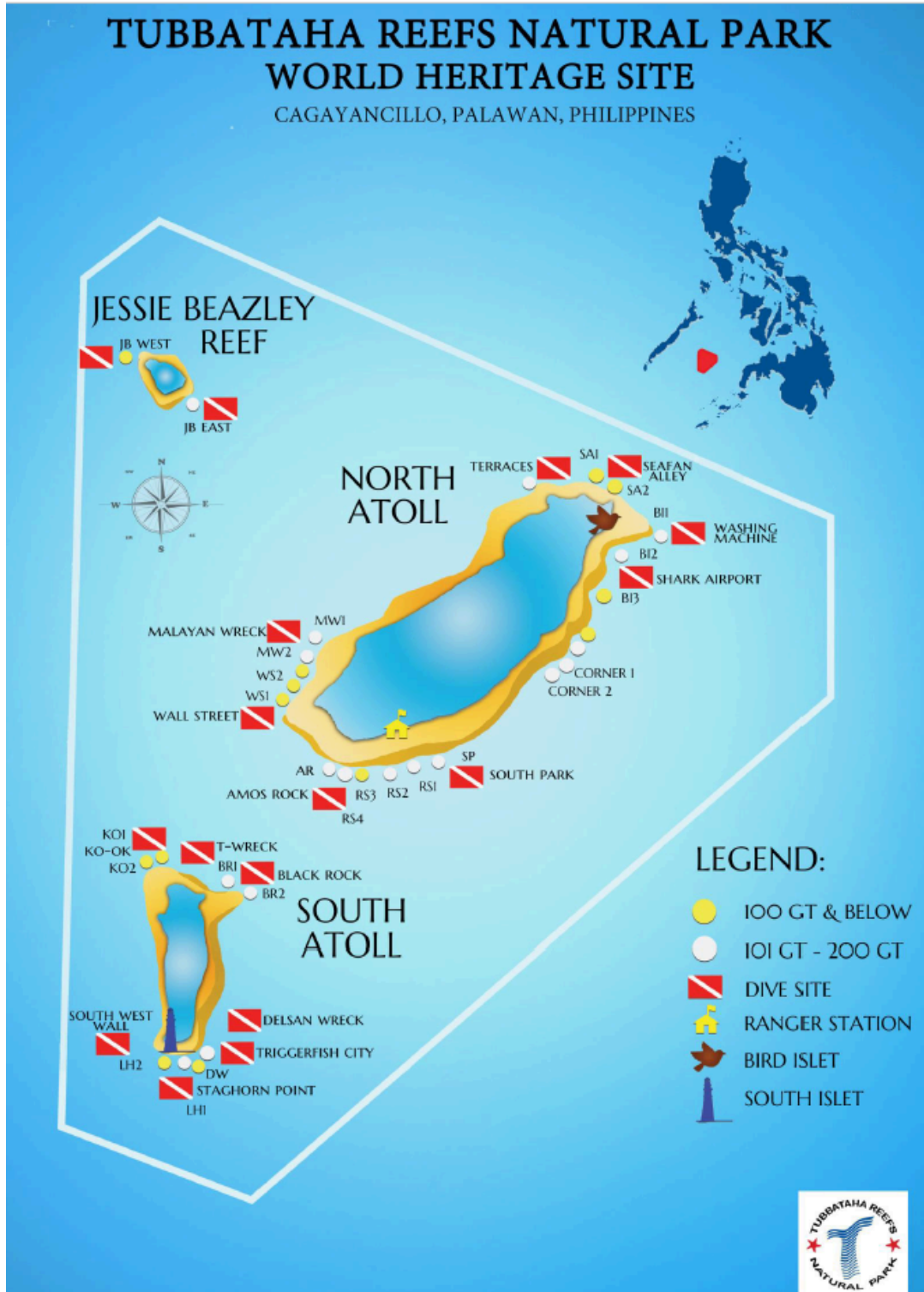
Day 6: Two morning dives* in Tubbataha National Park before Philippine Siren commences the 12-16 hour crossing back to Puerto Princesa.

Day 7: Following breakfast on board, disembarkation between 09:30 and 10:00.

*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 from Puerto Princesa.

Tubbataha Reefs Information

Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park comprises North Atoll, South Atoll and Jessie Beazley Reef and is often rated as one of the world's best diving destinations by those who have been fortunate to dive there.



Tubbataha - Ban on Single-Use Plastics

Regulations against single-use plastics in the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park have been in place since 2019. The ban applies to all diving vessel operators and visitors, with the Tubbataha Management Office (TMO) and park rangers having the authority to ensure compliance. The ban specifically refers to plastic water/ drinks bottles, plastic cutlery, plastic cups and plates, plastic straws and stirrers and styrofoam/ polystyrene food and drinks containers.

In 2023 stricter checks were implemented by the TMO to enforce this dictate with the park authorities announcing they will board vessels and impose fines if prohibited items are found.

However, as single-use plastics generally refer to any item which is intended to be used once and then thrown away or recycled, they also include packaging and wrappers, carrier bags, and a variety of other products. With this in mind, and to help the initiative to reduce plastic pollution throughout the Philippines, we respectfully ask guests joining a Tubbataha itinerary on Philippine Siren to try to avoid bringing any single-use plastic items with them

PLEASE NOTE: The following are also prohibited in Tubbataha

- Diving with gloves (unless for medical reasons)*
- Use of reef hooks, tank bangers and nudi-pointers
- Use of drones without a permit
- Dives longer than 60 minutes
- Night dives

*Guests who have medical issues and are advised to wear gloves for protection underwater must carry a physician's certificate for this purpose. There is no exception to this rule.

Further details of the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park Rules & Regulations can be downloaded here: [Tubbataha Park Rules & Regulations](#)

Dive sites consist mainly of vertical walls or near drop-offs rising out of great depths, with shallow reef tops teeming with local reef fish. The angelfish, butterfly fish, rainbow runners, Moorish idols, fusiliers, jacks, snappers and sweetlips follow you around, while stingrays, marble rays, spiny lobsters and juvenile reef sharks are also common sightings in many places. There are several species of turtle known to inhabit the waters of this gigantic natural park; the most commonly sighted being green and hawksbill.

Large trevally, tuna and barracuda as well as grey reef sharks and white tip reef sharks can be spotted patrolling the reefs on the majority of the dive sites, whilst manta and eagle rays are occasional visitors. Groupers and wrasse flourish here and sightings of hammerheads and silver-tip sharks have been amongst the large elasmobranchs spotted by guests of the Siren Fleet during our cruises.

In addition to breath-taking dives, you will have the opportunity to visit the ranger station on the North Atoll to learn more about the marine protection of the area.

Following is an overview of some of the dive sites we may visit during your time aboard Philippine Siren. The safety of our guests is paramount and we always do our best to offer diving at alternative locations within the National Park should we be unable to visit those sites listed below.

Delsan Wreck

One of the best dive sites in Tubbataha with big schools of big-eyed trevally, yellowtail barracuda, great barracuda, dogtooth tuna, giant trevally together with grey reef sharks and white tip reef sharks.

Black Rock

There is so much to explore at this dive site that we will often spend the whole day diving here. Schools of surgeonfish, rainbow runners and sweetlips are a common sight. White tip and nurse sharks are found resting under huge table corals and scribbled filefish, box fish and leaf fish add to the colour and spectacle of the stunning reefs; a great site for spotting spiny lobster too!

Washing Machine

A wide variety of colourful reef fish form schools here; from big-eye jacks to tiny orange & purple anthias, all creating a welcoming atmosphere. Spot the tiny creatures including cowries wedge themselves amidst the leather and whip corals. It is a great site for turtles, and whale sharks have also been spotted here.

North East Wall

Adorned with stunning sea fans and colourful soft corals. This wall is super for wide-angle photography. Schools of bannerfish hover in the blue, turtles bumble along the wall and from the sandy bed garden eels and gobies emerge.

Shark Airport

Many white-tip reef sharks resting at the shallow plateau are typically seen here; hence the name Shark Airport. Dog tooth tuna, schools of trevally, marble rays, eagle rays, nurse sharks and batfish all add drama to the stunning reef. Turtles and moray eels are a common sight but divers should watch out for the triggerfish.

Amos Rock

Moorish idols, sweetlips and snappers all form large schools here, also commonly seen are white-tip reef sharks, great barracuda and giant trevally. When lucky, pygmy seahorses can be found in the gorgonians.

Staghorn Point

Golden, pinnate and longfin spadefish all form schools along this fan-encrusted wall, meanwhile clouds of purple anthias hover over the fields of staghorn corals in the shallow reef top. Also, this is a good site to spy turtles, snowflake morays and spiny lobster.

Jessie Beazley Reef

Huge schools of surgeonfish and unicornfish hover over the reefs, where we commonly see numerous grey reef sharks and huge Napoleon wrasses.

Malayan Wreck

This reef is the habitat for different types of trevallies, barracudas, bumphead parrotfish and juvenile grey reef sharks with the usual suspects darting around. Marbled stingrays can sometimes hang out here.

Should you have any questions regarding the dive sites or whether this itinerary is suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team dive@masterliveboards.com.