MASTER
LIVEABOARDS

Know Before You Go - Philippines

General Destination & Trip Information

Flights and Transfers

Please check your booking details carefully for embarkation and disembarkation locations and refer to the itinerary-specific information for flight arrival and departure recommendations.

For most itineraries, transfers between the regional airport or local hotels and the liveaboard vessel on embarkation and disembarkation days are included in the liveaboard price. Transfers on other days, or outside the local area, can be arranged for an additional charge.

Advice on Flights

Some itineraries require domestic flights to or from the embarkation and/or disembarkation locations. The cost of the flights is not included in the liveaboard price.

Depending on your chosen itinerary's embarkation point, international flights may be booked into and out of Cebu or Manila.

For itineraries covering the Visayas, Leyte and Malapascua regions, Mactan-Cebu International Airport (CEB) is the most convenient option.

For itineraries that start and/or end in Puerto Princesa, Manila Ninoy Aquino International Airport (MNL) offers more domestic flight choices to/from Puerto Princesa (PPS), whereas flights between Cebu and Puerto Princesa are very limited.

We recommend you plan to arrive at least one day before your liveaboard departure date to allow for possible flight disruptions or schedule changes and to ensure you start your holiday well-rested.

If travelling onwards on the same day as disembarkation, please allow plenty of time between domestic flight arrival and international departure for transfer between terminals, check-in and immigration clearance. Depending on the airline(s) you are flying with, and whether your domestic and international flights are on separate bookings or part of the same booking, you should ***allow around 3 hours for connections.***

International Pre-Arrival registration

All travellers to the Philippines are required to use the Bureau of Immigration's eTravel portal (https://etravel.gov.ph) to register their personal and travel details.

The e-Travel system incorporates traveller health and customs declarations with arrival and departure cards to facilitate faster and more convenient airport procedures.

Paper-based arrival, departure, customs and health declaration cards are no longer available.

All Arriving Passengers need to register, free of charge, within seventy-two (72) hours up to their time of arrival in the Philippines.

To register, each traveller needs to:

1. Visit etravel.gov.ph
2. Select "Foreign passport holder" or "Philippine passport holder" according to their nationality.
3. Enter their travel details and email address.
4. Enter personal details and sign a health declaration form to complete the registration.
5. Wait for their QR code to be generated, then download and print/save a digital copy.
6. Present their QR code upon check-in before their flight departure or during the Bureau of Quarantine (BOQ) verification upon arrival.

Departing Filipinos: Philippine passport holders are also required to register their details through the eTravel system *within 72 hours of their scheduled flight departure* time.

Visa and Passports

The majority of visitors to the Philippines are allowed entry without a visa for stays of up to 30 days. However, as visa and passport regulations differ for certain nationalities, we advise our guests to check visa procedures and requirements with their nearest Philippines embassy or consulate.

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your arrival date in the Philippines. You may be asked to show your confirmed return/onward flight ticket when you arrive.

Departure Taxes

Airport Terminal Fees

Airport terminal fees vary depending on the type of flight (international or domestic) and the departure airport.

If your international departure is from Cebu Mactan Airport, you may need to pay a Terminal Fee of 850 Philippine pesos in local currency or the equivalent in US dollars (approx. 16 USD). In some cases, the terminal fee may be included in the cost of your flight ticket. Please check with your airline to know whether you will need to pay at the airport or not.

Airport Terminal Fees for Manila Airport are usually incorporated in airline ticket prices.

Philippines Travel Tax

The Travel Tax is a levy imposed by the Philippine government and managed by the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), which applies to departing Filipinos and foreign passport holders who have resided in the Philippines for more than one year. Foreign tourists are exempt from paying travel tax.

PLEASE NOTE: ***The information above is subject to change and depends on which airport and airline you are using.*** You should check with local authorities or your airline before you travel.

Travelling with Scuba Diving Equipment

The Philippines Office for Transportation Security includes scuba equipment on a list of blunt instruments that cannot be carried in hand luggage. We advise divers to pack all diving-related equipment in their check-in luggage as there have been instances of guests being prohibited from carrying their regulators in their hand luggage. For clarification, we advise contacting your airline.

Insurance

Insurance which covers scuba diving is mandatory. Under our Terms and Conditions, all guests are ***also required to carry full travel and cancellation insurance***. We cannot be held liable for delays occurring during the cruise, nor any delays or cancellations of flights, accommodations, tours and transfers that we organise on your behalf.

Your insurance must cover all of your scuba diving and snorkelling activities, including costs that may be incurred for recompression chamber treatment and emergency air evacuation. We strongly recommend purchasing diving-specific insurance to cover any diving-related eventuality.

For further details on why travel insurance is a crucial part of your holiday arrangements, take a look at our blog - 'Do You Really Need Travel Insurance?

Master Liveaboards act as a referrer for DAN World, which offers short-term diving accident cover for up to 30 days, and for DiveAssure, who offer dive and travel insurance policies, including short-term and multiple-trip policies. Dive Assure's comprehensive 'Dive & Travel Plus' plan has been specifically developed for diving liveaboard holidays and covers expenses in the event of missing your liveaboard 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 insurance webpage for details and direct links to DiveAssure and DAN World booking portals: www.masterliveaboards.com/insurance.

Diving Information

Although we are happy to welcome divers of all levels on our Philippines liveaboards, diving conditions on some itineraries are not suitable for entry-level or inexperienced divers due to exposed dive site locations and challenging conditions, including strong currents and depths. Itineraries that include Tubbataha are only suitable for experienced divers.

Minimum experience requirements

Please refer to the itinerary-specific information sheets before confirming your booking to check the recommended or mandatory certification requirements and minimum number of logged dives for the trip you would like to join.

You will need to provide copies of your certification card(s) as part of your pre-embarkation API, and you may also be asked to show them along with a record of your logged dives as proof of experience when you board.

If you are joining a Tubbataha itinerary, you will also need to submit a copy of your passport and certification card with your Tubbataha Visitor Permit application.

Any divers who do not fulfil the recommended minimum requirements for the itinerary they are joining, or who the crew feel have insufficient experience for certain conditions, may be denied participation in some or all dives during the liveaboard.

On some itineraries where Advanced Open Water certification is a requirement, it may be possible to complete the in-water elements of the course on board. However, doing so is subject to instructor availability and other considerations. Please contact our reservations team for further information.

Water Temperature and Exposure Suits

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

Diving Equipment

The use of a dive computer is compulsory for every diver. Diving equipment is available to rent for an additional charge but is subject to availability and should be pre-ordered.

A single 11 litre (80 cu ft) cylinder, weight belts and weights are provided free of charge.

A limited number of 13 litre (100 cu ft) aluminium tanks are available, at an additional cost, by special request only and must be pre-booked.

Equipment rental and Nitrox costs can be viewed under 'Extras' on the vessel pages of the Master Liveaboards website, or downloaded from the downloads page.

Please pre-book rental equipment and cylinders when confirming your liveaboard holiday, as they are subject to availability.

Diving Safety

All guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and must stay well within the limits of their dive computer, diving certification and experience at all times. We strongly urge all guests to dive conservatively, follow the advice of our dive guides when making repetitive dives throughout their liveaboard trip and make a safety stop at the end of every dive.

Fit to Dive

All divers are responsible for ensuring that they are fit to dive and are required to provide a completed medical statement before their liveaboard departure. ***Guests who are taking medication, or have any medical conditions or symptoms that could be restrictive to diving need to obtain a doctor's evaluation and clearance to dive before travelling.***

The medical statement is available in English, German, Mandarin and Spanish and can be downloaded from our website at www.masterliveaboards.com/forms.

If you are unable to complete the medical statement as directed or provide a current doctor's certificate (less than 12 months old) clearing you to dive, you accept that you will not be able to take part in scuba diving activities during the liveaboard holiday you have booked with us.

Flying after Diving

Current studies indicate you should wait at least 18 hours before flying after multiple days of repetitive diving; However, we recommend a minimum of 24 hours. Please keep this in mind when you book your onward international or domestic flights.

Recompression Chambers

In case of a diving-related accident and suspected DCI, there are numerous recompression facilities throughout the Philippines; the most accessible are located in Manila, Cebu, Puerto Princesa and Batangas.

In the unlikely event of an accident, depending on the itinerary and the liveaboard's's location at the time, private emergency air evacuation may be needed to access any of these facilities. In such an event, you will be liable for all evacuation costs.

Diving-specific insurance should be purchased before your trip departure and must cover all costs which may be incurred as a result of a diving-related incident, including emergency air evacuation, recompression chamber charges and extended hospitalisation.

You are responsible for ensuring your insurance will fully cover and reimburse all evacuation costs in addition to recompression chamber and/or hospital treatment.

Destination Information

Time Zone

Local time in the Philippines is UTC /GMT + 8 hours

Language and Religion

There are over 170 different languages and dialects spoken in the Philippines, although Tagalog (also known as Filipino) is the most widely spoken. Nearly all Filipinos working in the tourism industry speak good English, and English road and street signs are found nationwide.

Almost 90% of the population is Christian, with over 80% being Roman Catholic. The largest religious minority is Muslim, which makes up about 5% of the population.

Money Matters

The local currency is the Philippine Peso (PHP).

There are many banking & money changing facilities in Cebu and Manila, although more favourable exchange rates may apply in your home country. ATMs are easy to find in most cities and airports throughout the Philippines.

The vast majority of hotels, resorts, shops and restaurants will accept a wide range of credit and debit cards. Please note that in some cases, a service charge for credit card handling may be added to your purchase total, which can range from 3.5% – 6.0%.

Please ensure you have sufficient small denominations of Philippine Peso for departure taxes and any excess baggage charges before departing from Cebu or Manila.

Health

All guests are required to have travel and diving insurance, which covers medical treatment and expenses. It is your responsibility to ensure your insurance fully covers all of your requirements, including pre-existing conditions, medical expenses and repatriation in the event of an accident or illness, diving injuries and emergency medical evacuation.

Health standards vary throughout the Philippines, depending on location. All major towns have hospitals and doctors available; In some areas, they do not meet Western standards, but in others they exceed them. Manila and Cebu have international-class hospitals, whilst the hospitals in other parts of the country will ensure that you receive more than adequate care.

We advise all guests to ensure that routine vaccinations are up-to-date, use insect repellent and cover exposed skin to prevent insect-borne diseases. We also recommend taking sensible precautions with local food to prevent stomach upsets, and to drink either boiled or bottled water only.

Yellow Fever certificate requirements

A Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is required for travellers arriving from countries with a risk of yellow fever transmission and for those who have transited for more than 12 hours through an airport of a country with a risk of yellow fever transmission.

Please consult your doctor or nearest health authorities for up-to-date medical travel advice and vaccination recommendations well before departure.

Climate and Weather

The Philippines is a tropical country with a climate roughly divided into two seasons (‘dry’ and ‘rainy’), although temperatures are fairly even all year round. Coastal and inland temperatures range from 27°-28°C (80°-82°F) up to 33°-34°C (91°-93°F) with an average of approximately 31°C (87°F). Evenings are marginally cooler.

Dry season generally runs from November through to May but there is always the chance of light rainfall during this period. The warmest months are usually March through to May. The rainy season generally begins in early June and extends through to November.

The Tubbataha diving season is mid-March to mid-June, when seas are mostly calm and days are generally clear and sunny with temperatures reaching highs of up to 35°C (95°F), although there is the possibility of an occasional light rain shower.

General Trip Information

Advanced Passenger Information (API)

There are certain details we need for administrative purposes before guests arrive, including applications for Tubbataha Permits and Balicasag Dive Permits. All guests are obligated to provide the required information as early as possible, and *no less than one month before your cruise departure* through our secure online portal at www.masterliveaboards.com/portal.

Forms

It is a requirement for all guests to complete a medical statement, liability releases, and standard safe diving practices statement before the commencement of their liveaboard itinerary. To save some time, and to ensure you have no pre-existing conditions that could affect your diving, you can download the documents from the forms page of the Master Liveaboards website, - www.masterliveaboards.com/forms - fill them in and bring them with you. By completing and signing the forms, you verify 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 the liveaboards can be viewed on the relevant vessel's page of the Master Liveaboards website, here: www.masterliveaboards.com/boats.

Accessibility

Due to their layout, both vessels may provide challenges or be unsuitable for guests with limited mobility. Please contact us for further details if you have any concerns.

Accommodation

All guest cabins are twin or double occupancy. Single occupancy may be available on request and is subject to an 80% supplemental charge.

Cabin Facilities

All cabins have individually controllable air-conditioning and private en-suite bathrooms with centrally heated hot water. Other facilities include towels, bathrobes and a lockable safety box. For safety reasons, *hairdryers are not available in the cabins*; should you need one during your time on board, please ask the cruise director.

Food and Drink

Meals are provided on a full board basis, including a light breakfast, full breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks with unlimited drinking water, tea, coffee, fruit juices and soft drinks.

We offer a choice of International and locally inspired cuisine and can cater to special dietary requirements with advance notice. Should you have any food allergies or specific dietary needs, please advise your sales consultant before confirming your liveaboard trip to ensure we are able to make provisions for your needs.

Please note: It can be difficult to find low-fat or soya products and other food items that are common elsewhere. While we will always do our best to accommodate special dietary needs, please consider bringing some of your own food items if the lack thereof may constitute a health risk or seriously compromise your holiday enjoyment.

Local lager (beer), wine, and spirits are available on board for an additional fee.

Should you wish to bring alcohol with you, it is limited to one bottle of spirits or one bottle of wine per person only. Guests are not allowed to bring beer on board.

Clothing and Footwear

Dress on board is very casual and most guests feel comfortable in little more than swimwear, shorts and t-shirts. A sweater is advised for cooler nights, particularly after multiple dives. Both vessels are equipped with laundry facilities and the onboard housekeeper is more than happy to launder your clothes during the trip for a small charge.

We request that guests respect the wishes of others by donning clothing for meal times. Most guests prefer to walk barefoot on board our vessel; however, island visits may require sturdy sandals or cross-trainers.

Electricity

220V and 110V European-style, 2-round-pin sockets and Universal sockets are available on board. Nevertheless, we advise bringing voltage and plug adapters with you to ensure you have the correct type to charge your equipment.

Staying Connected

For guests who wish to stay connected for the entire duration of their time on board, Wi-Fi internet access is available for a charge of 30 USD for 6 and 7-night itineraries or 40 USD for 10 and 13 night trips.

Guests with international roaming on their phones, or a local SIM, will be able to use them periodically throughout most itineraries. Local SIM cards and data packages can be purchased at Manila and Cebu Airports or various shopping outlets.

Mobile phone service providers in the Philippines are required by law to register subscriber details before a SIM card can be activated. If you wish to purchase a local SIM card before embarkation, you will need to provide your full name, passport details and Philippines contact address to fill in the provider's SIM registration form.

Mobile network connectivity can be sporadic or very weak and, in some areas, there may be no network coverage. Signal strength varies throughout each cruise, but is typically strongest when close to major islands. On Tubbataha itineraries, mobile phone service is only available while the boat is close to Puerto Princesa.

Underwater Photography and Videography

Our liveaboard vessels are equipped with dedicated features for underwater photographers and videographers, which include:

- Indoor workstations for the preparation and maintenance of cameras
- Individual storage drawers for cameras and peripheral items
- Large rinsing tanks with fresh water; changed frequently

Our crews are well trained in handling delicate camera equipment and will bring your cameras to/from the tenders for you.

Please note that **drones are not permitted in the Tubbataha Marine Park unless a permit has been obtained** at least 2 weeks in advance.

Smoking

Smoking and vaping on board are permitted in designated outdoor areas only.

Fishing

Guests are not permitted to fish on any Master Liveaboards vessel.

Environmental considerations

Although there are recycling programs and facilities in the Philippines, they are very limited and are only able to process a small amount of recyclable plastic materials. We therefore ask our guests to consider the following to help with our mission to reduce our environmental impact.

Batteries

If your equipment requires a unique battery size or will need a lot of replacement batteries during your trip, please bring them with you. We kindly request that you take spent batteries home so that 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

As we do not provide single-use plastic bottles for guests to use, 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 purchase one, we have plenty of reusable cups on board which 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 reusable canvas bags are available for sale. Please help our mission to reduce plastic waste by removing plastic wrappers and packaging from items before travelling.

All Single-Use Plastics are banned in Tubbataha under regulations set out by the Tubbataha Management Office; fines will be imposed on any traveller or operator found breaking these rules.

Toiletries

We kindly ask that guests consider the type of products they bring with them and, where possible, to bring environmentally friendly toiletries and sunscreen for use on board, and to take partially or unused products home with them. ***Reef-safe sunscreen is available to purchase on board.***

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

Underwater

- Nudi Pointers, Reef Hooks and tank bangers are prohibited in Tubbataha and also not allowed at some locations around the Visayas and Malapascua regions.
- Diving with gloves is forbidden in Tubbataha and is discouraged or not allowed in other areas.
- Strobe and flashlight use is NOT allowed when diving at locations where thresher sharks or whale sharks are present.

Payments on Board

Marine and Port Fees

Marine, park and port fees will be added to your invoice to be paid on board before disembarkation; please refer to your itinerary details for further information.

Optional Extras

In addition to equipment rental, we offer a range of services and optional extras to make your stay on board even more enjoyable.

All prices on board are quoted in USD, although we are also happy to accept cash payment in PHP, GBP, EUR and AUD (the exchange rate from USD on board will be based on local bank rates at that time). We can also accept payment by credit card (Mastercard or Visa) for which there is a 3.5% surcharge.

Equipment rental, nitrox and other extras that can be paid for in advance do not incur additional charges, except for any that might be imposed by your bank or card issuer.

Guests are advised to bring 250-400 USD cash with them in addition to marine, park & port fees to cover gratuities and any incidental costs, in case of credit card payment issues.

Tipping

We believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that our crew has made your holiday extra special, they would certainly appreciate a tip as a sign of your appreciation.

Please note that ***we are only able to accept tips in cash***; for this purpose, an envelope will be provided by the cruise director at the end of your time on board. He/ she will ensure the tips are divided equally amongst all crew members, including the captain and dive guides.

Safety on Board

Emergency Management & Equipment

All Master Liveaboards crew are extensively trained in emergency management procedures. A thorough boat safety briefing will be provided by your cruise director at the start of your trip, during which all guests will be requested to participate in a life jacket drill. Further practice scenarios may be performed during your cruise to assist our crew in keeping their skills sharp.

Our vessels are equipped with many modern safety features, including automated life rafts, EPIRB, satellite communication and emergency pumps.

First Aid

Both boats 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. Each vessel also has an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), which has been proven to greatly increase the survival rate in the eventuality of cardiac fibrillation. sThere is also a full complement of medical-grade oxygen on board, which can be administered to divers through DAN kits or unit-specific attachments.

Our dive teams are all qualified emergency responders. Should you feel unwell at any point during your cruise, please seek the advice of your cruise director.

CCTV on board

As part of our commitment to the safety and security of our guests and crew members, all Master Liveaboards vessels are equipped with CCTV cameras, which are located in the following areas:

- Engine room
- Dive platform
- Dive deck
- Sun deck
- Lower deck corridors
- Galley (kitchen)
- Communal indoor area(s), i.e. salon, camera prep area

We wish to assure all guests that the placement of all CCTV cameras is for the safety of all on board and that they are not set up or intended to invade privacy in any way.

Extending your holiday

Travelling within the Philippines can be made exceptionally easy when you book with Master Liveaboards. We can offer a range of domestic flights, hotels, transfers and short excursions for before or after your trip.

The following are just some of the packages that we can arrange for you.

Optional Puerto Princesa / Cebu Extensions

To extend your Master Liveaboards holiday experience and ensure you are fully relaxed, we can arrange the following supplemental package for you:

- 1 night pre-cruise hotel accommodation.
- Domestic flights (if required for your itinerary)
- 1 night post-cruise hotel accommodation.
- All domestic transfers

We are happy to assist with your holiday extension, either in Cebu, Palawan, or elsewhere in the Philippines. Just let our Reservations Department know of your wishes, and we can tailor packages to suit your needs.

An overview of suggested hotels in the Philippines can be found on the Hotels page of the Master Liveaboards website: [Hotel extensions in Philippines | Master Liveaboards]

The following are just some of the tour options to choose from when you book a Philippine Siren liveaboard with Master Liveaboards.

Cebu Twin City Discovery Tour

Trace history through the landmarks of Cebu and Mactan – the most historical islands in the Philippines. Mactan Island lies a few kilometres southeast of the Cebu mainland and is divided into the municipality of Cordova and Lapu-Lapu City. Highlights include the Lapu-Lapu Monument, Fort San Pedro, Magellan's Cross, Basilica Minore Del Santo Niño and the Taoist Temple.

Bohol & the Chocolate Hills

Explore the island of Bohol on a full-day tour from Cebu incorporating the Historic “Blood Compact” site and the Tarsier Sanctuary in Corella as well as a cruise on the Loboc River and a visit to the geological wonder of the Chocolate Hills.

Mantayupan Falls & Moalboal

Combine two of Cebu Island's natural highlights on this full-day tour. Visit the 98-metre-high Mantayupan Falls, the island's tallest waterfall, where two-tier cascades tumble through lush jungle into a freshwater basin that you can swim or raft in. A short suspension bridge and stone path link the lower falls to the main attraction, providing stunning views of the ravine. Continue south to Moalboal's Panagsama Beach, famous for its sardine run, resident turtles at Turtle Point, and a short boat ride to Pescador Island.

Puerto Princesa City Tour

Discover the culture and conservation efforts of Puerto Princesa, the gateway to Palawan and one of the Philippines' most environmentally conscious cities. At the heart of the city, Rizal Avenue is the main commercial centre and location of several historical buildings. Tour highlights include the Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Centre, a pineapple fibre weaving demonstration and Iwahig Penal Colony, known as the 'prison without walls'.

Puerto Princesa Underground River Tour

This full-day excursion takes you to the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, which is a protected area located some 80 kilometres (50 miles) north of Puerto Princesa City. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999 and selected in the group of UN New Seven Wonders of Nature, the stunning landscape and biodiversity make this a truly memorable way to spend a day.

El Nido / Bacuit Bay, Palawan

Located at the northern end of Palawan Island, El Nido and the surrounding islands are one of the most beautiful parts of Asia, where sheer karst rock formations drop down into the deep blue surrounding waters and an abundance of marine life. There are many possibilities for experiencing the beauty of Bacuit Bay, which can be tailored to fit your preferences. Adventurous nature lovers may choose to spend several days kayaking and snorkelling around the islands with nights spent camping on a beach.

Alternatively, several 'Island Hopping' day trips can be arranged for those short of time, or who would prefer to stay in a resort in El Nido.

Further details of these tours can be found on the Tours page of the Master Liveaboards website: Tour extensions in Philippines | Master Liveaboards

FAQs

If you have any questions that have not been answered here, please visit the Philippines FAQs on our website www.masterliveaboards.com/faq/ or email us at dive@masterliveaboards.com

Contact Information

Master Liveaboards - Thailand Office

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

Open Monday - Friday 08:30 - 18:30 and Saturday 09:00 - 17:00 ICT (UTC+7)

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Philippines Office

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Marina Seaview
F. Martir Street., Brgy. Ibo, MEPZ 1
Mactan Cebu, Philippines
Tel: + 63 32 413 3776 (Office hours only)

Philippines Emergency Numbers:

Tel: +63 917 724 2430 (Destination Manager - Jan)
Tel: + 63 917 631 3211 (Boat)

Master Liveaboards 24-hour emergency number:

Please only use the 24-hour emergency if you are unable to get a response from the numbers above.

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 items you are bringing with you.

The following is a checklist of essential items that you should ensure you bring with you for your liveaboard trip. 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 2 empty pages for visa stickers and stamps

- [ ] **Travel Documents**
Flight tickets - International & Domestic; hotel booking; excursions

- [ ] **Cash & Credit Card for emergencies**
Recommended amount (additional to park & port fees): 250 - 500 USD

- [ ] **Diving Certification & Logbook**
Including Nitrox Card if certified & 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 sunscreen (reef-safe, please) & insect repellent
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.