MASTER
LIVEABOARDS

Five Corals & Seven Sisters - Red Sea, Saudi Arabia

7 nights itinerary

- **Arrival airport:** King Abdulaziz International Airport, Jeddah (JED)
- **Departure airport:** King Abdulaziz International Airport, Jeddah (JED))

- **Embarkation:** Yanbu Aljar Bay Marina at 18:00
- **Disembarkation:** KAEC Al Baylasun Marina at 09:00

OR

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Flights

Book flights to and from King Abdulaziz International Airport, Jeddah (JED), which is served by many direct or connecting flights from the UK, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

Transfers

The liveaboard price includes a scheduled, shared transfer between Jeddah International Airport and the marina on embarkation and disembarkation days only. Our guests are met in the arrivals hall by a local representative and escorted to an air-conditioned bus for the transfer.

- Pick up from Jeddah Airport is **at 15:00 or 22:00 only** on embarkation day
- Return transfer to Jeddah Airport is upon disembarkation at 09:00

Transfers from or to hotels, or at other times can be arranged for an additional charge.

- Transfer between Jeddah Airport and KAEC is about 1 hour.
- Transfer between Jeddah Airport and Yanbu takes approximately 3.5 hours.

Journey times are approximate and depend on traffic and local conditions.

Marine Park & Port Fees:

Marine park and port fees are included in the liveaboard price.

Minimum dive certification and experience:

The mandatory minimum requirement for divers joining this itinerary is PADI **Advanced Open Water Diver certification**, or equivalent, with **at least 40 logged dives**. Deep Diver (40 metres) and nitrox certification are strongly recommended.

Guests who do not fulfil these minimum requirements, or who the crew feel have insufficient experience in certain conditions, may be denied participation in some or all dives.

All divers must have insurance which covers scuba diving activities, including emergency evacuation and recompression chamber costs.

Itinerary details

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

Number of scheduled dives: Up to 17

While we endeavour to ensure the number of scheduled dives is fulfilled, this is only indicative and not guaranteed.

Safety and dive briefings are conducted in English. If you or any of your group do not speak or fully understand English, please let us know in advance.

The following is an example of the day-to-day itinerary.

Day 1: Embarkation at 18:00 followed by dinner and orientation briefings.

Day 2-6: Up to 3 dives each day, scheduled as follows.

- Wake-up call followed by breakfast
- Briefing and Dive 1
- Lunch and relaxation period
- Briefing and Dive 2
- Snacks and relaxation period
- Briefing and Dive 3
- Dinner

The exact itinerary and number of dives each day may vary depending on sea conditions and logistics.

Day 7: Two morning* dives before we return to port in the early afternoon, where Saudi Master will remain at anchor overnight.

Day 8: Breakfast on board followed by disembarkation at 09:00 and transfer to the airport or your hotel.

**We kindly request that guests check their flight departure times to ensure they leave at least 18 hours (ideally 24 hours) between their final dive and their flight home.*

Disclaimer: The following information is only a general indication of the main areas covered on this itinerary and some of the sites that we normally visit. The inclusion of specifically named dive sites is not guaranteed and is at the Cruise Director's and Captain's discretion. Additionally, **there may be dives at locations along the itinerary route** that are not listed below.

The safety of all on board is paramount, and we always do our best to offer diving at alternative locations should we be unable to visit those listed below.

Seven Sisters

The Seven Sisters are a chain of reefs roughly 20 km (12 mi) offshore from Yanbu. Their walls are covered in hard coral and gorgonians, and their plateaus run out into the blue, where hammerheads, silvertips and silky sharks are regularly seen.

Marker 11 South: located north of Yanbu, the southern wall of this circular reef drops to a narrow sandy channel at 25 m (82 ft), with a small plateau beyond it before the reef falls away vertically. The wall is covered in gorgonian fans up to 5 m (16 ft) across, many with soft coral amongst them and hawkfish in the branches. Grey reef sharks are regularly seen off the point when there is current, occasionally with a lone hammerhead. Near the wall there are mushroom-shaped coral towers, and a small rock covered in soft coral where butterflyfish gather.

Abu Galawa South: the longest reef in the Seven Sisters, running along the southern end of Abu Galawa atoll. A broad plateau from 12 m to 40 m (39 ft to 131 ft) is covered in coral heads and white sand channels, with a large mound of purple soft coral at 25 m (82 ft) sheltering glassfish and lionfish. The walls have large soft corals and gorgonian fans, and grey reef sharks, silky sharks, trevally and hammerheads are seen in the blue.

Marker 32: a soft coral reef where tiger sharks, yellowfin tuna, whitetip reef sharks and grey reef sharks have all been seen.

Marker 39: hard and soft corals of every colour, with schools of pickhandle barracuda, red snapper and very large squirrelfish.

Mansi (Marker 42): a solitary, circular reef rising from deep water, where hammerheads are regularly seen a short swim off the wall. Below 30 m (98 ft), the walls are covered in gorgonians, black coral and large soft corals; schools of red and black snapper move between the reef top, and dogtooth and bigeye tuna, trevally and barracuda pass in the blue. Higher up, the wall is cut with cracks and small gullies where light filters in and small reef life hides.

Sha'ab Suflani (Marker 44): a narrow reef about 4 km (2.5 mi) long, with walls that drop far beyond recreational depths and a large cave complex along the wall.

Five Corals

The Five Corals are five isolated reefs north-west of King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC), with dense reef life, soft coral and some of the healthiest gorgonians on the coast.

Joey Reef: the southern outer wall of the largest reef in the Five Corals. A narrow coral belt at 12–18 m (39–59 ft) sits above a plateau at 25 m (82 ft) with pinnacles, anemones and clownfish. Along the wall, there's a forest of healthy gorgonians and whip corals at 35 m (115 ft). Tuna and amberjack pass along the drop-off, and hammerheads are seen in the blue, sometimes with silvertip sharks, jacks, barracuda and manta rays.

Maria Reef: a small, narrow reef with four large towers covered in soft coral at its southern end. A narrow channel between one tower and the wall is lined with anemones and clownfish, and a coral mushroom at 20 m (66 ft) has a cave full of glassfish. Schools of

tuna, jacks and barracuda stay over the ridge for most of the dive, and soldierfish, sweetlips and black snapper shelter in cracks and small caves along the west wall.

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