MASTER
LIVEABOARDS

Southern Explorer, Thailand (The Junk and The Phinisi)

3 Days / 2 Nights Itinerary

- **Embarkation Point:** Chalong Pier, Phuket at 08:30
- **Disembarkation Point:** Chalong Pier, Phuket at 16:00

Transfers between hotels in Patong, Karon, Kata, Rawai & Chalong and the vessel on embarkation and disembarkation day are included in the liveaboard price.

Transfers from and to hotels and resorts outside of the local area, as well as to/from the airport can be arranged for an additional charge.

Marine Park & Port Fees: 35 USD per person (to be paid on board)

Minimum dive certification and experience:

Diving conditions in and around the Andaman Sea are generally suitable for all levels of divers, although some of the dives offered may be challenging for novice or inexperienced divers.

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

*Advanced Open Water Course can usually be completed on board (pre-booking required).

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

Number of scheduled dives: Up to 10

This itinerary involves some long distance travel and, whilst we attempt to ensure the number of planned dives is fulfilled, bad weather and sea conditions 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 08:30 followed by a cruise to the first dive site of a 3 dive day

Day 2: Your Cruise Director will schedule up to 4 dives; 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 3: after dive 3, the vessel commences her cruise to port. Disembarkation is scheduled for around 16:00.

*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.

While we wish to show you the very best diving possible, the safety of all on board remains paramount. In the unlikely event we are unable to reach a specified dive site, we always do our best to offer diving at alternative locations.

Following is a description of the dive sites that we may visit during your liveaboard.

The Racha Islands

Racha Yai

This trip in general is an excellent trip for beginners and those that have not dived for a while. Indeed for any guests aboard carrying out Advanced Open Water courses, Racha Yai offers the perfect opportunity for course dives, with sloping hard coral reefs, white sandy bottoms and a choice of wrecks on the west coast.

Racha Noi

This island has some of the best visibility of all sites in the area. Often described as a 'mini Similans' the granite boulder topography is also unique compared to other sites in the area. It offers a choice of hard coral reefs, boulders with large swim throughs and the beautiful pinnacle on the south point of this island. Strong currents can make the southern sites challenging, however, with a year round chance to see manta rays, it is worth the effort to dive here.

Koh Phi Phi

Lying in Phang-Nga bay about 45 km east of Phuket and 30 km southwest of Krabi, two breathtaking limestone islands make up the greater part of Moo Koh Phi Phi; the largest island of Phi Phi Don being a few kilometres north of Phi Phi Lae. Limestone cliffs rise vertically into the sky, where the trees take over. There are many beaches, coves, and bays which make for dramatic scenery to enjoy during surface intervals.

There are many, many dive sites around the Phi Phi island group, many consisting of wall dives, the limestone dropping to depth ranges between 10m and 25m. The walls can have gorgonian fans, soft corals and coral bushes and interesting rock formations and swim throughs. At the base of these walls there are often hard coral gardens to explore. You can expect a great amount of fish life, including lionfish, wrasse, moorish idols, angelfish, rays, trevallies. Also keep an eye out for leopard sharks sleeping on the sandy bottoms or blacktip reef sharks cruising the reefs. Turtles can also quite commonly be seen here. Lastly, check the fans and bushes for tigertail seahorses and harlequin ghost pipefish.

King Cruiser

The King Cruiser was a car ferry that used to travel between Phi Phi and Phuket until, in 1997, 'The Cruiser' hit Anemone Reef on her crossing and sank a short distance away. No lives were lost, but divers were left with a great wreck dive! Although now largely broken up, she is covered with soft corals and hides some wonderful gems, as well as being home to several large schools of snapper. While currents can be strong and visibility sometimes challenging, this is a great site to dive as part of an Advanced Open Water Course.

Shark Point and Anemone Reef

These pinnacles are part of the same reef system and are only a very short distance apart from each other. Both sites are covered with colourful soft corals and anemones with a variety of fish to suit all divers. From barracuda to seahorses and for the lucky ones of course, the iconic leopard shark!

Should you have any questions or queries concerning the dive sites or whether this itinerary is suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team dive@masterliveaboards.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.