

# Truk Lagoon, Federated States of Micronesia

## Trip Information

- **Arrival airport:** Chuuk International Airport (TKK), Weno Island
- **Departure airport:** Chuuk International Airport (TKK), Weno Island

### Flights and Transfers

For your convenience, a transfer will be provided free of charge between Chuuk Airport or hotel in Weno and the liveboard vessel on the day of embarkation and disembarkation.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to flight constraints some Truk Lagoon itineraries operate back-to-back on the same day. In these instances, after a light breakfast onboard, departing guests will be transferred to a local resort where they can wait in comfort for their outgoing flight.

Incoming guests arriving in the morning on embarkation day will also be transferred to a local resort where they can enjoy a light lunch and some time to relax or visit the local museum before embarkation.

If you are unsure how these constraints may affect your trip, please contact our reservations team: [dive@masterliveboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveboards.com) or your preferred agent.

### Advice on International Flights

Flights routes to Chuuk (TKK):

- From Manila, Hong Kong, Tokyo or Incheon (South Korea) via Guam on United Airlines
- From Honolulu, Hawaii via the Marshall Islands with United Airlines (Island Hopper)
- From Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Singapore, Brisbane, Cairns, Incheon (South Korea), Hong Kong or Tokyo, via Port Moresby (POM) Papua New Guinea

**Transit via Guam or Hawaii:** If you opt to fly to or from Chuuk via Guam or Hawaii, you may need to apply for an ESTA under the Visa Waiver Program, or acquire a US visa to transit via Guam or Hawaii.

## Visas and Passports

Passport holders of most Western countries may obtain a visa on arrival which allows stays up to 30 days. Travellers from the United States may obtain a tourist visa to stay for up to 1 year.

For further information about visas and other entry requirements, please visit the Federated States of Micronesia website at: <http://www.visit-micronesia.fm/guide/regulation.html>

Passports must have at least 4 months of validity upon arrival into Chuuk. However, transit through Guam and the US requires a minimum passport validity of 6 months.

You are also required to show a confirmed ticket to leave Chuuk or any country you are transiting through, before boarding your inbound flight.

## ESTA

Non-US citizens need a US Visa or Electronic System of Travel Authorization (ESTA) to travel via Guam or the United States and Hawaii, which must be obtained before travel. Guests without a US visa or ESTA may be denied boarding of their flight.

Citizens of 37 countries, including most European nations, Australia, New Zealand and Japan are eligible for an ESTA under the visa waiver program and should apply online at least 72 hours before travel. Please refer to the US Department of Homeland Security's ESTA information page for further details and application: [esta.cbp.dhs.gov/](http://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/)

## Airport Departure Tax

Passengers travelling within the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) are required to pay an airport departure tax; for Chuuk, this is currently 30 US\$.

## Insurance

Insurance which covers scuba diving is mandatory. Your insurance must cover all of your intended scuba diving activities, including maximum dive depths and the costs for recompression chamber treatment and emergency air evacuation. We therefore strongly recommend purchasing diving-specific insurance to cover any diving-related eventuality.

All guests are also required to carry full travel and cancellation insurance, as outlined in our [Terms and Conditions](#). We cannot be held liable for delays occurring during the cruise, nor any delays or cancellations of flights, accommodations or tours and transfers that we organise on your behalf.

Master Liveaboards act as a referrer for DiveAssure who offer dive and travel insurance policies, including short-term and multiple-trip policies. Their 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 webpage for details and a direct link to DiveAssure's booking portal: [www.masterliveaboards.com/insurance](http://www.masterliveaboards.com/insurance).

## Diving Information

The majority of shipwrecks within Truk Lagoon are deemed suitable for recreational divers and offer varying depths for multi-level profiles. However some lie beyond, or have interesting features deeper than the recognised no-decompression recreational diving depth limit of 40m (130ft). As such they may not be suitable for divers who do not have deep diver or technical diving qualifications.

### Technical diving on Pacific Master is defined as:

- A dive to a depth greater than 40m;
- A dive with planned decompression stops;
- A dive with accelerated decompression (more than one Nitrox mix or greater than 40% Nitrox);
- A dive with variable gas mixtures (includes rebreathers);
- A dive within an overhead environment beyond 40 linear metres of the surface.

Our Cruise Director and dive guides will offer guided dives, with simple wreck penetration, within the bounds of their own training and experience. Guests who prefer to explore the wrecks unguided may do so, if they have the relevant experience, as long as they dive in a buddy team.

All guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and for obtaining suitable dive insurance to cover deeper dives. **Technical divers** are required to submit their dive plan to the cruise director before each dive.

### Guests' Level of Diving

**Recreational divers** wishing to participate in scuba diving in Truk Lagoon are required to have **PADI Advanced Open Water** certification, **or equivalent**, with a **minimum of 50 logged dives**. Deep Diver Speciality (40 metres) is also recommended due to the depths of some of the wrecks' features.

**Technical and rebreather divers** are required to have the relevant certification and experience for the depths and type of diving which they intend to do.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Regardless of qualifications and experience, ***Solo diving is NOT permitted.***

All guests need to provide copies of their certification card(s) as part of their pre-embarkation [API](#) and may be asked to show them, and a record of their logged dives upon embarkation as proof that they meet the required dive qualifications and experience.

*Any guests who do not meet the minimum certification and experience requirements, or who the crew feel have insufficient experience in certain conditions, may be denied participation in some or all dives.*

**We are unable to offer any diving certification courses in Truk Lagoon.**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the diving conditions and experience requirements please contact our reservations team directly.

## Deco / Tec Diving Facilities

For our guests' convenience, there is a "Deco Bar" installed under the dive platform and deco stage tanks are available to rent.

## Rebreather Diving

Pacific Master is equipped to support rebreather divers with booster pumps installed to ensure CCR cylinders can be filled to 135 bar/ 2000 psi and we can facilitate the supply of CO<sup>2</sup> absorbent (Molecular Products 797 Sofnolime).

The scrubber is available in 20kg tubs only and is charged per tub. No credit or reimbursement will be offered for unused quantities.

Sofnolime **MUST** be requested in advance to ensure we have sufficient supplies available but needs to be paid for on board.

Please let us know your requirements by completing the Pacific Master Tech **Form** which can be found [here](#).

## Oxygen

The oxygen on board comes from an Oxygen Generator, which does not produce 100% pure oxygen, but up to 93% purity, +/- 3%.

## Helium

**Helium is only available for CCR divers.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Oxygen and Helium must be requested in advance but paid for on board, and are charged per litre, per fill. We do not bank non-standard gases so all gases supplied will be charged for in full, even if they are not fully used.

Due to the logistics of obtaining and storing helium, **we are unable to accommodate Trimix requests for Open Circuit divers.**

Gas prices and equipment and cylinder rental costs can be viewed under 'Extras' on the Pacific Master page of our website: [www.masterliveboards.com/boats/pacific-master/](http://www.masterliveboards.com/boats/pacific-master/)

## Diving Equipment

1 x Single 80 cu ft (11.1L) aluminium scuba cylinder, surface marker buoy, weights and weight belts are included in the liveboard price.

We can provide standard and technical diving equipment to rent, at extra cost, which can be paid for in advance, or on board. However, equipment quantities are limited and subject to availability so we advise bringing your own, especially if you will be technical diving.

Additional charges also apply for rebreather scrubber, Oxygen and Helium which are payable on board only, based on the quantity used. Pre-booking of any rebreather diluent is essential to ensure we have sufficient quantities on board.

**Cylinders, gases, CO<sup>2</sup> scrubber and any other technical diving equipment are subject to availability and must be pre-booked.**

Please inform us of your rebreather or technical equipment and gas requirements at the time of confirming your liveboard booking by completing the [Technical Diving Form](#).

### **Fit to Dive**

All divers are responsible for ensuring that they are fit to dive, and are required to complete a medical statement to that effect. Guests who are taking medication or have any symptoms or medical conditions that could be restrictive to diving need to obtain a doctor's note clearing them to dive, before travelling and to bring it with them.

The medical statement can be downloaded from the forms page of the Master Liveboards website: [www.masterliveboards.com/forms](http://www.masterliveboards.com/forms) - Appendix B: Medical statement

If you are unable to complete the statement as directed, or can not provide a current doctor's certificate (less than 1 year old) clearing you to dive, you accept that you may not be able to take part in certain aspects of the holiday you have booked with us.

### **Diving Safety**

**Use of a dive computer and SMB are compulsory.**

All guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and must stay within the limits of their training, follow dive computer guidelines, and make safety stops. They must also follow any instructions given by the dive crew aboard the vessel.

As per our [Terms & Conditions](#), dive insurance and travel insurance are mandatory.

### **Flying after Diving**

Current studies indicate that you should wait at least 24 hours after multiple days of repetitive diving before flying. Please keep this in mind when you book your onward flights.

### **Diving Emergencies**

Truk Lagoon is a fairly remote diving destination and there are very few hospitals that are equipped to deal with a diving emergency. There are limited recompression facilities on the Chuuk Islands which are not always manned or operational. Therefore, it may be necessary to be transferred to Guam or Australia by private emergency air evacuation to obtain treatment.

With this in mind, it is mandatory for guests to have appropriate diving-specific insurance which covers air evacuation and recompression chamber costs, as well as the depths that you plan to dive to.

## General Information

### Advanced Passenger Information (API)

There are certain details that we require all guests to provide before they travel. The information is needed mainly for our administrative purposes (or by airlines) and can be submitted by each guest via our secure online portal at [www.masterliveboards.com/portal](http://www.masterliveboards.com/portal).

### Standard Forms

As previously stated under '[Fit to Dive](#)', It is a requirement for all divers to complete a medical statement. Guests are also required to complete liability releases and the standard safe practice statement before the commencement of their liveaboard itinerary. The forms can be found on our website at [www.masterliveboards.com/forms](http://www.masterliveboards.com/forms).

To save some time, and to ensure that you have no pre-existing conditions which could affect your diving, you can download the forms from the above link, fill them in, and bring them with you. By completing and signing the forms, you are confirming that you have read, understood, and agree to the conditions outlined in the forms.

### Additional Technical Diving Forms

In addition to the standard liability release, safe diving practices and medical forms, guests who will be doing technical dives, or using a rebreather, are required to complete the **Technical diving liability Release** which can also be downloaded from the forms page of our website: [www.masterliveboards.com/forms](http://www.masterliveboards.com/forms).

If you are unable to complete any of 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.

### Time Zone

Local time across the Federated States of Micronesia is 10 hours ahead of UTC/GMT.

### Money Matters

The local currency in Chuuk is the US Dollar (US\$). The majority of established hotels, shops and restaurants accept major credit cards although smaller establishments are likely to only accept cash payments. There is only 1 ATM in Weno, which often isn't working. Additionally, there are no currency exchange facilities in Chuuk. Guests are therefore advised to exchange money before arrival and to ensure they have small US \$ denominations on hand.

### Health

Health care is readily available in the FSM and a major hospital is located within each of the states. The Chuuk State Government Hospital is adequate to take care of normal, routine medical needs and there is a private clinic that includes a pharmacy. However, medicinal supplies are limited in Chuuk, so it is recommended that guests bring an emergency medical kit with them.

All guests are advised to ensure that their routine vaccinations are up to date, use insect repellent, and cover exposed skin to prevent any insect-borne diseases.

Additionally, to prevent stomach ailments, travellers should follow normal precautions with food, and drink bottled water only.

Guests travelling with medication should bring a copy of their physician's prescription with them.

### **Cholera and Yellow Fever vaccination certificate requirements**

Visitors arriving from countries which are affected by Cholera or Yellow Fever must show proof of immunisation upon arrival.

We advise that you check with your doctor or travel health clinic for the latest advice and vaccination requirements well in advance of travelling.

### **Language and Religion**

The official language in Chuuk is English while the national language is Chuukese, along with a variety of local dialects and Micronesian languages. Virtually all Chuukese have Christian beliefs and traditional clan culture is still at the forefront of family life.

Safety and dive briefings on board will be provided in English. If you do not speak and fully understand English please let us know before arrival.

### **Climate and Weather**

As part of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Chuuk is a tropical country with a climate that is fairly even all year round; the average high is 30°C (86°F) whilst the average low is 25°C (77°F). Rain can be expected at any time although the lowest rainfall is from January to March with trade winds coming mainly from the northeast between December and June.

### **Water Temperature and Exposure Suits**

Water temperatures are generally between 28°-30°C (82°-86°F) all year round. Most guests will find a 3mm wetsuit provides sufficient warmth although Tec divers are advised to bring appropriate exposure protection for extended bottom times and prolonged deco-stops. A full-length exposure suit is strongly recommended to avoid injury when diving on the wrecks.

### **Environmental considerations**

Waste disposal in the State of Chuuk is a constant challenge, with traditional disposal methods being neither ideal nor environmentally acceptable. Although the Government of Chuuk has a Solid Waste Management Strategy in place, the current challenges, which include a lack of recycling facilities, remain until the project is complete. We therefore kindly ask our guests to consider the following to help with our mission to reduce our environmental impact.

## Batteries

If your personal dive equipment requires a unique size or will need a lot of replacement batteries during your trip, please bring extras with you and take the spent ones home to 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

We are dedicated to becoming single-use plastic-free and have already gone a long way towards achieving that goal. Plastic straws and stirrers have already been banned and we have removed single-use plastic bottles from all of our vessels. If you own a sports bottle, we simply ask that you bring it with you, or you can purchase a Master Liveboards one on board. Alternatively, there are plenty of cups available for you to 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 us minimise plastic waste by removing plastic wrappers and packaging from items before travelling. If you bring plastic bags with you, please reuse them, and take them home.

## Toiletries

We kindly ask that guests consider the type of products which they are bringing with them and, where possible, to bring only environmentally friendly toiletries for use on board, and to take partially or unused products home with them.

## Life on Board

The main features of the vessel can be seen on the following page of the Master Liveboards website: [www.masterliveboards.com/boats/](http://www.masterliveboards.com/boats/).

## Accessibility

Due to the layout of the boat, the vessel is not suitable for wheelchairs and may provide challenges, or be unsuitable for guests with limited mobility. Please contact us for further details if you have any concerns.

## Accommodation

Unless otherwise stated, accommodation on board is based on standard occupancy of each specific cabin type. Single occupancy of double/twin cabins may be available on request and is subject to a supplemental charge.

## Cabin Facilities

All cabins are air-conditioned; Towels and shower gel are provided free of charge to all guests.



## Clothing and Footwear

Dress on board is very casual and most guests feel comfortable in little more than swimwear, shorts and t-shirts. However, we kindly request guests respect the wishes of others by wearing appropriate clothing for meal times. Most guests prefer bare feet on board the vessels although any land visits are likely to require sturdy sandals or cross-trainers.

A sweater is advised for cooler nights, particularly after extended dive times. Pacific Master is equipped with laundry facilities and our housekeeper is happy to launder your clothes during the trip for a nominal fee of 1.00 USD per item, irrespective of size/weight.

## Food and Drink

Meals are provided on a full board basis including breakfast, lunch and dinner served buffet style in the indoor dining area. A complimentary range of carbonated soft drinks, fruit juices and teas are available at all times as well as instant and fresh brewed coffee, snacks and fresh fruit.

There is also a selection of beer, wine, and spirits available for an additional charge.

We offer a choice of International and Asian-influenced cuisine and can cater to special dietary requirements with advance notice. Should you have any specific dietary requirements, allergies, or special requests, please advise your sales consultant at the time of confirming your liveaboard trip to ensure we are able to make provisions for your needs.

**Please note:** It can be very difficult in Chuuk to find low-fat or soya products that are common elsewhere. While we always do our best to accommodate dietary requests, please consider bringing some of your own foods if the lack thereof may constitute a health risk or seriously compromise your enjoyment of your holiday.

## Electricity

Power throughout Pacific Master is 220V / 50hz, using Australian-style 3-prong outlets. We advise bringing a plug adapter and a multi-socket power bar if you have many things to charge and just one Australian plug adapter. If your electrical items are not compatible with 220 V, please bring a voltage adapter with you to avoid equipment damage and ensure it charges correctly.

## Photography and Videography facilities

Master Liveaboards vessels offer specialised features for underwater photographers and videographers which include:

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

Our crew are thoroughly briefed on the handling of delicate camera equipment and will offer to assist you when entering or exiting the water. However, each diver bears the sole responsibility to look after and care for their own camera equipment and fully assumes the risk of any loss or damage to such equipment.

## Staying Connected

There is very limited general internet access in Chuuk and no mobile roaming data at all.

Pacific Master is equipped with a Starlink satellite system enabling us to offer Wi-Fi Internet access to guests who wish to remain connected with the outside world for part or all of their time on board. (Charges apply).

An access code will be provided upon purchase of a data package on board and is subject to availability and signal strength. Data package sizes range from 3GB for 7 nights up to 5GB for 10 nights.

Our [Onboard Internet Access Guidelines](#) provide general advice and useful tips on how to get the most out of your purchased data.

There is satellite phone communication on board which can be used in the event of an emergency but will be charged for incoming and outgoing calls at a rate of \$4 per minute (or part thereof).

## Smoking

Smoking on board is permitted in designated outdoor areas.

## Payments on Board

### Marine Park and Port Fees

Marine, park and port fees cover Chuuk dive permit costs, anchorage and mooring fees and Chuuk Government sales tax which is levied on all types of visitor accommodation, including liveaboards. The amount is dependent on the itinerary duration and will be added to your invoice to be paid on board. Please refer to your booking and itinerary details for the amount applicable to your trip.

### On-board extras and payments

Additional charges for gases / sofnoime\*, as well as equipment and cylinders which have not been paid for in advance, and other items such as laundry, alcoholic drinks and Master Liveaboards merchandise, can be paid on board in cash or by credit card.

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** Sofnoime is charged per 20kg tub and can not be paid for in advance, although it MUST be pre-ordered. No price reduction will be given for partially used tubs.

All prices are given in USD but can be also paid in EUR, GBP, and AUD calculated using the applicable exchange rate on the last day of your liveaboard. However, due to banking restrictions, the exchange rates are extremely unfavourable; we therefore advise that guests bring sufficient USD with them in cash to cover their expenses.

We strongly recommend adding equipment rental to your liveaboard invoice to pay before the start of your trip.

We are happy to accept Mastercard and Visa credit card payments for which there is a 3% surcharge.

Please be aware that Chuuk is a remote location, where our credit card payment system, as well as ATM services, can be limited. For this reason, we recommend guests bring cash with them or withdraw/exchange money upon international arrival if required. In addition to park & port fees, guests are advised to bring between 250-600 USD for any optional extras, including crew gratuities.

## Tipping

We believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that your crew has made your holiday extra special then a tip is always appreciated; an envelope will be provided for your convenience by your cruise director and all gratuities are divided equally amongst all the crew, including the captain and dive guides. Please note that ***tips can only be accepted in cash.***

## Safety on Board

### Emergency Management

All of our crew members undergo rigorous training in emergency management procedures. A thorough boat safety briefing will be provided, in English, 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.

If you do not understand, or speak English, please let us know.

### Emergency Equipment & First Aid

The vessel is equipped with modern safety features such as automated life rafts, EPIRB, satellite communication and emergency pumps.

There is also a fully stocked medical first aid kit for treating minor injuries and ailments as well as for assisting trained medical professionals in remote locations, including a full complement of medical grade oxygen which can be administered to divers through DAN kits or unit specific attachments. You will also find on board an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) which has been proven to greatly increase the survival rate in the eventuality of cardiac fibrillation.

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 who will be able to assist you.

Our out-of-office contact numbers can be found below, should your family need to contact you during the cruise; however, these numbers are reserved for emergencies only.

## Extending your holiday

## Optional Truk Package

- Transfer from Chuuk International Airport
- 1 night hotel before your cruise
- Transfer to and from the Pacific Master
- 1 night hotel post-cruise
- Transfer to Chuuk International Airport for your international flight

Package prices depend on your accommodation choice. Please contact our reservations team for further details.

An overview of suggested hotels in Chuuk can be downloaded here: [Truk Hotels Overview](#)

## Scuba Diving Yap: 1-5 days

Master Liveaboards can offer guests exclusive package deals for combined diving/staying on the island of Yap to complement your Truk Lagoon diving experience. Staying at the Manta Ray Bay Resort, guests can benefit from superb reef diving with manta rays & reef sharks after a week or 10 nights exploring the wrecks of Truk.

## Combos

Combine your liveaboard in Truk Lagoon with one of Master Liveaboards' itineraries in Bikini Atoll or aboard the Sirens in either the Philippines or Palau. Our trip itineraries are scheduled to enable you to experience one or more of our superb diving destinations with just the need for a short connecting flight with United Airlines. Options available are dependent on the flight schedule to Kwajalein for Bikini Atoll, or via Guam to Manila or Koror.

These are just some of the travel options to choose from; please contact our reservations team at: [dive@masterliveaboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveaboards.com) or ask your agent for further details and other possibilities.

## FAQs

If there are any questions that have not been answered, please visit our website at [www.masterliveaboards.com](http://www.masterliveaboards.com) or email us at [dive@masterliveaboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveaboards.com) and our team will be happy to assist you.

## Contact Info

### Thailand Office - Master Liveboards

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)

Web: [www.masterliveboards.com](http://www.masterliveboards.com)

Email: [dive@masterliveboards.com](mailto:dive@masterliveboards.com)

Thailand Office: +66 (0) 76 367 444

UK number: +44 (0) 208 099 2230

USA (Toll Free): +1 866 258 6398

WhatsApp: +66 (0) 62 668 7136

### Truk Lagoon - Pacific Master

**Operations Manager (Adam):** +691 930 9502

If out of range, call land staff (Joel): +691 930 2175

**Boat cell phone (Craig):** +691 930 9481

### Master Liveboards 24hr emergency number:

Please, only use the Master Liveboards 24 hr emergency number if you are unable to get a response from the local numbers listed above.

**UK Mobile:** +44 7862 126398

## What to Bring

Our blog, [Packing for a Scuba Diving Liveboard](#) provides useful tips on what to pack. The following is a checklist of essential items that you should ensure you bring with you for your liveboard diving holiday. A complete packing checklist can be downloaded [here](#)

### Passport

☐

6 month 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  
Airport Departure Tax in local currency

### 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 & insect repellent  
Inform 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.*