

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – DIVING

Does Aqua Mare offer diving excursions, and is there a diving cost? Diving can be arranged in advance through our Reservations team. We work with two trusted dive operators in the Galapagos Islands who have years of experience in the area, as well as excellent dive guides. Rates are subject to dive group size. Aqua Expeditions staff will facilitate the dive arrangements as we will need to coordinate logistics (timing, meeting points, etc) with the selected dive operator. Additionally, an extra USD 100 surcharge will be applied with any changes to the PNG-registered itinerary.

How do I book my dive? Bookings for dives must be made at least ten days prior to departure by contacting reservations@aqualexpeditions.com. There will be no penalty for cancellations made two weeks prior to the dive. No refund for cancellations made within two weeks of the scheduled activity.

What is the minimum and maximum age for diving? A minimum age of 10 years is required. For guests over 55 years of age, please provide a medical certificate allowing you to dive.

What are the safety measures taken during each diving experience? Each dive begins with a comprehensive dive brief including an emergency plan for each dive site. Divers will be escorted by the third-party dive guide and crew who are trained in emergency first response. All divers will be assessed on their experience levels and will only be allowed to dive at corresponding dive sites. Consumption of alcohol prior to a dive session must be restricted at least 8 hours before. Mandatory safety measures in line with global diving protocols apply.

How many guests are allowed per dive? A maximum of 12 divers will be allowed per dive, with a 1:4 dive-to-guest ratio.

How many diving opportunities are there per day? Aqua Mare offers guests the optional opportunity to go diving up to four times* during our 7-night itineraries and a maximum of seven times during our 14-night itineraries. This activity is conducted by a trusted existing third-party dive operator. For safety reasons, we are not able to offer diving 24 hours prior to a departure flight. **Up to four days for East itinerary, three days for West itinerary*

How long will each dive session be? An average dive time is around 45 minutes, depending on variables such as air consumption and dive site conditions.

DIVING ON THE AQUA MARE - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & RATES

How do I choose the location of the dive site and when will the dives take place? The dive site you visit is dependent on your trip itinerary. For example, if you are visiting Sante Fe Island, this will be the location of your dive site. See below for dive sites and times.

What equipment are provided for diving? Our third-party dive operators should provide full dive equipment including BCD (Buoyancy Control Device), regulator set, dive cylinder, weight bell and weights, wetsuit, fins, mask, dive computer, and submersible pressure gauge. Guests will embark on a dive boat authorized under PNG (Galapagos National Park) regulations.

What should I bring to my dive experience? Do wear your swimsuit and bring your Aqua Expeditions wetsuit, mask, and fins with you. If you would like to use your own personal dive gear, do bring that along.

What type of diving certifications do I need? Any diving certifications from a recognized agency is accepted (PADI, SSI, NAUI, BSAC, etc). Please note that divers will need to present their diving certificates to the Cruise Director once onboard in order to be able to dive.

Must I have a certain level of certification to participate in a dive? No, most of the dive sites you will visit are suitable for beginner level divers. These sites include: North Seymour, Mosquera, Daphne Minor, Bartolome, Cousins Rock, Beagle, Floreana, Santa Fe, and North Plazas. The exception to this is the Gordon Rocks site which requires divers with more experience. To visit this site, you will need to be an advanced diver, have logged a minimum of 20 dives, or at least 2 full days of diving before your visit.

Will the diving be done in open sea or soft areas? This depends on the dive sites, however most of the sites are close to the shore.

What happens in case of a diving accident? Rest assured that our third-party dive operators are prepared for the rare case of a diving emergency. The affected party will be evacuated to the ship immediately, with first aid and emergency oxygen administered en route in tender. Further first aid will be administered onboard, and medical evacuation will be actioned.

Do I need dive insurance? While we take the utmost care with regards to safety, we recommend guests purchase dive insurance prior to their voyage. Guests can consider [Dive Assure](#) and [DAN](#) which offer insurance specific to dive accidents.

Who do I contact in case of emergency? Francisco Morey (fmorey@aqualexpeditions.com).



DIVING EXCURSIONS – EAST GALAPAGOS

Sunday Aqua Mare to Sullivan Bay

Time: 08:30 – 11:00 (service boat to arrive between 08:00 – 08:15)

Location: Cousin Rock

Dive Level: All levels

General Conditions: Drift dive with no strong currents

Sightings: Green sea turtles, white tip reef sharks, golden rays, sting rays, sea lions

Monday Aqua Mare to Bartolome

Time: 08:30 – 11:00 (service boat to arrive between 08:00 – 08:15)

Location: Punta Bartolome

Dive Level: All levels

General Conditions: Drift dive with no strong currents,

Sightings: White tip reef sharks, green sea turtles, sting rays, reef fish, invertebrates

Tuesday Aqua Mare to Puerto Ayora

Time: 08:30 – 12:00*

Location: North Seymour

Dive Level: All levels

General Conditions: Drift dive with sandy bottom. Currents can be strong. Maximum depth of 18m and average depth of 15m

Sightings: Hammerhead sharks, white tip reef sharks, black tip sharks, green sea turtles, oceanic manta rays, spotted eagle rays, golden rays, mobulas rays

*There is a car transfer at 07:00 before arrival at the Itabaca Channel at 08:10. After the dive, divers are transferred to the Rancho Manzanillo to continue with the excursion.

Thursday Aqua Mare to Santa Fe – Plazas

Time: 13:45 – 16:00 (service boat to arrive at 13:30)

Location: Gordon Rocks

Dive Level: Intermediate/Advanced (20+ dives)

General Conditions: Strong currents and surge

Sightings: Hammerhead sharks, black tip sharks, white tip reef sharks, green sea turtles, spotted eagle rays, mobulas rays, reef fish



DIVING EXCURSIONS – WEST GALAPAGOS

Saturday Aqua Mare to Punta Cormorant

Time: 08:30 – 11:00 (service boat to arrive between 08:00 – 08:15)

Location: Cormorant Point

Dive Level: All Levels

General Conditions: Drift dive with sandy bottom. Maximum Depth of 17m and average depth of 13m

Sightings: Green sea turtles, white tip reef sharks, hammerhead sharks, Galapagos sharks, golden rays, spotted eagle rays, sting rays, Galapagos sea lions,

Wednesday Aqua Mare to Caleta Tortuga Negra

Time: 13:45 – 15:00 (service boat to arrive at 13:30)

Location: Guy Fawkes

Dive Level: All Levels

General Conditions: Drift dive with no strong currents

Sightings: Green sea turtles, white tip reef sharks, golden rays, sting rays, Galapagos sea lions

Thursday Aqua Mare to Gordon Rocks

Time: 08:30 – 11:00 (service boat to arrive between 08:00 – 08:15)

Location: North Seymour or Mosquera

Dive Level: All levels

General conditions: No strong conditions, easy dive along sandy bottom. Maximum depth of 18m and average depth of 1m.

Sightings: green sea turtles, white tip reef sharks, Galapagos sharks, golden rays, sting rays, Galapagos sea lions

DIVING RATE PER PERSON

USD 1,220

Minimum 4 divers to proceed

Includes two 45-minute dive immersions

INCLUSION 1 dive guide and diving equipment included

CAPACITY 12 divers for session

DIVING OPERATOR Third party operator authorized under PNG (Galapagos National Park)

DIVING BOAT Dive boat authorized under PNG

Bookings for dives must be made at least ten days prior to departure by contacting:

reservations@aquaexpeditions.com