

# Dive And Cruise

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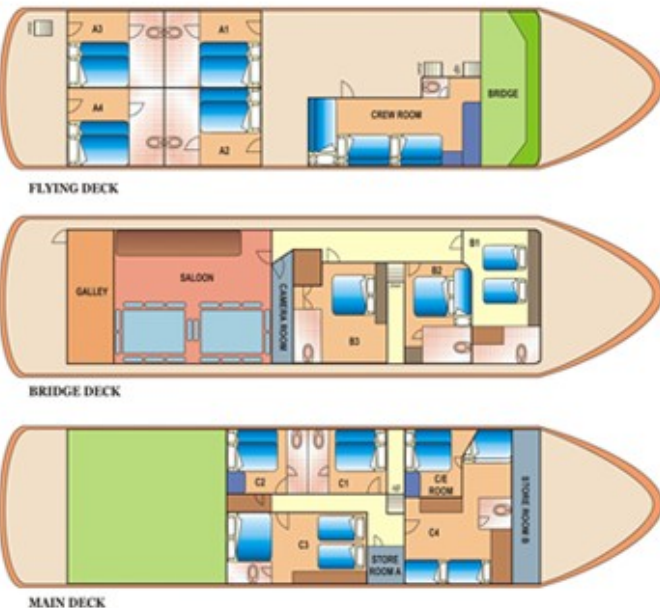
## STELLA MARIS EXPLORER

### TUBBATAHA REEF – 6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS

DAYS	ITINERARY	DIVES
<b>DAY 1</b>	Arrival in Puerto Princesa Board check-in Dinner <b>18:00</b> Departure to Tubbataha Reef	---
<b>DAY 2</b>	<b>06:00 Light Breakfast</b> <b>07:00 Shark Airport.</b> This is a great site for a dusk dive, when there is lots of action as the fish are feeding, though the current can be a nuisance to photographers. <b>09:00 Big Breakfast</b> <b>10:00 Washing Machine.</b> The coral cover on the reef-top is good with plenty of stony, leathery and whip corals, among which you find large Guitar Sharks, Leopard Sharks, immature Manta Rays, Blue spotted Lagoon Rays, Eagle Rays, flounders and turtles. <b>12:00 Lunch</b> <b>13:30 Sea Fan Alley</b> <b>15:00 Snacks</b> <b>16:00 Ranger Station</b> <b>18:00 Diner</b> <b>19:30 Overhang Garden (night dive)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>DAY 3</b>	<b>06:00 Light Breakfast</b> <b>07:00 Malayan Wreck.</b> You can see the remains of a Malayan ship that stranded here from the mooring place. You will see large groups of dogtooth tuna and even an eagle ray, moray eels, angelfishes, butterflyfishes and other smaller reef fish as well as some lobsters, starfish and flatworms. <b>09:00 Big Breakfast</b> <b>10:00 Malayan Wreck</b> <b>12:00 Lunch</b> <b>13:30 Wall Street.</b> A gentle slope rich in mixed corals reach to 40 ft then a wall drops to deeper than sports divers can dive. The reef-top, which covers quite a large area here, has giant clams and octopuses, leopard sharks, sea cucumbers and Bohadschia sea cucumbers. Sightings of Star Pufferfish with attendant remoras and guitar sharks. <b>15:00 Snacks</b>	<b>5</b>

	<b>16:00 Amos Rock</b> <b>18:00 Diner</b> <b>19:30 Ranger Station (night dive)</b>	
<b>DAY 4</b>	<b>06:00 Light Breakfast</b> <b>07:00 Black Rock</b> where some sharks patrolling, mostly white tip reef sharks and Napoleons <b>09:00 Big Breakfast</b> <b>10:00 Black Rock North.</b> A rich reef sloping to between 33 and 65 ft ends in an equally rich wall going down to deeper than sports divers may go. The wall has gorgonian sea fans and barrel sponges as good as those on the North Islet, and even better soft corals. <b>12:00 Lunch</b> <b>13:30 KO-OK</b> <b>15:00 Snacks</b> <b>16:00 Southwest Wall</b> <b>18:00 Diner</b> <b>19:30 Hanging Garden (night dive)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>DAY 5</b>	<b>06:00 Light Breakfast</b> <b>07:00 Delsan Wreck.</b> This is much the same as the dive at the islet's north/northeast end, but with a far larger area of shallow reef-top. It is rich in the smaller reef-fish life, leathery corals, whip corals, sponges, and anemones with clownfish, other damselfish, chromis and anthias. Blue spotted Lagoon Rays, sea cucumbers and sea stars are common on the sandy patches. The shallow water near the lighthouse has sea grass, which is attractive to turtles. <b>09:00 Big Breakfast</b> <b>10:00 Delsan Wreck</b> <b>12:00 Lunch</b> <b>13:30 Staghorn Point</b> <b>15:00 Snacks</b> <b>16:00 Delsan Wreck</b> <b>18:00 Diner</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>DAY 6</b>	Arrival in Puerto Princesa City Breakfast Transfer to Airport	---
<b>TOTAL DIVES</b>		<b>19</b>

## BOAT SPECIFICATIONS

 <p>FLYING DECK</p> <p>BRIDGE DECK</p> <p>MAIN DECK</p>	<p><b>Technical specifications</b></p> <p><b>LOA:</b> 31  <b>Breadth:</b> 7.4  <b>Draft:</b> 3.4  <b>Main Engine:</b> MTU  <b>Year Built:</b> 1986  <b>Cruising Speed:</b> 8-10 knots  <b>Hull:</b> Aluminum  <b>Generators:</b> 2 x Isuzu 60 KVA 1 x Kobota 10 KVA  <b>Water Maker:</b> 5 tons per day  <b>Water Capacity:</b> 18 tons  <b>Electricity:</b> 220/110V-60htz</p> <p>2 K15 and 1 K15 compressors          Nitrox Membrane System</p>
<p><b>Accomodation and Facilities</b></p> <p><b>Staterooms :</b>10          3 Deluxe,          4 Standard,          3 C-Deck</p> <p><b>Max passengers :</b> 22</p>	<p><b>Navigation and Communications</b></p> <p>GMDSS,EPIRB          SSB Radio          SART Marine VHF          Weather Fax          Radar          Standard VHF portable radio and Icon base radio          Eco Sounder          Portable GPS          Immarsat Worldwide Telephone Communication System</p>

## FAQ

### Where is Tubbataha Reefs ?

Tubbataha Reefs is located in the center of the Sulu Sea between the Island of Palawan and the Visayan islands. The jump off point is Puerto Princesa, Palawan.

### When is the best time to go to Tubbataha Reefs ?

The best time to go to Tubbataha Reefs is during the Philippine Summer season from mid-March to mid June. Days are hot and dry and sea conditions are at their calmest and clearest.

### What is Tubbataha Reef Transition 1 ?

Tubbataha Reef Transition 1 is the transition of the ships from its home port in Anilao Batangas to Tubbataha Reefs, stopping at Apo Reef and Cuyo Islands for a day of diving in each location before reaching Tubbataha. Guests have to book a flight out from Pto Princesa at the end of the trip.

### What is Tubbataha Regular Trip ?

Tubbataha Regular Trip starts and ends at Puerto Princesa. All diving is done in the Tubbataha Reefs

National Park.

### **What is Tubbataha Transition Trip2 ?**

Tubbataha Reef Transition 2 is the transition of the ships from Tubbataha to their home port in Anilao, Batangas. The itinerary is similar to that of the Transition trip 1 but in reverse.

### **How do I get to Tubbataha Reefs ?**

Cruise Island Adventure can arrange your air tickets going to/from Puerto Princesa. There are 3 (Philippine Airlines, Air Philippines, Cebu Pacific Airlines) flights in the morning.

### **What time does the boat leave on the day of departure/arrive day of arrival ?**

The ships embark for Tubbataha between 6-8 pm on the day of departure. Arriving guests are picked up at the Airport and transferred to the ship, assigned a dive crate and checked into their rooms. They have the whole afternoon at leisure to take in the city attractions, go last minute shopping for toiletries, etc. A pre- departure briefing will be done during the evening of arrival when guests will be asked to fill out forms and sign waivers, be given boat assignments and informed of dive schedules as well as ship/park safety regulations and procedures. On the day of arrival, the ship is usually in port by 6 am and guests are disembarked after breakfast . 8 am is the usual disembarkation time but guests who have later flights are free to remain on board until airport transfer time. Puerto Princesa Airport/ship transfers are included in your package.

### **How long does it take to go to Batangas from Manila ?**

From Manila, it is approximately 2 ½ hours going to Batangas.

### **Can you arrange transfers going to Batangas? Hotel stays in Manila ?**

Yes, Cruise Island Adventure can help you arrange your land transfers/ hotel arrangements.

### **What is included in the Tubbataha Reefs Liveaboard Package ?**

Accommodations on board, unlimited no decompression diving, tanks, weights, weight belt, boat, services of a divemaster roundtrip transfers from Puerto Princesa airport to boat, all meals, and complimentary tea, coffee, juice.

### **How many dives they could do in one day ?**

Guests can do maximum of 4 Dives a Day and 1 Night Dive. Night dive is not included on the last diving day.

**When should I arrive in Puerto Princesa for transition and regular trip ?** Guests can arrive anytime before 6 pm.

### **What are the taxes or fees not included in the package ?**

The taxes that are not included in the package is the Tubbataha Reefs Conservation Fees which is US \$75.00/person, airport taxes entry and exit in Puerto Princesa, gear rentals, courses, soda/alcoholic drinks and souvenir items on board. For Transition Trip, there is an additional charge of US \$38.00/person Apo Reef Conservation Fee.

### **Do I need a Visa and Passport ?**

A valid passport is required. Visas are not required for tourists who will no stay no longer than 21 days provided that they have an onward or return journey tickets and do not belong to restricted nationality. For long staying guests visas are required, you can apply at the nearest Philippine consulate in your country of origin.

### **Who will meet me at the airport ?**

Upon arrival in the Puerto Princesa Airport please look for members of our Staff holding an Expedition Fleet banner.

### **What is the weather in Philippines ?**

The Philippines is a tropical country with an average temperature of 32°C (80°F). March to June is hot and dry (36°C); rains and typhoons abound from July to October; November to February is pleasantly cool (around 23°C) and dry. In mountainous regions, temperatures dip to about 15°C.

### **Are tender boats used ?**

Yes, all of our dives are conducted in small groups from tender boats ensuring quick entry and exit from the water.

### **Is there night diving ?**

Yes there is, please take a look our sample itinerary.

### **Should I be an advanced diver ?**

Not necessarily. All dives begin with a back-roll onto the reef top which is usually around 15 meters. After everyone has trimmed their buoyancy and are comfortable, the dive leader will then bring the group to the drop off and down the wall. Current is usually present in Tubbataha and thus drift diving is the norm. Divers go with the flow of the current and upon surfacing, are picked up by the chaseboat.

### **When is check-out time on the vessel ?**

The check-out time in the vessel is 0800am on the last day.

**Are there gear rentals ?** Yes we have gear for rent but we do NOT have torches/flashlights for rent. There are torches available for sale on board. Please advise us in ADVANCE what sizes you will be needing.

**What wetsuit should I use in diving ?** The weather is quite warm during the trip because it is the summer season. A 3mm suit is more than adequate.

**Are there other places I should visit while I am in Puerto Princesa ?** Yes, we usually encourage our guests to avail of the St Paul subterranean River Tour on the day of arrival and spend an additional night in Puerto Princesa. This is to allow divers to maximize the last day's dives without violating the NO FLY Period.

The St Paul Subterranean River is also a UNESCO World heritage Site just like Tubbataha.

### **Where else can I go if I want to extend my holiday in the Philippines ?**

The Expedition fleet has 2 sister resorts—Bahura which is in Dumaguete, Negros Oriental and Outrigger in Anilao, Batangas. We have special rates and discounts for guests who avail of our live aboard services and want to continue their diving at either of the 2 resorts.

### **Does the ship have a satellite phone ?**

Yes. Rates are 1 USD per minute and parts thereof.

### **Where is the nearest re-compression chamber ?**

The nearest Re-compression chamber is in Cebu City.

**Dive And Cruise Limited**  
**Room 1206-7 12/F**  
**New Victory House**  
**93-103 Wing Lok Street,**  
**Central, HONG KONG**

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