BLACK PEARL

Best of Palau

Malakal to Malakal | Rock Islands Southern Lagoon

Palau is home to some of the best scuba diving sites in the world.

The Rock Islands Southern Lagoon holds the best of Palau in one route.

Its most famous dive has a strong current that draws sharks, jacks, trevallies, barracudas, turtles and Napoleon wrasse, and it is dived twice because every tide brings something new.

Elsewhere a narrow channel drift passes reef sharks, turtles and coral gardens, and manta rays visit a man-made channel to feed on plankton.

A cavern is lit from above, a wall drops almost 300 metres, and a night dive is added along the way.

Second World War wrecks and a seaplane lie below, and golden jellyfish drift in Jellyfish Lake.

LENGTH	DEPARTURE PORT	ARRIVAL PORT	EXPERIENCE
7 nights	Malakal	Malakal	50+ dives, Nitrox







Your itinerary

DAY 1

Malakal Port

No diving today

Pick-up from your hotel is at about 3:00 pm and you board the yacht.
While you enjoy a welcome drink you get a general boat briefing and finish the paperwork, then see your cabin.
A safety briefing follows just after dinner at about 6:00 pm.

DAY 2

Jake's Seaplane, Iro and Chandelier Cave

3 dives

The first dive is at Jake's Seaplane, a Second World War seaplane in the lagoon at about 15 metres, followed by the Iro, a Japanese oil tanker, and an afternoon dive at Chandelier Cave, which has chambers and air pockets and needs a torch.
In the evening the yacht sails to Ulong Island.

DAY 3

Ulong

3 dives

Dives at Ulong Channel, a world-class drift dive in a narrow channel with reef sharks, barracudas and turtles, then Siaes Corner, a shark hangout with grey reef sharks, and Sandy Paradise.
The day ends with a sunset cocktail party on Ulong beach.



DAY 4

Blue Corner and German Channel

3 dives + night dive

The yacht sails to Ngemelis Island early in the morning for a dive at Blue Corner, the most famous dive site in Palau, then New Drop Off and German Channel, where manta rays visit to feed on plankton.
After snacks there is a night dive at Big Drop Off, a wall dropping almost 300 metres.

DAY 5

Peleliu

3 dives

A short run to Peleliu for two dives, with breakfast ashore at the Summer House on Peleliu Island, then Turtle Cove after lunch.
In the evening there is a BBQ dinner at Long Beach and the yacht sails to Mecherchar Island.

DAY 6

Blue Corner and Jellyfish Lake

3 dives + snorkelling

Blue Corner again in the morning, then Blue Hole, a cavern lit from above, and a snorkel in Jellyfish Lake among the golden jellyfish.
The third dive is at Ngemelis Wall.
After a sunset cocktail party on the boat, the yacht sails to Ulong Island.

DAY 7

Siaes Tunnels and Teshio Maru

2 dives

Dives at Siaes Tunnels, a large cave with three openings in the reef wall, and the Teshio Maru wreck, while the yacht sails to Koror.
The afternoon is free for washing equipment, paddle boarding, the water slide and kayaking, and after dinner you settle your bill with the Cruise Director.

DAY 8

Departure

Breakfast is on board at about 7:30 am.
You check out at about 8:30 am and transfer to your hotel.







GOOD TO KNOW

On land and on the way

Diving in currents

Palau diving involves currents, and a minimum of 50 logged dives, a Nitrox certificate and experience diving in currents are recommended. Blue Corner is best with at least an advanced licence.

Flights home

Guests need at least 24 hours between their final dive and the scheduled departure of their flight from Palau.

Check in

Hotel pick-up is at about 3:00 pm in the Koror area. Embarkation at Malakal Port starts at 3:00 pm local time, and the crew give a welcome drink, a boat briefing and a safety briefing after dinner. There is no diving on the first day.

Check out

After breakfast you disembark at about 8:00 to 8:30 am and transfer to Koror International Airport or your hotel.

Itinerary

This is a sample route. The sites are not visited in any set order, because the Cruise Director and Captain work with the weather, tides, currents and the number of other dive boats to get the best conditions.

INCLUDED

What your trip covers

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Full-board accommodation, with 3 meals on every full day on board
- 3 guided dives a day, except the second last day, plus 1 night dive
- Palau Goods and Services Tax
- Two-way transfers strictly between the hotels in the Koror area and Malakal Port
- Drinking water, coffee and tea, except specialty coffee
- Free Wi-Fi, which may be limited or unavailable in remote areas or at sea
- 12 litre tanks, weights and weight belts, with reef hooks, a surface marker buoy and a GPS
- Nitrox tanks
- Beach BBQ, cocktail party, jacuzzi, snorkelling, paddle boards and kayaking

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights and pre- or post-cruise accommodation
- Marine park fees and taxes, paid on board
- Fuel surcharge, shown on our trip listings
- Jellyfish Lake permit, optional
- Peleliu diving permit, optional
- Koror airport transfers, one way, optional, and special transfers between Malakal Port and the yacht
- Specialty coffee, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages
- 15 litre tank and dive gear rental
- Diving insurance, which can be bought on board
- Crew tips, which are customary

BEFORE YOU GO

What to bring

ESSENTIALS

- Dive certification cards, including your Nitrox card
- Dive log book, as a minimum of 50 logged dives is recommended
- Dive insurance card or confirmation slip
- Medical clearance from your physician, if any
- BCD, regulator, fins, mask, snorkel and wetsuit

AND ALSO

- Dive computer with a spare battery, and a surface marker buoy
- Hood, reef hook and a torch with spare batteries
- Reef-friendly sunscreen, hat and sunglasses
- Cash in US dollars for tips and extras
- Passport

WORTH KNOWING

Key notes

Good to know

The same sample route is used for the 5, 7, 9 and 10 night trips, so the number of sites visited depends on the length of the trip