

# Admira and Sea Friend



## General Information:

To apply for a diving permit from the Egyptian authorities, we need a copy of your passport when you book your trip (for last-minute bookings, no later than one week before departure). Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of departure. We assume no liability for any delays in departure resulting from non-compliance with these requirements.

We require each diver to provide a valid certification and logbook, as well as a valid medical certificate, if available (not mandatory!). Your last dive should not have been more than 1 year ago. The dive guide reserves the right to prohibit guests who do not meet these requirements or who lack sufficient diving experience from diving at certain sites (due to currents, depth, etc.) without compensation. The maximum diving depth prescribed by Egyptian law and CDWS regulations is 30 meters. Under certain conditions, however, dives may be extended to 40 meters. This requires a Deep Dive certification.

## Diving Equipment

In addition to standard equipment, the following items and documents are mandatory for every diver: dive computer, depth gauge, watch, safety buoy, snorkel, logbook, dive certification, and regulator with an alternate air source, as well as a dive light

## Payment on board

Euros, U.S. dollars, Egyptian pounds. Unfortunately, credit card payments are NOT accepted at this time!

## Bathrooms and Toilets

Please use soap and shower gel sparingly, as all ship wastewater is discharged untreated into the sea. Biodegradable and eco-friendly products are available in stores—please do your part to help preserve nature. Under no circumstances should you flush used toilet paper, sanitary pads, or other hygiene products down the toilet, as they can cause clogs. Separate containers are provided for this purpose. Please also keep in mind that toilet paper floats over the reef and isn't very pleasant to see while diving. Repairing the toilets during the liveaboard is usually not possible and results in significant mess and odor!

## Tanks

We dive using 12-liter aluminum tanks (DIN connection). 15-liter tanks and rental equipment are available on board with advance booking and for an additional fee.

## **Beverages**

During the liveaboard, water, tea, instant coffee, and non-alcoholic beverages such as Coke, Fanta, and Sprite, as well as various juices, are always available free of charge on board. Soda water and tonic water can be purchased on board. Beer and wine are available but are NOT included in the tour price and will be billed separately. Hard liquor is not available.

## **Health**

We carry a small selection of essential medications on board our ships (for nausea, diarrhea, and earaches). Please bring your own small first-aid kit if needed. However, please check beforehand to ensure the medications are safe to take while diving.

## **Cabins**

Each cabin has portholes that can be opened. We recommend that you open them as often as possible to let fresh air into your cabin. The air conditioning system does not provide fresh air circulation! Please keep the portholes closed while the ship is in motion.

## **Climate and Clothing**

The Red Sea has a dry desert climate. Especially during the summer months, daytime temperatures hover around 35 °C. During the winter months, it cools down significantly in the evenings, and even during the mostly sunny days, a windbreaker or a warmer sweater is sometimes advisable. On the ship, light, summery clothing and a warm sweater for cool evenings are sufficient. You should definitely bring ear protection as well.

## **Rental Equipment and Spare Parts**

There is generally no rental equipment available on board our ships. We recommend that you let us know in advance of your trip if you need to rent any equipment or specific gear items. Please bring the most important spare parts for your personal gear with you. In addition to mask and fin straps, this includes a repair kit for your regulator. Please also remember to bring batteries, storage media, and spare bulbs for your dive light.

## **Nitrox Diving**

Diving with Nitrox is generally possible on our ships.

## **Smoking on Board**

Smoking is generally prohibited in the cabins and in the ship's lounge. For safety reasons, our ships are

equipped with smoke detectors that are triggered by even the slightest amount of smoke. Please use the ashtrays provided and do not throw cigarette butts overboard. Cigarette filters do not dissolve and litter the reefs for years.

### **Life-Saving Equipment**

Life jackets, life rafts, and several lifebuoys are available on board as safety equipment. All cabins, the salon, and the engine room are equipped with dry-chemical fire extinguishers in case of fire. Upon arrival on the ship, please inquire about the exact location and proper use of the safety equipment.

### **Sleeping on Deck**

It is not permitted to bring bedding, blankets, or mattresses from the cabins out onto the deck. If you'd like to sleep on deck, we'd be happy to provide you with a sleeping bag. We charge a one-time service fee of 5 EUR per week of diving for this.

### **Footwear and Clothing on Board**

Street shoes may not be worn on board. Please bring swim flip-flops, warm socks, or lightweight sailing shoes. Entering the salon or cabins while wearing diving gear is prohibited. Please do not sit on the seat cushions in the salon while wearing wet swimwear—due to the high humidity, they dry very slowly.

### **Electricity**

Generally 220 volts AC. We recommend bringing a Euro-standard plug. Note: Automatic chargers are not suitable for use on board due to frequent voltage fluctuations.

### **Language**

The crew on board speaks primarily English. Our dive guides are generally English-speaking and some also speak German.

### **Diving**

Dives requiring decompression should generally be avoided. Carrying a dive computer and a signal buoy is mandatory and is for your own safety. Night diving, as well as swimming and snorkeling, are prohibited in marine park areas. The exact route of the liveaboard trip depends on weather conditions and the diving experience of our guests. Routes are subject to change based on official orders. As a rule, there is neither diving equipment nor spare parts on board the ship. Diving equipment, dive lights, and computers can therefore only be rented for a fee with advance notice. We recommend purchasing travel health insurance that includes hyperbaric chamber treatment.

### **Diving Accidents**

Each of our vessels is equipped with a 50-liter oxygen tank and accessories, as well as standard first-aid

equipment for diving emergencies. We recommend that you purchase special insurance that covers the costs of your rescue, hyperbaric chamber treatment, and repatriation in the event of a diving accident.

## Tipping

Even more so than in other countries, a “bakshish” is expected in Egypt. To avoid unnecessary discussions about the amount of the tip, we recommend 10% of the tour price, divided 75% for the crew and 25% for the guides. Tips are an important source of income for the crew on board. The base salary of crew members is usually so low that it can only be considered adequate compensation after an additional contribution from the safari guests. The collected tips are then handed over to the captain at the end of a tour. He distributes them fairly among all members on board. Please keep in mind: The zodiac boat drivers spend up to eight hours under the scorching sun on the rolling sea for our guests. The cook spends 14 hours for us in the small, cramped, and hot galley. The cabin attendants take care of the guests’ needs almost around the clock, and the captain sometimes has to navigate the ship night after night.

## Visa

A visa is required to enter Egypt. It can be purchased directly at the bank counter at the airport. The cost is currently 30 USD. It is recommended that you bring the exact amount with you. This way, you can avoid problems with currency conversion and receiving change. Payment in euros is generally not a problem. The visa is affixed to a blank page in your passport and stamped by customs. It is then valid for four weeks. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months upon entry.

## Our New “Meet and Greet” Service

To make your arrival as pleasant as possible, we offer our **“Meet and Greet” service** right at the airport. For 35 EUR per person, one of our staff members will meet you in the airport terminal, hand you your visa, and accompany you to your transfer. Payment is conveniently processed on board.

## Transfer

**With our “Meet and Greet” service:** Our staff member will accompany you directly to the transfer vehicle so you can arrive stress-free.

**Without the “Meet and Greet” service:** Our transfer drivers—easily recognizable by a “Hamata Mangroves” sign displaying the name of the ship you booked—will be waiting for you at the airport (outside the terminal). If you have any questions or encounter any issues during your liveaboard, our dive guides and the ship’s crew will be happy to assist you.

## Transfer from the Hotel to the Marina

- If you’re already at the hotel and need a transfer to the marina, please provide us with your room number. Some hotels only allow entry with this information. You can easily send us your room number via WhatsApp or email.

## If you're making your own way to the marina

- Please ask your driver to call our emergency number (see Contact) upon entering the harbor. We will then direct him directly to the exact location of our boat.

## Emergency Contacts

### Egypt:

- Yousef: +20 101 922 8808
- Nadine: +20 106 774 8820

It's best to save these numbers right away so you can get help quickly in an emergency.

## Insurance Coverage

We strongly recommend that you purchase both diving insurance and travel cancellation insurance. Diving insurance covers specific risks that can arise while diving, such as the cost of hyperbaric chamber treatment. Travel cancellation insurance provides protection if you are unable to take the trip due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g., illness, accident, or personal emergencies). Make sure both insurance policies cover all relevant benefits.

## Legal Information Regarding the Tour Itinerary and Schedule Changes

Sometimes things don't go according to plan. Due to official orders, unforeseen events, or poor weather conditions, there may be changes to the tour itinerary or cancellations of dive days. Routes and schedules may be adjusted, or dive sites may be changed or canceled. The safety of our guests is always our top priority. You are entitled to compensation or a refund only to the extent provided by law.

## Return Trip from Egypt to Germany

Different boats, different rules—you just need to know what they are! There shouldn't be any unpleasant surprises on your liveaboard trip. That's why we've compiled the most important information and rules below regarding your conduct and life on board

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