

Golden Dolphin I & IV and Golden Imperial



To ensure there are no unpleasant surprises on your liveaboard dive cruise, we have compiled the most important information and rules regarding behavior and life on board below.

ARRIVAL/TRANSFER

A Golden Dolphin Safari World staff member will meet you at the Hurghada or Marsa Alam airport before passport control—easily recognizable by a sign bearing the “Golden Dolphin Safari World” logo. He will provide you with your Egyptian visa on the spot and will usually accompany you to the bus. If you encounter any problems (e.g., “lost luggage”), they will be there to offer you advice and assistance.

Depending on your arrival time, some guests will be taken to our office before “check-in” on the boat, as check-in does not take place until the afternoon. If you’ve booked a hotel stay before the safari, we’ll be happy to pick you up from your hotel in the surrounding area. Please email us your cell phone number before arrival so we can let you know the exact time for your transfer to the boat.

Please note—new regulations effective November 2015: Safari guests arriving at Marsa Alam Airport must present a copy of their passport upon request.

PARTICIPATION IN DIVING SAFARIS

To participate in a liveaboard, you must be able to provide proof of completed dive training and at least 30 logged dives. For safaris visiting marine parks, Egyptian law requires proof of at least 50 logged dives. The most recent dive should not have taken place more than 1 year ago.

If any of these requirements are not met, it is up to our dive guides to exclude the participant from certain dives on the safari. Furthermore, it is at the dive guide’s discretion to adapt the safari itinerary to the participants’ level of training and experience.

In accordance with the rules and regulations of the “Red Sea Association for Diving and Watersport,” guests must complete and sign a health declaration form before departure. If one or more of the medical conditions listed there apply to you, you must consult a doctor to confirm your fitness to dive. The best and easiest option for you would be to arrive with a medical diving certificate already in hand.

TOUR ITINERARY

- Check-in on the boats on the day of arrival starting at 6:00 p.m.
- Departure from the harbor the following morning
- 5 days at sea with 3–4 dives per day, depending on the tour itinerary. The conduct of a liveaboard trip depends on weather, sea conditions, local regulations, and the skill level of the participating divers. For these reasons, we cannot guarantee that we will visit specific reefs.
- On the last day (the day before departure), a maximum of 2 dives, followed by return to the harbor.
- Full board during your stay on board (**except**: “dinner” on the day of arrival and “breakfast” on the day of departure)
- Check-out from the ship no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day of departure.
- For organizational or technical reasons, we reserve the right to accommodate guests in a hotel on the last night (with “half-board” service).
- Transfer to the airport.
- Subject to change

FOOTWEAR

Upon arrival at the ship, you'll take off your street shoes and can then switch to flip-flops, swim shoes, or sailing shoes. It's better to go barefoot right away.

It is not permitted to wear any type of shoes in the interior areas of the boat. (sensitive flooring, dirt brought in from outside)

At the end of your safari vacation, the crew will return your shoes to you—they'll have been safely stored for you throughout your trip.

EQUIPMENT: What to Pack for Diving

In addition to standard gear, every diver should carry the following items

and documents with them:

- A statement regarding your health or a medical certificate (no older than 3 years for those under 40, no older than 1 year for those 40 and older)
- Dive log
- Diving certifications
- Diving accident insurance
- Copy of passport
- Voucher from the tour operator
- Wetsuit (3 mm to 7 mm) depending on the season. Water temperatures range from 24°C to 28°C from April through October and from 19°C to 24°C from November through March.
- Regulator with an alternate air source
- Dive table or dive computer (spare battery recommended)
- Safety buoy
- Mask, snorkel, fins, and BCD

- One dive light per buddy team for daytime dives and one per diver for night dives

Anyone who boards the vessel without a valid certification, logbook, or medical certificate may be excluded from the dive operations during the safari!!!!

RENTAL EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS

As a rule, there is no rental equipment on board our ships—only spare equipment in case of emergencies. If you need a complete set of rental equipment or individual pieces of gear, please notify us or your agency in writing one week before arrival.

Procuring equipment at the last minute is possible, but it takes time and could delay the trip!!!

Please also remember to bring the most important spare parts for your equipment, such as: mask and fin straps, a repair kit for your regulator, as well as batteries, film, and spare burners for your lamp.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Life jackets are provided in your cabin as safety equipment. On the upper deck, there are self-inflating life rafts that will be deployed by the crew if necessary.

You'll find dry-chemical fire extinguishers in all cabins, the salon, and the engine room for emergencies. Upon arrival on the ships, you'll receive instruction on the location and use of the emergency equipment.

DIVING ACCIDENTS

For diving emergencies, there are two 50-liter oxygen tanks with masks on board the ships. The necessary accessories are available from the captain or the dive guide. First-aid kits are also available on board.

To cover any potential costs, such as those for a decompression chamber, etc., we strongly recommend that you purchase diving accident insurance (**before your trip!!**).

Please present your international travel insurance, health insurance, and/or dive insurance upon boarding your safari.

CABINS

All cabins on our boats have portholes or windows. Please make sure these are closed while the boat is moving and during rough seas. You'll also find life jackets, towels, a bathrobe, a minibar, and air conditioning in your cabin.

If you need help adjusting your air conditioning, feel free to ask the crew in the salon or your guides at any time.

BATHROOMS AND TOILETS

Please **DO NOT under any circumstances** flush toilet paper, sanitary pads, other hygiene products, or similar items down the toilet; instead, use the designated containers provided, as flushing these items can cause clogs. Repairs during the liveaboard are usually not possible or would result in significant mess and odor! Additionally, the toilet paper drifts over the reef and spoils the diving experience.

Shower water is discharged directly into the ocean, so please use your shower products sparingly or bring biodegradable shampoos.

Two large towels and a bathrobe are provided per week!

VALUABLES

At the beginning of the week, your guides will give you an envelope. You can place your valuables, such as cash, passport, etc., inside it. These will then be locked in the safe (located in the captain's cabin).

If you choose not to take advantage of this offer, we assume no liability for missing valuables.

SLEEPING ON DECK

If you'd like to sleep on deck, please bring a sleeping bag on board. You're welcome to take the blanket and pillow with you to the sun deck or high deck, but not the mattress. Please put your belongings back in your cabin on your own to prevent anything from blowing away or getting mixed up.

CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

The Red Sea has a dry desert climate. During the summer months, daytime temperatures hover around 35°C and higher. During the winter months, it cools down significantly in the evenings, so a windbreaker or a warmer sweater may be necessary even during the day at times. On board, light, summery clothing is sufficient, along with a warm sweater for cool evenings. Please be sure to bring ear protection and warm socks.

SALON

The salon is a dry zone! Please do not wear wet diving or swimwear there, as the seat cushions do not dry well due to the high humidity.

There you'll find coffee, tea, soft drinks, water, beer, wine, and snacks, as well as our first-aid kit and very comfortable sofas for your evening of TV.

DRINKS & FOOD

Soft drinks, tea, coffee, and water are available on board at no extra charge. Beer and wine are available on board for a fee.

- But please don't forget—

Too much alcohol and diving are not a good combination!!!

Alcohol is not permitted between dives!!!

Meals on board are served buffet-style with a selection of meat, poultry, fish, pasta, rice, and vegetables.

If you have any special requests, such as vegetarian meals, allergies, diabetes, or specific beverage requests (e.g., tonic water or soda), please let us know via email before your arrival.

Each of our boats is equipped with a Nespresso machine. Since we cannot obtain capsules in Egypt, please bring your own according to your "coffee cravings" J.

SMOKING

There is a general smoking ban in the cabins and in the salon. Fire alarms are installed on the boats for your safety and are designed to detect even the slightest amount of smoke. Please do not throw cigarette butts overboard—use the ashtrays provided. Smoking is not permitted on the dive deck, especially in winter when dry suits are hanging or when working with oxygen.

ELECTRICITY

We have 220-volt AC power on the boats. You can charge your batteries in the salon or on the dive deck. Please do not charge them in your cabin due to the risk of fire. A charging station for lamps or cameras is located on the dive deck.

PHONE

We provide free Wi-Fi on our boats. Internet reception varies depending on the distance from shore, but as long as we're within range, you're welcome to use the Wi-Fi. However, we ask that you refrain from downloading large files, as the available data allowance is limited and will otherwise be used up too quickly.

Important: Turn off all automatic updates on your devices and make sure roaming is disabled; otherwise, you may incur very high roaming charges from your mobile carrier.

COURSES

AOWD, Nitrox, and various specialty courses are available during the safari, but please register for them in advance so we can guarantee that an instructor for the respective course will be on your boat.

NITROX

We offer Nitrox on our boats M/Y Golden Dolphin, M/Y Golden Dolphin II, M/Y Golden Dolphin III, and

Golden Dolphin IV. Nitrox is filled into 12-liter and 15-liter tanks and incurs an additional charge (see “Services” for the respective boat).

If you’d like to do dives with Nitrox on one of our boats, please register in writing in advance.

The same applies to Nitrox courses—otherwise, we cannot guarantee that they will take place.

Please note that in the event of a technical failure of the nitrox system, there is **NO RIGHT TO RECOURSE!**

MARINE PARK

In general, night diving is prohibited in the Red Sea marine parks. Access to the islands of Zabargad and Rockys is not permitted. Additionally, special permits must be obtained for the marine parks.

Please note:

For safaris that visit marine parks, Egyptian law requires proof of at least 50 logged dives.

CONTRIBUTION TO NATURE CONSERVATION

Excerpt from the legal provisions on environmental protection:

- Hunting, fishing, collecting, or breaking off corals or shells, etc., is prohibited.
- It is prohibited to dispose of any kind of objects, such as trash, oil, grease, etc., into the sea.
- There is a general ban on anchoring in protected areas.
- Feeding fish and birds is prohibited.
- Divers are generally prohibited from wearing gloves.
- Walking on coral and reefs is prohibited.
- In accordance with Egyptian law and CDWS regulations, the dive profile is limited to a depth of 30 meters and must remain within safety limits (no decompression stops). Under certain conditions, however, dives may be extended to 40 meters. This requires a Deep Dive certification.
- Failure to comply may result in a heavy fine or even imprisonment!

PAYMENT ON BOARD

Please bring enough cash with you!! You can pay in euros, U.S. dollars, or Egyptian pounds; credit card payments are currently not accepted on board!!

TIPS

More than in some other countries, a “baksheesh” is expected in Egypt. However, as always, tipping is a voluntary gesture. It’s up to you to decide how much you’d like to give! At the end of the week, two envelopes will be placed out—one for the crew and one for the guides.

LANGUAGE

The language spoken on board is English. Our dive guides speak English, German, Arabic, Spanish, and other languages.

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