



## Travel Information A to Z

Safaris... good to know...

To avoid any unpleasant surprises, we've compiled the most important information about behavior and life on board below.

If you have any questions or encounter any problems during your dive cruise, our dive guides and the ship's crew are here to offer advice and assistance.

## EQUIPMENT FOR DIVERS

In addition to standard gear, the following equipment and documents are required for every diver:

- Each diver must dive with their own dive computer•

One safety

buoy per diver•

Snorkel• Medical certificate no older than 1 year (according to Egyptian law, it must be no more than 1 year old!)

- Dive

logbook• Valid dive certification•

Regulator with an alternate air source•

1 dive light per buddy team for

daytime dives• Dive accident insurance (can also be purchased on board for a fee, but is not comprehensive dive insurance)

!!! Please be sure to bring 2 copies of your passport !!!

Without proof of a valid diving certification, we reserve the right to exclude the guest from diving activities.

## BATHROOMS AND TOILETS

Please use your soap and shower gel sparingly, as the wastewater flows untreated into the sea. For the sake of the environment, please look for biodegradable products when purchasing toiletries for your vacation (these are not available in Egypt). Please do not flush toilet paper or other hygiene items down the toilet under any circumstances; instead, please use the provided trash cans, as flushing them can cause clogs. Toilet paper or similar items on the reef or floating in the water detract from the diving experience. Furthermore, cleaning up such items during the safari is usually impossible or involves

significant mess and unpleasant odors!

## CONTRIBUTION TO NATURE CONSERVATION

Excerpt from the legal provisions on environmental protection:

- Hunting, fishing, collecting, or breaking off corals or shells, etc., is prohibited
- Dumping any kind of objects—such as trash, oil, grease, etc.—into the sea is prohibited
- There is a general ban on anchoring in protected areas

Feeding fish and birds is

prohibited

- Walking on coral and reefs is

prohibited

- Divers are permitted

to wear gloves only for protective purposes Violations may result in fines and/or imprisonment. In addition, the authorities reserve the right to impose a temporary professional ban on the responsible captain and guide, as well as to revoke the vessel's permit for a specified period.

The maximum diving depth for recreational divers is 40 meters! (upon presentation of the appropriate certification). For technical diving, the guidelines of the CDWS (Chamber of Diving and Watersports, [www.cdws.travel/diving/redsea-rules-regulations.aspx](http://www.cdws.travel/diving/redsea-rules-regulations.aspx)) apply.

Furthermore, here in Egypt, too, everyone is becoming increasingly aware of the importance of protecting our planet and nature. Since June 2019, a law has been in effect on the Red Sea to prevent the use of single-use plastics. Step by step, everyone is now making the switch to reduce plastic consumption in general.

As far as we are able at this time, we are striving to make our liveaboard trips increasingly plastic-free.

That's why, starting immediately, we are offering aluminum water bottles on board our ships at cost. You can refill these from the water dispenser at any time.

## PAYMENT ON BOARD

All prices on board are listed in euros. Payment on board can be made in euros, dollars, Egyptian pounds, or by Visa or MasterCard (the boat owner charges a 2% bank fee for these)—**American Express cards are not accepted.** Please pay for rental equipment and tips in cash!

## BOW AREA

The bow area of the ship is reserved exclusively for the crew, who eat their meals and pray there. We ask that you respect this.

## CHECK DIVE

During the first dive, the guides will conduct a check dive. The guide will ask you to retrieve the regulator that has been tossed aside, clear your mask, and deploy the buoy at the end of the dive.

## ENOS

Our ship is equipped with the ENOS rescue and tracking system. Use of the system is free of charge.

However, you will be required to pay for any lost or damaged transmitters.

## HEALTH

There is only a limited supply of medication on board the boat. Please bring your own small first-aid kit and check whether these medications are safe to take while diving.

### Medical Information

Guests with known pre-existing medical conditions (e.g., diabetes, high blood pressure, implants, medication use, artificial joints, pacemakers, herniated discs, etc.) must present a valid medical certificate for diving (no older than 1 year). The medical questionnaire is mandatory for all guests and must also be completed on board. The CDWS regulations apply.

## BEVERAGES

During the safari, tea, instant coffee, soft drinks (Coca-Cola, Sprite, Coca-Cola Zero), and still water are available to you free of charge at all times. Other specialty soft drinks, beer, and wine are available for purchase on board (please refer to the beverage price list for prices).

The consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited during diving operations!

## TOWELS

On the ship, each guest is provided with 2 cabin towels, 1 deck towel, and 1 bathrobe. The towels will be replaced with fresh ones halfway through the tour.

## INTERNET ACCESS

Free Wi-Fi is available on board. Connection availability and quality vary by route and cannot be guaranteed by us. In general, Wi-Fi is only available while we are within range of the cellular network and is not intended for large data transfers! We recommend purchasing a local SIM card upon arrival at the airport.

## CABINS

Each cabin has portholes that can be opened. We recommend that you open them as often as possible to let fresh air into the cabin. Due to the air conditioning, there is no air circulation! However, please make sure that the portholes are closed while the ship is underway.

There is a safe on board. Since there is no insurance, please note that we assume no liability for missing valuables.

You should store your valuables and passport in the safe. At the guest's request, we collect the service fee and other charges right at the start of the safari so that these amounts do not have to be carried around for a week.

## CLIMATE AND CLOTHING

The Red Sea has a dry desert climate. Especially during the summer months, you can expect daytime temperatures around 35°C. During the winter months, it cools down significantly in the evenings, but even during the day, a windbreaker or a warmer sweater is sometimes advisable. On the boat, light, summery clothing and a warm sweater for cool evenings are sufficient. You should definitely not forget to bring something to protect your ears.

## RENTAL EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS

There is generally no rental equipment available on board the boats. If you need rental equipment or individual pieces of gear, we recommend that you notify us in writing at least 14 days in advance. Payment is due in cash on site. You should also bring the most important spare parts for your equipment yourself, including, for example, mask and fin straps. Please also remember to bring batteries and replacement bulbs for your headlamp. Ordered equipment can be canceled free of charge up to 2 days before the safari begins.

## MARINE PARK

Night diving is generally prohibited in the Marine Park. Access to the islands is not permitted.

## NITROX

Nitrox membrane systems are available on our boats. Should the nitrox system fail and nitrox cannot be provided, there is no entitlement to compensation. Nitrox is free of charge for divers with the appropriate certification.

Payment is made on-site. We also ask that you register in advance for courses such as Nitrox, Specialty, or AOWD courses; otherwise, we cannot guarantee that the course will be held.

## SMOKING ON BOARD

There is a general smoking ban in all enclosed spaces on the boats. The boats are equipped with smoke detectors that respond to even the slightest amount of smoke and have been installed for your safety. Please use the ashtrays provided and do not throw "remnants" overboard.

## SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Life jackets are available for all guests and crew members. There are two self-inflating life rafts on the upper deck. You will find powder fire extinguishers in all cabins, the cabin corridor, the salon, the galley, and the engine room in case of an emergency. In addition, the ships are equipped with a fire hose (water). Upon arrival on the ships, you will receive instruction on the location and use of the safety equipment.

## SALON

Please do not wear wet diving or swimwear in the salon, as the seat cushions do not dry well due to the high humidity.

## **SATELLITE PHONE**

Our ship is equipped with a satellite phone. In an emergency, this allows us to contact the mainland at any time. These phones do not have constant reception and are therefore not intended as guest phones for incoming calls. If guests need to make important calls, we will of course make the satellite phone available for a fee.

## **SLEEPING ON DECK**

It is not permitted to take bedding, blankets, or mattresses from the cabins out onto the deck. If you wish to sleep on deck, please bring a sleeping bag and use the cushions from the sun deck as a mattress.

## **FOOTWEAR**

Wearing shoes on board is prohibited. Outside the cabins and the salon, flip-flops or lightweight sailing shoes are permitted.

## **LANGUAGE**

Each safari is accompanied by a German-speaking guide. Our Egyptian guides speak English and, in some cases, German. The crew on board speaks Egyptian Arabic and, in some cases, a little English.

## **ELECTRICITY**

220-volt AC power is available 24 hours a day. There is a charging station for lamps and cameras on the dive deck. Charging any devices in the cabins is strictly prohibited—fire hazard! Please note: Automatic chargers are not necessarily suitable for use on board due to frequent voltage fluctuations.

## **Safety and Conduct on Board**

The Cruise Director has the authority to issue instructions in consultation with management and the captain. This applies in particular to route changes due to weather conditions, official regulations, or safety-related situations. There is no entitlement to compensation in such cases. Participants who violate safety regulations or endanger themselves, others, the crew, or the ship may be excluded from activities. Entering restricted areas (e.g., engine room, bridge, galley, crew quarters, compressor and gas mixing rooms) and taking photos or videos there is prohibited. Tampering with safety equipment (e.g., life jackets, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, life rafts) is strictly prohibited. In the event of violations, we reserve the right to remove guests from the vessel.

## **CHANGES TO DIVE SAFARI VESSELS / MINIMUM**

**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS** If the booked vessel is unable to operate the tour for logistical or technical

reasons, we will inform you of the changes in a timely manner.

The minimum number of participants for our safaris is generally 20 people. If the minimum number of participants is not reached, we reserve the right to cancel the safari 14 days before the trip begins!

## **DIVING ACCIDENTS**

Decompression dives are strictly prohibited, and the maximum diving depth is 40 meters. In case of a diving emergency, there are four 50-liter oxygen tanks with regulators and masks on board the ships. A portable oxygen kit is also available. The necessary equipment is kept with the captain or the dive guide. First-aid kits and common medications are also on board. Transporting an injured diver to the nearest hospital or hyperbaric chamber can take up to 8 hours or longer, depending on the circumstances. Therefore, you should always remember not to take any unnecessary risks. You can purchase decompression insurance on board for a fee.

### **Diving & Activities**

The maximum diving depth prescribed by Egyptian law and CDWS regulations is 35 meters. Under certain conditions, however, extensions to 40 meters are permitted. This requires a Deep Dive certification. Technical diving and rebreather diving must be registered in advance and are only permitted with the appropriate qualifications, experience, insurance, and an additional guide. This also applies to freediving. Night diving, as well as swimming and snorkeling, are prohibited in marine park areas. Access to islands is not permitted. Permissions for snorkeling and swimming activities are granted by the cruise director and captain depending on conditions (weather, currents, waves, sharks, etc.).

## **PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

To participate in our liveaboard safaris, you must have completed a diving certification and provide proof of at least 30 logged dives. For trips to the marine parks (Brothers, Daedalus, Rocky, Zabargad), proof of 50 logged dives is required. Your last dive should not have been more than 1 year ago. If these requirements are not met, our dive guides reserve the right to exclude participants from certain dives or the entire liveaboard, or to adjust the liveaboard route to suit the participants' level of training and experience.

## **ITINERARY**

On the day of arrival, check-in on the boat begins at 3:00 p.m.; departure from the harbor takes place the following morning. Six days at sea with 3–5 dives per day and 2–3 dives on the last day, depending on the route, season, area, conditions, and opportunities.

One day before departure, the boat returns to port before dark. Our meal service as part of the booked full-board package begins with check-in on the boat and ends with check-out from the boat. The operation of a liveaboard trip is also subject to weather conditions (wind, waves, currents) and local regulations. Should the route be changed due to weather conditions or military activities, or should the safari be unable to proceed due to official decisions (CDWS or government), there is no entitlement to

compensation. For this reason, we cannot guarantee access to specific dive sites. Check-out from the boat on the day of departure is at 10:00 a.m. after breakfast. Depending on the transfer time, it may be advisable to spend the day of departure at a day hotel or a hotel with pool access. Please inquire about costs; these are not included in the safari price!

**We ask all participants to have the following documents ready at check-in**

- Passport / ID card
- Diving certifications
- Medical certificates
- Dive log
- Other relevant documents

Travel documents must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the date of entry. Please note that all permits are issued based on the document used upon entry. If entering the country with an ID card, 2 biometric passport photos are required. Entry with an ID card is not possible for all nationalities. Changes (e.g., a new passport) must be reported no later than one week before the start of the trip. If changes are reported late, we reserve the right to charge for any resulting costs.

We reserve the right to accommodate guests in a 4-star hotel (by arrangement) on the first or last night for organizational or technical reasons.

## **TRANSFER**

Your tour guide—easily recognizable by a sign bearing the name of the ship you booked—will be waiting for you in the airport arrival hall. There, the prepaid entry visa will be affixed to your passport, and the guide will be on hand to offer advice and assistance. A second tour guide will be waiting in the departure hall, also holding a sign with the name of the ship you booked. He will lead you to the appropriate bus. Transfers are group transfers! The transfer from Hurghada Airport (or from a hotel along the route) to Hurghada Marina is included in the tour price. For the transfer from Marsa Alam Airport (or from a hotel along the route) to Port Ghalib, additional costs (upon request) will be charged.

For group and VC bookings, one transfer to/from the ship is included.

There may be a wait of up to 3 hours in Hurghada! In this case, you can store your luggage at our office upon arrival and departure from Hurghada. We can also arrange a day room or pool access upon request and for a fee. For guests who wish to avoid a longer wait, we're happy to organize special transfers. These special transfers must be reserved before the safari begins and then paid for on site. You can get the cost of a private transfer upon request. Transfer prices depend on the current exchange rate!

If you have any questions or issues upon arrival, you can reach us during office hours at +20 (0) 100 171

2004 or +20 (0) 100 171 2005. Outside of office hours, please feel free to contact the transfer service directly at +20 (0) 102 076 0262 (English-speaking).

## TIPS

More so than in some other countries, a “baksheesh” is expected in Egypt. Tipping is, of course, a voluntary gesture—a thank-you for the service provided by the crew and guides.

## Insurance

We strongly recommend purchasing travel, diving, and baggage insurance. Diving insurance can be purchased on board, but it only covers initial treatment in a hyperbaric chamber. We recommend purchasing comprehensive diving insurance (e.g., DAN, Aqua Med, etc.).

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

If you have any questions or problems during your liveaboard, our dive guides and the ship’s crew are here to assist you with advice and support.

**All information in this PDF comes from the boat owners and/or their management, not from Omneia. While we strive to keep all information up to date, we cannot accept any liability for the content of the text or its accuracy. No rights or claims of any kind may be derived from this information. It does not constitute a warranty of quality, nor does it form part of a travel contract.**



All details subject to change. Current prices and availability at:  
<https://omneia.de/en/good-to-know>