

WELCOME!

We are very excited to have you travel with us. Our destinations are magical, and our reputation is world class. Because of this, many our guests come back year after year. Our entire staff is here to ensure that you have an amazing experience. In this package you will find information to help you prepare for your upcoming adventure. If you have any questions or special requests, please contact us. We look forward to seeing you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dolphin Scuba Reservations Office

Office Hours
1530 El Camino Ave Sacramento, CA 95815
Monday-Friday: 9 am – 7 pm
Saturday: 9 am – 4 pm

Office (USA): 800-436-5744 +1-916.929.8188
randy.haight@dolphinscuba.com www.dolphinscuba.com

Emergency/Delay in Travel – After Hours 7 Days a Week
+1-916.929.8188

Updated October 2018

DIVING



The crew of Rocio Del Mar is here to help you in any way possible to make your visit to the Sea of Cortez/Midriff Islands an unforgettable experience.

The Sea of Cortez is also called “The World’s Aquarium” by Jacque Cousteau. Our Sea of Cortez season runs from July through September. Each trip runs from Saturday to Saturday. The boat departs from Puerto Peñasco, Mexico at 5pm. We travel for 12 hours and arrive by 7am the next morning ready for our first dive.

The Sea of Cortez is very diverse and has as vast array of nudibranchs, blennies, jawfish, rays and guitarfish, schools of fish, eels, octopus, sea horses, frogfish, Mexican horn sharks, and the list goes on and on. We also have a lot of whale activity on this trip. We consistently see pilot, fin, and sperm whales. On the last day of diving, we do a dive in the morning then snorkel with whale sharks at Bahia de Los Angeles. By 3pm we start motoring back to Puerto Peñasco. Divers enjoy 3 - 4 dives per day and 2 night dives.

Our trips have 3 dive masters on board to lead dives and assist divers. We also have two zodiac drivers vigilantly watching for bubbles and retrieving divers upon surfacing. We provide 80 cubic ft. aluminum tanks that are both DIN & yoke compatible.

ABOUT THE BOAT

Rocio del Mar is of the utmost sea worthiness and is approved by both the U.S. Coast Guard and the Mexican Coast Guard. She is equipped with state of the art electronics and all safety equipment required.

Rocio del Mar is 100’ long with a 25’ beam.

The amount of guests Rocio Del Mar accommodates is 20.

There are ten air-conditioned cabins that sleep two guests each. There are six cabins with two over-sized twin bunks (rooms 1-6), 2 cabins with a full bed and a twin bunk (rooms 9 & 10), and 2 cabins with queen bed each (rooms 7 & 8). Each cabin is outfitted with drawers for storage. There is also storage space under the bottom bunks and clothing/towel hooks. Each cabin also has its own bathroom with lavatory, shower, and toilet.

Our guests enjoy Tempur-Pedic® mattresses and quality bed linens. Our steward cleans all rooms, bunks, and bathrooms during the first dives of the day. We provide bath towels and dive deck towels, and these are changed mid-trip.

The galley is in the bow of the boat and comfortably accommodates all 20 passengers. The galley also has a television and DVD player should the group want to do presentations.

The salon is comfortable with full-sized sofas, a TV, and a computer table.

There is an outside, covered deck with comfortable patio furniture as well as a shaded sundeck with lawn chairs which are perfect for relaxing between dives.

The dive deck is large and well organized with a spacious camera table. There is a dive platform for ease of boarding the inflatables with two outdoor showers. There is a restroom located next to the dive deck.

Rocio has two 18' Achilles inflatables for the safety and ease of our divers with very sturdy ladders.

All voltage aboard the Rocio Del Mar is 110, just like the USA.

For photos and more details, please visit our website: www.DolphinScuba.com.

Rocio del Mar reserves the right to allocate room assignments as needed.

PASSENGER INFORMATION & LIABILITY RELEASE FORMS

Prior to your trip date, we require passenger registration information for every guest.

To make this process as easy as possible, gather all pertinent information such as dive certifications, medical and dive insurance information, etc. before you start. Read the instructions provided at the beginning of the form. Once you start, you will have a 4-hour window to complete the form otherwise you will need to restart the process.

The more information we have about you, the better we can accommodate your needs including dietary restrictions, if any.

In addition, we require manually-signed liability waivers. You will find a link to this form when you complete your on-line passenger information.

Once you manually sign the liability waivers, this needs to be sent to Randy Guest Services along with a photograph of your passport. Please send your manually-signed liability release form and photograph of your passport to:

randy.haight@dolphinscuba.com

Please provide these documents no later than 30 days before your trip date.

You can also provide a copy of your manually-signed liability release form and photograph of your passport by fax or mail as follows:

FAX
(916) 929-3528

MAIL
Dolphin Scuba
1530 El Camino Ave
Sacramento, CA 95815

If you have any questions, please contact Randy in Guest Services at randy.haight@dolphinscuba.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rocio del Mar maintains daily contact with our US office via radio communications. We are ready for constant communication in the event of an emergency. Your family and friends are welcome to contact our office at (800)-436-5744 in case of an emergency. Our office staff will immediately assist your family and friends in getting messages to you. We also have a satellite phone on board for your use and emergency needs. The phone number is +1-916.929.8188 and the rate for using the phone is $2 per minute.

We do not have Wi-Fi on the boat.

GETTING TO THE BOAT

Rocio del Mar is located at the Marina Fonatur in Puerto Peñasco, Mexico. Marina Fonatur is approximately a 4-hour drive from Phoenix, Arizona. Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport is the most convenient and closest airport to fly into to reach our port.

We can facilitate transportation services to and from Phoenix and the Marina for you through Head Out to Rocky Point. This shuttle service has 14 passenger vans that haul trailers for gear. The cost is $125 per person, round trip, payable directly to Head Out to Rocky Point. If you require this service, please do two things: 1) indicate this on your passenger documents, and 2) reserve and pay.

If you would like to drive, there is secured parking available next to the marina at $5 per day.

TRAVELING TO MEXICO

For guests DRIVING into Mexico, (including riding the Head Out To Rocky Point shuttle), you must stop at immigration and purchase a Mexican Tourist Card (FMM). Some refer to it as a visa, but it is not officially a visa.

The cost is $36 US in CASH. Credit cards are not accepted, and immigration officials will not give change.

This is not a new law; it has been in effect for years, yet it was not often enforced. However, it is now, and we must provide these to the Harbormaster. If we do not have an FMM for every passenger, the boat cannot leave the port. Should you lose your FMM, there is a fine of $50 US.

All passengers FLYING into any foreign country, the fee is included in the airfare. Guests will complete the necessary immigration papers on the plane. You will need to return your FMM Card when you exit Mexico.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Passengers must arrive at Phoenix Sky Harbor airport no later than 11am on the trip departure date. If you choose the Head Out to Rocky Point shuttle service, the shuttle will pick up all passengers at 1pm at Terminal 4, door #5 at the outer curb, northside arrivals.

The trip takes 4 hours and it will cross the international border. Head Out to Rocky Point is very familiar with this process and are there to help. In addition, the driver will stop along the way, so people can use the restroom and purchase snacks including alcoholic beverages.

All passengers must have reached the marina and be aboard Rocio del Mar between 5pm and 6pm. Should you arrive earlier, you can spend your time site-seeing or shopping. Departure from Puerto Peñasco occurs at approximately 6pm. Dinner is served at 7pm.

Once aboard Rocio del Mar, you will be shown to your cabin and dive station. Our dive master will ask you to provide your scuba diving certification cards and proof of dive insurance.

RETURN

The boat will return to the marina in the early morning and passengers need to be ready to depart by 7am. A continental breakfast will be served. The shuttle will pick up passengers promptly upon disembarking. Please remember to book your departing flight from the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport no earlier than 2pm.

ITINERARY

You will board the boat after 5:00pm and dinner will be served at 7:00pm. The boat will depart shortly thereafter.

Please do not ask to board the boat prior to 5:00pm. The crew is very busy getting the boat readied for the trip.

Once aboard Rocio del Mar, you will be shown to your cabin and dive station. Our dive master will ask you to provide your scuba diving certification cards and proof of dive insurance.

Proof of diving certification and dive insurance is required. Without proof, you will not be able to dive.
NO EXCEPTIONS!

Day 1 - Embark at 5pm in Puerto Peñasco. Depart at 6pm

Day 2 - Wake up at Refugio Bay on Angel Island
Potential Dive sites: Angel Rock, La Vela, Lolo's Cove, Sunset Zodiak Cruise with Sea Lions

Day 3 - Angel Island
Potential Dive sites: Andrea's Eagle, El Aquario, Las Vivoras, Las Vivoras including a night dive

Day 4 - San Pedro Martir
Potential Dive sites: El Arroyo, Punta Martir (Sea Lions), Chayo's Cove

Day 5 - San Pedro Martir
Potential Dive sites: Ravijunco, Xareni's Pinnacle, Coromel, Morrito, in the afternoon we go looking for whales!

Day 6 - Salsipuedes & Animas
Potential Dive sites: Los Cuervos, El Caballo, In Animas, El Lavadero, El Lavadero including a night dive

Day 7 - Baja and Snorkeling with Whale Sharks in Bahia De Los Angeles
Potential Dive sites: El Pescador, Baja Ca., start heading back to Puerto Penasco in afternoon

Day 8 - Disembark at 7am

SUGGESTED GEAR & CLOTHING

Besides your normal dive gear, every diver is required to have the following: dive computer, safety sausage (SMB) and a whistle.

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We absolutely recommend exposure protection (wetsuits/light drysuits) on our trips. The Sea of Cortez is a dynamic body of water and this exploration covers such a span of islands that the water temperatures can change significantly from day to day. Water temperatures range from 70°-85°F (21°-29°C). Many guests have found that a 3mm wetsuit along with a hooded vest works best. Gloves and dive lights are permitted and suggested especially for night diving.

Surface water temperature averages: June & July 75°, August 80°, and September & October 87°.

We have regulators, BCD's, dive computers and HP100 tanks available for rental at $50 each. Please let us know at least two weeks prior to your arrival if you want to rent equipment so we have it on board for you. We do not rent exposure suits, hood, fins, masks, safety sausages (SMB's), whistles or lights. As we have a limited number of these items available to rent and they are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dress is casual. Do not forget your hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN YOUR PRICE OF YOUR TRIP

The price of your trip INCLUDES:

- All taxes & port fees
- All meals, snacks and beverages including canned soft drinks
- Complimentary local beer and wine
- Tanks, weights and weight belts

Guests are welcome to bring along their own beverages if there is something special they would like.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR PRICE OF YOUR TRIP

- National Park Fee - $28 per person
- Nitrox Fee - $120 per person
- Transfers to and from the boat
- Crew Gratuity (10%-15% of trip price is customary)
- Fuel Surcharge* if applicable

Fees and gratuity can be paid in advance or on the boat. Cash (USD, Pesos and Euros) and MasterCard/Visa are accepted.

*Fuel Surcharge: Rocio del Mar has the right to implement a fuel surcharge on all trips in the event the cost of fuel surpasses 20 Pesos per liter. Should this occur, all guests will be notified prior to boarding.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Proof of diving certification and dive insurance is required. Without proof, you will not be able to dive.
NO EXCEPTIONS!

Rocio del Mar reserves the right to assign all cabins.

We recommend you purchase trip insurance.

Although the conditions in the Sea of Cortez are mostly calm, there are times that the sea can be rough. There are several over the counter remedies that can help you. In case you have a propensity to motion sickness or are concerned that you might develop symptoms, please prepare yourself with preventive measures before departure.

UNFORESEEN EVENTS / TRIP INSURANCE / TRIP INTERRUPTION

Rocio del Mar Liveaboard is of the utmost seaworthiness and is approved by the U.S. Coast Guard and Mexican Coast Guard. Rocio del Mar is equipped with state-of-the-art electronics and all required safety equipment.

Passenger safety is paramount and therefore the captain has the sole discretion to change, delay, return early or cancel the cruise if necessary. These reasons include but are not limited to bad weather, perils of the sea, acts of God, political incidents or force majeure.

Trip insurance is suggested as it provides you with reimbursement for unused, non-refundable, pre-paid trip costs if you are prevented from taking your trip due to a covered reason. All trip insurance is not the same, so it is important to make sure that you purchase travel insurance that includes travel interruption.

DEPOSITS & CANCELLATIONS / INDIVIDUALS

DEPOSITS

- 25% deposit is due to hold the reservation
- 25% is due six months prior to the scheduled trip date
- Remaining balance is due three months prior to scheduled trip date

CANCELLATIONS

- There is no penalty for cancellations made 9 months or more prior to the scheduled trip date
- 25% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 91 days to 9 months prior to the scheduled trip date
- 50% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 61 to 90 days prior to the scheduled trip date
- No refunds for cancellations made 60 days prior or less to the scheduled trip date

DEPOSITS & CANCELLATIONS / GROUPS

DEPOSITS

- A $5,000 non-refundable deposit is due to hold the reservation
- 25% of the trip price is due one year prior to the scheduled trip date (the $5000 deposit can be used to make up the 25% deposit)
- 25% is due six months prior to the scheduled trip date
- The balance less your commission is due three months prior to the scheduled trip date

CANCELLATIONS

- There is no penalty for cancellations made 12 months or more prior to the scheduled trip date however the $5000 deposit is non-refundable
- 25% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 12 months to six months prior to the scheduled trip date
- 50% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made six months to 91 days prior to the scheduled trip date
- No refunds for cancellations made 90 days or less prior to the scheduled trip date

HOTELS NEAR PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

If you are taking the Head Out to Rocky Point shuttle, you will need to go back to the airport to get the shuttle (terminal 4, door #5 at the outer curb, northside arrivals). Pick up is at 1pm. If you have a group of 10 staying at the same hotel, Head Out to Rocky Point will pick you up at your hotel.

RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT
PHOENIX AIRPORT
801 North 44th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85008
(602)293-4439 Direct
(602)273-9220 Hotel
(602)273-7221 Fax
www.residenceinnphoenixairport.com

LA QUINTA INN (Near the Airport)
911 S. 48th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85281
(480)967-4465
(800)738-8767
www.lq.com

QUALITY INN
1550 S. 52nd Street
Tempe, AZ 85281
(480)967-3000
(800)4-Choice

COMFORT SUITES
1625 S. 52nd Street
Tempe, AZ 85281
(480)446-9500
www.choicehotels.com

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS
3401 E. University
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602)453-9900
www.hiephoenix.com

COAST HOTEL
4300 E. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602)273-7778
Res: (800)716-6199

BEST WESTERN AIRPORT INN
2425 S. 24th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602)273-7251
(800)528-8199

DOUBLE TREE SUITES BY HILTON PHOENIX
Near the Airport
320 N. 44th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85008
(602)225-0500

CROWNE PLAZA PHOENIX AIRPORT
4300 E. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85034
(602)273-7778

HILTON GARDEN INN PHOENIX AIRPORT NORTH
3838 E. Van Buren St.
Phoenix, AZ 85008
(602)306-2323