



## **SPIRIT OF FREEDOM INFORMATION AND RATES JULY 2018 - JUNE 2019**

Spirit of Freedom offers unique scuba diving experiences along the remote far northern coast of Queensland, and into the oceanic wilderness of Australia's Coral Sea. Live-aboard expeditions travel to iconic dive destinations for encounters with sharks, Dwarf Minke whales, and diverse marine life amongst isolated and abundant coral reefs.

Regarded as Australia's largest and most comfortably appointed dive vessel, the 37 metre cruiser offers spacious accommodations for up to 26 guests in 11 generous cabins with private bathroom. The three deck steel mono-hull boasts electronic stabilizers, the latest navigation and scuba technology, and spacious dive deck and communal areas. The on-board experience includes chef prepared meals, Australian wine with dinner, and personalised service provided by 10 experienced crew.

Year round, three, four, and seven-day expeditions visit the world renown diving destinations of the Cod Hole, Ribbon Reefs, and Osprey Reef in the Coral Sea. Special expeditions are also available on an ad hoc basis, and custom whole boat charters can be reserved.



### **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](mailto:randy.haight@dolphinscuba.com) [www.dolphinscuba.com](http://www.dolphinscuba.com)

**Emergency/Delay in Travel – After Hours 7 Days a Week**

+1-916.929.8188



### **3 DAY COD HOLE AND RIBBON REEF DIVE ADVENTURE**

**Duration:** 3 Nights, up to 11 Dives

**Departs Cairns:** Monday 12 noon **Returns Cairns:** 11:30am Thursday

**Suitability:** Open Water Divers & Snorkelers - Minimum of 10 ocean dives including 5 within the past 12 months

**Highlights:** Encounter a family of giant potato cod at the world famous Cod Hole, and dive the Ribbon Reefs, an ecosystem of unsurpassed marine diversity with clouds of colourful tropical fish, anemones, turtles, olive sea snakes, and untouched coral gardens.

**Itinerary** Day 1: Cairns hotel transfer to Trinity Wharf, to board Spirit of Freedom. Enjoy lunch on board, before an afternoon check dive on the outer reefs from Cairns. Overnight travel to the top of the Ribbon Reefs. Day 2 and Day 3: Two days of diving at the Ribbon Reefs including Cod Hole. Day 4: Disembark on Lizard Island and enjoy a guided island walk before a scenic low-level flight back to Cairns.

### **4 DAY CORAL SEA AND RIBBON REEF DIVE ADVENTURE \***

**Duration:** 4 Nights, up to 15 Dives

**Departs Cairns:** Thursday 8:30am **Returns Cairns:** 7:30am Monday

**Suitability:** Advanced level Divers - Minimum of 20 ocean dives including 5 dives within the past 12 months

**Highlights:** Osprey Reef is an old volcanic atoll 220km offshore in the remote Coral Sea, where divers experience 1000m walls, massive soft coral and gin clear waters, while diving amongst sharks and pelagics.

**Itinerary** Day 1: Cairns Hotel transfer to Hinterland Aviation to board a light aircraft for a one-hour flight to Lizard Island to board the vessel. Cruise to Ribbon Reef # 10, for two dives, before overnight steam to Osprey Reef. Day 2 and Day 3: Up to 5 dives a day will be on offer including a shark attraction dive. Day 4: Further dives at Ribbon Reef #5 at sites such as world famous Steve's Bommie, before overnight cruising back to Cairns. Day 5: Light breakfast on board and transfer to Cairns hotel.

### **7 DAY COD HOLE, RIBBON REEFS AND CORAL SEA DIVE ADVENTURE \***

**Duration:** 7 Nights, up to 26 Dives

**Departs Cairns:** Monday 12 noon **Returns Cairns:** Monday 7:30am

**Suitability:** Advanced level Divers - Minimum of 20 ocean dives including 5 dives within the past 12 months

**Highlights:** The Ribbon Reefs offers the best of the Great Barrier Reef with clouds of tropical fish and pristine coral gardens. Osprey Reef lies 220km offshore in the remote Coral Sea. Here divers experience 1000m walls, massive soft coral and gin clear waters, while diving amongst sharks, mantas and pelagics.

**Itinerary** Day 1: Cairns hotel transfer to Trinity Wharf, to board Spirit of Freedom. Enjoy lunch on board, before an afternoon check dive on the outer reefs from Cairns. Overnight travel to the Ribbon Reefs. Day 2 and Day 3: Two days of diving at the Ribbon Reefs, including Cod Hole. Day 4: After overnighting in the bay at Lizard Island, enjoy a morning guided island walk, before afternoon diving and a night crossing to Osprey Reef. Day 5 and 6: Up to 5 dives a day, including a shark attraction dive. Day 7: Diving Ribbon Reef #5 including Steve's Bommie, before an overnight cruise back to Cairns. Day 8: Light breakfast on board and transfer to Cairns hotel.

**\*Coral Sea and other itineraries subject to change in adverse weather**



## ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS:

### MINKE WHALES

Dwarf Minke Whale encounters can be experienced in June and July, when these small curious whales migrate from the Antarctic seas to the warm waters of the Great Barrier Reef. Lingering around the Ribbon Reefs, the whales often freely approach divers and snorkelers up to a few metres away, allowing a unique and remarkable encounter. Spirit of Freedom is endorsed by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority to offer Swimming with Whales activities.



Photo: Ochi Takagi

### FAR NORTHERN EXPEDITIONS

The Far Northern Reefs are known as the isolated reefs north of Lizard Island that extend to the tip of Cape York peninsular, around 500 nautical miles from Cairns. One of the last totally pristine areas of the Great Barrier Reef, these reefs are seldom visited by any boats, and many of the hundreds of reefs in the region, are yet to be fully explored. Diving expeditions to the Far Northern reefs is only available in the spring and early summer, in line with the turtle nesting season. While offering incredible diving, these expeditions are of an exploratory nature and are suitable only for experienced divers. Spirit of Freedom has 4 x 7 day expeditions in 2018 departing 22nd & 29th October and 19th and 26th November, 2018 Please enquire for rates and further information .





### **STANDARD TRIP INCLUSIONS:**

- Transfers to/from your Cairns city hotel
- Low –level scenic flight – Lizard Island to Cairns (3 & 4 day Tours)
- Ensuite cabin with daily service
- Chef prepared gourmet meals – Australian Style
- Australian wines and soft drinks with evening meals

### **GUEST DINING:**

Our Chefs serve a variety of fine quality healthy meals using the best of our local produce. You will find a mix of international influences in the selection that cater to most tastes. Special requests/dietary requirements can be catered to with prior notice. Lunch and dinner are provided on the day of departure, with 4 meals a day on ensuing days, and breakfast on the day of return to Cairns. Tea, coffee machine and fountain water are always available for self service. We operate a ships bar offering an assortment of beer, mixed drinks and wine selection. Australian style BBQ is served on the last night of each itinerary.

### **DIVING SERVICES:**

- Full Gear Hire and Individual Gear Hire items available onboard
- Nautilus Lifeline GPS locator devices issued to all diving guests
- 32% Nitrox Fills available
- PADI Advanced and Nitrox Courses available
- Camera station, wash tub and air gun available
- Camera Hire
- Dive freedom and/or In water dive supervision available

### **ACTIVITIES:**

- WiFi access when in range
- Upper sundeck with lounges
- Extensive library
- On board movies and games

### ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS:

**Ocean View Deluxe Cabin:** Located on Upper Deck, Double bed, large ocean view windows, TV & Apple TV/Movies, Private bathroom. 10.5 sq metres including bathroom.

**Ocean View Standard Cabin:** Located on Upper Deck, Double bed, large ocean view windows, TV & Apple TV/Movies, Private bathroom. 7.5 sq metres, including bathroom.

**Stateroom Cabin:** Lower deck, queen bed, TV & Apple TV/Movies, private bathroom. 11 sq meters including bathroom

**Double/Twin share Cabins:** Lower deck, double bed with single bunk above, private bathroom. 9 sq metres including bathroom.

**Quad share Cabins:** Lower deck, 4 Single beds in bunk style, private bathroom. 9 sq Meters including bathroom

### RETAIL RATES – valid from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018 to 30 June 2019:

CABIN TYPE:	Ocean View Deluxe	Ocean View Standard	Stateroom	Twin/Double	Quad Share
ITINERARY:	Price p/p AUD	Price p/p AUD	Price p/p AUD	Price p/p AUD	Price p/p AUD
3 DAY COD HOLE	\$2625	\$2425	\$2425	\$2110	\$1800
4 DAY CORAL SEA	\$3125	\$2900	\$2900	\$2550	\$2200
7 DAY COMBINED	\$5500	\$5075	\$5075	\$4410	\$3750

### VARIATIONS:

- A \$20 per person Marine Park Levy and Port fee applies (flat fee for 3, 4 or 7 days)
- Snorkellers/non divers deduct \$200 off the 3 day and 4 day trip rates and \$400 off the 7 day rates
- Sole Occupancy cabin, double the per person rate and deduct \$150 per day (N/A for Quad share)
- Gear Hire if required: AUD\$130 p/p 3 days, AUD\$170 p/p 4 days, AUD\$270 7 days
- Nitrox Packages AUD\$75 p/p 3 days, AUD\$105 4 days, AUD\$180 7 days
- PADI Advanced Course AUD\$265 p/p, PADI Nitrox Course AUD\$325 p/p

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Less than 60 days notice 20%, less than 21 days notice 100%

**CHILDREN:** Our child age limit is 10 years and older. Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent at all times, including when diving or snorkelling. Spirit of Freedom does not supply child sized scuba equipment or wetsuits.