



Guadalupe

Face-to-Face with the Great White Sharks OF GUADALUPE ISLAND

"The SHARKS! WOW! After a few slow hours in the morning the first two days, the remaining dive time was non-stop action with sometimes as many as 4 sharks circling the cages and appearing from the blue from all angles. This trip is both an adrenaline rush and an experience of extreme beauty and awe."

–Robert K.

Day 1 – Welcome Aboard!

Meet in San Diego. Sail from Ensenada, slicing 8 hours off your ocean transit time by jumping aboard "Shredder", our luxury Volvo highway coach. Our goal is to get you down to the boat as effortlessly and comfortably as possible. Your adventure begins when you join us at our San Diego Dive Center. We ask everyone to please be there by 7pm at the latest. "Shredder" (named after one of our favourite great white sharks) usually departs at 7:30pm and will whisk you down to Ensenada in 2.5 hours including clearing the border.

Our crew will be ready to greet you dockside in Ensenada with big smiles and trays of champagne. Next stop: Guadalupe Island tomorrow evening, and in calm water by dinner time! Our big, comfortable ships are the only large, steel, stabilized dive boats in this part of the Pacific and you can expect the best ride possible, although it's always a good idea to bring anti-seasickness meds. Captain Mike has always joked that drugs and alcohol make for the perfect crossing – we are pretty sure he means Gravel and a nice glass of wine.

Day 2 – At Sea

Today we will be travelling and relaxing at sea. An orientation will be held in the morning, followed by a fire and boat safety drill. A drill? On holiday? Don't worry, it is for your safety, but we will make it lots of fun. We are proud to have the first, and some of the only, ISM safety certified passenger vessel dive boats in the world. There are many strict requirements that we meet and comply with. Shark 101 will be in the afternoon, then you will have a chance to try out a shark cage on the back deck! Cocktail hour is at 7pm, although our guests often enjoy some cocktails well before that! Guests who have signed up for onboard WiFi will have all day to send photos home via email and WhatsApp. Guadalupe Island should appear over the horizon in the early evening, ensuring our guests have a calm night in the protected anchorage to relax and get a restful sleep before the next morning's excitement of diving with our sharky friends first thing! Just say "NO" to all the other shark boats with noon departures and morning arrivals with a big rush to get the cages in the water.

Day 3 – Let the Sharking Begin

Our theory on how shark trips should operate is very simple. Have loads of

large comfortable cages in the water (up to 5 cages on the Belle Amie). Open the cages for diving at 6:30am. Leave the cages open until dusk. Have lots of divemasters in the water and on the dive deck to ensure an excellent diving experience for our guests. We provide virtually unlimited diving in our surface cages and provide at least three dives a day for certified divers in our submersible cages. We love doing Shark ID in the late afternoon, followed by cocktail hour and our famous (and delicious!) Mexican Taco Fiesta on the top deck.

Day 4 – Rinse & Repeat

Cages open at 6:30am and you can start diving as early, or late as you want. One of the best things about the way we operate is that you can almost always jump into a surface cage and stay in as long as you want. The current record onboard stands at 31.5 hours in the cages over three days! Certified divers can make at least three dives a day in our deep-diving submersible cages, and there is often the chance to get an extra dive or two in these cages as well. We have a simple goal – we want to make sure you can dive as much as you want, for as long as you want. And don't worry about missing a meal if you are in the water – our chefs and hostesses will cook up breakfast to order or save a plate of food for you.

Many of our diver's love warming up in the hot tub or the dive deck showers between dives. Our water makers produce more than enough hot water for you to shower in your private ensuite cabin whenever you want. The only difference between using the hot tub or your private shower is that we feel more comfortable serving you snacks and drinks when you are in the hot tub... jejeje.

Provided it is not too windy, "theatre under the stars" on the top deck will be on offer tonight. Steven Spielberg's Jaws is always a favourite, followed closely by The Perfect Storm! Gazing up at the clear, starry Mexican sky from your comfortable lounge creates much more than a 5-star experience: it is a many-thousand-star experience!

Day 5 – The last dive day always comes too quickly!

Today is our last day of sharking! We want to give you every possible second in the water at Guadalupe, so we stay on-site until 5pm before swinging the cages onboard and heading back north to Ensenada. This means you get the maximum amount of time possible with your new toothy friends before heading home.

Tonight, we will have our last Shark ID session. Shark ID helps the scientists we work with by providing them with incredibly valuable information on shark population, movements and developments. Our guests and crew have helped identify (and name!) many of the 322 individual Great White sharks in the bay that we dive in at Guadalupe Island. Conservation, research and regulation are all dependent on constant census and identification work. Your adventure with Nautilus matters. A portion of every charter fee goes to supporting science and conservation. In 2018, we were excited to launch our bespoke shark ID software, which uploads data in real time from our ships via our satellite system

to a public domain shark ID database and sends automated email alerts to the scientists that we work with.

Day 6 – Return to Ensenada

Sadly, your time onboard will come to a close when we arrive in Ensenada at 1:30 p.m. Before you disembark, we will ensure you get a copy of the trip highlights DVD that our crew has put together. “Shredder”, our luxury coach, will be ready to transport guests to either Tijuana or San Diego. Some of our divers will likely be extending their adventure with us into the Sea of Cortez, by visiting Bahía de los Ángeles where 85–220 whale sharks gather every season, or may journey south with us for a 5-night dive getaway on our luxury yacht at the Marine Park of Cabo Pulmo. It will be sad for us to say goodbye. Hopefully we will see you again very soon. Even though diving with Great Whites is a powerful, amazing experience, we refuse to say it is “once in a lifetime” – many guests get hooked on white sharks and soon return for another adventure. We have been lucky enough to have guests return as many as 17 times! We cannot wait to welcome you onboard so you can discover for yourself why these trips are so incredibly popular!

And remember, dive safe! And always dive with a Nautilus LifeLine Marine Rescue GPS.