

Diving in Malapascua

Our exciting Malapascua – Cebu charter offers some of the best diving in the Philippines, including Sumilon Island, Pescador Island & Malapascua's Gato Island, home of a sea crate protected breeding sanctuary. This charter includes another Malapascua favorite, Monad Shoal, known for frequent sightings of thresher sharks as well as manta rays. In addition to these pelagic species, the Malapascua area offers a wide variety of critter diving not to mention abundant reefs and wall diving. Leaving Malapascua, we head to Calanggaman Island, one of Philippines most beautiful islands. Next we head to Bohol for again a wide variety of reef, wall & critter diving as well as some land tour opportunities for those so inclined. With the dramatic walls of Balicasag and coral diversity of Apo Island, this trip has it all!

This itinerary is hard to beat if you want a wide variety of locations as well as incredible diving.



Day 1: Oslob & Sumilon

We begin our journey snorkeling Oslob with the gentle giants, the Whale Sharks. We then spend the rest of the day diving around tranquil Sumilon Island, surrounded by crystal clear waters and pristine white sandy beaches. Look out for... exquisite coral gardens and drop-offs. 'Might sees' in this area include manta rays and sting rays, barracudas, sea turtles and snakes and very occasionally whale sharks and hammerheads.

Day 2: Moalboal

Impressive drop-offs and bottomless walls, divers enjoy the beautiful hard and soft corals. Look out for.... tropical reef fish, nudibranchs, turtles, and barracudas.

Day 3: Pescador Island

Rated as one of the Philippines top dive sites for many years this small island is just a couple of miles due west of Moalboal. The exhilarating scene is set by a small plateau that surrounds the island before it drops vertically into the abyss. The wall is literally teeming with life; frog fish, stonefish, barracuda and turtles are common, but the real draw is the sardine run and a chance of a thresher! After diving, we cruise to Malapascua.

Day 4 & 5: Gato Island, Monad Shoal & Malapascua

A sanctuary and protected breeding location for the beautiful sea krait (sea snake) with its resident whitetip sharks, Gato is a great introduction to Malapascua and one of the Philippine's most talked about dive locations. The island is alive with nudibranchs, harlequin ghost pipefish and pygmy seahorses; photographers will find it hard to choose between macro or wide angle. Malapascua's reputation has grown due to the frequent close up encounters with thresher sharks & manta rays at Monad Shoal. These mesmerizing creatures are a highlight to any trip. Rather than having a pre-dawn start from area resorts, Azores will be parked right on top as you enjoy a morning coffee.

Day 6: Monad Shoal & Calanggaman Island

The perfect paradise island with its white beaches blue waters, Calanggaman offers beautiful wall diving with an abundance of small creatures, and the occasional rays and sharks. This is an excellent opportunity for a beach day, in which we offer a beach BBQ lunch.

Day 7: Balicasag

A flat island four kilometres southwest of the Duljo Point; the sandy coralline beach is a site to behold. Look out for... jacks, mackerel and barracudas often seen in abundance as well as large groupers, napoleon wrasses and snappers hiding in the over hangs of the dramatic multi-hundred-foot vertical walls. Look out for... turtles, whitetip and blacktip reef sharks, eagle & manta rays, schooling barracuda and trevally, frog fish, ghost pipe fish, pygmy and thorny seahorses, plus many different species of nudibranch, among dramatic walls and reefs.

Day 8: Panglao/Visit Bohol Chocolate Hills

Look out for turtles, barracuda and trevally, frogfish, ghost pipefish, pygmy and thorny seahorses, plus many different species of nudibranch along the reef. After two morning dives a land excursion to Bohol's renowned Chocolate Hills. They look like giant mole hills covered with grass, turning to magnificent chocolate brown at the end of the dry season.

We also visit the Tarsiers, the world's smallest primate, and a unique butterfly farm. You can finish by walking down Alona Beach, famous for its white coral sand.

Day 9: Either Apo Island/Siquijor

We will dive either Apo Island or Siquijor based on conditions. Apo Island is one of the world's best-known community-organized marine sanctuaries. The island is home to over 650 documented species of fish and estimated to have over 400 species of corals.

Siquijor is called Isla del Fuego or the "Island of Fire" and look out for... superb hard and soft corals, fusiliers, many nudibranchs, clown fish, parrot fish, schools of juvenile barracuda and razor fish. Super pristine walls abound!

Day 10: Half Day Diving Dauin

The capital of Philippines critter diving, on the black sandy slopes of Dauin one may cite Flamboyant Cuttlefish, Frog Fish, Ornate Ghost Pipefish, Pygmy Seahorses, Octopus and more!

Day 11: Disembarkation 8AM