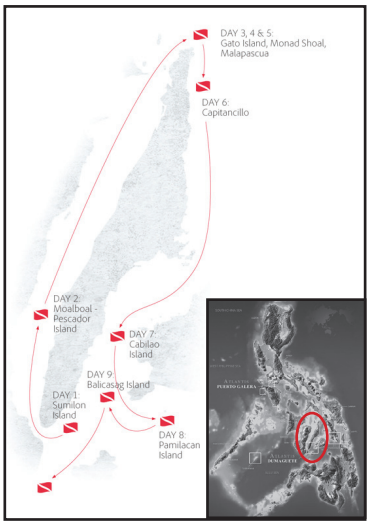
Get More from your Diving - with Dr Richard Smith

PHILIPPINES: LITTLE AND LARGE MARINE LIFE EXPEDITION

Malapascua & Cebu Liveaboard Safari- 19-29th September 2015



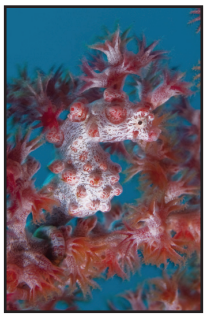
The Philippines is located within the 'Coral Triangle', an area with the world's greatest marine biodiversity. We will join the luxury Azores liveaboard on its Malapascua and Cebu itinerary, an area at the heart of the Coral Triangle. The trip will take in the best diving the Philippines has to offer, and includes rare opportunities to observe elusive thresher sharks, dive with mantas and snorkel with whale sharks. Due to its central location within the Coral Triangle, there is also opportunity to see many of the reef's unusual critters too, including pygmy seahorses, ghost pipefish, frogfish...the list goes on! Richard will present daily marine life lectures about the area's reefs and will be on hand to answer any questions, help identify creatures we come across on dives and provide pointers and tips for capturing the shots you want.

Itinerary

The 10 night itinerary takes in some of the best diving that the Philippines have to offer. Departing from Dumaguete Resort, a sister resort of the Azores, the tour will circumnavigate the island of Cebu taking in many great sites over the ten night cruise.

Highlights of the trip include the world famous thresher shark cleaning stations off Malapascua in northern Cebu, where these unique long-tailed sharks are cleansed of unwanted parasites by hoards of hungry fishes. Baitballs and schooling trevally are likely to be spotted at several sites, but Pescador Island off western Cebu is known as the site of the 'Asian Sardine Run'. Capitancillo is a rarely dived location, due to its distance from any land-based operators, but offers interesting cavern systems providing unique photographic opportunities.

Last but not least, we will be snorkelling within inches of the world's largest fish: wild whale sharks, which are attracted by fishermen feeding them tiny krill. Why not join Richard on this trip of a lifetime!



Dr Richard Smith is a British born marine biologist and underwater photographer. He has written dozens of articles, published internationally, with a focus on marine life and conservation. In 2011 Richard was awarded the first PhD on the biology of pygmy seahorses. With an undergraduate degree in Zoology and Master's in Marine Ecology he has a broad knowledge of both terrestrial and marine biology to enrich your trip.

AZORES LIVEABOARD The Azores has set new standards in liveaboard diving for the Philippines. Azores is the perfect place from which to explore some of the best diving in Asia, offering itineraries only possible by liveaboard. Sixteen pampered guests can enjoy modern multimedia equipment, ample space for lounging and even a hot tub for relaxing. Expect creature comforts, great food and a welcoming crew.

Trip Costs

Diver Rates - State Room: $4,995.00 (USD), Owner's Suite: $??

Single Supplement - $??

Payment Policy and Deposit

- $500 per person, non-refundable deposit holds a place, with the remaining fee payable in full 70 days prior to departure

Bookings

- for bookings and/or with any questions, please contact Richard or Terri:

Email - Richard@OceanRealmImages.com
or Terri@DeepBlueAdventures.com

Telephone - 0208 196 2449 (UK) or 888-266-2209 (USA - Toll Free)

Tour Includes

- 10 nights twin share stateroom accommodation aboard Azores
- All diving (tanks, weights, boat and guide)
- All meals, soft drinks, beer & social wine servings

Tour Excludes

- Marine Park fees (added to personal bill at the end of the trip)
- Transfers, including domestic flight (current estimate $260, but subject to local rates at time of booking)

Mission Statement: We at Ocean Realm Images are extremely passionate about protecting the marine environment. The focus of our trips will be to observe and photograph marine life in an environmentally friendly way, without harming or stressing animals. We want everyone to enjoy their diving, but not to the detriment of the reef and its inhabitants.