



SOCORRO DIVING

NAUTICAL NAVIGATION LLC

AND

GUADALUPE

GREAT WHITE SHARKS

WHO WE ARE

The partners of our joint venture have over 30 years scuba diving industry experience in Mexico and over 15 years experience in the Red Sea.

We are a team of professionals with years of experience in the fields of scuba diving tourism.

Our crew and staff are highly trained with extensive experience in the local diving industries and boat management.



OUR BUSINESS

Our main business activity is providing scuba diving liveaboard services in Mexico to the Socorro Islands and to Guadalupe Island.

We operate and organise diving trips onboard M/Y Cassiopeia. We cater to diving tour operators, diving schools, diving clubs and individuals.

WHAT WE OFFER

Own liveboard vessel

You will be able to book the luxury vessel directly from us, the owners of M/Y Cassiopeia.

Professional booking services

You will receive courteous service when booking your trips. Your payments will be handled properly through secure bank transfers. You will always be able to reach our representatives to finalise all details of your bookings.

Years of experience – reputability – reliability

You can rely on our experience of over 30 years in the scuba diving industry. Our name and our vessel is trusted worldwide.

Strong partnerships

You and your guests will receive professional and high-quality service thanks to the strong partnerships we have created over the years with local suppliers, agencies and agents.

High-quality full liveboard services

Your guests will be transferred between the hotel and the boat. They will enjoy luxury accommodations in double en-suite cabins, full-board accommodations, delicious and plentiful meals and beverages. Their relaxation and comfort is ensured by air-conditioned indoor areas, spacious sun decks, a comfortable salon with full technical equipment and a unique and one-of-a-kind hookah café.

Safe diving

Your guests are guided by our professional and experienced dive guides, adhering to strict diving and safety regulations. The guides are attentive and helpful, assisting all divers from beginner to more advanced levels.



CASSIOPEIA

Our boat is the well-known M/Y Cassiopeia.

She was built in 2006 to become one of the leading luxury liveaboards in the Red Sea in 2018, after a complete re-furbishing, she sailed to Mexico to continue her work in our new destination. She is a 40m long steel vessel with 2 powerful engines and unique stabilisers under the water surface to make the long journeys to far destinations more comfortable even in rough weather conditions.

Thirteen en-suite double cabins provide comfortable accommodations for 26 guests. Comfortable and large beds promise a good night's sleep, and plenty of storage is available for gear and other belongings.

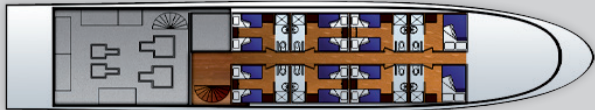
The dive deck has plenty of space for divers for gearing up all at once and for storing equipment. The spacious diving platform at the back of the boat is perfect for divers to get into the water or into the zodiacs together.

One of her unique features is our one-of-a-kind authentic hookah café where guests can relax and unwind. Traditional water pipe (shisha) makes this the most beloved place on the boat for the guests.

The other outstanding feature of the boat is the 100m² sun deck on the 4th deck. It is the ultimate relaxation point with comfortable cushions, sun chairs, tables and most of all, lots of space to lounge and to enjoy the view.







Length/Breadth

39,6 m/8,2 m

Engines

2x MAN diesel engines, 1,150HP each

Generators

2x Perkins silent generators, 120KW each

Fresh water capacity

10 tons plus 2 tons / day from desalination devices

Fuel capacity

35 tons

Electricity

110 V throughout the boat

Navigation equipment

GPS, compass, depth sounder, VHF, radio, radar, EPIRB

Diving

12l tanks, 15l tanks with DIN and INT connections, weights, diving equipment rental upon request, 2x zodiacs

Safety equipment

2x life rafts, 40x life jackets, 2x 50l emergency Oxygen tanks, first-aid kit, fire extinguishers, Satellite phone, life buoys

Decks

lower deck: cabins; main deck: cabins, dining room, sun decks, dive deck; upper deck: hookah café, salon, sun deck; upper deck: sun deck

Cabins:

8x twin, 5x queen



Wildlife Calendar



Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul

Key:

Giant Mantas

Bottlenose Dolphins

Whale Sharks

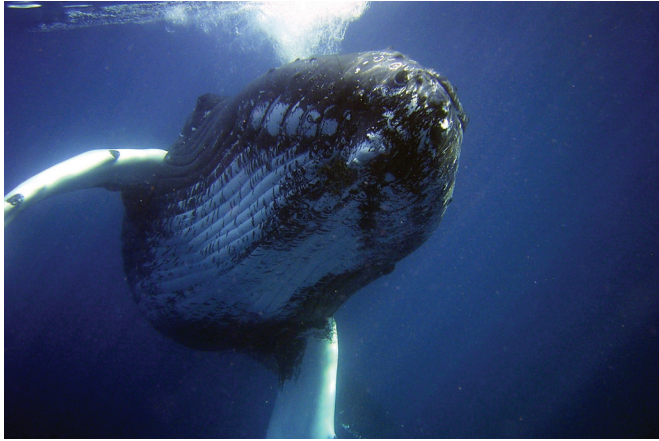
Humpbacks

Bait Ball Season

Up to 10 species of sharks

An aerial photograph of a large, white, craggy rock formation in the middle of a deep blue ocean. The rock has several jagged peaks and a dark, seaweed-covered base. White foam from waves is visible around the base of the rock. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

SOCORRO



Socorro Island is well-known for its manta rays and hammerhead sharks. It is also one of the most famous places in the world to swim with humpback whales.

Socorro is located about 450km from Los Cabos, Mexico and it is the largest of the four volcanic islands in the vast Pacific that form the Revillagigedo Archipelago.

Marine life

Socorro and its sister islands form one of the rarest spots in the world's oceans that is inhabited by so many species of pelagic fish and mammals. Among these grand creatures are humpback whales, giant manta rays, dolphins and at least ten shark species (whale sharks, silver-tips, white-tip reef sharks, hammerheads, scalloped hammerheads, tiger sharks, silk sharks, Galapagos sharks, tiger sharks, grey reef sharks). Its humpback whale population visits these waters usually between January and mid-March. These magnificent giants can be mostly observed from the surface, swimming or breaching, but rarely underwater. The giant manta rays that call the islands home are uniquely friendly and playful. Despite their sometimes threatening size, they do not shy away from divers but actually



seek them out, observe them and swim around them along with the dolphins who also tend to be curious and uninhibited around divers.

Dive sites

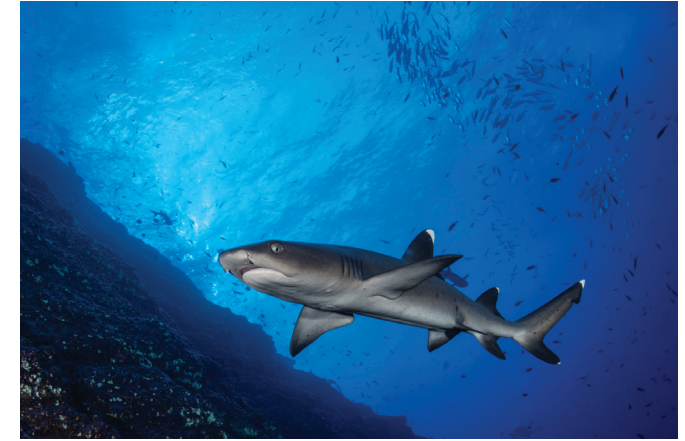
Socorro Island, Roca Partida, San Benedicto.

Diving skills

The islands are completely isolated in the great vastness of the Pacific Ocean. Currents and waves may become a hindrance in some instances, and all dives are performed in the blue (with no sea bottom in sight), all of which call for strong buoyancy skills.

Diving season

The best time to travel to and dive at the islands is from November until May. This is when the waters and sea conditions of the Pacific in this region are the calmest. Weather is mostly sunny with some intermittent showers. While mantas are here all year round, the winter months also provide an excellent and unparalleled opportunity to spot whale sharks and humpback whales that breed and calve in the area. On the mainland in Mexico this period is also favoured by general tourism which gives rise to increased flight and hotel rates.



Snorkelling

The islands are a diver's Paradise, they do not cater to snorkellers. On some rare occasions divers geared with snorkel may jump in to observe whale sharks or humpback whales from the surface of the water. Before doing so, always check with your guides and captain as sea conditions and specific spots may be hazardous.

Interesting facts

In 2016 the archipelago became a UNESCO World Heritage Site and in 2017 it was declared to be a marine reserve and national park in Mexico. Due to its fragile and unique eco system, and thanks to its newly acquired protected status, divers must adhere to strict regulations concerning diving practices in the region. No hooks, gloves, knives or lights (camera lights are permitted) are permitted to be used.



GUADALUPE



Great white sharks at Guadalupe

Guadalupe is not your usual diving destination – it is one of the world's most outstanding great white shark cage-diving destinations. The two main reasons for such an illustrious title are the unprecedented large number of great whites in the area and the crystal clear blue waters that open a window onto the unparalleled view of the ocean below.

Cage diving with great white sharks

These great predators of the oceans can be encountered in an “intimate” setting in extreme proximity, from within the safety of cages submersed, sometimes up to 10m deep into the sea. This way sharks can be observed safely and in their own natural environment. It is truly a thrill of a lifetime to be able to get so close to some of the grandest hunters in the world.

Cage diving is strictly regulated. Diving is only permitted within enclosed cages. Divers must remain within the cage at all times. No body parts or equipment (such as camera) are permitted outside of the cage. For cage diving hookah air supply (surface-supplied air) is used.

When cages are submersed, the sharks can be observed in their natural habitat, there is no need to lure them with chumming or baiting. Actually baiting



or feeding is illegal. Chumming is not considered to be feeding as the mix of fish granules and water simply give the sharks a scent. Chumming is used sometimes for surface cage diving to get the sharks closer up to the surface.

Diving season at Guadalupe

The best time to visit Guadalupe Island is from August to October when weather conditions are the most favourable. Mean temperatures are around 19-21°C (66-70°F), ideal to attract great whites. Weather during the day is mostly sunny and warm but at night temperatures can drop to about 16°C (61°F). From July to the beginning of September young male sharks arrive in the area, followed by female sharks from mid-September until the beginning of November. The biggest sharks arrive in October and November (the large females are affectionately called Big Mommas) and stay until December to feast on elephant seals. While this period is most ideal for sharks, it is also the season for hurricanes. It is advisable to purchase travel insurance with full coverage in case of trip cancellation due to dangerous weather conditions. (In November the northerly winds begin to blow and since navigation between the island and the mainland is in a west-east direction, boats would get hit hard by the winds from the side, making sailing treacherous.)



Other attractions

Cage diving liveaboard trips usually last about 5-6 days. Many travellers decide to extend their stay and visit the coastal areas of Mexico, especially the Sea of Cortes, for some scuba diving. There are also some outstanding wineries in the Guadalupe Valley that may be worth a visit.

Guadalupe island

The volcanic island of Guadalupe lies about 240km off the west coast of Baja Peninsula in the Pacific Ocean. It measures 35km in length and 9.5km in width and is made up of volcanic ridges. The island boasts a rugged landscape, its southern part completely barren and its northern part embalmed with fertile valleys. Guadalupe became a nature conservancy in 1928, making it one of the oldest ones in Mexico. Since 2005 it has been enjoying the important status of a biosphere reserve.

FAQ

SOCORRO

Where do the liveaboard trips start from? Trips start from and end in San Jose Del Cabo, Mexico.

When do you have to arrive in San Jose Del Cabo? The day before each trip.

Do you have to stay at a hotel? Yes, the night before the trip (and optionally after the trip). This way you can take care of lost luggage, last-minute replacement of any missing items.

Is transfer provided to/from the boat? Transfers are provided from hotels in San Jose Del Cabo to the boat and from the boat to hotels in San Jose Del Cabo. (No transfers are provided from/to the airport.)

What time can you board the boat? Pick-up time is at 07:00 from the hotel on departure day.

When does the boat sail out of the port? Sailing out is at 10:00.

When is the first dive? Your first dive is scheduled for the following morning at 08:00.

How many dives are there every day? The number of dives per day depend on weather conditions and the



number of boats at each location. There are usually 3-4 dives per day.

What is a usual dive plan like day by day?

Day 1: transfer from the hotel to the boat, embarkation, departure from San Jose Del Cabo at around 10:00

Day 2: at sea, diving at San Benedicto Island

Day 3: at sea, diving at Socorro Island

Day 4: at sea, diving at Roca Partida

Day 5: at sea, diving at Roca Partida

Day 6: at sea, diving at Socorro Island

Day 7: at sea, diving at San Benedicto Island

Day 8: arrival in San Jose Del Cabo at around 20:00, night spent onboard

Departure day: disembarkation (transfer to a hotel if requested)

How long is a usual liveaboard trip? Each trip usually lasts 8-9 days.

When does the boat return to the port? You will return to port on the last day at around 20:00.

By what time do you have to disembark? Disembarkation is by 09:00 on the final day.



Are the dives guided? All dives are in groups and guided.

How many dive guides are on each trip? There are 2-3 dive masters on each trip.

Are there briefings before every dive? You will be briefed by the guides before each dive.

What type of diving suit is recommended? A 5-7mm wet suit is recommended though some divers use semi-dry suits.

Are there any night dives? There are no night dives on the trips however snorkelling with silky sharks is possible at night.

How deep are the dives? Normally the dives are less than 30m. Many of the dives are made in the blue, so good buoyancy control ability is a must.

What kind of marine life can you expect at the various sites? You can expect to see 7 species of sharks (whale sharks, silver-tips, white-tip reef sharks, hammerheads, tiger sharks, silk sharks, Galapagos sharks). You will also see giant mantas, humpback whales, dolphins and lots of pelagic fish.

Are the dives from the boat or from zodiac? Dives are done from zodiacs at all times.

Can you expect any currents? Not normally but sometimes they may occur.

What are the water temperatures throughout the year? You can expect water temperatures to be around 21-25°C (70-77°F).

What is visibility like? Normally visibility is around 20-30m.

Is snorkelling possible/allowed? Snorkelling may be permitted at certain areas.

What kind of weather can be expected? What type of clothing is recommended? Normally the weather is nice and pleasant but if the North winds hit, it can be a bit rough. Light casual clothing (T-shirts, shorts, sandals) is recommended plus a sweatshirt or a light jacket for the evenings.

What is the recommend tip to the crew and to the guides? It is customary to tip about \$250 / guest. (All tips are collected and divided among the crew and guides equally.)



GUADALUPE

Where do the liveaboard trips start from? Trips start from and end in Ensenada, Mexico (near San Diego).

When do you have to arrive in Ensenada? The day before each trip. You may fly to San Diego, CA or Tijuana, Mexico.

When does the boat sail out of the port? Sailing out is at 13:00. It takes about 18 hours to get to Guadalupe Island, and in case of a late departure, the first day of diving might be lost or cut short.

How long is a usual liveaboard trip? Each trip usually lasts 5 days. Chartered trips may be booked upon request in which case the length of the trip can be tailored to the requests.

When does the boat return to the port? You will return to port on the last day at around 11:00.

By what time do you have to disembark? Disembarkation is by 13:00 on the final day to begin transfers back to San Diego and/or Tijuana.



How many cage dives are there every day? You may dive as many times a day as you wish. We recommend taking turns to give all guests equal water time. Water tends to be on the colder side and you may want to spend some time onboard, basking in the sun, drinking hot chocolate.

Are the dives guided? You will dive in groups of 4-5 per cage with a dive master.

How many cages are on the boat? Two.

How long does a cage dive last? Each dive usually lasts about 30-45 minutes.

Are there any night dives? There are no night dives on the trips. Diving is from 08:00 until 17:00.

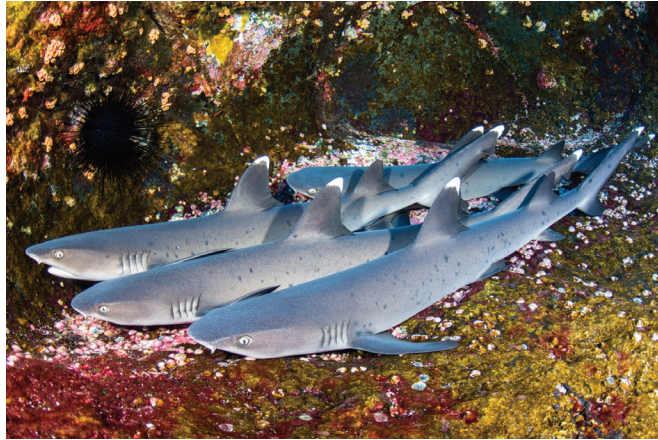
Is snorkelling possible/allowed? No snorkelling is allowed.

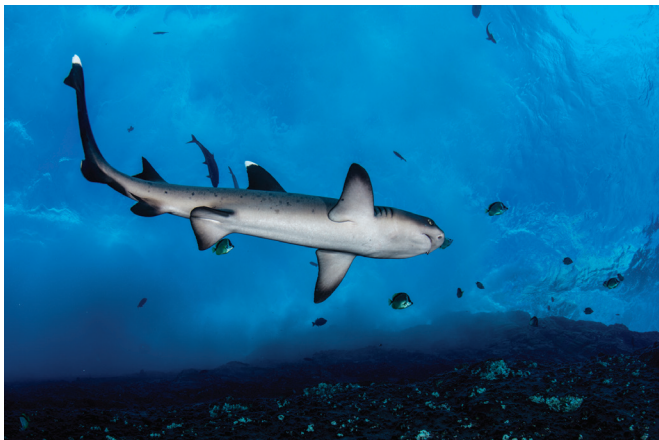
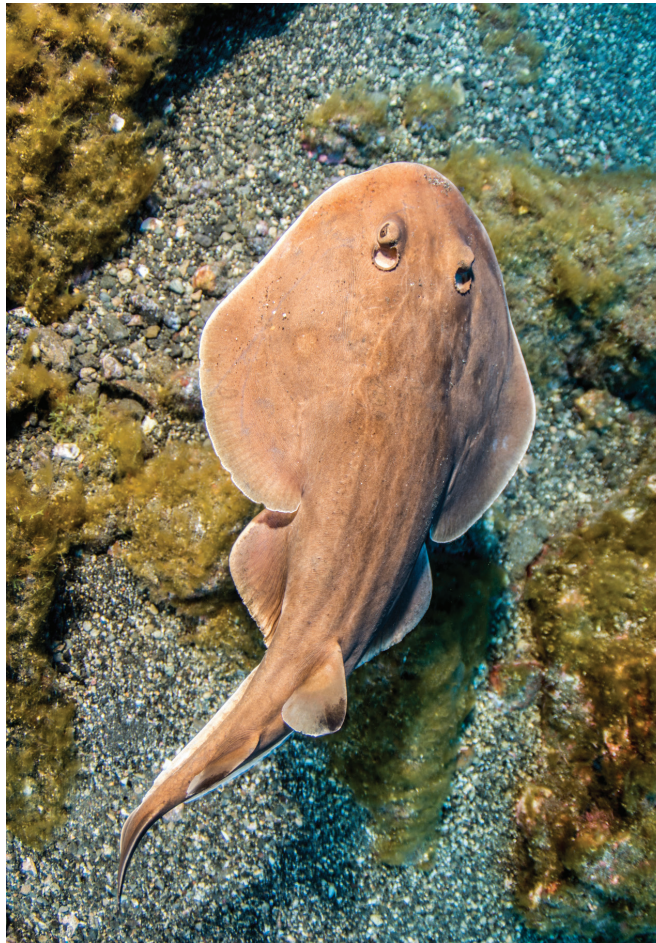
What are the water temperatures throughout the year? You can expect water temperatures to be around 17-22°C (63-74°F).

What is visibility like? The waters are crystal clear and visibility is excellent, more than 40m.



GALLERY





Stay in touch with us

Follow the latest developments through our Tweets, blogs and read the latest dive reports and news on Facebook.

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Socorro-Diving-1482096115201303/>

Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/socorro_diving/

Twitter

https://twitter.com/Socorro_Diving

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Please note that this is a promotional material only and it is to be used only for informational purposes. Rates, itineraries and other booking details are confirmed upon booking requests.



Important things to know

All guests must have passports valid for at least 6 months after the departure date from the country. Tourist card/visa is required for all non-Mexican travellers.
(<https://www.mexicotouristcard.com>).

All divers must have valid diving certificates and valid diving insurance (including decompression sickness coverage) in order to be permitted to dive.

All guests, including non-divers, must have valid travel health insurance in order to be able to take part in the safaris.

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