

Description

Two weeks (14-Days/13-Nights) of magical reef diving, wreck diving and unmatched shark diving in Mozambique and South Africa. Dive Aliwal Shoal, Protea Banks and Ponta Malongane in Mozambique. PLUS an unforgettable land safari with rhino, elephant, buffalo and many more species in a Wildlife Reserve (See the Big 5 of Africa). Non divers welcome.



Requirements

At least 20 dives logged under different conditions - Advanced certificate or equivalent recommended. At a nominal extra cost you can qualify as a Shark Specialty Diver during the safari. Other "on safari" qualifications available are a basic Nitrox qualification and the PADI Advanced certification.

Price

For 2008 : **ZAR 25,999.00 per person sharing**

For 2009 : **ZAR 29,899.00 per person sharing**

Safari Dates

2-15 December 2008

7-20 December 2009

This safari can be done throughout the year and dates for large groups are totally flexible.

Note: (This is an annual safari and bookings can be made for one year in advance)

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Day one:

Our safaris depart from Durban International Airport. From here we transfer you in air-conditioned vehicles to our lodge, central to the famous Aliwal Shoal and Protea Banks for the first leg of your South African adventure. You will be welcomed with true South African hospitality and briefed on the days to come.

Included:

- Experienced driver and guide
- All land transfers
- Shared (twin) accommodation

Excluded:

- Drinks
- Lunch and dinner

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Day two to six:

Adventure kicks into a higher gear when we spend these days completing a total of ten dives on the world-famous Aliwal Shoal and Protea Banks!

During the months of June through to November we are sure to see the Ragged Tooth Sharks as they congregate on the Shoal and Banks to mate, and it is not uncommon to find 15 to 50 of these ferocious looking but docile animals on a single dive. During the other months we find Tiger, Zambezi and Hammerhead sharks. Depending on conditions we dive Cathedral, Raggie Cave, Shark Alley or any of a number of spots at Aliwal Shoal.

Should you tire of the sharks, we can always dive on any of the wrecks or go hunting for the huge (and I mean huge) Brindle Bass! Other species, depending on the season include Manta, Devil and other Rays, schools of pelagic fish, whales, dolphins, and many, many more!

Often described as the best shark diving site in the world, Protea offers exciting drift dives with (depending on the season) Ragged Tooth Sharks, three species of Hammerheads, Zambezi (Bull), Tiger, Thresher, Copper, Dusky, Mako, the occasional Great White and many other species of shark. Like on Aliwal the shark dives are done without cages and are quite safe. No diver has ever been attacked by a shark on any of these sites.

To give the adrenaline a chance to subside we will give you one day off diving, and take you on a tour of the area as well as a visit to the premises of the Natal Sharks Board to study their display of the sharks endemic to the area! The audiovisual show and display will give you a new insight into these lovely and much maligned creatures.

The last night is obviously never without a good party, and party we can!

Included:

- Experienced driver, guide and Dive Master
- All transfers

- 10 Dives, air/Nitrox fills, weights & tanks on a "use it or lose it" basis
- Shared (twin) accommodation
- Breakfast daily
- Day tour to Durban markets/shops and Sharks Board

Excluded:

- Drinks
- Lunches and dinners
- Personal diving gear

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Day seven:

After breakfast we leave civilization for one of our many Wildlife Reserves. En route we stop over at a Zulu cultural village for a display of traditional skills and dances, as well as a decent lunch.

The reserves are home to a large variety of animal life including elephant, lion (not all reserves), leopard, buffalo, cheetah, hyena, wild dog, giraffe, hippo, crocodile, many species of antelope, an abundance of bird life, interesting flora and fauna and stunning views. The accommodation is in comfortable thatched chalets and you will go to bed with the sounds of wild Africa around you...

Included:

- Breakfast
- Experienced driver and guide
- All transfers
- Entrance to the Zulu Cultural Village & show
- All entrance fees conservation and community levies
- Game Drive (two to three hours)
- Shared (twin) accommodation

Excluded:

- Drinks
- Lunch and dinner

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Day eight:

By sunrise we will be out and about exploring the bush! An early morning game walk accompanied by an armed Game Ranger affords the opportunity to meet any of the mentioned animals close-up (and I mean close-up), a quiet hour or two in a hide the chance to see a kill, the game drives the thrill of finding as many species as possible and a night drive in an open vehicle to observe the nocturnal animals will see to it that not a moment passes without excitement and adventure!

Included:

- Breakfast
- Experienced driver and guide
- All entrance fees and community levies
- One accompanied game walk (two to three hours)
- One game drive (three to four hours)
- One night game drive (two to three hours)
- Shared (twin) accommodation

Excluded:

- Drinks
- Lunch and dinner

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Day nine:

We leave civilization even further behind when we cross the border to Mozambique and hit the 4x4 track to Ponta Malongane in Southern Mozambique. This is Africa and the border post crossing may take anything from a couple of minutes to a couple of hours. Check in at the camp (log cabins under indigenous trees) is followed by a big campfire and a meal at one of the local restaurants.

Included:

- Breakfast
- Experienced driver and guide
- All entrance fees and community levies
- Shared (twin) accommodation

Excluded:

- Drinks
 - Lunch and dinner
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Day ten to thirteen:

We do eight dives at different locations, including the very special Doodles, Bass City and Three Sisters to ensure that you experience the full magic diversity of Mozambique. You can expect to see an abundance of tropical fish, hard and soft coral, sponges, moray eels, large schools of pelagic fish, huge potato bass, turtles (hawksbill, loggerhead, green, leatherback) and depending on the time of year, whales (southern right, humpback), whale sharks and dolphins.

Visibility is rarely less than 20 meters, and the water temperature in summer is 28+ degrees Celsius and in winter not colder than 21 degrees Celsius. The depths vary between 10 to 24 meters with 30 and 50-meter sites for the suitably qualified. The dives are all done from semi-rigid boats, with exiting launches through the surf!

Included:

- Experienced driver, guide and Dive Master
- All transfers
- 8 Dives, air fills, weights & tanks on a "use it or lose it" basis
- All entrance fees, levies and reef taxes
- Shared (twin) accommodation
- Breakfast daily

Excluded:

- Drinks
 - Lunches and dinners
 - Personal diving gear
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Day fourteen:

Time to recover and degas on the way before flying from Durban to Johannesburg International Airport to be in time for your flight home.

Included:

- Breakfast
- Transfer to Durban Airport

Excluded:

- Lunch and dinner
 - Airfare to Johannesburg
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General

- Mozambique and the wildlife reserves are malaria areas and you should consult your doctor for advice on the tablets to take. The cost of this is not included in the price.
- All travel costs to and from South Africa are excluded.
- Most foreigners are required to have visas to enter Mozambique. The visas cannot be obtained at the border post, but can be bought in Durban during certain hours on week days. We recommend however that visitors purchase their visas before coming to South Africa. The cost for this is not included in the price.
- C-cards and Log Books must be presented.

Terms

- 25% Non-Refundable deposit to secure booking.
- Balance payable 30 days before departure date.
- For payment by credit card add 6%.
- All prices are per person sharing.

Important

We are committed to delivering the exact itinerary, but we reserve the right to make any changes that we find necessary for the comfort or safety of the client without notice.

Dive South Africa

<http://www.divesouthafrica.co.za>