



DIVING INFORMATION

REEF INFORMATION

The coral reefs surrounding the Island of Matemo are one of Mozambique's latest discoveries. Bordered to the east by the coastline of Northern Mozambique and to the west by the Mozambique Channel, these waters hold an astounding diversity of marine species and are all within close proximity to the resort. Dolphins are often encountered around the Island and on journeys to and from the dive sites. Humpback Whales on their annual migration are frequently sighted between August and October.

WATER TEMPERATURE

Water temperature is 30°C in summer and 26°C during winter.

THE DIVE BOAT

We use a 31ft fiberglass Gulf-Craft for our dive excursions. Powered by two 115hp Yamaha outboards we travel quickly and comfortably with ample cushioned seating in the front and rear. The vessel is fitted with GPS, Depth Sounder and Marine VHF. Safety equipment and Oxygen is carried on all journeys, as is a small first-aid kit. A bimini-top provides shade during travel and surface intervals but please plan for sun protection.

We have also got a 30ft Rigid Inflatable Boat (rubber duck) for dives at our closer reefs.

PADI DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING

Duration: 1/2 Day, Min age: 10yrs, Max depth: 12m

An exciting introduction to the underwater world! Includes basic instruction followed by a pool session and one open water dive. All equipment is provided and no prior experience required. This course can count towards a dive certification.

PADI SCUBA DIVER

Duration: 2-3 Days, Min age: 10yrs, Max depth: 12m

A pre-entry level course with a PADI certification. With academic study sessions and video, fun pool exercises on scuba and two open water dives to a depth of 12m, you will have a basic understanding of diving and earn a certification enabling you to dive under professional supervision. All study materials, dive equipment, logbook and certification included. No previous experience required.

PADI OPENWATER DIVER (* We can offer if guest are staying longer than 5 days *)

Duration: 2-3 Days, Min age: 10yrs, Max depth: 18m

Open water certification is offered to referral divers only. All academic study and confined water sessions must be completed prior to arrival at Matemo Island Resort and the appropriate paperwork presented for enrollment. With all the study and pool work completed before you arrive, you can focus on enjoying the underwater world with just four open water dives required to complete your course! All dive equipment and a certification card included.

ADDITIONAL COURSES

Additional Courses are available on request. This must be by prior arrangement, as we do not stock all of the relevant course material as a rule.

BOOKING YOUR DIVES

Pre-booking your dives with the Activities Manager is essential – especially over peak periods. Of course, pre-booked dives cannot be guaranteed if the weather conditions are not favourable.

At the resort, our Activities Manager will be available to personalise your schedule with regard to experience level and preferred dive sites. Please provide Certification Cards and Logbooks, and complete our Indemnity Form before the first dive.

All divers that haven't dived for more than six months will be required to do a Refresher course, before being allowed to dive. This applies to all Certification Levels.

DIVE PLANNING

Depths and dive times are planned according to experience levels. Maximum Depth for any dive is 30m. All dives are guided by a PADI certified Instructor or Divemaster. Groups are limited to 6 divers. Single and Double-tank dive trips are available and packages can be arranged to suit individual needs.

EQUIPMENT

Our diving equipment is of the highest quality. Fit your equipment at the Activity Centre. Personal Dive Gear will gladly be stored for you. Our staff will set up and rinse all dive equipment. We provide full-length wetsuits and closed heel fins. Cylinders are 10l steel and are filled to 200bar. Dive computers are not supplied.

BEACH TO BOAT

The Activities Manager will point out the area of departure, which depends on the tides and wind. All your equipment will be set up on board. Limited space is available for dry storage. We cannot accept responsibility for personal items.

ON THE BOAT

Boat Briefing will be given on board. Lifejackets are available and all vessels are non-smoking.

DIVING

You will be assisted to kit up. The boat will follow a surface marker buoy carried throughout the dive by the guide, there are no fixed lines or anchor ropes to descend along. Back-roll entries are standard.

Once all divers are comfortable the group descends together. After the dive, the divers assemble on the float line at the stern of the boat. The deckhand will assist with equipment before you climb aboard.

BACK ON THE BEACH

Please take care of your personal effects; we will do the rest. The dives will be logged at the activity centre with your guide and the following days' dives will be scheduled and posted.

FLYING

PADI recommends a surface interval of 12 hours between diving and flying for a single dive, and a surface interval of 18 hours for multiple dives. It is generally recommended that 24 hours is a safe surface interval between diving and flying.

SAFETY

No diving equipment or resources can be provided to any person who does not produce valid certification from a recognised diving organization / establishment.

DIVE SITES

Rolas Rainbow 8 -10m

A really easy and interesting dive. The coral here is fantastic and the shallow water allows for great colours. The micro life here is fantastic, with each coral "bommie" playing host to it's own ecosystem. A great dive for camera enthusiasts.

Ibo Point 7m ledge dropping to 18m

Excellent Corals are found here which play host to many species of reef fish. Manta Shrimp, Nudibranch's, Hermit Crabs and Cleaner Shrimps can be found here. Dolphins frequent this point and are spotted on the surface regularly. Sightings of Barracuda and Kingfish are also not very uncommon and even Marlin has been seen on this shallow ledge!

Rush Hour 16 - 30m

Hard corals form a reef bank down to 22m. Spotted and Honeycomb Morays hide in their coral shelters; also home to Ribbon Eels and Blue Spotted Stingrays. Large schools of Blue Banded Snapper and Fusiliers accompany you on this dive. Barracuda, schools of Kingfish and other pelagic gamefish give this site its name...

Cocoons 16 -18m

This site is named for its abundance of giant Barrel Sponges. Turtles are occasionally seen here as well as Paperfish. This reef is host to many types of Triggerfish, Surgeonfish and other reef species.

The Wreck 7 - 8m

This can only be dived when the sea conditions are extremely calm and during high tide. The wreck is about 90 feet long and time took it's toll leaving the stranded vessel rather broken up. Surrounding the wreck is schools of Rubberlips, Surgeons, Snappers and Dusky Sweepers. Occasionally Kingfish and the odd Green Jobfish are spotted. This is also a great snorkelling spot but, unfortunately, weather permitting.

Zala Banks 20 - 22m

Lettuce Leaf and Plate Corals, home to reef fishes and small marine animals such as the colourful Nudibranchs. Turtles and small White Tip Reef Sharks are regular visitors.

Zala Ledge 18 - 40m+ Advanced

For the more advanced diver. A wall dive with frequent sightings of Kingfish and other pelagic gamefish. Grey and White Tip Reef Sharks patrols this area. Large Napoleon Wrasse resides in the mid waters.