



ROMBLON & LEYTE

EXPERIENCE THE UNKNOWN PHILIPPINES

Philippines is widely spoken of for it's amazing diving och very friendly people, beautiful beaches, waterfall och opportunities for adventure. What is still unique is that here you can still find many almost unheard of places and not much spoken of. Romblon and Leyte are two of thes and that offers incredibly good diving.

- ❖ World class diving, few tourists
- ❖ Basic lodging, luxury is to be here
- ❖ Boatdives, landdives, night diving, black water dives
- ❖ Philippines, Romblon, Leyte
- ❖ Adventure, relax, holiday, culture
- ❖ Macro, big fish, coral reefs, wall dive



Philippines is probably known by most people but what is so amazing with this fantastic country is and all its amazing dive destinations is they are not the only ones. Now we can offer trips to more unknown places which are of course just as fantastic. Southern Leyte and Romblon have both only the last few years popped up as wild cards for Philippines possibly best diving. What best is is of course a matter of personal choice but in Romblon that is a small group of tiny islands located more or less in the middle of the country you can find almost all of these extreme rare and odd critters that most divers who dived for a while really really wish to see.. Crustaceans, inoderms, strange and remarkable fishes, corall reefs and gardens, white sandy bottoms and an abundance of odd nudibranchs and to this at least three different species of pygmy sea horses, addition strange cephalopods and to this possible unique black water diving.

To this then southern Leyte in the eastern part of the Philippines offers a very nice mix of big animals such as whale sharks, mantarays, hammerhead sharks, eaglerays, schools with barracudas and different reef sharks. This mixed together with a lot of beautiful and weird invertebrates such as crustaceans, cephalopods, nudibranchs and other mollusks that you may never have seen before. Here in Napantao you can also find one of the possibly most stunning wall dives in the world. Swarming with life, gorgonias, sponges and whip coralls stretching out and amazing black coralls and everywhere enormous amounts of fish. A place you really wish it could be like everywhere. So join us on a trip to these two very exciting and odd and most of all not yet so crowded places in the Philippines

During this trip you will also spend a few nights in Manila between flights.



Romblon and Leyte

We will begin with flying to Manila, the capital of the Philippines where we will have one night accommodation to be sure we will connect with our domestic flight and from then we head south east to the island of Leyte. From Tacloban it's then about 3 hours transfer by car to Padre Burgos where we will stay for a week and dive many of the dives sites here depending on weather, winds and interest. All diving is from boat but it is possible also to dive directly from shore. Anything might show up here from whale sharks, manta rays and turtles to a marvellous macro life and perhaps one of the most stunning wall dives with coralls and abundance of fish. Also so called muckdiving is available and night dives by the pier can be really fantastic. After Leyte we head back to Manila and one additional night since the connection to our next stop, Romblon will otherwise not work.

Romblon is both a separate region and an island and this region is located almost in the middle of the Philippines. Here you can expect macro diving of real world class and many different species you may find here but no where else. Also here we will stay for one week and here full board is included The diving will be at different reefs and here you can also find beautiful white beaches where you can do small excursions to and they also offer black water diving.

In Romblon you may purchase marble at very low rates but marble is heavy so be prepared to pay for excess weight but Romblon is really famous for it's nice marble.





The Diving

The diving will be much varied with a mix of reefs, sandy slopes, corall gardens, drift dives and chances to see both big and small animals. Here you find many invertebrates and many species you might never have seen before. This is so fun and typical with these destinations there is much new to discover.. Crustaceans with mantis shrimps, cleaner shrimps, dragonshrimps, tiger shrimps, harlequin shrimps, boxingcrabs and many others with perhaps the tiny sashimi shrimp as the most remarkable but also marble shrimps och funny looking small flat crabs. Here you can also find many kinds of cephalopods, such as mimic octopus, blue ringed octopus, wonderpus, cocoa octoptus and flamboyant cuttlefish or bobtailed squid but also many other species might appear. Most typical might be all the kind of odd nudibranchs where some are very much sought after and are considered the holy grails.

In southern Leyte they frequently see whale sharks and occasionally also manta rays, hammerhead sharks, sting rays, eagle rays, turtles and even sunfish or Mola has been spotted here.

The diving in Southern Leyte starts directly after breakfast where you go out and usually do two dives and then back for lunch and for you have have energy there are options to dive also in the afternoon or even night dives. Night dives are often very very good.

In Romblon it's about similar and here it's more traditional reef diving but with extremely much to see and also here with the bright sandy slopes makes the diving very nice with good chances for photographers to use the ambient light. The Marine life is abundant and rich here you can also see different kind of pipefish, frogfish, sea horses, koffert and box fishes, emperors, butterfly fish, groupers and a lot more. So in short more or less anything might pass by or show up in these waters with varied diving but if you like small critters this is a true paradise and of course it's possible to do a few things on land as well or just relax.

Photo inspiration Philippines



PER LAGERBERG

Experienced diver and traveller with a big interest for traveling and diving. Very interested in geography and Biology. Began diving early in the 90s and has privately and through his job as travel agent visited some 80+ countries through the years and now lives in Dauin, Philippines where he works as earlier and have a chance to maintain the diving and also help others arranging tours and sometimes he also accompany on group tours to assist.



EXPERIENCED TRAVELER AND DIVER

Per has worked with diving since 1996 both as dive instructor and with dive travel. Through his job he's spoiler have seen many places of the world. With his big interest for Biology and geography benefits and pleasure been combined and Per is today of the most knowledgeable travel agents when it comes to experience of dive traveling. He has visitera som + 80 countries until now and dived in most of them.

Per now live in the island of Negros in Dauin in the Philippines but keps on working with dive traveling and loves to help you and others to visit places and hopefully experience what he has seen and more.



LOVES TO DIVE AND TRAVEL

After thousands of dive through the years it's still nice relaxation and a pleasure to go below the surface and to find a new species not seen before the happiness is total and to get it on picture to immortalize it. To this a chance to meet and spend time with people from all around the world, experience new countries and places makes pleasure with benefits combined.



Restips

Bring adaptors, most of the electric sockets are nowadays made for both European as well as American standards but not all so it's a good thing to bring. Also electric cables with several outputs if you have many things to charge, such as cellphone, computer, batteries for camera and strobes...

Change cash in Scandinavia or take out in ATM locally in the Philippines. There are no ATM in Leyte or in Romblon but there are several at Manila airport so there it's simple. Maximum amount to take out is usually 10.000 PHP and maximum 2-3 times / day

Be careful at ATMs since skimming is common so choose the ones located inside stores or in shoppingcenter or airport. It's not possible to pay by card at the resorts sadly so it's cash only.

If you choose to continue your travelling in the Philippines by air be aware domestic flights are often delayed or even cancelled so it can be problems if you have tight connections or need to be in time for special occasions.



Accommodation

We will have a total of three nights in Manila, this because of the connecting domestic flights are not ideal and it takes time at the airport in Manila between changing flights. We will stay in two different hotel to experience a bit more.

On Leyte Island we will stay at a small resort with basic rooms but just by the sea and here breakfast is included. Lunch and dinners we will eat and pay for at the resort since there are hardly any options. Maybe we will do a daytour on land some day and then we can eat in another place for variation.

In Romblon we will also stay in a small resort and here it's a little better standard and we will have full board. The resort is located just by the ocean and surrounded by tropical forest and mangrove so there is no real beach but since the diving here is the main thing and there are actually no other options so this is a good place.





Itinerary

Day 1
We depart Scandinavia and fly to the capital of the Philippines, Manila.

Day 2
Arrival in Manila and we go to the hotel for overnight.

Day 3
Flight to Tacloban on the island of Leyte and off to our lodging in Padre Burgos

Day 3 – 10
7 nights accommodation in double rooms with breakfast and a total of 10 prebooked dives, tanks, weights, guide and boat is included and with possibility to to dive from land is also possible. For you who wish it's possible to add more boat- or land dives to other places when you are there.

Day 10
Transfer to the airport and back to Manila for one night

Day 11
We fly to Romblon Tablas and from there off by car and boat to Romblon Island

Day 11-18
7 nights accommodation in double room including full board. Also here we have 10 prebooked dives with possibility to add more diving, night dives, more day dives and also so called black water diving is offered at own cost.

Day 18
We go back to the airport and fly back to Manila where we have one last night before heading back to Europe or if you have booked additional days time for next adventure.

Day 19 Flight back to Europe



Datum 19 march - 06 april, 2020
Resmål Southern Leyte & Romblon, Philippines

Included in the price

- Total 3 nights accommodation in double room in Manila including breakfast
- Domestic flights in Philippines return Manila - Tacloban and Manila - Tablas
- 7 nights accommodation in double room in Southern Leyte including breakfast
- Ten dives in Southern Leyte including guide, tanks, weights and boat
- 7 nights accommodation in double room in Romblon including full board
- Ten dives in Romblon including guide, tanks, weights and boat
- Return transfers between airports and resorts in Southern Leyte and Romblon
- Tips and ideas about new dive destinations by ambassador Per Lagerberg
- Free climate compensation from Scuba Travel for international flights

Not included in the price

- Other activities, drinks and meals not specified earlier
- Return transfer between Manila airport and hotels in Manila
- Night dives, black water diving, local marine sanctuary fees
- Tip or gratuities to carriers of bags at the boat in Romblon, normally 20 PHP / bag
- Cancellation insurance and travel insurance
- Tip and gratuities to crew and guides, recommended but not mandatory

Contact

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Extras

→ Equipment rental

Complete dive equipment rental is available. 12 L tank, weights, belt and air is included in the trip price. All dive rental equipment plus nitrox must be pre-booked through Scuba Travel. All equipment will be paid locally at the dive centre. Please also make sure you bring or rent a dive computer and SMB. Please contact us for the most updated price.

Important

→ Your passport must be whole and valid for more than six months after your arrival back home. We will need a copy of your passport and your home address so we can help you with a cost free visa to Australia

When you fly to Australia you will fill in a form onboard your flight and declare where it's very important you are honest with what you bring. Australia has really hard rules regarding entry of for example, food, dairy products, eat, seeds and nuts and tobacco. If you are not honest when if they decide to open your bags they may either confiscate your items and you can also be given costly penalties or worst case even be denied entry into the country.

→ All divers must have a dive certificate, dive log book and proof of dive insurance.

→ For this trip we recommend all divers to be certified PADI Advanced Open Water Diver or equivalent and have a minimum of 50 logged dives. If you have not been diving within one year of your departure we strongly recommend that you complete a scuba review course.

→ Please make sure that you have a valid insurance which includes scuba diving. If you do not have insurance or need a complement, we strongly recommend you to purchase a diving insurance such as DAN or similar, diversalernetnetwork.org.

→ Due to the ever-increasing restrictions placed on checked- in baggage on flights, overweight/ extra baggage must be reported to and accepted by, the flight company. We will happily assist you to book you extra weight that is required. Please note that prices and baggage allowance varies between flight companies. Contact Scuba Travel in good time before your departure.

We reserve the right for price changes due to currency fluctuations or flight price increases. When you book your trip you accept Scuba Travel Scandinavia's terms and conditions. The given information that Scuba Travel Scandinavia has in its written information (i.e. the trip content, amount of dives, diving at a special location) is provided under the pretense of optimal conditions, and unforeseen circumstances may affect