

Truk Lagoon, Federated States of Micronesia

7 Nights, 9 Nights, and 10 Nights Itinerary

- **Embarkation:** between 15:00 and 17:00*
- **Disembarkation:** Weno at 07:00**

Transfers from and to Chuuk Airport or Weno hotels for embarkation and disembarkation are included in the cruise price.

*Guests arriving in the morning on embarkation day will be transferred to a local resort where they can relax and enjoy a light lunch or visit the local museum prior to embarkation.

Guests who are staying in Chuuk before their liveaboard itinerary will be picked up from their hotel between 15:00 and 17:00. Our local operations team will contact guests at their hotel to confirm the transfer arrangements and pick-up time.

**When possible, we will try disembarking later but, this is dependent on the vessel schedule. Due to flight constraints, some Truk Lagoon itineraries operate back to back on the same day. In these instances, outgoing guests will be transferred to a local resort after a light breakfast where they can wait in comfort for their outgoing flight.

As schedules and embarkation locations are subject to change, please check your cruise confirmation carefully.

Marine & Port Fees (payable onboard only)

- 7 nights: 195 USD
- 9 nights: 240 USD
- 10 nights: 250 USD

PLEASE NOTE: *Marine & Port fees are subject to change without notice. The applicable amount at the time of departure will be added to your onboard extras to be paid prior to disembarkation.*

Minimum dive certification and experience requirements:

Recreational Divers: PADI **Advanced Open Water**, or equivalent, with a minimum of 50 logged dives. Deep Diver Speciality (40 metres) certification is also recommended.

Technical and Rebreather Divers are required to have the relevant certification and experience for the depths and type of diving which they are intending to do.

Guests who do not fulfil the minimum certification and experience requirements may be denied participation in some or all dives. ***We are unable to offer any diving certification courses in Truk Lagoon.***

Diving Details

In addition to exploring some of the many famous wrecks within the lagoon, we also offer guests the opportunity to experience some superb reef diving. There are numerous channels that cut through the atoll and reefs which serve as hunting grounds for a variety of sharks and schooling pelagics which all add to the wonder of diving Truk Lagoon.

The majority of shipwrecks within Truk Lagoon are deemed suitable for recreational divers and offer varying depths for multi-level profiles. However, some lie beyond, or have interesting features deeper than the recognised, no decompression, recreational diving depth limit of 30 metres (100ft). As such, certain areas are only suitable for divers with deep diver training (40 metres) or technical diving qualifications.

Departing from Weno we take you directly to the main concentration of wrecks located within the bay around Dublon (also known as Tonoas or Tonowas). The vessel will moor over the deeper wrecks allowing an easy descent down the line directly on to the wreck. Technical divers will benefit from the support of the "mother ship", whilst our 2 skiffs are able to shuttle less experienced divers to the shallower sites and offer reef diving as an alternative to the wrecks.

Our Cruise Director and dive guides will offer guided dives, with simple wreck penetration, within the bounds of their own training and experience. Prior to each dive our guides will give an in-depth briefing for all our guests which will include a detailed site map with entries/exits, points of interest, hazardous objects and special considerations for the dive to enable you to plan appropriately.

Safety and dive briefings are conducted in English. If you, or any of your group do not speak or understand English, please contact us.

The boat provides equipment and facilities for deep, technical and rebreather diving with a 'Deco-bar' situated under the main vessel's dive platform for your convenience. All divers who wish to go beyond recognised recreational depth limits, or who plan to make deep wreck penetration or decompression dives must show proof of qualification and experience upon boarding, and will be requested to sign an additional Technical Diving liability waiver.

Guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and for obtaining suitable dive insurance to cover deeper diving. We respectfully request our divers stay within the bounds of their training, follow dive computer guidelines and make decompression stops where necessary. When planning deep dives or dives with extended bottom times, please bear in mind that recompression facilities in the region are limited, therefore we recommend you dive conservatively.

It is mandatory for all divers to have appropriate insurance which covers the type of diving and depths that they will be participating in, and includes emergency air evacuation and recompression chamber treatment costs.

Participation in this liveboard itinerary is subject to acceptance of our Terms & Conditions as outlined here: www.masterliveboards.com/terms-conditions.

Itinerary Details

While we wish to show you the very best diving in Truk Lagoon, a number of factors can determine which sites are selected, and the number of dives possible on any particular trip.

Number of recreational dives:

- 7 nights: up to 22
- 9 nights: up to 30
- 10 nights: up to 34

Whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives we have scheduled is fulfilled, the safety of all on board is paramount and will play a factor in how many dives are offered.

The number of technical level dives possible will be determined by individual dive plans, taking into consideration bottom times and decompression stops.

Technical divers need to submit a complete dive plan before each dive. Normally, we do not limit dive times, unless we need to move the boat, which guests will be informed of during the dive briefings. However, all plans and extended bottom times must be reasonable from a safety point of view as Truk Lagoon is in a very remote location with limited emergency facilities.

The following is an example of the day-to-day itinerary.

Day 1: Embarkation from 15:00 onwards (dependent on flight schedules) followed by introductions, boat and safety briefings and dinner. **There is no diving on embarkation day.**

On the following days, your Cruise Director will schedule up to 4 recreational dives per day; either 4 day dives or 3 day dives and a twilight dive. There are **no night dives on the wrecks.**

Days 2-6 (7 nights) / Days 2-8 (9 nights) / Days 2-9 (10 nights): Each day is typically scheduled as follows:

- Light Breakfast followed by a briefing & Dive 1
- Full Breakfast, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 2
- Lunch*, relaxation followed by briefing & Dive 3
- Snack
- Briefing for Dive 4
- Dinner*

*Meal times are fixed so technical divers need to take this into consideration when planning their dive profiles and times.

Day before disembarkation: Depending on guests' flight departure** time, there may be the possibility to schedule 1 or 2 dives in the morning for the last full day on board.

Disembarkation day: Following a light breakfast on board, disembarkation is scheduled for 07:00.

**We kindly request that guests check their flight departure times to ensure that they leave a minimum of 24 hours between their final dive and their flight home.

The Wrecks of Truk Lagoon

During World War II, Truk Lagoon was the Empire of Japan's main base in the South Pacific Theatre and was a heavily fortified base for Japanese naval operations against Allied forces in New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. In February of 1944, Truk was devastated in one of the most important naval attacks of the war, "Operation Hailstone", which resulted in the loss of 51 ships, including transport vessels and a submarine, as well as several aircraft. The result of this attack is a large collection of wrecks, closely packed into a coral lagoon, many of which lie at depths easily reached by recreational divers.

The majority of the wrecks in Truk Lagoon are Japanese merchant vessels, known as Maru, that had been left at anchor; Some had been fortified with anti-aircraft weapons, and many carried important army supplies including Zero Fighter aircraft parts, tanks, torpedo shells, trucks and road supplies. Bottles, cooking utensils, personal items and other artefacts from everyday life can be found in several of the wrecks, serving as a poignant reminder of those who lost their lives during the battle. The more gruesome reminders of the conflict, such as human skulls, have since been removed and may only be seldom found in the deeper reaches of the wrecks.

Over the course of your liveaboard itinerary we will explore many of the [wrecks detailed below](#). Where it is not possible to dive on a particular wreck for any reason, we will do our best to offer diving at alternate locations.

The Cruise Director is happy to listen to requests from guests to visit or remain at certain sites and, providing it is possible and the schedule allows, then guests' requests are respected.

Dive sites will include a selection from, but are not limited to:

[Fujikawa Maru](#)

A signature dive of Truk Lagoon, this 132 metre (436ft) armed cargo ship sits perfectly upright on the sandy bottom at a depth of 37 metres (121ft), whilst the forward king post reaches up to just 9 metres (30ft). The 'Fuji' offers 6 holds, 4 of which are open, in which can be found parts of Zero Fighter Aircraft including engine parts, propeller blades and fuel cells. Deeper inside the wreck, Mitsubishi A5m Claude & A6M parts can be discovered. The bow gun is encrusted with corals and the outer wreck supports sea fans, soft corals & anemones. Exploring the 'Fuji' is possible for divers of all levels; However, deeper penetration into the engine room will only be permitted to certified tec / wreck divers.

On 10 night itineraries we will offer several dives on this famous wreck to allow our guests to explore in full and take photographs at different times of day.

Submarine I-169

Quickly submerging during the attack to avoid damage, the submarine unfortunately failed to close her valves allowing water to enter as she descended; she came to rest on her port side at a depth of 42 metres (138ft) with her starboard at around 30 metres (99ft).

IJN Fumizuki

A 97m (300ft) long Japanese Destroyer which sits upright in 39m (128ft) of water rising up to 27m (89ft). Covered in marine life she is a pleasure to dive.

Yamagiri Maru

Resting on her port side at 33 metres, and almost completely intact despite repeated bombings, the Yamagiri freighter still contains many artillery shells and ammunition as well as the construction equipment she was carrying when she sank.

Kensho Maru

A favourite dive for many visitors to Truk Lagoon, the Kensho was a passenger cargo ship that was undergoing repairs when she was hit by US airstrikes. She now rests upright at a maximum depth of 38 metres while her superstructure is at just 18 metres. Her engine room is easily accessible making it one of the best to explore in Truk; There is an intact gun at the bow and, in the holds, you can find a salvage pump, gas bottles, batteries and cooking utensils. You can swim past her steering equipment at the stern and exit through a bomb hole, and visit the galley, bathrooms, toilets, radio room and bridge in the main superstructure.

Shinkoku Maru

A large oil tanker, the Shinkoku Maru is encrusted with corals, sponges & hydroids. With a depth range of 9 metres - 39 metres, highlights include the telegraph room on the bridge, a spacious engine room and a galley that still features many utensils on the large stove. Small guns, mounted fore and aft are also covered with corals making this one of the most colourful and spectacular wrecks to be found in Truk.

[Nippo Maru](#)

With a depth range of 21 metres - 47 metres (69ft - 154ft) the Nippo is an intriguing dive site for recreational divers and tech divers alike. With a tank and howitzer guns on deck, and 5-inch guns in the holds, the Nippo is not to be missed.

[Heian Maru](#)

The largest ship in the lagoon, the Heian, originally used as a cargo ship, is 165m (510ft) in length and lies on her port side in 35m (115 ft) of water. Within her holds divers may find torpedoes, shells and even the occasional periscope.

[San Francisco Maru](#)

NOTE: *Due to the depth of the San Francisco Maru, diving on this wreck will only be offered to those divers possessing the necessary training and experience to plan and safely execute technical dives.*

The passenger and cargo ship, weighing 5,831 tons, lays upright at a depth of 60-62m (195-203 ft). Here divers can check out the remains of many well preserved war-relics including three large tanks which rest on the deck at 50m (164ft).

Hoki Maru

This 30m (100ft) long freighter which is only partially intact sits upright from 50m (165ft) at the bottom to 21m (68ft) at the top. The aft hold carries trucks, tractors and road supplies whilst sake bottles and rice bowls can also be found strewn around the wreck. The superstructure is awe-inspiring and covered with brightly coloured sponges.

Gosei Maru

A submarine tender carrying torpedoes starts in just 3m (10ft) and drops to 35m (115 ft) within which can be found many personal artefacts, serving as a reminder of those who lost their lives during the battle.

[Rio de Janeiro Maru](#)

140m (430ft) long she lies on her port side at 35m (115 ft). Once a luxury passenger vessel she was converted to a cargo vessel in wartime. Exploration of her holds turns up a range of supplies from beer bottles to guns. The upper deck reaches to an easily diveable depth of 9m (30ft).

Betty Bomber

A Mitsubishi G4M "Betty" Bomber aircraft lies on the seabed at 18m (60ft) and is surrounded by schooling fish. Nicknamed: "The Flying Cigar" for its shape but also because the aircraft lit up when shot, as the fuel tanks were unprotected.

Should you have any questions or queries concerning the dive sites or whether this itinerary is suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team dive@masterliveboards.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.