

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO Okeanos Aggressor

All guests are required to provide their basic dive certification number and agency they were certified with. This information must be submitted through the online Guest Information System (GIS) so proper permits can be obtained to dive Cocos Island prior to arrival.

WHERE IS COCOS ISLAND?

Cocos Island, located 600 km (approximately 320 nautical miles) off the Pacific coast of Costa Rica, is one of the most beautiful jewels in the Costa Rican National Park system. Of the principal islands of the Eastern Tropical Pacific, Cocos Island is the largest uninhabited island in the world and the only one that receives sufficient rainfall to support a tropical rain forest. The isolated environmental conditions of the island are home to a high number of endemic fish and plants. Cocos is also well known as being a favorite stopping point for pirates dating back to the 1500's.

OKEANOS AGGRESSOR INCLUDES:

All staterooms are air-conditioned and fitted with private toilets, showers and sinks. Breakfast (cooked to order), buffet lunch and an elegant chef prepared meal at dinner with tableside service are served in addition to fresh mid morning and mid-afternoon snacks. Beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) are complimentary while onboard. The yacht is equipped with hairdryers in each stateroom. Linens are changed mid-week and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. Filled tanks, weights and weight belts are included.

SINGLE TRAVELERS & SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

All rates are quoted on a share basis; therefore you will be roomed with another person of the same gender. If you would like a private room, the surcharge is 65% and will guarantee you a private stateroom. Ten-Day Charter Sample Itinerary - Friday – overnight in San Jose, Costa Rica at host hotel. - Saturday – Meet in front of host hotel prior to pick up time (go to the last page for this information) and transfer to the Okeanos Aggressor for boarding and departure for Cocos Island. - Monday – Arrival to Cocos Island, diving begins. - Tuesday – Sunday; Eat, Sleep & Dive. - Monday – Travel at sea. - Tuesday – 7:00 am checkout and transfer to the airport and host hotels.

WELCOME

As you prepare for your diving adventure onboard the Okeanos Aggressor, we extend a most hearty welcome. The enclosed information will help you prepare for your trip. Please download or view the most recent "Know Before You Go" before your vacation from www.aggressor.com. It is important to notify our office of last minute changes concerning your airline arrival and departure times or any changes in your e-mail address and telephone numbers. The Reservations Office and Okeanos Aggressor are in constant communication. In the event of an emergency family and friends may contact you at the above numbers. We recommend you pack a regulator, mask, fins, and swimsuit, change of clothes, medication and toiletries in your carry on bag. Having these few items with you can make an unexpected luggage delay more bearable. Don't forget to use your Aggressor luggage tags so your bags can be identified at the host hotel. Aggressor Fleet must be notified at least 14 days prior to departure date of the host hotel you are staying at or meeting for the bus transfer. Failure to do so could result in space not being available on the bus transfer and you would be responsible for making your own arrangements to the Okeanos Aggressor. Email Okeanos@aggressor.com.

EXTENDED TOURS AND TRAVEL IN COSTA RICA

Costa Rica is Central America's jewel. It is certainly worth your time to tour Costa Rica before or after your Okeanos stay. Active volcanoes, cloud and rain forest preserves, white water rafting, touring the jungles, canopy and zip line tours through the jungles, visiting the most beautiful beaches in the world; these are just a few of the amazing things to do while in Costa Rica. Liveaboard Vacations, Aggressor Fleet's in house travel department specializes in day tours and extended packages throughout Costa Rica at <mailto:info@liveaboardvacations.com> if you need assistance.

ARRIVAL

Guests travel arrangements **MUST** include a one-night stay-over in San Jose, Costa Rica one day prior to the yacht's departure to meet the transfer schedule to Puntarenas from San Jose. Upon your arrival at the airport in San Jose, you are responsible for your transfer to your hotel. Aggressor Fleet recommends you stay at the one of the two host hotels; The Holiday Inn-Escazu or Holiday Inn Express Forum (formerly Indigo Hotel). These are the only hotels the Okeanos bus picks up from. On the first day of the charter a bus will pick passengers up at the Holiday Inn-Escazu then Holiday Inn Express Forum and travels approximately 1 1/2 hours to meet the Okeanos Aggressor. (times listed on the last page) If you are not staying at one of these hotels, you will need to make your own way to one of these hotels prior to the pick up times. At the end of the charter, transportation will be provided back to these hotels and the San Jose airport. The reason for the different pick up times is due to the change in tides. Please notify the Reservations Office 14 days prior to traveling with the name of your hotel or alternate arrangements and your passport numbers. Passport numbers must be submitted for approval to travel to Cocos Island. Failure to do so will result in cancellation. If you plan to make your own way to Puntarenas, where the Aggressor docks, it is imperative the Reservations Center has been notified of your plans. You may board the boat one hour prior to the 'departure from Puntarenas' posted at the end of the Know Before You Go.

OKEANOS AGGRESSOR – PUNTARENAS DOCK ADDRESS

If you make your own arrangements or miss the pickup, the Okeanos Aggressor docks in Puntarenas. The address in Spanish for the driver is: 50 metros este de la municipalidad de Puntarenas Tapia azul, porton blanco. This scenic route from San Jose to Puntarenas is a beautiful way to see the lush countryside. Upon your arrival at the Okeanos Aggressor, you will be greeted by the crew. The Okeanos Aggressor may be moored offshore due to low tides. Should this occur, you will be transferred by boat and your luggage will be handled for you.

PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your period of stay and you must have a return airline ticket to travel to Costa Rica. US citizens require a passport that must be valid for 6 months from date of entry. It is the travelers' responsibility to ensure they have the proper documentation to travel into each country on his or her itinerary as well as for re-entry and return to their country. Please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure you have the proper documentation. Always check your passport and visa requirements. US citizens may go to the US Department of State website at www.travel.state.gov for more information. The website also has information for consulates by country to assist with requirements. There are special requirements for children leaving the US and many countries have adopted requirements for the protection of children. Since regulations vary by country, contact your consulate or embassy of your country for the requirement. The Reservation Office and Staff cannot assume responsibility for passengers not having correct documentation.

VACCINE ADVISORY

If you will be traveling to Costa Rica from South America and/or sub-Saharan Africa, you will need the Yellow Fever vaccine. The countries considered at risk are: Angola, Benin, Burkina, Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra 4 Leone, Sudan, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Guyana and Venezuela.

Exceptions do exist and we recommend checking the following website for an update. Details can be found at: <http://www.costarica-embassy.org>

C-CARDS & DIVE THE WORLD CLUB

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification. The divemaster requires proof of certification before the first dive. If you are a repeat guest, you are automatically enrolled in the Dive the World Club and will receive on board discounts. Your membership is indicated on the Captain's rooming list.

GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)

The Reservations Office and the Okeanos Aggressor require each guest to complete a Cruise Application and Waiver form, prior to departure and diving. The GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to interactively complete all required paperwork that includes the application/waiver, special requests and travel information. If you haven't received a link to access the GIS, please contact an Aggressor Fleet agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS or an application/waiver will be denied boarding. Many Aggressor destinations require passenger information for itinerary approval.

INSURANCE COCOS ISLAND EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

Mandatory Emergency Evacuation Program Fee \$30. When medical evacuation is needed, this fee establishes and funds pre-established and pre-authorized emergency evacuation protocols that have been created to facilitate the immediate dispatch of medical transport. Depending on the benefits under other policies held by the guest, their insurance carrier may or may not have logistics (services or funding) in place to deal specifically with Cocos Island - which could result in delayed response times for the medical evacuation and ultimate first responder care. This new program benefits every passenger aboard, not only the injured diver. Currently if the injured diver's insurance plan fails to respond quickly enough with evacuation plans, the captain of the yacht would be obligated to terminate the cruise early and head back to port – thus impacting everyone's travels. This new program minimizes this risk for all guests. This fee is paid onboard the yacht. Dive accident insurance is mandatory prior to traveling on the Okeanos Aggressor. Proof is required prior to diving. We strongly recommend each guest purchase comprehensive accident, medical, baggage and trip cancellation and interruption insurance when space is reserved. Trip insurance will protect you from financial disappointment if you are prevented from making your scheduled trip due to illness or family illness, or in the event that unforeseen circumstances prevent the airline or yacht from making its scheduled trip. In the event you cancel your trip prior, be familiar with Aggressor Fleet cancellation policies. For more information on insurance, visit Diveassurance or Divers Alert Network insurance on our website.

FEES & TAXES (per person)

The Costa Rican Government charges a park fee of USD \$490 Park Fee, (10 night charters), \$350 Park Fee (8 night charters), non-divers \$350 (10 night charters) \$250 (8 night charters) CASH ONLY; traveler's checks are not accepted. This fee is paid onboard along with the \$30 Emergency

Evacuation Plan fee. The Costa Rican Government implemented the park fee to maintain Cocos Island and preserve its natural habitat. In addition there is a \$29 airport departure tax (cash only).

HEALTH

The Okeanos Aggressor has a first aid kit onboard, including oxygen and an AED. You may want to bring motion sickness medication if you feel you will need it. We suggest you bring over-the-counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets. Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. We recommend a complete physical before your trip. The nearest recompression chambers are located in San Jose, Golfito 5 and Puntarenas, Costa Rica. The Okeanos Aggressor and their staff are unable to accept any medication brought onboard for safekeeping including those that require refrigeration. Should a guest have a medication requiring temperature control, they will need to travel with a travel cooling case or small storage cooler with several blue ice packets. The yachts will be happy to store and recharge the blue ice but are unable to accept possession or responsibility for the proper care and storage of medication. This should be kept in the stateroom. There is NO smoking allowed inside the boat or on the dive deck. Smoking is only permitted on the rear of the sun deck.

THE YACHT

The Okeanos Aggressor is a 110' yacht, built and powered for comfort, safety and stability. She is dieselpowered, cruises at 10 knots and has 110-volt power on board. Comfortable accommodations for 22 guests Include 9 double cabins and a quad cabin. Each cabin features a private head and shower, and storage space for your luggage. The Okeanos Aggressor has a spacious salon, 40 feet of sun deck, chaise lounges, deck chairs, bar, grill, and a complete photo center. The onboard video format is both NTSC and PAL. The Okeanos has a safe onboard to store valuables such as passports, cash, credit cards or anything else you would like to store. The yacht is not responsible any lost, damaged or stolen items. We highly recommend extremely caution and care be taken if you plan to travel onboard with electronic equipment. (Laptops, iPods', iPods etc) This equipment should always be stowed after use to avoid the risk of damage.

INTERNET/EMAIL

Email is available onboard through the satellite system. There is a charge for incoming and outgoing email. Private calls may be made from the yacht. There is a cell tower in Wafer Bay with international reception while anchored during the charter.

FOOD

The menu on board is varied and plentiful, with a variety of American feasts, barbecues and local cuisine. If you have any special dietary requirements, please advise the US office as soon as possible so the yacht can adequately prepare to meet your needs. You will wake up to fresh fruits, hot entrees, cereals and juices. Lunches are buffet-style, featuring hot soups, homemade breads, salads and sandwiches and/or entrees. Dinners are chef prepared and served each evening and include salads, vegetables, seafood, beef or chicken with a fresh homemade dessert. Once onboard, please speak to the chef about any special needs. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available due to the remote nature of this location.

BEVERAGES

The Aggressor's selection includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, iced tea, coffee, and a limited

selection of local beer and wine, which are complimentary. Due to the high duty charged on liquor, we suggest you bring your special brand from the U.S. Due to local regulations; the bar will be closed while the boat is in port. Drinking and diving do not mix. Once you consume alcohol, you become a snorkeler until the next day.

CLOTHING

Please plan to travel light, as on all live-aboard dive yachts, space is limited. We recommend that you pack your gear in soft luggage such as a duffel bag for easy stowage and to add to your comfort in your cabin. Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear and bathing suits are a must. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for evenings. Dress is always casual and informal. Additional items you may want to bring are sunscreen, sunglasses, and walking shoes for your time on shore. Since Cocos Island is a rain forest, it can be quite damp so we recommend you travel with warm clothing such as sweat suits, socks and include a long sleeve shirt for nighttime.

ENTERTAINMENT

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including diving, fish identification slide shows, movies, games and more. If you have a favorite movie, digital slide show or a video to share, we encourage you to bring it along. The crew especially loves new releases of DVD's, movies, CD's, recent magazines and books. A small library of books for exchange is maintained onboard as well as fish identification books for reference. Whether it's your anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding or you are celebrating a 100th dive, please let us know so the crew can celebrate your occasion. Kindly advise the US office prior to traveling so the crew is notified in advance.

DIVING CONDITIONS

You will be diving in water that averages 72 - 82°F with cool thermoclines. Most guests make as many as 3-4 dives each day, so some sort of protection is needed. A 3-5mm wetsuit or shorty is recommended year round. All diving is from pangas.

DIVING

The crew of the Okeanos Aggressor with their unique combination of talents offers the ultimate service. While on board you may pick a buddy of your choice or dive with a crewmember. There is ample storage space for your diving equipment in your personal locker. The Okeanos Aggressor provides 80 cubic ft. tanks, weight belts and weights. All tanks have K-valves (American type), no DIN (European) valves. There are a limited number of 15-liter tanks available. With advanced notice, these can be rented from another operation. The cost is \$90 and must be rented in advance due to availability. Diving amenities include Nitrox (unlimited Nitrox is \$150 for 10 night charters). The primary attractions in Cocos are the large pelagics, i.e. hammerhead sharks, rays, mantas, turtles, and enormous schools of fish. Occasionally, there are sightings of whale sharks, marlin, and Bottle-Nosed dolphin. The bottom of the ocean floor at Cocos Island is volcanic rock. Most of the action is between 50 100 feet with visibility in the 80-100 feet range. The best diving in the waters surrounding Cocos is done from dinghies. You can make 4 dives a day: 3 scheduled dinghy dives and an optional night dive. Night diving is offered three nights due to new regulations. The pangas are 22 feet in length. There is ample space for camera equipment and the panga tender will handle it with care. Getting you in and out of the water from the pangas is easy. Once your dive is completed and you're preparing to get back in the panga, a crewmember will assist and help take your tank. There is a divemaster on each panga for every single dive. You hand him your weight belt, and the rest is easy. All diving should be within the limits and standards of the training agency that certified you. All dives should be planned with no decompression dives. Guests will be provided free of

charge a GPS locator that operates through satellite in case of an emergency, it sends an sms to the Okeanos local office with coordinate and to the rescue coordination center with a web link to your location. The approximate 36-hour cruise to the island, and return cruise 28-32 hours, can be uncomfortable to some. 7 We recommend taking precautions for motion sickness. Beginner divers may consider Cocos Island diving slightly difficult due to its ruggedness and currents. Diving is from pangas. This trip is not recommended to new divers or handicapped divers. We suggest you pack the following: mask, fins, snorkel, regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer, buoyancy compensator, and dive gloves. Strongly recommended: Spare mask, a dive watch, dive light, safety sausage, whistle, Dive Alert, mirror and/or other safety devices. Dive computers are mandatory. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape. Due to the thermoclines and upwelling, we recommend a 3mm wetsuit as a minimum. Most divers use a 5mm wetsuit with booties and a hood. Please see our "Captain's Log" on our website for current diving conditions.

DRY CAMERA CASE

Depending on weather conditions, guests may tour Cocos Island. This is a "wet" landing by dinghy, so photographers should bring a waterproof case such as a Pelican Case for their cameras. The land tour is at the Captain's discretion.

CONSERVATION LAWS

Aggressor Fleet does not permit spear guns and Hawaiian slings on any of the yachts.

RENTAL DIVE EQUIPMENT

A full line of Aqua Lung rental gear is available aboard including regulators, BCs, dive computers, and night-lights. If any of your dive equipment fails while onboard, the crew will loan you equipment free of charge, compliments of Aqua Lung.

CERTIFICATION & SPECIALTY COURSES

Several diving specialty courses are offered onboard including Nitrox, Advanced Open Water, UW Photography, Master Diver and more. The list of available courses and prices are available on our website.

PHOTO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT

The Okeanos Aggressor offers a complete digital photo facility including a PC for downloading photos. The Photo pro is available for free coaching with equipment rental. Photo equipment is available to rent separately or as a complete set up. The Okeanos Aggressor has a strobe charging station and a large camera table available for your camera and video equipment. Guests should bring their own battery chargers. Please refer to our web site, www.aggressor.com for detailed information and costs of rental equipment, certification courses, and photo/video equipment.

UNDERWATER VIDEO/DVD

The Video Professional can capture your diving adventure onboard the Okeanos Aggressor to share with family and friends. Video of the week/DVD (includes all guests and crew) are USD \$65 per person.

SHIPS BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS

There is a mini-boutique on board with assorted t-shirts, and miscellaneous items. Because of limited availability, we recommend bringing extra batteries, film and/or CD's for photos. The Okeanos Aggressor accepts Visa, MasterCard, American Express and traveler's checks. Sorry, no personal checks. Many credit card companies charge a conversion fee. If this happens to you, please contact your credit card company if you have questions. After returning home if you still want boutique items, please visit the Aggressor Fleet online boutique at www.aggressor.com/shop.

GRATUITIES

Crew gratuities are not included in the charter. We believe gratuities should be voluntary and based upon the quality of service the crew has provided. When settling your account on Friday, the Captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the crew. Payment can be made by cash, traveler's checks or credit card.

CHECKOUT

Checkout time is at 7:00 a.m. the morning of departure. The crew will transport you to one of the host hotels, airport in San Jose, or, if you are not departing until the late afternoon we will have time to take advantage of the jungle crocodile safari or canopy tour. Departing flights should be scheduled after 12:30 p.m. Due to traffic, tides, etc. you will not be able to make an early morning departing flight. Each week we post the Captain's log of the previous charter. Please feel free to visit www.aggressor.com and go to the Captain's log to find out water temperature, visibility, and sightings. Pick Up Times/Locations The Okeanos Aggressor picks up at two host hotels in San Jose for transfer to Puntarenas to meet the Okeanos Aggressor. On the first day of the charter a bus will pick passengers up at the Holiday Inn Escazu then the Holiday Inn Express Forum and travel approximately 1 1/2 hours to meet the Okeanos Aggressor. If you are not staying at one of these hotels, you will need to make your own way to one of these hotels prior to the pick-up times. At the end of the charter, transportation will be provided back to these hotels and the San Jose airport. HOLIDAY INN Express Forum (formerly Indigo Hotel) San Jose Forum Costa Rica Del centro empresarial Forum 2 150 mts sur y 50 mts oeste Tel: +506 22052 100 HOLIDAY INN Escazu, Next to Cima Hospital Plaza Tempo Tel: +506 25065052