

## **WHERE IS PALAU?**

Palau is located 900 miles southwest of Guam and 400 miles south of Yap, at the westernmost edge of Micronesia. Palau is north of New Guinea and east of the Philippines. It is surrounded by warm, tropical water with spectacular reefs, walls and wrecks, making Palau a diver's paradise. Palau is also very scenic above the water, with azure lagoons and white sandy beaches. The Rock Islands, mushroom shaped limestone formations with rainforest foliage, provide unparalleled tropical beauty.

## **PALAU AGGRESSOR II & TROPIC DANCER INCLUDES:**

All staterooms are air conditioned and fitted with private toilets, showers, sinks, and hair dryers. Linens are changed upon request and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. 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. 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, there is a 65% surcharge and will guarantee you a private stateroom. Sample Itinerary - Sunday – Prearranged pick up from Palau hotels 4 – 5 PM for transfer to the yachts for boarding. Guests may board beginning at 4 PM. Yachts depart dock Monday 6 – 6:30 am. - Monday – Diving begins Monday morning until Saturday noon. Cocktail party at 6 pm with dinner ashore. - Sunday – Check out is at 8:00 am. The crew will assist organizing transportation to either the airport or a local hotel if you are extending your stay.

## **WELCOME**

As you prepare for your diving adventure 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](http://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 the yachts are in constant communication. In the event of an emergency family and friends may contact you at the above numbers. We recommend you travel with a carry on bag with a change of clothes, bathing suit, medication and toiletries. Having these few items with you can make an unexpected luggage delay more bearable. In any case whereas your dive gear is delayed you will be provided with free loaner equipment. Don't forget to use your Aggressor & Dancer luggage tags.

## **EXTENDED TRAVEL**

We highly recommend adding an extension to your itinerary. Liveaboard Vacations, Aggressor & Dancer Fleet's in house travel agency specializes in extended packages. For more information, email [info@liveboardvacations.com](mailto:info@liveboardvacations.com) or visit [www.liveboardvacations.com](http://www.liveboardvacations.com).

## **ARRIVAL**

Guests arriving at the Koror (ROR) International Airport on Sunday evening will be greeted by a crewmember in uniform or a Neco Tourist Agent and transferred to the Palau Aggressor II or Tropic Dancer. There are no phones or taxis at the small airport so advance reservations should be made.

Airport transfers are not included in the cost of your charter. If you are already on island, you may board the yachts any time after 4:00 pm on Sunday. Please notify the Reservations Office of your arrival time and/or hotel reservations to assist in transfer to the yacht. The boats dock at the Neco Marine (Malakai) Harbor in Palau. At the end of the charter the crew will assist organizing transportation to either the airport or hotel if you are extending your stay.

### **TRANSPORTATION COSTS:**

Neco Marine - Transfers: - Airport to Yacht for guest arriving the day of boarding \$15 per (if not transferring from a hotel) - Yacht to Airport, day of disembarkation \$15 per person - Hotel to Yacht the day of boarding \$5 per person - Yacht to Hotel the day of disembarkation \$5 per person  
Transfers are provided by Neco Marine. Guests may pay Neco Marine while on the bus or they can pay at the Neco Marine store at the end of their trip. NO taxis are available at the Koror airport at any time. All transportation must be pre-arranged. We highly recommend arriving in Palau prior to Sunday to get acclimated to the time change.

### **TIME ZONE IN PALAU**

When it's Noon Sunday in Palau, it is: Manila 11:00 A.M. Sunday Tokyo 12:00 P.M. Sunday New York 10:00 P.M. Saturday Honolulu 5:00 P.M. Saturday Los Angeles 7:00 P.M. Saturday

### **PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION**

Visitors must have a current passport, adequate funds to support themselves, and a return airline ticket to travel to Palau. 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](http://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.

### **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, Palau Aggressor II and Tropic Dancer require each guest to complete a Cruise Application and Waiver 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 or Dancer Fleet agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS or an application/waiver will be denied boarding. The Palau yachts require passenger information in advance for Port Authority and/or customs clearance.

## **INSURANCE**

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, be familiar with Aggressor & Dancer Fleets cancellation policies and insurance policies you may have purchased.

## **FEES & TAXES (per person)**

Each guest must pay a \$210 US port fee (paid onboard) and a departure tax & 'Green Fee' of \$55 (paid in cash or with Visa/MC at the airport). The permit fees will further the sustainable management and use of the rock islands to improve and develop other areas. Government fees are subject to change without notice. Fees and taxes are not included in the charter rate.

## **HEALTH**

The yachts have a comprehensive 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 chamber is in Koror. This facility is fully operational and a short skiff ride from the dive sites. Air ambulance service from Guam is available, but expensive. The yachts 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 crew 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 YACHTS**

The Palau Aggressor II and Tropic Dancer are sisterships and 106' long with a 30 ft. beam, built and powered for comfort, safety and stability. They have a beautiful spacious salon, 50' of sun deck with shading, chaise lounges and deck chairs, bar, grill, and a complete photo/video center. They are diesel powered, cruise at 10 knots and have 110-volt power onboard. Comfortable accommodations for 18 guests include 9 spacious cabins, 8 deluxe which have a queen and single bunk, a private head and shower and one double cabin (# 9) with a full and single bunk, private head and shower. Cabin #9 is located on the dive deck level. Each stateroom has extra storage and individual climate controls. The onboard video format is both NTSC and PAL. They have a safe aboard to store valuables such as passports, cash, credit cards or anything else you would like to store. The yachts are not responsible for any lost, damaged or stolen items. We highly recommend extreme caution and care be taken if you plan to travel onboard with electronic equipment. (laptops, ipads, iPods etc) This equipment should always be stowed after use to avoid the risk of damage. 5

## **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.

## **FOOD**

The menu aboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of American feasts, barbecues and local cuisine. If you have any special dietary requirements, please add this to your reservation through the GIS and speak to the yacht chef once onboard so he/she 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. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available due to the remote nature of this location so we highly recommend you bring these items with you.

## **BEVERAGES**

The beverage 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 favorite brand. 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 swim 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, a hat and walking shoes for your time on shore.

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including diving, fish identification presentations, 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, 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'll be diving in water that averages 70-85°F. Most guests make as many as 3-4 dives each day, so some sort of protection is needed. A 3mm wetsuit should be comfortable and adequate. Due to swift currents in Palau, we suggest divers bring safety items such as a Dive Alert, Safety Sausage, and any other safety items you feel necessary. We also recommend you bring a dive computer which is mandatory and a DIN adaptor if needed. DIN adaptors are available. Most diving in Palau is drift diving so guests should be comfortable with a current. Consider purchasing in advance a personal 'Life Line' which will allow you to communicate with the dive tender on the surface. The Life Line also has a distress button which sends a signal to all boats in the area.

## **DIVING**

The crew of the Palau Aggressor II and Tropic Dancer, with their unique combination of talents, offers the ultimate in service. While onboard you may pick a buddy of your choice or dive with one of the yachts crewmembers. There is ample storage space for your diving equipment in your

personal locker. They provide 80 cubic feet tanks, weight belts, and weights. All tanks have K-valves (American type), no DIN (European) valves. All dives are made from the 35' custom built high speed, outboard skiffs capable of carrying 18 guests for quick access to even the most remote dive sites. The boarding ladders were designed for convenience to allow divers easy exits and entries. The tenders return to the mother ships after each dive. Each diver has his/her own tank rack, locker, and spacious seating area. There is very little diving from the mother ships but by utilizing the custom dive skiffs for these short runs, guests will still be in close proximity to Palau's finest diving. Skiff diving has proven itself in this location. In between dives, you may snorkel, explore secluded beaches, or just relax with a cold drink and mid-morning snack. Guests may dive up to 4-5 dives per day and there is night diving on 3 nights of the charter, conditions permitting. We suggest you pack the following: mask, fins, snorkel, regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer, buoyancy compensator, night diving light, dive gloves. Strongly recommended: Spare mask, a dive watch, dive light, safety sausage, whistle, mirror and/or other safety devices. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape. Please see our "Captain's Log" on our website for current diving conditions. Lifelines are recommended and are available for rent for \$25 per unit per week. Dive alerts and safety sausages are required and are available for use at no charge.

## **CONSERVATION LAWS**

Aggressor Fleet & Dancer Fleet do not permit spear guns or 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. If your luggage is delayed or lost, you will be provided a loaner set of equipment based on availability.

## **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**

Both yachts offer a complete digital photo facility including a PC for downloading photos. The Photo pros are available for free coaching with equipment rental. Photo equipment is available to rent separately or as a complete set up. They have 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](http://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 to share with family and friends. The video of the week/DVD (includes all guests and crew) is \$65 US.

## **SHIPS BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS**

There is a mini-boutique onboard with assorted t-shirts, and miscellaneous items. Due to limited

availability, we recommend bringing extra batteries and CD's for photos. The Palau Aggressor II & Tropic Dancer accepts cash, traveler's checks, Visa, and MasterCard. Sorry, no personal checks or Discover cards are accepted. After returning home if you still want boutique items, please visit the Aggressor & Dancer Fleet online boutique at [www.aggressor.com/shop](http://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 Saturday, 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 MC/Visa (AMEX not accepted).

## **SATURDAY**

After breakfast guests will board the dive tender for a snorkel trip to Jelly Fish Lake then a dive at Chandelier Caves. The Palau Aggressor II and Tropic Dancer will make their way to port to provision and refuel for the following week. The guests will then meet the yacht at the dock after a fun cruise through the Rock Islands for lunch. Following lunch, guests may stroll through town, shop, sightsee or visit the Museum. Both boats host a cocktail party Saturday evening at 6:00 pm. The crew will recommend local restaurants and arrange transportation to the restaurant of your choice for dinner Saturday night.

**CHECKOUT** Checkout time is at 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning. If you are traveling on the 1:35 a.m. Monday morning flight, you may consider booking a moderately priced room at the West Plaza. If you are extending your stay or are traveling Monday morning the crew will assist in arranging transportation to your hotel.

## **CAPTAINS REPORT**

Each week we post the Captain's log of the previous charter. Please feel free to visit [www.aggressor.com](http://www.aggressor.com) and go to the Captain's log to find out water temperature, visibility, and sightings.

## **TRAVEL IN PALAU**

- Palau's water is not potable; visitors should drink bottled water. Distilled water is available in most supermarkets. Check with your local health authority for latest information.
- Electrical outlets onboard are standard US 110 volt.
- U.S. currency and most major credit cards such as Visa, and MasterCard are accepted at most hotels, restaurants and stores.