

## **WHERE IS THE RED SEA?**

The Red Sea is a seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean lying between Africa and Asia. The connection to the ocean is in the south through the Gulf of Aden and in the north, the Sinai Peninsula and Suez Canal, which joins the Red Sea with the Mediterranean. There are a great number of countries that border the coastal regions of the Red Sea including Egypt, Israel, and Saudi Arabia.

## **RED SEA AGGRESSOR INCLUDES:**

All staterooms are air-conditioned and fitted with private toilets, showers, sinks and hair dryers. Breakfast (cooked to order), buffet lunch and an elegant 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. Linens are changed as requested and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. Filled tanks, weights and weight belts are included.

## **RED SEA AGGRESSOR – HOME PORT**

The Red Sea Aggressor operates from the yacht marina of Port Ghalib. Port Ghalib is a beautiful and safe community with many restaurants and shops. We recommend arriving early and staying at the Silva Port Ghalib or Marina Lodge in Marsa Alam. It is an exclusive resort located next to the Port Ghalib International Marina which is where the Red Sea Aggressor docks. Guests are able to drive right up to the yacht for easy boarding. If you choose to arrive early and are staying overnight at the Silva Port Ghalib or Marina Lodge, they will arrange transportation to the yacht which is only minutes away.

## **AIRLINE TRAVEL IN EGYPT**

Paper copies of airline tickets should be hand carried, as some Egyptian airports still require these with confirmation numbers.

## **FACTS ABOUT THE RED SEA, EGYPT**

- Egypt lies in the North Eastern tip of North Africa. Egypt borders the Mediterranean Sea, as well as the Red Sea joined by the Suez Canal, on the western side of the Sinai Peninsula.
- The official language of Egypt is Arabic, but many of the people in the tourist areas also speak English and French.
- Population: Over 90 million
- Capital: Cairo
- Local currency is EGP, Egyptian Pound. (Approximately EGP 8 = US\$ 1)
- Day Temperature: Summer time 33C/ 91F - Winter time 21C/69F
- Night Temperature: Summer time 26C/78F - Winter time 17C/62F
- Marsa Alam and Hurghada have a subtropical desert climate with mild warm winters and hot summers.

## **TRAVEL ADVISORY**

We are unable to accept reservations from guests traveling on an Israeli passport due to Egyptian maritime regulations. There is a risk that when the Port Authority is clearing the Red Sea Aggressor to depart Port Ghalib on the charter, travel may be delayed and/or denied by the authorities for these individuals.

## **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 cost is a 65% surcharge and will guarantee you a private room.

## **ITINERARY**

### **Sample Itinerary (All charters are Saturday to Saturday)**

- Saturday; Arrival Marsa Alam or Hurghada, boarding from 3:00 pm
- (may board anytime after 3 pm as the boat departs the dock Sunday at approximately 6 am)

- Sunday; 6:00 am, Port Authority clearance and departure for 1<sup>st</sup> dive
- Sunday – Friday Afternoon; Red Sea; Eat, Sleep & Dive
- Friday Afternoon – 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm return to Port Ghalib
- Friday Evening –Cocktail party 6:00 pm and dinner ashore at 7:00 pm
- (Friday night dinner is the only meal not included in the cruise)
- Saturday, Check out 8:00 am

## **WELCOME**

As you prepare for your diving adventure onboard the Red Sea Aggressor, we extend a most hearty welcome. It is important to notify our office of last minute changes concerning your airline arrival and departure times or any changes in your address and telephone numbers. The enclosed information will assist you. Please download the most recent “Know Before You Go” prior to traveling. The Reservations Office and Red Sea Aggressor are in constant communication. In the event of an emergency, family and friends may contact the Aggressor Fleet Reservations Office. After hours they may call the Aggressor Fleet emergency cell number.

*We recommend guests arrive in Egypt prior to the start day of the charter. Once guests are onboard and the yacht is given clearance to leave the port by the local authorities, no one can board the yacht after this time or deliver any lost luggage. We recommend you prepare for this if you are scheduled to fly in the day of the charter by packing a mask, fins, swimsuit, change of clothes, medication and toiletries in your carry on bag. Having these few items with you can make an unexpected luggage more bearable. Don't forget to use your Aggressor luggage tags. They will help the crew identify your bags.*

## **EXTENDED TRAVEL**

We highly recommend adding an extension to your itinerary prior to boarding the Red Sea Aggressor. There are several options to choose from.

**2 Nights Cairo** – Experience Cairo by night and fantastic day tours including visits to the Great Pyramids of Giza & Sphinx, the Egyptian Museum the Old Bazaar of Khan El Khalili.

**3 Nights Luxor** – Visit King Tut's tomb, Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens, Hatshepsut's Temple, Luxor and Karnak Temples with a Karnack Temple Light and Sound Show.

## **PORT GHALIB WATERFRONT COMMUNITY**

The Port Ghalib Marina is home to the beautiful 112 ft., 20 passenger Red Sea Aggressor. Complimentary transfers (on day of charter) can be arranged (in advance) if staying at the Silva Port Ghalib, Palace Port Ghalib or Marina Lodge. These properties are located only minutes away from where the yacht docks. The beautiful Port Ghalib waterfront community also includes shopping and restaurants of all kinds. The Marsa Alam Airport is located 10 – 15 minutes away and complimentary transfers can be arranged to/from the yacht for guests on charter start/end date as well.

## **ARRIVAL/DOCKING**

***Reservations are required for all transfers included in the price of your trip.***

Airport transfers are included if arriving and departing from the Marsa Alam Airport on the charter start/end dates to and from Port Ghalib Harbor, where the yacht docks.

A complimentary Zodiac pick-up and drop-off on the charter start/end dates is provided from Marina Lodge, Silva Port Ghalib or Palace Port Ghalib for guests registered at these hotels.

Transfers are provided from the Marsa Alam Airport to Port Ghalib Marina when the guests arrive. The transfer to the Marsa Alam Airport after the charter is at 8 am Saturday morning (for 7 night charters). One-

way transfers to or from Hurghada is \$119 for one guest and \$60 per person for 2 – 4 guests. (subject to change)

### **Saturday Charter End Date**

- Saturday 8 am Check out and departure to **Marsa Alam Airport** then the **Hurghada International Airport**. Estimated arrival to **Hurghada International Airport** is 12 pm. **(14-Day advance notice for transportation reservations is required. Private transfers can be arranged)**

If you are already in Marsa Alam, Hurghada or Port Ghalib and making your own way to the Red Sea Aggressor, she is docked at the Port Ghalib Harbor and boarding starts at 3 pm. Please be sure to include your arrival time and/or hotel reservations when completing your online paperwork through the GIS. (Taxis can be arranged to other locations)

We highly recommend arriving in Hurghada or Port Ghalib at least one day prior to boarding on Saturday.

**Sunday morning after the Port Authorities have checked all guests passports and given clearance, no one can board the boat even if there is a delayed arrival.** Arriving early will not only help you get acclimated to the local climate but ensure a timely arrival and that all bags have arrived. No bags or guests can be delivered to the yacht after clearance is given.

## **TIME ZONE**

The time zone is GMT + 2 hours with no daylight savings time.

## **PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION**

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your period of stay. It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure they have adequate funds to support themselves, a return airline ticket, and the proper visa to travel into each country on his or her itinerary and for re-entry and return back to their country. Please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure proper passport and visa requirements are met. All visitors to Egypt need an entry Visa to enter Egypt. For many nationalities this can be purchased on arrival in Cairo or Hurghada for 25 USD. However, please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure you have the proper documentation. US citizens may go to the US Department of State website at **[www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)** for more information. 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 dive master 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 Red Sea Aggressor require each guest to complete the Guest Information System (GIS) and Waiver prior to departure and boarding. The GIS 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 prior to boarding, will be denied boarding. Many Aggressor destinations require passenger information for itinerary approval.

## **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, please be familiar with Aggressor Fleet cancellation policies. More information can be found on travel insurance and dive accident insurance on the Aggressor Fleet website.

## FEES & TAXES (USD)

Upon arrival to Egypt, all guests must pay an entry visa of \$25 or a multi-entry visa for \$60. Prices are subject to change without notice.

At the end of the week, guests must pay a USD \$39 Port fee per person and a USD \$105 Marine Park fee per person to visit 2 Marine Parks for either the Northern or Southern routes. These fees are paid onboard the yacht and may be paid by Visa, MasterCard, or cash. The yacht cannot accept traveler's checks due to the banks in Egypt not accepting them.

There is a 13% Value Added Tax (VAT) required by the Egyptian Federal Law for all onboard billings for any retail or service added to your billing that includes port fees, marine park fees, dive courses, clothing sales, and nitrox

## HEALTH

The Red Sea 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 chamber is located in Marsa Shagra which is 40 kilometers/24 miles from Port Ghalib and 20 kilometers/12 miles north of Marsa Alam.

The Red Sea 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 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 anywhere inside the boat or on the dive deck**. Smoking is only permitted on the rear of the sun deck.

## THE YACHT

The Red Sea Aggressor is a spacious 120 ft. yacht with a 26 ft. beam, built and powered for comfort, safety and stability. She is diesel powered, cruises at 10-12 knots and has 220-volt power. Comfortable accommodations for 20 guests include 10 spacious staterooms each independently air-conditioned, a private head and shower, picture window or porthole view, mirrored cabinet, hair dryer, fresh towels and volume controls. Each stateroom has a 23-inch flat screen TV offering a selection of 400 movies, TV shows and documentaries. Guests will also be able to plug their computers into the TV screen to edit underwater pictures and video.

The Red Sea Aggressor has 3 Master staterooms, each with a queen bed and 7 Deluxe staterooms, each with two twin beds. The yacht has a beautiful spacious salon, large sun deck with shading, Jacuzzi, chaise lounges and deck chairs, bar and a complete photo/video center. The onboard video format is both NTSC and PAL. The yacht is 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.

## VOLTAGE ABOARD THE YACHT



The voltage aboard the yacht is 220v and the plug sockets around the boat will accept American plugs. You should bring a voltage adaptor on a power strip if you can. Most electrical devices are either 110 or 240 volts (look on your cable

on the charger that plugs into the wall to verify).

## **INTERNET/EMAIL/PHONE**

Email is not available, however, there is a satellite phone available for incoming and outgoing calls for a fee.

## **FOOD**

The menu aboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of Egyptian feasts 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. (pork and turkey are not available)

## **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. We suggest you purchase your favorite liquor (s) from the duty free shop at the airport prior to departing to Egypt. 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 swimsuits 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, marine life identification presentations, movies, games and more. We have a selection of 400 classic and new release movies that can be viewed in the boats salon or taken to your cabin to watch. However, 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 marine life identification books for reference.

Whether it's your anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding or you are celebrating a 100<sup>th</sup> 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 74°- 84° degrees or 23°- 29° C. Most guests make as many as 5 dives each day, so some sort of protection is needed. A 3mm wetsuit in the summer and 5mm in winter should be comfortable and adequate. We suggest divers bring safety items such as a Dive Alert, Safety Sausage, Nautilus Lifeline (Nautilus Lifelines available onboard for rent) and any other safety items you feel necessary. Dive computers are mandatory so please bring yours or complete the dive computer rental form in the GIS.

## **DIVING**

The crew of the Red Sea Aggressor, 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 yacht's crewmembers. There

is ample storage space for your diving equipment. The Red Sea Aggressor provides 12 Liter Aluminum tanks, weight belts, and weights and has both K-valves (American type), and DIN (International) valves.

The majority of the dives on the Southern Route are made from the mothership and others are made from the Red Sea Aggressor skiffs, which are capable of carrying up to 10 guests for quick access to even the most remote dive sites. 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/mid afternoon snack. Guests may dive up to 4-5 dives per day including night diving when possible.

The Brothers itinerary offers 4 dives per day and no night diving.

We suggest you pack the following: mask, fins, snorkel, and regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer, and buoyancy compensator. Strongly recommended: Spare mask, a dive watch, dive light, safety sausage with 20 feet of line, whistle, Dive Alert, 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.

**The Egyptian Government forbids tourists from carrying drone aircraft into the country. If you do enter Egypt with a drone aircraft, the Egyptian Government warns they will confiscate the drone.**

Diving amenities include the offer of unlimited Nitrox which is \$100 7-nights/ \$150 10 nights.

## **DIVING SUPERVISION**

You’ve chosen a LiveAboard vacation for the diving freedom that it offers. While in the water, you and your buddy are in charge. Every dive starts with a dive briefing from the staff. However, as a certified diver, you and your buddy are responsible for planning and conducting your own dives within the limitations set forth by the briefing. The staff will be on the dive deck providing surface support for divers and will also have staff in the water offering support, u/w photography and videography, and critter spotting services as well. On some dive sites a staff member will offer to lead a group and assist them in locating specific points of interest. However, the yacht does not offer direct supervision of dives. If you start out with a group, as long as you and your buddy remain in contact with each other and are ok – you may follow your own dive plan. Divers who desire more personal attention and structured/supervised dives should consider taking one of the yachts numerous specialty courses. An underlying skill featured in all of specialty training is planning, executing, and debriefing after your dive in order to build a more confident diver.

## **CONSERVATION LAWS**

Aggressor Fleet does not permit spear guns, Hawaiian slings or collecting on any of the yachts.

## **RENTAL DIVE EQUIPMENT**

A full line of Aqua Lung Rental gear is available aboard including regulators, BCDs, Dive Computers, and Night Lights. (wetsuits not available) 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 Red Sea 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 Red Sea Aggressor has a charging station and a large camera table

available for your camera and video equipment. Guests should bring their own battery chargers.

## **UNDERWATER VIDEO/DVD**

The Video Professional can capture your diving adventure onboard the Red Sea Aggressor 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 Red Sea Aggressor accepts cash, AMEX, Visa and MasterCard. (no personal checks or travelers checks) We will charge you for all your purchases including the park and port fees on the last day of your charter when you arrive back to Port Ghalib.

## **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, the Captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the crew. Payment can be made by cash, AMEX, Visa or MasterCard. The yacht does not accept traveler's checks or personal checks. (Egyptian banks don't accept them)

When traveling abroad, it is a common occurrence for a credit card charge to be declined due to a fraud alert. To help avoid this, it is recommended you contact your credit card company prior to traveling to notify them of the countries you are visiting.

## **FRIDAY**

The Red Sea Aggressor returns to Port Ghalib Friday afternoon between 2 – 4 pm. A sunset cocktail party will be held then guests may go ashore for dinner at one of the many restaurants at Port Ghalib. Dinner Friday night is the only meal not provided with the cruise. After the Red Sea Aggressor returns to port guests may also visit Port Ghalib for shopping and nightlife.

## **CHECKOUT SATURDAY MORNING**

Checkout time is at 8:00 am Saturday morning.

**Thank you for choosing to travel with us!**