

PADI DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING

THE PADI DISCOVER SCUBA DIVING PROGRAM INCLUDES:



Contact

1 Scuba Dive, Pool Orientation & Certificate of Completion - Subsequent Supervised Dives may be done aferwards

Full Equipment - no need to purchase anything

EXCLUDES:



Park Entrance & KZN Fees - payable at entry

email bookings@coraldivers.co.za visit www.coraldivers.co.za

ENJOY the Experience

You've probably seen photos, television, and films of diving, but until you do it yourself, you can't really understand what it's like. Nothing on earth matches the sensations you experience – the thrill of breathing underwater, the freedom of "weightlessness", and all the unique sights and sounds.

Based in the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, we have a vast array of unspoiled coral reefs populated with a huge diversity of marine life. Over a year you can also experience the Marine Big 5 that includes Humpback Whales, nesting Sea Turtles, and the Ragged-tooth Sharks that seasonally visit Sodwana.



The PADI Discover Scuba Diving experience opens these doors for you and much more. This is a bit like a 'tandem' skydive that allows you to try out a scuba dive, to a maximum depth of 12m. When you have more time, you can then take your next step and complete the full Open Water certification! (The PADI Discover Scuba Diving course is an 'experience program' and this does not certify you as a diver.)

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The PADI Discover Scuba Diving program enables you to:

- Dive under the direct supervision of a PADI Dive Instructor while applying the knowledge and skills you learn in the course, within the limits of your training and experience to a maximum depth of 12m.
- Experience Scuba Diving without needing to be certified
- Dive safely under the guidance of a PADI Instructor
- Decide if Scuba Diving is for you
- Experience Sodwana underwater if you do not have the time for a full course



Course Structure

The PADI Discover Scuba Diving, is an experience program designed for you to try out scuba diving before taking on the full course.

The **Knowledge Development Section** covers a short briefing before the fun starts.

Confined Water Dives are where the fun really begins! You will complete 1 Confined Water (Pool) Session in our dive pool (heated in winter), during which you get comfortable in the water with your instructor guiding you all the way.

Your **Open Water Dive** is done in the ocean, together with your PADI Instructor. The depth will be a maximum of 12m, and you will be amazed at the beauty of the underwater world.

This is the perfect holiday program to see what scuba diving is about. Your PADI Instructor will introduce you to some basic theory and skills before taking you for your first sea dive... The PADI Discover Scuba Diving program is the best introduction to diving and Coral Divers in Sodwana Bay is the perfect place to try it!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

To be eligible for the PADI Discover Scuba Diving experience, you must:

- Be 10 years of age or older. Anyone aged under 18 years will require a parent/guardian to complete and sign some paperwork.
- Complete the PADI Medical Statement on this document (pages 6-8) and if you answer "**yes**" to any of the questions, you must acquire a clearance for diving signed by a doctor stating that you are 'fit to dive'. The medical clearance must be valid within 12 months. The doctor signing the form cannot be the individual.

INCLUDES

Full equipment hire is included in the price, as well as the cost of the dive. Accommodation and/or catering is not included, but can be provided on a dinner and breakfast basis if you wish to add this. Please note that our course price does not include the iSimangaliso Park Gate Entry fee, the daily KZN Wildlife fee, or the MPA permit for divers. Our Reservations staff can assist you with a quote covering these fees.

EXTRA OPTIONS

Once you have completed your PADI Discover Scuba Diving experience, you are eligible to continue directly on to a **Scuba Diver** or **Open Water Diver** course if you like. This will provide you with a 'full' certification and increase your confidence as a diver. However, the 'upgrade' to qualified diver takes 3-5 days (depending on which course you decide on), and is well worth it, as you will be able to continue increasing your diving skill set by being eligible for further courses like the PADI Advanced Diver and Rescue Diver courses.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where is Coral Divers?

We are situated inside the iSimangaliso Wetland Park in northern KwaZulu-Natal. We are about a 4,5hr drive north of Durban and a 9hr drive from Johannesburg. Maps and directions are to be found on our website. **<u>NB: The only tarred road route is via the town of Hluhluwe on the R22.</u>** Many GPS and Google Maps show that turning off the N2 towards Jozini, as the route to take. Please **DO NOT** take this route, as it is heavily congested in Jozini and the road is in a bad state.

Is accommodation included?

Your course does not include tent accommodation. You are most welcome to book a tent or one of our cabins if you prefer. Each tent has twin beds with mattresses, but you will need to either bring your own bedding, or pay R100 refundable deposit for bedding. You will be able to collect this at our reception. There is an electric light, but no plug points in the tent. Cabins include linen though and Ensuite Cabins have air-conditioning as well.

What is the restaurant menu like?

Diving can leave you with an appetite, so we are sure you will enjoy the varied menu available at our licensed restaurant. You can opt for our daily buffet if you would like to have dinner & breakfast included. **Please advise us of any special dietary requirement before you arrive.

What shops are in the area?

There is a small Spar shop within the park (1km from Coral) where you can buy snacks and amenities. There is an ATM to draw money here too. Alternatively, Mbazwana (15km from Coral) has a large Spar & PEP. There is also a doctor and small pharmacy.

Can I use a 2x4 vehicle to get there?

Most cars make it to Sodwana easily (from a 4x4 to a Chevy Spark. However, please note that you are in a marine reserve with sandy roads inside the park, so avoid really low suspensions or very hard tyres.

How old must I be?

Anyone over the age of 10 years may do the course.

Do I need a medical?

Diving is about having fun safely, so we need to ensure that everyone will run no risks. You are required to fill in the Dive Medical form, truthfully selecting the answers to questions on your health. If your answer raises concerns, you will need to do the PADI medical check-up at your doctor. The doctor must sign and state that you are 'fit to scuba dive'. Please bring the signed medical with you.













Diver Medical | Participant Questionnaire

Recreational scuba diving and freediving requires good physical and mental health. There are a few medical conditions which can be hazardous while diving, listed below. Those who have, or are predisposed to, any of these conditions, should be evaluated by a physician. This Diver Medical Participant Questionnaire provides a basis to determine if you should seek out that evaluation. If you have any concerns about your diving fitness not represented on this form, consult with your physician before diving. If you are feeling ill, avoid diving. If you think you may have a contagious disease, protect yourself and others by not participating in dive training and/ or dive activities. References to "diving" on this form encompass both recreational scuba diving and freediving. This form is principally designed as an initial medical screen for new divers, but is also appropriate for divers taking continuing education. For your safety, and that of others who may dive with you, answer all questions honestly.

Directions

Complete this questionnaire as a prerequisite to a recreational scuba diving or freediving course. Note to women: If you are pregnant, or attempting to become pregnant, do not dive.

1	I have had problems with my lungs, breathing, heart and/or blood affecting my normal physical or mental performance.	Yes □ Go to box A	No 🗆
2	I am over 45 years of age.	Yes □ Go to box B	No 🗆
3	I struggle to perform moderate exercise (for example, walk 1.6 kilometer/one mile in 14 minutes or swim 200 meters/yards without resting), OR I have been unable to participate in a normal physical activity due to fitness or health reasons within the past 12 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
4	I have had problems with my eyes, ears, or nasal passages/sinuses.	Yes □ Go to box C	No 🗆
5	I have had surgery within the last 12 months, OR I have ongoing problems related to past surgery.	Yes □*	No 🗆
6	I have lost consciousness, had migraine headaches, seizures, stroke, significant head injury, or suffer from persistent neurologic injury or disease.	Yes □ Go to box D	No 🗆
7	I am currently undergoing treatment (or have required treatment within the last five years) for psychological problems, personality disorder, panic attacks, or an addiction to drugs or alcohol; or, I have been diagnosed with a learning or developmental disability.	Yes □ Go to box E	No 🗆
8	I have had back problems, hernia, ulcers, or diabetes.	Yes □ Go to box F	No 🗆
9	I have had stomach or intestine problems, including recent diarrhea.	Yes □ Go to box G	No 🗆
10	I am taking prescription medications (with the exception of birth control or or anti-malarial drugs other than mefloquine (Lariam).	Yes □*	No 🗆

Participant Signature

If you answered NO to all 10 questions above, a medical evaluation is not required. Please read and agree to the participant statement below by signing and dating it.

Participant Statement: I have answered all questions honestly, and understand that I accept responsibility for any consequences resulting from any questions I may have answered inaccurately or for my failure to disclose any existing or past health conditions.

Participant Signature (or, if a minor, participant's parent/guardian signature required.

Participant Name (Print)

Birthdate (dd/mm/yyyy)

Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

Instructor Name (Print)

Facility Name (Print)

* If you answered YES to questions 3, 5 or 10 above OR to any of the questions on page 2, please read and agree to the statement above by signing and dating it AND take all three pages of this form (Participant Questionnaire and the Physician's Evaluation Form) to your physician for a medical evaluation. Participation in a diving course requires your physician's approval.

Diver Medical | Participant Questionnaire Continued

(Print)

BOX A – I HAVE/HAVE HAD:		
Chest surgery, heart surgery, heart valve surgery, an implantable medical device (eg, stent, pacemaker, neurostimulator), pneumothorax, and/or chronic lung disease.		
Asthma, wheezing, severe allergies, hay fever or congested airways within the last 12 months that limits my physical activity/exercise.		
A problem or illness involving my heart such as: angina, chest pain on exertion, heart failure, immersion pulmonary edema, heart attack or stroke, OR am taking medication for any heart condition.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Recurrent bronchitis and currently coughing within the past 12 months, OR have been diagnosed with emphysema.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Symptoms affecting my lungs, breathing, heart and/or blood in the last 30 days that impair my physical or mental performance.	Yes □*	No 🗆
BOX B – I AM OVER 45 YEARS OF AGE AND:		
I currently smoke or inhale nicotine by other means.	Yes □*	No 🗆
I have a high cholesterol level.	Yes □*	No 🗆
I have high blood pressure.	Yes □*	No 🗆
I have had a close blood relative die suddenly or of cardiac disease or stroke before the age of 50, OR have a family history of heart disease before age 50 (including abnormal heart rhythms, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathy).		
BOX C – I HAVE/HAVE HAD:		
Sinus surgery within the last 6 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Ear disease or ear surgery, hearing loss, or problems with balance.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Recurrent sinusitis within the past 12 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Eye surgery within the past 3 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
BOX D – I HAVE/HAVE HAD:		
Head injury with loss of consciousness within the past 5 years.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Persistent neurologic injury or disease.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Recurring migraine headaches within the past 12 months, or take medications to prevent them.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Blackouts or fainting (full/partial loss of consciousness) within the last 5 years.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Epilepsy, seizures, or convulsions, OR take medications to prevent them.	Yes □*	No 🗆
BOX E – I HAVE/HAVE HAD:		
Behavioral health, mental or psychological problems requiring medical/psychiatric treatment.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Major depression, suicidal ideation, panic attacks, uncontrolled bipolar disorder requiring medication/psychiatric treatment.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Been diagnosed with a mental health condition or a learning/developmental disorder that requires ongoing care or special accommodation.	Yes □*	No 🗆
An addiction to drugs or alcohol requiring treatment within the last 5 years.	Yes □*	No 🗆
BOX F – I HAVE/HAVE HAD:		
Recurrent back problems in the last 6 months that limit my everyday activity.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Back or spinal surgery within the last 12 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Diabetes, either drug or diet controlled, OR gestational diabetes within the last 12 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
An uncorrected hernia that limits my physical abilities.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Active or untreated ulcers, problem wounds, or ulcer surgery within the last 6 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
BOX G – I HAVE HAD:		
Ostomy surgery and do not have medical clearance to swim or engage in physical activity.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Dehydration requiring medical intervention within the last 7 days.		No 🗆
Active or untreated stomach or intestinal ulcers or ulcer surgery within the last 6 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Frequent heartburn, regurgitation, or gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD).		
Active or uncontrolled ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease.	Yes □*	No 🗆
Bariatric surgery within the last 12 months.	Yes □*	No 🗆

Diver Medical | Medical Examiner's Evaluation Form

Participant Name	Birthdate	
	(Print)	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)
	n requests your opinion of his/her medical suitability to envisitical conditions as they relate to diving. Review the art of your evaluation.	
Evaluation Re	sult	
Approved – I find no	conditions that I consider incompatible with recreationa	al scuba diving or freediving.
Not approved – I find	d conditions that I consider incompatible with recreatio	nal scuba diving or freediving.
Signature of certified	d medical doctor or other legally certified medical provider	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)
Medical Examiner's Nar	me	
	(Pr	rint)
Clinical Degrees/Crede	ntials	
Clinic/Hospital		
· ·		
Address		
Address		
Phone	Email	
	Physician/Clinic Stamp (option	onal)
	Created by the Diver Medical Screen Committe following bodies:	e in association with the
	The Undersea & Hyperbaric Medical Society	
	DAN (US)	
	DAN Europe	
	Hyperbaric Medicine Division, University of (California, San Diego