

Pulau Weh, Aceh, Indonesia Advanced Course in Pulau Weh

The diving

This course is the next step in increasing your knowledge and developing your skills to make your diving even safer and more enjoyable.

The course consists of 5 dives, each of them explores a new area of diving, like deep diving, wreck diving, navigation or underwater photography. It is a playful course giving you experience and control in the water by simply diving with different purposes and goals.

With steep underwater drop-offs and both oceanic and local currents converging, this is a location where interactions with big stuff such as mantas and larger sharks are a distinct possibility. In addition, the beach dive in front of the dive shop is gaining a deserved reputation for critter diving, with ghost pipefish, waspfish and even mimic octopus being regularly found. During your course you will explore both the beach and some of the bigger offshore dive sites.

Together with your instructor, you will have a fun, safe and different course that will be something to remember.



Area name / Island name
Pulau Weh, Aceh, Indonesia

Nearest airport
Banda Aceh, Aceh

Season
The Pulau Weh dive season runs all year round
Manta season March-May
and September-December
Wet season November - January

Center type
PADI /CMAS
Friendly and experienced
Dutch owned

Experience level
PADI Open water diver or equivalent.
Beach dive suitable for all. Some boat dive sites are for experienced divers only. Daily dive sites will be chosen based on diver experience

Minimum age for participation
10 Years

Pulau Weh, Aceh, Indonesia
Advanced Course in Pulau Weh

Location

Pulau Weh is located north of the northern end of Sumatra, an hour by ferry from Banda Aceh. It is a mountainous, verdant island with waterfalls, caves and villages to be explored. Gapang Beach is located on the NE shore of the northern peninsular and is the definition of quiet. No bars, no clubs... just a diveshop, a few locally run bungalows and a couple of basic restaurants.

Your resort in Pulau Weh.

You'll be both diving and staying at the best-known and most respected operator on Pulau Weh. With over 12 years of experience in these waters these are the guys to dive with! Behind the dive shop they have created a 20 room boutique-style resort designed for leisurely contemplation rather than frenetic activity.

Your room

Upgraded room with double or twin bed, hot water, fan, bathroom with shower (or bath) & toilet, pantry, large veranda and just a few meters to the atmospheric dive center. The rooms are exactly what you want upgraded accommodation to be; Light, very spacious and with lots of soul!



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Advanced Course in Pulau Weh

Introduction to course

The PADI Advanced Open Water course will get you even more comfortable in the water by simply completing five adventure dives under the supervision of a PADI Instructor. If you're looking to build your confidence and gain more experience, this is the natural next step on the ladder. The course is designed so you can go straight into it after the Open Water Diver course. The course builds on what you've already learned and develops new capabilities by introducing you to new activities in diving.

Alter your skills by completing 5 adventure dives introducing you to:

- Underwater navigation
- Deeper water diving (from 18-30 meters)
- 3 Adventure dives of your choice

You and your instructor choose from 15 types of Adventure dives to complete your course.

Best part about the Advanced course is: there is NO exam... Just lots of good diving.

WHEN TAKING THE COURSE

The Advanced course is a sure step. To enroll, you need to be certified as PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent. A refresher dive is recommended prior to the course if you've been out of the water for more than 6 months or have little experience.



The course in short:

Number of Dives:
5 open water dives

Knowledge Development:

Five theoretical modules matching the 5 dives in the course

Prerequisites:

10 years for Junior Advanced Open Water Diver
15 years for Advanced Open Water Diver

Materials you'll need:

PADI Advanced Open Water Crew Pack
(Included in your package)

Equipment you'll use during the course:

Mask, fins, snorkel, tank, regulator, buoyancy compensator, weightbelt, submersible pressure gauge and a wetsuit
(included in your package)

Pulau Weh, Aceh, Indonesia
Advanced Course in Pulau Weh

Itinerary

The PADI Advanced Open Water Course is performance based. That means you have to understand and pass the theory and perform the in-water skills correctly and with ease. Therefore, the itinerary can vary slightly from course to course. The course will take 2 to 3 days depending on the students enrolled. 5 dives will be spread out on the available days. No more than 3 training dives will be conducted each day. To give you an idea of what to expect, see the itinerary below:

Day 1: Arrive and relax, start reading the chapters that apply to your course

Day 2: Reviewing of the chapters applying for the dives of the day

Day 3: Reviewing of the chapters applying for the dives of the day

Day 4: Relax & check out. Or go fun diving!

If you want a longer itinerary, you can add extra days of diving and accommodation upon booking.

Please note

Due to ocean and weather conditions, the itinerary can be subject to change.



Activity starts
9am in the dive shop

Activity starts from
Dive center, few meters from your bungalow

Group Size
Max. 12 on the boats
Small groups under water
max 4 divers per diveguide

Language
English



Pulau Weh, Aceh, Indonesia
Advanced Course in Pulau Weh

Step 1 - Get to the harbour in Banda Ache

Book a flight to Banda Ache in Northern Sumatra.
When you arrive, take a taxi from the airport to the ferry harbour Ulee Lhue.

Step 2 - Take ferry from mainland Sumatra to Pulau Weh

On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday you have the option to connect to the car/passenger ferry at 14:00.
Or you can wait for the fast ferry Express Bahari, which is leaving at 16:00 daily -except on Fridays it leaves at 16:30.
On Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday the car/passenger ferry does 2 trips at 11:00 and 16:00.

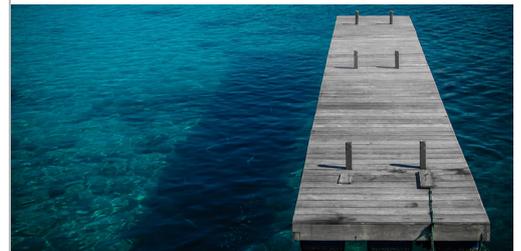
Step 3 - Get a ride to Gapang Beach

When you arrive in Balohan, the harbour on Pulau Weh, there are many cars and minibuses waiting for passengers. Following a rotating schedule, there is a designated minibus (and/or taxi) to go to the Gapang & Iboih beaches.

For taxis count on a minimum of Rp 150.000-200.000 or if shared with others 50.000 per person - for a car to take you directly to the dive center on Gapang Beach. In a minibus it's also Rp 50.000 per person, when negotiating hard Rp 40.000. It is a 40 minutes drive over spectacular scenic roads with monkeys sitting along the road.

Step 4 - Back track

For the way back, there is daily transport leaving Gapang Beach at 7 AM, which gives enough spare time to catch the morning fast ferry at 8:00 or the bigger car/passenger ferry.



Pulau Weh, Aceh, Indonesia
Advanced Course in Pulau Weh

Prices below are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.



ADV. OPEN WATER COURSE

Days / Nights	4/3
Amount of dives	5
Price (incl. accommodation)	422 EUR

Supplements

EFR course + 1 night accom.	150 EUR
Extra 2 dives (reef dives)	81 EUR
Extra night (after)	22 EUR
Extra night (before)	22 EUR
Refresher dive (added to 1st dive)	50 EUR

Prices for supplementary accommodation are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.

Supplements

A supplement can be chosen to add on your package. All supplements can also be booked on site. In high season, bungalows and boats get filled fast - you might find trouble getting an extra night in your resort or an extra day of diving. If you are booking a course, it is recommended to book an extra night of accommodation prior your course, to get settled and get up front on the studying

Included

Diving as stated in package
All PADI course materials
All dive equipment
Dive guide or instructor
Boat, mineral water on the boat
Accommodation
Free internet

Not included

Meals & drinks not included
Transfers not included

Also available on site

Extra Accommodation if available
Extra days of diving if available

Continuing education

Continuing courses & Specialties available

Cancellation

As written in terms and conditions

Dive insurance

Basic dive travel insurance required

General terms and conditions

GENERAL CONDITIONS

CHANGES OF BOOKINGS:

You can change your booking request or start date free of charge.

If you need to change your booking you must contact the **dive center** directly by e-mail or phone. You will find the contact details on your voucher. For verification purpose, please remember to mention your name and booking ID.

If you want to change your start date, we recommend that you do so minimum 10 days before the beginning of your dive package. Later than this, might cause the accommodation to be fully booked for alternative dates. During high seasons, 10 days might not be sufficient time, please allow extra time for changes in the high season. As a reminder, you will receive an email with general information and contact information of your dive center 10 days prior to your start date.

CANCELLATION RULES:

Any customer has the right to cancel their booking with Blue Venture Diving. In order to do so, you must contact your selling agent. The cancellation fees and rules of your selling agent will apply for your cancellation.

Blue Venture is not liable for any cancellations done by the customer of personal reason such as/or in the same category as sickness, family, missed flights etc, or other circumstances that is beyond reasonable control such as force majeure.

Blue Venture booking cancellation

In the unlikely event that Blue Venture is forced to cancel a booking, the customer will get direct notice. A cancellation will only happen if Blue Venture finds that the contracted dive center can't perform the needed service of the booked package or if the dive standards can't be fulfilled accordingly. Minor changes in the itinerary will not be defined as a valid cancellation reason, as diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity.

Blue Venture will always do their best to find another operator of same or higher standard, but it is up to the customer to decide whether they want to accept the change or get a refund.

INSURANCE:

A cancellation insurance is not included. It is highly advised recommended that you obtain adequate travel insurance prior to your departure from your home country.

REFUNDS:

Medical Statement

To enroll in an Open Water Course, all students **MUST** fill in the Medical Statement. Please ensure that you have received the medical statement from your travel agent. If any questions are replied with a "Yes", the medical statement must be signed by a doctor. Failing the medical statement at the destination, and therefore not being able to enroll in the diving course, you will not be entitled to a refund.

If you have not received your Medical Statement, please make sure to print it from this link.

<https://blueventure.net/files/information/12.pdf>

Restricted dives

Diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity. All diving is performance based. It is up to the discretion of the dive guide/instructor to restrict divers from entering activities that goes beyond their experience level. All guides strive to reach the expectations of the customers. However, if they find that the safety of the group or an individual is jeopardized or at risk by one or several individuals, it is up to the dive guide/instructor to restrict any divers from entering the water.

In this event the dive center or Blue Venture is not obliged to give a refund.

Dives not completed

There is no refund for dives not carried out.

Refund for dives not done for any reason is up to the discretion of the dive center. Most dive centers do not give refunds for dives not done with personal causes such as seasickness, low on air situations or a failure in mastering the equipment etc. All log books will be checked prior to the dive and the dive sites will be chosen accordingly to the experience level. It is however expected that certified divers keep within their limits and do not cross their comfort zone. Blue Venture and your travel agent is never responsible to pay a refund for dives not done.

Courses not completed

There is no refund for courses not completed! All courses are performance based, but it is up to the instructor to pass the student. If a customer can not complete a course with success they will receive their course documents for an optional referral, but the contracted dive center, your travel agent and Blue Venture is not responsible to pay a refund.

Boats or dives not departing

If boats or dives are cancelled due to bad weather or sea conditions, it is up to the dive center to re-schedule and compensate with a similar dive trip when conditions allow. If the customer does not have adequate time to enroll in another trip/course it is up to the customer to make sure the dive center notify Blue Venture of this in order to secure a refund via the sales agent who completed the sale with the customer. There will only be refund on the diving and not the accommodation.

ACCOMMODATION:

Unless mentioned in the destination information folder the accommodation is always part of the package.

If the dive center by any means can't deliver the agreed accommodation, it is up to their discretion to supply immediate accommodation of the same or higher standard. (the destination information folder is found on the Blue Venture website.)

If the accommodation somehow does not live up to satisfactory standards of the customer, the customer must contact Blue Venture by phone or email as soon as possible (preferably while still on site) in order to solve the problem.

DIVE INSTRUCTORS & DIVE GUIDES:

All contracted dive centers has been handpicked based on their level of professionalism and expertise. Blue Venture ensures that all guides and instructors have the correct education and experience. In the unlikely event that a customer suffers a bad experience with any guide, instructor or dive center facilities, Blue Venture is entitled to know, but can't by any means be held liable.

At the end of you dive experience as questionnaire will be sent out to you, that we would like you to answer. By doing this, you help securing a high level of professionalism towards all customers.

MEDICAL STATEMENT & LOGBOOK:

If you are about to enroll in a dive course (entry level only), you must fill out the RSTC Medical Statement before you leave your home country. Please make sure your agent has provided you with the RSTC Medical Statement. You can also print the medical statement from the link, further up on this page. If you need the medical statement reviewed by a doctor, you have 10 days from the date of the booking with the option of cancelling for free.

If you are already certified as a diver and about to go fundiving, you must remember your current dive certificate and your personal logbook or dive computer.