

Taganga, Tayrona National Park, Colombia Fundiving in Colombia

The Diving

Experience Taganga, where Colombia's mountains meet the Caribbean Sea, and discover the spectacular underwater world of the protected waters of Tayrona National Park.

Most dive sites are located within the national park, just a short boat ride from Taganga. The unique mix of rocky reefs and sandy seabeds creates a marine environment unlike anywhere else in the Caribbean, supporting diverse coral formations and an abundance of marine life. Schools of vibrant tropical fish are a constant companion, while lucky divers may also encounter sea turtles, dolphins, rays, and other pelagic visitors.

With 22 dive sites to explore, Tayrona National Park offers something for every level of diver. Explore coral-covered pinnacles, fascinating shipwrecks, swim-throughs and caves, and a variety of thriving marine ecosystems. Beginners can enjoy sheltered, shallow sites with excellent visibility, while more experienced divers can test their skills on deeper dives and exhilarating drift dives where seasonal currents attract larger marine life.

Beyond the incredible diving, Taganga is the perfect base for adventure. It serves as the gateway to the legendary Lost City Trek (Ciudad Perdida), hidden waterfalls, and some of Colombia's most beautiful Caribbean coastline. Combined with its relaxed beach-town atmosphere, colourful local culture, and welcoming community, Taganga has a habit of convincing visitors to stay far longer than they originally intended.



Area name / Island name

Taganga, Tayrona National Park, Colombia

Nearest airport

Santa Marta, Simón Bolívar International
Airport

Season

All year round
Colder temperatures and stronger winds
from
December to March with a drop down to 20
degrees.
You'll be diving in a 5mm wetsuit,
so you will be comfortable and warm in the
water

Center type

International dive center
German owned
European standards
PADI 5 star Instructor Development Resort
PADI Tec/Rec Diving Facility
Sidemount Facility

Experience level

None. This is the initial course
All students are required to swim 200 meters
and float
for 10 minutes during the course

Minimum age for participation

10 Years

blue&venture

away to sea



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Location

Taganga is an old fishing village located just 15 minutes from the big bustling Santa Marta. It is known to be a popular destination for backpackers wishing to stay close to the water, have a couple of drinks and dive in a relaxed atmosphere (of course not in that order). The main road along the beach, is filled with fishermen and local kids playing football during the day. In the evening, when the temperature drops, the restaurants, cafés and beach front attracts divers, hikers and backpackers alike. The many activities around Taganga and Tayrona National Park will keep you busy for days and are also the reason why many travellers end up extending their stay in this area of Colombia.

Your Guesthouse

Villa Mary is your cozy home during your stay. This colourful little pearl has great communal areas and hammocks and is located just a five-minute walk from the beach and the dive center. This family-run accommodation is clean and cozy, with the friendliest reception staff, who are happy to help you plan your onward travels, or trekking in Tayrona. If you prefer to cook your own food, there is a little communal kitchen. The hostel offers tasty breakfast options meals at a low cost, and there's a laundry service and free WIFI.

Your room - Private accommodation

Twin or double bed in spacious room with private bathroom, fan cooling and semi-hot water for your shower (This you will realise is quite a standard for Colombia, but if you want a hot shower, you can take one at the dive center, where they will provide you towels after your diving for that exact purpose).





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This is only a selection of the many dive sites represented on this particular destination. Dive sites are picked on a daily basis and is dictated by the experience level of the divers and the safeness of the environment.

Our Favourite Dive Sites

Our dive centre in Taganga stands out for more than just its professionalism. Rather than simply visiting the closest sites, the experienced team always aims to take divers to the best conditions on the day, ensuring every dive is as memorable as possible.

Isla de La Aguja

Just 15 minutes by boat from Taganga Bay, Isla de La Aguja is home to four of Tayrona National Park's finest dive sites. The island offers excellent diving throughout the year, with the boat moored on the sheltered side to suit the day's conditions and the experience level of the group.

Whether you're looking for the excitement of a drift dive along the western wall, where strong currents can create exhilarating diving, or a relaxed exploration of the shallow reef, there's something for everyone. The reef is teeming with colourful marine life, including pufferfish, angelfish and, if you're lucky, a spotted moray eel peeking out from its rocky hideaway.

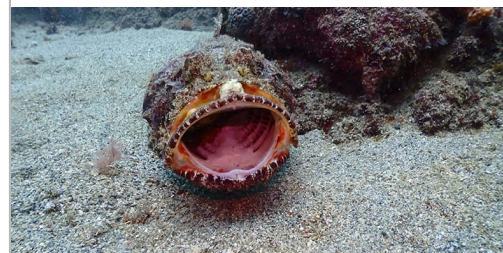
Morrito Largo

A short distance from Isla de La Aguja lies Morrito Largo, a calm, sheltered site protected from the trade winds. These gentle conditions make it one of the best places in the area to encounter hawksbill turtles, which are frequently seen feeding and resting around the reef.

The site features healthy coral patches, an impressive variety of reef fish, and large schools of tropical fish that regularly sweep through the area, creating an unforgettable underwater spectacle.

El Torrín

El Torrín is renowned for offering some of the clearest water in the region and is a favourite among underwater photographers. With a maximum depth of around 18 metres, the site is suitable for a wide range of divers. The reef is covered in a rich variety of coral species, including spectacular, oversized brain corals and impressive colonies of branching corals that create a vibrant habitat for countless reef inhabitants.



Conditions:

Visibility
10-25m

Temperature
20 – 28 degrees
Lowest temperatures from Dec - Apr

Current
Site-dependent
There is always a calm lagoon for those who do not wish to kick a current or drift dive

Surface
Taganga is hot, luckily you will be close to the water at all times and can cool down

Special marinelife
Turtles, Barracudas, Moray Eels,
Seahorses & Dolphins

El Coro Point

For qualified adventure seekers, El Coro Point is one of Taganga's most exciting dives. Divers holding an Advanced Open Water or Deep Diver certification, together with appropriate overhead-environment training such as cavern or cave diving, can explore this unique site, which features dramatic underwater formations and cavern-like passages. It is an unforgettable experience for suitably trained divers looking to discover another side of Tayrona National Park.



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Itinerary

On the day of arrival, you will be greeted in the dive shop by the dive staff who will give you an orientation of the dive shop and of the diving you will be doing. Your equipment will be fitted and packed for the following days of diving. You'll then be shown to your accommodation to check in. The rest of the day is left for exploring on land and settling in on your own.

The days with diving included will consist of two dives from the dive boat in the morning (usually) or afternoon, weather depending. Snacks and water are served between the two dives, on the boat. There will be no refund on dives not used. Night dives are also available and can be booked on location.

DIVE PACKAGE: 5 days / 4 nights - Fundiving Taganga National Park.

Day 1: Check in at dive center and hostel

Day 2: 2 dives, all inclusive

Day 3: 2 dives, all inclusive

Day 4: No diving - please allow time to off-gas before leaving Taganga area.

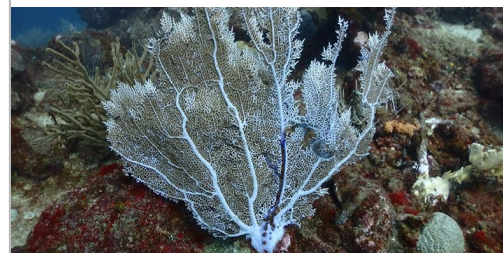
Day 5: Departure day. Check out is at noon.

Taganga is nestled by the ocean. To transfer to other bigger cities, you need to travel by road or plane at heights over 300m of sea level. This requires 24 hours without diving, which is why we have added a day of "no diving" in the itinerary. If you are feeling active, talk to the dive center of snorkelling or other activities for this day of off-gassing.

Please note

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

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



Activity starts

Meet at 8am in the dive shop on days with diving
(can be changed on a day to day basis, depending on the ocean conditions)

Activity starts from

The dive center

Group Size

Max. 4 divers per instructor/guide

Language

English

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Getting to Taganga from:

Santa Marta Airport (SMR):

When arriving in Santa Marta International Airport you have two choices of transportation. The cheapest way to get to Taganga is by public busses, the first one leaves just outside of the arrival hall (there's only one bus line leaving from the airport, so you can't miss it) That will take you to Carrera 5 in the center of Santa Marta. From there catch any bus that says 'Kra.11 Taganga' to Taganga. The journey takes around 30-40 minutes and will cost you around 1EUR. The busses run every 10-15 minutes from 06:00 to 21:00.

The easier option is to take a taxi from Santa Marta Airport to Taganga. Remember to always negotiate the price before getting into the car to avoid misunderstandings. The ride should not cost you more than 35.000 pesos (10 EUR) during the day and 50.000 pesos (13 EUR) at night. We recommend this option after dark.

Cartagena or Barranquilla:

It is no problem to travel from west to east on the northern coast of Colombia. From Cartagena several minivan services will take you to directly to Taganga. They even offer hostel to hostel drop off and pick up. The journey from Cartagena takes around five hours and costs approximately 52.000 pesos (15 EUR) one way, from Barranquilla three hours and costs 35.000 pesos (10 EUR).



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

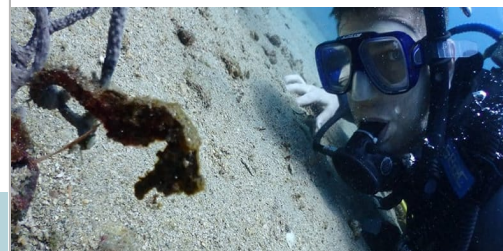
FUNDIVING - PRIVATE ACC.	
Days / Nights	5/4
Amount of dives	4
Price (incl. accommodation)	433 EUR

Supplements	
Extra day diving (2 dives) - no accom	131 EUR
Extra night in dorm (after package)	18 EUR
Extra night in dorm (before package)	18 EUR
Extra night in private (after package)	43 EUR
Extra night in private (before package)	43 EUR
Refresher Dive (added to 1st dive)	37 EUR

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

Supplements

A supplement can be chosen to be added onto your package. All supplements can also be booked on site. In high season, rooms and boats get filled fast and you might find trouble getting an extra night of accommodation 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 dive equipment
Guide or instructor
Soft drinks and snacks on boat
Accommodation in Private room
Towels
Bed linen
Wifi at Hostel
Dive insurance

Not included

All meals
Soft and alcoholic drinks
Transfers

Also available on site

Extra accommodation if available
Extra days of diving if available
Upgrading to private room if available
Continuing education
All continuing courses available on site

Cancellation

As in terms and conditions on voucher

Dive insurance

Basic dive travel insurance required
(included)

Please note

For the dive insurance, you need to bring your passport to the dive center on day 1

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>

Medical statements, specifically for courses in Cairns (Australia)

Entry level (E.g. Open Water course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/138.pdf>

Continuing education (e.g. advanced course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/139.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.