

Panglao, Bohol, Philippines Fundiving in Panglao

The diving

Panglao is seriously one of the best places to dive in the Philippines that offers it all! The dive crew are highly professional, the equipment is tip top and the atmosphere is relaxed and super friendly! Not to mention, that the house reef is just steps away from the dive center which gives unbeatable convenience and is PACKED with life!

Besides the amazing shore diving, the crown jewels of the region's reefs, Balicasag and Pamilican Islands, are just short boat rides away from the dive center. Here you will find incredible wall diving, teeming with life! Think turtles cruising past, schools of fish in every direction, and vibrant coral gardens. And when you're ready for more? Huge schools of fish, and the kind of visibility that makes you want to stay underwater forever. And if you are really lucky, you'll be swimming with the majestic whaleshark! (it's a plankton feeding shark, google it, you want to see this incredible creature!)



Area name/Island name
Panglao, Bohol, Philippines

Nearest airport
Bohol-Panglao International Airport

Season
The diving is all year round
Best diving conditions exist from October to May (flat oceans, less rain)

Center type
PADI 5 star CDC Center
International and experienced team of professionals

Experience level
PADI Open water diver or equivalent.
Is suitable for all experience levels.
The dives are easy accessible from the beach with limited current and great visibility

Minimum age for participation
10 Years

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Location

Bohol Island isn't just a place - it's the gateway to diving paradise. Nestled right on Alona Beach, the dive center gives you immediate access to over a dozen world-class dive sites (many within a kilometre) plus more reachable by a quick boat ride. The coastal diversity is absolutely stunning, both above and below the water.

Your Resort

La Sirenita is one of those rare gems where people check in "just for a night" and stay for weeks. Quaint, charming, and oozing with low-key cozy vibes, it sits mere steps from the beach with lush gardens and tranquil corners to unwind. There's free WiFi, and rooms open onto balconies, terraces or garden views, ideal for diving downtime. While there's no restaurant onsite, each room has a fridge and an electric kettle, but there are restaurants close by as well.

Your Room

The rooms at this lovely resort are simple yet full of warmth. Options range from Standard to Deluxe, all equipped with A/C, flat-screen TVs, WiFi, and fridges. Some feature sea or garden views, plus balconies or terraces for catching breezes and sunsets.

Shared bathrooms? Not here. Each room has its own private setup - yes, even bidets and hairdryers included.



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This is only a selection of the many dive sites represented on this particular destination. The diving is dictated by the safeness of the environment.

One of the best reefs in the Philippines is located less than 1 kilometer from the shop's front door on Panglao Island. At one of the many dive sites here, you can see colorful hard and soft corals descending along a dramatic wall. Witness breathtaking reefscapes, vibrantly-colored schooling animals like butterflyfish, angelfish, damselfish, camouflaged critters like blue-ring octopus, moray eels, scorpionfish, razorfish, gosht pipefish over a dozen species of nudibranch, turtles, sea snakes and more.

Arco Point: This site, suitable for all divers, is also known as "Hole in the wall" due to a small tunnel that begins at a depth of 5 meters and ends in the wall at a depth of 16 meters (the depth varies a couple of meters depending on the tide). The wall ends at 20 meters on a sandy slope beautifully decorated with isolated patches of black sun coral.

Throughout the dive we will find a vast number of soft corals, and on sunny days, the colors and light effects will make this one of your favorite dives. Don't forget to look around; a whaleshark might be diving with you!

Garden Eel: This dive site is placed right in front of the dive shop! You start the dive on the reef top at around 3-5 meters and then you leave the gorgeous coral garden descending through the wall to a depth of up to 25 meters depending on your certification level. This is the beginning of a sandy slope where at the bottom a large group of shy garden eels will hide as we approach them. Along the wall, in his cracks and small caves reside huge amounts of macro life: warty frogfish, ghost pipefish, shrimp, spider crab, wide variety of nudibranch and even three types of clownfish!

Balicasag Island: A coral haven for large and small creatures, is located just 12 kilometers from the dive center, around 30-minutes by boat. You can see vibrant corals and marine life along sloping reefs which circle the small round island. This marine sanctuary is protected from fishing and limits the number of divers per day permitted in the area. On a wall dive or a sloping reef, you'll have opportunities to see rare black corals, large fauna like green sea turtles and schools of jackfish, and diverse macro life like colourful and wonderfully weird nudibranch.



Conditions:

Visibility

Usually the visibility is really good, around 10 to +30 meters, but obviously depends on the seasons

Water Temperature

26-30 degrees

Current

Most dive sites are without any current and is easy diving. Then there is a few good drift dives on Balicasag and Pamilacan Islands, as well as some of the dive sites on Panglao further up the coast, with stronger currents for the more experienced diver

Required certification level

PADI Open water diver or equivalent
Perfect not only for the novice diver, but has a lot to offer for the experienced diver and underwater photographer

Special marinelife

Everything considered like special marinelife...
Panglao has got it!

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Itinerary

On the day of arrival, your equipment will be fitted and packed for the following days of diving. The rest of the day is left for exploring on land and settling in. The days while living, consist of diving until afternoon, on the local and offshore sites. All dives will be done from shore, except for some of the dive sites further along the coast which will be done by boat, as well as the day trip dives to Balicasag and Pamilacan Islands.

There will be no refund on dives not used. Check out is at noon.

Fundiving Panglao: 4 days & 3 nights, 4 dives

We recommend this package, if you have limited time but still want to see Panglao. You will be able to do some of the local dive sites, and depending on the schedule in the shop and the weather, you might also be able to make it out to either Balicasag or Pamilacan Islands. But it is not a guarantee!

Please note:

Boat trips along the coast, as well as day trips to Balicasag and Pamilacan Islands have an extra fee that has to be paid locally. This fee is not included in the packages above. The dive center schedules several trips to the Islands every week and you can easily upgrade the diving days you want to an Island dive trip by paying the extra fee at the dive center. (the fee will vary during the seasons).

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



Activity starts

7:30am - 8am depending upon dive site

Activity starts from

The dive center, right next to the accommodation

Group Size

Small group sizes with max. 4 divers pr. guide

Language

English, Spanish, French, Cantonese, Mandarin, German

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Transfer

Getting to Panglao is easy! Most people come by boat from either Cebu or Dumaguete to Taglibarn Harbour, and from here the easiest is to book a taxi with the Grab Taxi app. It's like Uber, but for Asia. A 6 seater from Taglibarn Harbour to Panglao Beach is about 400-600 pesos. Alternatively, you can grab a tricycle for around 300 pesos.

There is also an airport if needed, Bohol-Panglao International Airport, which is just 10-15 minutes away.

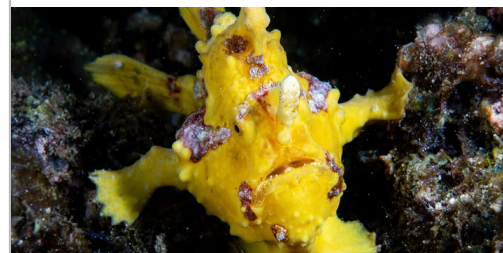
If you prefer something more direct and comfortable, La Sirenita can also arrange a private van transfer for around 600-700 pesos, depending on the time of day. Just let them know your flight details in advance and they'll handle the rest. Please note that all prices are subject to change with no warning.

PLEASE NOTE

Credit card payments are not accepted at the location. Payments can only be made in cash or via WISE

If you are in doubt of how to get to the dive center, please do use the contact details on your voucher. They have an extended knowledge of local bus, ferries and minivan services and can guide you too the best route.

You need to let the dive center know your arrival time at least one week in advance. You will find the details for the dive center on your voucher.



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

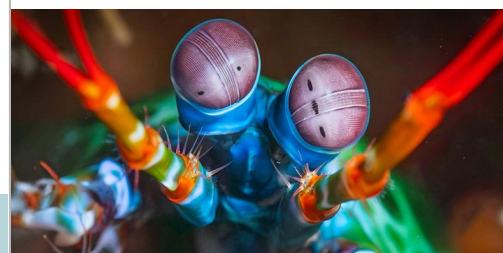
FUNDIVING	
Days / Nights	4/3
Amount of dives	4
Price (incl. accommodation)	227 EUR

Supplements	
1 Extra day of diving (2 dives)	50 EUR
1 Extra night of accom. (after)	37 EUR
1 Extra night of accom. (before)	37 EUR
Extra day of diving, Balicasag	103 EUR
Extra day of diving, Pamilacan	103 EUR
Refresher Dive (added to 1st dive)	75 EUR
Upgrade to Balicasag day trip	51 EUR
Upgrade to Pamilacan day trip	51 EUR

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

Supplements

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



Included
Beach Entry Dives
Accommodation in twin or double room

Not included
Basic dive gear rental (€14/day)
Dive computer (€9/day)
Nitrox (€8/dive)
Environmental and gasoline fees are not included, and will vary depending on dive site and season. Currently the max fee is €23 but can be subject to change without prior notice
Boat dives
Island Day Trips
All meals

Also available on site
Dive computer rentals
Medical Oxygen
Enriched Air Nitrox

Continuing education
Rescue Diver
Dive Master Programs
PADI Specialties

Cancellation
Terms on voucher

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>

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.