

## **Southern Visayas, Cebu, Dauin, Philippines**

### **Trip Information**

#### ***Cebu - Dauin Itinerary:***

Embarkation: Be Resorts Mactan Island Cebu  
Disembarkation: Atmosphere Resorts & Spa Dauin  
Arrival Airport: Mactan-Cebu (CEB)  
Departure Airport: Dumaguete (Sibulan) (DGT)

#### ***Dauin - Cebu Itinerary:***

Embarkation: Atmosphere Resorts & Spa Dauin  
Disembarkation: Be Resorts Mactan Island Cebu  
Arrival Airport: Dumaguete (Sibulan) (DGT)  
Departure Airport: Mactan-Cebu (CEB)

### **Flights, Hotels, Transfers and Excursions**

Please note that the Philippines Office for Transportation Security includes 'scuba equipment' on a list of blunt instruments that are not to be carried in hand luggage on flights originating in the Philippines. We advise that all Siren guests carry all dive related equipment in their check in rather than their carry-on luggage as we have had guests prohibited from carrying their regulators in their hand luggage. If you are unsure we would advise that you contact your airline for clarification.

### **Advice on International Flights**

International flights may be booked into and out of Cebu. We recommend you to plan your arrival in the Philippines at least one day before the cruise departs, to ensure you start your holiday well rested. The Mactan-Cebu International Airport is a short 20-minute drive from the Be Resorts in Cebu, while the transfer to/from Dumaguete Airport from Atmosphere Resort takes approximately 1 hour. Disembarkation at the end of the cruise will be just before 10:00am, though you may be able to disembark earlier depending on your return flight arrangements. Please note this may affect the number of dives you can make on your final cruise day. Any early departures must be confirmed with our office prior to booking your flights. If traveling onwards on the same day, please allow plenty of time to for transfer to international terminals and check-in.

### **Optional Pre/Post Cruise Package**

After spending a night in a hotel in Cebu after your international flight, you can board your domestic flight to Dumaguete airport or straight on the Philippine Siren. We arrange for your transfer to the hotel and onwards to the Philippine Siren for boarding at 13.00pm. After the cruise, board your return flight and spend a final relaxing evening within the Philippines in Cebu. The offer, of course, can be tailored to your needs and includes:

- 2 nights in a hotel in Cebu
- All domestic transfers
- One-way flight Dumaguete – Cebu or v.v.

## **Excursion Example**

### **Bohol Island Day Tour**

Explore the island of Bohol with our 1 day tour incorporating the Hinagdanan Cave, the Historic “Blood Compact” site, a cruise in the Loboc River and a visit to the geological wonder of the Chocolate Hills before a sunset visit to the tarsier monkeys – the world’s smallest primate. Prices start from 35 Euro per person including transportation, entrance fees, lunch and English speaking guide. We can arrange a transfer to Bohol Island prior to or after your Southern Visayas liveaboard.

### **Travel & Diving Insurance**

Siren Fleet strongly recommend that all guests carry full travel and cancellation insurance, as we cannot be held liable for delays occurring during the cruise, any delays or cancellations of the flights, accommodations, or tours & transfers we organise on your behalf.

Please note that diving insurance is mandatory aboard all Siren Fleet yachts, irrespective of your destination. Your insurance must cover all of your scuba diving and snorkelling activities, including the costs for recompression chamber treatment and emergency air evacuation.

### **General Information**

#### **Visa and Passports**

Passport holders of most other Western countries obtain a 30 day tourist visa on arrival at no extra charge. They may ask to see your confirmed return/onward flight ticket. Please make sure your passport is valid for at least 6 months from date of entry into the Philippines. Visa and passport regulations differ per country; therefore, we do advise our guests to check for any updates or changes of visa procedures with their nearest Philippines embassy/consulate.

#### **Time Zone**

The local time in the Philippines is +8 hours UMC (GMT).

#### **Money Matters**

The local currency is the Philippine Peso (PHP). The vast majority of all hotels, resorts, shops and restaurants will accept a wide range of credit and debit cards. Please note that in some cases, away from the major cities, you may be charged a service charge for credit card handling. This can range from 3.5 – 6.0%. ATMs are easy to come across in the Philippines, in most cities and airports. There is no ATM at the Busuanga Airport (Coron) and guests should ensure they have small denominations of Philippine Peso for departure tax and any excess baggage charges prior to departing Manila. There are also money changers at airports and in the cities.

#### **Airport Fees**

Passengers travelling within the Philippines are required to pay airport terminal fees. Please ensure that you retain a sufficient amount of PHP to pay these fees upon departure: it can only be paid in cash.

- Domestic departure: 200PHP
- International departure: 750PHP

## **Health**

Health standards vary throughout the country depending on location. In some cases they do not meet Western standards but in some cases they exceed them. Manila and Cebu have international class hospitals whilst the hospitals in other parts of the country will ensure that you receive more than adequate care. All major towns have hospitals and doctors available.

However, it is advisable to obtain Travel Insurance in addition to Health Insurance before you travel. We advise all guests to ensure that their vaccinations are up to date. Please make sure you use insect repellent and cover exposed skin to prevent any insect borne diseases. We recommend that travellers take normal precautions with food in order to prevent stomach upsets, and be sure to drink either boiled or bottled water only. Please consult your doctor or nearest health authorities for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure.

## **Language and Religion**

There are over 170 different languages and dialects spoken in the Philippines, however, Tagalog (aka Filipino) is the most widely spoken language in the archipelago. Nearly all Filipinos who work in the tourism industry speak good English and English road and street signs are found nationwide. Almost 90% of the population is Christian. The largest religious minority is Muslim, and they make up about 5% of the population.

## **Climate and Weather**

The Philippines is a tropical country and the weather is fairly even all year round. The year is roughly divided into two seasons; 'rainy' and 'dry'. The rainy season generally begins in early June and can extend through to November. In general, the months with greatest rainfall tend to be July and August. The rainy season often brings days of uninterrupted sunshine punctuated by occasional thunderstorms and rain. The dry season runs from November through to May but there is always the chance of light rainfall during this period. The warmest months are usually March through to May and the highest humidity is in June, July and August. Year round coastal and inland temperatures range from 27°C – 28°C (81°F - 82°F) up to 33°C – 34°C (91°F - 93°F) with an average of approximately 31°C (87°F). Evenings are marginally cooler.

## **Water Temperature and Exposure Suits**

Water temperatures are broadly similar throughout the entire Philippines region with averages of approximately 26 °C – 28 °C (78 °F- 82 °F); the coolest period is January – March with an average temperature of approximately 24 C – 26 C ( 75 °F- 78 °F). Most guests find that a 3mm or 5mm wetsuit and possibly a rash vest are suitable for the water temperature. However, for guests who feel the cold easily, especially with repeated diving, then we recommend to bring an extra vest / hood or full wetsuit. In short, bring what you feel most comfortable in.

## **Life on Board**

### **Food and Drink**

All Siren Fleet yachts provide their guests with a choice of international and Asian cuisine served buffet style in the outdoor dining area. We are happy to cater to special dietary requirements to the best of our abilities, as the availability of goods can be limited in the remote locations we operate in. Please inform our reservations team about your requirements well in advance of your trip. A well-selected range of carbonated soft drinks, fruit juices, black, green and herbal teas are available at all

times, as well as instant and fresh brewed coffee. Moreover, a selection of fresh fruit and some tasty treats are available, should you feel peckish in between meal times. Local lager (beer) is provided free of charge but guests may also select wine or spirits from our cocktail bar for an additional fee.

### **Clothing and Footwear**

Dress on board our yachts is very casual and most guests feel comfortable in little more than swim wear, shorts and t-shirts. A sweater is advised for cooler nights, particularly after multiple dives. Each Siren Fleet yacht is equipped with laundry facilities and our housekeeper is more than happy to launder your clothes during the trip. A nominal fee of 0.50 Euro is charged per item irrespective of size/weight. We do request that guests respect the wishes of others by donning clothing for meal times. Most guests prefer walking bare feet on board the yacht; however island visits may require sturdy sandals or cross-trainers.

### **Electricity**

Both 220V and 110V with 2 round pin sockets, European style, are available and we have some universal adapters on board. Nevertheless, we do advise guests to bring their own to ensure you have the amount necessary.

### **Smoking**

Smoking on board is permitted in designated (outdoor) areas. Guests are kindly requested to refrain from smoking in the outdoor dining areas during meal times.

### **Safety on Board**

#### **Emergency Management & Equipment**

All Siren Fleet crew members have been extensively trained in emergency management procedures. A thorough boat safety briefing will be provided by your cruise director at the start of your trip, during which all guests will be requested to participate in a life jacket drill. Further practice scenarios may be performed during your cruise to assist our crew in keeping their skills sharp. Each yacht is equipped with modern safety features such as automated life rafts, EPIRB, satellite communication and emergency pumps.

#### **First Aid**

Siren Fleet yachts are equipped with a fully stocked medical first aid kit for treating minor injuries and ailments, as well as for assisting trained medical professionals in remote locations. Each yacht has a full complement of medical grade oxygen which can be administered to divers through DAN kits or unit specific attachments. You will also find on board an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), which has been proven to greatly increase the survival rate in the eventuality of cardiac fibrillation.

Our dive teams are all qualified emergency responders. Should you feel unwell at any point during your cruise, please seek the advice of your cruise director who will be able to assist you.

#### **Staying Connected**

In the Visayas, we can provide you with local sim cards (max. 3 GB) at an extra cost of 20 Euro. We do have satellite phone communication which can be used by guests in the event of an emergency.

Our out of office contact numbers can be found below, should your family need to contact you during the cruise. As previously mentioned however, this number is reserved for emergencies only.

## **Payments on Board**

### **Marine and Port Fees**

The marine park and port fees for this trip are 75 Euro per person and must be paid on board.

### **Optional Extras**

Siren Fleet yachts offer a range of services to make your stay on board even more enjoyable. We offer the use of kayaks and land excursions throughout your cruise free of charge. The following services are also available for an additional fee:

- 1 Hour Thai style or Oil Relaxation Massage
- Wine (750ml bottle)
- Selection of Spirits and Cocktails
- Laundry
- Dive Courses
- Torch & Dive Computer Rental
- Snorkelling and Diving with whale sharks in Oslob (snorkelling: 20 Euro, diving: 30 Euro)
- Exclusive Siren Fleet Merchandise: T-shirts, polo shirts, rash guards, caps, nudi pointers, cargo shorts, etc.

All prices are given on board in Euros however we also accept cash payment in GBP, USD, AUD & PHP. We are pleased to accept payment by credit card (Mastercard and Visa) for which there is a 3.5% surcharge. There are many banking & money change facilities, however, guests are advised to bring the amount of 200-300 Euros in case of credit card issues, additional to Marine Park & port fees, for any incidentals.

### **Tipping**

At Siren Fleet we believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that your crew has made your holiday extra special, they would certainly appreciate a tip. Please note we are only able to accept tips in cash. For this purpose, you can use the envelope provided by the cruise director. He/she will make sure the tips are divided equally amongst all crew members, including the captain and dive guides.

### **Diving Information**

#### **Guests' Level of Diving**

Siren Fleet welcomes everyone on board; from non-divers to seasoned divers. Each destination has different diving conditions based on the season and time of the trip. Whilst all of our trips are suitable for each and every experience level, there may be some dives offered that are not suitable for beginners. Your cruise director will be able to advise you whilst on board. However, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the conditions of the destination you are planning to visit; please contact us.

## **Diving Equipment**

Since some of the domestic airline carriers in the countries of our destinations have strict check-in luggage limits, all Siren Fleet liveaboard yachts provide most rental equipment free of charge. Please pre-book rental equipment upon booking your cruise, as it is subject to availability.

All trips include:

- Aqua Lung Wave BCD – not weight-integrated
  - Aqua Lung Calypso Regulator - complete with alternate air source and depth/pressure gauge console
  - Wetsuits - 3mm shorty
  - Mask
  - Fins - full foot or open heel and boots depending on destination
  - 12 litre tanks (15 litre tanks by special request and depending on availability)
  - Weight belt and weights
  - SMB
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- The following equipment is available for rent at an extra charge of 5€ per day.
  - Underwater torch/flashlight
  - Dive computer\*

\* Please note that the use of a dive computer is compulsory on our yachts. For your safety, Siren Fleet asks all guests to always dive well within the limits of their dive computer and make a safety stop at the end of each dive.

## **Underwater Photography and Videography**

Our yachts offer specialised features for underwater photographers and videographers. These include:

Indoor work stations for the preparation and maintenance of cameras Individual storage drawers for cameras and peripheral items Large rinsing tanks with fresh water; changed frequently Our crews are thoroughly trained in the handling of delicate camera equipment and will bring your cameras to/from the tenders for you

## **Diving Health**

### **Flying after Diving**

Current studies show that you should wait at least 24 hours after multiple days with repetitive diving before flying. Please keep this in mind before you book your onward international or domestic flights.

### **Diving Insurance**

Please note that diving insurance is mandatory aboard all Siren Fleet yachts, irrespective of your destination. Your insurance must cover all of your scuba diving and snorkelling activities, including the costs for recompression chamber treatment and emergency air evacuation.

### **Diving Emergencies**

There are numerous recompression facilities throughout the Philippines, the most accessible are located in Manila, Cebu, Batangas and Subic. Private emergency air evacuation may be needed to access these facilities in the unlikely event of an accident. We strongly urge that all guests dive well within their dive limits and follow the advice of our dive guides when making repetitive dives throughout a liveaboard trip and, above all, buy dive specific insurance before their trip.

### **What to Bring**

Below you will find a check list of items that are required to bring with you on your cruise on a Siren Fleet Liveaboard yacht:

#### **Passport**

6 month validity & at least 2 empty pages for visa stickers and stamps

#### **Travel Documents**

Flight tickets- International & Domestic; hotel bookings; excursions

#### **Cash & Credit Card for emergencies**

Recommended amount (additional to park & port fees) – 100 Euro  
Airport Departure Tax in local currency - 200 or 750 PHP

#### **Diving Certification & Logbook**

Including Nitrox Card if certified & intending to use Nitrox

#### **Travel and Diving Insurance Documents**

To include in case of emergency medical evacuation

#### **Essential Diving Items**

Dive computer with full batteries

#### **Toiletries & Medications**

Including sunscreen & insect repellent  
Inform booking team of pre-existing medical conditions

#### **Essential Clothing Items**

Swim wear, hat and lightweight jacket  
Guests are strongly advised to carry essential items in their hand luggage in case of lost or delayed luggage through international or domestic flights.