

ANNUAL PHILIPPINES TRIP

SHARKS & SARDINES

25 March – 05 April, 2025 | 11N/12D

New Destination Launch Offer

Trip fee (per person)

INR 179,500

18 Guided Dives + 2 Whale Shark Snorkelling Tours

Eligibility - Open Water Certified SCUBA diver

(No minimum dives required)

Total Seats: 14

The Plan

One of a Kind Adventure



The dive plan/dive sites are subject to change based on local regulations, diver experience, weather, and logistics and are completely at the discretion of the boat captain & dive guide. Safety always comes first.

Sogod Bay

Dive Sites & Marine Life Highlights

The Philippines is home to the **second largest known population of Whale Sharks** in the world and Sogod Bay located on Leyte island has been an ethically protected Whale Shark hotspot for the 20+ years. These gentle giants are attracted to the plankton rich & krill filled waters enroute migration. Sogod has a great mix of dive sites (many within Marine Protected Areas) with different topography, all within a 1/2 hour boat ride of the resort - **Adrian's Cove, Zach's Cove, Napantao** boast endless pristine reefs.

Prime Dive Season : December to May (for Whale Sharks)



Moalboal

Dive Sites & Marine Life Highlights

The Sardine Run near Panagsama Beach at Moalboal is the second largest in the world and a must see natural wonder. Millions of sardines swirl in unison creating breathtaking moments for divers. Strict marine protection laws ensure thriving sardine schools here.

Pescador island is a majestic uninhabitable island that boasts **450 species of hard coral and thousands of fish species** such as pyramid butterflyfish, tuna, nudibranchs, snake eel, frog fish, barracuda.

Prime Dive Season : December to April

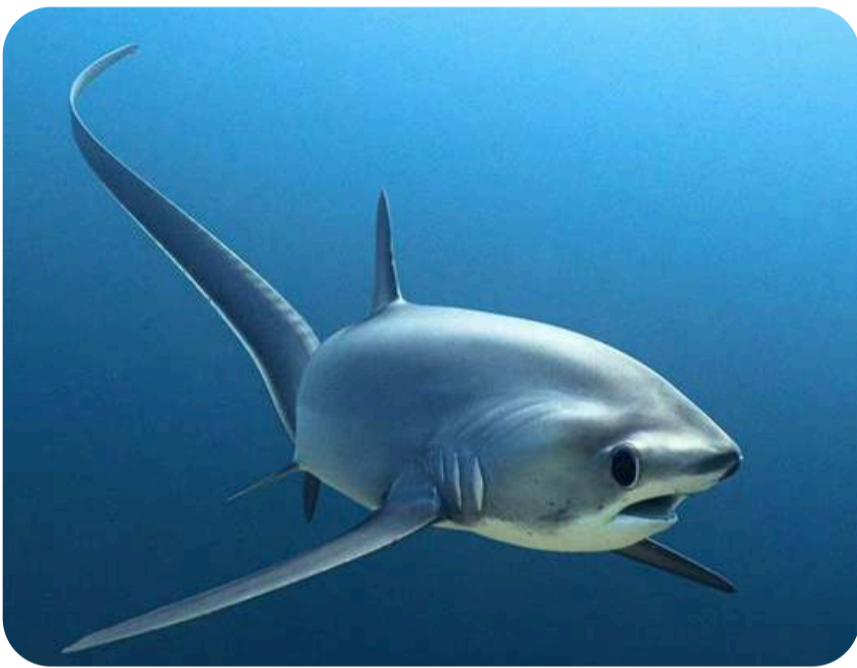


Malapascua

Dive Sites & Marine Life Highlights

Malapascua is one of the only places in the world where divers can reliably see the elusive **Thresher Sharks**. They visit cleaning stations located in shallower depths at **Kimud Shoal**. Sunset dives here are famous for the special **Mandarin Fish mating dance ritual**. **Gato Island** is an uninhabited island located in a marine protected area. The dive sites here are thriving with soft coral gardens & offer great swim throughs that house sleeping white tip reef sharks. Divers also encounter bamboo sharks, sea snakes, seahorses, nudibranchs.

Prime Dive Season : January to April



Accommodation ^(1/3)

Sogod Bay (3 Nights)

The beachside resort offers a breathtaking view of Sogod Bay and a coastline unmarred by urban development. Various amenities available include swimming pool, camera room, entertainment area including a terrace bar, darts board, billiards table, and mini gym. All rooms have WiFi, an ensuite bathroom, balcony / terrace, and offer ample storage space.

The resort's restaurant offers Asian & Western cuisines as well as beers and cocktails. The Roof Top area offers 360° views of the bay and mountains.

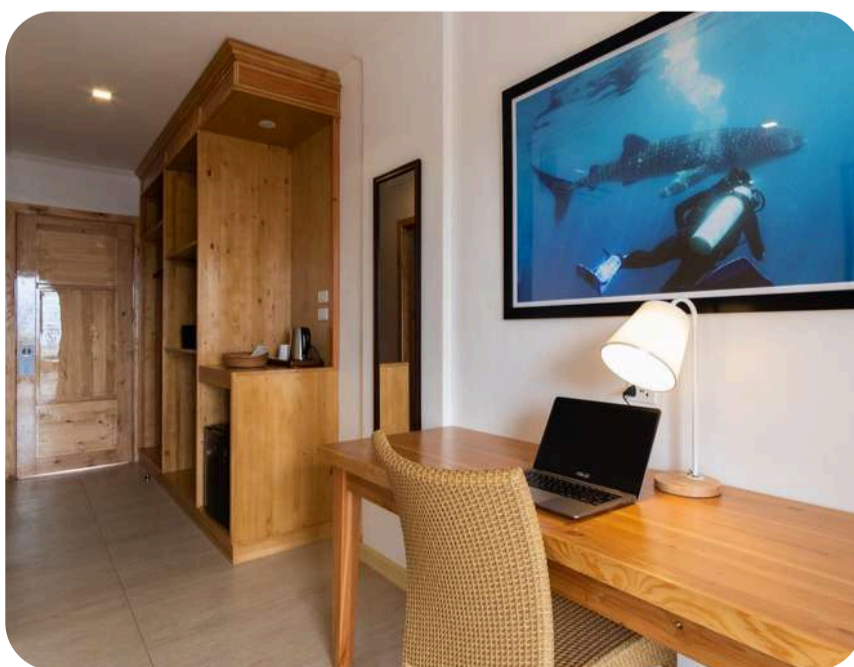


Accommodation ^(2/3)

Moalboal (3 Nights)

The dive resort built for ocean lovers and scuba divers offers fantastic sea view from all rooms, a coral reef teeming with turtles, an infinity pool, an idyllic open-air restaurant and a state-of-the-art PADI 5 Star Dive Center. All rooms have a personal balcony and amenities such as WiFi, coffee, tea, hot water, aircon, safe, and wall outlets with USB charging ports.

The swimming pool uses an environment friendly technology that reduces chemical use. The open air restaurant and pool bar offer Filipino delicacies, international cuisines, and fine drinks.

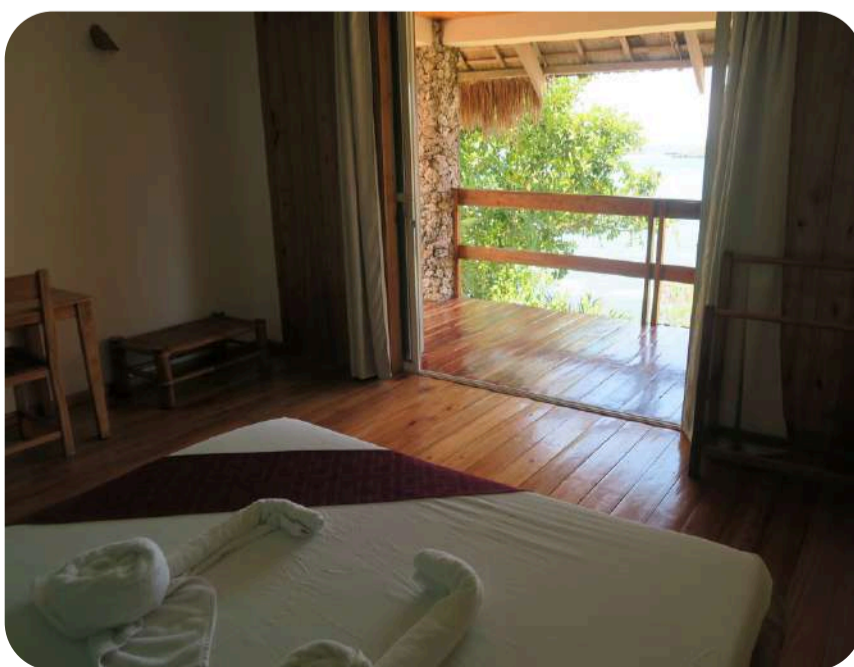
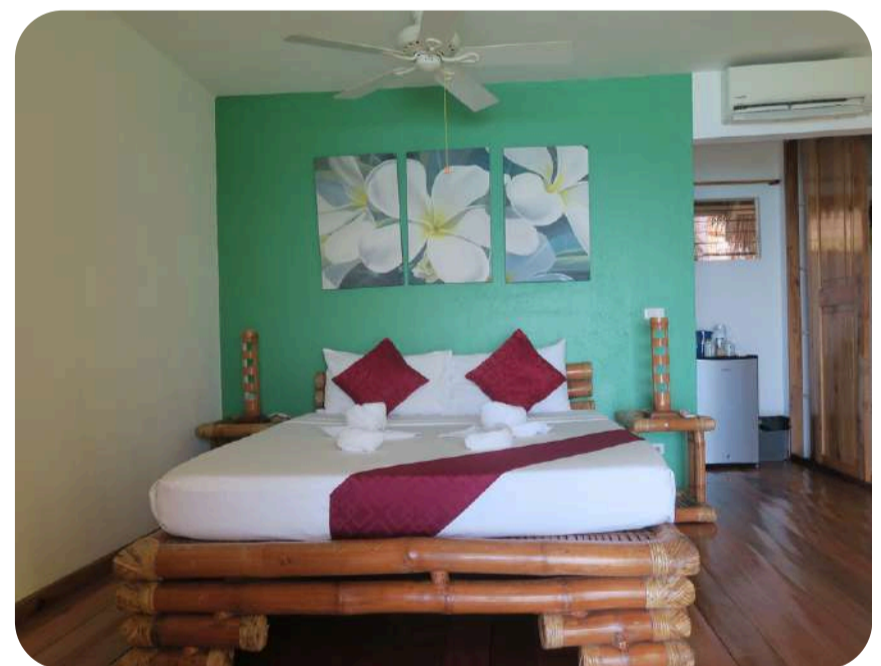


Accommodation ^(3/3)

Malapascua (4 Nights)

The resort is located on a small hill that descends into the private beach, an area isolated from the rest of the island that offers breathtaking sunsets. The resort design is environment friendly – materials are mostly all local: wood, bamboo, stone, cogon (straw) roofs. All rooms are tastefully furnishes with bamboo furniture, have a private terrace, and are equipped with all modern amenities such as WiFi, coffee, tea, minibar.

The resort has two restaurants that offer local & international cuisines with panoramic views of the ocean.



Dive Centres

PADI 5 Dive Centers

★ State of the art dive centers

All 3 dive centers are PADI 5 star dive centers with many years of experience operating in the respective areas. The dive center in Malapascua is a Green Fins certified PADI 5 Star IDC center.



Dedicated fleet of dive boats

All 3 dive centers own and operate speed boats and local dive boats called Bangka. A Bangka boat is a local outrigger boat made of wood and outfitted with bamboo outriggers to the sides for balance.



Focus on marine conservation measures

All 3 dive centers operate in strictly regulated marine protected areas. Besides the regulated measures they contribute towards conservation by setting up and nurturing local reefs. The dive center in Sogod Bay is also part of PADI Project Aware. The dive center in Malapascua is Green Fins certified.



Excellent safety record

A healthy diver to guide ratio is always maintained depending on the skill level of divers. All in-house boats are equipped with first aid kit, oxygen, and stretcher,



Safety Infrastructure

Dive Medical Emergency Preparedness

Dive Boats

Dive boats operated by all 3 dive centres are equipped with first aid kit, oxygen, stretcher, fire extinguisher, and life jackets. The dive centre in Sogod Bay also has an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) on all boats

Staff

All 3 dive resorts have dive guides and resort staff trained in Emergency First Response (EFR).

Dive Resorts

The resort in Sogod Bay has a local clinic 5 mins away and a private hospital within 30 mins from the resort. All 3 dive resorts have a local private clinics located within 10 minutes from the respective resort.

Hyperbaric Chamber

The nearest Hyperbaric Chamber from all 3 dive resorts is Cebu city. All 3 dive centres provide all available means of transport to ensure the impacted diver reaches the Hyperbaric chamber within 30 minutes.

The resort in Malapascua provides chopper services to the Hyperbaric chamber in case of emergencies.

Dive Insurance

The Dive Resorts assist the divers in contacting DAN (or equivalent dive insurance agency) customer service, if required.

Itinerary ^(1/2)

Detailed Day-wise Plan



Day 1 , 25 March 2025 (Cebu)

- Pick-up from Cebu Airport (between 12pm to 6 pm)
- Van transfer to Hotel in Cebu
- Check-in at hotel in Cebu
- Welcome dinner ; Meet & greet fellow divers

Day 2, 26 March 2025 (Sogod)

- 6am - Transfer to Cebu Airport, Packed Breakfast
- 9am - Flight to Tacloban (1 hr)
- 10:30am - Van transfer to Sogod (3 hrs)
- 2pm - Check-in at resort in Sogod Bay; lunch
- 4pm - Equipment check, Check Dive ; 8pm - Dinner at resort



Day 3, 27 March 2025 (Sogod)

- 7am - Breakfast
- 8:30am - Depart for Whale Shark snorkelling tour
- 3:30pm - Back to resort for lunch
- 5:30pm - Sunset Dive
- 8pm - Dinner at resort

Day 4, 28 March 2025 (Sogod)

- 7am - Breakfast
- 8:30am - Depart for Whale Shark snorkelling tour
- 3:30pm - Back to resort for lunch
- 4:30pm - 1 Dive
- 8pm - Dinner at resort



Day 5, 29 March 2025 (Moalboal)

- 8am - Breakfast
- 12:30pm - Lunch; Check-out
- 1:30pm - Van transfer to port (45 mins); Ferry to Cebu (3 hrs)
- 6:30pm - Van transfer to Moalboal (2.5 hrs)
- 9pm - Check-in at resort in Moalboal

Day 6, 30 March 2025 (Moalboal)

- 7am - Breakfast
- 8am to 12:30pm - 3 Dives (Pescador Island + Sardine run)
- 1pm - Lunch at resort
- 3pm - 1 Dive with Sardines
- 6:30pm - Explore night market of Moalboal



The dive plan is subject to change based on local regulations, diver experience, weather, and logistics. It's completely at the discretion of the boat captain & guides. Safety always comes first.

Itinerary ^(2/2)

Detailed Day-wise Plan



Day 7, 31 March 2025 (Moalboal)

- 6am to 2pm - Canyoneering tour at Kawasan falls - a World renowned waterfall and natural swimming pool
Breakfast on the way
- 2:30pm - Lunch at resort in Moalboal
- 6:30pm - Experience the night life of Moalboal

Day 8, 01 April 2025 (Malapascua)

- 6:45am - Check-out and breakfast
- 7:30am to 1:45pm - Van transfer to Maaya port (4 hrs), Boat transfer to Malapascua (30 mins)
- 2pm - Check-in at resort in Malapascua; Lunch
- 3:30pm - 2 Dives including a sunset dive with mandarin fish



Day 9, 02 April 2025 (Malapascua)

- 5:30am - 3 Dives (Kimud shoal - Thresher Shark point, Monad shoal)
- Breakfast and light snacks served on the boat
- 3:30pm - Lunch at resort

Day 10, 03 April 2025 (Malapascua)

- 5:30am - 3 Dives (Gato Island)
- Breakfast and light snacks served on the boat
- 12:30pm - BBQ lunch on the boat at Gato Island
- 4:30pm - Back to resort



Day 11, 04 April 2025 (Malapascua)

- 5:30am - 3 Dives (Kimud shoal-Thresher Shark point, Monad shoal)
- Breakfast and light snacks served on the boat
- 3:30pm - Lunch at resort
- 7pm - Explore night market of Malapascua

Day 12, 05 April 2025)

- 7am - Breakfast
- 8:30am - Check-out; boat transfer to Maaya port (30 mins)
- 10am - Van transfer to Cebu Airport (2.5 hrs)



The dive plan is subject to change based on local regulations, diver experience, weather, and logistics. It's completely at the discretion of the boat captain & guides. Safety always comes first.

Inclusions



Diving

- 18 guided dives
- 2 Whale Shark tours



Accommodation

- 10 nights stay on double occupancy basis in premium dive resorts by the beach
- 1 night stay on double occupancy basis in Cebu



Logistics

- 1 Domestic flight transfer
- 1 Ferry transfer
- 2 Boat transfers
- 7 Van transfers



Meals

- Breakfast and Lunch for all 11 Nights stay
- Snacks during Whale Shark tour
- Dinner for entire duration of stay in Sogod Bay



Extras

- Full day Canyoneering tour at Kawasan falls (beautiful waterfalls, turquoise water, and natural swimming pools)
- BBQ lunch on boat at Gato Island
- Welcome dinner on Day 1

[CLICK TO BOOK](#)

Exclusions

- Flights
- 5% GST, 5% or 20% TCS (refundable / reclaimable)
- Dive equipment
- Dive insurance
- Anything not mentioned under Inclusions
- Permits and Marine Park fees (US\$ 80 per person)

TCS Rules

Tax collection at source, a mandatory advance tax applicable for Indian nationals for any foreign travel. If your cumulative payment(s) from April 1, 2024 for leisure foreign travel has crossed INR 7 lakh, a 20% TCS will be applicable on top of the trip fee. Otherwise, only 5% TCS will be charged (TCS is 100% Refundable/Reclaimable). TCS Refund can be claimed against the tax payable while filing ITR. It is shown in Form 26AS as a tax credit. NRIs are subject to 20% TCS on the total trip fee. TCS paid by NRIs is non-refundable.

Visa

- Indian passport holders with a valid visa or Permanent Residence Permit from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Japan, Singapore, Schengen country are eligible for Visa-Free entry to the Philippines up to 14 days extendable by seven days. Traveller must have a valid national passport for at least six (6) months, beyond the contemplated stay and a return or onward ticket.
- Indian nationals that do not fall in the above categories must apply for a visa at the Philippine Embassy or Philippine Consulate in the country of legal residence. Alternatively, they can also apply for a Singapore tourist visa which is quicker and easier to obtain.

Equipment & Courses

Equipment Rental	Total Price (11N/12D)
Full Set (Dive Computer, BCD, Regulator, Fins, Wetsuit, Mask & Snorkel)	US\$ 175
Dive Computer	US\$ 75
BCD + Regulator	US\$ 75
Snorkel Set (Fins, Mask & Snorkel)	US\$ 30
12L Enriched Air (Nitrox)	US\$ 20 per tank

- Equipment brands across all 3 dive centres**
 - Dive Computer – Sunto, Shearwater Periguin
 - BCD – Mares, Aqualung, Beuchat, Scuba pro, Cressi
 - Regulator – Apex, Mares, Scuba pro, Aqua lung Calypso, Cressi
 - Fins & Mask – Mares, Aqua lung, Cressi
- All 3 dive centres have a constant rolling schedule of maintenance, service, repair and replacement
- All equipment is fully serviced every 6 months and regularly maintained by certified experts – in-house technicians and third party experts

PADI Courses	Price
Advance Open Water	US\$ 300
Enriched Air (Nitrox)	US\$ 160

Dive Seasons Guide^(1/2)

Climate Types & Rainfall

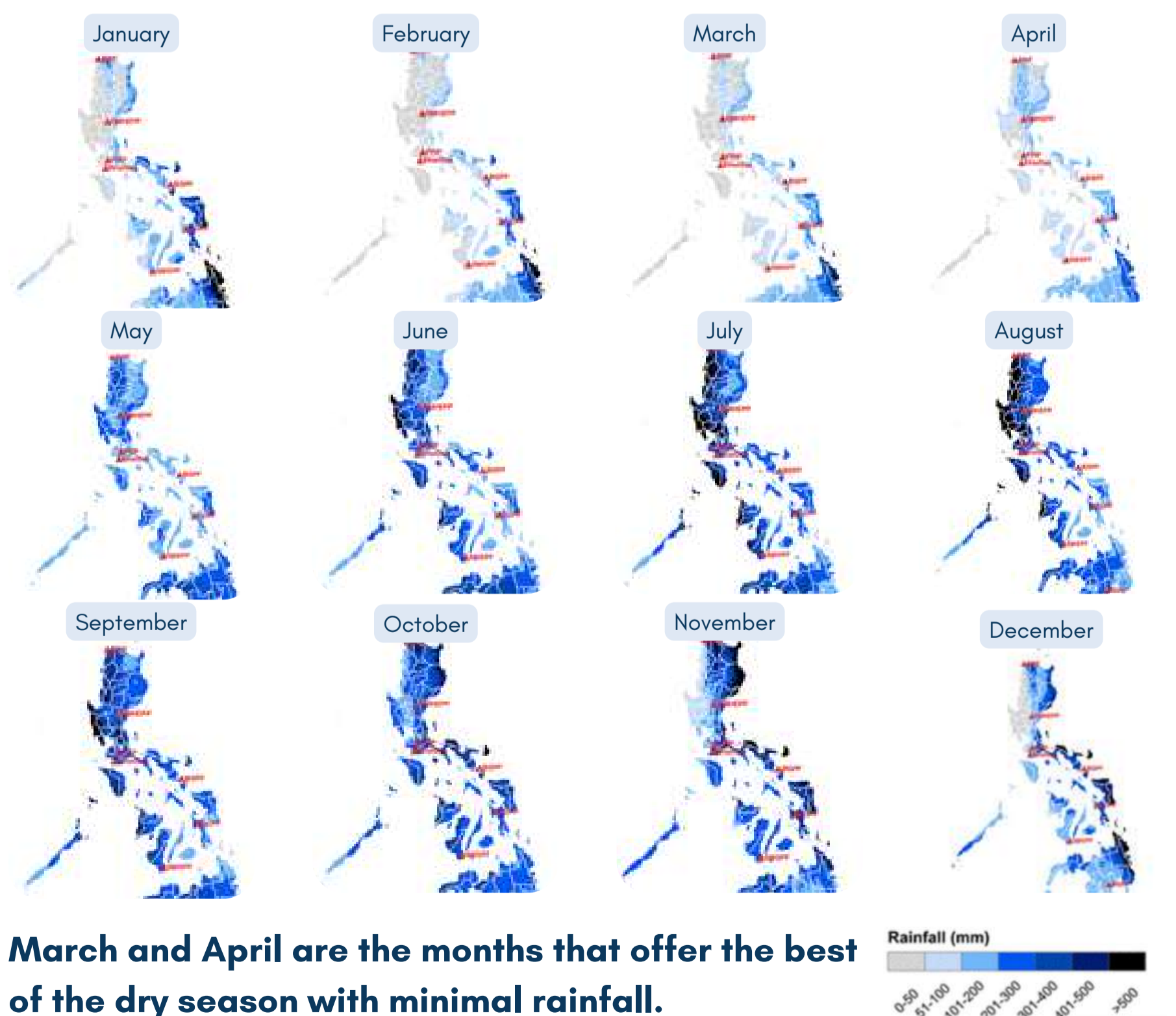
Climate Types:

The climate of the Philippines is tropical and maritime, characterized by relatively high temperatures, oppressive humidity, and plenty of rainfall. Based on the amount of rainfall there are 2 seasons in the country - the wet season (Jun to Nov) and the dry season (Dec to May).

- **Type I** - two distinct seasons: wet season & dry season. Maximum rainfall is b/w Jun to Sep.
- **Type II** - no dry season. March to May is the period with minimum monthly rainfall.
- **Type III** - short dry season of 1 - 3 months between Dec to Feb or Mar to May depending on the region.
- **Type IV** - rainfall is evenly distributed throughout the year.



Rhythm of Rainfall in the Philippines:

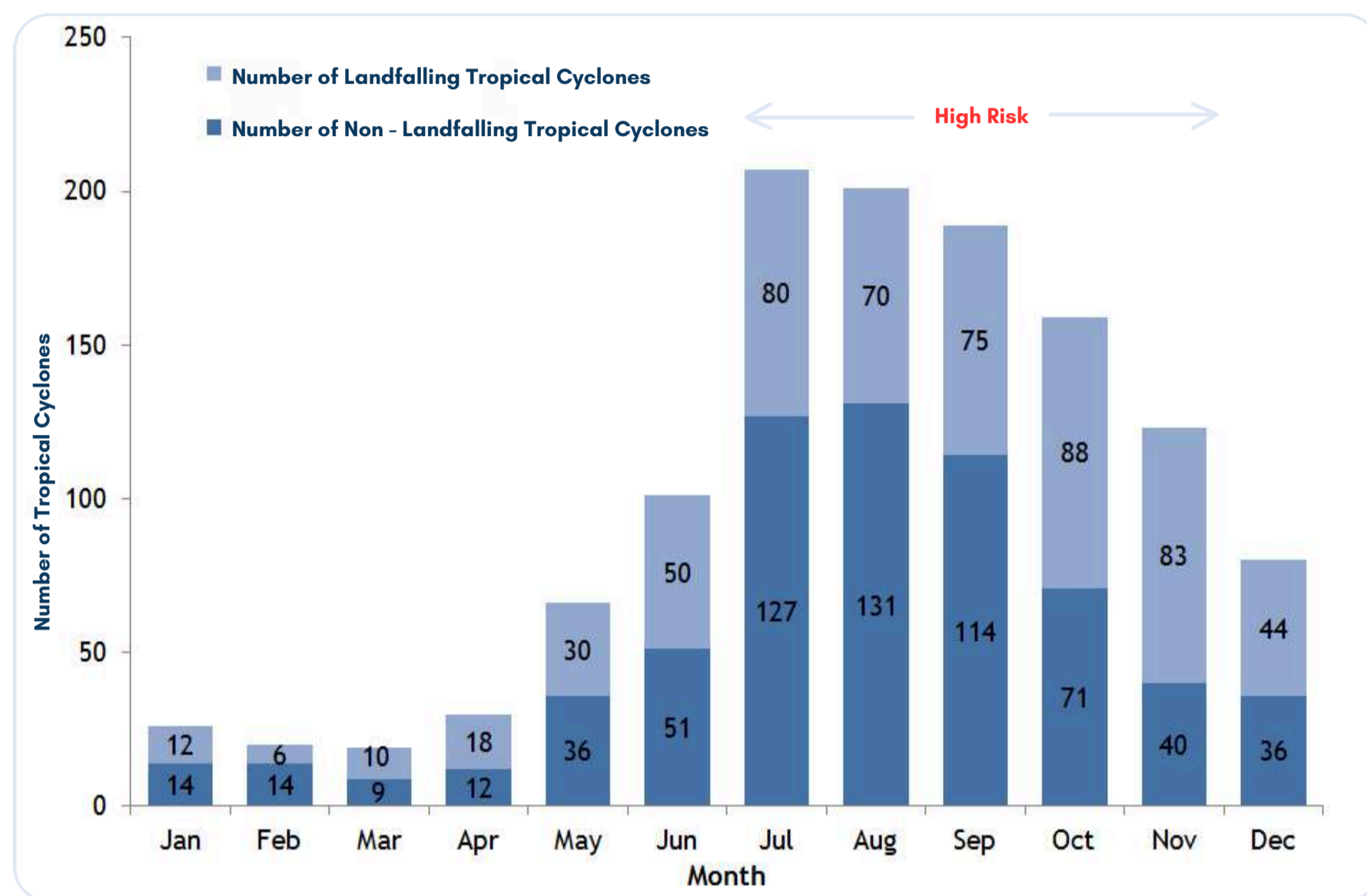


Sources : 1. Official Philippines Government website 2. OML Centre for Environmental Research

Dive Seasons Guide ^(2/2)

Typhoon Pattern & Best Diving Season

The Philippines - Prone to Typhoons:



- Situated in the **typhoon belt of the western Pacific Ocean**, just above the equator.
- Affected by the **Coriolis Force**, which influences storms. The Coriolis effect makes storms swirl clockwise in the Southern hemisphere and counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere.
- A major **Storm Track** (narrow zones in the ocean where storms travel due to prevailing winds) runs through the area, causing storms that form in the Pacific to move west and hit the Philippines.
- Located in the **Pacific Ring of Fire**, which makes it vulnerable to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.
- **Climate change** is causing higher sea surface temperatures, which increases the strength of typhoons.
- Based on data collected over 7 decades, **July to November are the months where the most number of Tropical Cyclones enter and make landfall in the Philippines.**

An objective analysis of the rhythm of rainfall combined with the Tropical Cyclone study and information on climate types in the Philippines, indicates that **March and April are the best months to dive in the Philippines** while **July to November must be avoided** as these lie in the wet season and are **heavily prone to strong typhoons.**

Sources : 1. Official Philippines Government website 2. OML Centre for Environmental Research

About Oceaon

Welcome to Oceaon, where passion converges with purpose beneath the waves. Committed to the protection and conservation of the Earth's most invaluable resource—the Ocean—we aspire to inspire change by raising awareness and promoting education about the enchanting marine world.

At Oceaon, we meticulously plan and execute dive trips to captivating destinations globally. Our scuba diving courses accommodate all skill levels. Through our vertical, Mad Over Maldives, we've successfully organized over 100 trips to date.

www.oceaon.com

@oceaon_expeditions

Founder's note



Nishi Srivastava

Founder - Oceaon & Mad Over Maldives, Rescue Diver, Shark Enthusiast, Artist, Minimalist

 [**oceanishi**](https://www.instagram.com/oceanishi)

Hello, I am Nishi and I'm a SCUBA diver, freediver, and entrepreneur. I used to be a data scientist but the call of Mother Ocean is bigger than us all. Few key life events and hours of introspection led me to quit the corporate world and I found myself sitting on the beach with a life jacket (yes, I did not know how to swim back then)! Over the last few years I've been grateful to have the opportunity to launch and grow our Maldives vertical, Mad over Maldives. Me and my team are humbled by the love and support we've received from our wonderful customers. Oceaon is now expanding boundaries and I am elated to host you in iconic dive destinations across the world.

What makes us Excellent?



Safety First

Prioritizing your well-being, we adhere to the highest safety standards, ensuring a secure and worry-free diving experience



Experienced Team

Dive into the depths with confidence, guided by our team of seasoned professionals who bring years of expertise and a passion for marine exploration



Top Accommodation

Our carefully selected accommodations offer a perfect blend of luxury and relaxation



Attention to Detail

From itinerary planning to personalized services, we pride ourselves on the little things that make a big difference, ensuring your journey is seamless and memorable

Crafted by Experts

Explore truly unique destinations and witness world's most remarkable marine life

2,117+

Happy Travelers

114+

Trips done

Terms & Conditions

- Spot reservation fee is INR 20,000 per person.
- This trip is open to Open Water certified SCUBA divers. Dives will be limited to 18m for Open Water certified Divers.
- Diver to guide ratio is 5:1 or 6:1.
- Dive insurance is mandatory for this trip
- Seats are subject to availability and allocated on a first come, first-serve (FCFS) basis.
- Spot confirmation will be sent via email after booking.
- We retain the right to cancel or alter dives in the interest of the safety of all passengers, crews, and the vessel. The final call for a dive will be made by the dive guides.
- Dive cancellations due to bad weather or unforeseen circumstances may occur without prior announcement. In the event that a dive is cancelled for any reason, we will try our best to reschedule it for the next available day. However, if rescheduling is not possible, no refund will be provided.
- Marine life is wild and unpredictable. We do not promise or guarantee any specific wildlife sightings.
- In the event that a traveler faces issues obtaining a visa or clearing immigration, no refunds will be issued.
- We shall not be held liable for any claims arising from missed international and domestic flights, due to delay/cancellation or any other factors beyond our control.
- We do not guarantee same gender room sharing arrangements.
- We reserve the rights to post pictures, videos, testimonials from the trip on our social media and website.

Payment Terms

- INR 20,000 to be paid for spot reservation via this link <https://rzp.io/rzp/philippines>
- 50% of Balance payment by 23 Dec 2024. Remaining Balance payment to be completed 50 Days before the trip start date.
- Bookings are Non-refundable & Non-transferrable

By participating in Oceanon's Philippines Dive Trip; 25 Mar - 05 Apr, 2025; you acknowledge and accept these terms and conditions. Please ensure you are familiar with and agree to these terms before confirming your participation.

Join the Tribe

Happy Faces from our Past Trips





PHILIPPINES 2025

For all your attention

THANK YOU

We're beyond excited to host you and explore the stunning depths of the Philippines together.


BOOK YOUR SPOT

Got a question?

Please write to us at bookings@ocean.com

WhatsApp : [+918297670739](https://wa.me/+918297670739)

Call : [+91 8447367821](tel:+918447367821) (Nishi) [+91 7678035865](tel:+917678035865) (Tisha)

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