

DIVING IN THE PHILIPPINES

5 days Bohol at USD 316.00 per person

B. BOHOL: PANGLAO ISLAND/ALONA BEACH/BALICASAG ISLANDS - Bohol can be reached via Cebu, 1 1/2 hours by fast ferry.

DIVING: The diving is varied with good coral gardens near the surface which are also great for snorkeling, but main attractions are the steep walls with caves, overhangs and crevices harbouring teeming fish and invertebrate life. The small offshore islands are in strong currents, so they too have large schools of fish and big pelagic species. Manta Rays, Hammerhead Sharks and even Whale Sharks may be seen.

DIVE SEASON: The area can be dived all year round. November to May is considered the high season.

COST OF PACKAGE TOUR: USD 316.00 PER PERSON
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: USD 80.00 PER PERSON
EXTRA NITE WITH BREAKFAST AND 2 DIVES: USD 70.00 PER PERSON

INCLUSIONS:

Accommodation on twin sharing basis with air-con
Daily breakfast
2 dives per day starting day 02 - 04
Roundtrip transfers Tagbilaran - resort - Tagbilaran
Fastferry from Cebu - Tagbilaran - Cebu (1 1/2 hrs o.w.)
Rental of all equipment
Services of a dive master



COME!

MEET THE FRIENDLIEST AND

ENGLISH SPEAKING PEOPLE IN ASIA



INTAS TRAVEL

TEL: (63.2) 851.9034 ; (63.2) 851.9035

FAX: (63.2) 851.8773

E-MAIL: intas@xsi.com.ph

DIVE SPOTS:

1. **BALICASAG ISLAND - SOUTHWEST WALL/RICO'S WALL ★ ★ ★ ★ ★**
BALICASAG ISLAND - SOUTHEAST WALL/RUDY'S ROCK

LOCATION: The southwest wall of Balicasag Island, 6km (4 miles) southwest of Panglao Island.

ACCESS: 45 minutes by banca from Alona Beach to the southwest of Duljo Point

CONDITIONS: Normally calm with variable currents, but it can be rough and have fierce currents.

VISIBILITY: can reach 40m (130ft)

AVERAGE DEPTH: 15m (50ft)

MAXIMUM DEPTH: 50m (165ft)

At Rico's Wall there is a coral garden on a shelf from 7m (23ft) to 11m (36ft); beyond that a wall drops to 35m (115ft). The coral garden is rich in soft, leathery and stony corals, hydroids, nudibranchs, sea stars, sea cucumbers, crinoids, all the small reef fish, anemones and clownfish. Shoals of fusiliers, surgeonfish, jacks, snappers, wrasse, batfish, Moorish Idols, anthias, chromis, damselfish, pennantfish, and bannerfish frequent the reef edge and shallower parts of the wall. There are many angelfish, butterflyfish, Titan and orange-striped triggerfish, Flamings Unicornfish, trumpetfish, cornetfish, snappers, pufferfish and some Crown of Thorns Starfish. At the eastern end, where this dive joins Rudy's Rock, there is a huge shoal of Big Eye Trevally that you can get in amongst. They will circle you for several minutes before becoming bored.

The wall itself has everything -small caves, overhangs and crevices with soldierfish and squirrelfish, lionfish and Moray eels. There are sea cucumbers, nudibranchs and huge gorgonian sea fans, plus Elephant Ear Sponges, barrel sponges and basket sponges, all with Alabaster Sea Cucumbers. Flatworms, Feather duster worms and crinoids are everywhere. Deeper down there are larger groupers, Napoleon Wrasse, the occasional Grey or Whitetip Reef Shark and tuna. Barracuda and Rainbow Runners often appear out of the blue.

Rudy's Rock is a continuation of Rico's Wall and much the same, except that large Green Turtles are often seen there.

These are both world class dives.

2. ARCO POINT (THE HOLE IN THE WALL) ★★★

LOCATION: Off Arco Point

ACCESS: 12 minutes by banca northeast of Alona Beach

CONDITIONS: Normally calm with little current

VISIBILITY: can reach 30m (100ft)

AVERAGE DEPTH: 10m (33ft)

MAXIMUM DEPTH: 25m (80ft)

On a short wall where fish are regularly hand fed there are small groupers, wrasse, triggerfish, butterflyfish, moray eels and sea snakes. This site is sometimes called the "Hole in the Wall" because there is a vertical funnel which you can enter at 18m (60ft) and exit at 9m (30ft).

3. PAMILACAN ISLAND ★★★★★

LOCATION: 23km (14 miles) east of Balicasag island

ACCESS: 60 minutes by banca southwest of Alona Beach

CONDITIONS: Normally calm with medium strong currents. You would not normally make this journey in bad conditions.

VISIBILITY: can reach 40m (130ft)

AVERAGE DEPTH: 20m (65ft)

MAXIMUM DEPTH: 30m (100ft)

Pamilacan translates as 'nesting place of Manta Rays'; these impressive creatures are occasionally seen here. A good drift-drive, the reef is sandy 45° slope with many coral heads, anemones with clownfish, Napoleon Wrasse, schools of fusiliers, mackerel, barracuda, jacks and Dogtooth Tuna. There are some good gorgonian sea fans, and flashlight Fish inhabit some of the caves.

★★★★★ FIRST CLASS

★★★★ HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

★★★ GOOD