



## PRE-ARRIVAL INFORMATION

V2.0 dated 5 May 2023



It is almost time to embark on a unique and truly magical adventure!  
The main goal of this document is to ensure that your vacation turns out to be the most memorable experience for you and your dive buddies. Please take a moment to go through the following summary of the necessary information you need to know before your departure. The team at Pearl Fleet would be happy to assist you if you have any additional questions. You may also contact your travel agent for assistance.

## USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

By email: [info@pearlfleet.org](mailto:info@pearlfleet.org)  
By phone/WhatsApp: +65 88013000

## IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS TO BRING ALONG

### ***PASSPORT & OTHER DOCUMENTS***

All guests must possess a valid passport for identification and customs clearance. Passports must have an expiration date of at least **six (6) months** following your departure date from the visited country. You may consider bringing a photocopy of your passport and photographs in case of the unfortunate event of loss.

### ***DIVING CERTIFICATION***

- ➡ Dive Certification Cards
- ➡ Nitrox Certification Card (if you wish to dive with Nitrox)
- ➡ Logbook
- ➡ Dive and/or Travel Insurance Card/Policy Document (in case of emergencies)



## **VISA & OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

It is the responsibility of all guests to check the latest regulations and requirements (including COVID-19 rules and regulations) with their local Embassy or Consulate. Rules and regulations of travel may vary according to your nationality and country of origin. Pearl Fleet will not be liable for any delays of travel or denial of entry into the visited country. Visa requirements for entering a country vary depending on the traveler's nationality and the length of their stay.

**PALAU:** Citizens from most countries are issued a free 30-day Tourist Visa on arrival. The Tourist Visa may be extended within 7 days in advance with approval of the Chief of Immigration for a fee of US\$50 before expiration date of the visa. (Note: Maximum of 90 days: 30 days upon arrival plus 2 extensions at US\$50 fee per extension. After which visitors must exit the country).

Citizens of the United States of America, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands with valid passports are issued a 1- year visa upon arrival.

Citizens of Myanmar and Bangladesh must have a pre-approved visa.

➡ For the latest and most accurate information, please check [Palau Airport's website](#).

**MALDIVES:** Citizens from most countries are issued a free 30-day Tourist Visa upon arrival. The Tourist visa can be extended for up to a total of 90 days, with an extension fee of MVR 750 (approximately USD 50) for each additional 30-day period.

However, for citizens of certain countries, a pre-arrival visa may be required. These countries include Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria, and Yemen. Citizens of these countries are required to apply for a visa in advance through a Maldives embassy or consulate.

➡ For the latest and most accurate information, please check [Maldives Immigration's website](#).

## **TRAVEL ITINERARY**

A complete travel itinerary including return journey confirmed tickets, with a prepaid confirmed hotel booking at a registered hotel may be requested by the Immigration Officers of Palau and Maldives upon entry.

➡ Please ensure you have a printed copy of your itinerary in your hand-carry bag.

## **COVID VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS**

**PALAU:** As of 25 April 2023, visitors are no longer required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to enter Palau.



**MALDIVES:** As of 13 March 2022, visitors no longer require COVID PCR tests or vaccination to enter Maldives.

## DIVE AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

Dive insurance coverage is **mandatory** to be able to dive from Pearl Fleet vessels. Your dive insurance certification will be checked upon boarding the yacht. The insurance should cover all scuba diving or water sports activities that you are likely to undertake during your trip. It should also cover any medical evacuation, including risks, costs, and expenses likely to arise from a diving or non-diving incident.

Short-term diving insurance can also be purchased onboard.

We recommend all guests to purchase travel insurance policies from your respective countries before departure. Some travel insurance policies may cover leisure diving as well.

## CASH AND CREDIT CARDS

**PALAU:** The currency used in Palau is United States Dollar. Major credit cards, such as Visa and Mastercard, are accepted in all major hotels, restaurants and shops, as well as in the airport. American Express credit cards are NOT accepted in Palau.

**MALDIVES:** The currency used in Maldives is the Maldivian rufiyaa (MVR). However, US dollars are also widely accepted in the Maldives, especially at resorts and tourist areas. Remember to bring new, crisp banknotes, as old or notes that have writing on them will not be accepted.

Major credit cards such as Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted in the Maldives, especially at resorts and tourist areas.

Onboard our vessels, we accept Cash – USD.

## THINGS TO PACK

### ***DIVING ESSENTIALS***

BCD, regulator, wetsuits, fins/booties, mask, snorkel, wetsuit, dive computer with working battery, dive torch with spare batteries, SMB, reef hook.

Please note that dive computer and SMB are compulsory for every individual diver.

Rental equipment, including 15-liter tanks, are available onboard, subject to extra costs and availability. Please request and book your required rental gear in advance to ensure availability during your cruise.



## ***CLOTHING AND OTHER ESSENTIALS***

Clothing should be comfortable and adequate for tropical weather. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for evenings.

Other Essentials:

- ✓ Personal first aid
- ✓ Prescribed medication
- ✓ Ear drops
- ✓ Reef-friendly sunscreen
  
- ✓ Hats and sunglasses
- ✓ Phone and camera chargers
- ✓ Memory sticks or SD cards

## **UPON ARRIVAL**

All the instructions regarding your check-in will be provided on confirmation of your booking, and confirmed a few days before your arrival. Embarkation onboard our vessels will be organised strictly based on the port of embarkation, at the time indicated upon confirmation of your booking.

**PALAU:** Embarkation is usually scheduled in the afternoon on the day of departure of the cruise.

**MALDIVES:** Depending on the port of embarkation of your cruise itinerary, the maximum check-in time may vary.

### ***Identifying Pearl Fleet Staff and Crew***

***Airport:*** Our friendly staff and crew will be dressed in uniform with Pearl Fleet's or the vessel's logo printed on them. We will be ready to receive you right outside the arrival gate, for airport pick-ups. Do keep a lookout for us holding a name paging board bearing the yacht's name and picture.

***Hotel or Resort:*** Guests who stay in a hotel in the city of departure of the yacht will be picked up by a representative holding a name paging board bearing the yacht's name and picture. The meeting point is usually in the main lobby or at the reception of the hotel.



PEARL FLEET

## ABOUT OUR VESSELS

Our yachts are designed and built with the key purpose of providing guests with a spacious and comfortable cruising experience. They call for perfect comfortable gatherings while cruising.

### ***Embarkation***

The Cruise Directors will be conducting general briefings once you embark onboard our vessels. If you haven't already completed our digital Liability Release Waiver and Diver's Medical Questionnaire (only if you are taking a dive course with us), we will also hand them over to you. Our friendly crew will also be showing you to your assigned cabins.

### ***Vessel Etiquette***

We want to ensure that all our guests have great experiences onboard our vessels. We urge all of our guests to follow some guidelines during the cruise which includes maintaining peace and respect to our crew members and fellow guests, and avoiding aggressive behaviour at any point in time. Major disturbances may result in removal of the guests involved at no compensation, at the discretion of the Captain and Cruise Directors.

### ***Smoking Areas***

Smoking is strictly prohibited in any indoor areas of our vessels, that is, indoor salon, guestrooms, toilets, entertainment rooms. Designated smoking areas will be introduced during the briefings upon embarkation. Cigarette ashtrays are available in these designated smoking areas, and proper disposal of cigarette butts is to be strictly adhered to.

### ***Cabins***

All cabins are equipped with air conditioning system, closets and ensuite bathrooms with hot shower. Comfortable pillows and duvets will ensure a good night's sleep after an amazing day of diving.

### ***Ensuite Bathrooms***

All ensuite bathrooms are equipped with a shower, rinsing sink, hair-dryer and toilet. We have provided waste paper bins in every bathroom. We ask all our guests not to flush toilet paper or any other inorganic waste down the toilets. Waste paper bins are emptied daily during turndown service.



### ***Safety Deposit Box***

Safety deposit boxes are available in every cabin. Guests are encouraged to keep their valuables in their safe.

Pearl Fleet will not be liable for lost, stolen or damaged valuables left unattended.

### ***Housekeeping***

Housekeeping and turndown services are carried out daily. Towels are replaced with fresh ones every 2 days. Outdoor towels are also available for diving and sunbathing. Feel free to approach our friendly crew members for assistance.

### ***Food, Beverage and Dietary Requests***

Three buffet-style meals, together with a light breakfast and afternoon snacks, are served daily. Hot beverages, drinking water and simple biscuit and snacks are available 24-hours a day. Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages are available on tab, of which the bills will be settled at the end of the cruise. Should you have special dietary requirements or allergies, please ensure that this is duly communicated during booking confirmation.

### ***Keep Noise Levels Down***

We do understand the need to unwind and relax at the end of every dive day. However, Pearl Fleet reserves the right to disallow divers to dive right under the influence of alcohol as it may seriously impair judgement. The Cruise Directors reserve the right to deem any guest unfit for a dive. Your safety and well-being are of paramount importance.

### ***Non-Diving Activities***

A variety of activities (in and out the water) are waiting for you. Whirlpool, spacious outdoor lounges and sundecks, as well as water toys (sea kayaks, stand-up paddles) are available on our vessels. We also have gym equipment and yoga mats.

### ***Internet and Phone Signal During Your Cruise***

Depending on the area where the yacht travels, phone signal may be available. Our cruises in Palau and in Maldives are located in fairly remote areas where internet and phone signal are not always available. If you cannot do without internet and/or phone, please buy at the first opportunity as soon as you arrive at the airport in Palau or Maldives.

### ***Crew Gratuities***

We believe that crew gratuities should be made on a voluntary basis, which is determined by the quality of service and your experience during your dive cruise. As a reference, it is



customary to offer gratuities starting from US\$200 per person, or about 10% of the cost of your cruise, for a week-long cruise. All the gratuities collected will be equally shared among the crew. Gratuities can be paid by Cash or by Credit/Debit card.

### ***Disembarkation***

**PALAU:** Check-out time is 7:00-8:00 AM on the last day of the cruise.

**MALDIVES:** Check-out time is 7:00-8:00 AM on the last day of the cruise.

## **DIVING INFORMATION**

You will be logging spectacular dives during your cruise. However, there may be situations during the cruise, which may not allow the cruise to go as planned, determined by our experienced Captain and Cruise Directors. We urge our guests to cooperate with our crew members regarding these decisions as we take responsibility over your safety for as long as you are on board the yacht.

Comprehensive dive briefings are compulsory to be conducted before every dive. If you are feeling unwell, we would strongly suggest for you to sit out the dive.

### ***Recommended Diver's Experience and Level of Certification***

**PALAU:** We recommend a minimum 50 logged dives, with a certification level of Advanced Open Water or similar.

**MALDIVES:** We recommend a minimum 50 logged dives, with a certification level of Advanced Open Water or similar.

Nitrox is highly recommended for all divers who are Nitrox certified because of its benefits.

We recommend a skills review if you have not been diving for more than 6 months. The skills review should be completed prior to the cruise. Evidence of the date of your last dive should be shown in your log book and indicated at the time of the booking. Every diver, regardless of their qualification or experience, will be required to participate in a check-dive.

During the cruise and depending on the divers' ability, level of experience and on the water conditions, the dive guides may suggest some divers to skip a dive.

### ***Nitrox***

Nitrox-filled tanks are free for Enriched Air Nitrox certified divers. We can also arrange Nitrox courses during the cruise.



### ***Climate and Sea Conditions***

**PALAU:** Palau is a tropical destination, which enjoys a steady warm climate all year round. Air temperature can range from 24–32°C/75–89°F. Dry season in Palau run from November to April, and July to October are deemed as wetter months.

**MALDIVES:** The Maldives typically experiences a tropical climate with warm temperatures and high humidity throughout the year. The average temperature in the Maldives ranges from around 25–30°C / 77–86°F throughout the year. The Maldives has two distinct seasons: the dry season (northeast monsoon) and the wet season (southwest monsoon). The dry season runs from December to April and is characterized by calm, clear weather with very little rainfall. The wet season, which runs from May to November, is characterized by more frequent rainfall and higher humidity.

### ***Electricity and Plugs***

International sockets that can fit any type of electric plug are available onboard.

### ***Payment Methods Accepted Onboard***

Guests will receive a final invoice listing their extra costs on the final night before disembarkation. Invoices are payable:

By Cash: We accept United States Dollars (USD).

By Card: VISA and MASTERCARD. Not American Express.

### ***Additional Information***

More detailed information is available on our website. Should you have further questions, please refer to Pearl Fleet's website [www.pearlfleet.org](http://www.pearlfleet.org) or liaise with your travel agent or Pearl Fleet's Sales Team at [info@pearlfleet.org](mailto:info@pearlfleet.org).

We look forward to welcoming you onboard our vessels!

