

Bahamas - Hammerhead & Tiger Shark Experience

Itinerary

The following is a sample itinerary of dive sites we may visit during your liveaboard safari on board Bahamas Master. We wish to show you the very best diving possible, however, a number of factors can determine which sites we visit. Weather, tides, currents and many other factors determine the Cruise Director's decision of which route the yacht takes and which sites are selected for diving. Whilst we attempt to ensure the number of dives we have scheduled is fulfilled, bad weather can hinder the yacht's ability to reach a specified dive site in good time. The safety of all on board is paramount and we always do our best in offering diving at alternate locations should we be unable to visit those sites listed below. This itinerary involves some long distance (overnight) travel.

The diving day on board Bahamas Master has a typical schedule as follows:

- Light Breakfast followed by Dive 1
- Full Breakfast, relaxation period, Dive 2
- Lunch, relaxation period, Dive 3, then open pool
- Dinner

Dives 1-3 are scheduled baited/shark feeding dives during which divers are strategically positioned on the bottom facing the shark feeder. Extra weights help divers to maintain their position in the water as to fully enjoy the shark action.

Diving in the Bahamas is comparatively shallow, which allows for 'open pool diving' after the scheduled baited/feeding dives until sunset. For your final day aboard we schedule two morning dives to allow plenty of time for off-gassing before disembarkation and your flight home. Guests are responsible for their own dive profiles and for obtaining suitable dive insurance to cover all diving activities.

Dive sites we visit include but are not limited to:

Grand Bahama Island

Tiger Beach

Tiger Beach is located off the West End of Grand Bahama Island and the best known point for tiger, great hammerhead, Caribbean reef, and lemon shark encounters at a shallow (8-10m/26-33ft) white sandy bottom.

We usually meet pregnant female tiger sharks that remain in these shallow waters for several months on end. Therefore, we are familiar with these ladies and we consider them our friends. During a trip to Tiger Beach, you will not only encounter these impressive sharks, but are likely to get to know and discern the several individuals, like Emma and Princess.

The theory is that female tiger sharks, after mating in the deep waters, seek the protection of the shallow sandy plateau to fulfil their pregnancy. Where these ladies give birth is yet to be discovered. Tiger Beach is the ultimate site for photographers and videographers.

As well as being world famous for its crystal-clear waters and powdery, white sandy bottom, the Tiger Beach area is also home to a multitude of reef networks, mini walls and of course the continental shelf with drop-offs to more than 600m/2,000ft, though our average dives in this area are no deeper than 30m/100ft

Fish Tales

Very close to Tiger Beach, this is another great location for shark spotting: Caribbean reef, lemon, nurse and tiger sharks. It is a little deeper with patches of seagrass, but provides the same shark action.

Bimini Islands - only on the 10 night itinerary

The westernmost island group of the Bahamas, these are truly 'islands in the stream' as they are situated southwest of Grand Bahama Island on the edge of an underwater cliff that drops hundreds of meters into the blue abyss. The most famous spot for great hammerheads and bull shark encounters; best season is January-March.

Bimini Road (Wall) plunges more than 1300 metres (4000ft) beneath the sea, alluringly claimed to be part of 'the lost city of Atlantis'. While most of the 'paving' stones are well hidden by powdery white sand being moved by the occasionally strong current, our guides will show you the area and you can have a go at being an underwater Indiana Jones in uncovering these ancient stones.

Hawksbill Reef runs roughly from north to south and parallel to North Bimini's shoreline. This stunning shallow (max. 15 metres - 50ft.) reef is made up of vibrant coral heads scattered upon an impeccably white sandy bottom. The main stars here are usually the reef's namesake - the Hawksbill Turtles resting on the bottom, but also expect to see angelfish, Bermuda chubs, French grunts, Creole wrasses and moray eels.

Alice Island

Dive with over 50 plus stingrays and experience the fast and agile blacknose sharks. This is a small island located offshore, where we will spend a morning feeding and playing with these beauties.

Should you have any questions or queries concerning the dive sites or whether this itinerary is suitable for your experience level, please contact our reservations team info@masterliveboards.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.