

Bikini Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands

Trip Information

Embarkation: Majuro Port, Marshall Islands

Disembarkation: Ebeye Island, Marshall Islands, or v.v.

Arrival airport: Majuro Airport (MAJ)

Departure airport: Kwajalein Airport (KWA), or v.v.

Flights, Hotels, Transfers, Excursions and Insurance

Traveling to and from the Marshall Islands can be made exceptionally easy when you book with Master Liveaboards. We offer a range of flights, hotels, transfers and excursions that can be arranged before or after your diving holiday.

Advice on International Flights

If your cruise starts in Majuro, please book your international flight to Majuro Airport (MAJ). Your departure airport is then Kwajalein Airport (KWA), or vice versa. Both airports are served by the same United Airlines flight 3 times per week from Honolulu, Hawaii (HNL). The flight from Honolulu to Majuro takes around 5 hours, and from there it is another 2 hours to reach Kwajalein. The HNL – MAJ – KWA flight leaves on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, so generally you will have to leave the day before that (Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday) from Los Angeles (LAX) or San Francisco (SFO) to make the connection. Ideally, you arrive in Honolulu one day in advance of your flight to Kwajalein as this flight departs early in the morning. Keep in mind you will be crossing the date line traveling to Kwajalein Atoll. There is also a flight from Guam arriving at Kwajalein, however; we have scheduled our itinerary around the Honolulu flight.

Arriving at Majuro Airport:

A representative from Master Liveaboards will meet you at the airport and will accompany you to Majuro Port, where you embark the Truk Master.

Arriving at Kwajalein Airport:

Please ensure you have a printed copy of the Master Liveboards Sponsor Letter on hand when arriving in Kwajalein. Important information on arrival procedures can be found [here](#). As Kwajalein is US Army territory, a shuttle bus will take you to the ferry terminal, from where an Army ferry departs on a short trip to Ebeye Island. Here, one of our staff members welcomes you to embark Truk Master..

Optional Bahamas package

To extend your luxury feeling and pamper you a little extra we can offer you the following package. We will organise your transfers to and from the airport in Hawaii and book the hotel of your choice in Honolulu for your first and last night before and after your flight to the Marshall Islands. Please contact our reservations team at info@masterliveboards.com for more information and quotes.

Insurance

Master Liveboards strongly recommends that all guests carry full travel and cancellation insurance as we cannot be held liable for delays which occur during the cruise, nor any delays or cancellations of the flights, accommodation, tours and transfers we organise on your behalf. Master Liveboards work in partnership with DiveAssure and can offer you a selection of competitively priced dive and travel insurance policies, including short term and multiple trip policies. We recommend the comprehensive insurance plan Dive & Travel Plus; which has been specifically developed for diving liveboard holidays. This insurance covers your trip expenses in the event of missing your liveboard departure due to (flight) delays. Moreover, it provides coverage for lost diving days if for any reason the boat is required to abort the cruise; for instance, due to a guest injury, mechanical breakdown of the ship, air supply failure, inclement weather conditions, etc.

Please consult our webpage: www.masterliveboards.com/insurance or contact our reservations team at info@masterliveboards.com.

General Information

Visa and Passports

No visa is required for entering the Marshall Islands for US citizens, EU countries, Canada and most other Western countries. Nevertheless, we recommend our guests to check for any updates and changes with their nearest Marshall Islands embassy or consulate. Please make sure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months beyond the period you intend to stay in the Marshall Islands. If you are traveling with medication, please ensure to bring your physician's prescription with you.

Time Zone

The local time in the Marshall Islands is 12 hours ahead of UTC (GMT).

Money Matters

The local currency in the Marshall Islands is the US Dollar (US\$). Major businesses will accept credit cards; traveller's cheques are accepted by banks and larger businesses. The number of ATMs in Majuro is very limited and there are none in Ebeye. Therefore we recommend bringing a sufficient amount of USD in cash, preferably in smaller denominations.

Airport Tax

All passengers travelling out of the Marshall Islands are charged USD \$ 20 departure tax.

Health

In the Marshall Islands, medical care is very basic with the 'best' medical facility in Majuro. Any form of treatment other than basic requires evacuation. Normal precautions should be taken with food and it is advisable to drink bottled water only. No vaccinations are required before entering the Marshall Islands, however; we recommend consulting your doctor for updated information well before departure. Please make sure you use insect repellent and cover exposed skin to prevent any insect borne diseases.

Radioactive radiation to which divers are exposed from the shipwrecks is negligible, since water acts as an excellent insulator. Divers are safe, as long as they do not try to grab souvenirs from the wrecks. Pilfering is forbidden and hazardous

Language and Religion

The official languages are English and Marshallese. The population of mixed religion: 51.5 % United Church of Christ, Assemblies of God 24.2% and 8% Mormons. There is a small community of Muslims on Majuro.

Climate and Weather

The climate of the Marshall Islands is a tropical climate, with temperatures averaging between 27 and 29°C (80-84°F) all year round, with some trade winds and a light cooling down in the evening. Generally, the northern islands tend not to receive as much rainfall as the southern islands.

Water Temperature and Exposure Suits

Warm water is to be expected year round with very little variation from the norm of 27-29°C (82-84°F). A 3 or 5 mm full length exposure suit is strongly recommended for wreck divers to avoid injury from the wreckage, whilst technical divers are advised to bring appropriate exposure protection for prolonged deco-stops.

Life on Board

Food and Drink

All Master Liveboards yachts offer a choice of international and local cuisine, served buffet style, in the indoor air-conditioned dining area. We cater to special dietary requirements; please inform our reservations team prior to your trip to ensure we have plenty of dishes to suit your needs. A range of carbonated soft drinks, fruit juices, black, green and herbal teas are commonly available, as well as instant and freshly brewed coffee. A selection of fresh fruit is readily available, as well as some tasty treats, should you feel peckish in between meal times. Guests may also select beer, wine, or spirits from our cocktail bar for an additional fee.

Clothing and Footwear

Whilst sojourning on our yacht, we recommend our guests to bring casual and comfortable clothes; swim wear, shorts and t-shirts. A sweater is advised for cooler nights, particularly after multiple dives. All Master Liveboards vessels are equipped with laundry facilities and our housekeeper is more than happy to launder your clothes during the trip. A nominal fee of 1 USD 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 to walk barefoot on board of our vessel; however, island visits may require sturdy sandals or cross-trainers.

Electricity

On board the Truk Master we have 110/220 volt 60 Hz. power outlets and international US/Euro style sockets. Most sockets are 110 volt but in the charge stations we have sockets with 220 volt as well. As there is 60 herz on the boat, people from Europe need the 50/60 hz chargers. British style plugs will need adapters, there are a few onboard. However, 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.

Safety on Board

Emergency Management & Equipment

All Master Liveboards crew members undergo rigorous training 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.

Emergency Equipment & First Aid

Each Master Liveboards vessel is equipped with modern safety features such as automated life rafts, EPIRB, satellite communication and emergency pumps.

Master Liveboards vessels 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) that 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 these days of 24hour wireless internet connectivity, Bikini Atoll can almost be considered an oddity. With limited general access across the islands and absolutely no roaming data available at all, your connection to the outside world is almost non-existent. Therefore, Truk Master offers high speed WiFi satellite internet access for all guests.

Book in advance on our website to obtain attractive discounts:
www.masterliveboards.com/truk-master-internet/

We have several packages available.

Our out of office contact numbers can be found below, should your family need to contact you during the cruise, however these numbers are reserved for emergencies only.

Payments on Board

Marine Park and Port Fees

The marine park and port fees will be added to your final cruise invoice in advance of your cruise. Alternatively, it can be paid on board Truk Master.

Bikini 13 and 14 nights: USD 600, subject to change.

Optional Extras

Master Liveboards offer a range of services to make your stay on board even more enjoyable. We offer the following services for an additional fee:

- Beer
- Wine (750ml bottle)
- Selection of spirits and cocktails
- Dive equipment rental – please note we do not offer wetsuits for rent on Bikini itineraries
- Exclusive Master Liveboards merchandise: T-shirts, polo shirts, rash guards, cargo shorts, etc.

All prices on board are quoted in USD; however, we accept payment in Euro, GBP, and AUD as well. We are also able to accept payment by credit card (Mastercard or Visa) for which there is a 3% surcharge. Guests are advised to bring from 250 – 600 USD for any optional extras.

Tipping

At Master Liveboards we believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that your crew has made your holiday extra special; then they will certainly appreciate a tip. Please be advised that we can only accept tips in cash. An envelope will be provided for your convenience by your cruise director and gratuities then divided equally amongst all the crew, including the captain and dive guides.

Diving Information

Guests' Level of Diving

Diving on the Bikini wrecks is respectfully recommended for technical divers only with a minimum of PADI Tec 50 level or equivalent with wreck experience, as the average depth of the wrecks is around 50 meters (150 ft). To get the most out of your dives in Bikini Atoll, highly recommended are:

- TDI – Advanced Nitrox & Deco Procedures
- IANTD – Tech Nitrox
- NAUI – Tech Nitrox & Deco Techniques
- ANDI – Technical Nitrox

Closed Circuit Rebreather (CCR) divers need to be minimum normoxic trimix certified.

Due to the remote nature of diving in Bikini we recommend that all divers plan and execute conservative dive profiles and once all the necessary decompression obligations are met spend an additional 10 minutes between 3 - 6m before surfacing.

We recommend all divers to take at least one dive off around mid-trip where we can arrange a land tour on Bikini Island. Alternatively, for divers who want to carry on diving we can arrange a shallow no decompression dive.

Depth limits given by the Cruise Director must be followed and wreck penetration is not allowed without a dive guide. If you have any questions or concerns about the required diving level, please contact your agent or the Master Liveboards reservations team.

Required Scuba Equipment

On trips to Bikini, Master Liveboards offers limited rental equipment for an extra fee. Guests are advised to bring their own equipment. Please pre-book any rental equipment upon booking your cruise, as it is subject to availability.

To dive in Bikini Atoll with Master Liveboards, you will need the following items:

- Two methods of buoyancy. This can be achieved by using a wing with a redundant bladder, drysuit or lift bag with a minimum of 20kg/45lb of positive lift.
- Dive Computer - Multi-gas dive computer capable of switching between a minimum of 2 gasses ideally more.
- Backup Computer or depth/bottom timer.
- 2 Surface Marker Buoys (SMB) - One red or orange SMB and one yellow SMB with a slate or wet notes attached for emergency use.
- 2 Reels or spools - One with a minimum 15m of line and one with a minimum of 60m of line.
- Dive Slate or Wet Notes - Additional dive slate in addition to the slate used with the emergency surface marker buoy or a set of wet notes.

- Minimum of two dive torches (primary and back-up) for guests planning on doing any wreck penetration.

Recommended Equipment

- Backplate, harness and wing - A backplate, harness and wing capable of carrying manifolded twin aluminum 80cuft cylinders and one or two 40/80cuft aluminum stage cylinders. The wing should have a minimum of 20kg/45lb of positive lift.
- Two DIN regulator sets one with long hose configured for twin cylinder operation.
- One or two DIN stage regulators for use with up to 95% oxygen.
- Protection - 3 or 5mm full length wet suit. Some divers also like to use a hood or helmet and gloves. Water temperature is between 27 - 29 degrees all year round with no thermoclines.
- Spare Mask - Spare mask should be carried on all dives.

Please inspect and test all your dive equipment before coming to Bikini. If you have just had your equipment serviced we still recommend you test it thoroughly before coming to Bikini. There are no dive centers or facilities for repairing equipment in Kwajalein or Bikini.

Weight belts and weights are provided free of charge.

Deco / Tec Diving Facilities

For your convenience we have installed a “Deco Bar” under the dive platform of Truk Master and the following equipment is available on board:

- Manifold Twin-Tanks
- 80/40 cuft Deco Stage
- Oxygen
- Helium

We can provide trimix for rebreather divers however, due to the logistics of obtaining and storing helium, we cannot cater for trimix divers on open circuit.

Rebreather Diving

Truk Master is equipped for supporting the rebreather diver with a booster pump. We can also facilitate the purchase of sofno-lime scrubber though there are additional charges for both this and O2. Charges depend on quantity used.

Pre-booking of any rebreather supplies **AT LEAST 6 MONTHS IN ADVANCE** is essential to guarantee availability for you. Please contact our reservations team to place your order and for up-to-date prices.

Oxygen

The oxygen on board Truk Master comes from an Oxygen Generator, which does not produce 100% pure oxygen, but up to 93% purity, +/- 3%.

For most diving purposes this is fine but some rebreathers may be picky about the oxygen quality purity and can give issues with less than 92%.

Underwater Photography and Videography

Our vessels offer specialised features for underwater photographers and videographers, such as ample storage space, individual storage drawers for cameras and peripheral items and designated charging areas. Our crew is 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 repetitive dives before you fly. Please bear this in mind before you book your onward international or domestic flights.

Diving Insurance

Diving insurance is mandatory aboard all Master Liveaboards vessels, irrespective of destination. Your insurance must cover all of your scuba diving activities, according to your certification level, including the costs for recompression chamber treatment and emergency air evacuation.

Whilst many general travel insurance companies will cover scuba diving activities, they often fall short on recompression treatment or evacuation. Master Liveaboards strongly recommends purchasing diving-specific insurance and is working with DiveAssure to offer policies that cover everything our guests need. You can find more details at the following link on our website: www.masterliveaboards.com/insurance/.

Master Liveaboards can offer short-term diving insurance coverage (1-4 weeks), though we recommend that you contact our reservations team regarding insurance at least 1 week prior to your cruise departure date to ensure adequate time for arrangements.

Diving Emergencies

The Marshall Islands are an extremely remote diving destination without hyperbaric facilities. The nearest hyperbaric chamber is in either Hawaii or Australia, and emergency air evacuation to one of these countries is required. Kindly note that we do not support 'In Water Recompression' from Truk Master. With the above in mind, it is mandatory that our guests purchase dive and liveaboard specific insurance according to their level of certification.

This insurance needs to cover air evacuation and the appropriate depths you plan to dive to. We strongly urge that all guests dive well within recognised limits and follow our Dive Guides' advice.

FAQs

If there are any questions that have not been answered then please visit our website at www.masterliveboards.com/about-us/faqs or contact our reservations team at bookings@masterliveboards.com. who will be happy to assist you.

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Bikini Atoll

Cruise Director

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What to Bring

The following is a check list of items that you should ensure to bring with you for your trip aboard a Master Liveboards vessel.

Passport

3-6 month validity depending on nationality & at least 2 empty pages for visa stickers and stamps + printed Master Liveboards Sponsor Letter

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Travel Documents

Flight tickets - International & Domestic; hotel booking; excursions

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Cash & Credit Card for emergencies

Recommended amount (additional to park & port fees): 250 - 600USD

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Diving Certification & Logbook

Nitrox, Mixed Gas and Rebreather certifications as appropriate

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Travel and Diving Insurance Documents

To include emergency medical evacuation

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Essential Diving Items

Dive computers with full batteries

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Toiletries & Medications

Including sunscreen & insect repellent

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Inform booking team of medical conditions

Essential Clothing Items

Swim wear, hat and lightweight jacket

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Guests are strongly advised to carry essential items in hand luggage in case of lost or delayed luggage through International or Domestic Flights.