

# Truk Lagoon, Federated States of Micronesia

## Trip Information

Embarkation: Weno Island

Disembarkation: Weno Island

Arrival Airport: Chuuk International Airport (TKK), Weno Island

Departure Airport: Chuuk International Airport (TKK), Weno Island

## Flights, Hotels, Transfers and Excursions

Traveling to Truk (also known as Chuuk) can be made exceptionally easy when booking with Master Liveaboards. We offer a range of hotels, transfers, short excursions and additional diving options that can be arranged before or after your liveaboard trip. Prices for these add-ons vary dependent on the time of booking, please ask our reservations team or your agent for further prices and details.

Flights options to Truk/Chuuk (TKK):

- From Honolulu, Hawaii via the Marshall Islands with United Airlines (Island Hopper)
- Via Guam on United Airlines (visa/ESTA for USA needed, ); from Manila, Hong Kong, Tokyo or Incheon (South Korea)
- Via Port Moresby with Air Nuigini; possible to connect via Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Singapore, Incheon (South Korea), Australia and Narita (Japan)

For your convenience, a transfer will be provided from the airport to the Truk Master on the day of embarkation and the day of disembarkation. This transfer is provided free of charge. As schedules and locations are subject to change, please check your cruise confirmation carefully.

Please note that due to flight constraints some Truk Master cruises operate back to back on the same day. In these instances, in order to allow our crew the time to turn around the boat, outgoing guests will be transferred to Blue Lagoon resort after a light breakfast where they can wait in comfort for their outgoing flight.



Incoming passengers will also be transferred to Blue Lagoon resort where they can enjoy a light lunch and some time to relax or visit the local museum. This museum displays lots of information on the wrecks you will be diving, before joining the boat mid-afternoon. If you are unsure if your cruise will involve a back to back event, please contact our reservations team: [bookings@masterliveboards.com](mailto:bookings@masterliveboards.com) or your preferred agent.

### Optional Truk Package

- Transfer from Chuuk International Airport
- 1 night hotel prior to your cruise
- Transfer to and from the Truk Master yacht
- 1 night hotel post cruise
- Transfer to Chuuk International Airport for your international flight

### Excursions

#### Scuba Diving Yap: 1-5 days

Worldwide Dive and Sail are able to offer guests of Master Liveboards exclusive package deals for combined diving/staying on the island of Yap to complement your Truk Lagoon diving experience. Staying at the Manta Ray Bay Resort, guests can benefit from superb reef diving with manta rays & reef sharks after a week or 10 nights exploring the wrecks of Truk.

#### Siren Fleet Combo

Combine your liveboard safari in Truk Lagoon with one of our liveboard trips in the Philippines or Palau with Siren Fleet. Our trip itineraries are scheduled to enable you to experience one or more of our superb diving destinations with just the need for a short connecting flight with United Airlines. Options available are dependent on the flight schedule via Guam to Manila or Koror.

These are just some of the travel options to choose from when you book with Master Liveboards. Please contact our reservations team at [bookings@masterliveboards.com](mailto:bookings@masterliveboards.com) or ask your agent for further details.



## Insurance

Master Liveboards strongly recommend 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.

These policies can also be purchased with a 'Liveboard Rider' that covers you in the event of missing your cruise departure due to missed connection, lost diving days due to a number of reasons (including accident to another passenger) requiring the boat to abort diving, mechanical breakdown, air supply failure, changes or cancellations due to weather and more. For more information please see our webpage at [www.masterliveboards.com/insurance](http://www.masterliveboards.com/insurance) or contact our reservations team by email at [bookings@masterliveboards.com](mailto:bookings@masterliveboards.com) for more information.

## General Information

### Visa and Passports

Passport holders of most western countries may obtain a visa on arrival which allows stays up to 30 days, meanwhile travellers from the United States may obtain a tourist visa for up to 1 year stay. Please make sure that your passport has validity of at least 4 months upon arrival into Chuuk and you are also required to show a confirmed ticket to leave Chuuk, or any country you are transiting through, prior to boarding your flight. For more information please visit [www.visitruk lagoon.com/pages-about/planning.htm](http://www.visitruk lagoon.com/pages-about/planning.htm)

Most flights to Chuuk International Airport (TKK) require a transit via Guam, United States. All non-US citizens must obtain a US visa or Electronic System of Travel Authorization (ESTA) prior to travel. Citizens of 37 countries, including most European nations, Australia, New Zealand and Japan are eligible for the ESTA and should apply online at least 72 hours prior to travel. An ESTA is valid for 2 years and allows for multiple entries into US territories within that period. Guests without visa or ESTA may be denied boarding. Air Nuigini provides a good connection from Australia/NZ via Port Moresby.



## **Time Zone**

The local time is 10 hours ahead of UTC (GMT).

## **Money Matters**

The local currency is the US Dollar (US\$). The majority of established hotels, shops and restaurants accept major credit cards. However, smaller establishments are likely to only accept cash payments. ATMs are available however guests are advised to exchange money prior to arrival and to ensure you have small US \$ denominations on hand.

## **Airport Terminal Fee**

Passengers travelling within the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) are required to pay an airport departure tax, for Chuuk this is currently 40 US\$. This varies from airport to airport and must be paid in local currency.

## **Health**

Health care is readily available in the FSM and a major hospital is located within each of the states. In order to prevent stomach ailments we recommend travelers to follow normal precautions with food and drink bottled water only. Please consult your doctor or nearest health care professional for up-to-date medical travel information well before departure. Visitors arriving from countries which are affected by Cholera or Yellow Fever must show proof of immunisation upon arrival. Please make sure you use insect repellent and cover exposed skin to prevent any insect borne diseases. Medicinal supplies are limited in Chuuk, so it is recommended to bring your own emergency kit.

## **Language and Religion**

The spoken language in Chuuk is English along with a variety of local dialects and Micronesian languages. Virtually all Chuukese have Christian beliefs and traditional clan culture is still at the forefront of family life.

## **Climate and Weather**

Chuuk, as part of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is a tropical country and the climate is fairly even all year round. The average high is 30°C (86°F) whilst the average low is 25°C (77°F) throughout the year. The highest rainfall occurs during in the summer months (Jun-Sept) whilst trade winds come mainly from the northeast between December and June.



## **Water Temperature and Exposure Suits**

Warm water is to be expected year round with very little variation from the norm of 28-30°C (82-86°F). The majority of our guests will find a 3mm suit sufficient, however; a full length exposure suit is strongly recommended for wreck divers to avoid injury from the wreckage, whilst Tec divers are advised to bring appropriate exposure protection for prolonged deco-stops.

## **Life on Board**

### **Food and Drink**

All Master Liveaboards vessels provide guests with a choice of International and Asian cuisine, served buffet style in the outdoor 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 fresh brewed coffee. A selection of fresh fruit is readily available, as well as some “naughty” treats should you feel hunger in between meal times. Guests may also select beer, wine, or spirits from our cocktail bar for an additional fee.

### **Clothing and Footwear**

Dress on board our vessels is very casual and most guests feel comfortable in little more than swim wear, shorts and t-shirts. A sweater is advised for cooler nights, particularly after multiple dives. All Master Liveaboards vessels are equipped with laundry facilities and our housekeeper is more than happy to launder your clothes during the trip. A nominal fee of 1.00 USD is charged per item irrespective of size/weight. We do request that guests respect the wishes of others by wearing appropriate clothing for meal times. Most guests prefer bare feet on board the vessels; however island visits may require sturdy sandals or cross-trainers.

### **Electricity**

On board our vessel we have 110V US/Euro style sockets. Additionally, there is a limited number of 220V sockets provided at the camera tables in the dining area. There are universal adapters available 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

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

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

### First Aid

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) which 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 24 hour wireless internet connectivity, Chuuk 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. To allow our guests to keep in touch with loved ones and to be able to make friends and colleagues jealous by uploading their exploits to social media, Truk Master now offers high speed wifi satellite internet access for all guests.



Book in advance to get the following special deals: <http://www.masterliveboards.com/truk-master-internet/>

We have three packages available:

- 200Mb package : \$50 (\$42.50 pre-booking special)
- 500Mb package : \$100 (\$85 pre-booking special)
- 1Gb package : \$150 (\$127.50 pre-booking special)

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 are dependent on trip duration and must be paid on board the vessel:

7 nights Truk Lagoon – 195 USD per person  
10 nights Truk Lagoon – 250 USD per person

### Optional Extras

Master Liveboards vessels offer a range of services to make your stay on board even more enjoyable. We offer land excursions throughout your cruise and the following services are also available for an additional fee:

- Nitrox; we offer PADI EANx Nitrox course as well
- Beer
- Wine (750ml bottle)
- Selection of Spirits and Cocktails
- Dive Equipment Rental
- Underwater Scooter rental (2 available)
- Exclusive Master Liveboards Merchandise; shirts, shorts etc.!



All prices are given on board 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. Due to banking restrictions, the exchange rates are extremely unfavourable, therefore we advise that guests bring along sufficient USD in cash to cover their expenses.

Please be aware that Chuuk is a remote location, where our credit card payment system, as well as ATM services, can be limited. We therefore recommend guests withdraw or exchange money upon international arrival if required. In addition to park & port fees, guests are advised to bring from 250-600 USD, for any optional extras.

### **Tipping**

At Master Liveaboards we believe that tipping is a matter of personal choice. Should you feel that your crew has made your holiday extra special then a tip is always appreciated. 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. Please note that tips can only be accepted in cash.





## Diving Information

### Guests' Level of Diving

Master Liveaboards welcomes everyone from non-divers to seasoned divers. Each destination has different diving conditions based on the season and time of the trip. Whilst most of our trips are suitable for each and every experience level, there may be some dives offered that are not suitable for beginners, and others that are only suitable for properly trained technical divers. Your cruise director will be able to advise you whilst on board however if you have concerns regarding the conditions of the destination you wish to visit then please contact your agent or the Master Liveaboards reservations team.

### Scuba Equipment

Since some of the domestic airline carriers in the regions we operate have strict check-in luggage limits, all Master Liveaboards vessels provide rental equipment, at extra cost, including:

- Aqua Lung Wave BCD – weight-integrated
- Aqua Lung Core Regulator - complete with alternate air source and depth/pressure gauge console
- Wetsuits – type dependant on destination
- Mask
- Fins - full foot or open heel and boots depending on destination
- Underwater torch/flashlight
- SMB (safety sausage)\*
- Dive computer\*

\* Please note that the use of a dive computer and SMB are compulsory on our vessels. For your safety, Master Liveaboards asks all guests to always dive within the limits of their dive computer and make a safety stop at the end of each dive.

11 litre (80cf) aluminium tanks (commonly called 12ltr), weight belts and weights are provided free of charge. 13 litre (100cf) aluminium tanks (commonly called 15ltr) are available on request (charges apply).



## **Deco / Tec Diving**

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

- Manifold Twin-Tanks
- 80/40 cuft Deco Stage
- Pure oxygen
- Helium

## **Re-breather Diving**

The Truk Master is equipped for supporting the re-breather diver. Booster pumps are installed to ensure your tanks can be filled to 135bars/2000psi and we have stage tanks available for your use. We can also facilitate the purchase of sofno-lime scrubber though there are additional charges for both this and O<sub>2</sub>. Charges are dependent on quantity used.

Pre-booking of any re-breather supplies is essential to guarantee availability for you. Please contact our reservations team to place your order and for up-to-date prices.

## **Underwater Photography and Videography**

Our vessels offer specialised features for underwater photographers and videographers. These include:

- Indoor and outdoor work stations for the preparation and maintenance of cameras
- Individual storage drawers for cameras and peripheral items
- Large rinsing tanks with fresh water changed frequently

Our crews are thoroughly briefed in the handling of delicate camera equipment and will offer to assist you in handling and carrying to assist you. However, each diver bears the sole responsibility to look after and care for their own camera equipment and fully assumes the risk of any loss or damage to such equipment.



## 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 onwards 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 and snorkelling activities, 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.html](http://www.masterliveaboards.com/insurance.html)

Master Liveaboards can offer short-term diving insurance coverage (1-4 weeks) though we advise that requests must be made to our reservations team at least 1 week prior to your cruise departure date to ensure adequate time for arrangements.

### Diving Emergencies

Truk Lagoon is a fairly remote diving destination and there are few hospitals that are able to deal with a diving emergency. There are limited recompression facilities on the Chuuk Islands and it may be necessary to transfer to Guam via private emergency air evacuation to obtain necessary treatment. With this in mind, it is mandatory that our guests purchase dive specific insurance, which covers air evacuation and the appropriate depths you plan to dive to, prior to boarding the Truk Master.



## FAQ's

If there are any questions that have not been answered then please visit our website at [www.masterliveboards.com/about-us/faqs](http://www.masterliveboards.com/about-us/faqs) or e-mail [bookings@masterliveboards.com](mailto:bookings@masterliveboards.com) and our team will assist you.

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### Truk Lagoon

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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 Liveaboards vessel.

### Passport

6 month validity & at least 2 empty pages for visa stickers and stamps

### Travel Documents

Flight tickets - International & Domestic; hotel booking; excursions

### Cash & Credit Card for emergencies

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

Airport Departure Tax in local currency

### Diving Certification & Logbook

Including Nitrox Card if certified & intending to use Nitrox

### Travel and Diving Insurance Documents

To include emergency medical evacuation

### Essential Diving Items

Dive computer with full battery

### Toiletries & Medications

Including sunscreen & insect repellent

Inform booking team of medical conditions

### Essential Clothing Items

Swim wear, hat and lightweight jacket

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

