

Southern Thailand

Itinerary - 4 Nights

Arrival airport: Phuket International Airport (HKT)

Departure airport: Phuket International Airport (HKT)

Embarkation: Chalong Pier, Phuket at 18.00hr

Disembarkation: Chalong Pier, Phuket at 14.00hr

Shared transfers between Phuket Airport, Phuket hotels and the vessel on embarkation and disembarkation day are included in the cruise price. Transfers from and to hotels and resorts outside of these areas can be arranged for an additional charge. For your final day aboard, we schedule 2 morning dives to allow plenty of time for off-gassing before disembarkation.

Marine & Port Fees

- 50 USD per person

Marine park fees can be paid in advance or on board.

Diving conditions in the Andaman Sea are generally suitable for all levels of divers. Divers who wish to join this itinerary are advised to have Advanced Open Water certification or equivalent* with a minimum of 10 logged dives and experience with diving in currents.

*Advanced Open Water course can be completed on board

For this itinerary, your Cruise Director will schedule up to 14 dives. This itinerary involves some long distance travel and, whilst we attempt to ensure the number of planned dives is fulfilled, bad weather and sea conditions can affect the boat's ability to reach a specific dive site in good time and may impact on the number of dives that are possible. While we wish to show you the very best diving possible, the safety of all on board remains paramount. In the unlikely event we are unable to reach a specified dive site; we always do our best in offering diving at alternative locations.

Safety and dive briefings are conducted in English. If you, or any of your group, do not speak or understand English, please contact us.

The following is an example of the day-today itinerary.



Day 1: Embarkation at 18.00hr followed by briefings and dinner.

Day 2-4: Your Cruise Director will schedule up to 4 dives per day; 3 dives and a sunset or night dive. A typical diving day is scheduled as follows:

- Light breakfast, followed by briefing & Dive 1
- Full breakfast, relaxation, followed by briefing & Dive 2
- Lunch, relaxation, followed by briefing & Dive 3
- Snack
- Briefing for Dive 4
- Dinner

Day 5: For your final day aboard there will be 2 dives* scheduled before heading back to port. Following lunch, disembarkation is scheduled for 14.00hr.

*We kindly request that guests check their flight departure times to ensure that they leave a minimum of 24 hours between their final dive and the departure of their flight.

The following is a description of the dive sites that we may visit during your liveaboard.

Koh Phi Phi

Lying in Phang-Nga bay about 45km east of Phuket and 30km southwest of Krabi, two breathtaking limestone islands make up the greater part of Moo Koh Phi Phi; the largest island of Phi Phi Don being a few kilometres north of Phi Phi Lae. Limestone cliffs rise vertically into the sky, where the trees take over. There are many beaches, coves, and bays which make for dramatic scenery to enjoy during surface intervals.

There are many, many dive sites around the Phi Phi island group, many consisting of wall dives, the limestone dropping to depth ranges between 10m and 25m. The walls can have gorgonian fans, soft corals and coral bushes and interesting rock formations and swim throughs. At the base of these walls there are often hard coral gardens to explore. You can expect a great amount of fish life, including lionfish, wrasse, Moorish idols, angelfish, rays, trevallies. Also keep an eye out for leopard sharks sleeping on the sandy bottoms or blacktip reef sharks cruising the reefs. Turtles can also quite commonly be seen here. Lastly, check the fans and bushes for tigertail seahorses and harlequin ghost pipefish.

King Cruiser

The King Cruiser was a car ferry that used to travel between Phi Phi and Phuket. In 1997, 'the cruiser' hit Anemone Reef on her crossing and sank a short distance away. No lives were lost, but divers were left with a great wreck dive! While she is largely broken up now, but is covered with soft corals and hides some wonderful gems, as well as being home to several



large schools of snappers. While currents can be strong and visibility sometimes challenging, this is a great site to dive as part of an Advanced Open Water course.

Shark Point and Anemone Reef

These pinnacles are part of the same reef system and are only a very short distance apart from each other. Both sites are covered with colourful soft corals and anemones with a variety of fish to suit all divers. From barracuda to seahorses and for the lucky ones of course, the iconic leopard shark!

Koh Haa

Possibly some of the most underrated diving in the whole of Thailand, Moo Koh Haa (literally 'five island group') sits almost halfway between Hin Daeng and Phi Phi and is part of the Koh Lanta National Marine Park. There are actually several dive sites around Ko Haa but the highlights are Ko Haa Lagoon, Ko Haa Neua, and Ko Haa Yai.

Around these amazing islands you can see pinnacles, walls, boulders, caverns, and swim-throughs. Ko Haa lagoon is ideal for night dives, courses, and snorkeling, while The Chimney and The Cathedral offer things that you cannot see on other Thailand liveaboard itineraries with caverns, swim-throughs and chambers all over the sites. Ko Haa has varied marine life too, with ornate ghost pipefish, morays eels, octopus, hawksbill turtles, sea horses, marble rays, and sometimes even leopard sharks.

Hin Daeng & Hin Muang

These two sites are pinnacles (translating directly as Red Rock and Purple Rock) in the open ocean, reaching down to over 70m, and are best known for manta ray and whale shark encounters. Whether these are sighted or not, the sites also offer giant moray eels, pharaoh cuttlefish, schooling rainbow runners and snappers, barracudas, groupers, fusiliers, and bluefin trevally. On the pinnacles, there are fields of Magnificent Anemones, walls of Hemprics soft corals, and huge gorgonian sea fans. Almost perpetual good visibility and dramatic topography combined with huge fish numbers makes for excellent liveaboard diving.

Top Side

Along the route there are some incredible views from the boat including verdant forests, deserted beaches, and limestone karsts climbing vertically from the ocean. There will be several opportunities to leave the boat and take a walk on the islands. You can even be entertained by marine life while relaxing on board as dolphins cruising along with the boat are not an unusual sight.

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 via info@thejunk.com who will be pleased to assist and advise you.

