



Christmas Island

DIVE



Experience diving the spectacular coral reefs, stunning 'drop offs' and the caves of Christmas Island, plus the possibility of an encounter with a whale shark.

Explore all the wonders Christmas Island has to offer!

7 night packages from

AUD \$2745 per person



This package includes:

- Return airfares ex-Perth | Return airport transfers
- 7 nights accommodation at VQ3 Lodge
- 4 days double boat diving including refreshments, tanks and weights

Non-diver prices starting from: Ex-Perth \$1870

*Diving gear available for hire - subject to extra cost.

We highly recommend hiring a car for the duration of your stay.
Extra baggage may be pre-booked for \$140 return per 23kg piece.



Conditions: *Prices & Itinerary Subject to Change. Prices are based on per person twin/double share unless advised, subject to availability. All prices quoted are in AUD and include applicable airline taxes. Other accommodation options are available. We highly recommend all guests take travel insurance for this journey. Valid until 31 March 2023

CONTACT: INDIAN OCEAN EXPERIENCES

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Fast Facts

Christmas Island boasts some of the best scuba diving sites in Australia. It has some of the longest drop offs in the world, some up to 5000 meters. The Island rises dramatically from the edge of the Java Trench, the Indian oceans deepest point. With over 60 dive sites, and several sea caves there is much to explore.

LOCAL DIVE OPERATORS - There are two operators on Christmas Island and both have the required permits to take divers into the Christmas Island Marine Park. Medical oxygen and first aid kits are carried on every vessel. The local operators pride themselves on their personalised customer service and exceptional scuba diving trips.

FIRST TIMERS - Christmas Island is a great place to learn to dive - pre-booking courses before travel is essential.

WHALE SHARKS - During the wet season the majestic whale sharks visit our waters from November through to April. There are no spotter planes so sightings are down to luck plus knowing where to look.

WATCH OUT FOR - Spinner dolphins who will often come to play with the dive boat. If seen during your surface interval there is always time to jump in and watch them up close.

EXPLORE SEA CAVES AND CAVERNS - Dive the wonders of Thundercliff cave a series of sea caves where divers can surface into air filled caverns decorated with spectacular stalagmites and stalactites. Deep in the darkness of the caves keep a look out for tiny flashlight fish blinking their bio-luminescent lights on and off.

INTO THE BLUE - In the blue waters there is always a chance for seeing the larger pelagic life, such as tuna, barracudas, giant trevallies and sharks. The best time for spotting larger fish is during the dry season when the water temperatures slightly drop due to currents from the south.

WALL DIVES - Driving along the coastline you will notice steep jagged limestone cliffs with dense jungles growing above. It is these cliffs that extend downwards into the depths of the ocean, making for amazing wall dives. Many of the dive locations have vast drop offs.

JUST WANT TO SNORKEL - Flying Fish Cove is a great place to snorkel from the beach or off the end of the jetty

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Signature Dive Sites

There are many dive sites around Christmas Island, covering the north coast, as well as south, east and west. Below are just a few of the signature dive sites you may encounter on a dive trip to Christmas Island.

Flying Fish Cove - Possibly the world's best shore dive, Flying Fish Cove is also very easily accessed. Enter by the boat ramp and follow the line of the ramp straight out until you hit the drop off, about 50 metres away. Work your way down the drop off to about 18 metres just following the slope along. A very easy dive – you really can't go wrong, and you'll see more fish and coral types in that one dive than you'll see in a week at other places. In season, it's common to see whale sharks cruising by the drop off.

Thundercliff Cave - The entrance to Thundercliff Cave is submerged, so to get in, you descend six metres to a sandy bottom and swim into the gloom, and once inside you can surface into a large air pocket. The cavern is festooned with spectacular stalactites dripping down from the ceiling. A smaller tunnel then opens out into a second large chamber where you can also surface. At all times the faint blue of the exit is reassuringly visible.

Perpendicular Wall - This dive starts off in a shallow cave with red fans foresting the sea floor. Swim out to a wall where you'll find hundreds of black triggerfish and pyramid butterflyfish swarm together, picking algae off the wall. The wall then plunges into the blue but there is usually a massive school of friendly batfish that sit around 30 metres, from there, it's a gradual ascent along the wall, looking at corals, reef fish, and also out into the blue as there is a strong possibility of manta rays, whale sharks and other large pelagics.

Thunderdome Cave - Thunderdome's entrance is hidden by a large rock, swim through a split to enter this dome shaped cave, with sandy bottom and walls encrusted with colourful growth.

West White Beach - Adjacent to the actual 'White Beach' dive is a large sea cavern. Enter through a large opening which leads to a massive cavern chamber. The sides of the cave walls are home to whips, fans, and electric clams. Time can be spent exploring around the inside of the cave, as it's not too deep (12m). Outside the cave a wall drops down into the blue, with nice hard corals.

Rhoda Wall - Rhoda Wall has a very interesting terrain: a gentle slope leads to a more vertical wall falling off at 20 m. On the slope there are some beautiful coral stacks, and large plate corals. Keeping the reef on the right you'll come to a part of the that pushes further out into the sea. On the Wall itself, there are some beautiful royal blue hydrocorals with schools of yellow and pink Fusiliers flitting up and down the wall.

The Eidsvold Wreck - The Eidsvold was a Norwegian phosphate ship that was struck by a Japanese submarine during World War II. It was scuttled in Flying Fish Cove and later transported to its ultimate resting place on the other side of Smith Point. Today, the Eidsvold sits between five and 18 metres. The wreck is not intact, and mainly looks like a series of metal pipes on the sea floor.

Chicken Farm - Named for the abundance of feral chickens on the adjacent land, this is a wall that plunges down into the blue, covered in beautiful hard corals, and there are some spectacularly large gorgonian fans below 33 metres (it was worth going to that depth to see them).

Submarine Rock - A wall dive with a drop-off to 50 metres. Big healthy boulder corals, fans along the wall, with crevices and overhangs to explore. Looking out in the blue for manta rays, eagle rays and grey reef sharks cruising by.

Boat Cave - A beautiful dive. The cave extends above water-level and is large enough for a small boat to shelter in (hence the name). The floor of the cave is 8-10m, and totally covered in plate corals which angle themselves towards the sunlit cave entrance. Red, pink and yellow whip corals grow from the cave wall.

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Did you know?

- Water temperatures vary between 25-29 degrees, the coolest temperatures are in the dry season which starts around June
- Christmas Island has some of the clearest waters in the world often with visibility between 30-60 metres
- With only two dive operators on the Island the waters are never crowded
- Nitrox is available for those qualified to use it
- The dive operators will go out with two divers as a minimum
- Dive equipment can be hired, however it is recommended you bring your own wet-suits, mask, snorkel and fins if available.
- An SMB must be carried by every diver
- Most dive days are two boat dives per day with night dives on request
- The dive boats cater for taking 6 to 16 divers maximum
- Christmas Island is ideal for the nature loving diver who wants to visit a place untouched by mass tourism and to have the opportunity to explore both the underwater world and as well as exploring the island topside as you will normally have either an afternoon or morning to explore when not diving
- Over 60 kms of reef to explore
- The possibility of encountering the unknown, from manta rays, to hammerhead sharks, sun fish or humpback whales
- Knowledgeable dive guides
- Combine your dive trip to take in the red crab migration and spawning event when millions of red crabs make their way from the jungle to the ocean to spawn. This occurs in the wet season from November to January - check with us for proposed spawning dates
- The dry season normally provides flat calm seas, the wet season normally has bigger swell and low pressure systems that sometimes result in tropical storms
- Each dive is approximately 1 hour depending on air
- New fish species are still being discovered in the waters around the island
- There is a great range of dive sites to suit all levels of experience
- Please ensure you have travel insurance - DAN membership is highly recommended
- Snorkel in Flying Fish cove from the beach or off the end of the jetty

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