

PALAU



AS THE WESTERNMOST CLUSTER OF THE SIX MAJOR ISLAND GROUPS THAT MAKE UP THE CAROLINE ISLANDS, PALAU LIES 1.000 KM (600 MILES) EAST OF THE PHILIPPINES. THE ARCHIPELAGO STRETCHES OVER 650 KM (400 MILES) FROM THE ATOLL OF KAYANGEL TO THE ISLET OF TOBI. THE PALAU ISLANDS INCLUDE MORE THAN 200 ISLANDS, OF WHICH ONLY EIGHT ARE INHABITED...

With three exceptions, all of the islands are located within a single barrier reef and represent two geological formations. The largest are volcanic and rugged with interior jungle and large areas of grassed terraces. The Rock Islands, now known as the Floating Garden Islands, are of limestone formation.

About 70% of Palau's population of 19.000 lives in Koror. The town provides all the modern conveniences you could need, including a large department store/supermarket and a well-equipped hospital (complete with a double-lock recompression chamber), and is the location of most of Palau's Hotels - about 20 hotels and resorts-.

Visas are not required for visits of thirty days or less. Your stay can be extended for up to sixty days upon expiration of your thirty day entry authorization. Visitors must hold a valid passport (valid for the next 6 months), an onward or return ticket, and proof of sufficient funds.

DIVING

Palau offers an endless variety of dive sites from caves to walls and major drop offs, to tunnels, channels and shallow reefs, where you can enjoy great visibility and an almost limitless variety of marine life. We even have a lake chock-full of pulsating jellyfish (no, they don't sting), where you can snorkel, and an underwater cave to explore. No matter your level of diving ability, there's a dive for you in Palau - fast drift dives, easy shallow dives, it's all here in Palau-.

The coral reefs provide home to more than 1.500 species of fish and 700 species of corals and sea anemones. Below the surface, divers & snorkelers are treated to a paradise of fabulous walls, blue holes, breathtaking reefs, crystal caves and WWII wrecks.

Vast numbers of pelagic predators, sharks, turtles, dolphins and many species of migratory fish gather here at this unique crossroads where three of the World's major currents converge.



TRIP ADVISOR	
Airport	Koror . Access from US West Coast via Honolulu ,Guam or Manila Philippines. Also flights from Taipei
Best season	October-April
Rainy season	May-Setember
Temperature	27°-32°C
Water temperature	27°-30°C
Recommended length of stay	7 nights liveaboard cruise
Highlights	Snorkeling and kayaking in fantastic blue lagoons. Swim in Palau's Jellyfish lake a unique experience

THE LIVEBOARDS OF PALAU

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Palau's most popular dive site, **Blue Corner**, is recognized as one of the best in the world due to its concentration of marine life, whilst Jacques Cousteau considered **Ngemelis Wall**, commonly known as **Big Drop-off**, to be one of the best dive walls in the world. Just a few minutes away, **German Channel** is known for its regular sightings of manta rays, which come in and hover over rock outcroppings inhabited by tiny cleaner wrasses.

Meanwhile, the famed "**Rock Islands**", one of the most beautiful islands settings in the Pacific Ocean -if not the world, are a collection of rounded, foliage covered isles that appear to float above the water surface. A boat trip through them reveals a number of magnificent white sand beach hideaways -perfect for a secluded picnic, or to spend some time beachcombing.


The seas around the Rock Islands are dotted with sunken remains of more than 75 World War II military ships, Japanese seaplanes and Zeros. Located primarily in the lagoons around the Rock Islands, these relics have developed their own thriving ecosystem featuring fish, corals and other invertebrates not commonly seen along the outer reef systems.



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Palau

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