



## S.C.U.B.A. DIVING WITH AQUA VENTURES LTD.



- Aqua Ventures was established in 1989 and is renowned for its high standards and professionalism. Steve Curtis the owner/operator of the centre heads the team of 4 Instructors & a divemaster. The local boat captains/ crew are divers themselves and are long familiar with the area & the diving equipment.
- We are conveniently situated at Ocean Sports Hotel, Watamu, next door to Hemingways Resort
- We do two 1-tank guided boat dives (exact times of dives dependant on the tides/ weather conditions) in Watamu and 2-tank guided boat dives in Malindi. Night dives & a wreck dive can also be arranged when sea conditions / tide levels are suitable.
- Dives take place in the Watamu Marine Park/ Reserve, the first Marine Park established in East Africa
- Both P.A.D.I. & B.S.A.C. courses are available – from beginner to assistant instructor level (Qualified divers should bring certification cards & log books. Pool checks are available for those who may forget log books).
- We have 3 custom-made dive boats. All are fitted with sun canopies and easy entry / exit points: 'Shamwari' - 28' fibreglass hull, powered by twin 65 h.p. outboards & carries a max. of 14 divers; 'Senorita' – 23' fibreglass / marine ply hull, powered by twin 40 h.p. outboards & carries a max. of 10 divers; 'Lifeboat' - 23' fibreglass ships' lifeboat, powered by a 40 h.p. outboard & carries a max. of 12 divers.
- Basic dive charges include tanks & weights only. Our equipment is stored in a clean, air-conditioned dive store and is continually maintained. The equipment we have available for hire : Scubapro & Mares buoyancy compensators with automatic inflators; spirotechnique regulators fitted with octopus, depth & pressure gauges, assorted masks & fins; 5mm shortie & 3 mm long wetsuits (water temperatures vary between 21-28 degrees centigrade).  
We use 10 and 12 litre steel tanks, maintained and tested to HSE standards. We have 2 electrically powered Bauer mariner Compressors and a Coltri Sub MCH16.
- The diving season extends from July to April:  
**August - September** – dives are mainly inside the reef (max. Depth 10 metres), due to rough sea conditions.  
**October** – dives take place inside & outside the reef depending on sea conditions  
**November-January** – dives on the outer reef in generally clear, calm conditions, with the chance of seeing a whale shark or two. Visibility between 13-20+ metres  
**February-march** – the water can be cool & visibility variable, with increased fish life/ activity and the possibility of seeing whale sharks & manta rays. Visibility between 8-20 metres  
**End of March – end of April** - variable sea conditions. Sea & weather conditions normally deteriorate from late April. Visibility between 10-17 metres.  
**May & June** – the bases are normally closed due to adverse sea / weather conditions.
- The dive sites are 10-20 minutes boat ride from the bases. There are approximately 18 dive sites, all of which are buoyed to prevent damage caused by anchors.
- Dives generally take place at depths of between 7-30 metres along the coral reef. The top of which is covered with an incredible variety of both soft & hard corals, dropping down to a sandy bottom. The fish life includes the various species of colourful reef fish such as Butterfly & Angel fish, Damsel fish, schools of jewel Anthias, Surgeon fish, Snappers, Groupers etc. Then there are the tiny creatures (great for macro photography) such as Nudibranchs, Frogfish, Leaf fish & Sole. It is also possible to see the bigger marine life such as several different species of Rays, Barracuda, Turtles, white & black-tip Reef Sharks, Napoleon Wrasse, Moray eels, and occasionally, Dolphins, Whale Sharks & Manta Rays.
- Every dive is preceded by a comprehensive briefing to maximise on the safety and enjoyment of the dive.
- Each boat carries spare parts, tools, hand held radios, oxygen and first aid equipment.
- A recompression chamber operated by the Kenya Navy is available for our use in case of an emergency.
- Aqua Ventures recognises all diving qualifications issued by recognised training organisations.