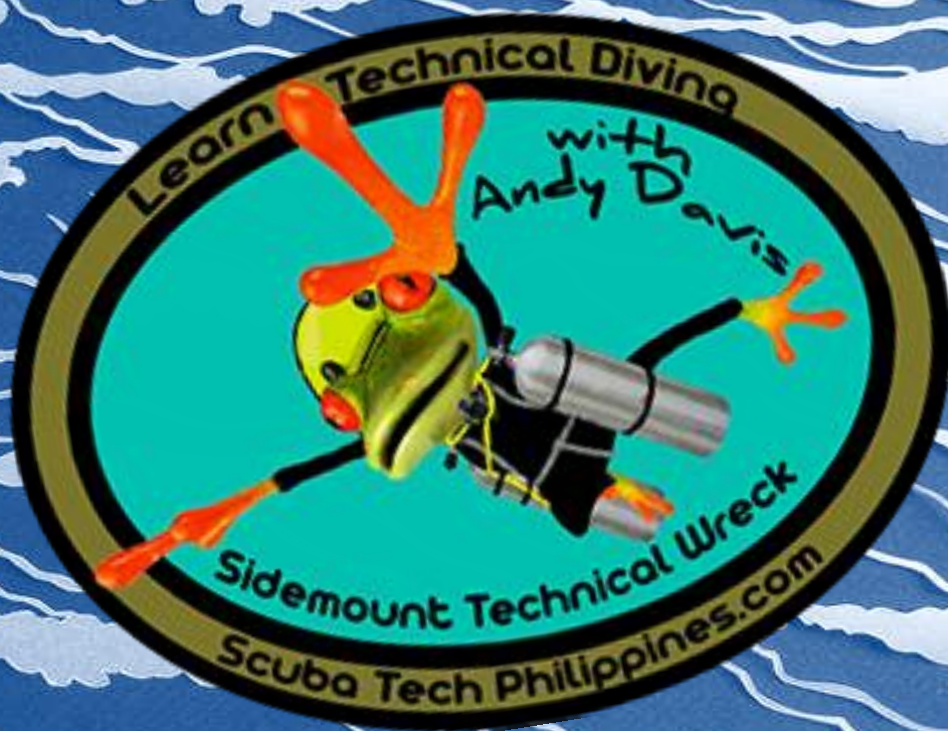


# Scuba Tech Philippines



**PADI TecRec**  
**Technical Wreck**  
**Course Prospectus**

# Scuba Tech Philippines: Diving Course Prospectus

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# TECREC TECHNICAL WRECK COURSE

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

My exclusive Technical Wreck Diver course is the product of 25 years of experience and took a decade to refine into its current form. I believe that it is the most comprehensive and cutting-edge technical wreck course currently available.

The course develops the skills and knowledge required to safely dive in the overhead wreck environment beyond the limits recommended for recreational wreck divers. The course explains the hazards, risk mitigating procedures and protocols, equipment and other factors employed by technical wreck divers who penetrate beyond the light zone and through confined and restricted areas.

## COURSE GOALS

Wreck diving is not a new concept, but penetration beyond the light zone, through confined areas and under decompression obligation requires a much higher standard of training than recreational wreck diving courses. Technical wreck diving presents technical divers with a significantly more advanced approach to wreck penetration; including equipment configuration, precision diving skills and comprehensive emergency protocols.

The *goals* of this course are to provide a systematic and methodical approach to technical wreck diving; showing students how to apply appropriate skills and knowledge on actual wreck penetration dives. Once certified, student divers will be able to plan and conduct technical wreck penetration dives in conditions similar to, or better than, those encountered during training.

Course goals:

- Equipment considerations specific for diving in low-visibility and confined spaces.
- Developing overhead environment diving skills to an appropriate standard of mastery.
- Ingraining effective contingency protocols for foreseeable wreck penetration emergencies.
- Teaching the necessary steps for planning and conducting wreck penetration dives.

## COURSE STANDARDS

### PRE-REQUISITES:

At the start of the course, the student must be certified as a Tec 45 and PADI Wreck diver or qualifying certifications from another training organization. For the purposes of this level, a qualifying technical certification is one that qualifies the student to make decompression dives to 45 meters/145 feet using air, EANx and oxygen using open circuit scuba equipment; back or sidemount. Minimum age is 18 years.

### DIVE STANDARDS

Maximum Depth:	Maximum depth 50 meters. The depth of the student's highest qualification level should not be exceeded.
Maximum penetration of wreck:	70 meters / 250'
Instructor-Student Ratio maximum:	2:1
Min student age:	18
Minimum no. dives:	6
Recommended hours:	40 over five days

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- Student equipment as outlined for Tec45/50 in the PADI Tech Deep *Instructor Manual*, General Standards and Procedures.
- Primary Reel (200ft min) & 30m Safety Spool (additional to DSMB reel)
- Primary Light & 2x Back-Up Lights
- 3x Line Arrows and 3x Non-Directional Line Markers (cookies or clothes pegs)
- Protective diving helmet

### DEPTHS

Selected diving sites with condition and environmental features suitable for completing the course requirements. The maximum planned depth must not exceed the diver's current training level and experience.

- Tec45 Divers - 45 meters
- Tec50 Divers or higher – 50 meters



## ASSESSMENT STANDARDS

The student diver must demonstrate accurate and adequate knowledge during the open water and wreck overhead environment dives and must perform all skills (procedures and motor skills) fluidly, with little difficulty, in a manner that demonstrates minimal or no stress.

## CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for certification, by completion of the course, student divers must meet all the performance requirements for the Open Water Dive and Wreck Overhead Environment Dives One, Two, Three, Four and Five. The instructor certifying the student diver must ensure that all certification requirements have been met.

## PROGRAM SEQUENCE

The TecRec Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality course consists of two knowledge development sections, two practical (land-based) applications and six training dives. The fully integrated instructional sequence for the Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality course is:

- Technical Diving Competency Assessment
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Course Knowledge Development One
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Practical (land-based) Application One
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Course Knowledge Development Two
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Practical (land-based) Application Two
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Training Open Water Dive One
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Training Wreck Overhead Environment Dive One
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Training Wreck Overhead Environment Dive Two
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Training Wreck Overhead Environment Dive Three
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Training Wreck Overhead Environment Dive Four
- Technical Wreck Diver Distinctive Speciality Training Wreck Overhead Environment Dive Five

## TECHNICAL WRECK DIVER TRAINING DIVES

### OPEN WATER DIVE 1

**Environment:** Shallow Open Water

**Depths: Minimum:** 2.4 meters/8 feet | **Maximum** 12 meters/30 feet

**Decompression:** No stop only

**Penetration:** Open Water only

**Gases:** Air or EANx

#### **Skills:**

1. *Working in a team, prepare technical dive plan using A Good Diver's Main Objective Is To Live*
2. *Working in a team, conduct a bubble check, descent check and S-drill.*
3. *Demonstrate specialized propulsion techniques for an overhead environment*
  - a. *Frog Kick*
  - b. *Modified Flutter Kick*
  - c. *Shuffle Kick*
  - d. *Pull and Glide*
  - e. *Finger Walking*
4. *Demonstrate effective buoyancy control, trim and positioning in the water column*
5. *Perform the gas shutdown drill in 45 seconds (30 seconds for sidemount)*
6. *Deploy guideline with attention to immediate environment and conditions*
7. *Follow guideline as a team*
8. *Retrieve guideline as a team*
9. *Demonstrate touch contact communication with team members*
10. *Remove and replace mask while in contact with guideline*
11. *Follow guideline as a team – Blacked Mask*
12. *Demonstrate Long Hose air sharing egress (donor & receiver)*
13. *Demonstrate Long Hose air sharing egress (donor & receiver) – Blacked Mask*
14. *Remove and replace mask while inverted vertically while in contact with guideline*
15. *Remove and replace mask while inverted upside-down while in contact with guideline*
16. *Demonstrate lost line contingency protocol*
17. *Demonstrate entanglement in guideline contingency protocol*
18. *Demonstrate lost team member contingency protocol*



## WRECK OVERHEAD ENVIRONMENT DIVE ONE

**Environment:** Wreck Overhead Environment

**Depths:** Minimum: 12 meters/40 feet

**Maximum:** 30 meters/100 feet

**Decompression:** No decompression only

**Penetration:** Within the light zone, no restrictions

**Gases:** Air or EANx

**Skills:**

1. *Working in a team, prepare technical dive plan using A Good Diver's Main Objective Is To Live*
2. *Working in a team, conduct a bubble check, descent check and S-drill.*
3. *Demonstrate appropriate propulsion techniques for an overhead environment*
  - a. *Frog Kick*
  - b. *Modified Flutter Kick*
  - c. *Shuffle Kick*
  - d. *Pull and Glide*
  - e. *Finger Walking*
4. *Demonstrate effective buoyancy control, trim and positioning in the water column*
5. *Deploy guideline with attention to immediate environment and conditions*
6. *Follow guideline as a team*
7. *Retrieve guideline as a team*
8. *Demonstrate light and signal contact communication with team members*
9. *Follow guideline as a team – Blacked Mask*
10. *Demonstrate Long Hose air sharing egress (donor & receiver)*
11. *Demonstrate Long Hose air sharing egress (donor & receiver) – Blacked Mask*



## WRECK OVERHEAD ENVIRONMENT DIVE TWO

**Environment:** Wreck Overhead Environment

**Depths: Minimum:** 18 meters/60 feet

**Maximum:** 40 meters/130 feet

**Decompression:** Decompression dive with one decompression gas

**Penetration:** Beyond the light zone/restrictions, max 75m penetration

**Gases:** Air, Air, EANx or oxygen

**Skills:**

1. *Working in a team, prepare technical dive plan using A Good Diver's Main Objective Is To Live*
2. *Working in a team, conduct a bubble check, descent check and S-drill.*
3. *Demonstrate effective buoyancy control, trim and positioning in the water column*
4. *Deploy guideline with attention to immediate environment and conditions*
5. *Follow guideline as a team*
6. *Retrieve guideline as a team*
7. *Demonstrate light and signal contact communication with team members*
8. *Demonstrate Long Hose air sharing (donor & receiver) – Restrictions*
9. *Demonstrate Long Hose air sharing (donor & receiver) – Blacked Mask/Restrictions*
10. *Demonstrate light and hand communications with team members*
11. *Simulate primary light failure and deployment of backup light*





**Environment:** Wreck Overhead Environment

**Depths:** Minimum: 18 meters/60 feet

**Maximum:** 40 meters/130 feet

**Decompression:** Decompression dive with one decompression gas

**Penetration:** Beyond the light zone/restrictions, max 75m penetration

**Gases:** Air, Air, EANx or oxygen

**Skills:**

1. *Working in a team, prepare technical dive plan using A Good Diver's Main Objective Is To Live*
2. *Working in a team, conduct a bubble check, descent check and S-drill.*
3. *Demonstrate effective buoyancy control, trim and positioning in the water column*
4. *Deploy guideline with attention to immediate environment and conditions*
5. *Follow guideline as a team*
6. *Retrieve guideline as a team*
7. *Demonstrate light and signal contact communication with team members*
8. *Demonstrate lost line contingency drill*
9. *Demonstrate entanglement in guideline contingency drill*
10. *Demonstrate lost buddy contingency drill*
11. *Demonstrate mask failure/loss and deployment of backup mask while in contact with the guideline*



## WRECK OVERHEAD ENVIRONMENT DIVE FOUR

**Environment:** Open water (wreck penetration)

**Depths:** Minimum: 30 meters/100 feet

**Maximum:** 50 meters/165 feet

**Decompression:** Decompression dive with one or two decompression gases

**Penetration:** Beyond the light zone/restrictions, max 75m penetration

**Gases:** Air, Air, EANx or oxygen

**Skills:**

1. *Working in a team, prepare technical dive plan using A Good Diver's Main Objective Is To Live*
2. *Working in a team, conduct a bubble check, descent check and S-drill.*
3. *Demonstrate effective buoyancy control, trim and positioning in the water column*
4. *Deploy guideline with attention to immediate environment and conditions*
5. *Follow guideline as a team*
6. *Retrieve guideline as a team*
7. *Demonstrate light and signal contact communication with team members*
8. *Demonstrate correct techniques for staging and recovering deco gas outside wreck*
9. *Demonstrate ability to deploy a lift bag from depth as emergency ascent line*
10. *Demonstrate ascent procedures using emergency ascent line*



**Environment:** Open water (wreck penetration)

**Depths:** Minimum: 30 meters/100 feet

**Maximum:** 50 meters/165 feet

**Decompression:** Decompression dive with one or two decompression gases

**Penetration:** Beyond the light zone/restrictions, max 75m penetration

**Gases:** Air, Air, EANx or oxygen

**Skills:**

1. *Working in a team, prepare technical dive plan using A Good Diver's Main Objective Is To Live*
2. *Working in a team, conduct a bubble check, descent check and S-drill.*
3. *Demonstrate effective buoyancy control, trim and positioning in the water column*
4. *Deploy guideline with attention to immediate environment and conditions*
5. *Follow guideline as a team*
6. *Retrieve guideline as a team*
7. *Demonstrate light and signal contact communication with team members*
8. *Demonstrate correct techniques for staging and recovering deco gas outside wreck*
9. *Demonstrate understanding of basic wreck layout and special considerations for navigating wreck*
10. *Properly execute the planned dives within all pre-determined limits.*
11. *Demonstrate the proper navigational techniques for the specific dive*



# PADI Specialist and Technical Courses



I offer the widest range of PADI and TecRec courses in Subic Bay. I am an Independent, professional elite-level instructor who has specialized in sidemount, technical and wreck exploration diving for over 25 years.

Please contact me via [info@scubatechphilippines.com](mailto:info@scubatechphilippines.com) if you would like information about any of the courses, exclusive clinics and programs or private mentoring that I offer.

## **PADI Sidemount Courses**

PADI Sidemount Diver

Tec Sidemount

PADI Wreck Courses

PADI Wreck Diver

Technical Wreck Diver

## **TecRec Technical Courses**

Discover Tec

Tec40

Tec45 / Tec45-Tmx

Tec50 / Tech50-Tmx

Tec65 Trimix

Tec90 Trimix

Tec Gas Blender

## **PADI Specialty Courses**

Deep Diver

EANx (Nitrox) Diver

DPV Operator (Dive Propulsion Vehicle)

Peak Performance Buoyancy

Underwater Navigator

Search & Recovery Diver

Underwater Photographer

## **Specialist Clinics**

Sidemount Master Tune-Up

Pre- Tech Fundamentals

Wreck Penetration Masterclass

Perfect Skills for Scuba Divers

Tech Diver Elite Tune-Up

Special Programs

Tech Deep Diver

Tech Trimix Diver

Sidemount Wreck Diver

**All of my courses are run far beyond the minimum standards.**

**Max 3 per course - Private lessons available.**



## ANDY DAVIS – YOUR PADI TECREC MASTER SCUBA DIVER TRAINER

Thank you for inquiring about a training course with Scuba Tech Philippines. This booklet is aimed to answer as many of your questions as possible. However, please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any more information or advice about the diving training that I can provide. See you soon, I hope!

### MY INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY

I'm an ex-military officer from the UK and have been a professional, full-time, technical diving instructor for more than a decade. I specialize in sidemount exploration of deep wrecks, but also dive closed-circuit rebreathers (CCR) and assist with marine archeology projects. I became an independent technical diving instructor so that I don't have to compromise the quality of my courses and can teach without the commercial pressures of having an employer. The student is my employer.

At the time of writing this, I have over 8000 logged dives across 5 continents; including Northern Scotland, England, Central America, the mid-Atlantic, the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and a multitude of locations across Asia. Over 2500 of those dives are technical mixed-gas, accelerated decompression and/or advanced wreck penetration dives.

I was one of the first qualified PADI tec sidemount instructors and have taught numerous courses to other instructors and course directors. I am one of very few instructors world-wide qualified to teach Advanced (Overhead Environment) Sidemount to technical wreck and full cave divers. My expertise is often called upon by sidemount equipment manufacturers in product design, testing and refinement.

I write a very popular advanced diving blog and have authored articles for diving and travel magazines all over the world. I am currently working on a series of diving books that cover the topics of Preparing for Technical Diving Training, Advanced Recreational Wreck Diving and Technical Wreck Diving. I have written numerous training materials and helped design specialist courses for several technical diving agencies.

My highest instructor qualifications are Tec Trimix Instructor, Technical Wreck Instructor and Advanced Sidemount Instructor. I have instructor ratings with PADI, TecRec, ANDI, BSAC and SSI. I also hold diver ratings with TDI and IART (JJ-CCR).



### MY INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHY

I am passionate about high quality, advanced level diving; and I have devoted the last decade to teaching the art and science of this pursuit to hundreds of satisfied students. I enjoy my work because I take great satisfaction in the results I deliver; making competent, capable and truly skillful advanced level divers.

All of my courses, recreational and technical, are based upon my personal philosophy of instruction:

- **Specialist training demands expertise and experience.** I don't believe that instructors should teach courses in activities in which they don't have significant expertise and substantial active experience. I only offer courses that represent the type of diving I have performed routinely for years and have developed a world-class reputation for.
- **Training beyond the minimum requirement.** Training agencies list minimum standards for diving courses, but these minimum standards have become the normal expectation. Too many instructors are content to regurgitate the contents of manuals and conduct 'tick-lists' of dive skills underwater. I don't train my students to the minimum. All of my courses aim to expand learning far beyond the basic requirements and I supplement my training with many extra drills, skills and challenges. I encourage students to consider extending training by conducting post-qualification training dives that further develop their experience and skillfulness.
- **Beginning with the end in mind.** All of my training is focused on the long-term development of the student diver. Regardless of the level of course being taken, I implement the standards, skills and procedures necessary to improve diver capability to progress onto the highest levels of training. Every course further develops and refines core fundamental skills; such as buoyancy, trim, propulsion, situational awareness, gas management, dive planning and precision dive conduct.

- **Teaching the diver, not the course.** I believe in teaching individuals so that they accomplish their diving aims. I do not provide training as an 'off-the-shelf' product that ignores the individual needs and goals of the student. Neither do I run attendance courses for the sake of issuing certification cards. Divers pay for training, but have to earn their certification. I do my utmost to assist them earning a certification that they can be proud of.
- **Challenging student capacity.** In order to get the best results, I work personally and attentively with students; pushing the challenge of their training to their personal maximum. With careful supervision and student feedback, I assess individual comfort zones, strengths and weaknesses. After a decade of teaching the highest levels of diving, I have a vast arsenal of developmental drills and protocols that can be implemented to resolve any skill deficiencies. This means that the student gets the best possible improvement, regardless of their starting point.
- **Making use of instructional technology and best practices.** Where possible, I videotape all skills training sessions so that students can analyze and self-critique their performance. All dives are fully debriefed and the students are encouraged to deconstruct their own performances. I maximize our time underwater to allow the most practice possible, repeating skills and drills until a level of intuitive, ingrained muscle memory is achieved. Once the skills are polished, I move forward to applying those skills on real, challenging dives.
- **Balancing cutting edge innovations with proven principles.** I am qualified as an instructor with several agencies; and as a diver with many others. I keep myself informed about the latest developments across the recreational and technical diving communities so that I can implement the best practices and procedural innovations as they are proven. Where applicable, I teach multiple approaches, explaining the options and interpretations available; educating the student on how to prudently decide what works best for them. I encourage an open-minded, but informed, approach to diving methodology, principles and philosophies – at the same time guarding against complacency, dogmatism and inflexibility.
- **Mentoring with honesty and openness.** I aim to be a mentor and guide, rather than an autocratic instructor. Confidence is good, but we leave ego at the door. I teach theory through debate and relaxed discussion; I'm not a fan of powerpoint presentations. Students are encouraged to ask questions, challenge what they are taught and do their own research before and during training.
- **No Limits Teaching.** I believe that if a student puts in an effort to learn, then I will match that effort as a teacher. I don't limit the scope of teaching to a strict syllabus provided by an agency. I don't limit dive times or the number of dives done within a course. I don't disappear home at 5pm if there is teaching still to be done and the student is enthusiastic to learn.
- **Flexible Approach.** I aim to cater for individuals – and this is reflected in all aspects of my training. I am happy to arrange daily training schedules that suit your needs; late or early starts/finishes, time off, relaxed or intensive diving programs. I pace my courses based on your comfort, confidence and performance. I endeavor to leave spare time between courses to allow unscheduled rest days, extra sessions, remedial work or more development if it is needed. We can discuss *how* you like to learn and what motivates and stimulates you best. Wherever possible, without cutting quality, I endeavor to minimize student expenses.
- **Value for money courses.** As a very experienced, independent, technical diving instructor I am aware that my courses may cost a little more than some others you may see on offer. I don't cut costs to compete with them, because that leads to cutting quality also. I simply make sure that you get what you pay for – exceptional, world-class, advanced diving tuition.



## COURSE FEES AND PAYMENT

One point that I raise with all of my students, regardless of training level, is that you are paying for training and diving. You must earn the certification.

### TecRec Technical Wreck Diver Course Costs (5 days / 6 dives minimum)

Tuition Fees	-	\$725.00 USD	/	36,250php
Diving Fees*	-	\$180.00 USD	/	9,000php
<u>PADI Manual &amp; Certification*</u>	-	<u>\$ 50.00 USD</u>	<u>/</u>	<u>2,500php</u>
<b>TOTAL QUOTE</b>	-	<b>\$955.00 USD</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>48,000php</b>

#### Extra Days/Dives Training (as required)

- Tuition per day - \$145.00 USD
- Cost per technical scuba dive\* - 1800php

\*Does not include gas fees (instructor and student) or equipment rental.

My quote is for the minimum day/dive requirement for achieving certification. However, the schedule has to remain flexible for several reasons. Firstly, all of my courses are performance driven – this means the student has to attain the required mastery of skills on each dive/segment before progressing. I quote a basic timescale for advancement in skills, but some students may require more time/dives than is quoted. Pre-course theory and in-water preparation goes a long way to avoiding these types of training extensions.

Secondly, there may be delays in training caused by the weather, sickness or other uncontrollable factors. When this occurs, I will endeavor to re-plan the schedule to allow the most efficient progression. For instance, bring all theory training forward and permit classroom study on bad weather or if the student/instructor is too sick to dive. I leave 'free' days at the end of each course just in case there is a need to extend training, for either remedial work or because of lost diving days. If it is necessary to cancel ALL training, theory or diving, for a single day (*sickness, weather etc*) then there is no charge for that day.

## DEPOSIT PAYMENT

Deposits are necessary to confirm course dates. I fill my training schedule on a first-come, first-served basis, based upon the payment of deposits. The deposit covers 1 day tuition fee per course booked and the cost of any necessary manuals/materials which I might order in advance. As such, the deposit is non-refundable. However, course dates may be re-scheduled / postponed up to 30 days in advance of the confirmed start date. In this instance, the deposit payment will cover your re-scheduled dates.

Once a course deposit is paid; and the training dates are confirmed, then I reserve the right to promote the course to other students. I allow a maximum of 3 students per course at any level. If you wish to have private / 1-2-1 training, then please let me know, *as there is an additional cost supplement*.

## COURSE PAYMENT

Students pay me directly for tuition fees and manuals/materials. Payment can be made in advance by International Bank Transfer or Western Union (*payment must be cleared by start of course*). Alternatively, payment in cash (*Philippine Pesos or US Dollars*) can be accepted at the end of training, or



after each successive 5 days of training; whichever comes first.

Payment for diving services/support (*boat fees*), gas fills (*O2, Nitrox and/or Helium*) and equipment rental (*if required*) are made directly to the supporting dive center. Most of the dive centers I utilize will accept credit card payments (with a fee) or cash. This payment is made on completion of all course dives, but some centers ask for a deposit if you aren't staying at their resort. An outline of sample costs is at [Annex B](#).

## COURSE LOCATION

I am an independent instructor, not tied to any single dive school or resort. This gives me the freedom to run courses wherever I can find the best value and safety standards for my students. Most of my courses are run in Subic Bay, Philippines – as this is an excellent location for wreck and technical training year-round. Subic Bay is also very convenient to reach from Manila (NIAI) or Clark (DMAI) airports.

However, I am also available to schedule classes anywhere in the Philippines or SE Asia (*or the world!*). The student/s cover all travel and accommodation expenses for courses arranged outside of Subic Bay.

## ASSESSMENT OF TRAINING READINESS

For every course *beyond Open Water diver*, the first dive of every course includes an in-water assessment of your readiness to begin training at the new level. This assessment includes all core / foundational diving skills; such as buoyancy, trim, propulsion, situational awareness and gas management, and also includes assessment of course specific skills as determined by the prerequisite qualifications needed to attend training at that level (*i.e. the skills you should have mastered and maintained from the prior courses needed to enroll at your new level of diving training*). These might include decompression planning, ascent protocols, gas switching procedures, overhead environment guideline deployment etc etc.

If you are not proficient in the necessary skills for the current level of training, I will offer you remedial training to reach the required standard before the desired course can start. You pay for this training... Therefore, I do recommend that you re-read course manuals from previous training and take some time to rehearse and re-master all of the performance skills from relevant courses you have done before. This should prevent the need to complete any remedial training before progressive training can start.

If you are unsure of the expected skill performance prerequisites at a given level of training, please do consult me in advance. I do also offer preparatory skill clinics for those who might desire them.

## DIVING EQUIPMENT STORAGE AND MAINTENANCE

If you have your own equipment, you will be able to leave it at the supporting dive center. They have wash tubs, drying racks and storage crates. I recommend that small, expensive items; such as diving computers or cameras, are taken back to your hotel room each night. I cannot take any personal responsibility for student's equipment or possessions whilst left unattended, or in the care of the supporting dive centre.





## SUBIC BAY – LOCAL INFORMATION

### TRANSPORT

You can travel from either Manila (NAIA) or Clark (DMIA) airports to Subic by public air-con coach or taxi.

**Coach from Manila:** Victory Liner buses run from PASAY (south) and CUBAO (north) terminals along EDSA. The bus takes approx 3-6 hours (*all depending on Manila traffic*) to reach Olongapo City, where you can take a 150php trike to your resort/hotel. The buses are air-conditioned and generally safe and comfortable.

**Coach from Clark/Angeles:** Victory Liner buses run from DAU terminal and take approx 1 hour to reach Olongapo. Alternatively, there is an 'AV Van' mini-van service from nearby the terminal. Trike or taxi drivers will take you to these.

**Taxi:** You can catch a taxi from your hotel or airport to Subic. Typical cost is" Manila - 4500php / Clark – 3000php. Taxis can be unreliable or over-priced (rip-off). ***I know a very reliable, fair and trustworthy local driver who does airport/hotel pick-ups. I am happy to arrange for him to collect you if required.***

**Getting around Subic:** You can catch a Jeepney (~15php) if you want to travel into Olongapo City. There is a nice mall there, many western and asian restaurants etc. For shorter trips around Baloy and Barretto beach areas, you can catch one of the plentiful trikes. These cost approx 30-50php, depending on your journey. There are many decent restaurants, resorts, bars and nightlife in the area.

### ACCOMMODATION

I am happy to assist with recommendations and/or bookings for your accommodation. Simply let me know your desired budget and preferences of service. I do not take any commission or payment for doing this; neither do I accept any responsibility.

Sample of room options:

- High Budget: Wild Orchid Hotel, Baloy Beach (>4500php per night) *Air-con, internet, large pool, safe, luxury*
- Mid Budget: iCove Resort, Barretto Beach (approx 1600 per night) *Air-con, good internet, pool, room safe*
- Low Budget: Johansson's Lodge (600-900php per night) *Fan room, cold shower, cable TV*

Some of the supporting dive centers where I teach have their own resort/rooms. Many students find it convenient to stay on-location where the course is run. I can advise on whether the supporting dive center has rooms available at the time of confirming your course dates.

### ATM MACHINES AND MONEY ACCESS

ATM machines are accessible around Baloy and Barretto beaches. Most will accept VISA or Mastercard. Generally, they will allow a maximum of two (2) withdrawals of 10,000php per day (*i.e. 20,000php maximum per day*). Be warned that occasionally the ATMs might not be available during power or internet outages. Also, on busy public holidays they may swiftly be emptied of money. It is best not to leave critical cash withdrawals to the last minute.



There are also several money changers and Western Union offices in Barretto. These typically offer fair rates. Some previous students have sent themselves money via Western Union, which proved cost effective depending on their country of origin. However, you might have to set up this facility in advance before your arrival. In addition, many resorts/hotel might offer foreign money exchange, but at less efficient rates.

## Medical Requirements

**All technical level courses require a Medical Doctor's approval to conduct training.** This should be done before arrival, using the standard PADI medical disclaimer form. This can be done in Subic, but it is unreliable and time-consuming. Do get the doctors' approval before arrival. This medical approval is then valid for 12 months, unless there are changes to your health.

## DIVING INSURANCE

Diving medical insurance is highly recommended, but not mandatory, for PADI and TecRec courses. Technical diving carries a higher risk of Decompression Illness and the cost of hyperbaric chamber treatment is very expensive. If you have holiday/travel insurance, please do check the small print, regarding scuba diving, carefully. Otherwise, I recommend dedicated diving medical insurance, such as DAN. Having valid diving medical insurance not only covers large bills for treatment, but also ensures that you receive the necessary hyperbaric treatment in a timely manner.

## PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

I cannot guarantee secure storage (*lockers etc*) at the supporting dive center. I therefore recommend that you leave expensive items in the security of your hotel room safe. The dive center can, on request, put items in the manager's office or you can take them with you on the dive boat (*dry box or bag recommended*).

## MEDICAL CARE

The supporting dive center will have oxygen and first aid available on premises. There will also be oxygen and first aid on the dive boat. There is a hospital located 500m from Barretto, that can be reached in under 5 minutes from any location in Barretto or Baloy beaches. There are also several pharmacy stores in Barretto.

## SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

If you have any special requirements during your stay, I will be glad to advise and assist as best I can. Please let me know in advance, so I can be sure that I have the right information to assist you with. I will brief you on the local area; services, supplies and attractions, when you arrive.



## ANNEX A – SAMPLE TUITION, MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT, BOAT AND GAS FEES

### Tuition Fees

Recreational Diving Courses	\$95USD per day
Technical Diving Courses	\$145USD per day (inc. Tec Sidemount)

### Certification Fees

PADI	2200php (if not included with manual)
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### Manual/Materials Fees *\*include one certification credit*

PADI Tec/Sidemount Manual	\$85USD
PADI Tech Deep Manual (Tec40/45/50)	\$100USD
PADI Wreck Manual	\$85USD

*\*equipment, diving and gas fees subject to change – as they are set by the supporting dive center*

### Equipment Hire

Recreational Scuba Kit	500php per dive
Sidemount BCD and Bands	500php per day
Technical BCD	500php per day
Deco Regulator	250php per day
Sidemount/Tec Regs	500php per day
Booties	100php
Fins	150php
Mask	150php
Reg and octo	250php
Flashlight (rec)	250php
Flashlight (tec)	500php
Dive Computer (Rec)	200php
Dive Computer (Tec)	500php

### Diving Costs

Rec Fun Dive	1000php
Rec Fun Dive w/eqpt	1500php
Night Dive	+250php
Nitrox Dive (single tank)	+250php
Twin Tank / Tec Dive	+500php
Stage/Deco Rental	250php
Trimix Sites outside the bay	+2000php (split amongst divers)

### Gas Charges

Refill Doubles (O2 21%)	150php per tank
Refill Doubles (O2 22-40%)	250php per tank
Deco/Stage (O2 21-40%)	200php per tank
Deco/Stage (41-50%)	250php per tank
Deco/Stage (51-75%)	300php per tank
Deco/Stage (76-99%)	350php per tank
Helium per 14L tank (20%)	1750php
Helium per 14L tank (30%)	2250php
Helium per 14L tank (40%)	2750php

