

SOLITUDE GAIA

# Palau Northern Discovery, New Moon / Full Moon Spawning

*Malakal to Malakal | West Passage, Kayangel, Ulong, Ngemelis and Peleliu*

The northern reefs of Palau are seen by few, with sharks, abundant coral, dramatic drop-offs, strong currents and many species of schooling fish.

Manta rays and schooling fish are possible in a northern channel, and the western edge of the reef is seldom visited by divers.

Around every full and new moon the mornings are given to the aggregation of fish and the spawning event that follows it.

The famous southern walls are full of fish, with plenty of sharks, a picturesque cavern lit from above and the challenging currents that Palau is famous for.

| LENGTH | DEPARTURE PORT | ARRIVAL PORT | HIGHLIGHTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11 days / 10 nights | Malakal, Palau | Malakal | Kayangel, Devilfish City, Ulong |








## Your itinerary

DAY 1

### Malakal, embarkation

Embarkation begins at 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm, and all guests must be onboard by the following morning.
Airport and local hotel transfers are included.

DAY 1

## Malakal, embarkation (continued)

Upon boarding Solitude Gaia, a welcome from the crew awaits you.
Orientation and registration begin once you are welcomed; remember your C-Cards and log books.
During registration, permit and National Park fees are collected.
Dinner is included.

DAY 2

## West Passage and surrounding areas

2 - 3 dives

Dive sites may include: Devil's Playground and Satan's Corner.
Today is our first day of diving.
In the morning Solitude Gaia lifts anchor and moves northwest toward the West Passage, where we dive the western edge of Palau's reef, in areas seldom visited by divers.

DAY 3

## Devilfish City and northern exploration

3 - 4 dives

Dive sites may include: Devilfish City and the northern reefs.
We wake up anchored close to one of the northern channels and dive Devilfish City, where there is a possibility to see manta rays and many schooling fish.
In the afternoon we sail further north and begin our northern reef exploration.

DAY 4

## Northern reefs and Kayangel Island

3 - 4 dives each day

Dive sites may include: Tailtop, Kayangel Island, Velasco Reef and other exploration.
We spend the next 3 days diving the northern area of Palau's reef system, in areas that few have seen.
There will be sharks, abundant coral, dramatic drop-offs, strong currents and many species of schooling fish.

DAY 5

## Northern reefs

3 - 4 dives

Exploration of the northern reefs continues.

DAY 6

## Northern reefs

3 - 4 dives

The last day of northern exploration, before heading south.

DAY 7

## Ulong area and spawning dives

3 - 4 dives each day

Dive sites may include: Shark City, Siaes Corner, Siaes Tunnel, Sandy Paradise and Ulong Channel.
Over the next 2 days we dive each morning in an attempt to see the spawning event, and the aggregation that precedes it, that happens around every full and new moon.
During the day we enjoy some of Palau's famous dive sites in the Ulong area, with dramatic walls, current-swept corners, channel drifts and beautiful reefs filled with fish, turtles and sharks.
Spawning events are an observation of fish behaviour and cannot be guaranteed.
The exact day and time of the spawning dives are determined during the cruise itself, and the route may be reversed or altered according to the spawning days.

DAY 8

## Ulong area and spawning dives

3 - 4 dives

A second morning of spawning dives, followed by more of the Ulong area.

DAY 9

## Ngemelis area

3 - 4 dives

Dive sites may include: Blue Corner and Blue Holes.
Today we dive some of Palau's most iconic sites: dramatic coral-filled walls full of fish, plenty of sharks, a picturesque cavern lit from above and the challenging currents that Palau is famous for.

DAY 10

## Southern Peleliu area

Up to 3 dives

Dive sites may include: Peleliu Corner, Peleliu Cut and Peleliu Express.
Today is our last day of diving, and we enjoy a few of southern Peleliu's famous dive sites, with more dramatic walls, challenging currents, sharks and schooling fish.
All guests must adhere to a minimum of 18 hours pre-flight surface interval.

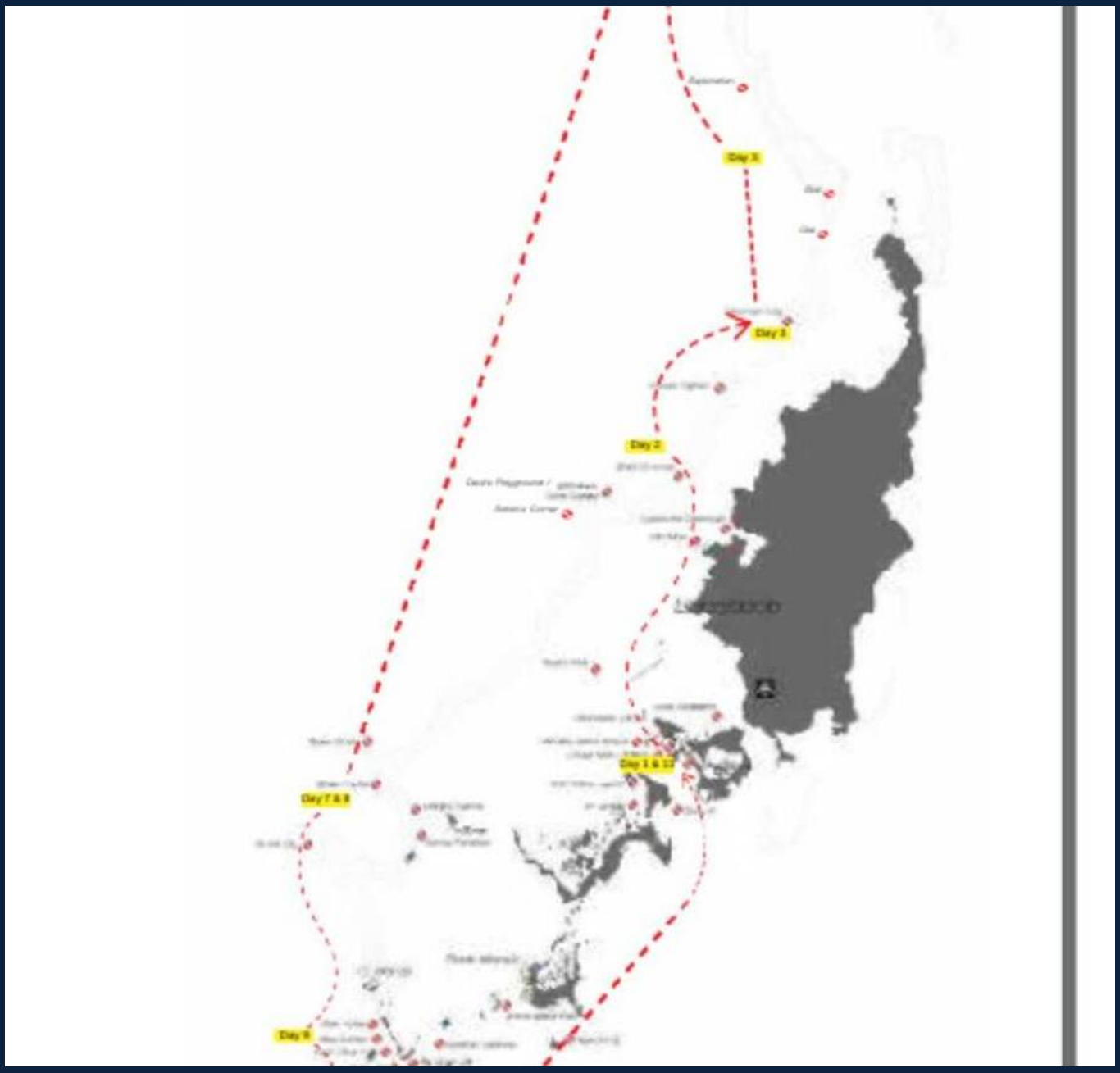
DAY 11

## Day tours and disembarkation

After a big breakfast there are optional complimentary tours by speedboat to Jellyfish Lake, the Milky Way, or both.
A Jellyfish Lake permit must be purchased if you visit the lake.
Disembarkation is after lunch.

THE ROUTE

# Route map



HIGHLIGHTS

# Trip highlights

- Devilfish City and the West Passage
- Three days exploring Palau’s northern reefs and Kayangel
- Spawning dives at Ulong around the new and full moon
- Blue Corner, Blue Holes and southern Peleliu







DIVING

## Diving and conditions

- 2 to 4 dives a day, with sites chosen to suit the conditions
- Dramatic drop-offs, abundant coral gardens, strong currents and prolific marine life, with possible manta rays
- All guests must adhere to a minimum of 18 hours pre-flight surface interval before flying home
- Port of embarkation and disembarkation is Malakal, Koror, with transfers from Roman Tmetuchl International Airport (ROR)
- The route is subject to change due to weather, sea conditions, moon cycles and restrictions imposed by local authorities



INCLUDED

## What your trip covers

### INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- Airport and local hotel transfers
- Dinner on the embarkation evening
- Optional complimentary speedboat tours on the last morning to Jellyfish Lake, the Milky Way, or both

### NOT INCLUDED

- Jellyfish Lake permit
- Palau permit and National Park fees, collected at registration