

## Sharm El Sheikh, Red Sea, Egypt Sharm El Sheikh - Advanced Course

### The diving

Becoming an Advanced diver is a major step for most people. It gives you the tools for enjoying your diving even more by taking you through different types of diving. Your buoyancy will be fine-tuned, your awareness will become greater and you will simply find diving easier and even more addictive.

Before you start your Advanced Course on this destination, you will have a day of diving on the local dive sites. No instructions on this dive, just a couple of regular fundives that will get you comfortable in your gear and prepare you for one of the best courses in your life, on some of the most beautiful reefs in the world!

Many years ago the first divers took the long trip through the Sinai Desert in order to explore some of the best diving on the planet. They found several bays on the southern tip - one named Naama Bay. Here the diving was so pristine and the animal life so rich and with such a variation that they settled down. And in the years to come a massive dive tourism industry grew up here.

Today Naama Bay has one of the highest rate of passing divers on the planet, and lots of tourists check in on one of the many hotels every day. The diving is no longer as it was in the early pioneer days, but by using a day boat, it is still possible to enjoy the splendid logistics and access really great diving. If you like to combine your diving with the delights of sun, desert and Egyptian tourism at its best, Sharm is an easy place to go to.

The diving is just around the corner so within very short time, the cosy dive boat can bring you and your friends on top of crystal clear dive sites.

**Area name / Island name**  
Sharm el-Sheikh, The Red Sea

**Nearest airport**  
Sharm el-Sheikh

**High seasons:**  
01.05.11 - 14.05.11  
16.07.11 - 30.09.11  
01.10.11 - 31.10.11

**Center type**  
PADI Gold Palm Resort

**Experience level**  
None

**Minimum age for participation**  
10 years old

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**Location**

The dive center is situated in the heart of Sharm el-Sheikh, in Na'ama Bay. Sharm el-Sheikh, has changed greatly in the last few years, during the day it is now a mecca for water sport enthusiasts and sun worshipers but at night a place where party people congregate.

**Your resort**

N/A

**Your room**

N/A

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**Introduction to course**

The PADI Advanced Open Water course will get you even more comfortable in the water by simply completing five adventure dives under the supervision of a PADI Instructor. If you're looking to build your confidence and gain more experience, this is the natural next step on the ladder. The course is designed so you can go straight into it after the Open Water Diver course. The course builds on what you've already learned and develops new capabilities by introducing you to new activities in diving.

Alter your skills by completing 5 adventure dives introducing you to:

- Underwater navigation
- Deeper water diving (from 18-30 meters)
- 3 Adventure dives of your choice

You and your instructor choose from 15 types of Adventure dives to complete your course.

Best part about the Advanced course is: there is NO exam... Just lots of good diving.

**WHEN TAKING THE COURSE**

**The Advanced course is a sure step. To enroll, you need to be certified as PADI Open Water Diver or equivalent. A refresher dive is recommended prior to the course if you've been out of the water for more than 6 months or have little experience.**



**The course in short:**  
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**Number of Dives:**  
5 open water dives

**Knowledge Development:**  
Five theoretical modules matching the 5 dives in the course

**Prerequisites:**  
10 years for Junior Advanced Open Water Diver  
15 years for Advanced Open Water Diver

**Materials you'll need:**  
PADI Advanced Open Water Crew Pack  
(Included in your package)

**Equipment you'll use during the course:**  
Mask, fins, snorkel, tank, regulator, buoyancy compensator, weightbelt, submersible pressure gauge and a wetsuit  
(included in your package)

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**Itinerary**

To start you off in the best way, this package includes one day of fundiving prior to your course to give you time to get comfortable in the water and to experience the beauty of the local diving. The equipment is not included and must be rented on site for these 2 dives. The equipment is all included for the Advanced course

The PADI Advanced Open Water Course is performance based. That means you have to understand and pass the theory and perform the in-water skills correctly and with ease. Therefore, the itinerary can vary slightly from course to course. The course will take 2 to 3 days depending on the students enrolled. 5 dives will be spread out on the available days. No more than 3 training dives will be conducted each day. To give you an idea of what to expect, see the itinerary below:

**Day 1:** 2 Local fundives

**Day 2:** Reviewing of the chapters applying for the dives of the day

**Day 3:** Reviewing of the chapters applying for the dives of the day

If you want a longer itinerary, you can add extra days of diving upon booking.

**Please note**

Due to ocean and weather conditions, the itinerary can be subject to change.

**Activity starts**

Courses are run on a daily basis Please note that daily start times can vary from course to course. You will be notified upon arrival

**Activity starts from**

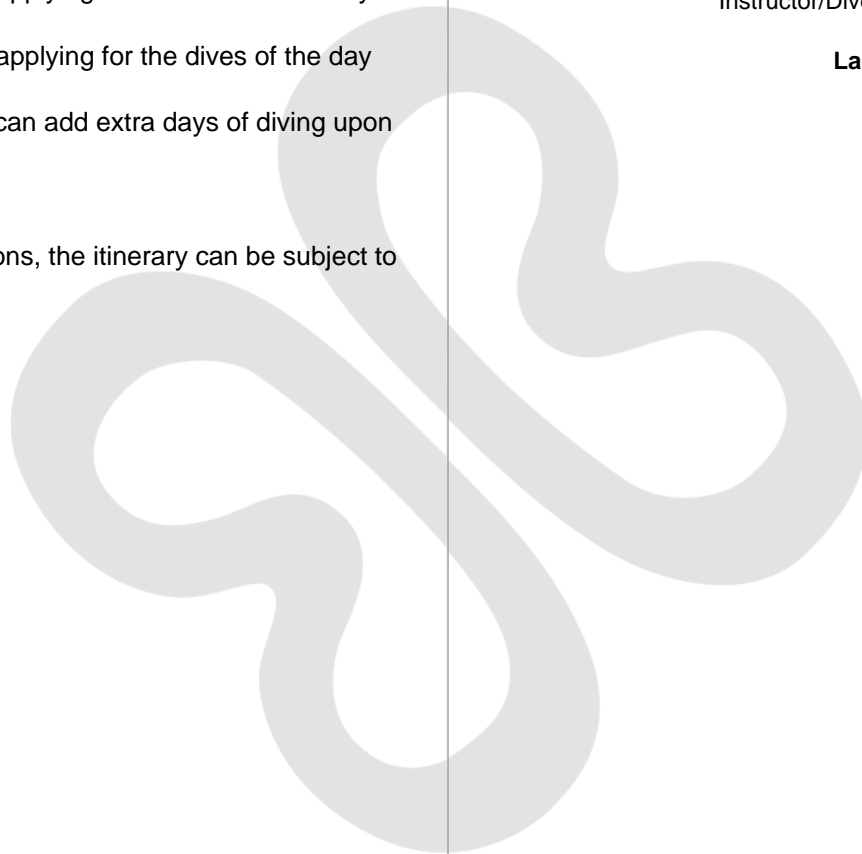
The dive center, mornings  
Please contact the dive center no later than one week prior arrival to confirm your arrival and possible pickup times.

**Group Size**

No limit Max. 6-8 divers pr.  
Instructor/Divemaster

**Language**

English



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**Transfer Information**

If you have booked your own accommodation, and is only enrolling in the dive activities, the dive center will pick you up and drop you off at your hotel in Sharm el-Sheikh prior and post to diving. Please contact the dive center well in advance in order to secure your pick-up. You need to inform the dive center about which hotel you are staying in. You will find the contact information for your dive center on your voucher.

**From the airport**

Sharm El Sheikh International Airport has direct flights from most European countries. Transfer to the hotels is by bus and is easily arranged with the dive center for 20 Euro return for 1 person. This price goes down as the number of passengers for the bus goes up.

If needed: regular taxis and tourist taxis (which charge double the fare, do not be scared to argue the price down!) operate from the airport. Minibuses also go to Sharm El Sheikh. They wait outside the airport and only leave once full. The fare to Sharm will take approx 20 minutes and you must remember to bring the address for the hotel and agree with the taxi driver where he will take you. Make sure you have proper petty cash in Euro notes ready.

Once you arrive in Egypt you must purchase a tourist visa. Unless it is part of your flight ticket the price is typically 15-20 US. Be aware that you might be asked for this amount in Euro on cheeky days.

You need to confirm your arrival with the dive center at least one week in advance. You will find the details for the dive center on your voucher.

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Prices below are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.

**ADV. OPEN WATER COURSE, - NO ACCOMM.**

<b>Days / Nights</b>	2 / 0
<b>Amount of dives</b>	5
<b>Price (incl. accomodation)</b>	287 EUR

**Supplements**

<b>Extra night of accom. (after)</b>	33 EUR
<b>Extra night of accom. (before)</b>	33 EUR
<b>Refresher Dive (added to 1st dive)</b>	25 EUR

Prices for supplementary accommodation are based on 2 persons sharing accommodation, unless stated otherwise.

**Supplements**

A supplement can be chosen to add on your package. All supplements can also be booked on site. In high season, hotels and boats get filled fast - you might find trouble getting an extra night in your resort or an extra day of diving. If you are booking a course, it is recommended to book an extra night of accommodation prior your course, to get settled and get up front on the studying.

**Included**

All dive equipment  
Dive Instructor  
Dayboat for open water training

**Not included**

airport transfer return (see transfer on page 5)  
PADI books + certification fee (Eur 45,-)  
Lunch on boat (EGP 55,-)  
lunch, dinner  
accommodation

**High season surcharges:**

01.05.11 - 14.05.11: 14 Euro per. person  
16.07.11 - 30.09.11: 14 Euro per. person  
01.10.11 - 31.10.11: 84 Euro per. person  
(High season surcharges are not included and will be charged at destination)

**Also available on site**

Extra days of diving if available

**Continuing education**

All continuing courses available on site

**Cancellation**

Terms on voucher

**Dive insurance**

Basic dive travel insurance required

## General terms and conditions

### GENERAL CONDITIONS

#### CHANGES OF BOOKINGS:

You can change your booking request or start date free of charge.

If you need to change your booking you must contact the **dive center** directly by e-mail or phone. You will find the contact details on your voucher. For verification purpose, please remember to mention your name and booking ID.

If you want to change your start date, we recommend that you do so minimum 10 days before the beginning of your dive package. Later than this, might cause the accommodation to be fully booked for alternative dates. During high seasons, 10 days might not be sufficient time, please allow extra time for changes in the high season. As a reminder, you will receive an email with general information and contact information of your dive center 10 days prior to your start date.

#### CANCELLATION RULES:

Any customer has the right to cancel their booking with Blue Venture Diving. In order to do so, you must contact your selling agent. The cancellation fees and rules of your selling agent will apply for your cancellation.

Blue Venture is not liable for any cancellations done by the customer of personal reason such as/or in the same category as sickness, family, missed flights etc, or other circumstances that is beyond reasonable control such as force majeure.

#### Blue Venture booking cancellation

In the unlikely event that Blue Venture is forced to cancel a booking, the customer will get direct notice. A cancellation will only happen if Blue Venture finds that the contracted dive center can't perform the needed service of the booked package or if the dive standards can't be fulfilled accordingly. Minor changes in the itinerary will not be defined as a valid cancellation reason, as diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity.

Blue Venture will always do their best to find another operator of same or higher standard, but it is up to the customer to decide whether they want to accept the change or get a refund.

#### INSURANCE:

A cancellation insurance is not included. It is highly advised recommended that you obtain adequate travel insurance prior to your departure from your home country.

#### REFUNDS:

##### Medical Statement

To enroll in an Open Water Course, all students **MUST** fill in the Medical Statement. Please ensure that you have received the medical statement from your travel agent. If any questions are replied with a "Yes", the medical statement must be signed by a doctor. Failing the medical statement at the destination, and therefore not being able to enroll in the diving course, you will not be entitled to a refund.

**If you have not received your Medical Statement, please make sure to print it from this link.**

<http://blueventure.net/files/required/270.pdf>

#### Restricted dives

Diving is dictated by the environment and the people enrolled in the activity. All diving is performance based. It is up to the discretion of the dive guide/instructor to restrict divers from entering activities that goes beyond their experience level. All guides strive to reach the expectations of the customers. However, if they find that the safety of the group or an individual is jeopardized or at risk by one or several individuals, it is up to the dive guide/instructor to restrict any divers from entering the water.

In this event the dive center or Blue Venture is not obliged to give a refund.

#### Dives not completed

There is no refund for dives not carried out.

Refund for dives not done for any reason is up to the discretion of the dive center. Most dive centers do not give refunds for dives not done with personal causes such as seasickness, low on air situations or a failure in mastering the equipment etc. All log books will be checked prior to the dive and the dive sites will be chosen accordingly to the experience level. It is however expected that certified divers keep within their limits and do not cross their comfort zone. Blue Venture and your travel agent is never responsible to pay a refund for dives not done.

#### Courses not completed

There is no refund for courses not completed! All courses are performance based, but it is up to the instructor to pass the student. If a customer can not complete a course with success they will receive their course documents for an optional referral, but the contracted dive center, your travel agent and Blue Venture is not responsible to pay a refund.

## **Boats or dives not departing**

If boats or dives are cancelled due to bad weather or sea conditions, it is up to the dive center to re-schedule and compensate with a similar dive trip when conditions allow. If the customer does not have adequate time to enroll in another trip/course it is up to the customer to make sure the dive center notify Blue Venture of this in order to secure a refund via the sales agent who completed the sale with the customer. There will only be refund on the diving and not the accommodation.

## **ACCOMMODATION:**

Unless mentioned in the destination information folder the accommodation is always part of the package.

If the dive center by any means can't deliver the agreed accommodation, it is up to their discretion to supply immediate accommodation of the same or higher standard. (the destination information folder is found on the Blue Venture website.)

If the accommodation somehow does not live up to satisfactory standards of the customer, the customer must contact Blue Venture by phone or email as soon as possible (preferably while still on site) in order to solve the problem.

## **DIVE INSTRUCTORS & DIVE GUIDES:**

All contracted dive centers has been handpicked based on their level of professionalism and expertise. Blue Venture ensures that all guides and instructors have the correct education and experience. In the unlikely event that a customer suffers a bad experience with any guide, instructor or dive center facilities, Blue Venture is entitled to know, but can't by any means be held liable.

At the end of you dive experience as questionnaire will be sent out to you, that we would like you to answer. By doing this, you help securing a high level of professionalism towards all customers.

## **PADI MEDICAL STATEMENT & LOGBOOK:**

If you are about to enroll in a dive course (entry level only), you must fill out the PADI Medical Statement before you leave your home country. Please make sure your agent has provided you with the PADI Medical Statement. You can also print the medical statement from the link, further up on this page. If you need the medical statement reviewed by a doctor, you have 10 days from the date of the booking with the option of cancelling for free.

If you are already certified as a diver and about to go fundiving, you must remember your current dive certificate and your personal logbook or dive computer.