

Mantaray Island, Yasawa, Fiji Advanced Course in Mantaray Island

The diving

The waters around Mantaray Island Resort are an internationally recognized refuge for Manta Rays.

With or without these creatures present, the diving is outstanding all year round and shouldn't be missed! But, each year between May and October the waters are blessed with the elegance of the Pacific Manta Ray. So if you do have the freedom to plan, then hit their season! As many as thirteen manta rays have been recorded in front of the resort at one time. Daily snorkelling trips allow visitors to experience these magnificent creatures up close as they glide majestically through the nutrient rich channel just around the corner. This strait can't be dived, but the reefs just outside sports over 25 dive sites, and they certainly can. In these Pacific waters you will find sublime visibility and an extremely colourful marine life hanging out on healthy reefs. The house reef just in front of the beach is a perfect example of the wealth in this area.

The Advanced Course is a perfect excuse to explore more of the reefs in this area. Doing 5 dives with 5 different objectives, you will alter your diving skills, literally qualify for greater depths and raise your overall comfort level in the water.



Area name / Island name
Mantaray Island, Yasawa, Fiji

Nearest airport
Nadi airport on Viti Levu

Season
All year round
Best season for Manta Rays are May to October

Center type
SSI Dive center
Friendly and experienced
English owned

Experience level
PADI or SSI Open Water or equivalent

Minimum age for participation
12 Years

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Location

Located in the Fiji Islands premier destination, the Yasawa Islands, Mantaray Island Resort sums up the perfect Fijian holiday. Boasting idyllic white sand tropical beaches, vibrant coral reefs, a marine reserve teeming with life, fantastic cuisine, refreshing cocktails, chilled out tunes and a close affiliation with the local village, this island offers the complete Fiji Experience.

Your resort

Mantaray Island Resort is an environmentally friendly resort, from the toilet systems to the reef awareness programs. It simply ensures that you can come back to Mantaray Island over and over again and experience the same incredible atmosphere.

And as for the atmosphere, you will find a young and lively crowd with all cool activities on hand. Chill out during the day with kayaking, snorkeling, diving or the popular sun tanning. Enjoy a laugh in the evening with new friends as you try out some local Fijian dance moves or put a bet on your favourite crab in the crab races, whatever it is you're into, it is the perfect place to mix it up!

Your accommodation

Dorm room, fan and sea breeze. Don't worry, it is a cool dorm room!



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Introduction to course

The SSI Advanced Open Water course will get you even more comfortable in the water by simply completing five adventure dives under the supervision of an SSI 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 or SSI 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. (Yet)



The course in short:

Number of Dives:

2 mandatory dives (deep dive & Navigation dive)

3 Adventure dives of own choice

(Please seek advice of the instructor prior to choose dives)

Knowledge Development:

Five theoretical modules matching the 5 dives in the course

Prerequisites:

Padi or SSI Open Water diver

Materials you'll need:

Provided by the dive center on location

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

The SSI 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: Arrive and relax, start reading the chapters that apply to your course

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

Day 3: Relax & check out. Or go fun diving!

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

Please note

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



Activity starts

Every day depending on request

Activity starts from

The dive center right on the beach
The best possible reef will be chosen according to weather conditions, experience level and requests

Group Size

No Limit,
No more than 4 divers
pr. Instructor or dive master

Language

English

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Transfer information

The Yasawas is a long group of islands, all of them very different from each other. Therefore many travelers prefer to explore/experience several of these on a single trip. One clever company has provided an extended boat schedule service to take the so-called "island hoppers" back and forth between the islands. Each and every day you can catch a ferry and "jump" one, two or several islands North or South. Check with your local KILROY office for details on schedules, prices and accommodation between the islands.

You need to let the dive center know your arrival 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	
Days / Nights	3/2
Amount of dives	5
Price (incl. accommodation)	422 EUR

Supplements	
Extra 2 dives Mantaray Island (reef dives)	105 EUR
Extra night (after)	25 EUR
Extra night (before)	25 EUR
Refresher dive (added to first dive in package)	22 EUR
Upgrade - private Treehouse bure - (define nights)	39 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, bungalows 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

Diving as stated in package
All SSI course materials
All dive equipment guide or instructor
Boat when boatdiving
Accommodation as stated
Bed linen

Not included

Transfer
All meals (3 meal package can be purchased on location for 119 FJD a day)

Also available on site

Extra days of accommodation if available (the accommodation is popular)
Extra days of diving if available
Upgrading to private room if available

Continuing education

All continuing courses available on site

Cancellation

As in terms and conditions

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.

<https://blueventure.net/files/information/12.pdf>

Medical statements, specifically for courses in Cairns (Australia)

Entry level (E.g. Open Water course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/138.pdf>

Continuing education (e.g. advanced course)

<https://blueventure.net/files/required/139.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.

MEDICAL STATEMENT & LOGBOOK:

If you are about to enroll in a dive course (entry level only), you must fill out the RSTC Medical Statement before you leave your home country. Please make sure your agent has provided you with the RSTC 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.