blue venture
away to sea

Dahab, Sinai, Egypt
Camel Diving Safari - basic accommodation



The diving
North of Dahab nestled between the desert mountains and the sea is Ras Abu Galoum. To get to this remote and protected area, you need to drive for hours around the mountains OR you can take the direct and much shorter route following the coastline on the back of a camel. Pick option number 2 and you are in for a life-time experience.

Starting out by loading your camel with your tanks and gear, your heavy blanket for the nights you are to spend around the fire in the silent desert and your happy self - you will need nothing more to enjoy this special dive excursion.

Riding along the ocean with nothing around you but desert and mountains. Arriving in a tiny Bedouin village where food and tea is cooked on open fires, where dives are done by walking in where you find suitable or loading up a beaten old local truck to go up the coast to even more secluded reefs… and sleeping next to the sea in a sheltered open hut with peepholes to the stars is a short and unjustifiable sum up of what you'll live to tell. It is incredible, and so very special…

Before the trip you will have a day of diving on local dive sites in Dahab. Your Accommodation will be booked and secured for the full week.



Area name / Island name
Dahab, Sinai, Egypt

Nearest airport
Sharm El Sheikh international airport

Season
All year round

Center type
PADI 5 & AIDA Freediving Center
Home of the Camel Diving Safaris
Project Awareness Award from PADI International
Ambassadors on promoting sustainable tourism in the Sinai

Experience level
PADI Open water diver or equivalent. Local beach dives are suitable for all experience levels

Minimum age for participation
10 Years

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Location
Historically, most visitors to Dahab have been backpackers traveling independently, staying in the hostels and Bedouin camps. This has made the little fishermen town develop into an international good feel place. With its bohemian feel of hippie and Bedouin, Dahab is a beautiful mix of peace seeking travelers, creating an extraordinary atmosphere of relaxation and friendliness. Out in the desert you will be surrounded by a few Bedouin families and a whole bunch of camels. Not much else. A brilliant contrast!

Your accommodation (3 star hotel or camp)
Most things are flexible in Dahab, and that includes your accommodation! The main option is a Bedouin Camp, popular with backpackers and yogahippies since the 70s. It is very low key and basic, with proper bedouin hangout areas just steps from the beach. And it's just 150m up the beach to your dive resort, run by one of the most inspiring women in Dahab. Tanis is a Canadian woman who settled in Dahab many years ago. Her love and care for Egypt is truly inspiring and her daily presence at the camp and dive school calls for hours of interesting conversation and adds a catching calmness and charm to the whole place. You can also upgrade to sea view rooms with a swimming pool and breakfast included, right at the dive resort itself. Either way, you're in great hands with friendly people.

Your room: (When **not** on the Camel Safari**)**
Your backpacker room at Sindbad camp is simple but clean and cozy. Twin or double beds, with A/C. Upgraded rooms are right next to the dive centre in the 3-star Dahab Hotel with swimming pool and breakfast included.

Your Room : (When **on** the Camel Safari)
Basic beach huts with carpets & blankets under the stars. Or as 1 diver put it, "roughing it in the million star hotel!"

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This is only a selection of the many dive sites represented on this particular destination. The diving is dictated by the safeness of the environment.



Ras Abu Galoum Protected Area is a giant fringing reef – more than 40km of pristine coral. Sloping reef shelves gives way to vast coral gardens. Walls drop to a sandy bottom, dotted with giant pinnacles stretching up from the depths. It is one giant dive site – all you need is a decent entry & exit, on an approximate tank of air!
On the overnight safari you will tick to the southern sites at Dheyla, A'Maied and in between.

Sabah's house
Briefing over breakfast, then a short walk to a large laguna cutting into the reef table. Exit the laguna to find every colour of coral, hard & soft, on the sloping walls. Pinnacles full of glassfish & cleaner wrasse. Potato Grouper, turtles & moray eels.

Big Stone.
Sandy plateau dropping off to a huge school of Trigger Fish. Large Table corals and a great place to find Stingrays, Eagle Rays & the elusive Spanish Dancer.

The Sand Canyon at A'Maied
Also known as 'Turtle House'. An incredible canyon, with huge pinnacles and every kind of grouper, thousands of glassfish and often with a turtle sitting on top! Home to squid at night and often in the late afternoons towards sunset a school of Dolphins will swim by.

A'Maied Drift
An unassuming start with poor visibility, but this doesn't last for long. As the bottom drops away, visibility clears and huge pinnacles rise up from the deep.

The wall at A'Maied.
Current can be strong, but a bit of strong finning will take you round the point to the most incredible wall. Fly by every colour of pristine hard & soft coral on your way to the exit.

Conditions:

Visibility
10-35m

Temperature
21-29 degrees

Current
Site-dependent: beach none

Surface
Dahab is known to be breezy, but that plays to your advantage during the really hot summer months

Special marinelife
Turtles, Barracudas, Napoleon Wrasse, Eagle Rays, Ghost Pipefish, Seahorses & Dolphins

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Itinerary
We have based the dive packages in Dahab on the weekly flights from Europe. Whether you want a trip that is packed with diving, or you prefer to have your days in the water mixed with dry days on land, we recommend that you have your accommodation booked for the week.

On the day of arrival you will be shown your room and given an orientation of the dive shop. On the first day of diving you will be doing 2 local dive sites, just to get you prepared for your trip by getting your head under water again. On the Camel Safari you will be doing 2 dives a day. In some cases you might have an extra day or 2 prior to your Camel Safari, in that case we recommend that you book a day of diving at the Blue Hole & Canyon!

Dive Package 1: 1 day diving + overnight Camel Diving Safari
8 days / 7 nights – 6 dives
Start with 1 day diving Dahab to check out equipment & the local sites, then head out to Ras Abu Galoum on an overnight Camel Diving Safari. 6 nights of accommodation in Dahab plus 1 glorious night under the stars on the safari.

Dive Package 2: Camel Diving Safari to Ras Abu Galoum
8 days / 7 nights – 10 dives
Start with 1 day local diving and then spend the rest of the week on safari! 4 nights of accommodation in Dahab. 3 nights camping on safari in Bedouin style

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
Early morning for the Camel Safari!
Check with your dive center the day prior to diving

Activity starts from
The dive center

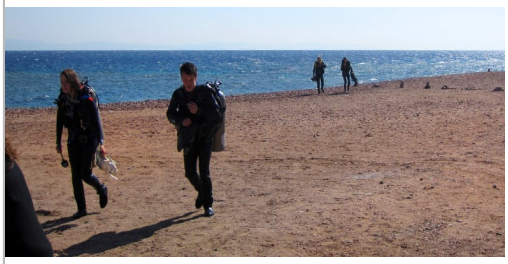
Group Size
Max. 6 divers per instructor/guide

Language
English

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Transfer Information
A return transfer from Sharm El Sheik airport is included in your package.
Upon booking, the dive center will be notified regarding your arrival date. Please make sure you contact the dive center with your flight information in order for them to arrange your pick-up accordingly.

10 days prior to your trip, you and your dive center will receive an e-mail reminder. If you have not contacted the dive center yet, this is a good time to do so!

You can find the details for the dive center on your voucher.

PLEASE NOTE - Marine Park fee:
Environmental Protection Fee: the Egyptian Red Sea is a delicate marine environment. To limit activity on key sites, and to raise money for conservation activities, you will be asked to pay a National Park fee at some dive sites. This is paid daily and subject to change, but at the moment is $10 per person per day for the Blue Hole and Ras Abu Galum.









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

CAMEL DIVING SAFARI - BASIC ACC.	
Days / Nights	8/7
Amount of dives	6
Price (incl. accommodation)	536 EUR

Supplements	
1 night camel upgrade	128 EUR
Advanced Course - Supplemental	275 EUR
Extra day of diving (2 dives)	60 EUR
Extra night in basic (after)	23 EUR
Extra night in basic (before)	23 EUR
Extra night in upgraded (after)	45 EUR
Extra night in upgraded (before)	45 EUR
Refresher dive (added 1st dive)	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, 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 the package
Accommodation as stated in the package
Tanks, Weights & Weightbelt
Return airport transfer (when accommodation is booked)
All meals included on Safari

Not included
Dive equipment (10-15 eur per day)
Daily meals
Marine Park Fee
(all meals included on the Camel Safari)

Also available on site
Continuing education
Freediving
Yoga classes
Rock Climbing
Extra days of diving

Cancellation
As in terms and conditions

Dive insurance
Basic dive travel insurance required

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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

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.