blue venture
away to sea

Cairns, North Queensland, Australia
Advanced Course on the outer barrier reef

Take your diving to the next level!
The Advanced Open Water course is the first step beyond basic or entry level certification. It will help develop your confidence and comfort ability underwater by expanding your existing skills. It also allows you to participate in dives up to 30m's in depth. This particular course is conducted in conjunction with a three day two night dive trip and gives you a total of 11 dives (9 day and 2 night dives). These dives consist of five training dives and six recreational dives... Finish your Advanced Course and jump straight in to "fundiving" on the most famous reef in the world.

The Great Barrier Reef is a Marine Park and World Heritage area. It is recognized as one of the world's most unique and amazing marine spectacles and extends for 2300 kilometers along the northeastern coast of Australia. It consists of about 2900 individual reefs and covers an area the size of the United Kingdom. Its ecosystem supports the greatest concentration of life on this planet with its resident marine life including 1,500 species of fish, 350 different kinds of coral, 4000 species of mollusks and 10,000 species of sponges. It also provides breeding areas for humpback whales, sea turtles, dugong and seabirds. Hundreds of species of algae, including seaweeds, also live on the reef as a vital part of the reef system.

Area name / Island name
Cairns, North Queensland, Australia

Nearest airport
Cairns International Airport

Season
All year round

Center type
PADI 5 Star Training and Instructor Development center
Rated as one of the top 3 dive centers in the world

Experience level
PADI Open Water diver or equivalent
Each dive site will be chosen according to experience level and weather conditions

Minimum age for participation
12 years

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Location
The Cairns region is a major destination for backpackers from around the world. As the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree rainforest, Cairns is an excellent spot for adventure travellers to base themselves. Cairns is the starting point for extended travel in the region including trips to the Daintree Rainforest and Cape York, the Atherton Tableland and Mission Beach area. As a popular tourism destination, there are a range of accommodation options and backpacker tours available in the region.

Your boat
Is one out of 3 custom built multimillion dollar liveaboard dive vessels providing the ideal way to really experience the Great Barrier Reef. These vessels are the only outer reef liveaboard dive boats in the area that are purpose built for what they do. Onboard you will find spacious dive decks and lounge areas and hearty healthy meals between diving and napping on the sundeck. Different options of Wifi are available for those who can´t wait to tell their friends about the great experience. All accommodation on board is twin share.

Your room on the boat
Air-con twin share.

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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. (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 choosing dives)
(+ 6 extra dives just for fun!)

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
On the morning of departure, you will be picked up at your hotel - free pick-ups from City Central and Northern beaches only. It is advised that you check in with the dive center the night before so you don't have to try on and pack equipment at 6 in the morning!

Day 1:
Dives 1 & 2: Two pleasure dives to give you an introduction to diving on the Great Barrier Reef. This is also a great opportunity for you to acclimatize to the diving conditions, fine tune your skills or even to refresh your skills if it has been some time since your last dive.

Dive 3 - Navigation Dive: After revising your knowledge review, your instructor will brief you on your navigation dive where you will complete some exercises using both compass and natural references to help improve your underwater navigation skills.

Dive 4 - Night Dive: Here you will be introduced to night diving on the Great Barrier Reef. You will complete a simple navigation exercise before being given a guided tour with your instructor. During your night dive you can expect to find sleeping turtles, parrot fish and a variety of other marine life only encountered at night.

Day 2 & 3:
Dive 5 - Deep Dive: During this dive we will give you the experience to safely conduct dives beyond your 18metre depth limit as an open water diver. Under the close supervision of your dive instructor you will be taken down to 30metres, where you will be tested for signs of nitrogen narcosis, shown the effects of increased pressure and colour absorption at depth.

With your 3 core dives now completed, you have 5 day-dives remaining to complete the last 2 dives of your Advanced training dives, all designed to introduce you to other interesting areas of diving which you may wish to learn more about.

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

Activity starts
English courses start every day except Sundays

Activity start from
Dive center

Group Size
No limit Max. 4 divers pr. Instructor

Language
English

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Transfer information

No accommodation on land is included in this package, and extended transfer info is therefore not available. However, traveling into town from Cairns Airport you will have a couple of options. It will cost you approximately AUD$15.00 from the Airport to Cairns city by taxi. Depending on the hotel you choose to stay in, it may offer free pickups from the Airport so please ask at the time of making your booking.

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

ADVANCED COURSE - FROM APR. 2026 TO MAR. 2027	
Days / Nights	3/2
Amount of dives	11
Price (incl. accommodation)	816 EUR

Supplements	
1 day pool refresher - (certified diver)	136 EUR
Northern Beaches Hotel Transfers (per day/per way)	17 EUR

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

Supplements
A supplement can be choosen 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 accomodation prior your course, to get settled and get up front on the studying.

Included
PADI Advanced Open Water Certification
PADI Advanced Open Water manual
2 passport photos (needed for certification)
9 dives (5 training dives and 4 pleasure dives - includes 1 night dive)
Accommodation transfers
All dive equipment (includes wetsuit, dive computer and torches)

On Board Vessel only:
All meals, water, coffee and tea
Twin share accommodation
Bed linen
Dive Insurance

Not included
All meals when not on boat
Alcoholic drinks (You are allowed to bring alcoholic drinks on the boat, but it is not advised to drink more than 2 drinks after diving).
$25 fuel surcharge - payable prior to departure at dive center in Cairns
Accommodation when not on boat

Pay On Board Fees:
$100 per person fee consisting of the Government Environmental Management Charge as well as a Port Departure Tax and administration costs

Also available on site
Please ask at location for other continuing education

Continuing education
All continuing courses available on site

Cancellation
As written 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

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.