

Marsa Shagra – Red Sea Dive Holiday

Hi Everyone,

With our Dive Holiday to the Red Sea just days away, here are some important and useful details regarding our trip. Please do take the time to read each section of this Facts Sheet. John Kinsella from Oceandivers will be group leader on the trip with a total of 11 travelling in the group. You will find a very detailed itinerary at the end of this publication with all the important times, dates and flight numbers that you will need.

Visas

Irish citizens need a visa to enter Egypt, which is available on arrival at the Airport for tourists travelling on ordinary passports, the cost is about \$25.00 per person. When landing at the airport we go to the visa on arrival window **BEFORE** getting in the queue for immigration. Here you will give them \$25 and they will give you a visa on arrival sticker. Place the sticker on a blank page in your passport and get in the immigration queue.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that everyone obtains adequate Travel Insurance before departure that specifically covers diving risk to a depth of 30 meters. There are a number of good travel insurance providers who can arrange cover online at a reasonable cost.

Currency

Euros are accepted in Egypt along with most major Credit Cards. There is an ATM facility a short distance from the Dive Base. Credit Card Payments for foreigners at all villages will be made in USD and are subject to a 3% charge.

What to bring

Cylinders and weights are supplied by the Dive Centre and there is a reasonable supply of Dive Gear rental available – let us know if you need to rent and we will send an email to reserve your items. Things to remember to pack are: Passport, money, PADI certification cards, your own dive gear, **dive computer** (compulsory), **SMB** (compulsory), sun screen, beach towel for the boat, batteries. Clothing should be light summer wear with a warm top for the evenings.

What type of Wet Suit to bring

The water temperature is expected to be about 25 degrees centigrade so we suggest either a 3mm or 5mm long sleeve onepiece suit. It's probably not necessary but if you have a separate hood bring it along as well just in case! Do bring wetsuit boots with proper soles so that you can use strap fins and also walk safely through the shallows for some snorkelling etc.

Electrical issues

The standard voltage in Marsa Shagra is 220v same as mome and the plugs are 2 pin European standard.

Tickets and Meeting Point

For those of you flying out of Dublin on the 07:35 Ryanair flight to Gatwick, go ahead and checkin as soon as you get to the airport and John Kinsella will meet you all at the departure gate (he will be carrying a Blue PADI Crew Pack wallet). There will be a few hours of waiting time in London before our flight out at 13:50 to Marsa Alam with TUI.

Flights and Transfers

The duration of the flight from London – Marsa Alam is approximately 6hrs. Once we get through Visa stamps and immigration etc. we will link up with our coach transfer to Marsa Shagra – journey time approximately 40 minutes.

Accommodation

The full group list is shown at the end of this Facts Sheet with a detailed list of the various types of accommodation that everyone will be staying in.

Dive Itinerary

The house reef has an excellent reputation with easy shore access to some fantastic reefs. The Dive Package allows for 5 days unlimited house reef diving but there are additional options for excursions to outer reef including Elphinstone if people want to – <u>see add on prices here</u>.

Meals and refreshments

Marsa Shagra's restaurant offers a wide choice of culinary delights to meet with everybody's taste and palate. A lavish open buffet is served for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The restaurant also offers alternating theme nights where guests can enjoy different cuisines every night. All of the meals, plus freshly baked cake each afternoon, are included within your package. Tea, coffee, water and bottled soft drinks are also included. Beer, wine, fresh juices, speciality teas and coffees, ice cream, chocolate and crisps are not included in the package and will be allocated to your room by name, signed for and settled at the end of the week during check out. Vegetarians and other special dietary requirements are extremely well catered for. Please do let us know in advance regarding your requirements.

Dining Times

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served in the restaurant at the following times: Breakfast 06:30h-09:30h Lunch 12:00h-14:00h Dinner 18:30h-21:30h

Returning to Dublin

The return leg of the holiday includes one overnight in the Holiday Inn Gatwick, the ungodly hour of 02:15 is the scheduled arrival time and we will use taxis to transfer everyone as smoothly as possible to the hotel to get checked in an into bed ASAP. The final flight time with Ryanair was deliberately planned for a more civilised departure time of 14:50 arriving into Dublin at 16:10 on May 24th.

Marsa Shagra Itinerary

- May-16 Dept Dub 07:35 Arr LWG 09:10 Ryanair
- May-16 Dept LGW 13:50 Arr RMF 20:25 TUI Airways
- May-16 Coach transfer to Marsa Shagra 7 Nights stay at Marsa Shagra 5 Days diving package with full board
- May-23 Coach transfer to Marsa Alam
- May-23 Dept RMF 21:25 Arr LGW 02:15
- May-24 Overnight stay Holiday Inn
- May-24 Dept LGW 14:50 Arr DUB 16:10

Groups

			Room
First Name	Last Name	Sharing	Туре
Charles	Kelly	а	Deluxe (D)
John	Duggan	а	Deluxe (D)
Vincent	Walsh	b	Deluxe (D)
Gerry	Kelly	b	Deluxe (D)
John	Kinsella	С	Royal Tent
David	Kiernan	d	Deluxe (D)
Aidan	Walsh	е	Hotel
Ailin	Nic Dhiarmada	е	Hotel
Ray	Morris	f	Hut (S)
Philip	Ryan	g	Deluxe (D)
Shaun	Kelly	g	Deluxe (D)