Thailand Aggressor

Itineraries: Andaman Sea (North) & Andaman Sea (South)

Each itinerary has a different embark/disembark location

Aggressor Adventures Reservations Office

Office Hours are Eastern Daylight Time:

Monday-Friday: 8 am – 5 pm EDT Saturday/Sunday: 9 am – 5 pm EDT

Office (USA): 800-348-2628 +1-706-993-2531 www.aggressor.com thailand@aggressor.com

Delay in travel and emergency only: Cell Phone (after hours) +1-706-664-0111

<u>Thailand Aggressor Yacht (tba)</u> Cruise Director: + (Yacht)

Updated 04/24/2024

IMPORTANT PASSPORT INFORMATION

The Thailand National Park requires each guest's passport information 14 days prior to departure to process a required diving permit. No name changes can be made less than 7 days prior to departure. Your passport information will be taken from the GIS (GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM) and sent to the yacht. Full name in GIS <u>must</u> match passport with date of birth, passport nationality and passport number. Failure to complete the GIS prior to the charter departure will result in being denied permission to board and dive on the charter start date.

The National Park requires all divers to be certified scuba divers. Therefore, the yacht is not allowed to teach open water courses onboard. Non-divers can snorkel in the parks.

ITINERARY/TRANSFERS

The Thailand Aggressor offers 2 itineraries with each departing from a different port. Transfers are complimentary on the embark/disembark dates at the following pick-up points.

<u>North Andaman Sea Itinerary</u>: Guests will be greeted and picked up at 4:00 pm from the Phuket International Airport (HKT) for transfer to Tap Lamu Pier (located one hour north of the Phuket Airport near the town of Khao Lak) and pick-up from the host hotel, Kantary Beach Hotel and Villas will be between 4-5:00 pm. If you are making your own way to the yacht, all guests must be onboard by 6 pm.

All guests will be on board by 6 pm (approx.) and the yacht will depart from the dock Saturday evening. After all the guests have arrived, we provide them with the briefing and dinner. We will return to the dock on Friday late afternoon.

<u>South Andaman Sea Itinerary</u>: Guests will be greeted and picked up at 4:00 pm from the Phuket International Airport (HKT) for transfer to Chalong Pier. Pick-up from the host hotel, Westin Siray Bay Resort and Spa will be between 6:00 – 7:00pm. Due to the Chalong Pier being a shipping port, guests are unable to make their own way through security to the yacht and must meet at one of the pick-up points.

All guests will be on board by 8 pm (approx.) and the yacht will depart from the dock around 9:00 pm Saturday evening. After all the guests have arrived, we provide them with the briefing and dinner. We will return to the dock on Friday late afternoon.

DETOURS TRAVEL DEPARTMENT

The Aggressor Detours travel department can book your airline travel, hotels, and tours while you are in Thailand. Please visit our website to learn about all the Detours options that are available to you.

WELCOME

In the event of an emergency, family and friends may contact you at the above numbers. If you need to reach the yacht, please call, or e-mail the boat. There is a satellite phone onboard for emergency communication. We recommend you pack a change of clothes, swimsuit, medication, and toiletries in your carry-on bag, in case of an unexpected luggage delay.

PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your period of stay and you must have a return airline ticket. <u>It is the travelers' responsibility to ensure they have the proper documentation to travel into each country on their itinerary and for reentry and return to their country.</u> Please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure you have the proper documentation. Always check your passport and visa requirements. US citizens may go to the US Department of State website at www.travel.state.gov for more information. The website also has information for consulates by country to assist with requirements. There are specific requirements for children leaving the US, and many countries have adopted them for child protection. Since regulations vary by country, contact your consulate or embassy of your country for the requirement. *The Reservation Office and staff cannot assume responsibility for passengers not having correct documentation*.

C-CARDS

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification. The divemaster requires proof of certification before the first dive. If you are a repeat guest, you are automatically enrolled in the *Travel the World Club* and will receive onboard discounts. Your membership is indicated on the captain's rooming list.

GIS (GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM)

The Reservations Office and the Thailand Aggressor require each guest to complete a Cruise Application and Waiver prior to departure and diving through the online GIS (Guest Information System). The GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to interactively complete all required paperwork that includes the application/waiver, special requests, and travel information. The earlier you complete your GIS the better for the staff to adequately prepare for the charter. In addition to your arrival and departure flight information, please include any lodging information if applicable. If you have not received a link to complete the online Guest Information System (GIS), please call an Aggressor Liveaboards agent. *Passengers who fail to complete it will be denied boarding*. Many Aggressor destinations require passenger information for itinerary approval.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend each guest purchase comprehensive accident, medical, baggage and trip cancellation and interruption insurance when space is reserved. Trip insurance will protect you from financial disappointment if you are prevented from making your scheduled trip due to illness, family illness or if unforeseen circumstances prevent the airline or yacht from making it. In the event you cancel your trip, be familiar with Aggressor Liveaboards cancellation policies, which can be found on www.aggressor.com. More information can be found on Dive assure or Divers Alert Network insurance on our website.

FEES & TAXES (per person)

Each guest must pay a \$95 park fee onboard at the end of the charter by Visa, MasterCard, or in cash, when diving any North or South 7-night itinerary. A 7% VAT tax for onboard services/purchases must also be paid onboard. Fees and taxes are not included in the charter rate.

HEALTH

The Thailand Aggressor has a first aid kit onboard, including oxygen and an AED. You may want to bring motion sickness medication if you feel you will need it. We suggest you bring over-the-counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets. Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. We recommend a complete physical before your trip. There is a recompression chamber in Phuket, Bangkok and Samui.

Aggressor yachts and their staff are unable to accept any medication brought onboard for safe keeping including those that require refrigeration. Should a guest have a medication requiring temperature control, they will need to travel with a travel

cooling case or small storage cooler with several blue ice packets. The staff will be happy to store and recharge the blue ice but are unable to accept possession of or responsibility for the proper care and storage of medication. This should be kept in your stateroom. There is NO smoking allowed inside the yacht or on the dive deck. Smoking is only permitted on the bow of the aggressor.

THE THAILAND AGGRESSOR

The Thailand Aggressor was built in 1977 and refurbished in 2024. She is 35m x 7m, with a top speed of 12 knots and cruising speed of 9 knots. The yacht has 220V-240V power onboard. All staterooms are air-conditioned and fitted with private bathrooms and a porthole or picture window. Breakfast (cooked to order), buffet lunch and an elegant chef prepared dinner with tableside service are served in addition to mid-afternoon snacks. Beverages (soft beverages, local beer, and wine with dinner) are complimentary while onboard. The yacht is equipped with hairdryers and bathrobes in each stateroom. Linens are changed mid-week and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. Filled tanks, weights, and weight belts are included.

FOOD

The menu onboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of Thai feasts and local cuisine. You will awaken to fresh fruits, hot entrees, cereals, and juices. Lunches are buffet-style, featuring delicious local cuisine. Dinners are served each evening and include salads, vegetables, seafood, beef, or chicken with a fresh homemade dessert. If you have any special dietary requirements, please be sure these are noted under *special dietary requests* when completing the GIS. Once onboard, please speak to the chef about any special dietary needs. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available due to the remote nature of this location.

Aggressor yachts, river cruises, signature lodges and floating resorts operate in remote locations which limits the availability of certain foods and edibles, which can be unavailable in grocery stores and markets. While our culinary teams strive to accommodate individual requests, it is important to recognize that they cannot guarantee it despite their best efforts. Guests with dietary restrictions and food allergies should be aware that the same meal is prepared for all guests, making cross contamination a possibility. Based on this, travelers should plan accordingly and bring prepackaged goods if needed. The availability of fresh produce may vary weekly, and they may have a limited selection depending on the destination and availability. The concept of "organic" is infrequent, and items like "gluten-free" products are seldom found in these remote locations.

BEVERAGES

The Aggressor's selection includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, iced tea, coffee, and a limited selection of local beer and wine (wine is served with dinner), which are complimentary. Due to the high duty charged on liquor, we suggest you bring your special brand from the U.S. Due to local regulations; the bar will be closed while the boat is in port. Drinking and diving do not mix. Once you consume alcohol, you become a sunbather until the next day.

CLOTHING

We recommend that you pack your gear in soft luggage such as a duffel bag for easy stowage and to add to your comfort in your cabin. Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear; sunscreen and swimsuits are necessary. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for evenings. The dress is always casual and informal. Additional items you may want to bring are sunglasses and walking shoes for your time on shore.

INTERNET/EMAIL

Email is available onboard through the satellite system. There is a charge for incoming and outgoing email. The yacht is in cellular range occasionally, and speed will vary based on the location of the aggressor and your cell phone carrier provider.

ENTERTAINMENT

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including diving, fish identification presentations, movies, games and more. If you have a favorite movie, digital presentation, or a video to share, we encourage you to bring it along. The staff especially loves new releases of movies, recent magazines, and books. A small library of books for exchange and fish identification books for reference is maintained onboard.

CELEBRATING A SPECIAL OCCASION

If you will be celebrating a special occasion like an anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding, or your 100th dive, please let

us know so the staff can celebrate your occasion. Kindly advise the Reservations Office prior to traveling so the staff is notified in advance.

DIVING CONDITIONS

Each of the itineraries offers remote, pristine diving with something a little different. The water temperature varies from 28 - 30C/83 -84F and air temperature 25 - 27C/78 - 89F. These unique itineraries offer diving on healthy and vibrant reefs, seamounts, sheer walls, caves, beautiful coral gardens and magnificent critter dives. A 3mm wetsuit and hood is recommended. All diving is from tenders.

DIVING

The staff of the Thailand Aggressor, with their unique combination of talents, offers the ultimate service. While onboard, you may pick a dive buddy of your choice. The yacht offers up to five dives per day (including night dives) and depends on the weather and itinerary.

The Thailand Aggressor provides 80 cubic ft. tanks with DIN/yoke adaptable valves, weight belts and weights. (100 cu ft tanks are available by request) All dives will be made from two dive tenders. Enjoy freshwater showers on the back deck after your dives and dry off with a warm towel. All diving onboard the Thailand Aggressor should be within the limits and standards of the training agency that certified you. All dives should be planned as no decompression dives.

DIVING SUPERVISION

We understand that diving is not just an activity; it's a passion for exploring our underwater world. That's why we empower you and your buddy to take charge of your diving experience. While in the water, you and your buddy are in charge. Every dive begins with a comprehensive briefing from our experienced staff, providing you with the information you need. As certified divers, you and your buddy are responsible for planning and conducting your dives while respecting the limits of your experience and those set by the briefing and your certification agency. When diving is executed directly off the yacht, at least one staff member will be in the water offering support, underwater photography and videography, and critter spotting services. On select dive sites, a staff member may assist a group in finding specific points of interest. However, we do not directly supervise dives, and guests are not required to follow the in-water staff member. In some destinations, especially those with tender diving, a staff member will accompany each tender group and be in the water to offer assistance and ensure the group stays together. However, buddy teams can operate independently. If a buddy team needs to surface early, the entire group is not required to abort the dive and follow. The buddy team should follow their training procedures for surfacing from a dive and signaling the tender driver or yacht staff that everything is OK once on the surface.

DIVE GEAR SUGGESTIONS

We suggest you pack the following: mask, fins, snorkel, regulator with pressure gauge, depth gauge, buoyancy compensator, dive computer, dive light, mirror, safety sausage, Dive Alert and/or other safety devices. Although not required, a reef hook is suggested for occasional dives. Dive computers are mandatory for each guest. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape.

CONSERVATION LAWS

Conservation laws do not permit spear fishing or collecting. Drones are allowed.

RENTAL DIVE EQUIPMENT

A full line of rental gear is available aboard including regulators, BCs, dive computers, and night-lights. Due to the numerous connecting flights and excess baggage charges to arrive at your destination, we recommend renting your dive equipment onboard. The yacht offers a full rental program onboard. DIN adaptors are available.

CERTIFICATION & SPECIALTY COURSES

Divers can further their education while onboard an Aggressor yacht. The following courses are offered onboard: SSI Adventurer Course or the PADI equivalent Advanced Open Water Diver Course, and SSI or PADI Enriched Air / Nitrox Courses. Course fees are payable once onboard and the instructor confirms the course. The training agency utilized to provide 5 your course will vary based on your instructor's affiliations. Other specialty courses may be available onboard and will be presented to you after your arrival as part of your initial briefings.

PHOTO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT

The Thailand Aggressor offers free coaching. The aggressor has a 110-volt strobe charging station and a large camera table available for your camera and video equipment. Guests should bring their own battery chargers.

UNDERWATER VIDEO

Our Video Professional can capture your diving adventure onboard the Thailand Aggressor to share with family and friends. The video for the week (including all guests and staff) is USD \$65 per person.

SHIPS BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS

There is a mini boutique onboard, which sells a small selection of logo clothing including t-shirts, caps, and other items. One day during the week, the staff will have a 'boutique day.' The Thailand Aggressor accepts cash, Visa & MasterCard. Sorry, no personal checks, Travelers Checks, Amex, or Discover Cards. Credit card payments made on board the yacht incur a 2.5% service charge. Many credit card companies are charging a conversion fee. If this happens to you, please contact your credit card company. If you would like to purchase additional boutique items after your trip, visit www.aggressor.com.

GRATUITIES

Staff gratuities are not included in the charter. We believe gratuities should be voluntary and based upon the quality of service the staff has provided. When settling your account, the captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the staff. Payment can be made by cash or credit card. Sorry no personal checks or travelers' checks.

RETURN TO PORT

The day before departure at the end of the trip, the yacht will return to the port early in the evening. Guests will not arrive back to port in time to fly out this day. A cocktail party and dinner will be held onboard the last evening of the charter.

CHECKOUT

Final disembarkation will occur the morning of the last day of the charter. Guests will be transported to the airport for a domestic flight back, to a local hotel if guests are extending their stay.

For any guest choosing to extend their stay our staff will be happy to organize tours to give you time to enjoy the land sites. All tours are at an additional charge and are highly recommended.

ADVENTURE LOGS

Each week we post the Adventure Log of the previous charter on the Aggressor Adventures website and Facebook page. Please feel free to visit www.aggressor.com and go to the logs to find information about water temperature, visibility, and recent sightings.

Wishing you a wonderful vacation. Please call our Reservations Department or email us with any questions.