

#### **DIVING PALAU**

Palau is home to over 700 species of coral (400 hard corals) and over 1300 species of fish, at last count. This is testament to the fact that the warm tropical waters of Palau (typically an agreeable 84° F/29°C) have the most diverse marine life anywhere in Micronesia.

With over 60 dive sites and 60 wrecks there is a huge variety in dive sites. Whether it be the strong currents found at Blue Corner, the beautiful hard coral gardens, the breathtaking soft corals of Big Drop-Off and Yellow Wall, or even the visually stunning Blue Holes, there are dive sites to wow any and everyone. With critters ranging from Manta Rays and sharks all the way down to Mandarin fish and nudibranchs, in Palau there is always something to look at. You will find here not just some of the world's best diving and most famous dive sites, but a huge variety of dive sites.

Palau has been written about in numerous diving magazines, and is usually, if not always rated in the "Top 3" sites in the world.



# April 2025 12th - 23rd Staying 12 days at the

## Palau Royal Resort

#### **DIVING FOR ALL SEASONS**

Just like the weather, the diving in Palau is great year around. But if you're looking for something special then look no further:

- **Manta mating** season extends from the end of December to the beginning of March. For the diver this means more reliable sightings and more Mantas
- You'll find **Grey Reef Sharks mating** through December. So expect more sharks, more action, and some interesting activities... if you get lucky!
- **Coral spawning** is known to happen four times a year. The coral spawning is linked to the lunar cycle, so for more information on spawning species and estimated dates please <u>contact us</u>. The approximate spawning periods are end of May, end of August, mid-September, and mid-February.
- Huge schools of Moorish Idols and Unicorn
  Fish get together in spawning aggregations throughout
  February and March. If you want to have a chance to
  see this, then synchronize your visit with the half moons.
- Turtles mate and lay eggs from April to July.

  Though actually seeing turtles mate is rare, the larger individuals are a lot more likely to be spotted this time of year.



## **NECO MARINE**

### PALAU'S FIRST PADI DIVE CENTER

NECO Marine is a premier 5 Star PADI Gold Palm and National Geographic dive center, founded in 1984. What began as a modest dive shop in a cargo container, with a small open boat, a few scuba tanks, and a second-hand air compressor, has grown into a renowned establishment. Proudly Palauan-owned and operated by the NECO Group of Companies, we are situated on the water at the entrance of Malakal Island in Koror. Our location is conveniently flanked by the Palau Royal Resort, The Cove Resort, Sea Passion Hotel, and Palau Vacation Hotel, and just a short distance from the West Plaza Malakal.



Our facilities feature the NECO Marina, the popular Drop Off Bar and Grill, state-of-the-art Bauer compressors, Oxygen Membranes, high-performance custom-built Yamaha speedboats, and Aqua Lung regulators and BCDs. We also boast the island's only Scuba Diving training pool. In addition to diving, we offer a range of watersports and a selection of gear from top brands such as Aqua Lung, Mobby, Omer, and Pelican in our shop.



They offer sizable vans for transports to and from the airport and from your hotel to their shop and back.

**NECO Marine's** typical dive boats all have canopies and can handle up to 8 divers. The long ladders for easy boarding the boat after a long and exciting dive. Waters are normally calm drifting through the channels that flow around the many small island taking you to your next dive spot.



#### **DIVE TRIPS**

Dive trips typically run a full day with either two or three dives, depending on your preference. Dive sites are chosen on the day by the dive guide, based on weather and tides, and may change up to the last minute, depending on live conditions, so unfortunately, dive sites can not be guaranteed in advance.

#### **DIVE PLANNING**

#### **Dive profiles**

Our dive profiles change depending on the chosen site. In general the maximum depth for a reef dive is 80ft (24m). All dives are planned as no-decompression dives and use a multi-level profile, so bottom times vary, typically from 40 to 60 minutes (and maybe more!), depending on air supply and dive site.

#### **DiveComputers**

We highly recommend that all our divers use computers. This enables you to monitor your own dive profile and will help you stay safely within your no-decompression limits.

#### The Reef Hook

The Reef or Current Hook is an incredible little invention; we use it to remain stationary at the edge of the drop-offs where the currents are strongest and the marine life is the most concentrated. Just hang back, relax and let the dive come to you. Reef hooks can be purchased from NECO Marine.



- 5. Teshio Maru
- 6. Siaes Corner
- 7. Siaes Tunnel
- 8. Ulong Channel
- 9. Ulong Island
- 10. Shark City

- 44. Fantasy Island
- 45. Cemetery Reef
- 46. Soft Coral Arch
- 47. Bichu Maru
- 64. Sandy Paradise
- 65. Ulong Wall

### **Reef Dives**

- Wreck Dives
- Cavern Dives
- Night Dives
- Nautilus Dives
- Manta Rays
- Mandarinfish
- Corners
- Channels
- Walls & Gardens





The Natural Arch is one of the nicest photo opportunities seen on the Rock Island Tour.

This formation of limestone which has been eroded over the years is a pretty impressive sight, and great for that souvenir photo of the Rock Islands.

If you are really lucky, your boat driver may stop for a short while to enable you to swim up to the rock and have your photo taken on it, or at high tide the most experienced of boat drivers will drive right through the arch, providing a thrill for all on the boat.

Sadly over the years weather and stress made the arch fall into it's self and now only the memory exist!



<u>Jellyfish Lake</u> is quite simply one of the most unique places on the planet! A huge lake filled to the top with approx. 13 million non-stinging jellies (actually they do sting, but the sting is so reduced you barely notice it). A must see for every visitor to Palau. A scenic boat ride and a 10 minute walk up and over a Rock Island, takes you back into a world that existed millions of years before ours. Bring cameras, walking shoes (sandals or dive booties) and your snorkeling gear.

Once you enter the water, please be sure to move carefully and slowly, as the jellies are extremely fragile and could get harmed by fast movements. As you swim further into the lake, you will be surrounded by millions of pulsating golden globes. These are Mastigias Jellies and have evolved over millions of years into an animal that no longer needs its predatory stinging cells.

The jellies have become farmers of an algae similar to that used by coral reefs. This algae lives inside a jelly's tissues and all the algae needs to survive is sunlight where it photosynthesises the suns rays into sugars. The jelly uses an enzyme which it gets from a nitrogen rich layer of water deeper in the lake every night to capture the energy it

needs from the algae. Hence, the daily cycle of following the sun in the day time and sinking deeper at night to 'fertilize' themselves.



## Palau's emerald sea

157 avant-garde rooms designed with comfort in mind, furnished with suitable ornaments to make your stay pleasant and perfectly situated rooms with private balconies for an astonishing view.

All guest rooms at **Palau Royal Resort**, especially located at higher floors have balconies overlooking the sea either of quiet harbor or sparkling ocean. Lower floor guest rooms feature the hotel gardens that is lush with greenery scenes and is surrounded by lots of mixed flora & fauna. Rooms are designed to accommodate variety of wishes and desires of the guests by a view or by its functionality. Lay down and stretch your legs at the most comfortable rooms of your choice, which makes Palau Royal Resort one of the best hotels in Palau, Micronesia.



Superior Garden View Room - All these rooms are located in 2nd - 4th floors, north wing of the hotel facing the harbor, where you can enjoy a quiet scenic view of the sailing yachts and cruisers. Enjoy the beautiful tree scapes and flower beds around the pond viewed from the room's balcony.

**Deluxe Harbor View Room -** These guest rooms are located on the north wing of the hotel at the 5th and 6th floor overlooking the quiet view of the harbor from the balcony. The room is exceptionally designed to meet your definition of having paradise!

#### Palau Royal Resort Room Amenities

Amenities are in all rooms unless noted otherwise.

- Air Conditioning
- Balcony/Terrace
- Coffeemaker
- Daily Maid Service
- Rooms for Non-smokers
- Telephone
- Safe (In Room)
- Cable/Satellite Television



- Television
- Internet Access (Wireless) (additional fee)
- Mini bar



## Breeze Bar

# Our laid-back beach bar features stunning ocean views and gentle sea breezes

Enjoy drinks in our open-air bar on the deck outside. Watch the gradations of sea and sky as the sun goes down. Enjoy the quiet after the veil of night descends on the island and raise your glass to the various expressions

#### **OPERATION HOURS**

5:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Last order: 11:30 p.m.)



Waves Restaurant - International cuisine of casual elegance

Waves offers all-day dining with an extensive menu. With lavish dishes made from fresh seafood, and a variety of meals including noodles, pasta, and sizzling US beefs! Waves caters to all nationalities and generation. Cakes and breads are made by the hotel's pastry chef that are particularly popular amongst both guests and locals.

 Breakfast
 06:30am - 10:00am

 AM Snack
 10:00am - 11:30am

 Lunch
 11:30am - 02:00pm

 Afternoon Tea
 02:00pm - 05:30pm

 Dinner
 05:30pm - 09:00pm

 Late Dining
 09:00pm - 10:00pm

 Last Order
 09:30pm