

Turtle Island SCUBA Diving



At about 10am, you finish a light breakfast while savoring the cool sand between your toes and the hypnotic view of the famous Blue Lagoon when Arthur, the Turtle Activities Director, announces that the SCUBA boat is ready for boarding.

Soon you find yourselves on Tavewa Island rambling up the beach to the dive shop. The friendly Fijian staff at West Side Water Sports (a PADI International Resort Association member) takes you quickly through the gear outfitting process. You're told that the water temperature in Fiji ranges from 25-30 degrees Celsius, so their 3mm wet suit is sufficient anytime of the year. You're provided full foot fins, snorkel, and mask as well as air tank and BCD jacket. You attach your own regulatory to the tank and jacket, perform a few equipment tests, and you're ready to go!

The PADI dive master, a friendly Fijian named Tommy, circles everyone up and begins explaining the day's dive plan. Today you're diving Bonzai Reef which offers a spectacular wall loaded with hard, soft and fan corals. The dive's depth ranges from 6 meters to 30 meters with an estimated bottom time of 40 minutes. Visibility is expected to be a clear 25 meters.

At the dive site, the crew anchors the Naiad dive boat securely. You gear up, and one-by-one you roll out and into the refreshing turquoise sea. Once okays are given all around, you buddy up with your partner and follow behind Tommy who leads the descent.

It's not long before you discover why Fiji is known as the soft coral capital of the world. A gentle current pulls you effortlessly along while the aquatic terrain changes from one brilliant vista of living, sprawling, color to the next. A resident Maori wrasse decides to come out and welcome you but a small reef shark seems to give him a change of heart. Who can blame him, you think, as you try and keep in check your own pulse rate.



Back home at Turtle's lunch table you nonchalantly re-tell your morning's adventure to your island friends while silently anticipating tomorrow's dive at Ethel Reef Wreck.

And you remember that Turtle made it possible for you.



Certified divers are entitled to dive free every day they are on Turtle. For beginners there is an introductory course for a minimum charge.

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TURTLE ISLAND
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FIJI

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