

TRUK LAGOON

“Lust for Rust” 2009 tour

Map



Dive Highlights

- For those of you with a wreck addiction you will truly get your fix at Truk Lagoon, with over 60 different wrecks to dive.
- Over 50% of the wrecks are predominantly shallower than 35m so you don't have to be a technical diver to enjoy Truk!
- BUT...there are also plenty of “Virginal” deeper wrecks for those up for the challenge.
- Truk is not only a wreck mecca, but also the Aquatic life and soft corals are world class too! Schooling barracuda, jacks and sharks galore. Even the hardest core wreck divers are rendered speechless with the abundance of life on the wrecks!

Quote:

“Folks, it just doesn't get any better than this. If you're serious about wrecks, this is the place.”

Bret Gilliam, Mystical Wrecks of Truk, Fathoms Magazine #1

Key facts

Water temp: average 29-31°C

Visibility: 20-30 meters

Wetsuit: 3mm

The greatest underwater museum in the world

Full recreational, technical and rebreather diver support

How many times have you said to yourself that you would love to dive Truk Lagoon???? Well, we have made this decision so much easier for you to make! We offer one of the most comprehensively organized trips available today.

What we focus on is taking the hassle out of your diving!!! We do all our diving through Blue Lagoon Dive Shop. We work extremely closely with them so that we can cater for any divers needs from photographers, serious recreational divers to technical rebreather divers wanting 3 hour run times! So if you are a diver that wants more out of your diving then you will feel right at home here.

With a max of 6 people per boat and 1 Boat per wreck, we place people very carefully on boats that will be conducive to their level of training and experience (So if you are an experienced recreational diver you wont be put onto a technical divers boat and have to wait hours for them to surface!!!! - They will have their own boat and be focusing on deeper less accessible wrecks!)

Rebreather divers have never felt so at home here!! We ship in all the consumables for you,



sorb, rebreather tanks, Hasel booster, helium you name it. (You just need to give us enough time to arrange logistics)

HISTORICAL PLACE

Truk Lagoon (Chuuk) is a very special place that has taken a cruel and ugly part of its history and turned it into something beautiful. During WWII Truk Lagoon was a centre of wartime activity. The heritage it left, buried under the sea, has become a haven for coral and fish life. It is a maze of military wrecks waiting to be explored.

Here in this special underwater world you will find every kind of military equipment that you can imagine—ships, submarines, planes, bulldozers, ammunition, cannons, tanks, jeeps, medical supplies ...you get the picture.

Near the end of WWII the US Navy unleashed the full fury of Operation Hailstone on the Japanese Imperial 4th Fleet stationed in Truk Lagoon. In the blaze of battle, 100's of thousands of tones of Japanese naval ships, tankers, cargo ships, and planes disappeared beneath the sea.

Operation Hailstone was six times more powerful than the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. If you are a wreck lover, this has created a feast of wrecks for you to explore in an area that has been declared a national monument. As you sink down the anchor line beneath the warm, 30 degree blue water, history comes to life in the eerie tranquility. The awe inspiring nature of the wrecks, and the tragedy and violence of their arrival at the bottom of the ocean, jarringly contrasts with the beauty and life that now surrounds them. In their destruction, these wrecks have found the most beautiful of graves.



www.petemesley.com

For more information please visit our website or contact the expedition leader Pete Mesley on

info@petemesley.com, or in NZ mobile 027 2782250

Dive site map



Prices TBC

14 nights twin share accommodation in a standard deluxe room, 12 days diving (including tanks and weights), return flights from London, airport transfers at Chuuk, state diving permit.

If you are coming in from other destinations please contact us for Land based pricing only. Please note that these prices may change without notice.

Optional extras:

- Extra afternoon dives - US\$50
- Food (food packages are available)
- Nitrox/Trimix available
- Breather tank hire US\$20/day
- Sorb US\$14/kg
- Oxygen US\$0.16/l
- Helium US\$0.23/l
- Manifolged twins US\$20/day

Cancellation policy applies.

Flights

There are a host of options depending where you are flying from. Cairns? London? Fly from Cairns to Guam, then onto Truk (Chuuk) with Continental Airlines. If you require flights from any destination please ask for a quote.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended. DAN insurance is Mandatory! The recompression chamber will not treat you without proof of insurance or handing over a gold card. Please ask for a quote and policy details.

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One of the best features of Truk Lagoon is the accessibility of the wrecks to all levels of diver. Truk Lagoon is a warm, sheltered harbour, relatively free of currents and with good visibility. It is ideal for novice through to experienced and tec divers. The 40-mile diameter of the lagoon acts like an enormous fish bowl filled with the world's finest wrecks. It is simply the best place for diving wrecks in the world.

A small selection of dive sites:

[San Francisco Maru](#)—lying upright at a depth of 48m to 60m, this medium sized freighter carried military equipment. Loaded with so much war material, it is often nicknamed 'the Million Dollar Wreck'. You will also find the bow gun, ship's bell, and an open safe

[Nippo Maru](#)—check out the wheelhouse for a great photo stop. This is a deeper dive and dives are limited to the bridge and deck areas.

[Nagano Maru](#)—3800 ton army transport the wreck lies upright on the seabed. Top of the bridge lies in 45m with the deck sitting in 50m, 60m to the sand

[Oite](#)— One of the deepest wrecks in Truk. A Kamikaze Class Destroyer 1500 tons. Sitting between 60-70m broken in two. This wreck has been rarely dived and boasts amazing artifacts.

[Katsurigasan Maru](#)— Cargo vessel of 2400 tons sitting in 60-70m of water, rarely dived by people so again another virginal wreck.

[Reiyo Maru](#)— Passenger-cargo vessel of 5400 tons sitting in between 50-65m of water

[Rio-De Janeiro Maru](#)— 9600 ton ocean liner. This is not a deep ship max depth 34m to 12m!! But we can have the most fun on this vessel exploring the internals. Not all these ships we will be diving will all be deep. But we will be spending extended bottom times having a really good look around!!

Accommodation

We will be staying at the Blue Lagoon Resort, literally meters walk from where we will be diving out of each day. Each room has an amazing ocean view, personal balcony and well kept grounds with fantastic beach! The resort is located on the southern end of Weno island. So accessibility to the wreck sites are literally minutes boat ride away! All rooms have air-conditioning, personal

refrigerator and ensuite bathroom and shower.

The Chuukese people are warm and friendly, greet you with a welcoming smile and are only too happy to help.



DIVER HEALTH AND SAFETY

Your health and safety and wellbeing is our biggest concern and one of the realities with third world countries is the limited supply of medical attention. Medical facilities are extremely sparse in Truk Lagoon! So what we have done is made sure that we have a highly trained medic with a full emergency field kit on all of our trips to offer emergency assistance if the need arises. There is a fantastic recompression chamber in Chuuk but we take all precautions to ensure a problem free experience in this amazing diving destination!



Your tour hosts

Pete Mesley (right)

Pete's passion for diving started in England over 17 years ago. It didn't take long for the "Lust for Rust" to imbed itself firmly in his veins. A tech instr trainer, Trimix & rebreather instr and a frequent organizer and participant in deep wreck exploration, as trip leader you are in good hands! The rest is history.

Leigh Bishop (left)

Specialising in deep shipwreck exploration and photography, Leigh is undisputedly one of the worlds leading wreck photographers. Here you will have a unique opportunity to attend photo workshops Leigh will be running during the course of the trip. He will give advice on your pictures, hands on tips and hints to help you create amazing pictures.