

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO AGGRESSOR ADVENTURES

Palau Aggressor II

Aggressor Adventures Reservations Office

Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 8 am – 5 pm EDT

Saturday/Sunday: 9 am – 5 pm EDT

Office (USA): 800-348-2628 +1-706-993-2531

palau@aggressor.com www.aggressor.com

Emergency and Delay in Travel (After Hours Only) +1-706-664-0111

Palau Aggressor II Cell: +680-775-3483

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Guests arriving prior to the charter date must make their own way to the Neco Marine dock in Malakal Harbour no later than 4:30 p.m. Airport transfers are not included in your charter price. View more information below. Taxis are limited at the airport.

AIRLINE CHECKED BAGS

Check with your airline or airlines (if traveling with more than one carrier) regarding luggage allowances, limitations, and overage fees. Some airlines have seasonal restrictions to certain destinations that may limit guests to one checked bag or a maximum weight of all checked bags and prohibit extra pieces or overweight pieces.

FEES & TAXES (per person paid onboard)

Each guest must pay a \$270 US port fee onboard by cash, Visa, or MC at the end of the week. The Palau Government has imposed a 10% VAT tax on all purchases excluding crew gratuity. Many countries that accept USD (US Dollars) cash require the bills to be in good condition. Any that have excessive wrinkles, tears, wear marks and are old-style bills are not normally accepted.

ARRIVAL

Guests arriving at the Koror (ROR) International Airport before the charter and are staying at a local hotel, should plan with their hotel to pick them up. Guests arriving on the late flight from Guam at 12:50 a.m. Monday morning will be greeted by a staff member in uniform and transfer service and transferred to the Palau Aggressor II. There are no phones or taxis at the small airport. Guests arriving prior to the charter date must make their own way to the Neco Marine dock in Malakal Harbour no later than 4:30 p.m. Sunday evening.

TRANSFERS FROM PALAU AIRPORT AND LOCAL HOTELS

Palau Airport transfers to the Yacht:

1. Airport transfers to/from the yacht are \$30 USD pp each way. Guests arriving the night of charter, the cruise director will arrange transfer with NECO Marine or taxi service. However, in both cases a uniformed crew will be with the transfer to greet them at the airport.

Hotel transfers to the Yacht:

1. Guests must make their own way to the NECO Marine dock by 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Transfers can be arranged with your local hotel or taxi service.
2. The transfer from the yacht to all hotels is Sunday at 8:00 am and the time cannot be altered.

BOARDING

Guests who are already on the island may board the yacht any time after 4:30 pm on Sunday. We request that all guests be at the NECO Marine dock by 4:30 pm on boarding day.

Please notify the Reservations Office of your arrival time and/or hotel reservation. The yachts are moored in front of NECO Marine (Malakal) Harbor in Palau. At the end of the trip, the staff will help organize transportation to the airport or hotel if you are extending your stay. Be sure to remember the suggested 24-hour no-fly rule when planning your departure.

- Airport to Yacht/Yacht to Airport - embark/disembark on charter days: \$30 per person
- Hotel located close to the Yacht - embark/disembark on charter days: \$10 per person
- Hotels not located close to the yacht - embark/disembarking on charter days: \$30 per person

SAMPLE ITINERARY

Sample Itinerary for 7 Night Itineraries:

- *Sunday* – We request that all guests be at the NECO Marine dock by 4:30 pm on boarding day. Guests arriving on the last flight from Guam will be transferred to the yacht.
- Monday at 6 a.m., the yacht will depart for the first dive. Jellyfish Lake is opened/closed at the discretion of the Department of Conservation according to the jellyfish population and without advance notification.
- *Monday-Saturday* – Diving begins Monday morning until Saturday around noon. The yacht will return to port no later than 2 p.m. with a cocktail party at 6 p.m. and dinner ashore at a local restaurant.
- *Sunday* – Check out is at 8:00 am. The staff will help organize transportation to the airport or a local hotel if you are extending your stay.

THE YACHT INCLUDES:

All staterooms are air conditioned and fitted with private toilets, showers, sinks, and hair dryers. Linens are changed upon request and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. Breakfast (cooked to order), lunch and an elegant chef prepared meal at dinner with tableside service are served in addition to fresh mid-morning and mid-afternoon snacks. Beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) are complimentary while onboard. Filled tanks, reef hooks, weights and weight belts are included.

WELCOME

It is important to notify our office of last-minute changes concerning your airline arrival and departure times or any changes in your e-mail address and telephone numbers. The Reservations Office and the yacht are in constant communication. In an emergency, family and friends may contact you at the numbers listed on the first page.

We recommend you travel with a carry-on bag with a change of clothes, bathing suit, medication, and toiletries. Having these few items with you can make an unexpected luggage delay more bearable. If your dive gear is delayed, you will be provided with free loaner equipment.

EXTENDED TRAVEL – AGGRESSOR DETOURS

We highly recommend adding an extension to your itinerary. Aggressor's Detour airline travel department specializes in extended packages. For more information, email travel@aggressor.com.

PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION

Visitors must have a current passport, adequate funds to support themselves, and a return airline ticket to travel to Palau. US citizens require a passport that must be valid for 6 months from the date of entry. It is the travelers' responsibility to ensure they have the proper documentation to travel into each country on their itinerary and for re-entry and return to their country. 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 yacht 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.

GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)

The Reservations Office and the Palau Aggressor II require each guest to complete an Application and Waiver prior to departure and diving. The GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to interactively complete all required paperwork that includes the application/waiver, special requests, and travel information. If you have not received a link to access the GIS, please contact an Aggressor agent. **Passengers who fail to complete the GIS or an application/waiver will be denied boarding.** The Palau Aggressor II requires passenger information in advance for Port Authority and/or customs clearance.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend each guest purchase a CFAR (cancel for any reason) insurance policy and LiveAboard Rider. To learn more about these policies, visit www.aggressor.com and go to 'Insurance.'

SNORKELERS

In addition to the above, each guest who is traveling as a non-diver and plans to snorkel during the week must pay a \$500 supplement (one time) for the party of snorkelers due to Palau law so a guide can accompany them while in the water.

HEALTH

The yachts have 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. The nearest recompression chamber is in Koror. This facility is fully operational and a short skiff ride from the dive sites. Air ambulance service from Guam is available, but expensive.

The yacht and their staff are unable to accept any medication brought onboard for safekeeping, 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 or responsibility for the proper care and storage of medication. This should be kept in the stateroom. **Smoking is NOT allowed inside the boat or on the dive deck.** Smoking is only permitted on the rear of the sun deck.

INTERNET/EMAIL

Limited email is available onboard through the satellite system. There is a charge for incoming and outgoing email. Private calls may be made from the yacht. Most of the time, you will have cell service and can make phone calls for part of the week using a proper SIM card. The boat's cell phone is available at up to \$5 per minute. A satellite phone is available for emergencies only. Internet during the charter is not possible. However, internet while docked is possible and the staff can assist guests with the specifics of where to go or what to do for access while in port. In addition, a crew member can take guests arriving early to the store to purchase the SIM and/or airtime cards if time allows.

FOOD

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 pre-packaged 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. The menu aboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of American feasts, barbecues, and local cuisine. If you have any special dietary requirements, please add this to your reservation through the GIS and speak to the yacht chef once onboard so he/she can adequately prepare to meet your needs. You will wake up to fresh fruits, hot entrees, cereals, and juices. Lunches feature hot soups, homemade breads, salads, and sandwiches and/or entrees. Dinners are chef prepared and served each evening and include salads, vegetables, seafood, beef, or chicken with a fresh homemade dessert.

BEVERAGES

The beverage selection includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, iced tea, coffee, and a limited selection of local beer and wine, which are complimentary. Due to the high duty charge on liquor, we suggest you bring your favorite brand. Drinking and diving do not mix. Once you consume alcohol, you become a snorkeler until the next day.

CLOTHING

Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear 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 coral safe sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, and walking shoes for your time on shore.

GREEN THE FLEET & NEW PALAU LAW

Contribute to our Green the Fleet sustainability initiatives. Here are a few reminders:

- Avoid traveling with single-use plastics.
- Remove packaging from any new purchases before traveling.
- Travel with a refillable water bottle for hydration.
- Use rechargeable batteries.
- Use an environmentally safe (i.e.: "Reef Safe") sunscreen.
- Conserve and responsibly use fresh water when at your adventure destination.
- Be environmentally conscious in everything you do.

Some sunscreen ingredients are not safe for corals; these include oxybenzone, octinoxate, octocrylene, 4MBC, or butylparaben. Research indicates that these chemicals can cause DNA damage to corals, promote viruses in corals, and contribute to the bleaching of corals. So that you can help protect our reefs, and because Palau has legally banned chemical sunscreens, we recommend you pack sunscreen that is "coral safe."

ENTERTAINMENT

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including diving, fish identification presentations, movies, games and more. If you have a favorite movie, digital slide show, 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.

Whether it is your anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding, or you are celebrating a 100th dive, please let us know so the staff can celebrate your occasion. Kindly advise the US office prior to traveling so the staff is notified in advance.

DIVING CONDITIONS

You will be diving in water that averages 70-85°F. Most guests make as many as 3-4 dives each day, so some sort of protection is needed. A 3mm wetsuit should be comfortable and adequate. Due to swift currents in Palau, we suggest divers bring safety items such as a Dive Alert, Safety Sausage, Lifeline, and any other safety items you feel necessary. We also recommend you bring a dive computer, which is mandatory, and a DIN adaptor if needed. Limited DIN adaptors are available. Most diving in Palau is drift diving so guests should be comfortable with a current.

DIVING

The staff of the Palau Aggressor II, with their unique combination of talents, offers the ultimate in service. While onboard you may pick a buddy of your choice. There is ample storage space for your diving equipment in your personal locker. They provide 80 cubic foot tanks, weight belts, and weights. Standard tanks in use have K-valves (American type). Limited DIN valves are available and should be requested in advance.

All dives are made from the 35' custom built high speed outboard skiff capable of carrying 18 guests for quick access to even the most remote dive sites. The boarding ladder was designed for convenience to allow divers easy exits and entries. The tender will return to the mother ship after each dive. Each diver has his/her own tank rack, locker, and spacious seating area. There is little diving from the mother ship but by utilizing the custom dive skiff for these short runs, guests will still be near Palau's finest diving. Skiff diving has proven itself in this location. In between dives, you may snorkel, explore secluded beaches, or just relax with a cold drink and mid-morning snack. Guests may dive up to 4-5 dives per day and there is night diving on 3 nights of the charter, conditions permitting.

We suggest you pack the following: mask, fins, snorkel, regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer, buoyancy compensator, and night diving light. Strongly recommended: Spare mask, a dive watch, dive light,

safety sausage, whistle, mirror and/or other safety devices. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape. Please see our “Adventure Logs” on our website for current diving conditions.

Lifelines are recommended and are available for rent for \$25 per unit per week. Dive alerts and safety sausages are required and are available for use at no charge.

DIVING SUPERVISION

We understand that diving is not just an activity; it is a passion for exploring our underwater world. That is 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 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 signalling the tender driver or yacht staff that everything is OK once on the surface.

CONSERVATION LAWS

The yacht does not permit spear guns or Hawaiian slings on board. Diving gloves are illegal to wear while diving in Palau.

RENTAL DIVE EQUIPMENT

A full line of **Aqua Lung** rental gear is available aboard including regulators, BCs, dive computers, and night lights. If any of your dive equipment fails while onboard, the staff will loan you equipment free of charge, compliments of **Aqua Lung**. If your luggage is delayed or lost, you will be provided with a loaner set of equipment based on availability.

CERTIFICATION & SPECIALTY COURSES

Further your 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 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 Palau Aggressor II offers free underwater photography coaching. They have a strobe charging station and a large camera table available for your camera and video equipment. The Video Professional can capture your diving adventure to share with family and friends. The video for the week (which includes all guests and staff) is \$65 US.

SHIPS BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS

There is a mini boutique onboard with assorted t-shirts, and miscellaneous items. The Palau Aggressor II accepts cash, Visa, and MasterCard. Sorry, no personal checks, travelers checks or Discover cards are accepted. There is a 10% VAT (Value Added Tax) tax on all onboard purchases that is imposed by the Palau Government. After returning home if you still want boutique items, please visit the Aggressor online boutique at 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 on Saturday, the Captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the staff. Payment can be made by cash, or MC/Visa (AMEX, personal checks and travelers checks not accepted).

SATURDAY

After breakfast guests will do a morning dive. The yacht will then return to port to provision and refuel for the following week. Following lunch, guests may stroll through town, shop, sightsee or visit the Museum. The captain will host a

cocktail party Saturday evening at 6:00 pm. The staff will recommend local restaurants and arrange transportation to the restaurant of your choice for dinner Saturday night.

CHECKOUT

Checkout time is at 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning. If you are traveling on the 1:35 a.m. Monday morning flight, you may consider booking a moderately priced room at the West Plaza. If you are extending your stay or travelling on Monday morning, the staff will help arrange transportation to your hotel.

ADVENTURE LOGS

Each week we post the Adventure Logs of the previous charter. Please feel free to visit www.aggressor.com and go to the log to find out water temperature, visibility, and sightings.

TRAVEL IN PALAU

- Palau's water is not potable; visitors should drink bottled water. Distilled water is available in most supermarkets. Check with your local health authority for the latest information.
- Electrical outlets onboard are standard US 110 volt. U.S. currency and most major credit cards such as Visa, and MasterCard are accepted at most hotels, restaurants, and stores.