

# NAI'A FIJI SCUBA DIVING EXPEDITIONS



## TRAVEL & RENDEZVOUS INFORMATION

**PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THIS INFORMATION. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE LET US KNOW.**

## TRAVEL PREPARATION

- COVID-19 Updates: Fiji has zero travel restrictions but depending on your country's entry requirements, you may need to record a negative test result to return home. Please go to <https://www.fiji.travel/faq> for details.
- Re-confirm your flights 72-hours prior to departure and double check flight times and numbers. The airlines will have their own requirements and you will be notified via email about what is needed.
- Check-in four hours prior to your flight. International airport security can be slow and online check-in is not always possible. You may be denied boarding if checking in less than one hour before departure.
- Pack carefully to avoid excess baggage fees, which are very costly and constantly in flux. Check with your carrier(s) for the latest baggage rules.
- Fiji Airways offers a special Dive Package: \$75 USD rate each way (LAXNAN/NANLAX and HNLNAN/NANHNL) for a 2nd bag up to 50lb. This has to be pre-paid at least two weeks prior to departure through our office. If you wish to take this offer, please email us at [explore@naia.com.fj](mailto:explore@naia.com.fj) more than two weeks before departure. Please be advised that this offer is only valid to those who booked exclusively with NAI'A and Fiji Airways. The office team will advise if you qualify for the dive package.
- Lost/delayed luggage problems are usually avoided by personally checking in bags with the carrier taking you to Fiji. If you are connecting from another airline before a Fiji flight, collect your bags from that original flight and check them in again prior to your Fiji departure.

## ARRIVAL IN NADI

- To clear customs and immigration in Fiji you must show your passport valid for 6 months and return ticket. Citizens of most countries do not require a visa to enter Fiji. Please check with your travel agent or let us know so we can tell you if you need a visa or not.
- Before departing the airport, change some money at the bank or ATM in the international terminal.

## TRANSFER TO NAI'A

- Your cruise aboard NAI'A begins at the Lautoka Wharf at 2:00 pm on Saturday. We will provide transport from Nadi-area hotels at about 1:00pm.
- If you plan to arrive in Fiji one or more days prior to the charter, you should book Friday night in a Nadi hotel or arrive at the Nadi airport from the outer islands the day before your charter starts.
- If you arrive in Fiji on Saturday morning, you will probably want to book a day room in Nadi in which to rest until pick-up time at about 1:00pm. Please make sure to notify our office of your pick-up location well in advance.

- Once onboard you will receive an orientation while your luggage is taken to your stateroom. Divers will set up their gear right away in preparation for a checkout dive the first afternoon. After setting up your dive gear, light snacks will be served as we make our way to the dive site.

## VOYAGING

- NAI'A's precise itinerary is weather dependent, however the first location will provide ideal checkout dive conditions – close to Lautoka, relatively shallow and calm.
- There is an additional charge for Nitrox (enriched air) of \$150 per week or \$210 per 10-day trip, with a \$30 reduction when taking the Nitrox certification course on board.
- We offer a range of PADI scuba diving courses on board including Nitrox, Rescue and many Specialty Courses. Please enquire in advance if you are interested, as our instructors need to pre-order the necessary materials before your charter.
- Diving in Fiji can be challenging due to strong currents and deep drop-offs. If you have not been diving in a while or have difficulty maintaining good neutral buoyancy, we suggest taking a refresher course before your trip. You will enjoy the diving more, take better pictures and, of course, avoid damaging Fiji's precious coral reefs.
- The ship is equipped with cell phones that work in most areas during the charter. Guests can be contacted onboard at +679-779-7789 and [atsea@naia.com.fj](mailto:atsea@naia.com.fj)
- We have limited WiFi available onboard and you are encouraged to purchase Fiji sim cards at the airport so you can be connected while onboard. To have the best coverage in most places we suggest you purchase both Vodafone and Digicel sim cards. Both offer tourist packages with calls and data.

## WHAT TO BRING

- Weather conditions vary widely throughout the year and from year to year. We strongly recommend you visit our [water temperature graph](#) for up-to-date information.
- If you get cold easily, plan on bringing extra layers. We offer 4-5 dives a day, which can quickly cool your core temperature. Warm divers stay under longer and manage more dives per day so don't skimp on protection.
- We require all divers to carry dive computers. If you do not have one, you can rent one onboard. If you bring your own, please be sure to read and understand the manual before your trip and bring the manual with you. Remember that your dive computer is a lifesaving device.
- Don't forget your diving and nitrox certification cards.
- Pack a warm sweater and pants – life at sea is cooler than in shore-based resorts, especially after multiple dives each day. We want you to enjoy the starry night sky and the fresh air!
- If you are prone to ear infections or swimmers' ear, bring a small spray or dropper bottle containing a mixture of two parts medical grade alcohol to one part vinegar. Spray or drop this into your ears

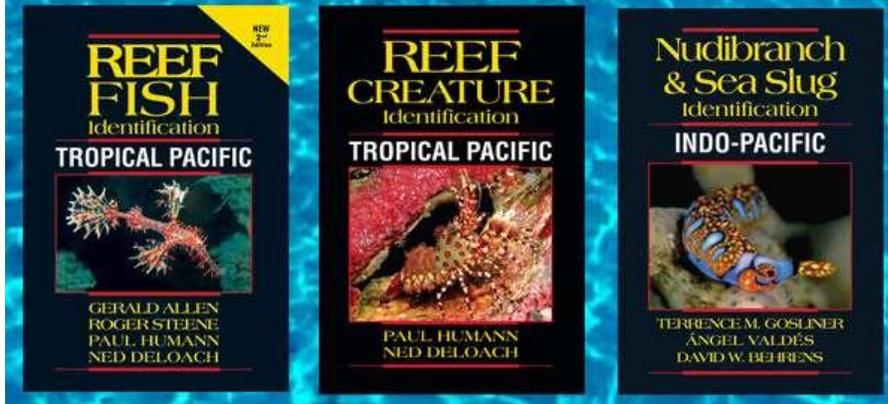
following every dive and snorkel.

- We cannot offer laundry services for guests, so please bring enough clothes or laundry soap to wash clothes in your sink.
- Photographers will find that a wide-angle lens for Fiji's famous soft coral reefs is a must, but you will also find plenty of fish and tiny critters to warrant a macro lens.
- Bring a laptop so you can review, store and share your photos during the trip. We have a large TV in the salon for showing photos and videos via HDMI.
- While we offer a selection of wine, beer and spirits onboard, we cannot promise every type of alcoholic beverage. If there is a certain type of beverage that you want onboard, we encourage you to bring it from home or duty free.
- Save some weight! We have lovely locally made Pure Fiji shampoo, cream rinse, shower gel and body lotion for your use while on-board.
- Please limit plastic waste! Bring your own water bottle to refill from our onboard carbon filter.
- Feel free to bring your choice of music, books or videos for your entertainment. NAI'A has a limited collection of paperback books and a very large collection of eBooks, music, and movies that you are welcome to use.
- All cabins, the salon and camera room are equipped with US (110V) and Australian (240V) Standard electrical outlets. If your devices are of another type, you should bring your own power adapters.
- Our crew would greatly appreciate current news, nature, science, or other magazines, as they are hard to come by here.

## **FISH AND CREATURE IDENTIFICATION**

- Mark Rosenstein has been studying reef fish for twenty five years. His first charter aboard NAI'A was in 2004 and he has returned, on average, once a year ever since. FIJI REEF FISH is the first field guide to show every form of every fish likely to be encountered by scuba divers and snorkelers in Fiji. It includes 866 species from 92 families with over 1200 photos, most of which were taken off NAI'A. Fishes are presented in taxonomic order with a comprehensive index cross-referencing scientific and common names. Available to order online through [www.fijireeffish.com/book/](http://www.fijireeffish.com/book/).
- The authors of the [REEF FISH ID](#) series, Paul Humann and Ned Deloach, have been aboard many times and their excellent books include virtually all the cool critters you will see diving with NAI'A. Nine books, including the three books that cover the tropical Pacific, are now available as eBooks that you can purchase directly by clicking the banner below. Why not load them on your iPad to study before the charter and consult after each dive?

## Enhance your Nai'a vacation with PDF ebooks



### VILLAGE VISIT

- During your cruise we will visit a Fijian village on a remote island. Attire should be modest with both women and men covering shoulders and knees. NAI'A provides "sulus" for such visits. If you would like to bring a donation to the village, we would suggest the following:
  - Sports Equipment: soccer, rugby, football or tennis balls
  - Clothing: second-hand clothing for adults and children
  - Household Supplies: sewing kits, guitar strings, solar powered flashlights, lanterns and radios
  - Toiletries: soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, talcum or zinc oxide powder
  - What NOT to bring: candy/sweets, fragile plastic and rubber items or toys, excessive packaging and electrical items

### ONBOARD PURCHASES

- We carry a wide variety of NAI'A souvenirs onboard, including t-shirts, shorts, hats, sweatshirts, fleeces, rash guards and beautiful handmade jewelry.
- We carry a full range of quality AquaLung dive equipment and Suunto dive computers onboard for rent. Please inform our office as soon as possible if you need anything so we can be sure to have the correct size available for your trip.
- Please note that we have a variable fuel surcharge that is dependent on the current price of oil. We will let you know 3 months before your charter if the surcharge will be necessary. If so, this will be added to your onboard bill.
- For purchases made while onboard, we accept US dollars, Fijian dollars, Visa, MasterCard and American Express. Please be aware that there is an additional charge of 2.5% on Visa and MasterCard and 3% for American Express.

- There are no handicrafts for sale in the villages we visit, but you may find time to go to the market before or after your trip. For purchases of anything on land, the currency used in Fiji is the Fiji dollar. This may be exchanged at the airport and in towns, plus withdrawn from ATMs. Please note that handicraft merchants, taxi drivers, etc. do not accept credit cards. Check [xe.com](http://xe.com) for the most up to date exchange rate.

## **DISEMBARKING & DEPARTURE**

- Departure flight details, hotel room bookings and onward travel arrangements should all be made prior to the trip. The Cruise Directors will confirm this during the trip via email or phone to our office.
- Please note that we can administer a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) upon departure if it is required by your home country. The Fiji Government has agreed that CFC certified hotels/ships can administer these tests, so this can be done onboard for US\$15.00 before you depart. For those who require a PCR Test the cost is US\$120.00 (subject to change) and you will need to spend an additional two nights in Fiji. If necessary, we will make the arrangements for the PCR test to be done as soon as you depart the ship.
- On the day the charter ends, continental breakfast will be available before we bid you farewell at 8am. Air-conditioned vehicles will transfer you to your hotel in Nadi or to the airport.
- If your flight home departs in the evening, we recommend you book a day room where you can store your luggage while you tour for the day and relax and shower before the flight.
- The departure tax for Fiji is already included in the ticket you have purchased to enter the country.
- After you return home, our Cruise Directors will send you the dive log, guest & crew photos, contact information and a link to our blog so you can remember your wonderful trip!
- Please let us know if we can provide any further information. Vinaka!