

# Malibu Divers - Trip Packing List

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q What if I forget my “C”-card?**

A PADI Dive Centers and Resorts are able to call an automated system called DiveChek to verify PADI certification. **JUST PACK IT NOW AND PUT IT IN YOUR WALLET/PURSE!**

**Q Do I need a wet suit?**

This depends on the destination. In some places, the water is so warm that a wet suit is not necessary and in others, it may be desirable to have a one. Skins or lycra suits are a good idea even in warm water to prevent abrasions and sunburn. Make sure yours still fits comfortably; they have a way of shrinking!

**Q What if it rains?**

A Diving is usually not adversely affected when it rains. Once divers are under the water, they can't even tell it's raining! However, if an area is subject to run-off, several days of heavy rain may make dive conditions unfavorable.

**Q Do I need a passport or vaccine?**

A Yes, you will need a current passport – check your expiration date for the entire time you are gone! Nothing is worse than showing up to leave and they won't let you board because your passport is expired. NO vaccines are necessary but regular routine vaccines are recommended. Please contact the tourist board of the country you are visiting for the most current information. Please note that some medications do not mix well with diving. Make sure you tell your doctor you are going on a dive vacation in case a different vaccine or medication is more desirable.

**Q Can I dive the day I arrive?**

A Usually, most locations there is unlimited shore diving or late afternoon boats.

**Q What if I decide I don't want to dive? Can I get a refund?**

A This depends on the situation. If there is a medical problem and the dive operator is notified in advance, a refund is usually granted (this is solely at the dive center's or resort's discretion). If you decide to skip a dive and don't show up, you will not receive a refund. (Please note that policies vary from resort to resort.)

**Q Does my HMO or regular health insurance cover diver evacuation?**

A More than likely not, but check with your insurance company. We STRONGLY recommend DAN Insurance. Diver evacuation can be very expensive. The cost depends on how far you must travel to get to the nearest chamber facility, and where in the world you are. If you do not have Dive Accident Insurance, some chambers only accept cash up front. PADI or DAN offers an insurance policy specifically designed for this situation. Ask for us details.

**Q Can I dive the day I am scheduled to fly home?**

A You should wait 24 hours after a dive before flying. (Please refer to current Flying After Diving recommendations.) The best idea would be to not dive the last day.

**Q How deep can I dive?**

A PADI training standards indicate the maximum depth for recreational diving is 130 feet, but certain areas may have their own depth limits. Always dive within the range of your training or get the training before your trip.

**Q Are dive gratuities part of the dive package?**

A Most packages do not include tips for the dive staff. If you are happy with the service you receive, a good rule of thumb for tipping is 10-15 percent of the dive costs; We will make a recommendation if you are interested per diver for the entire trip. If you receive special attention or require additional services you will want to tip accordingly.

**Q What is a dedicated dive resort?**

A This is a resort that caters specifically to divers. These resorts offer full service dive amenities and usually offer more than two boat dives daily and/or shore dives, along with accommodations specifically for divers.

**Q What if I have a medical condition?**

Divers typically must complete a liability release and medical form prior to participating in dive activities. If you are on new medication or have any new medical conditions that may prohibit you from diving, please consult with your physician before your trip and have him complete and sign a medical form. Some resorts and dive centers have special facilities for divers with disabilities. Please let us know in advance of any pre-existing conditions or problems that may arise.

**Q Do I need to have my own equipment?**

A Most dive packages include tanks and weights; other equipment is usually available for rent at the dive resort for an additional cost. Most active divers prefer to travel with their own equipment so they are familiar with their gear and know it fits and operates properly. **Come to Malibu Divers with all of your questions or an assessment of gear.**

# Malibu Divers - Trip Packing List

TRIP Contact Information goes here

Name of Destination

Address, Country

Phone number, Fax

Email and website

## PACKING LIST – PERSONAL CARRY ON BAG

**Plane Tickets** / Travel Vouchers)

**Passport** or Original Birth Certificate (as required)

Phone/Address Book

**Certification Card** and Logbook

Money / Credit Cards / Travelers Checks

Diver Protection Insurance Card

All medications (prescriptions-glasses/prescript. mask)

One Complete Change of Clothes

One Swimsuit

Neck Pillow / Ear Plugs / Headphones / Eyeshades

Books / Cards / Games / iPod / Magazines / DVD/ CPU

Overnight Kit (basic toiletries)

Camera / Film

Snack food / WetOnes /Tissues

Listerine Pocket Pack or other breath mints

No Jet Lag pills

**3-1-1; All 3 oz liquids in one (1) quart ziplock bag**

## CHECKED BAGGAGE – Personal Items

Appropriate Clothing for Destination

Jacket / Sweater

Swimsuits

T-shirts and Shorts

Travel Alarm Clock

Insect Repellant \*\*Very important in some locales

Sunscreen / Chapstick

Sudafed / Sea Sickness Medication / Vitamins

Plastic Garbage Bag (for wet gear) /Laundry Bag

Sunglasses

Brimmed Hat / Hair ties / Bandana

Sandals / Other Footwear

Cosmetics / Shave Kit / Nail Kit

Moisturizer / Aloe for sunburn

SwimEar

Toothbrush / Toothpaste

Mini First Aid Kit / Sewing Kit

Flashlight

Snacks / Food

Photo copy credit cards, drivers license, passport

Leave itinerary & emergency contact information  
with family/friend

Confirm expected departure meeting place & time

## OPTIONAL – Dependent on Luggage Space

Beach Towel (resort provides them)

Mini Blow Dryer (resort provides one)

Reef Fish / Coral ID / Travel Books

Portable Travel Iron

Pocket Knife (in checked baggage only!)

Travel Organizer / Journal

Binoculars

Umbrella / Rain gear

## PACKING LIST – DIVE GEAR BASIC SCUBA BAG

Mask / Fins / Snorkel / Mask Defog

Regulator system

Dive Computer (check out our *new Suunto Cobra 2!*)

Buoyancy Compensating Device

Dive Booties & Beach walkers

Wet Suit / Dive Skin

Hood or Beanie

Gloves

Dive Watch / Compass

Gear Bag / Pelican Box / Dry Bag for Personal items

Mesh Gear Bag (highly recommended)

**Whistle / Safety Sausage / DiveAlert** (highly recommended)

Mark your gear before you leave!

Have Dive Equipment tuned up & replace computer batteries!

## OPTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

Combination Lock (for dive bag/box; TSA approved)

Dive Knife (in checked baggage only!)

Weight Belt (NO weights)

Slate with Pencil

Diving Light with Extra Batteries

Spare Air

## SPARE PARTS KIT – Highly Recommended

Mask Strap

Fin Strap

Snorkel Keeper

Mouthpiece

Port Plugs

Scuba Tool

Silicone Grease

Extra Bulbs / Batteries

Tie Wraps & Snipes

O-ring Kit

Clips / Lanyards

## PHOTO / VIDEO EQUIPMENT

Camera / Lenses / Strobe(s)

Extension Tubes

Lots of 35mm film (15 total dives) OR GO DIGITAL!

**See Carter for SPECIAL on SEALIFE Digital Camera**

**Package for sale or rental**

Lots of Batteries / Battery Charger(s)

Adapters / Power strip

Voltage Meter

O-ring Grease

Lens Tissue / Fluid

Viewfinders

Spare O-rings

Video Camera, Video Housing, Videotapes

RF cord

Q-tips