

Shark diving aboard the vessel “DOLPHIN DREAM”

Is best described as **cage-less** free style shark diving, meaning we don't prescribe any rules or requirements to the participants **nor do we take any responsibility** for what happens during a shark dive. We do have suggestions for you that could reduce your risk and danger levels. Every participant will be required to sign a release of liability contract when boarding the vessel. The sharks that are encountered during these dives include Reef, Lemon, Hammerhead, **Tiger sharks** and maybe others. The sharks are 1 meter to 5 meters long and some are considered man-eaters. There can be numerous Lemon sharks, Reef Sharks and more than a few Tiger Sharks. All of them have sharp teeth, are **wild animals that can be unpredictable, and can bite**.

The risk associated with this type of shark diving is subjective and impossible to quantify but should be **considered dangerous..** This **risk is to be understood and accepted by all participants**. Most of the participants return from the diving with smiles and comments like, wow, amazing, terrific, thrilling and more. but narrowly avoided accidents do occur. Occasionally the Tiger sharks do bite or bump, fins, feet and cameras, they attempt to bite legs and other body parts. The Tigers do sneak up from behind people, you need to **maintain eye contact** with them and do not back up. Be prepared to turn around to keep constant eye contact with the Tigers. Be prepared to keep your position and maybe even **push them away**. Every person can change the risk associated with shark diving by being **aware of the sharks and the situation**. The closer you are to the bait the more dangerous it is, the more you look at your cameras the more dangerous it is, etc. If you feel uncomfortable or that it's too dangerous then remove your self from the situation, calmly and slowly return to the boat, but never swim away from a Tiger in close proximity. Tigers are attracted to swimming on the surface, limit your surface swims and always be looking down and behind you, turn around and face a Tiger to back them away.

We provide transportation and accommodations, we provide the bait to attract and feed the sharks, but we do not accept any liability for what happens in the water, whether we put the bait in the water or not. There may be an employee diving during the shark dives, but they are **off-duty while diving and are not acting as dive masters, guides or company representatives, they may be making it more dangerous by hand feeding..** The employees or the company are **not responsible for any protection or rescue** during the dives. Some group leaders / tour guides may be diving and are not required to act in any certain way and may be making it more dangerous by hand feeding, the company is not responsible for their actions or there affects. **Participants will be responsible for their own safety during shark dives.**

The shark dives start by putting crates of bait (fish. chunks, blood, etc.) in the water. Dives are usually with the group but some divers get in and out of the water whenever they want, within bottom time limits and air fill times. When some one takes bait down during a dive a more structured group should apply, you may join a semi circle with the rest of the group around the bait crate. During the dives there will be bait thrown into the water from the surface and some people hand feed the sharks while diving. During the dive the surface of the water behind the boat may have numerous sharks around feeding on fish chunks. Underwater the sharks can be feeding on fish chunks. Participants will be responsible for their own safety during these dives.

The diving area is a **minimum of two hours away from a hospital** by way of helicopter evacuation if available. If an accident occurs dive buddies and the whole group needs to work together to bring the victim back to the boat. Once onboard the crew will administer first aid, but we are **not trained medical professionals and have limited medical supplies**. The rest of the group needs to help by doing what the crew request of them.

I have read, understand and accept all the above, and am voluntarily participating in this shark diving, and will not dive or terminate a dive if I feel it is too dangerous.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Shark Diving suggestions:

1. Wear dark colored equipment and suits. Wear full wet suits with hoods and gloves, cover most skin.
2. Always keep your eyes on the sharks particularly the Tiger Sharks. Help others by keeping your eyes on your buddy and the rest of the group. Pay attention to the sharks not your cameras. Tiger Sharks like to be approached from behind and do not recognize eye contact.
3. Have a large camera or carry a stick with you to push off any sharks that get too close.
4. The closer you are to any bait the higher your risk goes up. Do not handle any of the bait.
5. If the sharks get too excited or you feel uncomfortable return to the boat, if you can't surface tuck up under the boat.
6. Do not swim on the surface. When you jump in go down as soon as possible. When returning to the boat, swim close to the bottom till at the back of the boat. Look up before surfacing, if there are too many sharks wait till they dissipate before surfacing.
7. Beware of the current and do not drift too far away from the boat.
8. Follow all other standard safe diving procedures.
9. Understand the risk and accept the risk as your own responsibility.
10. Be experienced and comfortable divers and have dive insurance.
11. Be aware of the sharks, surroundings and situations and pay attention.

Acceptance of Risk and Release of Liability

This represents a contract between the shark diving participants and heirs and the MV Dolphin Dream, The Dream Team Inc. its owners, officers, employees and anybody else affiliated with The Dream Team inc., here by all referred to as the Dream Team.

I hereby release the Dream Team from any liability what so ever arising from any emergency treatment, emergency evacuation, or any type of rescue.

I understand that diving with sharks has additional, potentially dangerous hazards and involves the risk of serious injury and/or death and/or property damage. I willingly plan to participate in this activity, knowing and understanding these risks.

I hereby release, waive and agree not to sue The Dream Team, the vessel/dive operators, divemasters, captains, and their employees and agents, from all liability to myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin for any and all loss or damage, and any other claim or demands therefore on account of injury to my person or property or resulting in my death, now and forever, arising out of or related to participation in shark diving activities, whether caused by the negligence of the releases or otherwise.

I hereby assume full responsibility for any risk of bodily injury, death, or property damage, now and forever, arising out of or related to participation in this shark diving activity whether foreseen or unforeseen and whether caused by negligence of the releases or otherwise, I hereby separately agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless the releases from any loss, liability, damage, or cost that they may incur, now and forever, arising out of or related to participation in this shark diving activity.

Print full name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness name _____ Signature _____