

### Welcome to Egypt and Red Sea Blue Force 2!

Thank you for trusting Blue Force Fleet with the organization of your diving vacations. We would love for you to have an excellent cruise and, for that to be the case; the entire Red Sea Blue Force 2 team is at your disposal for whatever you need.

We would appreciate it if you would carefully read this document, which will help you to resolve any possible doubts that may arise during your day-to-day activities on board.

### Arrival at Red Sea Blue Force 2










Once on the boat, and depending on the arrival time of all the passengers, the cruise director will distribute the cabins and subsequently make a general presentation of the boat, the staff, safety regulations, services onboard, meal times, rules of coexistence, and details of day-to-day onboard, as well as the compilation of the necessary documentation and collection of fees.

The previously reserved rental diving material will be delivered as soon as the documentation and collection procedures have been completed.





### Included and not included

It is important to remember what is or is not included in the price of the cruise, which we summarize below:






#### The following is included in the price of the cruise:

-  Stay 7 nights (Saturday to Saturday) aboard the Red Sea Blue Force 2 in the type of cabin chosen in double accommodation to share.
-  3 daily meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) plus something to snack on between meals such as cookies, biscuits, fruit...
-  Hot and cold water, coffee, and tea.
-  Daily diving plan (for certified divers) based on the itinerary, the necessary navigation of the route, and the schedule that the flights allow.
-  Diving guides on each dive.
-  S80 single tap tank, INT/DIN outlet, air, weights, and dive guide.
-  1 hotel night in Sharm El Sheikh in a double room to share and half board (dinner and breakfast, drinks not included) only in the case of the "Extended North" Route (not included in the North Route).
-  Transfers airport – boat/boat – hotel (on the Extended North route/hotel – airport).
-  Basic travel, diving, and cancellation insurance (up to €1,500) (See insurance conditions at [www.blueforcefleet.com](http://www.blueforcefleet.com) ).

#### The following is NOT included in the price of the cruise:

-  International and domestic Flights
-  Visa
-  Local, diving, port, and any environmental taxes and fees: €70 per person per week (payment upon arrival onboard).
-  Service fees: €70 per person per week (payable upon arrival onboard).

**OPTIONAL:**

-  Alcoholic beverages and soft drinks on board.
-  NITROX: €50 / week (for certified divers only).
-  Rental of diving equipment and bottle \$100.
-  Single-use room supplement hotel in Sharm El Sheikh: €50
-  Possible supplements for fuel and/or local taxes if there is any significant and sudden increase.

The indicated rates are payable onboard on the day of arrival. Its amount is in EUROS.

**Local time in Egypt**

The time in Egypt is GMT+1

**Clothing on board and ashore**

Attire on board the Red Sea Blue Force 2 is typical for warm weather, comfortable, casual, and light clothing: shorts, swimwear, t-shirts, polo shirts, dresses, and sarongs for women. From December to April, it is advisable to also bring at least a wind coat or sweatshirt and long pants.

On the boat, you are always barefoot so you do not wear shoes or flip-flops.








Do not forget to include high-factor sun protection cream in your luggage.

The lounge, dining room, and cabins are considered "dry areas" so it is forbidden to enter and sit with any wet clothing (such as a wet swimsuit or diving suit).

Onboard it is not appropriate to go topless.

On land, keep in mind that we are in a Muslim country, so we advise women to wear shorts/longs or skirts below the knee and avoid low-cut tops. Men must wear trousers (shorts are also possible) and at least one t-shirt.

**Diving equipment**

-  Regulator, octopus, and pressure gauge
-  Dive computer (mandatory)
-  BCD
-  Mask, snorkel, and fins
-  Recommended wetsuit: 3 or 5 mm (July, August, and September), rest of the year minimum 5mm
-  Flashlight/torch
-  Surface Marking Buoy /SMB (mandatory)

The indicated diving equipment is the minimum required for diving. You can bring your equipment (an option we recommend) or rent it on board.

The diving equipment to rent onboard is varied, of good quality, and is usually sufficient to cover the usual needs, but it is limited, so to guarantee its availability it is essential to reserve it at least 15 days before arrival on the boat.

If the diving material has not been reserved in advance and adequately in advance or is requested once on board, it may not be available, or we may have to rent it outside, with which the prices may be higher than those published prices for material available on board.

### **Meals**

Lunch and dinner on board the Red Sea Blue Force 2 are based on a buffet that changes daily. It is usually made up of vegetables, chicken, beef, fish, shellfish, fruit, ice cream, pasta, rice, or soups.

The breakfasts are based on a buffet of beef bacon, sausages, sweets, sliced and wholemeal bread, cereals, milk, yogurts, juices, and eggs (omelet, scrambled, fried...).

Hot and cold water, coffee, and tea are available 24 hours a day for free.

If you need special meals or have a food intolerance problem, you must communicate it at the time of making your reservation. As far as possible we will try to adapt to your request or need, but depending on your intolerance or serious problem with your diet, you should consider bringing your food.

### **Water and soft drinks**

On the boat, there are hot and cold drinking water dispensers on the dive and main decks.

Of course, there are glasses at your disposal, but we try to avoid the consumption of plastic and detergents, so we will give you a bottle on the first day of the cruise so that you can refill it yourself and use it whenever you see fit. The Environment and Blue Force will thank you.

Although tap and shower water is drinkable, we recommend not drinking it.

### **Coffee and tea**

Instant coffee and tea are available for free on the ship 24 hours a day at the bar counter.

### **Alcoholic drinks**

It is not authorized to bring beverages purchased abroad on board. We have alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages for exclusive consumption on board, not included in the price.

### **Towels and sheets**

In each cabin, there is one bath towel and one beach towel per person that will be changed mid-week.

We love to preserve the environment by trying not to waste energy or drinking water, as well as not using more detergent than necessary. We appreciate your collaboration with us and with the health of the sea, helping us not to have to wash sheets and towels unnecessarily.

### **Bathrooms**

It is VERY IMPORTANT not to throw any type of solid waste, not even toilet paper, in the sinks and toilets. Use the bin located next to the WC, the crew will empty it daily.

### **Electricity**

The official electrical system in Egypt is 220 V, 50 Hz. The usual plugs are double-pin (similar to those in Spain). To try to avoid possible fires, please do not leave batteries charging in your cabin.

### **Cabins**

If you detect that there is something in the cabin that is not working properly, let us know as soon as possible and we will try to do everything possible to fix it. We have two experienced mechanics onboard and will do our best to solve any problem, but the extreme difficulty of finding technical assistance and spare parts in Egypt means that a simple problem in another country here can be very difficult to solve, so if we were in that situation, we apologize in advance and thank you for your understanding.

### **Currencies and payments**

The official currency in Egypt is the Egyptian pound (EGP). Transactions with tourists are usually carried out with Egyptian pounds, euros, and US dollars.

Onboard the BLUE FORCE 2 all prices are indicated in EUROS (EUR).

Expenses on board such as taxes, rentals, drinks, boutique... can be paid in cash in Euros. If you want to pay in US dollars, the effective rate on board will be applied on the day of payment. You can also pay with a VISA and MASTERCARD credit card, with a 4% surcharge. American Express cards, and personal and travel checks are NOT accepted on board.

Only 2009 and later series United States dollar bills will be accepted. Both dollars and euros will only be accepted in good condition, clean, and without cuts or scratches.

If you make purchases outside the ship, in Sharm El Sheikh, or at the airport, it is possible to pay in cash in Egyptian pounds, and in euros or dollars (at the exchange they consider), although it is very possible that the changes will be given in cash only in Egyptian pounds.

### **Security in the cabins**

Blue Force Fleet is not responsible for any type of loss, theft, or deterioration of materials on board.

It is possible that on some occasions the doors of the cabins are left open temporarily to improve ventilation, especially at the time of cleaning.

### **Photography & Video**

Space is available on the boat for underwater cameras, as well as a freshwater tank for rinsing. It is usual that during the week photographs and videos are taken both out of the water and underwater, and some of them are published on social networks such as Facebook, Instagram... If you have any inconvenience in appearing in any of them, please let us know.

On the boat, there is a PC available to passengers where you can download, view, share, and copy photos and videos.

### **Onboard communications**

In Egypt there is mobile telephony with coverage in most of the country; Check with your usual operator about its roaming, as well as its activation.

It is important to note that in Egypt the quality and intensity of the Internet are not very good and depending on the area where the boat is, it can be zero.

If you want to have an internet connection for you (and your friends if you share) during the cruise, we recommend having bought a SIM card for unlocked mobiles, iPad, tablets... at Sharm El Sheikh airport (not always possible). Sometimes we have a SIM card to sell onboard (we cannot guarantee it). Ask us if you need one.

Voice calls through WhatsApp don't always work in Egypt, but they do usually work through Messenger.

### **Onboard shop**

On the boat, we have some articles for sale related to diving (safety buoy, lycra, regulator mouthpieces...) and souvenirs from the Red Sea (t-shirts and sweatshirts).

Check the boat web portal for the usual items for sale in our shop on board.

### **Activities onboard**

During the cruise, an intense program of day and night dives is developed for certified divers.

For non-divers, complementary activities such as snorkeling are also planned.



### **Service fees**

As a local custom in all tourist establishments in Egypt, it is almost mandatory to charge a tip for the services provided. In the case of the Blue Force 2, it is also, with these tips are an important part of the salary of the crew and guides. What is usually expected in tips after a good service is between 10% and 20% of the cost of the cruise.

At Blue Force, we have established as service fees a minimum amount that is expected, but we leave the maximum at your discretion. This minimum fee is payable, together with the rest of the fees, on the day of arrival on board. At the end of the cruise, you will be given an empty envelope in case you want to extend that minimum amount of service fees. Service fees will be shared among all crew members.

Your generosity will be greatly appreciated by the crew, who will work hard throughout the week to make your stay onboard Red Sea Blue Force 2 to your absolute satisfaction.

### **Diving with Red Sea Blue Force**

During your week onboard and under normal conditions, up to 4 daily dives are planned (including day and night). On Sunday, depending on the diligence of the port authorities with the exit permits and the navigation required by the established route, the number of dives could be reduced.

The entrance to the port will be on Friday afternoon (mandatorily before sunset) so, depending on the route, the navigation, and the state of the sea, the dives could be reduced this day.

Each dive carried out will have a prior briefing by the cruise director in which they will inform you of the conditions of the dive site, marine life, precautions, safety regulations, communication, and ecological behavior during it, as well as other specific details.

Diving will be done from the platform of the boat or the auxiliary boat.

The tank is refilled after each dive with NITROX or air. It will be the responsibility of each diver to check the oxygen content of his tank before each dive. It is mandatory to have a degree for the use of NITROX. If you do not have the certification, you can obtain it by doing the corresponding course on board.

The first dive of the cruise (check dive) will be aimed at checking equipment, adequate ballast, and buoyancy control, as well as enjoying and observing the species that will be found at the selected dive site. At the end of each dive, the corresponding safety stop will be made.

It is mandatory to have a signaling buoy for the safety stop and a dive computer. For night dives, at least one torch or flashlight per person is required. If you do not have any of these elements in your diving equipment, you can rent it on board.

The tanks used are S80 mono valve with INT/DIN outlet. It is possible to rent larger capacity tanks, S100 (Must be reserved in advance to guarantee availability).

### **Courses available onboard**

The minimum mandatory level to dive on the cruise is Open Water Diver or similar, as well as NITROX if it is going to be used. For greater safety and enjoyment of the dives that take place during the cruise, we recommend the level of Advanced Open Water or similar.

If you do not have the appropriate qualification, it is advisable to take the courses before coming to Egypt, but if this is not possible, the Advanced and Nitrox Diver courses are taught on board. Check the prices of the courses and certification.

The prices of the courses and certification are available at the following link.

### Age restrictions for diving

Although most international training organizations consider the minimum age to certify a diver to be 12 years, on our boats the recommended minimum age to dive is 15 years.

All minors who want to dive must have the appropriate qualification for it and always be accompanied by a responsible adult and stay within their certification limitations.

### Safety onboard












The safety of our passengers/divers on board is a priority. We understand that the best security measure is common sense, prevention, and following the rules indicated by our expert team of guides.





If a diver does not comply with the proper safety regulations, the dive guide will have the authority to not allow him to dive. Blue Force does not undertake to make any refund for it.

We have complete safety equipment on board, in addition to oxygen equipment with a 50-liter tank, automatic defibrillator, and a large and complete first-aid kit. If you need something, tell us.

### Diving Safety Standards

For your diving safety, it is essential to comply with the following requirements:

-  All divers must have an internationally recognized diving certification. It is essential to present the certification to the diving staff.
-  We recommend, for safety and for greater enjoyment of the dives, to have the Advanced Open Water certification or similar and 50 certified dives.
-  All divers must have the basic equipment indicated, either their own or rented on board (we remember the need to reserve it before arrival on the ship).
-  All divers who have their equipment, please be in optimal maintenance conditions to be able to dive. For your safety and that of your fellow divers, if you detect any anomaly, please let us know as soon as possible.
-  All divers must be in optimal health conditions to practice diving. Upon your arrival, you will have to fill out and sign a medical statement. If you suffer from any medical condition or are taking any medication, you must bring a specific diving medical certificate that certifies the possibility of performing hyperbaric activities safely.
-  Due to the characteristics of the support boats, all divers must fend for themselves to be able to board the boat/zodiac after each dive.
-  Each diver must attend the briefing conducted by the staff, which takes place before each dive.
-  Due to local diving regulations, solo and decompression diving is not permitted.
-  All divers will enter and exit the water during dives as directed by the diving staff.
-  All divers must carry their dive computer, marker buoy, and use at least one torch/flashlight during the night or wreck dives.
-  Diving under stress, anxiety, drunkenness, ingestion of drugs or similar substances, after drinking alcohol, or any situation that may negatively affect the physical or mental state of the diver is not allowed.

-  In the Red Sea it is prohibited:
- Diving with gloves.
  - Carry a knife.
  - Touch the corals or any species of marine fauna.
  - Take any object from the wrecks and the seabed (it is punishable by a fine at the customs of Egypt and almost all countries).
-  To be able to dive in Egypt it is mandatory to have health insurance that covers said activity.
-  If a diver does not have the appropriate certification for the type of dives that are going to be carried out or the dive guide in charge of accompanying the divers considers that for any reason a client is not qualified to carry out a dive, he will have the power to not allow the client the realization of said immersion. Blue Force does not undertake to make any refund for it.
-  Due to the state of the sea, weather conditions, or other factors, the boat/cruise staff reserves the right to change the itinerary totally or partially without prior notice. No amount will be refunded for these circumstances.

### **Landing of the Red Sea Blue Force 2**

The arrival at port is during the afternoon of Friday. Dinner and accommodation will be on the boat. Disembarkation will take place before noon on Saturday at the port of Sharm El Sheikh.

On the North route, the transfer will be made directly from the ship to the airport.

On the "Extended North" route, the transfer from the ship to the hotel in Sharm El Sheikh will take place on Saturday morning before noon.

**IMPORTANT:** Check with the Health Authorities of your country of origin about the possible entry regulations to the destination countries of your trip, in this case, Egypt and back to your country of origin.

Some countries, Spain is one of them, require that all people who are going to travel to Spain, 48 hours before their entry, must fill out a form through the internet address: [www.spth.gob.es](http://www.spth.gob.es) or through the SPAIN TRAVEL HEALTH-SpTH free application. Once the form is completed, the passenger will obtain a QR code, which must be presented upon arrival in Spain.

In case you need to do a PCR for the return to your country, it is possible to do it in Sharm El Sheikh. Let us know about it so we can help you manage it.

### **We are at your disposal**

Please, any questions, information you need, anything we can help you to have an excellent cruise onboard the Red Sea Blue Force 2, do not hesitate to tell us. We are at your disposal.

### **Comments and suggestions**

Help us improve, please. For this we need your collaboration, so we would greatly appreciate your comments and suggestions.

To encourage you to do so and thank you for your help, at the end of each season, among all the questionnaires received, we will raffle a FREE cruise on any of the Blue Force Fleet ships to enjoy whenever you want.