



# Planning Guide

Dancer Fleet

LiveAboard Excellence

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## EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Dancer Fleet Emergency Cell	305-778-8004
Wind Dancer Cocos Office	011-506-2289-2261
Wind Dancer Cocos Dock	011-506-2261-3062
Wind Dancer Hotel Pick-Up Issues or Delays	011-506-8382-1352 (Rudy)
Wind Dancer Cocos Emergency	011-506-8856-6262 (Jose)
After Hours Numbers	011-506-8718-9727 (Onditz)
	011-506-8718-1963 (Jorge)

# Dream, Dive, Discover

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## Overview of Cocos Island and the Wind Dancer

Located in the eastern tropical pacific, nearly 300 nautical miles southeast of Costa Rica, lies the famous Cocos Island Marine Park. A rugged and incredibly beautiful island, this World Heritage Site designated in 1997 by UNESCO, is the crown jewel of Costa Rica's many National Parks.

Jacques Cousteau, scientific oceanographer, professional diver and film director of ocean documentaries, deemed Cocos Island as "the most beautiful island in the world..." and Michael Crichton wrote "Jurassic Park" with this place in mind. Thanks to the breathtaking marine life in its waters, Cocos Island was named one of the best 10 scuba diving spots in the world by PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) and a "must do" according to diving experts.

Your home for 10 nights - the Wind Dancer is a 120 foot steel monohull vessel that accommodates 22 passengers. Wind Dancer features 9 well appointed staterooms, each air-conditioned and with ensuite facilities, plus 2 newly constructed luxury suites. Wind Dancer provides all the modern conveniences anticipated for a luxury LiveAboard experience - you'll find her a spacious, comfortable place to rest and relax on your journey to Cocos Island and between dives. The unique Wind Dancer itinerary covers the Cocos island National Park. Limited to a very few divers at a time, this coveted drift diving destination delivers you to one of the most concentrated large animal marine encounters in the world.

Cocos Island was formed during a volcanic upheaval over two million years ago and is composed of basaltic rock, labacortite and andecite lava flows. Its landmass is punctuated by four mountain peaks of which Mount Iglesias, reaching an altitude of 2178 feet over the sea, is the island's highest peak. A rugged shaped coastline full of steep cliffs, turns the island in an almost impregnable fortress. The only points of access are two bays; Chatham Bay on the northeast side and Wafer Bay on the northwest, which are separated from each other by the "Presidio" Peninsula.

Exuberant vegetation typical of the tropical rainy climates and high level of rainfall generates abundant rivers of fresh and crystalline waters that cascade into the sea in waterfalls of extraordinary beauty. The largest rivers are the Genio and the Pittier, which drain their waters into Wafer Bay. The mountainous landscape and the tropical climate combine to create over 200 waterfalls throughout the island.

For many, the main attractions are the large pelagic species, which are very abundant in this unique meeting point between deep and shallow waters. The largest schools of hammerhead sharks in the world are consistently reported here. Encounters with dozens if not hundreds of these and other large animals are nearly certain on every dive. The rich coral reef, volcanic tunnels, caves, massifs

and deeper waters surrounding Cocos Island are home to more than 30 species of coral, 60 species of crustaceans, 600 species of molluscs and over 300 species of fish. These include large populations of Yellowfin tuna, Giant mantas, sailfish and sharks, such as Whitetip reef shark and Scalloped Hammerhead shark. The largest of all species of fish is also present - the Whale shark. Other large marine animals include Humpback whales, Pilot whales, Bottlenose dolphins and Sea lions. There are also reptiles such as Hawksbill, Green and Olive Ridley turtles.

### WHERE IS COCOS ISLAND?

Cocos Island, located 297 nautical miles (342 statute miles) from Puntarenas Costa Rica, is one of the most beautiful jewels in the Costa Rican National Park system. Of the principal islands of the Eastern Tropical Pacific (Cocos, Clipperton, Malpelo and Galapagos), it is the only one that receives sufficient rainfall to support a tropical rain forest. Cocos Island's flora is related to Central America and Northern South America, plus a few species that were brought by visitors. The high number of endemic species makes Cocos an extremely interesting botanic garden for scientists and their research.



### WHAT KIND OF DIVING IS FOUND AT COCOS ISLAND?

Surrounded by deep waters with counter-currents, Cocos Island is admired by scuba divers for its populations of Hammerhead sharks, rays, dolphins and other large marine species. The extremely wet climate and oceanic attributes give Cocos an ecological character that is not shared with either the Galapagos Archipelago or any of the other islands (e.g., Malpelo or Coiba) in this region of the world.

The primary attractions in Cocos are the large pelagics, i.e. hammerhead sharks, rays, mantas, turtles, and enormous schools of tuna, jack and many others. Occasionally, there are sightings of whale sharks, fish, marlin, and bottle-nosed dolphin. The bottom of the ocean floor at Cocos Island is volcanic rock. Most of the action is between 50-100 feet with visibility in the 80-100 feet range. You can make up to 4 dives a day: 3 scheduled panga dives and an optional night dive, off the panga as well. Note: Only 3 night dives are offered each cruise per park regulations.

Beginner divers may consider Cocos Island diving slightly difficult due to its ruggedness and currents. Diving is from dinghies (pangas). This trip is NOT recommended to new divers or handicapped divers.

**Note: Diving insurance is MANDATORY on Cocos Island trips.**

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**IN WHAT TIME ZONE IS COCOS ISLAND LOCATED?**

The time zone is GMT-6 hours with no daylight savings time.

**WHAT LANGUAGES ARE SPOKEN ONBOARD?**

The official language of Costa Rica is Spanish. Onboard the Wind Dancer, our crew will converse in English with guests.

**WHAT CURRENCY IS USED?**

The Costa Rican Colones (CRC) is the local currency. Banks will exchange most currency into the CRC. However, Euros can be difficult to exchange Costa Rica. We advise our Euro based guest to use their credit cards or to bring US Dollars from Europe. It is advisable to exchange currency at banks, as the most favorable exchange rates may not be obtained elsewhere. Most banks are open Monday to Friday. It is recommended that you exchange enough for small pocket change. Major credit cards are accepted by most restaurants, hotels, car rental companies, and shops. Travelers checks are accepted everywhere.

**WHAT WEATHER CONDITIONS CAN I EXPECT IN COCOS ISLAND?**

May through October is generally considered prime diving. The rainy season is from May through November, but don't let that fool you. Cocos Island supports a true tropical rain forest and receives an abundance of rain, particularly around the mountain peaks. Overcast skies and frequent showers are common.

During the rainy season, water temperature ranges between 71 - 78°F (22 - 26°C) with cooler thermoclines down to 65°F (18°C), while in the dry season it warms up to 78 - 82°F (26 - 28°C). A wetsuit is highly recommended. A 3mm inch suit with hood and booties is generally sufficient for most divers, except during the rainy season we recommend a 5mm wetsuit with hood as thermoclines are prevalent. Gloves are recommended year round for holding onto rocks if necessary.

**WHAT DOES MY WIND DANCER PACKAGE INCLUDE?**

All staterooms are air-conditioned and fitted with private toilets, showers and sinks. Breakfast (cooked to order), buffet lunch and an elegant meal at dinner with table side service are served daily in addition to fresh mid-morning and mid-afternoon snacks. Beverages (including soft drinks and local beer and wine) are complimentary while onboard. Bathrobes and some toiletries are available for your use onboard. The Wind Dancer is equipped with hair dryers in each stateroom. Linens are changed mid-week and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom daily as needed. Guests have the opportunity to dive three or four times a day. Filled tanks, weights and weight belts are included.

Please note that during crossings rooms will be freshened upon request and meals will be served buffet style.

**FOR WHAT ADDITIONAL EXPENSES WILL I BE RESPONSIBLE?**

No air transportation is included in the Wind Dancer package. All guests are required to pay an Airport departure tax (USD \$26). Dive instruction, dive equipment rentals and "Boatique" purchases must be settled onboard prior to departure. There is a 13% local tax added to onboard purchases. Acceptable methods of payment include: US Dollars, CRC, traveler's checks, or credit cards (Visa or MasterCard). Personal checks are not accepted. Crew gratuities are not included.

**A BRIEF HISTORY OF COCOS ISLAND**

Cocos Island (Spanish: Isla del Coco) is an island located off the shore of Costa Rica. It constitutes the 11th district (one of 13) of Puntarenas Canton of the province of Puntarenas. It is one of the National Parks of Costa Rica and is located at 05°31'08"N 087°04'18"W. With an area of approximately 23.85 km<sup>2</sup> (9.2 mi<sup>2</sup>), about 8x3 km (5x1.9 mi) and a perimeter of around 23.3 km this island is more or less rectangular in shape.

Cocos Island was declared a Costa Rican National Park by means of Executive Decree in 1978. Cocos Island National Park was subsequently designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1997. In 2002, the World Heritage Site designation was extended to include an expanded marine zone of 1,997 km<sup>2</sup>. In addition, it is included in the list of "Wetlands of International Importance".

Cocos Island was short-listed as a candidate to be one of the "New 7 Wonders of Nature" by the New Seven Wonders of the World Foundation. As of June 2009 it is ranking second in the islands category.

The only persons allowed to live on Cocos Island are Costa Rican Park Rangers, who have established two encampments, including one at Chatham Bay. Tourists and ship crew members are allowed ashore only with permission of island rangers, and are not permitted to camp, stay overnight or collect any flora, fauna or minerals from the island.

This island is popular in pirate lore as well. It is said that over 300 expeditions have gone in search of treasure such as the hoard of Benito Bonito, the Treasure of Lima, and many others. Some incidents of small caches have been discovered, leading many to believe the stories of vast pirate treasures to be valid.

## Wind Dancer - Travel Information

**HOW DO I GET TO THE WIND DANCER?**

Most guests arrive by air into San Jose, Costa Rica. San Jose's International Airport (SJO) is newly built and open daily.

If you need assistance with your flight arrangements, be sure to contact **LiveAboard Vacations**, the Dancer Fleet's in-house travel professionals at 1-800-9DANCER or 305-669-9391 for the most competitive airfares.

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### WHEN SHOULD I ARRIVE IN COSTA RICA?

Guests travel arrangements MUST include a one-night stay-over, in San Jose, Costa Rica one day prior to the yacht's embarkation in order to participate in the included group transfer from San Jose to Puntarenas. Embarkation and transfer pick-up times for each charter are listed at the end of this document.

### WHAT TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WILL I NEED?

You will be required to possess a valid passport to enter the dive area that the Wind Dancer will travel to during the charter.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

**Passport numbers must be submitted for approval prior to travel to Cocos Island at least 14 days prior to sailing. Failure to do so will result in cancellation of your reservation.**

A valid passport, return or onward ticket, and sufficient funds are required for all visitors in Costa Rica. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the date of entry to Costa Rica.

Please notify the Reservations Center 90 days prior to traveling with the name of your hotel or alternate arrangements and your passport numbers.

### WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION?

At the airport, customs formalities are usually quick and trouble free in Costa Rica. Tourists are allowed articles for use during their stay. These include items of personal adornment, wearing apparel, toilet requisites and any portable articles which someone can reasonably be expected to use during their stay.

Items that might be left in Costa Rica, gifts or packages for others (whether or not commercial) should be declared. Please, avoid inconveniences and delays by following the regulations and/or getting the advice of a Customs Officer on duty.

### HOW DO I GET FROM THE AIRPORT TO MY HOTEL?

Upon your arrival at the airport in San Jose, you are responsible for your transfer to your hotel. Taxi fare from the airport to the Escazú area where our 2 recommended hotels are located is about \$20 US. The Dancer Fleet recommends you stay at either the Alta Hotel or the Indigo Hotel, as these are the only two hotels the Wind Dancer bus picks up from.

Both the Alta Hotel and the Indigo Hotel hotel are located outside the city of San Jose where traffic is very heavy. So please if you are staying in the center of the city, make sure you leave at least 45 minutes before the scheduled Wind Dancer bus pick up time at either of these hotels to ensure your transfer to the yacht.

Please call **LiveAboard Vacations**, the Dancer Fleet's in-house travel specialist, at 1-800-9DANCER or 305-669-9391 for easy one stop shopping for both your air and hotel needs.

### HOW DO WE GET FROM OUR HOTEL TO THE WIND DANCER?

On the scheduled embarkation day, a bus will pick passengers up at the Alta Hotel then the Indigo Hotel. This is a group transfer for all Wind Dancer guests. From San Jose, the bus will travel approximately 2 1/2 hours to meet the Wind Dancer in Puntarenas. A new faster highway has recently been opened, but may be closed during certain weather conditions and for accidents. If you are not staying at one of these hotels, you will need to make your own way to one of these hotels prior to the pick up times.

The exact pickup time varies for each charter and is based on the tide tables for the embarkation day. Please look at the back of this guide for a timetable for your specific departure.

This scenic route from San Jose to Puntarenas is a beautiful way to see the lush countryside. Upon your arrival at the Wind Dancer you will be greeted by the crew. Please be advised that the Wind Dancer may be moored offshore due to low tides. Should this occur, you will be transferred to the Wind Dancer by boat and your luggage will be handled for you.

If you plan to make your own way to Puntarenas, where the Wind Dancer docks, it is imperative that our Reservations Center be notified of your plans. If you make your own arrangements or miss the pick up, directions and local phone numbers in Spanish to the Wind Dancer dock are: Phone + 506. 2661.30.62 Cell + 506. 8819.80.73

### WHAT DO WE DO ON THE DAY WE DISEMBARK?

Disembarkation time is between 7:00 and 7:30 a.m. in the morning of departure. The crew will transport you to the hotel or the airport in San Jose. Guests will arrive in San Jose late morning; therefore, departing flights should be scheduled after 12:30 p.m. Due to traffic, tides, etc., you will not be able to make an early morning departing flight.

For guests departing later in the day you may even have time to enjoy one of our shore excursions in the morning as well. If your flight is scheduled for late afternoon, there are several canopy and sightseeing tours that we can recommend.

### HOW DO I ARRANGE FOR PRE AND POST CHARTER HOTELS AND TRANSFERS?

In addition to being able to book your airline tickets to and from Costa Rica, **LiveAboard Vacations**, Dancer Fleet's in-house travel agency, has created several extension packages based around different experiences in the area. Or they would be happy to design something specifically with your interests in mind.

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**DO I NEED TRIP INSURANCE?**

Diving insurance is **MANDATORY** on all Cocos Island trips. We strongly recommend that each guest purchase comprehensive accident, medical, baggage and trip cancellation and interruption insurance when space is reserved. Trip insurance will protect you from financial disappointment if you are prevented from making your scheduled trip due to illness or family illness, or in the event that unforeseen circumstances prevent the airline or yacht from making its scheduled trip. In an event where it is necessary to cancel or interrupt a charter due to weather or any matter beyond the control of Dancer Fleet Inc, there will be no refund or credit issued. Please inquire with our reservation staff for assistance.

## Wind Dancer - The Onboard Experience

**IF I AM TRAVELING AS A SINGLE, WILL I HAVE A ROOMMATE?**

All rates are quoted on a share basis; therefore, unless you require a guaranteed single room and pay an additional supplement, you will very likely be sharing your stateroom with one other guest of the same gender.

**WHAT TYPE OF CUISINE IS PREPARED?**

Meals prepared by our onboard chef consist of an international mix with a local flair. If you have any special dietary requirements, please advise our US office as soon as possible so we can adequately prepare to meet your needs. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available on a consistent basis in Costa Rica due to the remote nature of this location.

**WHAT KINDS OF BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE?**

The Wind Dancer's selection includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, tea and coffee and a limited selection of local beer and wine, which are complimentary. Fresh milk may not be available, although UHT long life milk is provided onboard. We recommend that you purchase any special brands of alcoholic beverages that you may want to consume onboard Wind Dancer at the Duty Free Shop at any airport. We encourage you to consume lots of non-alcoholic liquids during the week to avoid dehydration. **REMEMBER: ALCOHOL AND DIVING DO NOT MIX.** Once you consume alcohol you become a snorkeler until the next day.

**WHAT ELECTRICAL CURRENT IS AVAILABLE?**

The electrical current on the Wind Dancer is 110 volts including cabin outlets (American standards). There is a charging station in the salon that offers access to 110 V power. We also carry a few power converters for 220/240 volt electrical items. The standard for the country of Costa Rica is 110 Volts, 60Hz and American style outlets.

**HOW MUCH SHALL I PACK?**

Please plan to travel light, as on all LiveAboard dive yachts, space is limited. We recommend that you pack your gear in soft luggage such as a duffel bag for easy stowage and to add to your comfort in your cabin, leave those large, rigid suitcases at home. Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear and swim suits are a must. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for the evenings. Dress aboard Wind Dancer is always casual, however, it should be noted that in Costa Rica, certain customs of dress should be respected. Never wear swim suits or mini-shorts in town, and topless or nude sun bathing is not permitted. Light clothing that reflects the sun is best and a hat are recommended. Evening dress is informal. Additional items you may want to bring are sunscreen, sunglasses, walking shoes and a hat or visor for your time on shore. Hair dryers are provided in each cabin on Wind Dancer. We recommend you pack your regulator, dive computer, mask, swim suit, change of clothes and essential items in your carry-on bag. This will make it easier in the event your luggage is delayed. Please check with your airline as to what weight restrictions will apply to your carry-on and checked luggage.

**WILL THERE BE ANY OPPORTUNITIES TO GO ASHORE DURING THE CRUISE?**

During the Wind Dancer itinerary at Cocos Island, guests will have the opportunity to go ashore with a guide if they desire (weather dependent).

**WHAT IF I AM PRONE TO SEA SICKNESS?**

Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. If you have a tendency toward seasickness we strongly urge you to bring some over-the-counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets. Chewable ginger tablets or capsules of powdered ginger have also proved to be effective.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The 36-hour cruise to and from the island can be uncomfortable to some. We recommend taking precautions for motion sickness.

**WHAT IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY ONBOARD?**

The Wind Dancer crew is trained in first aid and diving accident management. The yacht is equipped with a complete first aid kit and a high capacity oxygen system. **Diving insurance is MANDATORY** and each guest's responsibility to obtain special insurance from Divers Alert Network, Dive Assure or a similarly ranked company.

The closest hyperbaric chamber is in Costa Rica, a 36-hour journey from Cocos Island (air evacuation is not possible). Since emergency transportation and treatment cost is the responsibility of each guest, we strongly recommend that you dive conservatively.

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### HOW CAN MY FAMILY CONTACT ME IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY AT HOME?

In case of emergency your family may contact you by calling our Miami office at 1-800-932-6237 or 305-669-9391 during business hours (8 am - 6 pm EST weekdays). If outside of our operating hours, calls may be made to our emergency cell phone number, 305-778-8004. Please reserve calling this number for emergencies only.

The Wind Dancer local office in Costa Rica can be reached during business hours at 011-506-2289-2261 or after hours the Wind Dancer local office emergency numbers are 011-506-8856-6262, 011-506-8718-9727, 011-506-8718-1963.

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS, MAIL AND E-MAIL

Check with your local cell phone provider for service while in Costa Rica. The M/V Wind Dancer is equipped with a satellite based phone. Pre-paid satellite calling cards and email communications are available while onboard for an additional fee.

### IS SMOKING PERMITTED?

A designated area on the back of the outdoor lido deck is available for smoking. Smoking is not permitted in any other area for any reason.

### IS THERE ENTERTAINMENT ONBOARD?

The Wind Dancer has a multi-system TV unit for video-tape and video camera playback, a compact disc player, a DVD player and stereo in the main salon. If you have a favorite movie, slide show or a video to share, we encourage you to bring it along! You may also bring your own favorite music CD's or DVD's. A small library of "books for exchange" is maintained onboard, as well as marine life identification books for reference.

### HOW CAN I CELEBRATE A SPECIAL OCCASION?

Our crew is delighted to help you celebrate any special occasion onboard including birthdays, anniversaries, honeymoons or weddings. Kindly advise our US office at least 30 days prior to departure so that we can adequately prepare.

### IS IT CUSTOMARY TO OFFER A GRATUITY TO THE CREW?

Aboard the Wind Dancer, gratuities are not included. We prefer that our guests' reward our crew based on performance. If the crew performs to your expectations, we suggest that a gratuity of approximately 10% of the published package price be considered normal aboard a live aboard dive yacht. Payment of gratuities is entirely at the discretion of the guest. Payment of gratuities can be by cash, traveler's check, or credit card (Visa or MasterCard). The crew greatly appreciate cash as local banking fees and government taxes for traveler's checks and credit card processing reduce the amount of gratuity left on a credit card up to 35% in some destinations.

When in Costa Rica, it is a local practice that a 10% tip is added to hotel and restaurant bills in the major tourist areas. Where this charge is not added, it is customary to tip 10% - 15%.

### HOW CAN I PAY FOR MY EXPENSES AND PURCHASES ONBOARD?

The Wind Dancer has a small, onboard "Boatique" which sells a selection of logo clothing, custom jewelry, sundries, diving accessories, batteries, logbooks, etc. A crewmember will gladly assist you with your purchases at any time during the week. A 13% local tax is added to all purchases. The US Dollar, local currency, traveler's checks or credit cards (Visa or MasterCard) are accepted onboard. Personal checks are not accepted.

## Wind Dancer - Diving Operations

### HOW MANY DIVES WILL WE DO EACH DAY?

We will offer three daytime dives plus three night dives during your charter (weather and sea conditions permitting) from our pangas.

### WHAT PAPERWORK WILL I NEED FOR DIVING?

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification along with your nitrox certification if you plan on diving with nitrox. The divemaster requires proof of certification before the first dive. You will be required to complete our Cruise Application and Waiver agreement prior to departure for Cocos Island. Our GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to complete all required paperwork online including the cruise application, waiver agreement, special requests and travel information. If you haven't received a link to access the GIS, please contact a Dancer Fleet agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS registration process will be denied boarding. Please remember, many Dancer destinations require complete passenger information prior to departure for itinerary approval by government agencies.

**Guests will also need to provide proof of valid diving insurance upon boarding the Wind Dancer.**

### HOW WILL WE DIVE FROM THE WIND DANCER?

Panga diving is the rule rather than the exception. All dives will be made from our custom designed 22-ft pangas. Driving time to the dive sites runs between 5 and 20 minutes.

Our experienced crew will be available to assist with the boarding and disembarking process to and from the pangas. Our Crew will load your dive gear on the panga along with cameras and other equipment you would like to bring to the dive site. Guests will then don gear at the dive site. For divers who require special assistance we will happily provide it. Getting you in and out of the water from the pangas is easy with a backward roll entry being the most convenient way to enter the water. To re-board the panga, guests may remove their gear in the water and

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hand it up to our staff and simply climb onboard by way of a ladder secured to the panga.

For your safety, it is recommended that each diver carry an emergency SMB (safety sausage), a Dive Alert or other suitable audible surface signaling device, and mini-strobe light on all dives. If you do not bring any one of these devices with you they are available complimentary on board, however, quantities may be limited. SPOT - marine GPS tracking devices are provided for each diver to attach to their BCD for use during the charter.

#### ARE THERE ANY LIMITATIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE DIVING?

All diving onboard the Wind Dancer should be planned as no-decompression dives and conducted within the limits and standards of your certification agency, Solo diving or rebreather diving is not permitted.

#### CAN I EARN ADVANCED DIVING CERTIFICATIONS OR SPECIALTIES ONBOARD?

Several diving specialty courses are offered on the Wind Dancer, but it is necessary to give at least one month notice to the Dancer Fleet in advance of your charter date to ensure that an instructor will have the time available and that all required paperwork is complete. **IMPORTANT:** If you intend to receive diving instruction onboard, you must complete a medical statement in advance and return it to the Dancer Fleet prior to the departure date. A doctor's note will be required if you answer yes to any of the questions on the medical statement. A list of available courses and prices is located on our website.

#### ARE NITROX FILLS AVAILABLE?

The Wind Dancer is equipped with Nitrox facilities. Nitrox fills of up to 32% are normally available to all certified Nitrox divers for an additional charge. Nitrox dive profiles must be planned and executed with either Nitrox tables or a Nitrox compatible computer. It is recommended that the planned PO2 level be set within the limits of your certifying agency. All Nitrox fills must be analyzed by the divers using the mix and logged prior to each and every dive. Nitrox certifications are usually available onboard to all certified open water divers for an additional charge.

#### WHAT DIVING EQUIPMENT WILL I NEED TO BRING?

Equipment provided aboard the Wind Dancer includes tanks (80 cu. ft. aluminum with yoke style "K" valves), weights and weight belts. Divers will also need the following equipment:

##### Basic Required Diving Equipment For Each Diver

- Regulator with alternate air source
- Depth and Pressure Gauge
- Dive Computer
- Buoyancy Compensation Device (BCD)
- Mask / Fins / Snorkel
- Wetsuit / Light Skin

- Night Dives: We require at least two light sources on a night dive.

##### Recommended (Additional) Dive Equipment

- Battery operated tank marker light
- Dive light w/ extra batteries/charging source

#### WHAT SAFETY EQUIPMENT DO I NEED TO HAVE?

We suggest that you bring your own to ensure compatibility with your personal equipment. The Wind Dancer has a limited supply available for rental by our guests.

##### Recommended Surface Safety Equipment For Each Diver

- Audible Surface Signaling Device such as a Dive Alert (Air Horn) or Emergency Whistle of superior quality.
- Visual Surface Signaling Device (Daytime) such as an Inflatable Safety Sausage or similar device.
- Visual Surface Device (Night or Dusk) such as a Personal Mini-Strobe or similar device.

##### Additional Recommended Surface Safety Equipment

- Signaling mirror
- Whistle

#### ARE DIVE GEAR AND PHOTO/VIDEO GEAR AVAILABLE FOR RENT?

Wind Dancer has a limited amount of diving equipment available for rent, so it is critical that you advise our US office staff in advance if you decide you want to rent gear to ensure availability, sizing and current pricing. Photo/Video gear is not currently available.

#### I AM A PHOTOGRAPHER – WHAT CAN I EXPECT

Photo opportunities are abundant and no matter what system you have. Guests who are shooting digital photography may view their images on either of the two computers, a PC and a MAC, we provide in the salon for your use.

- Camera Tables: The Wind Dancer has a camera table built into the dive deck for your use.
- Charging Stations: There is a charging station in the salon for your use with 110V power available.
- Rinse Basins: There are two rinse basins for "cameras only" aboard the mothership for the exclusive use of photographers onboard.

All divers are required to have a buddy with them at all times. When on a drift dive, photographers are expected to stay with the body of the group on their tender. You may move away from the group within reason – providing that the divemaster leading the dive is kept in sight at all times. You will not be permitted to separate from the group or carry your own drift line.

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## Sample 2012 11 Day/ 10 Night Wind Dancer Itinerary

	Daily Events
Day 1	Embark Wind Dancer and begin journey to Cocos Island
Day 2	Transit to Cocos Island/ Arrival in Cocos
Day 3-9	Dive Days: 3 panga dives plus three potential night dives during the charter
Day 9	Depart for Puntarenas
Day 10	Return voyage
Day 11	Arrive Puntarenas early AM. Group transfer to San Jose departs between 7:00 and 7:30 am. Arrive back in San Jose late morning

## Wind Dancer Embarkation Transfer Times

Embarkation Date	Alta Pick-up	Indigo Pick-up	Estimated Puntarenas Arrival
03-Mar-2012	8:00 am	8:20 am	10:00 am
17-Mar-2012	7:00 am	7:20 am	9:00 am
31-Mar-2012	10:00 am	10:20 am	12:00 noon
14-Apr-2012	7:00 am	7:20 am	9:00 am
28-Apr-2012	10:00 am	10:20 am	12:00 noon
12-May-2012	10:00 am	10:20 am	12:00 noon
26-May-2012	2:00 pm	2:20 pm	4:00 pm
09-Jun-2012	2:00 pm	2:20 pm	4:00 pm
23-Jun-2012	1:00 pm	1:20 pm	3:00 pm
07-Jul-2012	1:00 pm	1:20 pm	3:00 pm
20-Jul-2012	12:00 noon	12:20 pm	2:00 pm
04-Aug-2012	12:00 noon	12:20 pm	2:00 pm
18-Aug-2012	11:00 am	11:20 am	1:00 pm
01-Sep-2012	11:00 am	11:20 am	1:00 pm
15-Sep-2012	10:00 am	10:20 am	12:00 noon
29-Sep-2012	10:00 am	10:20 am	12:00 noon
13-Oct-2012	9:00 am	9:20 am	11:00 am
27-Oct-2012	9:00 am	9:20 am	11:00 am
10-Nov-2012	7:00 am	7:20 am	9:00 am
23-Nov-2012	8:00 am	8:20 am	10:00 am
08-Dec-2012	7:00 am	7:20 am	9:00 am
22-Dec-2012	7:00 am	7:20 am	9:00 am

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Wind Dancer Taxi Transfer Information

If you are making your own way to our docks in Puntarenas below is the address and instructions written in Spanish so that you can give them to the taxi driver.

Wind Dancer—Puntarenas Dock

50 metros este de la municipalidad de Puntarenas  
Tapia azul, porton blanco.

Phone +506. 2661.30.62

Cell +506. 8819.80.73

*Dancer Fleet*