

Pre-trip
FAQs



wakatobi

Thank you for confirming your Wakatobi trip – we are looking forward to welcoming you to our secluded diving and snorkeling paradise. The following information has been collected to answer the most commonly asked questions at this stage, and to aid you in your preparation for the trip of a lifetime.

Indonesian Visa

As per mid-April 2022: Entry into Indonesia is possible for the nationals of 60 countries* by purchasing a 30 day “Visa-on-Arrival” at the time you land in Indonesia. Immediately after your arrival into Indonesia, you will be free to travel throughout the country. ASEAN passport holders are also able to enter through the Visa-Waiver programme.

The requirements for these visas are:

- a) a passport with at least 6 months validity from the day you arrive in Indonesia,
- b) at least one totally empty blank page in your passport.

* Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, UK, USA, Vietnam.

For additional info on Indonesian Visa requirements check our website at <https://www.wakatobi.com/faq/#visa>.

Travel & Dive Insurance

We strongly recommend that all guests protect their investment by securing a fully comprehensive travel insurance policy. Depending on your country of residence, there are several options from which to choose, e.g. **Allianz**, **Divers Alert Network (DAN)** and **PADI Travel**.

We also recommend you consider purchasing supplemental dive insurance prior to departing for your trip. These are offered by companies such as **Divers Alert Network (DAN)** and **Dive Assure** who offer specific dive-related policies that can often also include travel and gear, as well as accident coverage in one comprehensive policy.

Please check with your physician and medical insurer in advance of your trip to verify that you are covered while traveling abroad and scuba diving.

In advance of travelling

About three weeks prior to your visit, we will be in touch with a request to complete a form on our website (<https://www.wakatobi.com/crm/essential-information/>). This form provides us with the information we need to know to prepare fully for your arrival.

If you already have all your travel details then you are welcome to complete this form now.

Climate and water conditions at Wakatobi

Air temperature is in general around 30 °C (86F) during the day and nicely cooler in the evening. Water temperature is a fairly cool 26-28 °C (79-82°F).

For divers who tend to get chilled easily we suggest a full body 5mm dive suit, especially for those making several dives in a day. This may seem excessive, but keep in mind that most of our guests do a full four dives a day all around 70 minutes long. You'll get cooled off quite a bit!

For snorkelers we suggest a 3mm wetsuit for cold and sun protection or just a lycra skin for sun protection.

What to pack

When travelling to Wakatobi it is not necessary to travel with shower gel, shampoo & conditioner as we provide these in every room at the resort and all cabins on Pelagian. We also provide towels, hair dryers, extension cables, power plug adaptors and power converters should you be a photographer or videographer and need these.

At Wakatobi we speak in terms of barefoot luxury; relaxed and casual clothes are the order of the day. Dress is usually informal in Indonesia due to the warm, humid climate and lightweight fabrics are recommended. Hats and light long sleeve shirts (for sun protection), light windbreakers, wraps, or even a sweatshirt should also be considered as it does cool down at night. Many of our guests do enjoy to dress up a little for dinner.

Casual shoes, sneakers or sandals are all you will require at the resort. Our walking paths are packed sand and guests are asked to remove their shoes in common area buildings such as the restaurant and longhouse. On Pelagian we ask guests not to wear shoes inside the yacht. Therefore, it is not necessary to bring more than one or two pairs with you to Wakatobi.

If you have any luggage that you will not need during you stay at Wakatobi, for example winter clothes, souvenirs bought in Bali, shoes etc - then we will happily store these in Bali and return these to you when you return to Bali. We do have laundry services available.

Guests who are able to trim on luggage and travel with less than 44lbs (20Kg) per passenger onboard our charter flight will earn a USD 100 eco traveler resort credit that can be used towards equipment rental, bar expenses, boutique, Spa treatments etc. More info on <https://www.wakatobi.com/faq/#luggage>.

Your arrival in Bali

We arrange an airport greeting service for all guests of Wakatobi. One of our team will meet you just after you pass through immigration and enter the baggage reclaim hall. Our staff will assist you with claiming luggage and escort you out through customs to meet your driver (if there is one arranged) or show you to the airport taxi counter.

Our flight departs Bali early in the morning on flight days, which is why we ask that guests arrive in Bali at least one night before the start of their Wakatobi package. Following are suggestions for hotels that are nearby the airport if you are staying for just one night before or after your visit to Wakatobi.

Belmond Jimbaran Puri (Jimbaran / 30 minutes from airport) \$\$\$

(<https://www.belmond.com/hotels/asia/bali/belmond-jimbaran-puri/>)

The Anvaya Beach Resort Bali (Kuta / 20 minutes from airport) \$\$

(www.santika.com/indonesia/kuta/anvaya-beach-resorts-bali/)

Novotel Bali Airport (In the Bali airport) \$

(<https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-9105-novotel-bali-ngurah-rai-airport-/index.shtml>)

Bali tours and more

If you are interested in spending extra time in Bali before or after you visit Wakatobi our concierge team can help with arrangements for accommodations, activities, or day tours with our own Wakatobi tour guide. Please contact us at bali@wakatobi.com.

Departure to Wakatobi

On the morning of the charter flight, we expect guests to arrive at the domestic departure terminal of the Bali airport at 6:45am. Guests need to meet with our staff (holding Wakatobi sign boards) outside the terminal building. Our staff will give you an entry pass that will get you through the security barrier.

On the other side of the barrier, you will meet with more Wakatobi staff. There is no need for tickets / confirmation documents on our charter as we personally assist all guests through check-in. We will take your luggage and escort you to the VIP lounge to wait for our flight.

Planning your days

Many guests inquire in advance about times for meals, diving/snorkeling and fitting in other activities. To give you an idea following is a basic Resort schedule.

Resort schedule

Breakfast from 6:30 to 9:00am

First dive - boats depart at 7:00 am with the first dive at, or around 7:30am

Second dive at or around 9:30am - 10:00am

Lunch from 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Third dive at 2:15pm, or at sunset when a night dive is offered instead

Dinner from 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Note: When dive #1 and #2 are nearby the Resort, the boat will return to the Resort for a short break during the surface interval. Should both dive #1 and #2 take place further away from the Resort, the boat will not return to the Resort till lunch time.

Spa services and additional activities

The Spa is open every day from 9am to 9pm. The last Spa booking is at 8pm. Spa treatments can be booked onsite or in advance. Please schedule with reception in the Longhouse or for advance bookings check with the Bali office at office@wakatobi.com.

Once you arrive you will receive a schedule with detailed information about our Behind the Scenes tour, village tours at Lamanggau, towel art, Indonesian cooking classes and other activities. To reserve watersports equipment such as stand up paddleboards or kayaks, you can inquire at the Dive Center in the Longhouse.

Pelagian's routine

Pelagian picks up guests at the resort. You will be treated to lunch at the resort restaurant and then later board the yacht. This is a sample of your Pelagian daily eat, sleep and dive itinerary.

Pelagian schedule

Light breakfast 6-6:30am

First dive departs at 6:45am

Hot breakfast served at 8:30am

Second dive departs at 10:15am

Lunch is served around 12:30pm

Third dive departs at 2:15pm

Freshly prepared snacks are served at 3:45pm

Fourth dive departs 5:40pm (except at Pasar Wajo for mandarin fish experience before sunset)

Dinner around 7-7:30pm

Note: Night dives are conducted starting after sunset with dinner served after you have returned and freshened up. Inquire with your cruise director once you are aboard.

Tipping

Tipping is entirely up to our guests' discretion, and is by no means obligatory.

For some nationalities, it is a cultural norm to tip (and not to do so feels uncomfortable). For other nationalities, the whole idea of tipping is uncomfortable. As we aim to make every guest comfortable, you can choose to tip, or not to tip, depending on what makes you feel good.

Of course, when given, tips are gratefully received by staff. The only regulation we have is that there is no personal tipping. All tips received are pooled and divided equitably.

Return to Bali

On the last day of the Wakatobi vacation our charter flight will return to Bali between 2pm – 3:30pm and we don't recommend anyone to book tickets to leave Bali on the day of return from Wakatobi until after 5:30pm.