

HM Alma de Bayahibe Diving Programme - SEAKLUB DIVING Centre

DIVING IN BAYAHIBE

Bayahibe, located on the east coast of the Dominican Republic, is known as a world-class diving destination. With its crystal clear waters and rich marine biodiversity, the hotel **HM Alma de Bayahibe**, in collaboration with the **SEAKLUB DIVING** diving centre, offers diving enthusiasts a unique and exciting experience. Diving into the depths of the Atlantic Ocean and exploring the vibrant coral reefs, discovering fascinating shipwrecks and encountering a wide variety of marine species, will make diving in Bayahibe an unforgettable experience.

LOCAL DIVE SITES IN BAYAHIBE FROM BOAT

- **Saint George Wreck**: This is an artificial shipwreck sunk in 1999 as a dive site. The wreck of the cargo ship Saint George is located at a depth of about 30 metres and offers an exciting dive for advanced divers. The wreck is covered with marine life, including corals, sponges, tropical fish and more.
- **Atlantic Princess**: The Atlantic Princess is another artificial shipwreck sunk in 1997, a cargo ship lying at a depth of approximately 12 metres. It offers an interesting dive for intermediate divers, with opportunities to explore the structure of the wreck and spot marine life.
- **Viva Shallow**: This is a dive site suitable for beginners and intermediate divers. It is a shallow dive, with a maximum depth of 9 metres, and boasts an abundance of hard and soft corals, as well as a variety of tropical fish and marine life.
- **Dominicus Reef**: This is a dive site located on the east coast of the Dominican Republic, near the town of Bayahibe. It is located in front of the HM Alma de Bayahibe hotel and is at a depth of approximately 12 metres. It is known for its impressive coral reef that extends over a wide area. Divers can enjoy a dive on a coral reef with a great diversity of hard and soft corals, sponges, gorgonians and a wide variety of tropical fish. Dominicus Reef offers a colourful and vibrant diving experience, with an abundance of marine life to observe and explore.
- **Guaraguao I and Guaraguao II**. Formerly called Guaraguao National Park, it is of great historical importance. Located at the western end of Cotubanamá National Park, it is the beginning of the reef system that extends all the way to Saona Island. Here you can see cannons, cannonballs and a rack of muskets taken from the wrecks of sunken Spanish ships. The light to medium current makes for a relaxing experience, and the different shades of colour are impressive. The soft and hard coral on a sandy base is home to a wide variety of fish and sea creatures. On this healthy reef, visibility is usually 30-50 metres, so don't forget to bring your cameras. It is home to the Guaraguao, also known as the red-tailed hawk or hen hawk.

DIVING ON SAONA ISLAND

Our excursion to Saona Island from Bayahibe by motor catamaran and sailing catamaran is an exciting adventure full of fun, relaxation and unique experiences. The excursion starts in the morning. You will sail through the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea, enjoying panoramic views and the sea breeze.

During the catamaran trip, you will stop at the natural pools of Palmilla, where the divers will meet their companions before continuing the journey together. Here you can snorkel and swim in the crystal clear, shallow waters, surrounded by stunning coral reefs and colourful fish.

You will then continue your journey to Saona Island, where you will disembark on a beautiful white sandy beach lined with palm trees. You will have time to relax, sunbathe and take a dip in the sea. In addition, you will enjoy a delicious meal that includes grilled chicken, fresh fish, rice, and other delectable local dishes. All this will be accompanied by refreshing drinks and, to top it all off, a lively lunch with music and entertainment on the beach.

At the end of the excursion, you will return to Bayahibe on a catamaran, enjoying a relaxing return trip as you take in the panoramic views and gentle Caribbean breeze. An unforgettable experience combining adventure, relaxation and delicious local cuisine!

Some of the dive sites we visit in Saona are the following, depending on the level of the divers:

- **El Peñón:** This is a vertical wall dive site that descends to depths of up to 25 metres. It is known for its impressive rock formation that rises from the seabed and offers opportunities for sightings of large fish such as barracuda and groupers, as well as the possibility of encountering sea turtles. It also has a shallower part of about 12 metres suitable for intermediate divers. This dive site offers two magnificent dives.
- **Tortuga (Turtle).** This dive site is known as a hotspot for these creatures and is a must-see spot in the Eastern National Park. Half an hour by boat from Bayahibe, the maximum depth at this site is 12 metres, with a visibility of 20 metres or more. Due to its location within the national park, fishing is prohibited at this site. The underwater life in Tortuga is healthy and lively. With little current, this site is perfect for a nice relaxed dive where you can really enjoy all the life surrounding you. As the name suggests, turtles can be found at this dive site. While looking for turtles and nudibranchs, don't forget to look up, as eagle rays are known to pass by. Large lionfish and green moray eels are also found at Tortuga, hidden among the rocks and corals. The easy diving conditions and large reef at Tortuga are suitable for divers of all levels and abilities. With visibility as good as it is here, even snorkellers can enjoy the reef from above! Diving level: any level. Depth: 12-14 metres.
- **La Parquera:** This is a dive site located in the Saona Island area of the Dominican Republic. It is known for its spectacular coral reef formation that extends over a wide area and offers a dive depth of around 25 metres. Divers can explore the colourful hard and soft corals, as well as the diversity of tropical fish and other marine life that inhabit the area. Only divers who are advanced divers or above, or Open Water divers who have completed the deep dive speciality in the Adventure Diver course, can participate.

The excursion for divers has an additional cost which is detailed below and includes everything mentioned above in the description of the excursion to Saona. The companions will go on another boat, snorkel and then meet at the natural pools of Palmilla.

DIVING AT CATALINA ISLAND

The exciting excursion to Catalina Island begins at our dock on the picturesque Cumayasa River, providing participants with a unique experience from the outset. Before heading to Catalina Island, we will take a fascinating boat trip through the lush mangroves of the area. Mangroves are a unique and vital ecosystem that acts as a natural nursery for a wide variety of marine and bird species.

Once on Catalina Island, diving and snorkelling enthusiasts can dive into the crystal clear waters and discover an underwater world full of wonders.

Catalina Island is also a paradise for those who prefer snorkelling. With its coral reef close to shore, visitors can don a mask and snorkel, enjoying the underwater beauty at shallow depths. Exotic corals, brightly coloured tropical fish and other fascinating marine organisms await underwater explorers in the clear waters of Catalina Island.

In addition to the water activities, the excursion to Catalina Island also includes free time on the beach to relax on the soft white sand and enjoy the natural surroundings. During the tour, meals and drinks are usually included in the package. A delicious buffet lunch with local specialities and drinks will be a lovely way to recharge your batteries after the water activities.

Safety is a priority on our excursion to Catalina Island. Participants will be accompanied by our highly trained diving and snorkelling professionals, who will provide detailed instructions on safety and orientation in the water. The peace of mind and confidence of our visitors are of paramount importance while exploring the underwater wonders of Catalina Island.

The dives at Catalina Island are as follows:

- The first dive, **La Pared**, starts at a depth of 5 metres and descends along a beautiful coral wall to 30 metres, offering an unforgettable experience. This site is suitable for beginners on up to advanced divers, offering crystal clear waters and plenty of hard and soft corals. The second dive is at **Aquarium**, a 12 metre deep reef dive, full of fish and corals. Vibrant coral reefs, populated by a wide variety of marine species, further enhance the diving experience. Beginners can also enjoy the thrill of diving by participating in a try dive or an introductory dive with our highly trained professional instructors.

EXCURSIONS and DIVE PRICES with and without Equipment

CODE	Description of excursions and dives	Price
DIVEXC1	CATALINA EXCURSION	80 USD
DIVEXC2	SAONA EXCURSION	65 USD
DIVEXC3	1 DIVE	55 USD
DIVEXC4	ONE DIVE INCL. EQUIP	65 USD
DIVEXC5	2 DIVES	100 USD
DIVEXC6	2 DIVES EQUIPMENT INCLUDED	110 USD
DIVEXC7	4-DIVE PACKAGE	190 USD
DIVEXC8	4-DIVE PACKAGE INCL. EQUIP	210 USD
DIVEXC9	6-DIVE PACKAGE	280 USD
DIVEXC10	6-DIVE PACKAGE INCL EQUIP	310 USD
DIVEXC11	8-DIVE PACKAGE	340 USD
DIVEXC12	8-DIVE PACKAGE INCL. EQUIP	380 USD
DIVEXC13	10-DIVE PACKAGE	400 USD
DIVEXC14	10-DIVE PACKAGE INCL EQUIP	450 USD
HM1	TANK AND WEIGHTS	15 USD
HM2	COMPLETE EQUIPMENT	30 USD
HMINSTR	1 DIVE INSTRUCTOR SERVICE	40 USD
RENCOMP	DIVE COMPUTER RENTAL	10 USD
RENLIT	LIGHT RENTAL	6 USD

HM Alma de Bayahibe Direct DIVE

Directly from the pier of HM Bayahibe, you can dive in a reef that starts at 5 metres deep, or you can enter a reef where you can reach a depth of 11 metres. The area is marked off by a line of buoys that prevents boats from passing too close to the area, and the dive site has corals and species typical of the Caribbean. A very suitable dive for all those who want to dive without having to go far from the hotel, being especially interesting for night diving, with no need to organise boat logistics, since it is a safe and peaceful environment.

Divers have the possibility to dive without an instructor or divemaster, within the established schedules, as long as they have the OPEN WATER certification or higher and are always accompanied by a companion, or they can hire the services of an instructor.

Prices for services from the Hotel

CODE	Description	Price
HM1	TANKS AND WEIGHTS	15 USD
HM2	COMPLETE EQUIPMENT	30 USD
HMINSTR	1 DIVE INSTRUCTOR SERVICE	40 USD
RENCOMP	DIVE COMPUTER RENTAL	10 USD
RENLIT	LIGHT RENTAL	6 USD

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