





ANDAMAN ISLANDS

THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS, PART OF THE UNION TERRITORIES OF INDIA, IS MADE UP OF OVER 550 ISLANDS, ISLETS AND ROCKS, SITUATED IN THE SOUTH EASTERN PART OF THE BAY OF BENGAL, APPROXIMATELY 800 KM NORTHWEST OF PHUKET.

These islands remain relatively isolated and only 26 are actually uninhabited. Some islands are strictly out-of-bounds, like North Sentinel, where the indigenous tribes are among the last people to remain totally untouched by the modern world.

Notable for deserted beaches, crystal clear waters, inland forests, and India's only active volcano, the Andaman Islands are also a scuba diver's paradise: with deep vertical wall dives, whale sharks, manta rays, dolphins, dugong, and very good underwater visibility.

The weather between December and April is characteristically dry, with clear blue skies, and refreshing sea breezes.



Arrive in Port Blair and board your private yacht. We depart Port Blair and sail northeast to Havelock Island, where a magnificent deserted beach anchorage is backed by towering green jungle. We often see logging elephants swimming here, brought down to the beach by their "mahouts" for a refreshing dip.

DAY 2: HAVELOCK & SOUTH BUTTON ISLAND

A morning sail north from Havelock brings us to South Button Island, a tiny little rocky outcrop inhabited by two White Bellied Sea Eagles. This is a superb dive site with huge shoals of fish, pristine coral, enormous Napolean Wrasse and the occasional manta ray. We spend the rest of the day diving and snorkelling at South Button before moving on to the perfect "castaway" island of North Button for the night.

DAY 3 & 4: BARREN ISLAND

An early morning departure takes us to Barren Island. This remote and very active volcano has some of the best scuba diving in the world. Around the island vertical walls drop to depths of over 2000 m. Barren is the last active volcano of the archipelago. The last major eruption in 1991 lasted 6 months and caused considerable damage in the area; approaching this island by boat and catching a sight of its bare lunar landscapes is a truly out of this world experience. So too is the dive, with a black sandy bottom and lava falls contrasting with shiny corals. A wide range of species can be spotted here, from macro nudibranchs to large pelagics and even whales, large sharks, dolphins and manta rays.







11-night Andaman Islands itinerary

DAY 5 & 6: NARCONDAM ISLAND

A very early morning departure takes us on a 10-hour voyage to the exceptionally remote Narcondam Island, home to an extinct volcano covered with lush evergreen and deciduous forests. This is a truly enigmatic location to spend the next few days. Narcondam Island is a designated wildlife sanctuary to protect the endangered species of Narcondam hornbill, believed to have originated in Northeast India. There are some 20 superb dive sites around this island. Late one afternoon we will dive manta point. It is not unlikely that you will be the only people to dive at Narcondam this year.

DAY 7: INGLIS ISLAND

An early morning departure takes us to Inglis Island for late afternoon. This beautiful uninhabited island is surrounded by a white sand beach backed by verdant tropical jungle. This is a great area for exploring by kayak, a jungle walk, snorkelling or just relaxing in a hammock on the beach.

DAY 8: INGLIS & NEIL ISLAND

Just south of Inglis Island are a series of coral ridges which stretch 20km from Minerva Ledge in the north to a series of deep water pinnacles in the south. There are an enormous number of dive sites in this area many of which have never been dived. Spend the day exploring this underwater playground, before the yacht anchors for the night at the nearby Neil Island.

DAY 9: RUTLAND ISLAND

Before lunch time, we'll sail to Rutland Island in the south of Port Blair and enjoy some nice snorkelling in the pristine water of Jhaji Beach as the sun sets.











DAY 10: PASSAGE ISLAND

Today, the yacht will sail to Fish Rock, near Passage Island, which offers an extremely colourful dive with tons of fish life. The topography consists of rocky slopes, boulders and drop-offs, featuring huge fan corals and many basket sponges. At Invisible Bank, the concentration of fish is incredible, and the topography is fairly dramatic, with scattered rocks over a sandy bottom. Grey and White tip reef sharks are almost always in the vicinity, as are nurse sharks. Return to Cinque Island in the north for mooring overnight.

DAY II: CINQUE ISLAND

Cinque Islands is a beautiful area for exploring, with underwater coral gardens and unspoiled beaches, trekking through the islands where rare birds, spotted deer and wild boar can be seen. In South Cinque you can possibly spot dolphins, turtles, and manta rays, and the islands are ideal for your last diving experiences in the Andaman Islands.

DAY 12: PORT BLAIR

Today, the yacht will return to Port Blair where the crew will assist you with disembarking and airport transfer.





WWW.ULTIMATE-YACHTS.COM