



COMING SOON 2020 ANDAMAN ISLANDS INDIA DIVE TRIP



This will be one of Clidive's most ambitious overseas dive trips– 2 long haul flights, Ferry, visas, permits to travel to a remote island and overnight stays before we get to our incredible remote island with beach huts/accommodation...

Andaman Islands are a sub-tropical group of Islands in the Indian Ocean governed by India with pristine white sands, clear blue waters and lush green forests. They are geographically closer to Myanmar and Thailand. There are still indigenous people living on the Islands hence why travellers would need to apply for permits to travel to any of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands as they are protected by the Indian Navy. The currency is Indian Rupees, for Europeans India is very cheap and easy on the pockets. Surface temperatures are in the 30 degree plus region and water temperatures are suitable for wetsuits /shorties /swimwear.

At this stage I am gaging interest. There will be 2 days of travel to the Island and the same for the return, 5 days of diving with 2 dives a day, night dives can be arranged too. What is included in the price – permits, ferry crossing, airport pickup/drop-offs, accommodation on the island for the duration of our stay (very rustic beach huts), breakfast, light lunch including water, boat, cylinders, air, weights (10% discount for those who bring their own equipment), all diving, boats, guides – approx. £600 (this is before the group discount). The dive centre speaks English, German as well as local dialects. I can take a max of 20 people. We will be sight seeing too around the Island after our dives for those that love travelling. Dives will be pristine coral reefs, drifts, cavern, WW2 British mine-sweeper "Sophie Marie". This will be opened to all divers, there are 4 boats.

Not included – overnight stay in India / overnight stay in Port Blair as the connecting flights / ferry is cleverly timed to run after flights land! Dinner, visas, flights, excursions, snacks anything outside of the above. This will be in the region of £500-£600 on top. The time of year we are looking at, the flights are cheaper due to being outside of school hols and before the tropical storms.

As a child, my school summer holidays I spend in India with my Uncle Rajan, Aunty Geetha and their family. Uncle Rajan was a Senior Commanding Officer in the Indian Navy; he would tell us stories of his Navy training in the Andaman Islands in his youth – where the water was so clear they could count the scales of the huge tuna fish! They often went swimming with dugones, mantas, turtles, whales, huge shoals of tropical fish and sharks below them. The Elephants would swim from one island to another to enjoy the bananas! They were incredible stories; it has been on my plan to dive the Andaman Islands when I became a diver. Hope you can join me ☺

