One of the Seven Underwater Wonders of the World

# The Big Palau Spawning Festival, 2026

## **NEW MOON SPECIAL**

12 March to 18 March, 2026

With Pablo Cogollos

MARINE BIOLOGIST I VIDEOGRAPHER

EARLY BIRD OFFER

USD 2,250/person

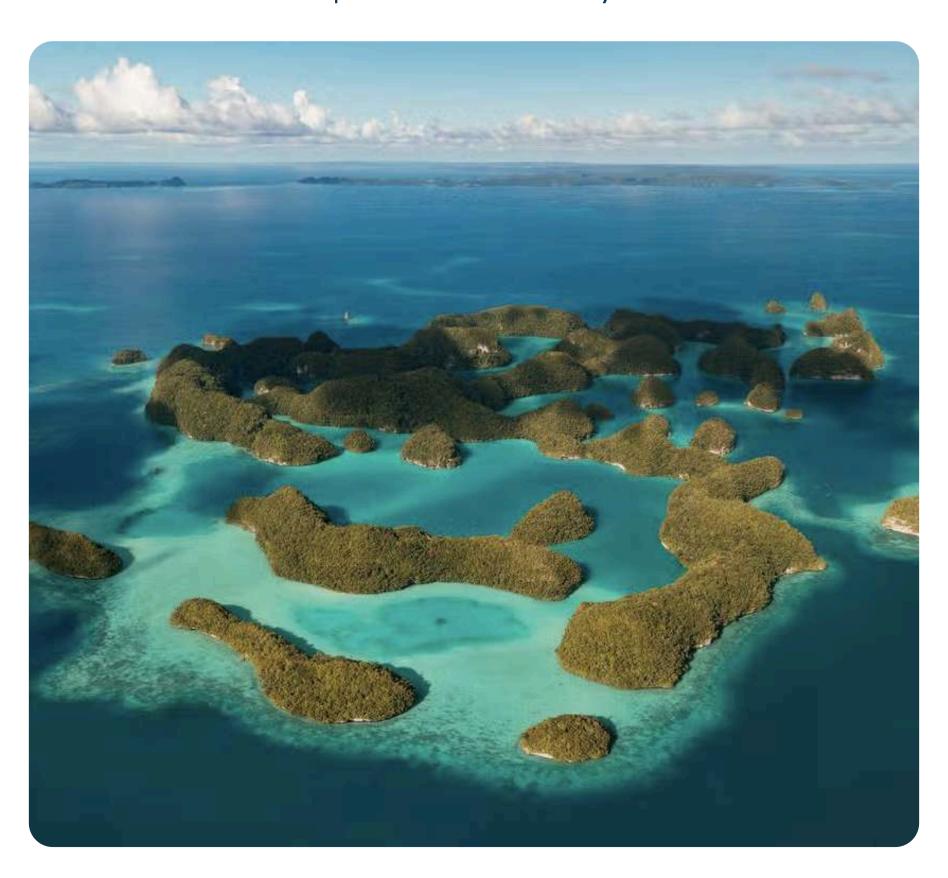
Valid till 30 October 2025



#### Welcome to Palau

#### A Hidden Gem of the Pacific

Tucked away in the western Pacific Ocean, Palau is a remote island nation made up of around 340 islands, renowned for its untouched natural beauty, rich marine biodiversity, and pioneering environmental leadership. Located southeast of the Philippines and north of Papua New Guinea, Palau may be small in size, but it holds a legendary reputation among divers and conservationists alike. It was the first country in the world to ban reef-toxic sunscreen and is home to the Palau National Marine Sanctuary, one of the largest fully protected ocean areas on Earth. Palau is the first nation on earth to change its immigration laws for the cause of environmental protection. Upon entry, visitors need to sign a passport pledge (written by children) to act in an ecologically and culturally responsible way on the island. This compulsory promise is made directly to the children of Palau, to preserve this country, their home.



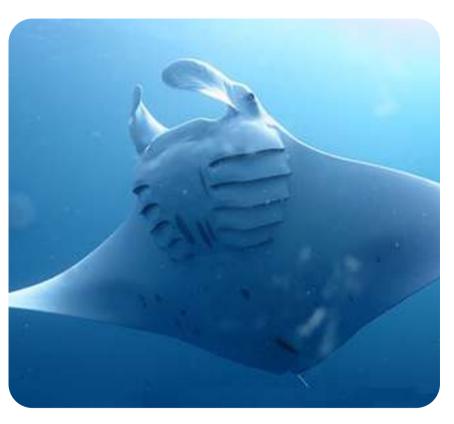
## Diving in Palau

#### Renowned for Exceptional Diving

Palau is world-renowned as one of the top diving destinations on the planet, offering a rich blend of pristine coral reefs, thrilling drift dives, and pelagic encounters. Its warm, clear waters are home to over 1,300 species of fish and 700 types of coral, creating an underwater spectacle that draws divers from across the globe. From sharks and manta rays to massive schools of fish and macro treasures, Palau's biodiversity is both accessible and dramatic.

Unique opportunities like spawning aggregation dives—where red snapper and bumphead parrotfish gather in massive numbers during lunar cycles—add to the allure, providing rare and unforgettable marine experiences. Combined with its conservation–driven policies and world-first Shark Sanctuary designation, Palau offers not just adventure, but diving with purpose.









## **Popular Dive Sites**

#### **Top Dive Sites and Seasonal Highlights**

Blue Corner is Palau's most iconic site, offering high-energy drift diving- grey reef sharks, tuna, and barracuda patrol the edge. German Channel is known for reliable manta ray sightings at cleaning stations, often accompanied by rich macro life. Ulong Channel features one of the best natural drift dives, with sloping coral gardens, canyon formations, and schooling fish. During February and March, pelagic activity intensifies with large aggregations of sharks—often numbering in the thousands—including occasional sightings of hammerheads and silvertips. Around the lunar cycle, spawning dives provide rare opportunities to observe synchronized mass spawning events, such as red snapper and bumphead parrotfish—a biologically significant and visually striking occurrence. Each site reflects Palau's exceptional biodiversity, topography, and conservation focus, delivering a highly rewarding dive experience.



#### **Best Time to Dive in Palau**

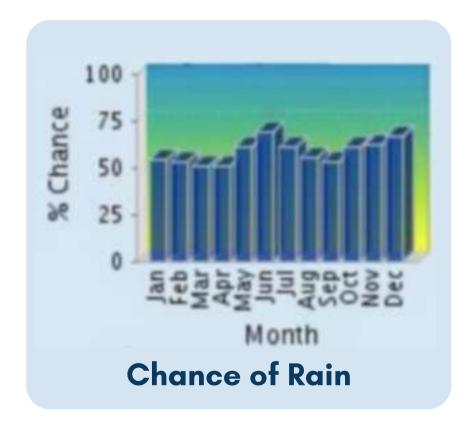
#### Weather & Marine Life Pattern

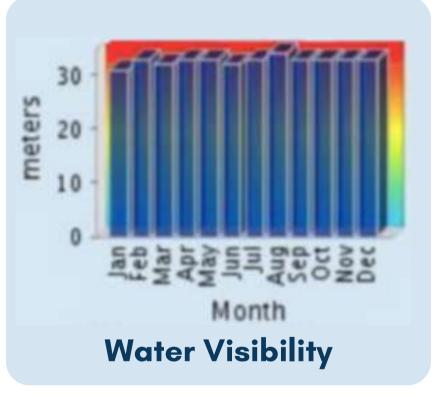
Located at Latitude 7°30′N, Palau lies outside the typhoon and monsoon belts, making it a year-round diving destination. While older references mention a "dry" season (October-June) and "wet" season (July-September), climate changes over the past 25 years have led to a more unpredictable but generally mild weather pattern.

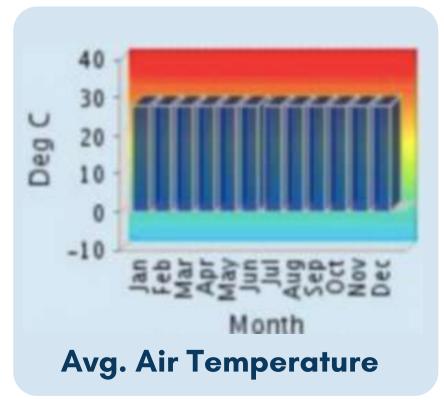
December - April is considered the best time for diving in Palau.

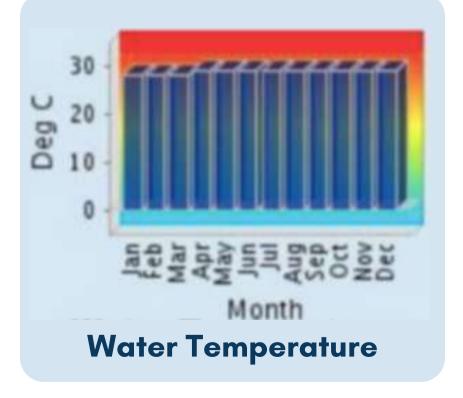
**February - May** marks the **shark mating season**, when large aggregations of sharks can be observed. It's also **peak manta mating season** through March, making February and March especially rewarding for witnessing schools of Moorish Idols, thousands of sharks, and mating mantas.

Our trip is perfectly timed around the **new moon on March 19** to offer a rare chance to witness mass Bumphead Parrotfish Spawning—one of nature's most spectacular events.









## **Palau Beyond Diving**

#### **Uncover Palau's Hidden Treasures**

Palau is not only an underwater marvel—it offers a rich tapestry of experiences above the surface as well.

As one of the world's youngest and most remote nations, Palau blends pristine nature with deep cultural heritage. Visitors can explore the iconic Rock Islands, take a soothing mud bath in the Milky Way lagoon, hike to hidden waterfalls, or visit local museums and Bai (traditional meeting houses) to learn about Palauan history and traditions.

Whether it's kayaking through **lush mangroves**, joining a **cultural tour**, or simply soaking in the island serenity, Palau invites you to experience its beauty from every angle.

Please note: Due to rising water temperatures, jellyfish sightings in Jellyfish Lake are currently very rare. The experience is quite different from what is shown in photos online. We advise guests to skip the visit to avoid disappointment or unnecessary costs.









## **Our Itinerary**

#### **Detailed Day-wise Plan**

#### Day 1: (Mar 12, 2026)

- Pickup from the Roman Tmetuchl International Airport, also known as Palau International Airport, Koror.
- Van transfer to hotel in Koror.
- Check-in at the hotel. Meet and greet.





#### Day 2: (Mar 13, 2026)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Equipment setup and check dive.
- Two dives following the check dive.
- Lunch.
- Visit to the Milky Way.

#### Day 3 - Day 4 : (Mar 14 - Mar 15, 2026)

- Daily 3 Dives covering the most sought-after & popular dive sites– the Blue Corner, German Channel (Manta Cleaning Station), Blue Holes, Big Drop-Off, Ulong Channel, Iro Maru.
- Breakfast and Lunch as per schedule.





#### Day 5 - Day 6: (Mar 16 - Mar 17, 2026)

- Spawning Dive Bumphead Parrotfish mass spawning occurs exactly 3 days before the new moon. Since the new moon is on Mar 19, peak spawning is expected on Mar 16.
- Breakfast and Lunch as per dive schedule.

#### Day 7 (Mar 18, 2026)

- Hotel checkout after breakfast, Airport Drop
- Optional: Since flights depart in the evening, you can spend the day exploring Koror visit rock island, waterfall, enjoy a hike or take a cultural tour. We'll be happy to arrange it.



Our trip is timed around the NEW MOON ON MAR 19 to align with the lunar cycle, offering the rare opportunity to witness mass spawning.

#### Inclusions

- 6 Nights Hotel Stay in Koror in Sea-view Room (twin sharing)
- 15 Guided Dives including Special Spawning Dive
- Airport Pickup and Drop-off
- Hotel Dive Shop Hotel Transfers
- Daily Breakfast
- Lunch on Dive Days (5)
- Milky Way Tour
- Dedicated trip leader

#### **Exclusions**

- Mandatory Koror State Permit USD 50 per person
- 5% GST
- Dinner
- Tips and gratuities
- Dive equipment rental
- Last day land excursions (optional)
- Payment gateway charges

## **Equipment and Eligibility**

- Full set equipment rental (mask, fins, BCD, regulator, and wetsuit) – USD 30 per day
- Nitrox USD 5 per tank
- SMB, Dive computer, Current hooks are mandatory
- Eligibility is Advanced diver with minimum 30 dives, should have dived in the last 6 months.

## **Spot Reservation**

- A non-refundable deposit of USD 500 is required to reserve the spot via this link <a href="http://rzp.io/rzp/palau2026">http://rzp.io/rzp/palau2026</a>
- We'll send your booking confirmation from bookings@oceaon.com
- The balance is due 60 days before the trip start date.

## Accommodation

#### **Comfort Meets Island Charm**

Just five minutes from shopping areas, this newly renovated waterfront property offers convenient amenities including parking, a restaurant, and laundry service. Spacious, airconditioned rooms feature private bathrooms, balconies, safes, hangers, TVs, desks, mini-bars, and WiFi.











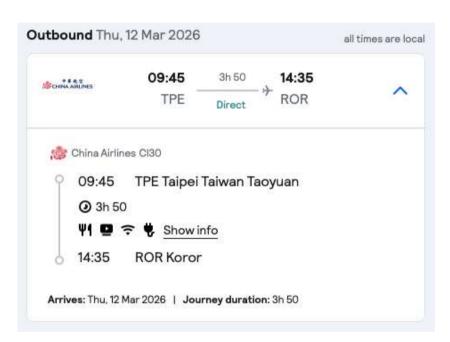


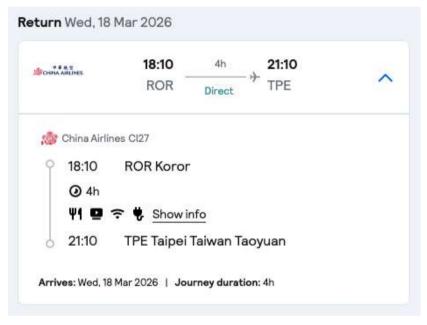


#### **How To Get To Palau**

- From Taiwan: China Airlines operates direct flights from Taipei
  (TPE) to Koror (ROR) four times a week—on Mondays,
   Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. The flight duration is
  approximately 3 hours and 50 minutes.
- From Australia: There are no direct flights from Australia to Palau.
   However, travelers can connect through major hubs such as
   Singapore, Manila (Philippines), or Taipei.
- We recommend booking flights well in advance, especially because Feb-March is peak travel season in Palau.

#### Recommended Flights for Trip Dates (Mar 12 - Mar 18, 2026):









#### **Meet Your Host**



Pablo Cogollos Marine Biologist - Videographer

Pablo Cogollos, with over 5,000 dives to his name as a seasoned solo and technical diver, is a distinguished biologist, underwater filmmaker, and diving instructor for the last 11 years, whose expertise and passion for marine ecosystems have made him a respected figure in the world of ocean conservation. Born in Madrid, Spain, Pablo cultivated

a profound interest in marine life from an early age, which led him to pursue Honours in Biology specialise in Marine Biology. Over the years, he has combined his scientific knowledge with his skills in underwater cinematography to become a powerful advocate for the protection of marine ecosystems. For the past 11 years, Pablo has been based in Australia, where he has focused his work on the Great Barrier Reef—one of the world's most biodiverse and fragile marine environments. Through his underwater filmmaking, Pablo captures the Reef's rich biodiversity, from its vibrant coral formations to its complex marine life, showcasing both the beauty and the urgent need for its preservation. His films not only highlight the wonders of the underwater world but also serve as educational tools to raise awareness about the environmental challenges facing the Reef, including climate change, coral bleaching, and overfishing.

Pablo's work embodies the intersection of science, art, and environmental advocacy, with a mission to inspire global audiences to take action in protecting the oceans and their inhabitants for future generations.

#### **About Oceaon**

Welcome to <u>Oceaon</u>, where passion converges with purpose beneath the waves. Committed to the protection and conservation of the Earth's most invaluable resource—the Ocean—we aspire to inspire change by raising awareness and promoting education about the enchanting marine world.

At Oceaon, we meticulously plan and execute dive trips to captivating destinations globally.



# What makes us Excellent?



## Safety First

Prioritizing your well-being, we adhere to the highest safety standards, ensuring a secure and worry-free diving experience.



## **Experienced Team**

Dive into the depths with confidence, guided by our team of seasoned professionals who bring years of expertise and a passion for marine exploration.



## Top Accommodation

Our carefully selected accommodations offer a perfect blend of luxury and relaxation.



#### **Attention to Detail**

From itinerary planning to personalized services, we pride ourselves on the little things that make a big difference, ensuring your journey is seamless and memorable.

## Crafted by Experts

Explore truly unique destinations and witness world's most remarkable marine life

2,220+

155+

Happy Travelers

Trips done



We look forward to hosting you and exploring the stunning waters of Palau together.

# THANKYOU

RESERVE YOUR SPOT HERE



For queries write to bookings@oceaon.com We are also available on WhatsApp +918297670739 | +918447367821