



SHARK DIVE CLE F.A.Q.

Where does the SCUBA dive take place?

You will dive in the Greater Cleveland Aquarium shark exhibit. It is 230,000 gallons of saltwater with more than 30 species of aquatic animals including sharks, stingrays and green moray eels. The water temperature averages 74°F and the maximum depth is 9.5 feet.

What does the program include?

- Daily admission to the Greater Cleveland Aquarium for 1 SCUBA diver and 1 viewing guest.
- Tour of back-of-house dive platform and Shark Exhibit life support system
- Fish identification tour in the Shark Gallery Seatube
- SCUBA dive in the Shark Exhibit with use of all SCUBA dive equipment
- Shark Dive CLE window cling
- Souvenir shark tooth . . . *if you find one!*

What are the requirements for the program?

- proof of Open Water SCUBA Certification (at minimum) from a nationally recognized SCUBA certifying agency
- 15 years and older; ages 15 - 17 require a supervising SCUBA certified parent or guardian to participate in the dive (price of second diver not included)
- Government-issued picture ID
- Signed Greater Cleveland Aquarium Medical Statement. Note: A physician's signature is required if you answer YES to any condition that may affect your safety while diving.
- Signed Greater Cleveland Aquarium Liability Release
- Completed Guest Information Sheet
- Ability to carry 50lbs of SCUBA equipment
- Ability to climb stairs with the weight of the SCUBA equipment

What is the timeline and itinerary?

- Arrive at Greater Cleveland Aquarium 15 minutes prior to your scheduled program time
- Check-in with the SCUBA Dive Instructor (10 minutes)
- Tour of the Shark Gallery and fish identification (20 minutes)
- Back-of-house tour, dive safety briefing and preparation of SCUBA equipment (30 minutes)
- Diver down time – the SCUBA dive time is based on use of one (63 cubic feet) cylinder with a surface ascent at no less than 1000 PSI or approximately 30 to 40 minutes whichever is less dependent of breathing rate during dive time.
- Dive debrief and shower (30 minutes)

What items should I bring?

Towel, bathing suit, personal toiletries, personal dive mask (optional) and dive log

What items should I leave at home?

Underwater cameras, jewelry, and personal SCUBA equipment

What SCUBA equipment will be provided?

BCD, regulator, 5mm wetsuit, dive booties, weight belt, SCUBA cylinder, gloves (optional), hood (optional) and mask. Guests have the option of using their personal dive mask if preferred however, it must be decontaminated by an Aquarium dive team member prior to use.

Exhibit Diving Guidelines:

- Guest divers must first perform basic SCUBA skills upon entry into the Shark Exhibit
- Touching of the animals, exhibit décor or acrylic may be hazardous to the divers and animals and is therefore prohibited. Failure to comply will result in immediate termination of the dive with no refund.
- Guest diver must stay near the SCUBA dive instructor throughout the dive time
- We follow PADI safe diving practices and policies ask prior to the dive if you have any questions or concerns about following these practices and policies
- Guest diver must be comfortable with potentially hazardous wild animals within close proximity, such as sharks and eels
- Flying within 24 hours after diving is not recommended

What is the reservation policy?

Shark Dive CLE is scheduled for select Saturdays from 9-11am and 2-4pm. Additional days and times may be available upon request

Reservations must be made 2 weeks in advance providing proof of SCUBA certification. The program application packet must be returned to the Dive Safety Coordinator 7 days prior to program date. A reservation will be confirmed once the completed application is approved.

The Dive Safety Coordinator reserves the right to deny an application for the Shark Dive CLE Program based on factors that may include incomplete documents or periods of diving inactivity. It is recommended that if you have an excessive period of diving inactivity relative to your dive experience that you participate in a SCUBA Review/Refresh with any local dive shop.

What is the policy for cancelations?

Full payment of the Shark Dive CLE program is processed at the time of reservation. Refunds are not available. Cancelations without 24 hour notice will not be rescheduled. Cancelations with advance notification will be rescheduled for a future program date within a year of the original program date.

The SCUBA Dive Instructor reserves the right to cancel any dive program at any time should they decide that diver participation is unsafe. No refund will be permitted.

The Greater Cleveland Aquarium reserves the right to cancel a Shark Dive CLE program at any time due to special Aquarium circumstances, including but not limited to staffing, illness, animal behavior or a nearby thunderstorm with lightning strikes. The Shark Dive CLE program will be rescheduled for a future program date.