



California Live-Aboard "Bottom Scratcher" Itinerary 2018



Print and take a copy of this form with you on your trip. Also leave a copy at home with a friend or relative.

First of all - we would like to thank you for signing up for this trip and supporting Scuba Professionals of Arizona! We sincerely hope that you have a fantastic and memorable scuba adventure. If you have questions or concerns any time during the trip, please share them with the staff so that we may immediately address those issues. At the end of the charter we will email you a trip survey, please take a moment upon your return to Phoenix to fill it out and share your feedback.

Pre-Trip Meeting Date

Our pre-trip meeting is Wednesday before our trip at 5:30 pm at Scuba Professionals of Arizona. At this meeting you will meet the staff for the trip, bring your liability paperwork (**please do not sign until the meeting**) and review trip details. If you are not able to make this meeting please review this document carefully, bring a copy of the forms to the store *before the trip departs*, and call us if you have any questions.

Date to Arrive in California / Times

Boarding is available after 5pm Friday evening once our Dive Master authorized the boarding. Please make your driving arrangements accordingly. Out of respect for your fellow travelers it is very important for you to arrive on time. The boat dock is located at the 22nd street landing in San Pedro, CA. Detailed directions are listed later.

Date to Depart California / Times

Depending on the destination, the boat will depart either at 1 am or 4 am Saturday morning local time. If you are not on-board prior to the boat's departure – the boat will not wait. **No refunds or transfers of this trip money if you are a no-show.**

Return Date

The boat will return to the boat dock at approximately 3 pm local time on Sunday afternoon.

Emergency Contact Information for the Boat

In the event of an emergency, contact Paul and he will assist in contacting the Captain of the Bottom Scratcher.

Scuba Professionals of Arizona Trip Leaders:

602-314-6650 store or 623-466-5841 cell - Paul Wagenseller. Store Hours are M-F 10am to 6pm, Saturday 9am to 5pm, and closed on Sunday.

What is included with the trip package?

- Lodging on-board for two days and nights
- Meals and non-alcoholic beverages on-board
- Snacks in between meals
- Unlimited diving (your dive table limits apply)
- Standard Air fills
- Diving assistance

Parking

Parking is free. There are 2 spaces at the East end of the lot where you can take your gear to the boat. Parking for vehicles is right across the street in the park. **Please secure your vehicle before our departure and make sure valuables are secured.**

Water Temperature

Southern California is considered to have temperate climate with water temperatures ranging from 55° to 65°.

What type of Environmental Suit do I need?

We recommend at a minimum, a 7mm wetsuit, semi-dry or dry suit depending on your body build, cold tolerance and physiology. Hoods are also recommended.

Air Fills

Standard air fills are included; Nitrox is not refillable on the vessel. You can rent Nitrox cylinders from the store and take them with you on the vessel.

Cylinders / Weights

The boat does not provide cylinders or weights. The vessel can fill either low or high pressure air cylinders. You are welcome to bring your own cylinder (make sure it is in current hydro and VIP or it won't be refilled). **Please bring your own weights.**

Clothing / Toiletries

Please bring casual, comfortable clothing. Bring your necessary toiletries and a one or two towels (one to dry off ocean water and one for showering).

Tips

The boat crew will work hard to help you on-board, cleaning, cooking, refilling cylinders, etc. Tipping is a very personal choice and should reflect the level of service you received. We suggest an average tip of \$40 to \$60 per person for the weekend, with more being acceptable if you so choose. The tips are collected at the end of the trip and given to the captain to be divided equally among the crew. **We ask that your tips be in cash.**



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Sleeping arrangements

The boat has dormitory style bunks in the forward and aft sleeping quarters. We have a bunk list and will select your bunk as you make your reservations. Any unused bunks can be used for storing your clothing bags. Each bunk has a privacy curtain, pillows, and light blankets. It is highly recommended to bring your own sleeping bag.

Meals / Snacks

The boat provides fresh meals and snacks throughout the day. Breakfast could be breads, fruit, cereal, juices or a hot breakfast of eggs, pancakes or their world-famous breakfast burrito. Lunch / Dinners are served to you. Meals range from soup and sandwiches to roasted meats with all of the trimmings. Please feel free to bring additional snacks if you prefer to have something readily available.

Special Dietary Needs?

Special meals will be prepared for passengers that provide a prior notice as to their dietary needs. You are also welcome to bring along some special items if you desire. There is room in the cooler for small items. Please let us know **in writing** as soon as possible if you have any dietary needs.

Are alcoholic beverages sold on-board?

No. Only non-alcoholic beverages are provided such as Coke, Diet Coke, Root Beer, Lemon-Lime Soda, soda water, pink lemonade, hot coffee, hot tea, hot chocolate, and hot and cold water. Please be aware that no diving for 12 hours will be allowed for any diver who has consumed even a single drop of alcohol. Failure to follow this rule may prevent any further dive trips for anyone who violates this policy.

Smoking

Smoking is permitted on-board outside on the bow and swim step only. Please be considerate of those who may prefer a non-smoking environment. Please speak with the Dive Master if there are any problems with smoke.

Photography

We encourage both video and photos! Rinse buckets are available on the dive deck near the exits. In the bunk room, there is a large table with electrical outlets (110 volts) to recharge your electrical items. You can also use the galley tables to work on your equipment after meals are served and the area is cleared.

We would love if you would be willing to share some of your pictures with us so that we can post them on Facebook and our website. If you would like to share your photos at a club meeting (3rd Tuesday of every month @ Dave and Busters Restaurant at Westgate) you can bring a CD with your photos. Please format your pictures as either MP4 or Window Media File.

Hunting / Spearfishing

Hunting and spearfishing is permitted on-board during open season timeframes. You must be fully aware of what the current hunting regulations are so as to avoid any citations if we are boarded by the Department of Fish and Game. You must have a valid Fish and Game license with an Ocean Enhancement Stamp, and a Lobster Report Card (if taking lobster). You will also need a lobster bag and gauge. Lobster may currently be in season and you are allowed to catch up to 7 per person per day. You can get licenses online if you have a 3 week advance or you can purchase these licenses at Walmart or other sporting goods stores in California.

Trip Cancellations

Once a reservation is made, this secures your space on the trip. No refunds, transfers are available to another California trip when the departure is two weeks or more out. Within two weeks to one week from departure \$100 penalty applies, less than a week from departure all monies are lost.

Emergencies on-board

The boat is equipped with a first aid kit, oxygen, and a VHF marine radio. The crew will assist with the emergency and notify Bay Watch and/or the US Coast Guard for additional support.

Fuel Surcharge

Due to a dramatic increase in fuel costs, there may be a fuel surcharge of \$20 per person to help offset the increase in the price of fuel. Please bring cash for this. We appreciate your understanding on this matter. The Boat does not economize by cutting down on travel or by going to less interesting dive sites.

Night Dive

Depending on weather, we will be able to do night dives. Each diver will need two flashlights along with a marker light. Dive Teams must be a group of 2 divers unless otherwise authorized by the Dive Master.

Equipment you need to bring:

- Mask, snorkel, fins, boots, gloves, hood
- 7mm wetsuit, Semi Dry Suit or Dry Suit
- BCD, Regulator, Computer
- Weights
- Knife for kelp dives
- 2 Flashlights and a marker light for night dives
- Additional items in your first aid kit and/or save a dive kit
- Sleeping bag



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Boat Berth Directions

The Bottom Scratcher is berthed at the 22nd Street Landing, 141 W. 22nd Street, San Pedro, California 90731 (a suburb of the greater Los Angeles area) and part of the L.A. Harbor.

From Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)

The most economical way to get here from LAX is by shuttle van.

From a car rental agency take Century Blvd. West, stay to the right and take the Sepulveda Blvd. exit. Then make a left on to Sepulveda Blvd. South. Once on Sepulveda Blvd. stay to the right and take the exit to the Anderson (Century) Freeway (Interstate 105) East. Stay to the right and take the exit to the San Diego Freeway (Interstate 405) South (to Long Beach). Once on the 405 you can use the diamond car pool lane if there are two or more people in your vehicle. When you pass Western Avenue it is time to move to the right so you can take the exit to the Harbor Freeway (Interstate 110) South (to San Pedro).

From Downtown Los Angeles

Take the Harbor Freeway (Interstate 110) South to San Pedro.

From Downtown Long Beach

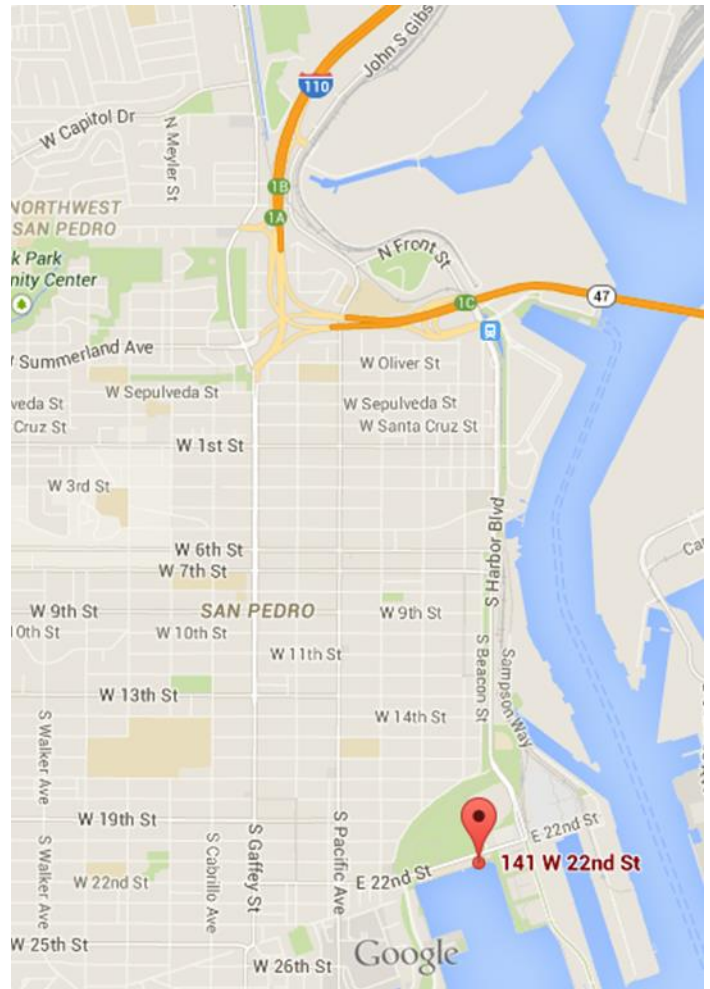
Take Ocean Blvd. South to Terminal Island and then to the Vincent Thomas Bridge. Then take the Gaffey Street Exit.

From Anaheim

Take the Santa Ana Freeway (Interstate 5) North to the Artesia/Gardena Freeway (California 91) West to the Harbor Freeway (Interstate 110) South to San Pedro.

Take the Harbor Freeway (Interstate 110) South to the end at Gaffey Street. From the end of the 110 turn left on Gaffey Street and proceed to 22nd Street, which has a light. Turn left on 22nd and proceed past the next two lights on Pacific and Via Cabrillo Marina. The 22nd Street Landing will be just past the Yacht Club on the right.

Pull into the parking lot, then unload your gear onto the boat. After unloading, move your car across the street to one of the long term parking areas. Tanks are stowed in the tank racks at the back of the boat, with weights on the deck below the tank racks. Dive bags are stowed behind your cylinder on the rack. Personal gear may be stowed in the galley, or your bunk. There are many 110V outlets in the galley if you need to charge any battery operated gear. Please make sure to sign the sign in list at the same number position where you have stowed your tank.





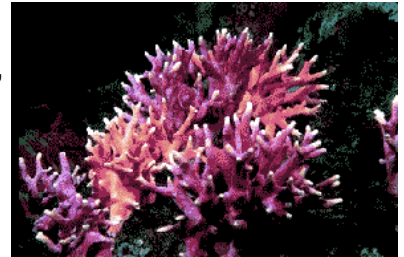
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Southern California Dive Sites

Santa Catalina Island

This site, a favorite destination for many divers, is just over two hours from the Los Angeles Harbor and serves as a diving destination. With great kelp beds, a variety of life, pinnacles and walls, it offers something for all divers. The visibility is usually 50 to 100 feet, making photography and sightseeing popular activities. Great views of the Purple Hydrocoral (at right) can be found at Farnsworth Bank.



Santa Barbara Island

Due to its large Sea Lion population, it is a very popular dive-site destination. Here the diver is treated to diving with these friendly marine mammals, kelp beds, interesting topography, with caverns and walls, making the dive experience of Santa Barbara Island unique.



San Clemente Island

This 21 mile-long island, is situated at a distance of approximately 57 miles from the main land. It's about a five-hour run from San Pedro Harbor to most of the dive sites on the front side. San Clemente is known for large game fish, especially yellowtail and white sea bass. Excellent photography opportunities are available all around the island, with its purple hydrocoral, colorful gorgonians, nudibranchs and anemones flourishing at almost any depth.

Cortes Bank

This is one of the most exciting and advanced dive sites to visit weather permitting. Cortes Bank is made up of a chain of peaks that are a hazard for ships but great for diving and surfing. A red bell buoy marks the shallow spot on the bank that in some areas rises to just a few feet from the surface. Cortes Bank offers clear water and great diving for both the sightseer and hunter alike. Due to its remote location and open-ocean, extreme care must be followed when diving this site.

