

What to expect from your diving course.

This is intended to document what you should expect from your diving course. It also outlines what we expect from you. We hope you agree with the conditions and parameters outlined here. If you have questions, please mention it to us immediately.

General conditions

1. By its nature, a two/three day diving course is more complex than a regular two week course. One major difference is that there is **NO guarantee** that you will pass the course you are signing up for in the time prescribed for the course. Paying your course fees **DOES NOT** automatically mean you will pass.
2. Candidates *should provide* their own snorkeling equipment (mask, fins, and snorkels) or other gear as specified in each course outline and are expected to make sure it is in working order before turning up for course dives. If you have any doubts about the suitability of your equipment and/or have trouble supplying the items contained in the equipment list provided with your course outline, please contact us before class begins (**we do have snorkeling gear and other gear available for rent/sale**). Please Note: ***In the final analysis, the suitability – or not – of any equipment is our call.***
3. Charter fees, park entrance fees, gas fills, and equipment rental fees **ARE NOT** included in course fees. We will advise you about other fees in advance when possible. The only possible exceptions to this are special combination training live-aboard trips.
4. Use of recreational drugs, abuse of prescription drugs, possession of illegal substances or contraband, drunkenness, violent behavior of any kind, bullying, and any sexually abusive action toward other students will result in you being kicked out of the class and reported to the appropriate authorities, and you will forfeit ALL course fees.

5. ***If you are not in good health, reasonably fit, and comfortable in the water this dive course is NOT for you.*** Your level of ***mental*** and ***physical fitness*** will play a role in your ability to complete any diving course successfully.

6. Literacy of the English language, computer literacy and comprehension of both are required to complete this course.

We can talk privately about this and about ways we can assess your readiness to take part in scuba if you have any doubts or questions.

If you smoke please refrain from smoking during classes, on charters or after diving during de-briefing session.

We have no objection to anyone having a beer or glass of wine after diving. But be aware that once drinking starts, diving finishes and be especially aware of drinking and driving regulations. If you drink also please be respectful of the sensibilities of people who find alcohol disturbing.

What we expect from you in the classroom.

You will get the most out of your course if you arrive for the dive class ready to work. You should bring with you notepaper, pens, highlighter and a calculator. If you have been given textbook, course handouts, homework, CD-ROMs or DVDs before the class begins, please read and complete them and have your comments and questions ready for class.

Classroom sessions are scheduled for you and several classmates; therefore it is essential for you to be punctual. If you cannot attend a classroom session, please notify us immediately. Failure to attend a scheduled classroom session may result in your course being rescheduled and additional charges.

Unless we have made other arrangements, your course fees are payable **IN FULL** the start date of your course.

What we expect from you in the water.

A positive attitude and a willingness to learn are essential. So too is attention to detail, personal safety and the safety of your fellow divers. You will be taxed and task loaded at times during the in-water training and we expect you to be able to discuss your personal abilities honestly and openly during post-dive debriefings. If there is something you feel uncomfortable doing, we want you to let us know so that we can pace the course accordingly. **DON'T BE PRESSURED** into doing things you don't understand or feel uncomfortable doing!

Again, punctuality is essential, especially when charter boats have been booked. Don't forget, if you're late arriving at the dock and the boat has left, you may still have to pay for your charter! Please arrive with all equipment ready to go... this means appropriate gas fills, personal gear and extras of anything that might break!

What you should expect from us.

We will behave professionally and try to make your course interesting, informative and enjoyable. Our goal is to make you think hard about diving, and be creative when solving diving-related problems. To the best of our abilities, we will be punctual and will arrive for the classroom, fieldwork and in-water sessions ready to help you learn techniques and skills that will make you a better diver and be better prepared for the rigors of technical diving.

We will treat you fairly and respectfully. During the course, we will give you honest assessments of your progress and point out areas of strength and weakness during debriefings. We will listen to your feedback and try to adjust the class to suit your needs wherever practical.

Our aim is to give personal attention. During the classroom and some fieldwork, we don't put a limit on the number of student who'll sit in. In the water, we will keep class size at or below the limits prescribed. At times, we will mix newbies with graduates or almost graduates (candidates who have technically fulfilled the course requirements but who need one or two dives to show us something specific that we are not 100% comfortable with). There are a couple of reasons for doing this; some logistical and one or two have specifically to do with our training methods. If you have any questions about this, please ask us and we will connect you with one of our [graduates](#) who can explain it!

We rarely tell a student that we can't help them -- but we DO fail people. If we fail you, we will explain why and work with you to address the challenges standing in the way of your graduation. This may include holding a spot for you in a later class or putting your fees towards a remedial course and refunding any difference less the costs associated with the time already spent with you. In extreme cases, there have been students who have worked with us for two dive seasons in order to graduate from a class.

You do need to understand the Fail process. It is difficult to graduate a student who does not meet the following acid test: ***"Would I allow a member of my family to dive with this person?"***

In order to graduate, you will have to demonstrate a specified level of skill and attention to procedures.

Naturally, classes are priced on the understanding that costs are somewhat fixed. Cost assumptions are based on a certain number of students in a class and a certain number of dives to have them qualify for graduation. Generally speaking, the price you pay will cover our expenses for the number of dives set out in my course guidelines and no more. Where one or two extra dives are called for, we make a judgment call whether or not to ask students to cover costs associated with extra dives; however, there are exceptions to this rule.

1. Where candidates for a course demonstrate a lack of the basic skills one might expect from divers meeting course prerequisites; buoyancy, trim, in-water comfort, buddy awareness etc. -- after the prescribed number of dives and where remedial work seems appropriate.

2. Candidates who miss scheduled dives -- without at least 48 hours notification – on more than one occasion.

3. Candidates who have requested private lessons.

4. Candidates who arrive for dives knowing they have marginal, unsuitable or dangerous equipment.

5. Situations where graduation dives are scheduled in remote or distant spots.

Candidates agree that they are customers of Sunsation Dive Charters and are not customers or the property of the corporation that issues identification card(s) and will inform Sunsation Dive Charters if solicited by said corporation for any reason.

Enrollment in this course signifies acceptance of these terms.

Sunsation Dive Charters ~ Scuba Tampa/Scuba Dive Orlando ><(((*)>

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