

## Mergui Archipelago Cabin Charter Cruises - 2020/2021

THE TRUTT

# The Ultimate Archipelago Adventure

BAREFOOT LUXURY – PRISTINE BEACHES & ISLANDS – UNIQUE EXPERIENCES LUXURY EQUIPEMENT & AMENITIES – GUIDED ADVENTURE – EXPERIENCED CREWS & CHEFS FRESH DAILY CATCH – NATURE & CULTURE DISCOVERIES ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS HOLIDAYS

## Explore an Untouched World

Located just across from the Thai border, the Mergui Archipelago only opened up to foreigners as recently as the late 1990s. With only a few of the 800 islands home to a sparse population, The Moken, and a scarce amount of visitors to the entire region each month, the Mergui Archipelago remains one of the planet's most unspoilt destinations.

Think white beaches lined with palm trees and dense jungle. Think swimming in azure water amongst colorful reef fish, spotting coral, and collecting seashells. Now picture eagles circling above, gibbons and monitor lizards eyeing you from the thickets, while a sundowner is being mixed for you on board the yacht.

Best of all: you have this entire experience to yourself. You can sail for days on end and not see a soul except the odd fisherman in a dugout canoe.







## Vísít the Moken, the last "Sea Gyspíes"

The traditional inhabitants of the Mergui Archipelago are the Moken, a people who live off, and on, the sea. Sometimes called "sea- gypsies", this ethnic minority group leads a traditional, semi-nomadic lifestyle, dominated by diving for sea cucumbers, fishing and bartering.

Over the generations, they have adapted to their environment and developed incredible skills useful for a life lived partly underwater. Moken divers often descend to depths of more than 20 meters without oxygen tanks. Studies of Moken children have shown that they have incredible underwater vision—twice as good as that of European children of the same age.

The Moken used to roam the archipelago in their traditional sailing boats, called Kabangs. In recent years, some families have settled on the islands and fish the surrounding waters from their dugout canoes.



## A paradíse all for yourself

Explore tropical forests, hiking through valleys and up hills, walk along kilometres of beach with the only foot prints being those behind you, kayak through enchanted mangroves, swim, snorkel, and go fishing: you've got it all. The Mergui Archipelago is teeming with wildlife.

Due to limited development and the region's long isolation, its 800 plus islands have remained virtually untouched. They are composed of limestone and granite and vary in size from tiny to islands larger than Singapore.

Most of them (we have yet to find one that isn't) are covered in thick jungle growth, which drops into azure waters, interrupted only by beaches, rocky headlands, tidal rivers, and mangrove forests. Lampi, one the largest islands, is a marine national park and is home to some of the planet's oldest mangrove forests.



# NATURE & BIODIVERSTY





## Observe a Spectacular Biodiversity

The Mergui Archipelago is of high global importance to marine and coastal conservation, with the region containing majority of Myanmar's coral reef along with some of its best preserved mangrove forests and seagrass meadows.

The region houses vital sites for wildlife, including breeding beaches for sea turtles, aggregation sites for marine life like manta rays at Black Rock, and group roosting sites for migratory and non-migratory birds.

In 2015, the FFI, "Flora and Fauna International Organisation", carried out extensive studies in the Archipelago. In just a few weeks, they recorded over 700 coral, invertebrate and fish species, including several unidentified specimens.

This region boasts a host of wildlife above and under-water (Sharks, Rays, Cephalopods, Fishes, Crustaceans, Sea Otters, Monkeys, Dugongs, Pangolins, Mouse Deers, Bats, Hornbills, Sunbirds, Kingfishers, Eagles, Kites...).

Along some of our regular cruises, you can visit, discover and partake in one of the world biggest coral nursery project managed by the envirronmental organistion Ocean Quest Global and supported by Memories Group. "The 800 islands of the Mergui archipelago, off the coast of Myanmar, were off-limits to tourists until 1996 and remain little visited."

#### **Financial Times**



## 3 Nights / 4 Days itinerary "Famous Mergui Islands"

This itinerary will allow you to discover the most famous Burmeses islands of the southern part of the Mergui Archipelago.

**DAY 1** – Noon – After the welcome aboard your yacht will set sail to **Myin Khwar Island** (also know as "Horse shoe island"), light lunch on board while sailing. Swimming, snorkeling around the island followed by a short sail to **Zardet Kyee Kyun** where you will enjoy a sunset cocktail and a first dinner on board. Overnight in the south bay of **Zardet Kyee Kyun**.

**DAY 2** – During breakfast on board; we start our sail to **Cocks Comb Island**, famous for its heart shaped emerald lagoon followed by an anchoring stop in the **St Andrews Group** for beach visit, snorkeling and kayaking (the schedule between these 2 activities can be reversed according to tide time). Lunch on board during the sail north towards the **St Andrew Group** where the yacht will anchor around **McLeod Island**. Dinner & overnight on board.

**DAY 3** - After breakfast on board, we set sail toward **Boulder Island** and transfer with the dinghy to **Boulder Bay** for a great hiking and birdwatching morning. Lunch on board and sail back east in the direction of **Barwell Island**. On the way, you will stop at **Russel Island** to discover a **sustainable pearl farm** and learn how these ocean's gems are cultivated. Sparkling sunset cocktail on the beach before getting back on board to enjoy a special farewell dinner.

**DAY 4** - Last swim & final passage towards **Kawthaung.** Casual Brunch on board before we reach the pier and say goodbye to the Mergui around noon.

\*Sample itinerary - can be modified by the captain according to the weather conditions & government regulations.

\*\*Please note that this itinerary does not allow us to include a visit of a Moken Village.



Departure every Saturday between mid-Ocotber to mid-May, No departure in peak season (21th December to 4th January)



## 5 Níghts / 6 Days ítínerary "Merguí Saílíng Adventure"

This itinerary will make you discover the best of the Archipelago. You will have the chance to visit Moken villages, enjoy the best snorkeling spots and discover some hidden islands.

**DAY 1** – **Noon** – After the welcome aboard your yacht will set sail towards **Barwell island** and we will spend some time swimming before sunset, cocktail and dinner on board.

**DAY 2** – After the breakfast, sail to **Tang La Bo island** for some amazing snorkeling spots and strolling on the pristine beach. Lunch on board and set sail toward **Pony island**. Birdwatching (toukan, hornbill & seaeagles) and ample swimming time before sunset. Anchor & overnight in one of the bays of **Nyaung Wee**.

**DAY 3** - We set sail toward **Lampi National Park**, and according to the tide we either visit the mangrove or set out for an excursion of the Moken village. Overnight anchor near the quiet bay of **Pulo Bunai** Island where you can sometimes watch bioluminescent plankton at night.

**DAY 4** - After breakfast, sail towards **Kyun Pila** Island for a full day of snorkeling, kayaking, hiking and fishing. After visiting long beach your crew will set up a bonfire followed by sparkling sunset cocktails on the beach. (Option: Scuba-diving available at Pila island on request)

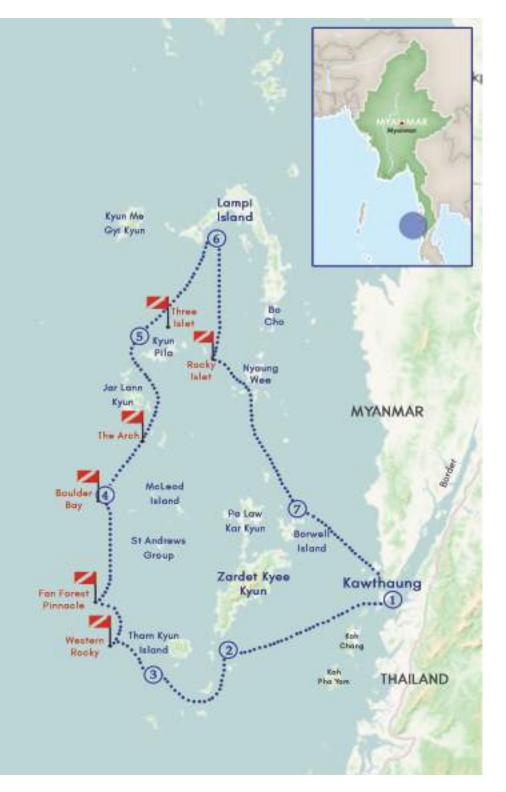
**DAY 5** – Breakfast on board, sail to **115 island**, trekking in the jungle & lunch. Sail and quick stop to **Taung La Bo or Kyun Pya Gui** depending on the wind and tide. Special Farewell dinner around **Hasting Bay.** 

**DAY 6** – Last swim & final passage towards **Kawthaung**. Casual Brunch before desembarking around noon.

\*Sample itinerary - can be modified by the captain according to the weather conditions government regulations.



Departure every Saturday between mid-Ocotber to mid-May \*\*Peak season 2020 : departures changed to Monday\*\*



### 7 Nights / 8 Days itinerary "Sail & Dive Safari"

**DAY 1** – Upon arrival in **Kawthaung**, check in and take a land tour to temples, local wares and markets. Enjoy dinner and the first night aboard SY Dallinghoo, along the bustling border town of **Kawthaung**.

**DAY 2** – Upon daybreak, we set sail 40 Nautical Miles to South Bay **Zardet Kyee** Island via Heart Lagoon (if the tides allow for kayaking into the enclosed Lagoon) and **Say Tan Island**. This is a day to settle down, visit beaches, kayak and get to know each other. Scuba-diving begins tomorrow.

**DAY 3** – An early start from the South Bay will take you to our first dive site, **Western Rocky** – a mid-ocean site with rocky outcrops piercing the surface. This is a great site where two dives can be organised. The second exciting dive site is at **Fan Forrest Pinnacle**, a mid-ocean sea mount which stands 6 meters above the water surface.

**DAY 4** - Dive at **Boulder Island** where there are several diving sites and walking tracks. With an abundant wildlife above and below the water surface, diving, walking, kayaking and snorkelling are activities of the day on this pristine, well-protected tropical island.

**DAY 5** – We depart for the first dive at the southern rocks of **Bo Wei Island**, following a short passage to **Kyun Pila** East Bay. Jar Lann Kyun count a small village that houses a big temple, local shipyards and a busy fishing transfer port. This spot offers an opportunity to those wanting to experience the Mergui culture.

**DAY 6** – A short passage takes us to one of the best dive sites in the Mergui Archipelago, named **Three Islets**. Following the dive, we will head to **Salet Galet**, a unique fishing village, to explore a beautiful mangrove river if the tide allows.

**DAY 7** - Departing early and 40 Nautical Miles south-bound, we head to **Island 115** for lunch, swimming and snorkelling. A further 24 Nautical Miles to **Barwell** Passage will bring us to our final night anchorage in the Mergui Archipelago.

**DAY 8** – Setting sail on a 3-hour passage takes us back to **Kawthaung**. Take a last swim and enjoy some beach time before departure if transfers allow it.

\*Sample itinerary - can be modified by the captain according to the weather conditions & government regulations.



Departure once a month between November to April

"It was a dreamy voyage that took us beyond internet connectivity, from green coastal waters to the kind of blue inked in by 100ft depths, past piratical-looking fishing boats and islands with the outlines of rusty blades. Scampering macaques foraged for crabs on the islands' rocky shores, white-bellied sea eagles wheeled." **The Sunday Telegraph** 









## SY Meta IV

Our flagship Meta IV was designed by the naval architect Thomas E. Colvin, who gave the vessel her beautiful shape and robust hull. She is made entirely of Thai teak, one of the best woods for building classic boats.

Boat Type
Year build
Last refit
Flag State
Length (LOA)
Beam (width)
Speed
Passengers
Air Condition
Electricity
Crew
Equipment

Classic Ketch 1998 2019 Myanmar 85ft / 25.9m 18ft / 5.4m 6-11 knots 8/9 guests (4 cabins: 1 owner's suite, 2 doubles & 1 twin) Available 12V / 220V 4 (1 captain, 1 chef, 1 guide, 1 deckhand) Water maker - Expresso machine - 8 Pax dinghy -2 double kayaks - SUP - Snorkeling equipment fishing gear - beach games - board games portable sound system.











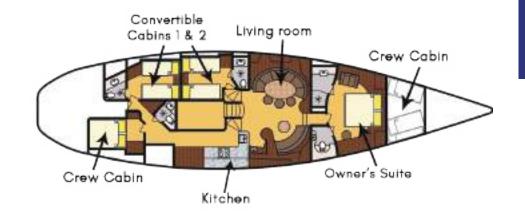
## SY Y Not

The yacht Y-Not with her sophisticated exterior look and engineering is the work of Farr Yacht Design. Y-Not is a true high performance sailing yacht which combines excellent manoeuvrability, impressive speed, and 3 spacious guest cabins.

воаттуре
Year build
Last refit
Flag State
Length (LOA)
Beam (width)
Speed
Passengers
Air Condition
Electricity
Crew
Equipment

Boat Type

Cutter 1994 2016 UK 80ft / 24.3m 20.3ft / 6.17m 8-12 Knots 6 guests (1 double & 2 convertibles cabins) Available 12V / 220V 3 (1 captain, 1 chef, 1 guide) Water maker - 6 pax dinghy - SUP - fishing gear - 2 double kayaks - snorkeling equipment







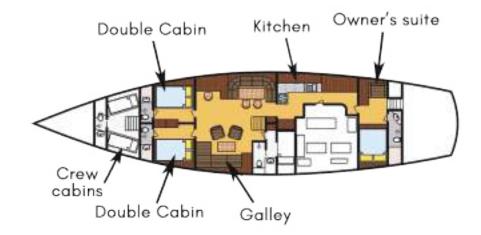




## SY Aventure

Aventure is an extremely classy yacht built completely of mahogany and teak. All fittings and decorative elements are custom-built. Below deck, Aventure is equipped with a 400 hp engine, two generators and the latest gadgets, instruments and facilities you could expect to find on a yacht of her size and style.

Boat Type	Ketch / Classic Yacht	
Year build	2011	
Last refit	2015	
Flag State	Malaysia (Langkawi)	
Length (LOA)	95ft / 29m	
Beam (width)	6.10m	
Speed	8–10 Knots	
Passengers	6 guests (3 cabins: 1 owner's suite, 2 doubles)	
Air Condition	Available	
Electricity	12V / 220V	
Crew	4/5 (1 captain, 1 chef, 1 guide, 2 to 3 deckhands)	
Equipment	Water maker - 6 pax dinghy - 1 SUP – fishing gear	
	- 2 sea kayaks - snorkeling equipment - BBQ	
	Plancha – board games – portable sound system.	









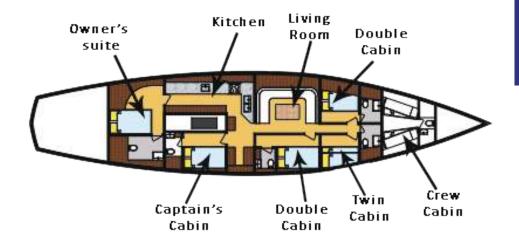


## SY Dallinghoo

SY Dallinghoo is a beautiful classic schooner that is fully-decked in teak wood, and is one of the few gaff-rigged wooden yachts present in South- east Asia. She has a vibrant history, is fully-equipped for scuba-diving, and features a classic design perfectly weaved into the romance of a tall ship while boasting the comfort of a modern yacht.

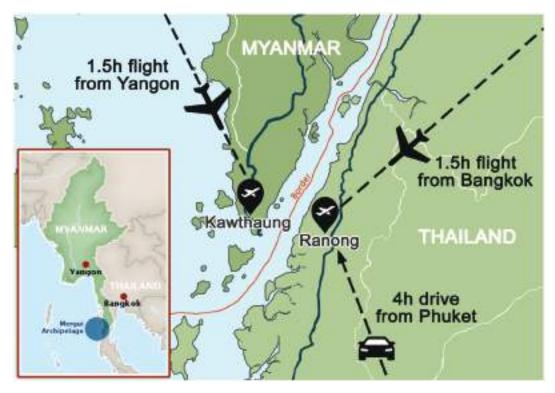
Boat Type	Shooner
Year build	1990
Last refit	2016
Flag State	Malaysia
Length (LOA)	99ft / 30m
Beam (width)	19ft / 5.80m
Speed	8-9 Knots
Passengers	8 guests (4 cabins: 1 owner's suit
Air Condition	Available
Electricity	12V / 220V
Crew	5/6 (1 captain, 1 chef, 1 guide, 2
Equipment	Water maker - 8 pax dinghy -
	gear - 4 sea kayaks - snorke

99ft / 30m
19ft / 5.80m
8–9 Knots
8 guests (4 cabins: 1 owner's suite, 2 doubles & 1 twin)
Available
12V / 220V
5/6 (1 captain, 1 chef, 1 guide, 2 to 3 deckhands)
Water maker - 8 pax dinghy - 2 SUP - fishing
gear - 4 sea kayaks - snorkeling equipment scuba gear for 4 pax, Classic gaff-rigged sailing
dinghy - TV & movies



"A string of forgotten islands, the Mergui is one of those rare places that derives from an era when virgin lands were nothing but memories. In this world, which is only open to sailors, the last "sea gypsies" live."

#### Le Figaro Magazine



## Getting There is Easy!

All our regular cabin charter cruises in the Mergui Archipelago depart in Kawthaung in Myanmar's south, just across the border from Thailand. Getting there is easy and you have several travel options.

#### Flying to Kawthaung

If you are arriving from within Myanmar, you can book online and fly directly from Yangon to Kawthaung Airport (one to three flights a day). We'd be more than happy to help you organize transportation and meet you at the airport.

#### **Flying to Ranong**

Another option is to fly to Ranong Airport. There are daily flights from Bangkok by Nok Air and Air Asia. The airport is well served by local taxi drivers but we can also pick you up from Ranong Airport, of course. Once you are in Ranong, we will organize for you a longtail boat across the Pakchan River to Kawthaung on the Myanmar side, which takes about 30 minutes. We will assist you with the immigration procedures before boarding the yacht.

#### **Arriving via Phuket**

Phuket International Airport is a convenient and well-connected place to fly to. From there, it's a scenic 3 - 4-hour car ride to Ranong, the Thai border town. Here, too, we are happy to assist you.

## F.A.Q

#### What's included?

- A fully crewed yacht (3 to 6 crew members depending of the yacht, including captain, chef & MOHT official guide)

- All on-board meals (breakfast, lunch, diner, snacks)
- All non-alcoholic drinks & sundowners at the end of every day
- All equipment and activities (snorkeling, kayaks, SUP, dinghy...)
- All linen, towels & biodegradable amenities
- All local transfers & crew assistance on the embarkation & disembarkation day
- Special area Visa (if you enter & exit through Ranong, Thailand)
- \*\*ONLY aboard "Sail & Dive Safari": professional Dive Master & Dive equipment.

#### What's Not included?

- Local government fees (310 USD per person)
- Alcoholic drinks
- Visa (if you are traveling in Myanmar before or after the cruise)
- Extra personal expenses & crew tips

#### What is the departure Time & Place?

Our 3N4D & 5N6D cabin charter cruise leave from Myo Ma Jetty, just in front of the Myanmar Immigration office, every Saturday during the season between 10:30 to 11:30am.

The 7N8D Sail & Dive Safari leaves from the same jetty, once a month, embarkation time is more flexible.

#### Do I need to know how to sail?

No. Our experienced crew can do all the sailing for you while you relax. If you like, our crew will be happy to let you get involved or learn sailing during your trip.

#### Do I need to know how to dive?

No. our regular 3N4D & 5N6D do not include diving\*.

Yes. If you join the "Sail & Dive Safari", you need to have an Open Water dive certificate.

\*We can organize a dive option aboard our 5N6D cruise at Kyun Pila Island where our dive center will be happy to welcome you.

#### What's the best season to go?

The best time for sailing is between mid-October and end of April. The rainy season starts mid-May.

#### What temperature to expect?

During daytime about 28-32°C. The water temperature between 26-29°C.

#### What currency should I bring?

The local currency is the Myanmar Kyat (MMK) but Thai bath and USD are commonly used in the region.

## F.A.Q

#### Will I need a visa for Myanmar?

Yes. We will arrange for you a "Special Area Visa" on arrival if you enter & exit through Ranong, Thailand. You need to obtain a "Tourist visa" prior to your trip if you travel within Myanmar before or after the cruise.

#### What are the Mergui fees?

All foreign travelers need to pay an official visitor fee to enter Myanmar's Mergui Archipelago. The fee is comprised of various components and is calculated based on the duration of the stay, the cruising range, the size of the boat, and the number of guests on the boat. It includes a visitor license, a port fee, and service fees for different government departments.

The total visitor fee for our sailing trips currently amounts to USD 310 per person & 210 USD for Myanmar Citizen.

#### How are the cabins?

The cabins on a sailing boat are cozy and fully air-conditioned. Cabins have double beds or twin overhead bunk beds. Each cabin has a small and functional en-suite bathroom. As luggage storage is limited; if you can, please choose soft bags instead of bulky box-like suitcases.

#### Will I have to share a bathroom?

No, every cabin has its own private bathroom and each comes with a shower, sink and toilet.

#### Is there on-board power, fresh water, internet?

Every cabin has power points (plus fans and air-cons). There is fresh water for showering consumption. After 10 nautical Miles from the Myanmar shoreline, there is no data connectivity & no internet.

#### What kind of food is served on board?

We think good meals is an essential part of a great cruise, that's why our chef cooks everyday a variety of healthy & freshly prepared dishes on a mixture of Asian and European cuisine. For example, every morning, the chef usually prepares a full continental breakfast with eggs; bacon, sausage, cheese, variety of breads, jams, juices, yogurt, cereals & fruits. For lunch and dinner, you will always enjoy a selection of 4 to 5 dishes per meal. As you may imagine, fresh seafood is often a component on the menu. Please advise us if you have any dietary requirement, our chef will adapt the menus for you!

#### How much will we sail?

Every day you will sail between 3h to 4h. The sailing time may vary depending of the current & wind conditions; if there is no wind, the yachts will still reach the destination by motor. Every 2h to 4h of navigation, we always have a stop for an activity; it can be swimming, snorkeling, hiking, fishing, birdwatching, kayaking, visit of a special place such as a village or a mangrove....

#### What should I bring?

You don't need much. Bring your bathers, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses, your camera and you're pretty much set! It's best to also bring a mosquito repellent and you may want to consider bringing anti-malaria tablets. Do remember to get a travel insurance before joining our cruise.

On board, you won't need shoes but you can bring flip-flops or reef shoes for beach outings.

We provide full lodging, including bedding, towels and biodegradable amenities. We also provide fishing and snorkeling equipment and first-aid, if necessary.







## TRAVEL+ LEISURE

## GOURNER

## Traveller





LE FIGARO

magazine

## Departure Dates 2020-2021

#### 3N4D Cruise - "Famous Mergui Islands"

- 17th to 20th Oct 2020 -
- 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020 -
- 31<sup>st</sup> Oct to 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2020 -
- 7<sup>th</sup> to <u>10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 –</u>
- 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Nov 20<u>20 –</u>
- 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 -
- 28th Nov to 1st Dec 2020 -
- 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 –
- 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> <u>Dec 2020 -</u>

- 9<sup>th</sup> to 12th Jan 2021-
- 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021 –
- 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021-
- 30<sup>th</sup> Jan to 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2021-
- 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021-
- 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 –
- 20th to 23rd Feb 2021-
- 27th Feb to 2nd Mar 2021-
  - 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021-

- 13th to 16th Mar 2021–
- 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar 2021–
- 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Mar 2021–
- 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Apr 2021–
- 10th to 13th Åpr 2021 –
- 17th to 20th April 2021 –
- 24th to 27th Ápril 2021–
- 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021-
- \*No 3N4D in peak season

#### 5N6D Cruise - "Mergui Sailing Adventure"

- 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2020 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020 31<sup>th</sup> Oct to 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 28<sup>th</sup> Nov to 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2020 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020<sup>s</sup> -
- 28<sup>th</sup> Dec to 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2021\*\*-
  - 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021-
  - 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2021 -
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021-
- 30<sup>th</sup> Jan to 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021-
  - 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021-
  - 13<sup>rd</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 -- 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021
- 27<sup>th</sup> Feb to 4<sup>th</sup> Mar 2021-
  - б<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Mar 2021 -

- 13th to 18th Mar 2021-
- 20th to 25th Mar 2021-
- 27th Mar 1st Apr 2021-
- 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Apr 2021-
- 10<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Apr 2021 -
- 17th to 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr 2021
- 24th to 29th Apr 2021-
- 1<sup>et</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021-
- \*\*Peak Season Rates Applicable

#### 7N8D Cruise - "Sail & Dive Safari"

- 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2020 -- 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020 -
- 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2020 -
- 13th to 20th Feb 2020 -
- 13th to 20th Mar 2021-
- 10th to 17th April 2021 -

