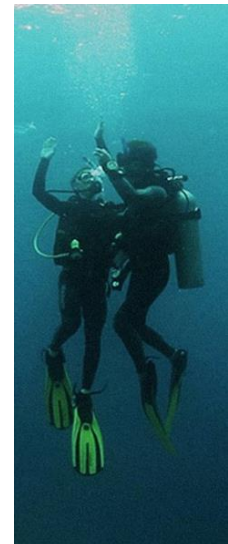
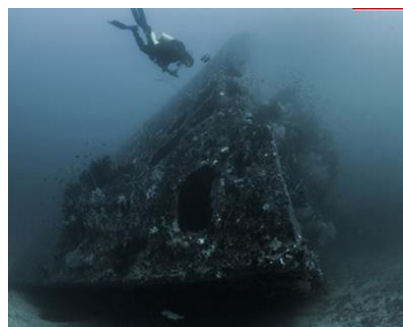


## Scuba Diving and Snorkelling



Sri Lanka is well known for its scuba diving and snorkelling sites all over the world. Its positioning at the Indian Ocean makes it the ideal location for both activities. It is often referred to as “Pearl of the Indian Ocean” because of the magnificent scuba diving tours it hosts annually. The colourful coral reefs and the ship wrecks abandoned on the coast makes it a wonderful diving environment. Scuba diving is influenced by the monsoon winds with diving on the east coast is at its best from April to September.



The diving site is near Galle and the beach and night life makes it one of the most popular tourist destinations in Sri Lanka. It

has impressive amounts of coral reefs and tropical fish which makes scuba diving and snorkelling there all the more exciting. Diving underwater and watching those small fishes go by you is an experience you are going to cherish for the rest of your life. The best thing about this place is it has professional divers and

swimmers who are always ready to help you or assist you in your adventure. It also has some ship wrecks which can be explored thus giving the experience an adventurous touch.

Sri Lanka's only marine sanctuary is located here. This magnificent underwater ecosystem, now declared a Marine National Park, is home to over 60 species of corals and 170 species of reef fish, a number of species of sea turtle and other marine creatures.

Further along the coast there's a reef that has some small caves where you can find tropical fish while you do your scuba diving and snorkelling. And don't forget it is an area for whale and dolphin watching.

PADI diving instructors are available throughout the season for training and certification as well as leading more experienced divers in some of the country's best ship wrecks and reef dives.



Snorkelling is the best way to view underwater life in the shallow seas of Sri Lanka. The snorkelling gear can be bought or rented in the area. Almost every beachside shop has them. Snorkelling helps view the corals and shoals of fish without damaging them. You can also see the colourful live corals that live somewhat deeper.

Here in Tangalle sea turtles are commonly spotted along the reef and even visit the shore at night to lay their eggs. They provide are a rare delight for scuba divers. The best snorkelling areas are located in the nearby secluded villages along the Tangalle coast where the most beautiful coral beds and marine life can be found.

