



BERMUDA

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DIVE BERMUDA FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW

Bermuda offers sites for all experience levels, from shipwrecks to reefs, as well as year-round temperate waters and an impressive array of both underwater and topside attractions. Considered the wreck diving capital of the Atlantic, Bermuda is a dive haven for travelers of all interests and skills.

VISIBILITY

Average summer visibility on the north and west shores is 100', increasing to 150' from November to March. The south and east shores average 80' year-round.

WATER TEMPERATURE

Ranges from 80° in summer months to 65° in the winter. A bathing suit or 3 mm shortie wetsuit suffices during the summer; in winter months, divers need a 5-7 mm wetsuit.

WRECKS

Nicknamed "Shipwreck Alley," an impressive array of sites includes 350 documented shipwrecks dating from the 1500's, ranging from Spanish galleons to Confederate steamers and 20th century cargo ships. 36 are divable.

Popular wrecks include the *Constellation* (1943, featured in the movie *The Deep*), *Hermes* (1983), *Iristo* (1937) and *Minnie Breslauer* (1872).

REEFS

More than 600 square miles of colorful reefs, the northernmost in the Western Hemisphere, surround Bermuda. Natural formations feature swim-through reefs, giant arches and helical formations. The island takes pride in having one of the healthiest reefs in the Atlantic and Caribbean.

TRAVELING TIME

Bermuda's sites are as easy to get to as the destination itself. Deep-water dives are all within an hour of shore, unlike many other destinations. Boats can easily return to shore and return to the site the next morning, instead of sleeping at sea.

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ENVIRONMENT

Yearly projects include the 'Keep Bermuda Beautiful' reef clean-up and a mooring program, established about 15 years ago and maintained at some 30-40 sites.

TREASURE CHESTS

Thousands of dollars in emeralds, gold ingots, Spanish doubloons and more have been pillaged from Bermuda's watery depths. Twelve undiscovered treasure wrecks remain buried in the ocean floor.

AQUATIC ALTERNATIVES

Snorkeling, submarine dives and helmet diving (walking under water with a helmet that is continuously pumped with air) are among the alternatives to scuba diving.

TOPSIDE ATTRACTIONS

The Island offers championship golf, a variety of accommodations, dining options ranging from pub fare to fine French cuisine, great shopping and more. The Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute and Bermuda Aquarium offer water wonderlands for travelers who would rather stay dry.

SHIPWRECK CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Upon completion of one of the program's 22 dives, guests receive a special free certificate on decorative parchment paper. Each certificate bears the name and a short description of the ship.

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