

General Trip Information

PASSENGERS MUST HAVE PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP: US citizens MUST have a valid passport to clear immigrations. Non-US citizens must have passports and citizens from some countries must have visas before boarding *R/V Stenella*.

INSURANCE: Please *confirm* that your health/medical insurance policy will cover you in the Bahamas, or purchase a short-term policy for that coverage. Health/medical Insurance is required. You may also wish to protect yourself and your equipment by purchasing *short-term travelers insurance and trip cancellation coverage*, which would reimburse you for non-refundable airfare and Wild Dolphin Project trip costs should you cancel or interrupt your trip. Both types of coverage are available from your travel agent, insurance company, or Divers Alert Network (DAN).

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE: The price includes accommodations, meals, snacks, beverages (limited alcohol), leadership, and professional crew while you are aboard *R/V Stenella*. The price **does not include** Bahamian departure tax, airfare, ground transportation, hotel lodging, entertainment or meals you may choose to purchase ashore, passports, visas, insurance, medical or hospitalization costs, taxi or water taxi, additional expenses arising from delays or extensions of trip due to weather, sickness, failure of transportation, or other causes beyond our control, and any other services not stated above.

SNORKELING: You must bring your own gear including mask, snorkel, fins, and thin dive socks or booties (if you have diving fins). **A pair of thin dive socks for snorkel fins, or booties for scuba diving fins are required to protect your feet from developing blisters.** Please practice in water before your trip! Test your gear beforehand and make sure you are comfortable in the water! You have to be able to swim in strong currents using just your fins with your hands by your side. **We DO NOT carry spare snorkeling gear on board!**

MONEY: It is recommended that you bring US currency and travelers checks.

TAX DEDUCTION: In the United States, Wild Dolphin Project is a public charity described by Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. In general, contributions of cash, securities, and property donated by US citizens to support scientific research projects sponsored by the Wild Dolphin Project are tax-deductible. Consult your tax advisor for more information.

DRUGS: The US Coast Guard has jurisdiction in Bahamian waters and strictly enforces a policy of “zero tolerance” for illegal drugs, and so does WDP. **Anyone found with illegal drugs on board will forfeit their trip and be taken back to shore. Prescription medication must be in original container with the label intact and you must make the captain aware of them.**

PHOTO EQUIPMENT: Although WDP does not allow personal video cameras on board *R/V Stenella*, you are encouraged to bring a still camera in the water with you! Let us know if you are interested in donating photographs or slides of dolphins to the Wild Dolphin Project. **No underwater/surface video is allowed. GoPro cameras and other similar video cameras are not allowed.**

READING/MUSIC/VIDEO: Bring your favorite reading materials. We also have a CD/cassette player on board for you to enjoy, as long as material does not offend anyone. Many people bring portable music players and e-readers.

PACKING GUIDELINES: Travel light! Please limit luggage to two small soft pieces, since storage space is limited onboard. Suggested items: Long pants, sweatshirt, jacket, windbreaker (for cooler evenings), shorts, T-shirts, bathing suits, hat, deck shoes (no black-soled street shoes), foul weather gear. Two towels (one swimming/one bathing), washcloth, seasick medication, small flashlight, film, shampoo, sunscreen, lip balm, sunglasses, hat. All snorkeling gear: mask, fins, snorkel, thin dive socks or booties, defogging fluid, extra straps, net gear bag. Note: we do NOT supply wetsuits or personal items such as tampons or seasick medication. See **Packing List** for more information.

SHOWERS: Although we make our own water onboard, fresh water is conserved. Showers are brief and Navy style.

SMOKING: Restricted to outside deck area.

FISHING: Only by crew in designated areas.

WATER TEMPERATURE: May: 78-80°F, July through September: ranging to 88°F.