

# ATLANTIS

## *Philippines*

DIVE RESORTS & LIVEBOARDS



# *Apo reef & Best of Anilao*

Due to popular demand, our newest itinerary now includes two of the best dive destinations in the Philippines.

First we travel to the renowned Apo Reef part of the world's second largest contiguous reef system as well as the largest in the Philippines. Apo Reef part of "Apo Reef Natural Park" consists of 34 square miles of coral reef seldom visited due to their remote location as well as their status as a Marine protected area. Visitors to Apo Reef are always impressed with the variety of diving as well as species of both fishes and corals. While the Philippines is not generally known for pelagic but rather incredible biodiversity and fish density, visitors are often rewarded with pelagic sightings as well including sharks, turtles, schools of barracuda as well as an occasional Manta to name but a few.

Apo Reef is an open ocean magnet for marine life, with typically plenty of shark sightings, occasional Manta Rays and many more impressive marine species.

Anilao is known as the birthplace of diving in the Philippines and is one of the most well known dive destinations right at the heart of the famed coral triangle. Most of the coral species in the world are represented here not to mention the myriad of nudibranchs both known and yet to be discovered. Finally a biodiversity of marine life which dwarfs the entire Caribbean and Great Barrier Reef combined. No matter your level of diving expertise you are sure to check off items from your wish list here!

With easy transfers, consider a combo trip with Atlantis Puerto Galera for a multiple week first class dive vacation at a very reasonable investment.

- Anilao
- Apo Reef

## Seasons & Weather

Seven night charters run between  
October - December

Air temperature 25c+/77F+; Sea temperature 25c/77c;  
Average visibility 15m/50ft to 25m/80ft+

Port of embarkation - Atlantis Puerto Galera

# Apo reef & Best of Anilao



## DIVE DAY 1 AND 2: APO REEF

On the west coast of Mindoro, Apo Reef has a great assortment of dive sites. Hard and soft corals are superb all around and you'll see enormous table, stag horn, brain and fire corals.

The northern, eastern and southern sides of the island have huge drop-offs and spectacular walls. As currents can get strong, a variety of large pelagic species are attracted all around the island. The currents are particularly strong on the northern side and for more experienced divers its a chance to encounter some of the larger pelagics, including dogtooth tuna, giant trevally, humphead & napoleon wrasse, mantas and sharks, including white-tip reef, black-tip reef, grey reef & sometimes hammerheads.

## DIVE DAY 3: HUNTERS (& MEROPE) ROCK

Twenty kilometers to the west of Apo Reef is the sea mount Hunters Rock - barely visible from the surface the reef is perhaps best known for the numbers of sea snakes that can be found here.

There are masses of corals and sponges here too that are home to schools of tropical fish, including butterfly fishes, snappers and sweet lips. Sharks, big trevallys and other predatory fish are common.

## DAY 4: SOMBRERO

As Anilao has more than forty dive sites and Secret Bay is a hotspot for macro life.

Look out for... walls that are rich with soft corals, colorful crinoids, good size barrel sponges, white finger sponges, hydroids, and sea stars.

## DAY 5: ANILAO CENTRAL

Bonito Island is on the eastern tip of Maricaban Island, midway between Batangas and Puerto Galera. Next to Bonito, is the smaller Balahibong Manok (chicken feather) Island which is home to the underwater Hot Spring created by the Taal volcano.

Look out for... parrot fish, groupers, bat fish, trumpet fish, comet fish, moray eels, anthias and puffer fish.

## DAY 6: VERDE ISLAND OR MORE OF ANILAO

Verde Island is located along the stretch of water called The Verde Island Passage and is the centre of marine biodiversity. The underwater pinnacle locally known as 'drop-off' offers exceptional visibility, and wall diving that is second to none.

Look out for... Many oversized nudibranchs, moray eels, scorpion fish, lion fish, orange anthias.



## LAND EXCURSIONS:

A day trip: Taal Volcano, has been called the smallest active volcano in the world. What makes Taal Volcano more unique is the fact that the volcano itself has a lake of its own inside its crater which is called the "Crater Lake."

Enjoy Sunset on the Beach: Relax after a days diving with a short boat ride to Mabini Beach to watch the sunset silhouetting Sombbrero Island in the distance.

*Azores*  
LIVEABOARD

[www.atlantishotel.com](http://www.atlantishotel.com)

- For more information about daily itineraries or any general questions please visit us on-line at [www.atlantishotel.com](http://www.atlantishotel.com)
- Itineraries are subject to change due to weather, safety or logistical issues and final routes are always at the discretion of the captain.

